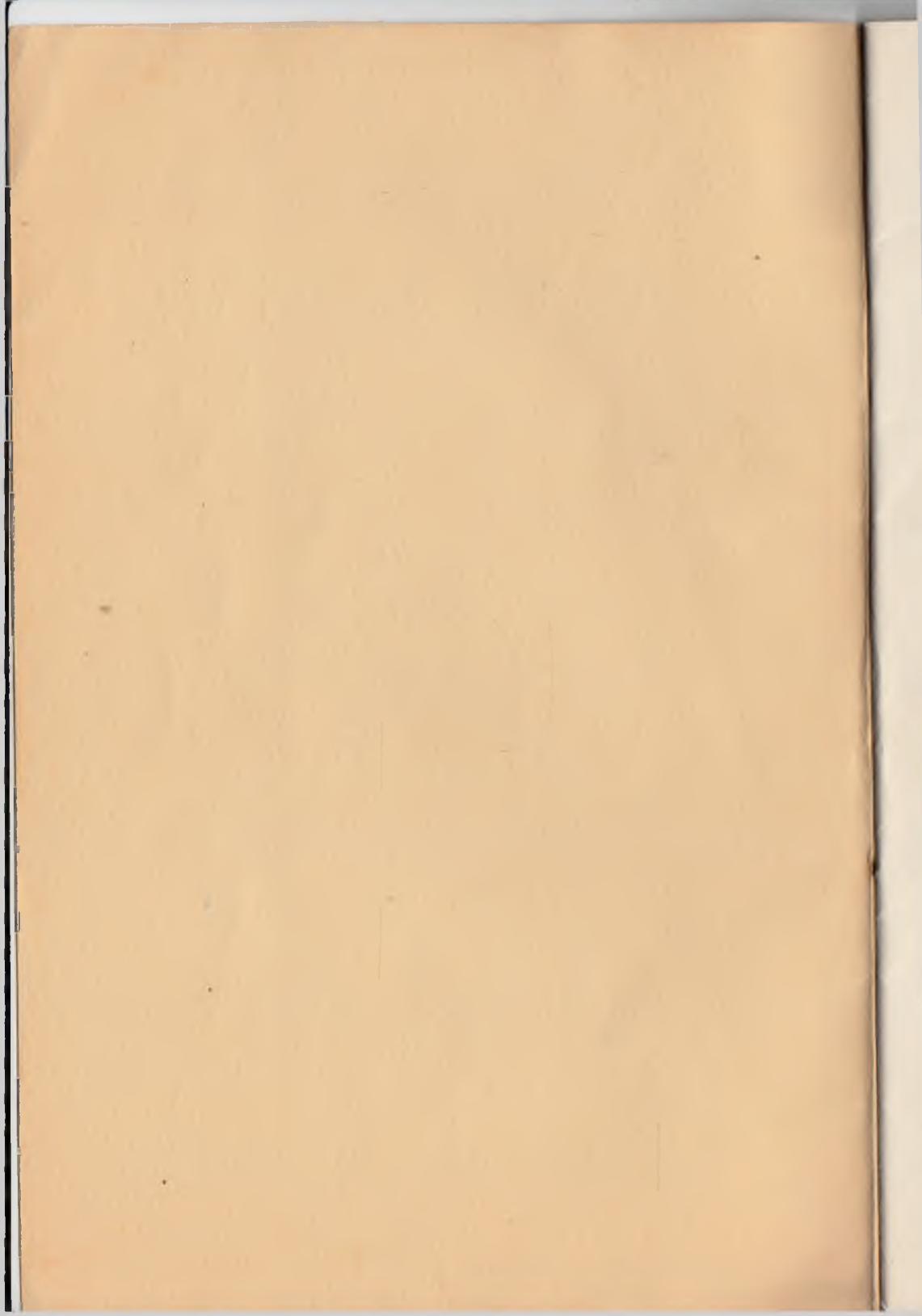


THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(The Wycombe Royal Grammar School Magazine)

Editor : D. R. STANSBURY

EDITORIAL.

During the summer term many external changes have been made in the School. The canteen has been almost completed, the poplars have been cut down and a cinema installed at Uplyme. Soon the Sixth Form will move into other quarters and there will be a separate Junior School, whilst the library will return to its original purpose.

Although this expansion may offend the sentiments of a few reactionary Sixth Formers, the School will remain the same as long as the principles and traditions upon which it stands do not alter. In an age which considers equality a supreme virtue, it is natural for privilege to be considered an evil. But privilege engenders respect, and respect is essential to discipline, so that every attempt to introduce equality is a blow at discipline.

In a similar way the modern idealists who abhor physical punishment should not seek to introduce their ideas into education. The interminable detentions and impositions which are the only alternatives to physical punishment may do real harm to any boy whose only fault is an excess of valour or animal spirits.

If our schools are to continue to produce good citizens as well as good scholars, then these principles should not be introduced, or the School will have changed indeed.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Staff.

We are very sorry to say goodbye to Mr. James Tucker, better known as "Mr. James," who is leaving the School, where he has been since 1944, to take up an appointment as second master at Hatters Lane Secondary School. "Mr. James" was an old boy of the School and a very popular master. He was an enthusiastic Arnison house master, and as an officer he played a very valuable part in the work of the A.T.C. For these and for many other contributions to the School he will be missed very much.

We welcome J. P. Evely, Esq., who will take up Mr. J. Tucker's post in September.

General.

We are happy to have had among us this term Herr Mohlemann, the Director of Education in Schleswig-Holstein, Herr Leerhoff and Dr. R. Reiners, who have been studying English Educational methods.

During the Easter holidays a party of Sixth Formers visited the Sorbonne in Paris to study the literature and language of France.

Fifteen senior boys attended a course on the U.S.A. at Shortenhills Camp from the 17th to the 21st July.

The Reverend Bishop Hamilton conducted the School Confirmation service in Terriers Church on the 28th March.

The School Concert was given on the 31st March, and on the 4th April Arnison House won the Music competition.

The C.C.F. Annual Inspection was held on June 8th, and the Annual Camp was held at Aldershot from 24th to 31st July.

This year the Scout Camp was held at Beer, in Devon, from 31st July to 10th August.

The Dramatic Society produced "Ten Little Nigger Boys" in the School Hall on 24th and 25th July.

Visits were arranged during the term to London to see the opera *Così fan Tutte*, and to St. Albans in order to study Roman remains.

Congratulations to :—

A. R. McIntosh on his Open Scholarship in History at Jesus College, Oxford.

D. R. Stansbury on his Open Exhibition at King's College, Cambridge.

A. Barr on gaining an Open Scholarship at Bristol University.

J. R. Silver on being awarded a place at Dartmouth.

P. Sharpe and O. Decker for being selected to play for Bucks County Colts.





Photographs by M. J. Banham & A. J. Muir

6. The Guard of Honour. 7. MR. J. F. WOLFENDEN inspecting the Guard of Honour. 8. The C.C.F. BAND during a demonstration of counter marching.

SPEECH DAY.

Both the highlight and the conclusion of the School year came on 21st July, when the Vice-Chancellor of Reading University, J. F. Wolfenden, Esq., M.A., was the principal speaker at the annual speech day and prize giving.

After the guard of honour, the chairman of the governors, Mr. P. C. Raffety, began the proceedings by thanking the headmaster and staff for their excellent work, and said that the School had maintained its high academic standards, its traditions and morale. He said that the most pressing need was for more playing fields, since the present one was overworked and was being encroached upon for other purposes.

The headmaster, after welcoming Mr. Wolfenden, said that the congestion of the School would be relieved after Christmas, when the six junior forms would be removed to Uplyme, under the headmastership of Mr. P. L. Jones. This would make it easier to cope with a very large Sixth Form of one hundred and thirty, and would release the library for its proper use.

He went on to say that the two new boarding houses had been completely filled and that there were forty-five applicants for the six boarding scholarships to be awarded next year. This showed that, should another building be acquired, it would be filled very easily.

Turning to the School itself, he said that the general activities had proceeded as usual. The games had been creditable without being outstanding, and the production of "Iolanthe" had given great pleasure and entertainment for a week. The C.C.F. continued to receive outstandingly good official reports and a Naval section would be started in September.

During the year the School had gained four State Scholarships and a reserve, the normal number of County majors and four Open Scholarships. Although this did not equal the achievements of the previous year, he doubted whether there were more than four schools in the country with a larger Higher School Certificate entry, and this meant a great deal to the School and to the district it served.

The headmaster went on to mention several old boys who had distinguished themselves at the University and concluded on a note of warning. He said that all the progress made since 1945 had been at the expense of the Grammar Schools. It was now almost impossible to obtain the services of a science master, and that unless the situation improved all the advances made in the last fifteen years would be imperilled. Nevertheless he hoped that no such recession would take place and that the School would continue along its now well-defined path.

When the prizes had been distributed, Mr. Wolfenden congratulated the headmaster on a fine report. He told the boys that they would have to clear up the mess left by the last generation, and that only with courage, accuracy and hard work would they be able to do it.

After tea and a demonstration of counter-marching by the C.C.F. band, both parents and boys attended the commemoration service in the Parish Church. The sermon, preached by the Rev. R. A. Simmons, M.A., provided a fitting end to a very inspiring day.

THE SCHOOL CONFIRMATION SERVICE.

The Confirmation Service this year was held at St. Francis' Church, Terriers, on Tuesday, March 28th.

The Bishop of Oxford was to have conducted the Service but, through illness, was unable to attend : in his place we welcomed the Right Reverend Bishop Hamilton, Dean of Windsor and Chaplain to His Majesty the King. Assisting at the Service were the Vicar of Terriers, the Reverend E. W. Shaw, and the Vicar of High Wycombe, the Reverend W. L. P. Float. We are very grateful to Bishop Hamilton for deputising for our own Bishop, and for his inspiring address on the meaning and solemnity of the Service, which will always be remembered by those confirmed.

After the Service the Bishop gave a short talk privately to the parents of the confirmation candidates.

