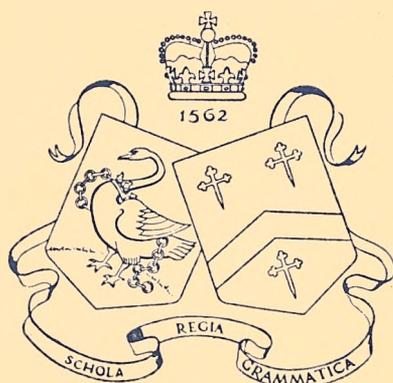


THE WYCOMBIENSIAN



Vol. XIII No. 7

MAY, 1963



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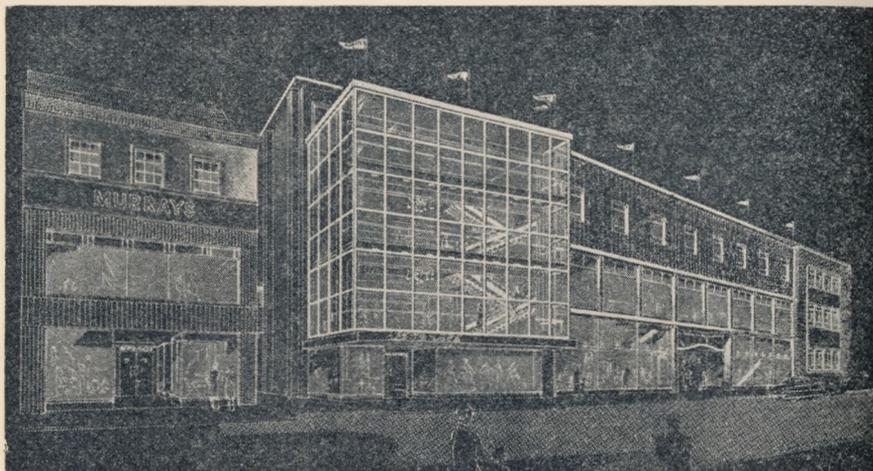
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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

Editor : R. M. S. FOX

Sub-Editors : I. M. MACWHINNIE
I. R. W. WHITWHAM
R. J. HARBINSON

EDITORIAL

An apology for the myth

During the four years I have been at this school, I have become increasingly aware of the general ignorance of the fundamental myths and the contempt in which they are held. Very few people in the school, even among those who are studying English in the sixth form, can give more than a scanty retelling of the bare bones of any myth. This ignorance is not only due to the fact that few have read the myths, but also to the more disturbing reason that most people tend at best to dismiss them as delightful, if somewhat quaint flights of fancy, while at worst, others go so far as to regard them as deliberate fabrications. This equation of the word "mythical" with "fanciful, untrue" (despite the strong mythical element in Christianity) is unfortunate, for fancy played a negligible part in the development of Greek, Latin and Pales-tinian myths, until the French Trouvères worked them up into irresponsible romances of chivalry.

This fall of the Myth, which is an accurate record of ancient religious, social and historical fact, from its former high eminence is due to two main causes. Perhaps the most important single factor was the Reformation, and the closely allied growth of scientific thought. This conflict between pre- and post-Reformation man can be seen in miniature in the theological controversy over the nature of the Eucharist between Luther and Zwingli, which took place at Marburg. Luther, for all his deviation from accepted dogma, was a man of the middle ages who regarded the sacrament not merely as a symbol, but, in essence, that which it represented. Zwingli, on the other hand, dismissed it as a "mere" symbol, that is, he held that the Eucharist symbolically represented that which, in itself, it was not. This split between the emotional and the intellectual outlook was further accentuated by the discoveries of Copernicus and Galileo, which completely deracinated the old order. Moreover, this

accentuation of "literal" thought has led to the atrophy of the poetic faculty in most individuals. The second factor in the downfall of the myth was its debasement by the minstrels, and its emasculation by such people as Charles Kingsley.

Ancient Europe had no gods ; instead it worshipped the Moon Goddess in her three aspects of Maiden, Nymph and Crone. This trinity, which reflects the phases of the moon, is an expression of the cycle of death and resurrection, and the worship of the Supreme Goddess had a great effect upon the society of the day. The early society in Greece was matriarchal, that is, it revolved around the Mother, rather than the Father, and was ruled by a Queen and a sacred King who was ritually sacrificed after thirteen lunations.

The myth of Orestes and the accounts of Zeus' various amorous escapades are a mythic retelling of the overthrow of the matriarchal society and its replacement by a patriarchal rule after the invasion by the barbarians from the north. Orestes murdered his mother to avenge his father, and he was acquitted by the new Pantheon of the twelve Olympiads. This meant that the Gods were prepared to pardon his matricide on the grounds that Orestes was avenging his murdered father. Similarly, the suppression of the local moon-goddess cults can be seen in Zeus' many love affairs with the local nymphs.

Thus it will be seen that the myths of Greece, far from being fables, are accurate records of changes in society. For this reason it is foolish to dismiss them out of hand. Moreover, it would also be an unfortunate reflection upon our own society. St. Paul said, "The letter killeth", and by this he meant that the literal-mindedness and the scientific outlook, which we value so much, kills the emotional and spiritual side of our make-up. This destruction of the spirit can be seen all too readily in contemporary life, even in this school, where mathematics and science absorb more teaching time than any other subject. This pre-occupation with mathematics is unfortunate, for it breeds a race of scholars who are totally taken in by the material side of life, and blind to the partnership between the "*esprit de géométrie*" and the "*esprit de finesse*" which Pascal, Abelard and other great thinkers have propounded.

STAFF NEWS

We are glad to welcome the following members of staff who joined us this year :

C. R. Watts, Esq., B.Sc. (London).

Herr C. Weiler (German Assistant)

And the student masters :

A. C. M. Brown, Esq., from Oxford.
M. S. Keen, Esq., „ Reading.
A. Smith, Esq., „ Oxford.
I. C. Walker, Esq., „ Reading.

We hope their stay with us has been profitable and enjoyable.

It was with regret that we had to bid farewell to Mr. H. W. Johnson, who left this Christmas to take up a new post at King Edward VI's Grammar School at Louth, in Lincolnshire. During his stay at the school, he worked tirelessly for its good, with special emphasis on the cricket team. Similarly, in his capacity as House Tutor at Tylers Wood Boarding House, he won many friends because of his kindness and diligence. Undoubtedly, both amongst the staff and the boys, Mr. Johnson will be greatly missed, and all the school join in extending their sincere good wishes for his future at Louth.

SCHOOL NEWS

The most prominent feature so far this year has been the atrocious weather conditions. At the beginning of the year, the Junior School was frozen solid, and most of it was rendered uninhabitable. The result was that over one hundred junior boys had to be found accommodation in the already crowded Senior School. To aggravate the situation, the school was forced to close early on two occasions when the oil supply for the recently installed oil-fired heating system ran perilously low.

The inclement weather seriously affected the school's sporting activities too. The Rugby 1st XV was forced to cancel all its fixtures after Christmas, except for a "scratch" fixture against High Wycombe R.F.C. "A" XV. Then, the team showed the ability and teamwork which it had promised throughout the season, winning by sixteen points to six. The Cross-Country team suffered a similar fate, although it succeeded in gaining the excellent position of second in the Ranelagh Schools Cup.

In the academic field, the school has prospered too, winning five scholarships—two of which were History Scholarships at Balliol College, Oxford—and gaining, in all, twenty places at Oxford and Cambridge colleges.

In a variety of undertakings, this school year has been very active, with a total of three productions being presented by the school. As usual, a Gilbert and Sullivan opera was presented

in December, while, in April, the Dramatic Society produced Jean Anouilh's "Thieves' Carnival". The Classical Society also presented, very courageously and with great success, Euripides' "Alcestis". In March, the visiting Osiris Players put on G. B. Shaw's "St. Joan", compared with which the school's productions showed up favourably.

A very encouraging feature of the year has been the continued and generous support, throughout the school, of the Benevolent Fund. Indeed, at the time of writing, a special collection for the "Freedom From Hunger" Campaign has amassed the excellent sum of £62 0s. 0d.

UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS—OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE

Since the Summer of 1962 new arrangements have been in force for the admission of pupils to the Universities in 1963. Oxford and Cambridge have retained their old arrangements whereby each College is responsible for its own admissions through direct contact with pupil and school. The other Universities now receive their applications through the new Universities Central Council for Admissions which has its offices in 29 Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1. Oxford and Cambridge have completed their admissions by the end of the Easter Term of this year ; the other Universities are continuing to interview and will be doing so throughout the Summer Term, and admissions will not be completed until the Advanced and Scholarship Level Examination results for June/July have been published ; in many cases boys will have to wait for their marks to be compared with those of other candidates and their fate may be in the balance until the week before term begins.

Now that the Easter Term has ended we can publish the names of those successful in this pursuit of places at Oxford and Cambridge. We offer our warmest congratulations not only to the Open Scholars but also to those successful in gaining precious places in the face of competition that gets fiercer each year.

E.R.T., *Headmaster.*

We offer our warmest congratulations to the following, who won Open Scholarships at Oxford and Cambridge :

- R. A. CLEGG, Open Scholarship for Natural Sciences (Chemistry, Botany and Zoology) at Jesus College, Cambridge.
- R. A. LASKEY, Open Scholarship in Zoology at Queen's College, Oxford.
- C. N. MYANT, Open Scholarship in History at Balliol College, Oxford.
- C. J. T. ROGERS, Open Scholarship in Classics at Pembroke College, Oxford.
- J. R. WARD, Open Scholarship in History at Balliol College, Oxford.
- P. M. J. SHELTON, Open Scholarship in Biology, St. Andrew's.

Places have been secured at the various Colleges by the following :

- P. G. AYRES, to read Natural Sciences, Jesus College, Cambridge.
D. S. CULLEY, to read Mechanical Sciences, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
P. G. DAVIES, to read History, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
T. M. DAVIS, to read P.P.E., University College, Oxford.
C. L. DAY, to read Physics, St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.
P. C. DRAYTON, to read Music, Brasenose College, Oxford.
R. M. S. FOX, to read English, Hertford College, Oxford.
C. B. GARNER, to read Jurisprudence, St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.
P. D. HAMILTON-EDDY, to read Classics, Christ's College, Cambridge.
R. J. HARBINSON, to read Natural Sciences, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
R. H. LEECH, to read History, Jesus College, Cambridge.
A. T. LUDGATE, to read Mathematics, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
R. H. MAYO, to read Mechanical Sciences, Jesus College, Cambridge.
S. A. MERRINGTON, to read Modern Languages, St. John's College, Cambridge.
R. R. SHOOSMITH, to read Mechanical Sciences, Jesus College, Cambridge.
A. D. WARREN, to read Physics at Wadham College, Oxford.
I. R. W. WHITWHAM, to read English, Wadham College, Oxford.
W. SHACKELL, Head Boy 1960/61, who proceeded from the Royal Grammar School to Sandhurst, goes to Jesus College, Cambridge, in October, 1963, to read Mechanical Sciences.

CHAPEL NOTES

On March 29th, 1962, the fifty boys whose names are listed below were presented to the Lord Bishop of Oxford for Confirmation in the School Chapel. In his address to the candidates, the Bishop warned them of the dangers of living in a society whose values were almost entirely materialistic, and where success tended to be judged in terms of income. He urged them not to under-estimate the importance of things spiritual.

The following day, because it was the school's quatercentenary year, we invited the Right Reverend Robert Hay, former Bishop of Buckingham and for many years a School Governor, to celebrate Holy Communion. The service was attended by one hundred and thirty members of the school.

This year, on February 14th, twenty-three boys whose names are also listed below were confirmed by the Lord Bishop of Buckingham. The Bishop took as his text, "Take up thy cross", and reminded us all of the necessity of perseverance. He did not pretend that the Christian life was always easy, in fact, it was frequently extremely difficult ; but the true Christian was one who persevered despite criticism and setbacks.

The following day Holy Communion was celebrated by the Chaplain and the newly-confirmed made their first Communion together with one hundred and twenty other members of the school. This year, as in previous years, the Chaplain has been most grateful for the assistance at these Corporate Communion

of the Reverend John Simpson, former member of the staff and now lecturer at Newlands Park College.

Reference will have been made elsewhere in this magazine to the Alberta Tucker Memorial Fund, but the Chaplain would like to record his grateful thanks to the many friends of Mrs. Tucker who have so generously subscribed towards the proposed memorial tablet and organ. Already more than six hundred pounds have been subscribed and the organ is being installed during the Easter holidays. It is possible that some people may not have had an opportunity of making their contribution, and they may like to know that the Fund is still open, and that the Chaplain would be glad to receive anything they wish to send.

The following boys were presented to the Lord Bishop of Oxford for Confirmation in the School Chapel on Thursday, March 29th, 1962 :

Arch, Michael David	Hopkins, Trevor John Robert
Barr, Rodney Alexander	Hovell, James Grayham
Birch, Christopher	James, David Rhys
Boobier, David Leyland	Jones, Derek McKenzie
Bradfield, John Alan	Keen, Allan Charles William
Calcutt, Richard John Sparkes	Killingley, Julian Paul
Challis, Clive Philip	McLoughlin, Julian Neil
Clemens, John	Membry, David Anthony John
Coles, Christopher John	Merchant, Geoffrey
Colley, John Philip	Monaghan, Gordon Anthony
Colley, Peter Michael	Moore, John Edward
Darville, Justin Mervyn	Nottingham, Alan Raymond
Davies, Robert	Parker, Ian Kenneth
Davies, Hugh	Payne, David Alan
Dingle, Alan William	Perfect, Martin John
Douglas, Richard Wells	Ray, Philip Frank
Farmer, Peter Brownlee	Rogers, Andrew Guy Talbot
Fish, Nigel	Saward, Derek
Frost, Peter	Settington, Peter John
Garrett, Michael David	Smith, Trevor Ellis
Gash, Roger	Thomas, Robin Grenville
Goodman, David	Tilling, Andrew John
Griffin, Warner John	Toms, William Louis
Hailwood, Michael Alan	Whitwham, Ian Robert William
Herman, John William	Wilson, David Geoffrey
Heron, Roger Lewis	

The following boys were presented to the Lord Bishop of Buckingham for Confirmation in the School Chapel on Thursday, February 14th, 1963 :

Barrett, George William	Koefoed-Nielsen, Christian Carl
Bevan, Martin John	Male, Anthony Denis
Bowley, Christopher John	Parsons, Philip Anthony
Day, Christopher John	Putman, Alan Clive
East, Malcolm Leslie	Rea-Taylor, Bruce Anthony
Essen, Derek George	Robinson, John Steven
Elderkin, John Norman	Russell, Stephen John
Fox, Bryan John Blyth	Souter, Nicholas Michael
Hanebeck, Anthony Ernest John	Sweeting, Christopher Richard
Harrison, Anthony Randal Nicholas	Theophilus, John Peter
Hedgeland, Neil Martin	Woods, Andrew Thomas
Homer, Anthony David	

A.J.S.

THE SCHOOL HISTORY

The burgesses of High Wycombe in the middle of the sixteenth century, at the time of the closing of the religious houses, were no doubt congratulating themselves on keeping back a little piece of property from the rapacious hands of the Crown. Twenty years later they (or their successors) were secured in their rights by the gracious grant of a charter by Queen Elizabeth. If their ghosts revisit the town today and climb the hill to the north they will hardly recognise in the vast and imposing structure now being completed the lineal descendant of their little charity school.

But the continuity is complete : and now the fascinating story of the four hundred years life of the Royal Grammar School has been most excellently told by Mr. L. J. Ashford and Mr. C. M. Haworth in the Quatercentenary History.

A taste for reading school histories is not perhaps a widely diffused one : it is probable that few but the pious alumni of a particular foundation ever indulge in it. But in many ways the story of the growth of our school from exiguous beginnings to its present size and status epitomizes the changes in the wider social and educational scene, especially during this present century.

For the remarkable progress has in fact taken place during a very short time, as the authors of the history make abundantly clear. We should like to know very much more of just what the school was like in those early days ; but Mr. Ashford, who wrote the first section, has succeeded admirably in bringing to light all that can be found ; and he has related the life of the school most effectively to the world outside it.

For the modern period the author's problem was rather the reverse one—an excess of material, together with the thorny question of how to deal with the living. In this, in my judgement, he has done extraordinarily well. Like Agag, he has walked delicately. It would have been easy to adopt the maxim *de vivis nil nisi bonum*. But Mr. Haworth has combined a proper sense of triumph in our achievement with a shrewd look at things as they are, and the result is a wholly satisfactory picture. Valuable information is included about all the various sides of school life, and the appendixes are by no means the least interesting part of the book.