Thirty-three boys were presented to the Bishop for Confirmation, and their names are :—

Peter Armstrong	David James
Geoffrey Baker	Trench Johnston
John Barnicott	Geraint Jones
Briant Bernet	Bernard Lewendon
Allan Brunton	Andrew McTavish
John Collar	Keith Miller
John Colver	Robert Mitchell
Derek Davis	John Richardson
Robin Dawe	Anthony Saddler
Jeremy Edwards	Geoffrey Sherlock
Michael Garratt	Michael Shewring
Anthony Gordon	Brian Sinnatt
Robert Hart	Ronald Snow
Derek Hyde	David Styles
Kenneth Inglis	John Walker
Reginald Isaac	Philip Webb
	David White

Christopher Edwards was also prepared for Confirmation, but unfortunately he was ill at the time of the School Service and was confirmed at a subsequent date.

A "CULTURAL HOLIDAY" IN PARIS.

This Easter a party of six boys and one master went from the Royal Grammar School, along with 390 other students from 112 schools in England, to a Cultural Holiday in Paris. This holiday had been arranged by Miss Williams, of Huntingdon Grammar School, and we were received as guests of the French Ministry of Education, the Services des Relations Culturelles, the Alliance Francaise, and the Office du Tourisme Universitaire. There were, besides these 390 students, other groups of English school-children numbering about 1,600. This was the "Invasion of Paris" which one read about in the press.

After our arrival at the Gare St.-Lazare, we were taken in coaches to our temporary home—the lycée Lakanal. This lycée is situated in beautiful grounds at Bourg-la-Reine, about twenty minutes from Paris by the Metro. At the lycée Lakanal we numbered 250, about 100 boys and 150 girls, whilst the remaining 140 situated at the lycée St. Louis in the Boulevard St. Michel consisted almost entirely of girls.

Our programme for the ten days was a very full one. It consisted of a tour of Paris in coaches, visits to the important monuments and buildings in Paris, a trip to Versailles and one to the "Comédie Francaise" to see "Le Cid." A visit to the British Embassy had been arranged and our group of six was represented by N. E. Filby. There was also the serious side of the holiday, which consisted of lectures at the Sorbonne. These lectures were given in French by the professors of the Sorbonne on special subjects for the various Higher School Certificates, and they proved to be very instructive. There were also several competitions for which prizes were given. From this school D. D. Kirby received a medal and N. E. Filby received a book, as prizes for recitation.

Of the whole holiday, the event which I think will linger in everyone's memory is the reception at the Hotel de Ville. All the boys and girls in Paris who were over there on courses were invited and these numbered about 2,000. Before the reception we were photographed in the street by the *Continental Daily Mail*. We were then received in the Salle des Fêtes, where famous people from all lands have been received. Here we were entertained by Geneviève Rex, who sang three folk songs in Brittany costume, and by the band of the Paris Police, who had fired the first shots in the liberation of Paris.

For all of us this stay in a French lycée was a new and unforgettable experience. Everyone enjoyed the visit, and the only complaint was that we did not stay long enough.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank the Headmaster and Mr. Cowan, who made this holiday possible.

I. M. C. WATERS, VI.

SCHOOL HOUSE NOTES.

The past year has seen much change in the Boarding House. The most obvious, as VIC will have noticed, is that the old place has at last received a coat of paint to cover the scars of the war years, and we now live in surroundings of pink, green, cream, and grey—unusual, but pleasant.

This change is but superficial, however : what affects us most deeply is the loss of so many of our most valued members. The lady whom we and many other generations of boarders have known as Nannie, is leaving us, and we shall all miss her kindness and good nature to us in sickness and in health. Sainsbury, the first Boarder to be School Head Prefect for as long as anyone can remember, left at Easter after a long and popular régime. This term nearly all of our own prefectorial staff is leaving. Tuckett, our all-round Senior Prefect and distinguished lesson reader, whose efficient and kindly rule has improved our prestige in the School, leaves us to study at Reading. Cowlett, the School's musician, whom we congratulate on his double entry to Oxford and Durham, is going to higher planes in the R.A.F. Decker, who although he has been with us for only two years, has made a more noteworthy mark on the School, as Sports Open Champion amongst other things, than many of us of many more years' residence, is going to America, and we wish him luck in his venture. Silver, too, deserves our congratulations on his gaining a place at Dartmouth, where he is now going after a short but pleasant stay.

We have played inter-house games with vigour and varying success. Our Scouts, a thriving and enthusiastic body, are camping during the summer holiday at Beer, in Devon. The large influx of Juniors that came last year has settled down well, and many of them will leave us for our self-governing Dominions at Uplyme and Tylers Wood, where we hope they will continue to develop along the lines on which we have set them.

Although regretting the loss of so many of our members, we face the future with unflagging interest.

TYLERS WOOD BOARDING HOUSE, 1949-50.

For all who live in Tylers Wood this has been a most successful year. In the Christmas Term we were very strong at all sports. We beat our friends and rivals, School House and Uplyme, at Cross-country twice, and provided six members of the Boarders' Rugby XV, which was so narrowly beaten by the School 1st XV 3-0. Skittleball and Basketball fixtures were keenly contested, while at Table-tennis no match has been lost since the House has been open. We gained a moral, if not actual, victory over a Staff team, which provided us with our strongest opposition of the season. Congratulations to Phillips for playing for the 1st XV, to Abdallah for proving an able captain of the Colts XV, and to many others who played in the Junior teams.

This term we have played very keen if not brilliant tennis on the lawn, though it has lately given place to cricket, a game which here is different, and more typical of House life than anything except Bonfire Night. So far we have beaten School House by 4 wickets, and lost to Uplyme by the same margin. Congratulations to Elliott for gaining his 2nd XI colours, to Edwards (B.) for captaining the Colts XI, and to those who played for the Junior teams.

During the term we lost Peter Groom, still a friend of us all, and Robertson, whom all will remember for his imitations of an orchestra leader. Ashby did his best to cheer up the House during the one term he was here, and we were sorry to see all of them go. We were glad, however, to see them at the Boarders' Reunion, together with Colin Engeham and Neil Honour. This term we may be saying goodbye to Ian James, who in his one year here has shown us his abundant talent for Art. We wish him good luck and hope his stay here will stand him in good stead for his future career.

UPLYME HOUSE REPORT, JULY 1950.

By the time this report appears in print "Uplyme" will be girding its loins to meet the onslaught of the ravaging hordes of the Junior School, which should be opened down here some time next term. Until now a state of cold war has existed between Uplyme's stout "19" and the musicians and cinema-goers, but when the Junior School opens, the horrors of Nagasaki will fade into insignificance beside what is being prepared for any trespassers on the tiny plots still left to us.

The end of the Summer Term (1950) sees most of us here at Uplyme purified and exhausted after the passion of the Higher and

School Certificate examinations. Thirteen of us, out of the nineteen, are now awaiting with grim foreboding for that fateful post-card to be sent to our homes at the end of August. At the moment, we find it difficult to share the optimism of our Housemaster about the results.

Our sport hasn't suffered because of the exams. At cricket we managed to defeat the two rival boarding houses in very keen games. Our "amour propre" received a rebuff when we lost to Chiltern Ladies' Cricket Club, whose home ground is the High School field. In a return match we redeemed ourselves by winning a hard-fought game by 36 runs to 34. We should like to mention that last term we defeated the other two houses at badminton and basketball, and our basketball team lost in the final of the Open School Tournament to the very good V Upper Shell side. If we have omitted to mention our efforts at any other sport it is simply because we didn't do so well in them.

This term we say goodbye to Benjamin, Dickinson and Baker, and we wish them all good luck in the future. We shall miss them for various reasons, good and bad, but we do hope they will come and see us regularly. The Old Boarders *versus* Present Boarders cricket match and general "get together" this term was such a great success that we hope no one who leaves from now on will miss it in the future.

IMPRESSIONS OF SHORTENILLS SCHOOL CAMP.

Course on the U.S.A., 17th—21st July, 1950.

As I walked up the road home on the afternoon of 21st July I felt that I had just spent a week which I would find most difficult to forget, a week in which I had learnt more of both facts and people than I could possibly have done had I remained at School. Seventy School Certificate boys and girls had been thrown together amid the most beautiful surroundings to study the United States and to forget about the depressing prospect of current world affairs. The same seventy young people returned home with minds greatly broadened and many misconceptions corrected by the eloquence of the lectures and by discussion.

Shortenills camp is situated about a mile north of Chalfont St. Giles and consists of four large huts, once used as government offices, and a number of tents in which all the boys and most of the girls slept. The tents kept out the rather bad weather for most of the week, but on the Friday morning there was a heavy thunder-

storm, as a result of which many of us found small rivers running through our canvas dwellings. The novelty, for some of us, of sleeping in this way provided an excuse for not getting as much sleep as we should have done : we lay awake talking quite late sometimes. We usually rose at about 7 a.m. and slithered over the mud in the small wood separating us from the huts where we washed.

In our spare time, of which we had plenty, when there were no lectures in progress, we had many things provided for us to do. In the hut used as a recreation room and lecture hall there was a radio-gram and piano, for those of a more musical turn of mind, a table-tennis table of which use was made in a knock-out competition, many American books, newspapers and magazines, and for those who were not satisfied with these things there were always plenty of girls to talk to. Political discussions were always popular and in our own "true-blue" tent we even invited a Government supporter and subjected him to a barrage of questions which, in all fairness, I must say he answered very well.

Perhaps the most important thing next to leisure in the minds of those present was food, food which on the whole was reasonably good. We had three meals per day and in addition some cocoa and cake at 8.30 p.m. One of the huts was used as a dining room and was furnished really well with tables and benches that looked almost new. Each table was expected to take turns at laying the tables, serving, clearing-away, and washing-up.

The quality of the lectures by both Americans and Britons, of which two were given daily, was very good. After each lecture we divided up into various discussion groups and prepared questions to give the speakers when they returned after the break. The questions were answered very fully and well, a pleasant change from the evasion of so many political speakers. The evening activities were rather more varied. On Monday evening we were shown three very good films, among which was an educational and interesting one, although excessively dramatised in the usual American manner, on the Tennessee Valley Authority. On Tuesday we were given a very amusing talk illustrated with lantern slides by Mr. W. Crisp on his cycling tour of North America. The Brains Trust on Wednesday, upon which sat two American teachers, Mr. W. Crisp, a girl who had attended school in the U.S., and our own Michael Zander and Andrew McIntosh, had no serious disagreements until McIntosh supplied us with some Socialist theories on Capitalism, thus giving us much food for thought and amusement. On Thursday evening there was a debate on the motion : "This house welcomes the influence of the American way of life on the British way of life." M. Zander proposed the motion and was ably seconded by M. M. Jones. The motion was carried fairly easily in spite of some

Communitic arguments rather off the point. The debate was followed by a social evening during which I noticed many sheepish-looking youths attempting to dance for the first time, some successfully and others less so. We all went to bed late that night and got up early in the morning, when we had an exceptionally good lecture on "America and World Affairs," by Professor Arthur Newell.

Both I and my R.G.S. companions were sorry to leave Shortenills, and I know that I shall not miss another chance of going again.

P. A. D. GREEN, VI.

THE NEW SCHOOL TERM.

From an Old Fag to a New Inmate.

When you enter the august portals of the School, remember it has existed since 1562, and that is a very long time ago. Therefore respect its traditions and it will respect you. It is advisable at this stage in your career to abandon all "nannies," "governesses," "night nurses," and "divers encumbrances," and realise that you are a Boy from now on. Don't despair over this. Instead, play the game hard and don't call your form-master "Dad."

Here are a few don'ts. Don't arrive late for luncheon, otherwise the ensuing one-sided conversation will take place: "Here, you—Plates!" and you will feel a large and hairy hand at the back of your neck propelling you towards a particularly precarious pile of plates whose resting place you will be required to make the kitchen. Needless to say, don't drop any in the execution of this light duty. Secondly, don't neglect to try your homework. If you prefer the cinema for your "soirée," drop the expensive habit and try the magic verb "Amo" instead. Otherwise you might find yourself marching up and down the parade ground on Thursday afternoons to the harmonious strains of "Left-right, Left-right." Other naughty little boys will be with you, some clad in evil-smelling khaki uniforms, so your itinerary will not entirely be wasted on ethereal vacancy. The last don't I should like to submit for your benefit is "Don't be cheeky." If you tell a prefect what you really think of him (and heaven forbid that you ever should!) you might find yourself in that Holy of Holies the weekly Prefects' meeting, where boys, big and small, are justly punished for their misdemeanours. If you think smoking is good for your health, think again; and confine your pugilistic genius to the boxing ring which is generously supplied by

the authorities. Don't waste, in other words, your superior mental and physical ability on others who are less fortunate than yourself.

Lastly, here are a few things which you can do. You will probably find yourself on the Rugger Field one bright day in October, when the leaves are turning yellow and your inside is turning similarly—but don't dismay. If you are lucky enough to be presented, albeit with considerable force, a funny-shaped ball, run like the blue blazes from anyone who looks like wanting it from you, and you will be tried for the 1st XV in next to no time. If, on the other hand, you have a bent for the noble science of gymnastics, be sure to wear hob-nail boots in the gymnasium. If you keep silent in the corridor, keep clear of the masters and call the new building the Dining Hall, then you will be all a new boy should be, and quite an o'd hand before the term is out. Good luck.

R. E. W. ROBERTS, VI.

CATASTROPHE !

The white wings were skimming over the water with the airy grace of swallows. The sun looked down on the glistening waves beneath. The spectators were there already, eager and expectant. Would the weather hold? Would the breeze which had lately sprung up drop again into that fatal calm, which miraculously quenches the spirits of all yachting enthusiasts? No! The winds had agreed to favour the sport with their lusty aid.

Stronger and stronger they blew; faster and faster sped those fleet greyhounds of the deep, vying with one another in this greatest of all races. As they flew past, the people watching carefully noted their names . . . "Victory," "Neptune," "Wings of Dawn." Excitement ran at fever-pitch as the familiar lines of the favourites formed silhouettes against the mackerel waters. All seemed set for the end of a perfect day's sailing.

Suddenly the wind veered and the yachts turned and plunged, momentarily out of control. With some difficulty they were persuaded to follow their right course again. "Neptune" was still showing some reluctance in spite of the efforts of his master, when there came a terrific gust out of the east which carried him broadside on against the concrete rim of the bathing-pool. With his bows badly splintered and his mast split in two, he was rescued by his tearful owner and carried off to be mended at leisure by an indulgent daddy.

N. E. FILBY, XI.

"ALAS."

We dashed from the classroom and hurried down the corridor, through the School gates, narrowly missing a master, and pelted down the road. Heedless of puddles and brambles, we tore on, until at last we sighted our quarry, and throwing caution to the wind, raced quickly towards it. As the song says,

"Our thoughts were one,
And our cares were none."

We were near now and at last came to a stumbling halt. Our flowers, that had long since lost their beauty, hung loosely in our hands. We stared about intently, but, alas! the High School girls had turned the corner!

M. SNAPES, III.

THE BIOLOGY LAB.

Visitors who are engaged upon a circular tour of the School during "working hours" will be well counselled to give a wide berth to that section of the School, regarded with awe by staff and boys alike. I refer, of course, to the centre of the Empire's medical research, the Bugs Lab.

If, however, fate is unkind to the visitor, he will stumble upon the sanctuary which houses the Sixth Form biologists. An odour wrapt in mystery will first greet this crusader who dares to explore the Mecca of the "bug-hunters"; the odour is indescribable but vaguely familiar, a blend of fish and chips, tinned crustacea and the local sewage farm.

When the visitor's olfactory organs have succumbed and he manages to stagger through the doorway of the home of biological science, a scene of bewildering complexity confronts him. Are these the surroundings for research scientists? Are these species of humanity to be our future doctors, surgeons and scientists?

At one end of the room are the repulsive remains of many unfortunate animals who strayed into the hands of these embryo medicos. Unrecognisable to the layman or biologist, these unsavoury pickled organs will be gleefully displayed before our unhappy visitor. (Only those with exceptional constitutions will enjoy rabbit pie for months after.)

At the opposite end of the room a magnificent stag's head sneers down at big and small. The stag usually has rainbow-coloured antlers and a bowler hat sits upon his broad forehead at festive seasons. The visitor will without doubt be told that it was shot

with an air pistol by a motor-cycling R.A.S.C. Captain somewhere in Indiah.

Above the door is a huge fish reposing in a glass case. Ten members of the staff have already claimed to be the angler responsible for its capture. (A reliable source of information reports that the fish was won by a dice-playing Second Former at the "Anglers' Rest.")

It will not, however, be the inanimate objects that will bewilder the visitor, but the behaviour of Britain's future practitioners and surgeons. In a prominent position in the room, a huge mass of adipose tissue, manifesting the external appearance of a gorilla, can usually be seen blandishing in one hand a surgical knife and dragging with his other hand the smallest member of the form over the benches. Animal-like grunts of ". . . cause of science" and "sake of humanity" will be heard coming from this over-enthusiastic student.

In the far corner a group of students are huddled round a blonde-haired pleasant-looking youth who is apparently reading a treatise on hormones and ductless glands. At last here is a real scientist who is engaged in difficult work. The treatise is turned over, it is—"Reveille."

For no apparent reason, someone decides to start a miniature Korean situation, the master's platform representing the 38th parallel. The air is quickly filled with missiles, mostly dogfish cutlets, proceeding in both Easterly and Westerly directions. In the van of the attack, a ginger-haired J.T.C. sergeant hurls a medical dictionary which lands squarely on the nose of the stag.

A cough which has a definite sound of authority is heard from the doorway. In the smallest fraction of a second, all that can be heard is the sound of missiles striking their targets. Every student immediately disappears beneath the masses of zoological manuals. The smallest member of the form surreptitiously sweeps broken glass and dismembered bodies into the refuse basket.

And, without further delay, the lesson begins.

M. HILL, VI.

THOUGHTS ON A COUNTRY ROAD.

(With apologies to Thomas Gray.)

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
A motor car speeds swiftly o'er the lea,
A pedestrian homeward plods his weary way
And leaves the world quite unexpectedly.

J. R. SAUNDERS, VI.

YO! HEAVE HO!

The rumour that a naval section is to be started is, of course, only half the truth. No C.C.F. worth its salt could be content with a few pairs of bell-bottomed trousers reeling around the School and a few fake beards in the library. The nautical idea is sure to catch on very rapidly. The corridors will be known as the upper and lower decks and a white line drawn across the hall will separate the quarterdeck from the bridge. All A.B.'s returning from leave in September will report to the Purser's Office opposite the headmaster's cabin.

Nelson's day will be celebrated by placing an apple barrel in the library and by splicing the mainbrace in the staffroom. An enterprising Fourth Former is spending his shore leave producing plug tobacco, and the officer in charge is learning bowls in preparation for the coming general inspection. Sea shanties will be strictly forbidden during lessons and leading seamen will not be allowed to fraternise with the High School when coming aboard.

Next term, which will begin at 8 bells on September 12th, should be a most interesting one.

D. R. STANSBURY, VI.

SCHOOL CONCERT, MARCH, 1950.

We have come to expect the School Concert to provide, apart from its more usual offerings, some item of surprise or special interest. This year Mr. Rainbow's pocket opera, "The Antagonists," was a sheer delight. The witty libretto was fitted skilfully to tuneful airs, for whose style Mr. Rainbow acknowledges his indebtedness to those other composers, Messrs. Handel, Bach, etc. The whole thing was acted and sung with great relish by the Madrigal Club. It is very much to be hoped that "The Antagonists" has not made its first and only appearance.

The School choirs sang with their expected skill, except that one cannot pass over the fact that the balance, both of the combined choirs and of the VI Form chorus in its Students' Songs, was to some extent spoilt by one exuberant tenor, determined to make himself heard at all costs. There was ample compensation from the Junior choir, singing "Mists before the sunrise fly" and "Old Abram Brown." In both there was a sweetness of tone, allied to an aptness of interpretation, that made this choir surely the best we have had for some years.

It is unusual to find a Chamber Music Group in a school. The boys concerned deserve congratulations for their perseverance and energy in attempting music of this kind on their own. Their playing of Handel's Trio in C minor may have been rather stiff, but the promise of these young musicians was very evident.