The publication of this history fittingly rounds off our Fourth Centenary year. What changes will there be for the historian to record when the demi-millennium is reached ?

A.C.H.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL 1562—1962

Copies, price 10/6 (package and postage 1/6 extra) may be obtained through the boys of the school.

Cheques should be made payable to H. SCOTT (School History), and communications addressed to :

H. SCOTT, Esq., M.A.,
Hon. Treasurer,
The Royal Grammar School,
High Wycombe.

BENEVOLENT FUND

For the past two terms the members of the school have been donating very generously to the School Benevolent Fund. While last summer's total reached £43 18s. 5d., the Autumn Term realised the record sum of £76 16s. 3d.—a most commendable figure. This term, while continuing with the normal collections for the Fund, the last three weeks were given over to a collection of coppers for the nation-wide Freedom from Hunger Campaign. The former, as a result, totalled approximately £68, yet the latter, in so short a time, amassed as much as £60 2s. 3d., a reflection of the generosity of the boys—£128 during one term.

The Benevolent Fund has been distributed, as in previous years, to various charities, with an emphasis on refugees, children and the physically handicapped. This term, however, a concession was made and support was given to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute and R.S.P.C.A., since both are worthy causes. In the eleven terms that the Fund has been in existence over £685 has been donated to charity, and provided that the diligence of the form prefects is kept up such good work can be maintained.

MARK F. FORRESTER (*Hon. Sec.*)

“THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD”

As usual, the music was admirably directed by Mr. Dawes, who was relieved of the burdens of production by Mr. Newling, from whose considerable experience in this field the performance as a whole gained immensely.

The plot of *The Yeomen of the Guard* is of the usual Gilbert and Sullivan type, a complicated mixture of interwoven love and light comedy. The part of the hero, Colonel Fairfax, who spends

his time in prison being abnormally brave and his time out being abnormally gallant to the young ladies, was taken by Snodin, who made up for a certain lack of volume in his singing by extremely polished and enthusiastic acting.

Hankey gave us his usual spirited performance in the comic role of Jack Point, a strolling jester, and was more than ably supported by Cole as Elsie Maynard, who must be singled out for special praise, especially taking into consideration his youth. This pair provided us with one excellent duet in the first act, "I have a song to sing, O", followed not long afterwards by a solo sung with exceptional polish by Cole.

Both Hankey and Cole took major parts in last year's opera, *The Gondoliers*, along with Scouse, Dixon and Roberts, from whose experience we benefited greatly. Roberts, another of our younger brethren, this year took the part of Phoebe Meryll. One of the main criticisms of last year's performance was the rather listless opening chorus ; this year Roberts took the opportunity of setting us off on the right foot with his spirited rendering of "When maiden loves she sits and sighs".

One particular advantage that Gilbert and Sullivan operas have is that they provide opportunities for every one to show his worth. This year there were a large number of smaller principal parts, all performed with vigour, and in some cases considerable skill. A particular problem for any music director is to find good tenors at schoolboy age. This year we were fortunate in having Gravestock, a veteran performer, to take the part of Leonard Meryll and also Bisset, who, with a little more volume, could be excellent for future performances. Dixon, as the Lieutenant of the Tower, and Scouse, as Sergeant Meryll, another two with previous experience, both sung and acted with considerable enthusiasm.

The chorus, both in the senior and junior groups, showed a considerable improvement on last year. Perhaps if certain gentlemen would come forward to exhibit their vocal talents next year instead of wasting them in the showers on Wednesday afternoons, Mr. Dawes' main problem of building up a chorus capable of producing sufficient volume will have been solved. Singing in an opera is an extremely enjoyable experience, not an embarrassing duty.

It remains for me to thank the many people who make the performance of our opera possible : the electricians, stage managers, scenery artists, those who made us up or looked after our costumes and, of course, the orchestra, ably led by Mr. Watmough, our assistant music director.

May I, to close, put forward a plea to try something a little more ambitious in the near future ; a joint performance with the

High School, who have an understandable lack of female basses? This would not mean replacing the school performance which has obvious advantages of its own, but experimenting just for one year to discover the possibilities of such a venture. I am sure that the result would be excellent, as both schools have plenty of good singers and actors.

R. C. JONES.

R. C. Jones omitted to mention that the way he played the part of the Jailor and Assistant Tormentor, Wilfred Shadbolt, gave the audience great pleasure and amusement and was one of the highlights of the performance.

C.P.B.

“THE THIEVES’ CARNIVAL”

The Thieves’ Carnival is a typical Anouilh farce on the lines of *Dinner with the Family* or *Time Remembered*—artificial, light and subtle but whose deftness and peculiarly French humour it is not easy to transmit to an English audience. The comedy has not the directness of a Whitehall farce or *The Government Inspector* and thus presented a challenge to the actors. A production of this genre of comedy, based as it is on repartee and innuendo, was made more difficult by the somewhat poor acoustic quality of the School Hall. This was overcome to a great extent by the clear diction of the actors and the suitability of scenery and dress.

The play related the exploits of three bungling thieves, played by Mr. Watmough, S. Merrington and A. Pratt. Some of us remember the former’s performance in *The Government Inspector*, and here again he realised the full potential of the part with a lively, impish performance, bounding energetically around the stage demonstrating his fluency in English, Spanish and Cockney dialects. Not only was his acting first class but his presence on the stage was reassuring and held the play together. S. Merrington’s stage experience was apparent in his performance of Gustave, the penitent thief. At times, in attempting to enliven the atmosphere, he became near to over-acting, but for the most part (especially in the “robbery” scene) his performance had great sparkle. The last member of this harmless trio, Hector, was played by A. M. Pratt, who at first seemed rather lacking in confidence, but later (especially Saturday night) regained poise to carry off the part successfully.

One of the highspots of the production was the remarkable performance of M. Ferguson as the elderly Lord Edgard. He reproduced the vocal and physical mannerisms of an old man with

amazing accuracy and his performance was both mature and promising.

R. Jones and D. Gostlow played the outwardly respectable father and son with competence ; the former's clear and easily audible voice contributed much to the effectiveness of his performance. M. Snodin's north-country policeman was a pleasant touch and in perfect harmony with the light artificiality of the play, which was further augmented by the off-stage musician.

The problem of girls and women in a schoolboy drama was admirably overcome by the performances of D. Snodin (Eva), J. Grayson (Lady Hurf) and to a lesser extent C. Koefoed-Nielson (Juliette). Snodin in particular was exceptional in his portrayal of a misanthropic coquette.

Thus the challenge which this play presented was easily overcome. The production transmitted the subtleties and charm of the play, though at times the comments of Lady Hurf went unappreciated (through no fault of Grayson). Mr. Newling can only be congratulated on a production which captured the peculiar Anouilh air of the play, was always entertaining and often sparkled.

I. R. W. WHITWHAM.

ALCESTIS

Classical Society Production

Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th February, 1963

The play is a curious mixture for a classical Greek play. It refuses to fall into the category of tragedy or comedy. It is set in a tragic situation : an attractive and vivacious girl is dying—and a jovial and drunken man thinks he can bring her back to life. So the problem of the production of any Greek play nowadays—is it to be formal or naturalistic?—was here intensified. The tragic elements, some of the more compressed dialogue, the device of using a chorus all lend themselves to formalism ; on the other hand, the comedy would have fallen flat unless it could be taken naturally.

Besides, Euripides's attitude is by no means clear. Is he detached and mocking at the myth, gods, human nature and the conventions of tragedy ? Or is his satire gentler, are his sympathies closer to his actors ?

The mere plot is ridiculous, but the barbs within the framework are sharp. Somehow a balance has to be maintained that will prevent the play from splitting up into fragments, that will

keep sufficient coherence for the audience to be engaged, for the barbs to find their way home. The special charm, the piquancy, as Michael Grant calls it, of this play depends on the holding of the wretched, the serious, the ironical, the amusing and the buffooning together in a light tension. The lively production for which David Rees was mainly responsible, with valuable help in the last week from Mr. T. J. Newling, preserved this unity safely. There was only one scene which seemed rather to be thrown away—perhaps because it was taken slightly too quickly—the one in which the tragic and the comic elements meet for the first time, the arrival of Heracles at Admetus's palace. This scene with the bereaved ruler worrying about his image desperately prevaricating in the face of good-hearted, crude, cruel thrusts behind that image by a clumsy man who obviously thinks he is being very tactful in his enquiries, could, with sensitive and precise timing, have been very funny or very poignant or, of course, both. Apart from this, one was kept alert and engaged the whole time through the subtle and delicately bewildering changes of mood up to the last—innocent? mischievous? sardonic?—brightness in Edgar Piper's eye as the chorus said the final line.