The School Orchestra grows in scope and its achievement this year has been to provide a brass section composed of players who have all been learning their instruments only a few months. Also most of the others are new members since the last appearance of the orchestra. In the circumstances one can forgive what may perhaps be called a certain uneven quality in their performance and look forward in confidence to the improvement which is sure to come. Mention must here be made of the achievement of T. A. Cowlett in being the first boy to conduct a composition of his own in a school concert. His "Homage to Haydn" is indeed a clever piece of work, quite neatly rendered by the orchestra, and it is fitting that this distinction should fall to a boy who for many years has never been sparing of his energy in the musical activities of the School.

Lastly, we were pleased to hear once more the High Wycombe String Orchestra. I hope I may not be misunderstood if I say that this orchestra has improved vastly since its first appearance. Its playing this year of Mozart's *Sinfonietta* in D was most accomplished; particularly in the first two movements a precision and crispness of playing made the performance very pleasing.

F.S.E.

HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION.

The Annual House Music Competition was held at the end of the Spring Term, the adjudicator being Mr. Dawes, the County Music Adviser. As always, it was keenly contested and reminded us of the wealth of musical ability that there is in the School. Arnison House came first, due in no small measure to the excellence of its choir, with Disraeli second. The coveted Music Shield thus moves from its position above Disraeli's notice board, which it has occupied for at least the past two years.

Next Spring, at the end of the first term of 1951, various parts of the *Messiah* are going to be performed by the School. Mr. Rainbow cordially invites any recent Old Boys who would like to take part to get in touch with him some time next term.

SOCIETY NOTES.

The greatest surprise in the School this term has been the great spate of activity into which the Science Society has fallen. Last March, in an unguarded moment, it let itself in for a trip round the Gasworks, and the great success of this visit prompted the Society to explore further into the desirability of arranging similar trips to the many other centres of scientific activity around our town. The outcome of this was that during July two visits were made, one to Lintafelt Ltd., and the other to the Research Laboratories of the British Aluminium Co. at Chalfont St. Peter. Five scientists explored Lintafelt Ltd., whilst nine of them, accompanied by a master they had managed to entice, looked into the matter of aluminium research. For those that preferred to stay at School, two film shows and a debate were arranged. The eminent Society members, M. A. Bird and J. R. Webster, spoke on "The Natural explanations of Biblical Miracles" and "The supernatural cause of miracles: mind over matter," to 22 boys gathered in the Physics Laboratory. The film shows attracted far larger audiences. The first, a drama in glorious technicolour called "The Nature of Plastics" was seen by 50 boys, whilst a record number of 130 attended the second show which contained two films called "Signal D'Alarme" and "Far Horizon," which was the history of Dunlops. The film "Signal D'Alarme" provided rather a shock as the commentary was in French, a language which ranks next to English in its obscurity to our scientists.

With this great competition to contend with, the Twentieth Century Opinion Society sponsored an illustrated talk by two members on the rather hectic passage of jazz music, "From New Orleans to Bepop." Although proving rather too much for the more venerable members of the Society, this was much enjoyed by a room full of toe-tapping enthusiasts. Society members also joined in a debate with seven other schools at Slough High School. The subject was that "The Emancipation of Women was a Social Mistake." However, as usual, the women had the last word, and the motion was heavily defeated.

The highlight of the History Society's activities was a three-part lecture on aspects of Art—D. M. Phillips on French Impressionism, P. A. D. Green on Heraldry, and A. R. McIntosh on the Art of the Dutch Republic—all useful and able introductions to subjects of which many of us are shamefully ignorant.

The usual summer depression hit the Music Society hard, and while attendance at the weekly concerts was reasonable, the Society was slightly shocked by the large attendance of the Twentieth Century's jazz debate.

M. J. BANHAM, VI.

"TEN LITTLE NIGGERS."

There were two reasons for my apprehension before the performances of Agatha Christie's play, "Ten Little Niggers," on Monday and Tuesday, the 24th and 25th of July. The first was in the nature of the production, the second in the nature of the play. The newly-formed Dramatic Society had firstly to prove its worth as an independent body after a lapse of some years. Secondly, the play is fast becoming a classic of melodrama and there exists the danger that the almost constant tension of the plot should be used as a cover for poor acting. Both these fears were proved groundless by the performances.

It is difficult to select any individual actor for highest praise, for many deserve very honourable mention. Although the portrayal by M. S. Matthews of Sir Lawrence Wargrave verged perhaps a little too nearly on the caricature, he conveyed a convincing and effective picture of the frustrated introvert. A. Kenyon, as the private detective William Blore, was pleasantly bovine and gave an excellent performance. J. R. Silver, as Lombard, had much of the abandon and ease which the part demands, and G. A. Bradley displayed a high order of callous indolence in his acting of the short-lived part of Anthony Marston. F. A. Neal was effective as the nervous specialist Dr. Armstrong, and his bursts of pathological passion brought appreciative silences from the audience. D. D. Kirby played the difficult part of General Mackenzie with restraint and understanding, conveying a strong impression of a once noble mind overcome by "the stamp of one defect." As Emily Brent, C. Goodchild was sternly pious and unwaveringly incorruptible. A. J. Elburne, as Narracot, was delightfully rural, and M. J. George, as the butler, Rogers, combined severity with humanity. R. J. Bennett's acting of Mrs. Rogers was enjoyable if a little manly. I have deliberately reserved until last any mention of Miss Angela Tucker's admirable performance. As Vera Claythorne, she irradiated the play with that touch of femininity so often lacking in productions of this kind.

Mr. R. Howard's production had pace and continuity and the tension of the play was sustained throughout. This fact cannot be attributed wholly to the startling realism of the pistol shots, whose attitude seems to have been one of "better late than never," nor to the shrill and agonizing quality of Miss Angela Tucker's scream. Although the dramatised version deprives us of two corpses, we are left in the last scene with three more than in the final act of "Hamlet" as well as a promising romance.

R. NEWELL, VI.

C.C.F. NOTES.

The School contingent this year has been above average in all that it has undertaken.

The strength of the contingent has been over 400 throughout the year, a record number of cadets passed Certificate "A" and Signals Classification, and the annual Inspection Report was a very complimentary one.

The record number of passes in Certificate "A" has produced an A.T.C. of over 80, and a Signals Platoon of 30 very capable signallers, whilst a good standard of efficiency has been maintained amongst the Army Section N.C.O.'s

Next term those who have passed Certificate "A," Pt. I, will have a further choice of specialisation—that of joining the Naval Section of the C.C.F. It is hoped to start the section with about 20 volunteers, who will have the opportunity of going to sea during the year, and it will give those cadets who wish to do their National Service in the Navy an opportunity of so doing—a privilege now denied to those who are not members of the Sea Cadet Corps.

It has been very gratifying during the year to see so many Old Boys returning within a few months of leaving School to show off their brand new officers' uniforms and to hear them say that their service in the School contingent undoubtedly contributed a good deal towards their rapid promotion.

It is hoped that fewer parents will raise objections to their sons' service on conscientious or other grounds in a contingent whose objects are to develop a healthy sense of leadership in a boy and provide him with a background to make his National Service an easier duty to perform.

C.C.F. (R.A.F. SECTION).

The Summer Term always seems to be much the most active period for the Cadet Force in the School year. Much of this activity consists of preparation for the Annual Inspection, and, though it interferes seriously with the normal training of the R.A.F. Section, the results, as shown in the Inspection Report, fully justify the time and effort expended. This year, again, a most favourable report was made on the smartness and efficiency of the Section, which, with a strength of 81 cadets, is almost certainly the biggest R.A.F. Section in the country.

But it must be emphasised that numbers should not be the only criterion by which the Section is judged. The Air Ministry is most

anxious to do all it can for cadets and provides a wide variety of facilities for keen members. In some cases the holding of the Proficiency Certificate is an essential qualification, but in others keenness is the only requirement. An example of the latter kind is the gliding which is available for cadets, and it is most gratifying that full advantage is being taken of it by our cadets. Among the enthusiasts who have recently gained their "A" Certificates are Langston, Salter, Snow, Bird (R.A.), Blackshaw and Hopkins.

Owing to administrative changes, C.C.F. flying at Booker has been discontinued: it is hoped that, on the resumption of flying activities, there will be no lack of enthusiasm among our cadets.

Proficiency Certificates have been awarded this term to Cadets Bates, Bradley and Langston. These cadets are to be congratulated on their success, as the Proficiency Certificate now represents a considerable achievement, and is an essential qualification for selection for overseas flights, Flying Scholarships and Cadetships at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell. Success in the Proficiency Examination also carries with it certain concessions and privileges during service in the Royal Air Force.

For the second year in succession we have been to Easter camp; this year, in spite of unfavourable weather, 20 cadets spent an enjoyable and instructive week at Chivenor. A similar number is now spending a week at Hullavington. The fact that only about a quarter of our cadets attend annual camp is the most disappointing feature of the year's work: usually the same cadets attend camp at Easter and in the summer, and they obviously appreciate the value of the facilities opened to them and the importance of the annual camp as the completion of the year's training. We are looking forward to a great improvement in this respect next year.

A party of 30 cadets visited Farnborough on 8th July for the Royal Air Force Flying Display and were treated to a most impressive programme of flying events.

We are very pleased with the award of a Flying Scholarship to Sgt. Rankin. Under a scheme announced recently by the Air Ministry, suitable cadets will be trained during school holidays for the civilian pilot's "A" Licence, which involves a considerable amount of solo flying. Sgt. Rankin will start his training as soon as he reaches his seventeenth birthday. He is to be congratulated all the more on his success as his interview marks and flying aptitude assessments were the highest of the 80 candidates from numerous schools who were interviewed for the first selection.

Overseas flights for C.C.F. cadets have been resumed, though on rather a reduced scale. Sgt. Banham has been accepted for a flight in August; the destination has not yet been determined. The Commanding Officer of the Section has been selected as the C.C.F.

Conducting Officer for a party of Canadian Air Cadets touring the British Isles in August.

Since the publication of the last report we have added F/Lieut. Mewse to the officer strength ; for over two years he had been most active in the training of cadets in the Electrical and Radio course. Mr. Sheppard and Mr. Leggett continue to give invaluable assistance in their specialist subjects : we are most grateful to them. But we have suffered a serious loss in the departure of Flying Officer Tucker : he had at all times been a most loyal and conscientious officer, and had given unsparingly of his time, particularly during the war years, when the A.T.C. Squadron, as it was then, held parades every evening of the week and carried out a full programme of sporting activities. Flying Officer Tucker will probably be best remembered for the enthusiasm and determination with which he accompanied our boxers to tournaments often in the most inaccessible parts of the country. For this and many other services he has earned our gratitude.

These notes would be incomplete without a reference to the opportunities which are open to cadets. The Royal Air Force offers the enthusiast an attractive career whether in flying or ground duties which compares favourably with most civilian professions and occupations ; cadets would be well advised to consider seriously the advantages of a Service life when they are choosing their own future careers.

STAFF GOLF COMPETITION.

In the final of the knock-out competition held during the Summer Term, R. Pattinson and H. R. Thomas (scratch) beat C. M. Haworth and M. M. Davies (8) by one hole. Mr. Thomas played disappointingly well—especially in the semi-final—and with his formidable partner proved just too strong for an erratic but combative pair.

Results of the previous rounds were :—

Preliminary Round : S. Morgan and G. Young (4) beat G. G. Browning and A. S. Hett (13) by 4 and 2. *Semi-Finals* : R. Pattinson and H. R. Thomas (scratch) beat S. Morgan and G. Young by 8 and 6 ; C. M. Haworth and M. M. Davies (8) beat H. Scott and H. W. Johnson (12) by one hole.

C.M.H.

CRICKET CLUB, 1950.

The opening of the season was clouded by the sudden death of Mr. John Glenister. For many years now "Jack" had been a great help to the Club, looking after the material and umpiring with great efficiency whenever needed. He was always cheerful and ready to crack a joke and at the same time put any boy in his place should the occasion arise.

We have missed seeing Windsor Castle from the Pavilion, the genial "don't run up the middle, Sir," and the signal for "one short." The 1st XI have not discarded their sweaters quite so much on the field this year.

To his relatives we of the Club, especially the 1st XI, offer our deepest sympathy and would like to say, "Thank you, Jack."

It is usual in school cricket to compare the side for the current season with that of the previous one, and this method, perhaps, will give the best picture of the 1950 1st XI. The 1949 side was a well balanced, aggressive side, solid in batting and bowling which played to a background of perfect summer weather, and usually the spectators were well served with what is no doubt the best type of cricket—good, keen inter-school games.

The 1950 side provided a sharp contrast, well backed up by the weather. The batting, after the first three wickets had fallen, was usually timid and negative. Too often the ball hit the bat instead of the bat attacking the bowling. The only record broken this season was the number of long-hops which were carefully played back to the bowler or into waiting hands. The bowling lacked the fire which would have turned a stock attack into a useful and hostile one. The fielding was patchy—certain members working hard and, at times, brilliantly, but with their efforts failing because of the lazy and unintelligent work on the part of the rest of the side. There were too many old men in the field, so eaten with lumbago that they were unable to bend or run, too fond of taking the ball first bounce instead of moving to make a catch, and too fond of using the boot—the last stage before retiring to the pavilion to reminisce on past achievements at cricket on the "committee seat."

Regular spectators—as usual Staff and friends but not boys of the School—felt sorry for the captain, B. Woodbridge. He handled his mixture of cricketers and old men with charming tact and ability, but he had too many to hide at fine leg, too many to go in No. 11, and too many to bowl third change down hill. One felt sure that,

given a good side, he would have obtained the best from them. In spite of the lack of success, the side was pleasant and enjoyed its games, but the atmosphere was one of a Club 3rd XI who would never make even the 2nd XI grade, and the only thing lacking was the "after the match" get together.

Individuals deserving praise are Decker for his outstanding work at the wicket. At last the School has a supply of wicket-keepers, and if they reach the standard set by Decker, all will be well for one of the eleven places in the field. Sharpe showed occasional glimpses of his 1949 form but was so often losing his wicket in the late teens or early twenties. The finest bat in the world can get a "flyer," but youngsters hoping for high honours later on should never be out regularly after scoring a steady twenty. The bowling of Macfarlane was steady and, at times, inspired. The ground fielding, anticipation and catching of Woodbridge, Carrick and Bridges should have inspired the slower members, but, alas, did not.

The House matches provided the usual thrills and some unexpected results. Here the Colts playing for the Senior sides provided a gleam of hope for the 1951 season, and the success of Youens in defeating a strong Disraeli side in the semi-final and the even stronger Fraser XI in the final can be almost entirely attributed to the members of the Colts XI. A more detailed report of the other elevens will be found in this issue, but the criticism of the 1st XI applies to the 2nd XI and Junior Colts XI. However, the latter half of the season showed a greatly improved Colts side with plenty of spirit and the will to win.

P. Sharpe and O. Decker have been chosen to play in the first Trial for the County Colts XI.

1st XI Colours awarded to : E. Macfarlane, B. Walker, R. Wing and M. Bridges.

2nd XI Colours : Walker (M.), Thomas, Salter, Neal, Elliott Cartwright, File, Figg, Crook and Collier.

Colts Colours : Johnston, Keen (T.), McMurdo, Simmons, Vyver, Walker (P.), Ransley, Hooper and Davis.

The Cricket Club wishes to thank all members of the Staff who have taken interest in the games this season whether as coaches, umpires or spectators, also Mr. Beeson, for his regular help at the nets and for the high standard of the wickets, and Mrs. Mansbridge and helpers for the great number of teas provided each week,

We look forward to next season to mark the return of keen, energetic and aggressive cricket. A great amount of time is given by the masters in charge of each team, and the only reward they look for is a side that is making its utmost effort to put into being all the coaching that has been so freely given.

THE STAFF MATCH.

July 18th, 1950.

BY SPECTATOR.

There are, perhaps, two main differences between the annual Staff Rugger match and the annual Staff Cricket match. The first is that the Staff Cricket XI expect to come off the field at the end of the game on their own two feet and fit for work the next day, and the second is that they expect to win. Both of these hopes were realised this year.

The Staff batted first on a wicket that promised to take spin. The opening bats started confidently, and even if a few left-handed cover drives found the fine leg boundary, the score mounted steadily. The first wicket fell at 33, and No. 3, coming in to support No. 2, was lucky to survive the first over from Sharpe, who was turning the ball off a good length quite appreciably, as he did throughout the innings. However, No. 3 went on to help No. 2 put on 55 in 35 minutes, including one 6 off Carrick. Wickets then fell quickly and pavilion gossip changed from "when shall we declare" to "what time is the tea interval?" No. 2 was brilliantly stumped by Decker off Macfarlane after reaching his 50. The deep mid-wicket placed for No. 5's iron shot was not needed, as he was caught by Decker off Sharpe for 2.

A stand developed between No. 8 and No. 9 and produced one notable shot, a hook which failed by a single yard to clear the fence by third man, nearly decapitating one of the children of the Staff. The innings closed at 157, obtained in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours on a slow outfield.

The School found the Staff bowling too accurate, and the only boys to reach double figures were Woodbridge, who scored an excellent 50, Carrick (13) and Walker, B. (12). The side was all out for 107 half an hour before time. The main feature of the Staff attack was the bowling of the slow, round-the-wicket off spinner from Glamorgan, who took 7 for 21 in 11 overs, including 3 maidens.

Thus ended yet another Staff *v.* Boys match with a victory for the Masters. One sobering thought for the future generation of cricketers—the off-spinner will still be capable of bowling for the next 20 years with steadily increasing guile.

Scores : Staff 157, Boys 107. Win for Staff by 50 runs.

FIRST XI RESULTS.

- Versus* Amersham Grammar School, at Amersham—Won.
R.G.S. 69, Amersham G.S. 53 (Macfarlane 5 for 17).
- Versus* Borlase School, at Marlow—Won.
R.G.S. 142 (P. Sharpe 71), Borlase 77 (J. Carrick 3 for 3).
- Versus* Slough Grammar School, at Home—Lost.
Slough 130 for 9 (dec.) (J. Carrick 5 for 36), R.G.S. 64.
- Versus* Windsor Grammar School, at Home—Won.
R.G.S. 70, Windsor 69 (P. Sharpe 6 for 21).
- Versus* Abigdon, at Abingdon—Lost.
R.G.S. 81, Abingdon 86 for 6 (Macfarlane, E., 4 for 27).
- Versus* Leighton Park, at Home—Lost.
R.G.S. 65, Leighton Park 82 for 4.
- Versus* Newland Park Training College, at Home—Draw.
R.G.S. 136 for 8 (dec.) (P. Sharpe 66 not out), Newland Park 99 for 9
(Macfarlane, E., 6 for 29).
- Versus* Watford Grammar School, at Home—Lost.
R.G.S. 136 (P. Sharpe 39, B. Woodbridge 29), Watford 140 for 4.
- Versus* Newland Park Training College, Away—Lost.
R.G.S. 77, Newland Park 79 for 4.
- Versus* Reading, at Reading—Lost.
R.G.S. 111 (P. Sharpe 26), Reading 117 for 3.
- Versus* Southfield, at Southfield—Draw.
R.G.S. 117 for 8 (Walker, B., 34, Wing 27), Southfield 29 for 9 (Roby
3 for 8).
- Versus* Parents XI, at Home—Lost.
R.G.S. 108 (B. Walker 40, Bridges 25), Parents 109 for 9 (Macfarlane
E., 5 for 24).
- Versus* Chiswick Grammar School, at Chiswick—Won.
R.G.S. 150 (O. Decker 49), Chiswick 83 (P. Sharpe 5 for 27).
- Versus* Newbury, at Newbury—Lost.
R.G.S. 60, Newbury 61 (Robey 5 for 5, J. Carrick 4 for 16).
- Versus* Amersham Grammar School, at Home—Won.
R.G.S. 133 for 5 (dec.) (P. Sharpe 94), Amersham 45 (P. Sharpe 6 for 4).
- Versus* The Staff, at Home—Lost.
R.G.S. 107 (B. Woodbridge 50), Staff 157 (E. Macfarlane 5 for 50).
- Versus* Old Boys' XI, at Home—Lost.
R.G.S. 65, Old Boys 66 for 2.