The set, with its effective reminder of a bright but kind Mediterranean sun in a clear sky on white buildings, made vivid the stock tragic description of death as "no longer seeing the light of day". The effect, together with the crisp draped costumes, superlatively white and more subtly red, green, brown, blue, with the slightest display of jewellery, probably increased in our subconscious our sympathy with Alcestis in having to leave it all while it mocked at Admetus who was going to keep it.

Robert Hill as Alcestis was convincingly slightly dazed, uneasily passive and remarkably attractive. Almost the only sympathy for Admetus in this production was roused by the thought that he was doomed to be parted from this pretty girl. Alan Dingle's interpretation of Admetus as a tiresome man, spoilt, unable to face reality and as a result weak, maudlin, vacillating, not wanting to live, not wanting to die, seemed on the whole valid, yet occasionally he was in danger of being monotonous. One would expect this sort of person to have very whole-hearted fluctuations in mood. His jerky delivery conveyed well the impression of a man feverishly anxious, gnawed by self reproach. Once or twice the gaps were just uncertain and long enough for one to wonder if he had forgotten his lines—but he never had.

Christopher Rogers, as Heracles, burst upon a shocked Phrae and, to judge by its silence, an amazed audience with simple energetic tactless good humour.

Apart from a rather awkwardly applied back-slap, Rogers lived up to Euripides's personification of hearty sportsmanship. He was delightfully and fuzzily affable as he draped himself affectionately over the disdainful slave, as he amiably opened the flood-gates and, with everything rosily in proportion, poured out his platitudes describing the pleasures of the unexamined life.

At one of the most critical points of the play where two characters have themselves unmasked in sudden anger, David Rees, as Pheres, quietly searing with his old man's incisive, cynical insolence, was masterly. He made the most telling impact and must have had several others in the audience on the edge of their seats in execration, grudging sympathy ("I expect to be dead for a long time, alive for a short time") and thirst for more.

In the minor parts Roger Heron as Alcestis's servant was particularly impressive, alive the whole time and very effective indeed in a declaimed lamenting account of Alcestis's preparations for her own death. Allan Wickens, a handsome Apollo, and Keith Burrows, a gaunt Death, were well contrasted and carried off the rather contrived scene-setting opening. Neil Saunders was suitably resigned in the rather unrewarding part of the slave who had to listen to Heracles.

The choral passages were effectively divided and except for one or two very minor slips they were confidently spoken. The chorus lighted on a fine blend of genuine but superficial sympathy and complacency in uttering commonsense commonplaces, until the faintest suspicion of a hint of a taunt in the last line.

Delicately and unobtrusively Paul Drayton's music helped to keep intact the thread of this play with its surprising changes of mood by creating and bringing back an air of impending unhappiness.

F.N.C.

(The Classical Society is much indebted to many friends in and outside the school, who made or lent costumes, worked the lights and helped in one way or another with the staging.—C.M.H.)

THE STORM

When it was all over it was realized that it had been the worst storm in the Atlantic within living memory, but as the merchantman *Rosie* set out from Liverpool, the blustery January breeze worried her smoke and gave no hint that its mood was to change. The crew of the *Rosie* would certainly have never identified her

by her description in Lloyd's Register, for buckets of paint could never have disguised the fact that in nautical parlance she was an "old tub". With her hold crammed with ballast she creaked her way down the Mersey. Even in the smooth water of the river her passage was laboured, and occasionally she would voice her discomfort by a cry of anguish from her siren. Even the siren was not completely efficient and the resultant sound was like an old man clearing his congested lungs.

When she reached the open sea the cool breeze became an icy blast which enfolded her in a vice-like grip of cold steel. The spray which covered her superstructure attached itself as beads of ice which glittered wickedly in the winter sunshine. The sun itself was a pale yellow disc in the sky mocking those below as no warmth came from its rays which merely served to accentuate the white gleaming ice which was slowly encasing the vessel in a pitiless embrace.

The barometer had been dropping ominously all day and no amount of optimistic tapping could hide the fact that there was a monstrous storm brewing. Even the most experienced crew member was apprehensive. They were accustomed to having *Rosie* bob up and down in the water in her own haphazard fashion, but this sea was so tremendous that she seemed to poise precariously on the top of each wave before sliding down and down into an almost bottomless pit. Then she would shudder violently, gather together her creaking timbers and begin the slow and painful climb upwards. The noise of the wind tore nerves to shreds. A thousand devils released from the bowels of the earth beneath the sea shrieking in unison. It was an ear-splitting persistent whine which sank into the brain and dulled the mind. The cold was incredible. Green liquid sea became white solid ice immediately on impact with the boat. The deck was a skating rink, the masts glistening stalks of candy and her rigging glimmering fronds of white cobwebs. *Rosie* was in a cauldron. As far as the eye could see giant waves were marching towards her, each mightier than its predecessor—all bent on engulfing the tiny ship—each greedy to overwhelm her and drag her down to the deep, dark world below. Some waves had white fluffy tops which bubbled and danced as they swept along. Others were sheer walls of deep shining green. They approached the ship silently and with an awful majesty. They towered momentarily over the little ship and then broke over her deck with all the pent-up fury and destructive power of a bomb.

Rosie grumbled her way through the storm. The men were powerless to help her. They knew she was angry, as after each soaking she shook herself like a tired terrier and defied the elements to disturb her again. All night long she was hammered mercilessly, and as the first grey streak appeared in the western

sky, the last monster vented his spite on her and then the sea gave up the struggle and allowed her to stumble along in a comparative calm.

So it was that a dirty untidy little merchant ship limped into New York harbour. Slowly she steamed past the magnificent *Queen of the Seas*, who had just completed her maiden voyage. The fact that the *Queen* had weathered the worst Atlantic storm for years had made headlines in most of the newspapers. The mate and the bosun of the *Rosie* were on deck as they passed the *Queen*. "The papers did not mention the fact that *Rosie* had got through the storm," remarked the bosun. "That's where we're lucky," replied the mate, "for *Rosie* to have made the headlines she would have had to have gone to the bottom of the sea."

D. ROSE, Vs.

VOLCANICS

Flowing red, and glowing.
Belching smoke in black
And brown, red and yellow,
He vomits forth a cringing bellow ;
And blends the cry with choking fumes
That rise from cracks
Of deepened gut around the heaving larval dunes.
With spurts of flame from up atop ;
With fireballs from deep below,
He puts men's very work to mock
With but a single mighty blow.
Burning breath with lightning beat ;
Steaming blood and slimy gore,
Seems to stem from searing heat
And thro' his lips it pulses o'er ;
To roll on down
With acrid frown,
To bubble and set
To cause to fret and freely sweat ;
Unflinchingly, stealthily enveloping all.

BIO.

WAITING FOR THE BUS

The metal bus-stop felt cold and damp on that bleak night in November.

I had just been to the cinema to witness another, rather sordid, kitchen-sink melodrama, and that, on top of the fact that I had another twenty-five minutes to wait for the next bus in none-to-pleasant surroundings, helped to depress my spirit. The landscape, as much as could be seen through the dense fog, was grim and foreboding. Trees stuck their great, wiry branches up to the heavens, and I needed no reminder to visualize the fortress-like edifice that defiantly jutted over the brow of the hill, for interned there were sixty poor souls, every one of them having escaped the noose on mental grounds. Twice in the last six years men had broken out, causing M.P.'s to be canvassed, children to be accompanied everywhere, and adults to quicken their paces home.

I don't know what made me turn round when I did, perhaps some sixth sense guided me, or I heard some noise, or perhaps there was a prickling in my scalp. I was just in time to see a man looming through the darkness towards me. He was of medium height and his drab, fawn raincoat hung loosely from his shoulders to about three inches above the ankle. The collar was turned up, almost to meet the shapeless trilby; and what I could see of his face was none too pleasant, sunken eyes, thin lips and high cheekbones set in a sallow complexion, with badly-shaven jowl. He had a nervous twitch of the nose and was continually wringing his hands.

Subconsciously I must have known that he had escaped from "that place"; anyway, I put him down as a possibly dangerous schizophrenic and stationed myself on the other side of the lamp-post. I put my hand to my forehead to brush away a lock of hair and felt it cold and clammy. My heart seemed to be beating faster too, and my breath was coming in gasps. Perhaps I was imagining it; yes, that was it—I comforted myself with that thought. But I knew I was only deceiving myself. I must not do anything to rouse him. I must remain calm. I would wait until the first vehicle came along and would halt it; until then I must stay at a safe distance and not appear to watch him. I glanced surreptitiously at my watch—only another five minutes to go. Time passed like a boat being painfully rowed towards me. The bus was a minute late! Two minutes! I sneaked a glance at "him"; he seemed to be preoccupied, staring away towards the distant hilltops. I looked back at my watch. Suddenly the noise of a diesel engine, much overworked, came to my ears like "King Oliver's" sweetest, purest, melody. Never was a sound more welcome in that deathly hush—even the sound of water

dripping off trees had ceased. As the two yellow pin-points grew, so did my courage. I was quite prepared to help the conductor tackle him in case of need.

The bus halted with a sigh, and as he stepped forward to mount the bus, the light shone on his chest and throat, revealing—the white neck-band of a Christian minister.

D. LEWIS, VY.

AUTUMNAL SONG

October was a sweet dream of amber
Sleeping, soft as owls, in the breathless woods.

But at dusk an old man, kicking through the leaves,
Will catch the first alien whispers in the boughs,
Whispers of the dark conspiracy
Of the seasons.

And one morning he will wake to see
The land's tawny smiling eye
Cataracted with frost.

A day, jewelled hard with frost, which will
Seize autumn's breeze and
Edge it with keen and unseen fangs
To carve out a
Universe of ironic crystal, bright as diamonds
But sharp as hate.

And behind it all, throbbing with vast
Nervous pain through the iron groins of hills and
Feverish pulse of rivers
Comes winter, to rack the soil with cold,
Cracking the forest's sinews, and clawing
Earth's heart with its suave steel gauntlet.

Now all life creeps to the wall . . .

A. W. DINGLE, VIM2.

ATLAS

When night is a cold black pearl, poised over
The bubble of the wind's unquiet slumber,
I have been fleshed deep in the woods and hills.
Dreaming earth's ancient grief. And when dusk spills
Her torn clouds, winter's sullen blade of spite,
To open strange skies in the flank of night,
Deep in the silent pools of my nature
Wild brotherhoods of blood seep and mature.

But no. This is conceit. My hamstrung mind
Could no more dissect sky's bright harmony
To single strains, than my wish can stop the blind
Swing of the seasons, or men find any
Peace in a world the artist left unsigned.

I long since stopped this search. I live
Now with men, calling their unrest peace, to give
My will strength to resist when those fields, sad
Still but calm, offer me repose I never had.

A. W. DINGLE, VIIM2.

APATHY PIE,

or Stirring It Up, or What You Will

The following conversation was overheard one lunchtime :

"Everybody's satirical these days."

"Well, what yer gonna do about it?"

"Dunno. Can't think."

"Why not?"

"Why should I? I'm not paid to, am I?"

"S'pose not."

Silence.

"What's this? Another of them perishin' notices? The place is swarmin' wiv 'em . . . Oh! it's about writing summat for the school magazine. Don't know why they bother to put 'em up. . . . Still, I s'pose somebody writes things for it."

"Yeah. Can't think who. Nobody I know."

Silence.

"You going to the play?"

"What play?"

"This 'Thieves' Carnival' lark they're putting on."

"Oh, yeah. I know. Hadn't thought about it actually. Why, are you?"

"Don't expect so. I don't generally."

Silence.

"What's all this about 'Third Man' some idiots have been sticking up all over the place?"

"Oh, it's another of them films. Wouldn't mind going myself even, but you gotta pay to get in."

"Yeah, a bob a time. Can't think how they get anyone to go."

"That reminds me. D'you see that bit in Spotlight about that French film they put on? Apparently only about forty boys went to it."

"Can't think what they're complaining about. I wouldn't have thought there *were* that many boys in the school interested in French.

Silence.

"S'pose *we* coulda gone really. It'd a been a bit of a laugh."

"Yeah, but surely them sorta things are only for blokes who take French seriously? Surely nobody expected *us* to go?"

"S'pose not."

Silence.

"Anyfink on this dinner time?"

"Must be a film on somewhere. Don't intend paying though!"

Could this have been YOU talking to a friend? If so, ask yourself these questions:

Why is it that I have this feeling that the school *owes* me entertainment *free of charge*?

Why is it that I'll pay 2/6 to see a film in town, but when a school society can show me an equally good film for less than half the price I resent paying it?

Why can't I realise that by helping these societies I am enabling them to provide better entertainment for me in the future? I must be mad!

M. R. FERGUSON.

THE GREAT FIRE OF WYCOMBE

I was sleeping peacefully on the night of February 6th, when suddenly, at 2.15, the Headmaster rushed in and woke up one of the prefects. I woke up at the same time, being half-asleep, started admiring the nice red glow that was dancing across the wall. Suddenly I heard a cry of "The Scout Hut's on fire!" and one boy jumped out of bed and dragged on a pullover. We were told to keep calm, and remain quiet. As our dormitory prefect shouted out to the other senior boys, "Don't let my 'middles' burn!" we rushed out and stood there, at the bottom of the stairs, looking at the blaze through the common-room windows. We were held back by another prefect who had been sleeping in our "dorm", so I went into the changing room to get a "mac", and, as I came out, there was a sudden rush back into the common-room. I was surprised by the light the fire made and astonished by the heat given off. It certainly melted the snow!

It was an awe-inspiring sight, with electric cables exploding in the depths of the blaze, gallons of paraffin sending up gigantic flames into the sky, and one side slowly collapsing. The fire had somehow started in the electrician's room, and for about five to ten minutes there were flames coming from the far end only. Suddenly flames started to consume the door nearest the boarding house, and within one or two minutes the whole place was an inferno. Sparks were flying in all directions, and there were, as is usual at such catastrophes, several amusing incidents. Of the many that occurred, there is one in particular that sticks in my mind. One senior was hopefully aiming a hose from which issued a trickle of water. The Headmaster walked up to him and said, "Well, helping to put out the fire, my boy?" to which the boy replied, "I don't think I'll put the fire out, sir, but I might save the boarding house."

Some minutes after our arrival the Junior and Senior dormitory came down, and approximately a quarter of an hour afterwards the firemen arrived, just in time to put out a heap of smouldering embers. At about this time, when all the excitement was over, and the more senior boys were beginning to complain about lost records, gramophones, physics notes and the like, came the highlight of the evening, or rather, of the morning: hot, sweet tea and biscuits at 3 o'clock in the morning.

During the next few days those boys who had lost their personal belongings spent most of their spare time rooting around in the rubble, trying to salvage something for the insurance man. However, apart from furnishing a much-needed car park, the fire has had one concrete result. Now that there is nothing left to burn down, we have fire-drill, practices and other tardy precautions. As it is unlikely that the boarding house will ever catch fire . . . No! don't tempt Providence; that's what they said about the Scout Hut.

S. TOMS, IIIx.

GRIMMING PENSIVES

O what we try is full of yon,
Power, force, or what it is.
And nought we strive is ever done
Because it's all a game of his.

Perfection seems to non-exist,
And aims so low will ere elude
The sage with turn of twist
Than imbecile or bloated pseud.

We are as puppets tied to strings
That dance and act on curt command,
Or fly up high on angels' wings
To play the drums in God's own band.

But why deception, why this veil,
And why the false and heavy thought
That self-achievement's bound to fail,
So will our thinkings come to nought.

We're therefore not the critic's choice,
Even if we're thought so high,
For that we speak is not our voice,
And that we live must surely die.

This imperfection raw and sharp
Results from circumstances blind
To mind, and dead to heart,
So never can the cause we find.

We see the end complete in eye,
But interference grim with strength
Grips the tighter the harder we try,
So out of nine we finish tenth.

Were it not for what we've built
Through years of trial and error,
Perhaps elusion's clogging silt
Would leave the mind without its terror.

But as it seems to pensive man,
His mind is one, his world another.
And both must be kept (like bull-fight fan)
Away from their other, altruistic brother.

ILYVRIG.