HOUSE CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP.

First Round : Fraser beat Arnison.

Youens beat Disraeli.

Final : Youens beat Fraser.

Fraser 82 (P. Sharpe 26, Johnston 21, Neal 4 for 16, Salter 3 for 6).

Youens 84 for 6 (Collier 27, Hooper 19, J. Carrick 2 for 19).

FIRST XI AVERAGES

Batting.

	<i>No. of Innings</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Highest Score</i>	<i>Times Not Out</i>	<i>Average</i>
P. Sharpe	18	415	94	1	24.4
B. Walker	12	165	40	1	15.0
B. Woodbridge	17	216	50	0	12.7
M. Bridges	12	109	25	1	9.9
O. Decker	17	151	49	1	9.5
J. Carrick	18	146	27	0	8.1
R. Wing	12	86	27	1	7.8
E. Macfarlane	14	80	16*	5	7.2
R. Robey	14	51	15*	4	5.1

(* not out)

Also batted : Thomas, D.—48, Walker, M.—42, Salter—20, H. D. Howard—13, Wiltshire, D.—10.

Bowling.

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
R. Robey	44.5	3	133	17	7.8
E. Macfarlane	161.4	26	397	39	10.1
P. Sharpe	137	26	399	34	11.7
J. Carrick	137	27	355	29	12.2
Walker, M.	42	4	156	12	13.0

Catches : Macfarlane 10, Woodbridge 9, Decker, Sharpe, Bridges 4 each, Carrick, Robey 3 each, B. Walker, Wing 2 each, Salter, Walker, M., Wiltshire 1 each.

Stumpings : Decker 10.

First XI Scorer : Draper.

SECOND XI RESULTS.

Played 12, Won 2, Lost 4, Drawn 5, Tied 1.

COLTS XI, 1950.

This was a promising team from the start, and by the end of the season had developed into a good side. There was a period of faltering towards the beginning of the season, when unenterprising batting and lack of confidence brought disappointments. It says a good deal for the enthusiasm of the team that they survived this and

finished their season successfully.

Fielding was generally keen and accurate.

B. Edwards and T. Keen showed enterprise as batsmen, and Simmons worked hard and successfully to improve.

Edwards and Simmons were the mainstays of the bowling and McMurdo could be relied on to bowl steadily and remain unruffled.

The captain led the side well and worked hard, both during the matches and at the nets.

L.J.A.

COLTS' RESULTS.

Played 10, Won 5, Lost 4.

Opponents	Ground	Result	Scores	
			For	Against
Slough G.S.	Away	Lost	40	53
Amersham G.S.	Home	Won	115 for 4	44
Watford	Away	Lost	46	127
Reading	Home	Won	122 for 8	67
Southfield	Away	Lost	66	145 for 9
Leighton Park	Home	Lost	50	90 for 8
Thame	Home	Won	133 for 4	36
Newbury	Home	Draw	114 for 7	32 for 6
Slough and District Schools	Away	Won	81 for 5	33
Mill End Road	Home	Won	77	44

JUNIOR COLTS.

Record : Played 10, Won 4, Lost 6.

Early season hopes have not been fulfilled. Boys capable of playing good strokes in practice have too often looked like paralysed maiden aunts in matches. The team was inclined to succumb to bad luck instead of meeting it with a spirit of aggressive defiance. Also one or two of the early matches were almost certainly lost through bad fielding. There has certainly, however, been a gradual improvement, particularly in the fielding, with Dixon and Cross setting a fine example.

Successes came mostly from solid teamwork rather than individual excellence, with Brookes, Cross, Bignell and Hawkins getting runs steadily, and the wickets generally shared. Dixon and Saddler, after much bad luck and some bad play, also batted well late in the season. Saddler scored a very well-played 53 against Emsworth House. During this innings he shared with Dixon in a splendid stand of 89 for the sixth wicket, which changed a disastrous start into the season's best score.

The best individual bowling figures were Saddler's 5 for 5 against Emsworth House, and 4 for 7 v. Borlase, and Briden's 4 for 8 v. Borlase. Bristow and Brookes were always reliable and steady.

Mention must also be made of the very good wicket-keeping of Hawkins, which is full of promise for the future.

One pleasant feature was the cheerful disposition of the team, which remained unaffected even after the landslide at Reading.

Team chosen from : Dixon (captain), Brookes, Saddler, Cross, Bignell, Hawkins, Briden, Bristow, Edwards, Wright, Dean, Sainsbury, Eales, Edgington.

F.S.E.

TENNIS.

For the first time in many years Tennis has been revised as a School game. Two hard courts were built at the end of last year, and this term the game really started to play its proper part in the sporting life of the School. Matches were played against Newlands Training College (2), Watford Grammar School, Reading School, and the Masters (2). Of these, we were only successful against Newlands, but the match at Watford was a very exciting one which resulted in a win for them by 5-4, and the one against Reading was only lost by 41 games to 39. The Staff proved rather too strong and won by the convincing margin of 8-1 and 6½-2½, in spite of the presence of the School's outstanding player, D. S. Timms, who was chosen to represent the County in July, and who has since been gaining experience by playing in tournaments all over the country.

The team was rather unsettled, as several of the players were required for cricket. Macfarlane, indeed, reached the final of the Singles Event without ever playing for the School, because of cricketing duties. The winner of the Singles Championship (from which Timms stood down) was J. E. Vincent, who beat Macfarlane by 6-3, 3-6, 7-5, and the Doubles was won by J. E. Vincent and J. R. Stevens, who beat R. H. Miller and R. Wing 6-2, 6-4 in the final.

On the whole our first season of Tennis has proved very successful. There was a large entry for the tournament, and this indicates the general interest and enthusiasm which Tennis certainly arouses in the School. It indicates plenty of material to draw on in the coming years, and it is sincerely to be hoped that Tennis will be recognised as an official game, that the fixture list will be greatly increased, and that the game will very soon take its proper place as one of the main School games.

Those who represented the 1st VI were : M. Zander (captain), D. S. Timms, D. J. Wiltshire, R. H. Miller, J. R. Stevens, G. E. Vincent, J. W. Scott and I. H. C. Waters.

M. ZANDER.

SWIMMING.

Organised parties to Maidenhead were again restricted to the non-swimmers in the Second Forms. After six visits most of these boys were able to swim or glide distances ranging from 10 feet to 20 yards. Some of them were diving competently from the spring-board at the deep end.

It is a great pity that the swimmers have no opportunity during the week of going swimming, but the distances and expenses are too great. When the town possesses its own swimming pool there will naturally be a great expansion in our swimming activities, and we can then have organised swimming parties, ensure that all boys who cannot swim have an opportunity of learning, and hold Annual Galas.

W.A.R.

BOXING.

The annual Boxing Championships aroused great interest again this year, and whilst entries were not so numerous as those of last year, the quality of the boxing was seen to have improved vastly. This must be attributed to the fact that after-school practices were attended with greater diligence than was the case last year.

We were fortunate in having Mr. A. G. Rhodes with us once again as referee. He is a great boxing enthusiast and an authority on school boxing. His summing-up of the afternoon's proceedings was very instructive and encouraging. He considered that the standard of physical fitness was very high in our boxers but that a more aggressive attitude in the ring was necessary if one of the aims of amateur boxing was to be realised. This aim, he explained, was the inculcation of a determined and positive approach to our problems, whether physical or mental. It was not a case of "beating-up" an opponent, but of meeting him squarely and systematically attacking him with an irresistible will to win.

Mr. Rhodes expressed his pleasure at the good sportsmanship of the competitors, the way in which the victors accepted their victory and the cheerful way in which the defeated bore their defeat.

It must be said that the preliminary bouts, without exception, were marked by this spirit of good sportsmanship and provided abundant proof that the competition was enjoyed by all, and not least by the losers, who accepted defeat gracefully, with the resolve to enter for next year's competition.

FINALISTS.

Leaf : Stacey (Y) beat Hepburn (F).
Cigarette : Dixon (F) beat Redrup (D).
Gnat : Orchard (D) beat Boehm (D).
Paper : Bond (D) beat Wright (F).
Midge : Harvey (A) beat Crook (D).
Mosquito : Edginton (D) beat Norwood (D).
Fly : Rear (Y) beat Keen (Y).
Bantam : Carpenter (F) beat Smith (D).
Feather : Creed (D) beat Dann (D).
Light : Bunce (F) beat Dakin (F).
Middle : Clapton (Y) beat Keen (Y).

Senior Champion was adjudged to be Clapton, whilst the Junior Cup was awarded to Stacey.

House Positions - 1st, Disraeli 81 pts.
2nd, Fraser 59 pts.
3rd, Youens 51 pts.

BASKETBALL.

V Upper Shell were successful in winning the Challenge Cup, which was presented to them by Councillor J. K. Taylor, the donor of the Cup.

There is not much doubt that there will be still greater enthusiasm for this major indoor game next term, and a League of teams from the Fifth, Upper Fifth and Sixth Forms as well as from the Boarders will be instituted as soon as it is practicable to begin the season. Non-players as well as players are invited to volunteer for training as officials.

The School has now gained representation on the Southern Area Committee of the Amateur Basketball Association of England and Wales. One result of this honour may well be an expansion of our activities and the formation of a School team to compete against other schools in an area and, perhaps, later, national scheme.

A trip to Wembley last May to see a Basketball demonstration by two American teams was thoroughly enjoyed by those who went. Many valuable lessons were learned in the art of ball-handling and general tactics from teams whose play evoked laughter and astonished gasps at the superb ease and skill of it all. Entertainment and instruction were admirably blended, but it should be remembered that in actual competition, whilst players should enjoy their game, there are no pauses whilst the other side stand and watch antics, nor are there intervals for sword swallows and zither performers.

W.A.R.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS, July 19th, 1950.

The weather favoured the School Sports this year and everyone enjoyed a full and varied programme of athletics. After the meeting, the Mayoress presented the prizes.

RESULTS.

Group I (under 12).

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
80 Yards ...	A. Robertson (D)	M. D. Jones (Y)	J. Harding (A)
150 Yards ...	M. D. Jones (Y)	C. Gilbert (D)	J. Harding (A)
Relay ...	Arnison	Disraeli	Youens

Group II (under 13).

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
100 Yards ...	A. F. Wright (F)	F. Hawkins (A)	A. Hitchman (F)
220 Yards ...	F. Hawkins (A)	A. Hitchman (F)	D. A. Price (Y)
440 Yards ...	F. Hawkins (A)	K. Faulkner (Y)	P. J. Swain (A)
High Jump	A. Hitchman (F) (4' 6")	F. E. Hawkins (A)	M. D. Jones (Y)
Long Jump...	K. Faulkner (Y) (13' 8½')	A. Hitchman (F)	A. Wright (F)
Relay ...	Fraser	Disraeli	Arnison

Champion : F. E. Hawkins (A)—10 pts.

Runner-up : A. Hitchman (F) 8 pts.

Group III (under 14).

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
100 Yards ...	J. W. Pursey (A)	P. Webb (A)	B. G. Church (A)
220 Yards ...	J. W. Pursey (A)	P. Webb (A)	G. Sherlock (Y)
440 Yards ...	P. Webb (A)	M. Garratt (F)	J. Dunningham (F)
880 Yards ...	M. Garratt (F)	J. Dunningham (F)	R. P. Martin (A)
Hurdles ...	P. Webb (A)	J. Dunningham (F)	A. Gordon (Y)
High Jump	J. Dunningham (F)	A. Abercrombie (F)	P. Webb (A)
Long Jump...	P. Webb (A) (16' 2½")	J. Dunningham (F)	M. Garratt (F)
Shot ...	M. Garratt (F) (31' 6")	J. Dunningham (F)	P. Webb (A)
Relay ...	Arnison	Youens	Fraser

Champion : P. Webb (A)—15 pts.

Runner-up : J. Dunningham (F)—12 pts.

Group IV (Colts).

	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
100 Yards ...	R. Burgess (F)	B. Edwards (F)	R. A. J. Small (A)
220 Yards ...	R. Burgess (F)	R. A. J. Small (A)	R. E. Hester (Y)
440 Yards ...	R. A. J. Small (A)	J. L. Dunn (F)	B. Edwards (F)
880 Yards ...	J. L. Dunn (F)	H. Hooper (Y)	P. Walker (F)
Hurdles ...	R. Burgess (F)	B. K. Johnson (D)	J. L. Dunn (F)
High Jump	R. Burgess (F) (4' 8")	R. A. J. Small (A)	R. Gittings (Y)
Long Jump...	R. Burgess (F) (18' 1½")	R. A. J. Small (A)	B. K. Johnson (D)
Shot ...	J. Osborne (D) (37' 2")	P. Hearn (Y)	J. L. Dunn (F)
Discus ...	R. Hester (Y)	B. Edwards (F)	P. Hearn (Y)
Javelin ...	J. Osborne (F) (117s 10Bs)	R. Hester (Y)	J. L. Dunn (F)
Relay ...	Fraser	Youens	Arnison

Champion : R. Burgess (F)—15 pts.

Runner-up : R. A. J. Small(A)—10 pts.

Group V (under 17).

	1st	2nd	3rd
100 Yards ...	K. Chater (D)	R. Garratt (F)	G. Bradley (F)
220 Yards ...	K. Chater (D)	G. Bradley (F)	J. Dimmock (F)
440 Yards ...	G. Bradley (F)	R. Garratt (F)	J. Dimmock (F)
880 Yards ...	T. A. Long (Y)	L. Dean (D)	J. Dimmock (F)
One Mile ...	L. Dean (D)	J. Dimmock (F)	R. Garratt (F)
Hurdles ...	J. R. Silver (Y)	P. White (F)	A. Kenyon (F)
High Jump	M. F. Tillion (A) (5' ¼")	J. Chipp (A)	J. R. Silver (Y)
Long Jump...	B. Evans (A) (17' 7½")	J. R. Silver (Y)	A. Kenyon (F)
Shot ...	E. Hall (F) (37' 1½")	J. R. Silver (Y)	H. Platt (F)
Discus ...	A. Kenyon (F) (108' 8")	J. R. Silver (Y)	H. Platt (F)
Javelin ...	A. Kenyon (F) (120' 6")	J. R. Silver (Y)	A. Blinco (A)
Relay ...	Disraeli	Fraser	Youens

Champion : J. A. R. Silver (Y)—12 pts.

Runner-up : A. Kenyon (F)—8 pts.

Group VI (Open).

100 Yards ...	D. Wiltshire (D)	R.E.W. Roberts (D)	O. Decker (D)
220 Yards ...	R. E. W. Roberts (D)	D. Wiltshire (D)	O. Decker (D)
440 Yards ...	D. Wiltshire (D)	O. Decker (D)	D. J. Wood (D)
880 Yards ...	D. J. Wood (D)	N. W. Perfect (A)	E. J. Macfarlane (F)
One Mile ...	D. J. Wood (D) (4 mins. 50.6 secs.—new record).	T. A. Long (Y)	N. W. Perfect (A)
High Jump	O. Decker (D) (5' 2¾") (new record)	W. Schoenke (A)	D. Smith (D)
Long Jump...	O. Decker (D) (19')	R.E.W. Roberts (D)	E. Macfarlane (F)
Hurdles ...	R. E. W. Roberts (D)	H. A. Cartwright (A)	J. Read (A)
Shot ...	D. Smith (F) (35s 8s)	O. Decker (D)	W. Schoenke (A)
Discus ...	D. Smith (F) (100' 9½")	D. Phillips (F)	S. Miles (A)
Javelin ...	D. Smith (F) (105' 2")	M. Tuckett (D)	S. Miles (A)
Throwing the Cricket Ball	W. Schoenke (A) (272' 3")	B. Edwards (F)	S. Miles (A)
Tug-of-War	Fraser	Youens	Disraeli
Relay ...	Disraeli	Arnison	Fraser

Champion : O. Decker (D)—12 pts.

Runner-up : R. E. W. Roberts (D)—10 pts.

House Championship—1. Fraser 257 pts.
2. Arnison 138 pts.,
3. Disraeli 136 pts.,

Open Individual Events—Cups.

100 Yards—D. Wiltshire. 220 Yards—R. E. W. Roberts.
880 Yards—D. J. Wood. One Mile—D. J. Wood.
Long Jump—O. Decker. High Jump—O. Decker.

THE DISTRICT SPORTS, 8th June, 1950.

The School team did remarkably well in gaining more successes than any other school in the competition. In the under 15 Group, first places were won by Dunn (880 yards) and Johnson (Long Jump). In the under 17 Group, first places were gained by Wood (880 yards), Dimmock (1 mile), James (100 yards), Garratt (440 yards), and Thorpe (220 yards). Two thrilling victories in the Relay races completed our tally of wins. Bunce, Webb, Hester and Small comprised our under 15 team, whilst the under 17 team was composed of James, Thorpe, Evans and Chater.

THE COUNTY SPORTS, 24th June, 1950.

First places were won by Wood (880 yards), Wiltshire (100 yards), and Roberts (Long Jump). Our Senior Relay team, handicapped by the absence of one member, did very well to gain a place, having recruited at the last moment one of the School distance runners. Dimmock, who won the District Mile, could not compete because he was under age. James was strongly fancied to win his event (100 yards), but had the cruel misfortune to pull a thigh muscle in his heat. On the result of the competition, two of our boys, Wood (880 yards) and Garratt (440 yards), were selected to represent the County at the All-England Sports on Saturday, 22nd July, at Port Sunlight.

W.A.R.

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB.

Births.

W. E. BEECHEY (1931-36). On June 4th, 1950, at Croydon, to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Beechey, a son.

L. W. CAPELL (1926-31). On May 29th, 1950, at Holmer Green, to Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Capell, a son.

E. G. KEEP (1927-33). On April 28th, 1950, at Greentrees Maternity Home, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Keep, a son.

S. T. MEALING (1923-29). On April 28th, 1950, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Mealing, a son.

D. W. STEVENS (1935-40). On May 20th, 1950, at Shrublands Nursing Home, Croydon, to Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Stevens, a son.

Marriages.

BARNES—DIBBLE. On May 18th, 1950, at St. John's Wood, R. Barnes (1935-43) to Miss M. Dibble.

EVANS—ROGERS. On October 18th, 1949, at Bilton, Warwickshire, S. J. R. EVANS (1929-34) to Miss B. Rogers.

PERFECT—LIDDALL. On April 8th, 1950, at Chesham Bois, G. W. Perfect (1931-37) to Miss E. M. Liddall.

STANNERS—DIGBY. On June 10th, 1950, at Spalding, Lincs, G. W. Stanners (1935-42) to Miss E. J. Digby.

SECKER—WATKINS. On May 26th, 1950, at West Wycombe, C. Secker (1935-39) to Miss P. Watkins.

WHITE—JONES. On April 29th, 1950, at Llanegla, Nr. Wrexham, B. A. White (1936-39) to Miss K. R. Jones.

Death.

C. W. FOUNTAIN (1926-33). On July 1st, 1950, in the Military Hospital at Millbank, C. W. Fountain, aged 34.

Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner was held for the second year in succession at the Tavistock Restaurant, Charing Cross Road, on Saturday, March 18th, 1950. It was so successful that at the Annual General Meeting in April it was unanimously agreed to hold the next Reunion also at the same place.

To show their appreciation for his generosity to the Old Boys' Rugger Club, about one hundred and twenty Old Boys attended to welcome as their Guest of Honour Mr. Frank Adams, whose health was proposed by R. F. Emery. R. W. Bartlett proposed the "School," and the Headmaster responded. G. H. Hunt responded for the "Old Boys' Club," proposed by L. B. Barnes.

The entertainment was entirely by Old Boys. H. A. Whitely came all the way from Bridlington to give a delightful rendering of two Irish songs. Unfortunately the other entertainer, D. W. Stevens, was taken suddenly ill on his way to the Dinner, but K. T. Fox gallantly filled the breach with pianoforte solos.

Sincere regrets were expressed for the absence, owing to illness, of Mr. Arnison and all wished him a speedy recovery. It was the first Dinner Mr. Arnison had not attended since the formation of the Club.