MONUMENTAL BRASSES

Monumental brasses are a very great help to historians of our day, for they provide an accurate record of medieval life. For example, they trace in detail the development of arms, armour and dress from the 12th to the 16th centuries. In spite of the fact that many were destroyed during the Reformation, or lost owing to vandalism and neglect, there are still some 10,000 brasses left in England, more than all the brasses of Europe put together.

The actual "brass" consists of a sheet of metal perhaps an inch thick, into which figures and lines are incised with a "burin". This form of effigy, which replaces the plain stone one, was then let into the floor. Although most of the larger brasses, which range up to six feet are found on the floor of the church, some of the smaller ones are found on the walls.

Most of the evidence still existing proves that brasses originated in the Low Countries, although the earliest surviving example is that of Bishop Yso Wilpe, who died in 1231, which can be found at Verden, near Hanover. However, the English brasses soon had a style of their own, for they were made in a different way, using bold lines to create a detailed picture. The earliest recorded brass is of Simon de Beauchamp, who died before 1208, but little remains of it, and the earliest surviving English brass is of Sir John d'Aubernoun, who died in 1277, at Stoke d'Abernon, Surrey. His large brass is six feet long, and beautifully made.

Brass rubbing is a popular hobby and at the present many people are becoming more and more interested in it. The best results are obtained by placing a sheet of "detailed paper" over the brass and rubbing it with a cobbler's black heel ball, in much the same way as one reproduces the faces of a coin by pencilling over it. The sheet of paper is first secured over the brass, and by rubbing gently with the heel ball, an accurate reproduction will emerge. Care must be taken neither to press too hard nor to discolour the stonework around the brass itself. However, other types of paper and wax crayons may be used to obtain passable results. The most important thing to do is to ask permission from the vicar or church warden before starting, for not only is it polite, but it might also be necessary to move some church furniture to expose a brass. As far as I know, no charge is made for taking a rubbing, but a few coppers in the box is a help and a sign of gratitude.

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M. BROWNRIGG, IIISB.

“WHERE ARE WE GOING ?”

Notes on University Entrance

With more and more applying to Universities each year, and while the number of available places remains approximately constant, competition becomes stiffer and stiffer. Having experienced this tiresome problem, I felt that others might benefit from my experience. The main guides that aid a university in the selection of candidates are the interview and the essay.

It is a golden rule that “Moderation breeds Mediocrity” and this maxim applies both to the essay and the interview. Presentation is all important and if the interviewer—the candidate will have undertaken some careful research beforehand—is an impeccable gentleman ; then “jeans”, a sweater and long hair are the best plog. It is advisable to be unshaven and, therefore, every aspiring undergraduate should ask for a razor on his twelfth birthday. The young innocent appearance never goes down well ! If, on the other hand, the interviewer is the intellectual beatnik type, than a school tie, white shirt, dark suit and black “Oxford” shoes should be worn. Remember that the successful candidate is always an extremist.

However, great emphasis must be put on the essay question. If possible, one should dismiss the question as stupid and impossible to answer, and then proceed to do just that. The main difficulty is to present one’s material so that it looks good. Most essays will include the same old arguments trotted out year in and year out. For example, on some problem, Smith says so and so, but then Latimer said this. However, both are wrong because Prof. Jenkins has said in “E.H.R., Vol. VI, Series III”, that so and so is probably correct.

This will not do if the candidate wishes to be successful, because he is likely to involve himself between rival factions of so-called thought. Once again, extremism is called for. One either quotes the oldest known authority—for example, in Geography, try Caesar on Gaul and Marco Polo on the Far East—or the most recent authority—for example, in History, Harold Nicolson in last Sunday’s *Observer*. Although a full list of names cannot be included, here are some all-purpose names, suitable to quote in an essay on any subject :—

Dylan Thomas, C. V. Wedgewood, Joy Adamson, Michael Trawn, Troom Tyler, Lloyd George, Alan Bullock, President Kennedy, Professor Ayer, Raymond Baxter, Alan Whicker, David Frost, Marx, and D. H. Lawrence.

As a precaution here is a short list of names not to be used on any occasion :—

C. P. Snow, F. R. Leavis, Richard Dimbleby, Harold Macmillan, Lord Beaverbrook, John Gordon, Lord Snowden, H. A. L. Fisher, and Shakespeare.

This, then, is how to succeed and it should lead to one thousand pounds. However, do not count on staying at university for much longer than a year. Examinations are usually failed if the student has not already been sent down for immorality.

It seems that the most important deciding factor is the spin of a coin. One hopes that it is double-headed.

C. S. GRIFFITHS.

OPPOSITES

(*Enter a CLASSICIST and a SCIENTIST, arguing*)

CLASSICIST : . . . for the magazine.

SCIENTIST : The report of what society ?

CLASSICIST : I said the Classical Society.

SCIENTIST : Oh, them ! I thought they were extinct.

CLASSICIST : Well, I know VIC is down to nine, but we try.

SCIENTIST : At what, for instance ?

CLASSICIST : Last term we put on a couple of talks by members. Admittedly we had to abandon them at the last minute, but it was a wet, cold evening and both the audience said they would have enjoyed it.

(SCIENTIST *gives sarcastic laugh.*)

And what about that lecture by Professor Landels on “Archimedes, Father of Science” ?

SCIENTIST : You mean that wasn’t arranged by the Science Society ? It was tremendous.

(CLASSICIST *restrains himself.*)

Wasn’t there something about a trip to a Greek play in Greek at London University ?

CLASSICIST : Oh, you would remember that. Yes, you’re right, but they sold out of tickets too soon.

SCIENTIST : Typical.

CLASSICIST : But our play reading of “Hippolytus” went off O.K., didn’t it ? We even provided tea in the interval.

SCIENTIST : Ye-es. Old Jim went to that—he said the play was good too.

CLASSICIST : And we finally held those talks by Wickens and Burrows.

SCIENTIST : Burrows?—he's a Modern, isn't he? You must be hard up.

CLASSICIST : Not at all! We're very broadminded.

SCIENTIST : Or desperate. Admit it, you've got a touch of the book-worm, caught it off those old books in the Classics room, I expect. You've got to be up todate, progressive, dynamic, like the Science Society. We have things every week : films, talks, demonstrations . . .

CLASSICIST : Plays?

SCIENTIST : Well, no, we . . .

CLASSICIST : You mean you have never put on a play, a full-scale school production like our "Alcestis", a mixture of tragedy and comedy that everyone raved about, and we got coach-loads of marvellous girls from all over Bucks and letters of congratulations and a fabulous write-up in the *Free Press*, and . . . and . . . Didn't you even go then?

SCIENTIST : Well, actually I meant to, but Jenny came round, and the telly . . .

CLASSICIST : Oh, you missed an experience, you Philistine, you peasant, you disloyal pleb, you . . .

(SCIENTIST *retires in confusion. Exit CLASSICIST, gibbering triumphantly.*)

C. J. T. ROGERS, VIC3.

DUST

I knew that I had been there before, but some morbid apprehension drew me back. The scene was familiar, but its bleakness always surprised me afresh. The dust was swirling in choking clouds, the twisted abortions that had once been trees scarred the horizon ; the rank grass grew up through the flagstones, the familiar repulsive smells of humanity still lingered undisturbed by the scorching wind.

Had there ever been life or had it always been this oppressive, soul-searching silence? It was written that silence was abstract—a nothingness—but how then could it be so loud, so visible, so tangible? I reached out to touch this all enveloping abstraction and my hand—or rather the blackened stump that had once been my hand—came into contact with something hard and unyielding . . . could it have been that I had touched silence? No, it was

the remains of one of their fall-out shelters, impregnable, bomb-proof, safe as the . . . what had it been as safe as? now that everything was gone, and their pitiful attempt at self-preservation lay decaying, in debris around me. They were all gone now, and the last remains of their futile existence were crumbling into oblivion. My one remaining wish was to be as they are now . . . the dust-clouds of decayed life.

The silence seemed to be closing in again, and I knew that I would soon join them, in their swirling cloud of dust, choking the blackened mockeries of vegetation. Immortal? No, but I would be remembered, and cursed, by the few who sought to keep my cloying dust from their eyes and throats. Now, I knew my time had come, their dust was covering me, stifling my wheezing breath. For me the silence would soon be no more—I would soon be joining my Kindred of the Dust.

A. SCHMIDT, VIml.

SOCIETY REPORTS

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The major occurrence this term in our sphere has been the Confirmation service, in which a large number of boys became members of the Church. Yet we have not seen any of these at our meetings. One of the main aims and functions of the Society is to gather Christians together to learn more about their faith, as well as to show non-Christians what we believe. Are none of the confirmees interested in their religion?

The same apathy is shown by a large number of non-conformists—10% of English people go to church, but only 2% of R.G.S. ever attend our meetings. We get speakers coming from long distances at a most inconvenient time of day and yet half the Christians at school do not bother to come.

At the end of term a number of sixth-formers had a most enjoyable day at the S.C.M. conference. We hope that this will have whetted their appetite for argument and that they will come to the fortnightly discussions we hold (although at present we cannot provide feminine opponents).
C. L. DAY.

JUNIOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

This recent extension of the Christian Fellowship is going from strength to strength. The numbers have trebled and because of the increased support we have been able to provide a greater variety of activities: film-strips, talks, quizzes. The high point was reached with the end of term trip to the British Museum.
C. L. DAY.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

As a rule the Society has only one climax in the course of the year, namely the production of the school play at the end of the Spring Term, and this year has proved no exception. Considerable difficulty was encountered in choosing the play, and only after reading Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution" and Robert Bolt's "A Man for all Seasons" was it decided to throw all caution to the wind and attempt Jean Anouilh's fantasy, "Thieves' Carnival"; this has been variously described as a "comedy ballet" and "a frothy, flimsy enchantment, marrying high comedy and harlequinade in a happy, absurd story of French thieves and English aristocrats."

Although somewhat retarded by the "Alcestis" cast's monopoly of the stage for their own ends at the beginning of term, things are now well under way and casual visitors to the hall are confronted by a super-abundant conglomeration of Victorian hot-house plants and wrought-iron intricacies, in the middle of which the cast are to be seen declaiming their often incorrect speeches and missing their cues. But as this article will only appear in print after the production itself, we must leave it to the reader to judge the success of our efforts.

By way of relaxation, a trip was organised to see the Oxford Playhouse's excellent production of Shaw's "Misalliance" in November and Cockerham's inane laughter at the wrong moments was alleged by some to be the highlight of the evening.

S. MERRINGTON.

FILM SOCIETY

Once again a school society, even though a new one, is feeling the effects of the acute apathy from which this school suffers. This has been apparent particularly this term with the showing of "The Ladykillers" and that excellent film "The Third Man", neither of which had a sufficient attendance to cover their costs.

Last term, however, when the Society was still a novelty, our first film, "The General", a fine example of classic film comedy, was eagerly attended. But even by the end of term that novelty had worn off, for few boys came to see one of the best films we have shown, the Japanese "Throne of Blood".

This term the programme has been enlarged by several well-attended lunchtime shows. It is hoped that next term's films will attract greater audiences to preserve the Society from extinction.

J. D. HARRIS.

HISTORY SOCIETY

Four meetings have been held this term. The first was an "O" Level Quiz aimed at finding the "History Brain of the Upper Fiftths" : he proved to be Cooper of VUG, with Pitchford of VUSB as proxime.

The other meetings were Papers read to the Sixth Form by R. H. Leech and J. R. Ward, both of VIM3. The former dismissed Pitt the Younger's claim to be considered as the first Prime Minister ; whilst Ward gave two talks : one on "The Parliamentary Reform Act, 1832," and the other on "The Economic Origins of the French Revolution".

We would like to congratulate two members on their success at Oxford. C. N. Myant was elected to the Brackenburg Scholarship at Balliol College and J. R. Ward won the Warner Exhibition at the same college.

D. G. JONES, *Chairman.*

AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

Before mentioning our activities of the last two terms, I must welcome our new Chairman, Mr. Farrell. Mr. Farrell, who was formerly a Wing-Commander in the R.A.F. and is a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society, has many contacts in the aviation world, and it is hoped that many interesting visits can be arranged in the future.

Members from the Society have been on two trips since last summer. The first was to the R.A.F. Technical College at Henlow, a visit arranged by Mr. Farrell which proved to be extremely interesting. During the visit to Henlow, the members of the Society visited the armaments museum, the hangars, the jet engines and thermodynamics sections.

The second visit, to the U.S.A.F. base at Wethersfield, was not so successful. There was some misunderstanding at the beginning of the visit and we were delayed for about half an hour. Nevertheless, we visited the jet and aircraft maintenance sections.

During the year, the Society has not shown many films because of a shortage of new films on aviation, but several aircraft recognition competitions have been held.

Next term it is hoped to arrange a visit to the Hunting Aircraft factory at Luton, and it is possible that we may have some talks by R.A.F. officers from Halton and Henlow.

C. A. FAIR.

JAZZ APPRECIATION SOCIETY

After some preliminary chaos last term, the Society has finally gone to ground in the most remote of the workshop rooms, and it is there that our weekly tape and record sessions are held with an almost mystic sense of clique, and, I'm afraid, a decided bias in favour of modern jazz ; however, this arrangement does tend to separate genuine fans from those who merely want to shelter from the rain and hear some free Bilk into the bargain.

As for trips, there was a belated, and consequently abortive, attempt to see the Brubeck concert, killed by a general diehard prejudice as to "whether it's jazz or not". But in contrast, the Duke Ellington trip in January was a triumph. I'm sure everyone who saw him will long remember the Duke playing jazz at its very best, and in particular the fine solos of such people as Paul Gonsalves and Johnny Hodges. Future visits are at the moment very much in the air : we have been promised Ray Charles and Mulligan, amongst others.

Finally, I should like to thank Mr. Gray for taking on the chairmanship of the black sheep of the school societies. His assistance has been invaluable both in the provision of tapes and session facilities and in the arrangements for society trips.

A. W. DINGLE.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

In an effort to restore the Society to a sound financial position, and at the same time to find a new source of enthusiastic support, it was decided this year to extend membership to the whole school—including the second forms. This has since proved an invaluable step, especially toward the latter, because of the second-former's continual support. Thus, the French and German weekly film, with an occasional English film, too, have all been well attended.

The climax of our filming activities each term is generally a full-length feature film in the language concerned. In the Autumn Term, the German film "Canaris" was much appreciated; and this term, a programme of German colour films was arranged but attended by only six boys. However, the French features tend to overshadow the German ones. In the Autumn Term, "Public Enemy No. 1" was shown to a large audience, and later another comedy, "La Traversée de Paris", was shown. However, a total of forty-one boys only attended the latter film.

Without doubt the most successful of the Society's activities have been its theatre visits. As it happened, each term's trip was to see a play by Brecht. In November, a party went to see "Der gute Mensch von Sezuan" performed in English at Oxford, which proved to be a first-class production of Brecht at his best.

In March, an enthusiastic contingent went to the Phoenix Theatre to see his first play, "Baal", which inspired rather mixed feelings, but certainly provided food for thought. At any rate, it was generally agreed to be well worth seeing.

Finally, a word of thanks to our German assistant, Herr Carlos Weiler, who has shown himself to be a most friendly and stimulating character. Our thanks also to those members of the Staff who contribute so much to the Society—Mr. Rowlands and Mr. Waters in particular. Let us hope that their efforts will continue to inspire enthusiasm in the future.

M. R. FERGUSON.

THE MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY

The beginning of the year saw the departure of A. S. Peck and D. W. Lovegrove, both of whom had made a great contribution to the running of the Club since its institution four years ago. Membership of the Club this year has not been allowed to reach the phenomenal figure of last year, and this has been effective in reducing congestion in the Club premises. Railway modelling, very much a seasonal activity, is now at its height, and the rebuilding of the Club layout is well in hand and should be completed by the end of this term.

Few films have been shown this term, for, unfortunately, the demand is exceeding the supply, and we have nearly exhausted the film libraries of new titles. Trips have been run to various Motive Power Depots in the area, and it is also hoped to run a trip to the British Railways Board Museum at Clapham in the near future. Other trips for next term have yet to be decided.

R. N. C. HARRISON.

MUSIC SOCIETY

Since the Annual General Meeting in September last year, weekly record concerts of music ranging from Mozart to Sibelius and Beethoven to Vaughan Williams, including both little- and well-known works, have been held.

Three live recitals have been given as well: the first, by S. Merrington (violin) and L. S. Kennedy (flute); the second, by P. Drayton (piano); and the third, a piano recital of twentieth-century music, by L. G. Friend. All were well attended, despite the entrance fee for non-members.