The Annual General Meeting.

The President of the Club, Mr. E. R. Tucker, took the chair at the A.G.M. held in the Boarders' Dining Room at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, April 14th, 1950; twenty-six Old Boys were present.

Arising out of the minutes of the last A.G.M., S. E. Hands gave a summary of what the Old Boys' Rugby Club had done in establishing their headquarters on Kings Mead. Their efforts have been so successful that they were able to repay the loan of £150 which the Old Wycombiensian Club had given them, and the Club was given a cheque for £152 4s. 0d.

It was agreed to hold the next Annual Dinner at the Tavistock Restaurant at Charing Cross Road, and to hold the next A.G.M. before a Supper to be given at the School in the early Summer of 1951. This it was hoped would encourage attendance, and the Secretary drew attention to the falling off in the number of annual subscribers.

The President asked for a discussion on a War Memorial. Swimming Pool, Squash Court, School Organ, School Chapel were suggested, but the strongest support was for a Cricket Pavilion.

Officers for 1950-51 were :—

President : E. R. Tucker, Esq.

Chairman : N. H. Theed, Esq.

Vice-Presidents : Messrs. G. W. Arnison, W. J. Bartle, H. G. Brand, W. H. Healey, P. C. Raffety, Col. L. L. C. Reynolds.

Committee : Messrs. L. B. Barnes, R. W. Bartlett, A. G. Duckering, S. E. Hands, H. C. Hickman, H. H. Lee, J. P. Lord, J. K. Prior, G. C. Rayner, R. J. Rich.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : P. L. Jones, Esq.

Assistant Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : H. W. Johnson, Esq.

Hon. Auditor : A. E. Franklin Hole.

Old Wycombiensian Rugby Union Club.

Summary of Secretary's Report.

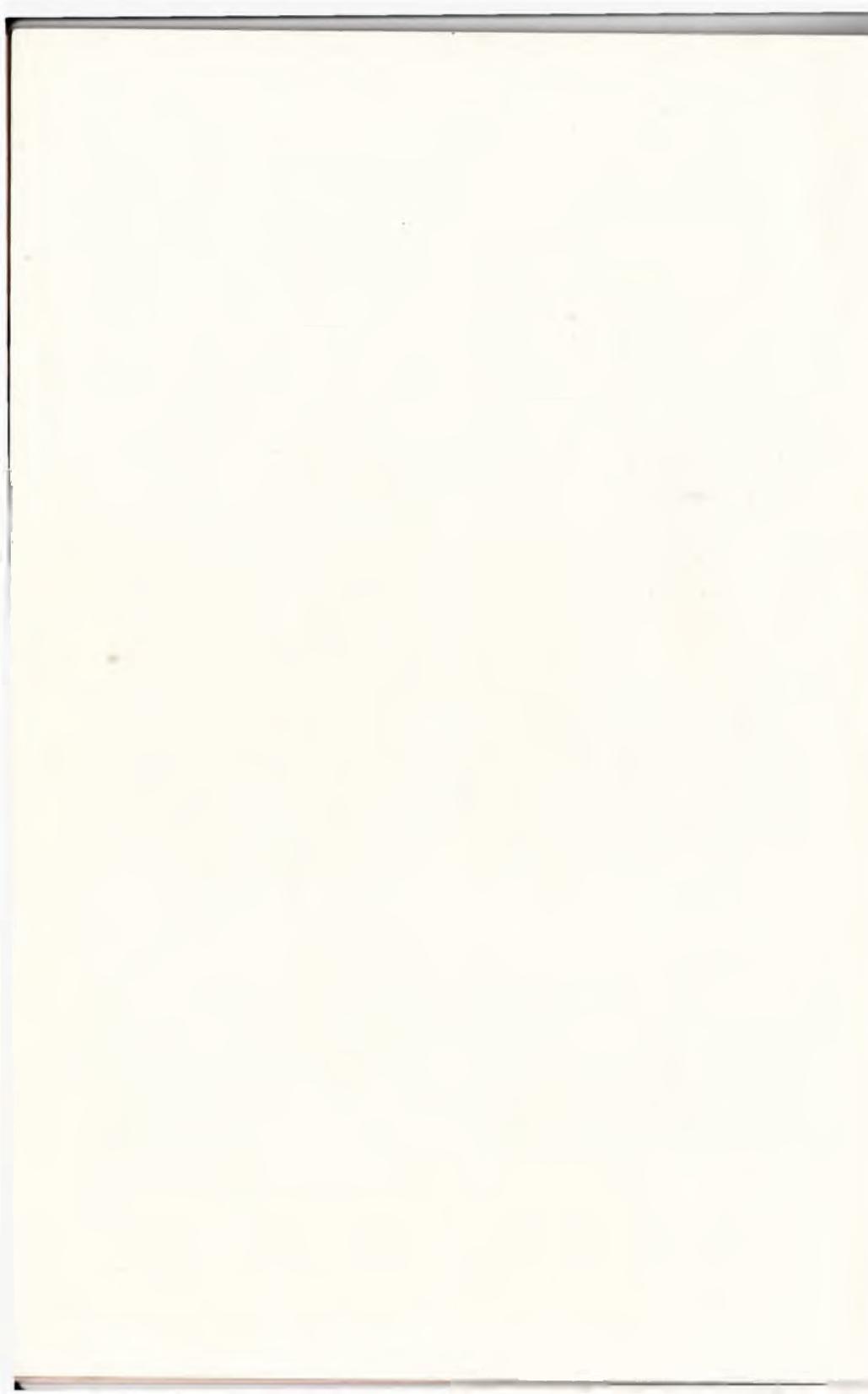
The Club can look back on a very successful season both on and off the field. Four regular XV's. have been run for the first time in the Club's history and the spirit shown and the increase in the number of young players are healthy signs.

	Record.				<i>Points</i>	
	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
1st XV ...	29	19	10	—	316	327
"A" XV ...	25	12	11	2	171	171
E.R.A. XV	23	12	11	—	282	194
"B" XV ...	17	8	6	3	189	138



Photographs by A. J. Muir

SPORTS DAY. 1. R. E. W. ROBERTS winning the 200 yds. 2. W. W. SHOENKE putting the shot. 3. The triumphant FRASER 'Tug-o'-War Team. 4. J. VINCENT, School Tennis Champion, in action. 5. "Next man, please!" A study from the Staff match.



Summary of Chairman's and Treasurer's Report.

Consequent on the great changes that have taken place during the last season, the Balance Sheet is a formidable one. The turnover for the year has reached nearly £3,000 compared with some £400 last year and £39 in 1928. The revenue received has only been made possible by the generosity of the Vice-Presidents and members, and in particular of Mr. Frank Adams and Mr. John Hunt. The membership of the Club is made up of 138 Vice-Presidents, 62 full members, 23 junior members, 7 school boys and 29 ladies, making a total of 259. The Club started with £300 carefully saved since 1928, borrowed and repaid £150 from the Old Boys' Club, raised £300 from dances, dinners and donations, including the original building capitalised at £600, amounted to no less than £1,098.

OLD BOYS' REUNION, 1951.

This will take place at the Tavistock Restaurant, Charing Cross Road, on **Saturday, February 17th, 1951.**

It was suggested at the A.G.M. that Dinner Tickets be issued to Old Boys on a sale or return basis, and the Secretary would be very grateful if any Old Boy who is willing to canvas and sell tickets would send his name—there need be no limit to the number of tickets asked for.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

F. H. ROBINSON (1919-29) invited Mr. Arnison to the Annual Conference of the Conservative and Unionist Teachers' Association, of which he is the chairman. He has had excellent reviews of his B.B.C broadcasts and is so busy as a lecturer and examiner that he has no time to think of retiring. He has been asked to join a sub-committee suggested by Lord Woolton on how to approach Trade Unions, Individualists and Agriculturists. His son Geoffrey, married last December and living in a house bought for him by his father-in-law, is a lecturer on Radio Engineering.

Old Boys of his generation will have learnt with deep regret of the death of C. W. FOUNTAIN. He died on July 1st, 1950, in the Military Hospital at Millbank after a long illness when only thirty-four. He entered the School in 1926 and left in 1933, after a most promising career. He was a Prefect, Captain of his House, gained his Colours for Cricket and for both Rugby and Association Football, was a keen member of the O.T.C., Sergeant with Certificate A, and passed the Oxford School Certificate Examination. He joined the O.W. Rugby Club and played regularly for the 1st XV until the war. In the Army he usually played hockey. On leaving School he was articled to a firm of estate agents, but on the outbreak of war obtained a commission in the Royal Corps of Signals, serving with the 51st Highland Division from El Alamein to Italy, being awarded the M.B.E. while in North Africa. Later he went to France with the invading Army, was mentioned in Dispatches, and after the war obtained a commission in the Regular Army. He served for a considerable time in Germany with the Army of Occupation

as No. 1 Signals Officer at Army Group Headquarters. Afterwards he had an appointment at the War Office. All who knew him will feel very deep regret at the cutting short of this young and valuable life in which so much had already been achieved, and the utmost sympathy will go out to his wife, his four young children, and to his parents in the grievous loss they have sustained.

A. E. JEFFRIES (1928-34). Elected to Wycombe Borough Council May, 1950.

F. W. SUMMERS (1927-34) was ordained deacon in Southwark Cathedral on Trinity Sunday, 1950, and is serving as a curate in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth.

G. H. BAKER (1906-12) has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Borough of High Wycombe. He has been a Town Councillor since 1940 and was Mayor from November, 1947 to May, 1950. He held a commission in the R.F.C. in the First World War and was wounded in 1918. In the Second World War he was commissioned in the Home Guard. He has also been well known for his prowess in cricket and football, and is a prominent personality in the commercial life of the town.

H. T. TURNBULL (1919-26) has also been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Borough. He is greatly interested in social service and in youth activities. He is a keen Rotarian and has served as President of the High Wycombe branch. During the Second World War he served with distinction in the R.A.F. and reached the rank of Squadron Leader. He also is very prominent in the commercial life of the town. It is very pleasing to note that two of our Old Boys have been thus honoured by the Lord Chancellor.