Perhaps the most interesting meetings were two held jointly with the Jazz Appreciation Society. At the first, music by Stravinsky and John Lewis was played; and at the second, music by Mozart, Louis Armstrong and John Coltrane. More members should have taken the valuable opportunity provided by these concerts; the writer, at least, hopes that the experiment will be repeated.

L. G. FRIEND.

RADIO CLUB

The Radio Club started two terms ago, with twenty-three boys who came to a meeting, saying that they were willing to help form a club, and at the end of the term the membership had risen to the forty mark.

At the end of the first term one of the committee members, who is licensed to transmit, opened an exhibition station in the Science Block to show what goes on in the radio world, and to announce to the world that we had just finished our quatercentenary celebrations. The transmitting station (call-sign G.B.2 R.G.S.) called up "hams" as far afield as Belgium, Holland, Italy and Germany, besides making many contacts within the British Isles.

The second term saw a further advance in the life of the club with a weekly meeting for either a film or a lecture. Moreover, we have crowned our activities, to date, with a display of home-made radio equipment and various other components.

In future, committee members are hoping to teach the theoretical side of the radio to all those who are interested. The club also hopes to obtain a room in the school where it can set up radio equipment permanently for experimental and teaching purposes. Eventually we hope to build an amateur transmitting station which can communicate the rest of the world.

M. I. MARSDEN.

SCIENCE SOCIETY

During the last two terms, the Society has continued its regular Monday film shows, but owing to the number of societies also showing films regularly every week, we are now restricted to five films a term.

Throughout March there was a very successful Inter-Form competition for the Middle School. A team of three boys from IVY defeated a team from VY in the final. The winners then received congratulations and prizes from the Chairman, Mr. Mewse.

Now that each Society is allowed to arrange only one visit a term, only a few members could enjoy the two terms' visits to the Metal Box Company at Acton and to Ultra Electronics, also at Acton.

Lastly, we tried to arrange to visit the B.B.C. Television Centre after the Summer Examinations, but owing to their second programme and colour television they are not showing parties around the building.

A. H. DIXON.

STAMP SOCIETY

The Society has been somewhat more active this year than formerly. Owing perhaps to the inclement weather this winter, the attendance at the meetings on Mondays and Fridays for the sale and exchange of stamps has improved considerably. Two approval companies are sending us books of stamps regularly, and sales of these stamps are quite high.

On Tuesday, February 19th, a film on loan from Messrs. Harrison & Sons dealing with the manufacture of the stamp was shown. This was greatly enjoyed by a large audience.

On Thursday, March 21st, a party of two masters and thirty-eight boys visited "Stampex" at the Central Hall, Westminster. This was the day of issue of the "Freedom from Hunger" stamps, and the braver members of the Society queued for some time to obtain copies.

We hope to organise another trip in the Summer Term, and to arrange for a series of talks to be given on philatelic topics by senior members. Some useful equipment to help in the identification of stamps is also being bought.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

Although this Society suffered a decline in fortunes during the Autumn Term, they revived considerably during the Spring Term. In January, the secretary and chairman P. G. Davies and T. M. Davis, left the school, to be replaced by K. E. Burrows and M. G. Baker.

There have been two debates : "This house considers that C.C.F. is a benefit to the school and should be retained", and "This house considers that uniformity of dress and behaviour in a Grammar School is desirable", two very controversial subjects and, as may be expected, both motions were heavily defeated. One more debate will be held this term, when four members of the staff will debate : "O Tempores ! O Mores".

Also, Mr. Smith, a student master, has given two lectures on "Life in Moscow", showing, on the second occasion, some very interesting slides. Another student master, Mr. Brown, has given a very illuminating talk on "The Political Scene in Canada Today". The secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, Mr. Martin Ennals, addressed a very interested audience on Civil Rights.

But there is still room for greater improvement in the activities of the Society, and much more support from sixth-formers would be welcomed.

M. G. BAKER.

C.C.F. NOTES

ARMY SECTION

Training was confined mainly to the classroom because of the unusual weather conditions which prevailed for most of the term. The enthusiasm of the Shooting Club, however, was not to be denied and the notes of this club included on another page indicate the progress and achievements which are the result of a keen and enthusiastic endeavour.

A small and select party of N.C.O.'s and potential N.C.O.'s explored new ground in their Arduous Training Camp held in the Easter holiday. Four Officers and twenty Cadets, based at 89 Weekend Training Centre, Leek, explored the Derbyshire dales and hills in the Kinder Scout area with a view to offering new ground for expeditions in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and providing training of a slightly different nature from camps of the past two years. A very successful reconnaissance was carried out by three groups of cadets and useful information obtained for the summer camp.

An interesting night exercise was held involving the location of "enemy gun flashes" by the use of synchronised observations made possible by wireless communication and previously surveyed observation posts. This pilot scheme indicated the possibility of something on a bigger scale at the summer camp.

R.P.

R.N. SECTION

Since the last issue of the school magazine the Naval Section has been undergoing a routine training programme, enlivened only by a temporary transfer of the parade ground to the School Hall during January and February, the normal parade ground being under three inches of ice.

The only other unusual feature to report has been the formation of half the new intake into a squad to concentrate on parade drill. By the time the next report is published these cadets should be the best drilled in the whole cadet force.

We should like to congratulate C. R. A. G. Iliffe on being elected captain of the School Shooting VIII and on passing the Selection Board for Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, in the face of stiff opposition.

Easter training this year takes the form of training courses in Her Majesty's ships *Dryad* and *St. Vincent*, both shore establishments at Portsmouth, and a cruise on H.M.S. *Caunton*, a coastal minesweeper. In addition to these, places have been obtained on several courses organised by Admiralty.

R. H. MAYO, Cox'n.

R.A.F. SECTION

The unit strength has recently risen to 196 cadets and the Section has been reorganised to form two squadrons, each with five flights. Each squadron has a Flight-Sergeant and A. D. Warren is the first cadet to hold the responsible appointment of Warrant Officer. This is very fitting, as he carried out his previous duties as a Flight-Sergeant with singular distinction.

The results of the training courses as reflected in Proficiency and Advanced Training Examinations both in December 1962 and in March 1963 continue to be most satisfactory. The Advanced Training results in December were quite exceptional. All 19 candidates were successful and six gained Distinction.

Arrangements made for flying with the Air Experience Flight at White Waltham have been ill-fated, cancellation being necessary on two occasions because of weather and on another because of non-availability of aircraft. Another date has been promised in the immediate future which we hope will be attended by more success.

Many cadets are keen to go on Gliding Courses and arrangements have been made for two cadets to attend a continuous gliding course at No. 613 Gliding School at R.A.F. Halton from April 19th—28th.

Sgt. A. C. D. Young has been extremely fortunate in being offered an "Overseas flight". He will fly to Singapore with Transport Command on April 23rd and will be back in England about May 2nd.

The Easter camp, attended by 27 cadets, has been held at Royal Air Force Station, Wyton. Normal training facilities included Chipmunk flying and a very successful "escape and evasion" exercise in which the unit easily contained the "enemy".

E.M.

BOARDING HOUSE REPORTS

SCHOOL HOUSE

This year the House has done well in the academic field : A. S. Platt left at the beginning of the term to study engineering at London University, C. S. Griffiths has gone to Swansea, and T. M. Davis, after a spell as a day boy, has gained a place at University College, Oxford, which he will take up in the Autumn. We have also lost S. C. Tomes, who now works in a bank, and B. Sandeman-Craik and R. Cowan, who have joined the ranks of the day boys. The result of these departures is that we now

have nobody in the third year sixth form, and the House can boast only a dozen sixth-formers in all. Thus we have a great bulge of third and fourth-formers, and this is where our strength lies.

A keen interest is shown by members of the House in school activities—we have two regular players in the 1st XV, and M. J. Malec is to be congratulated on gaining his colours, while C. R. Eastman, J. and P. Colley, N. R. Thorne, J. and P. Berks, and D. Beasley have all played regularly for various school XV's. B. I. Hankey, as well as being a principal in the "Yeomen of the Guard", has been awarded his Badminton half-colours. C. R. Illiffe and D. A. Heeley are respectively captain and vice-captain of the school Shooting team.

Boarders have far greater access to the gymnasium than day boys, and for this reason we are able to provide four members of the school Basketball team. The youngest of the four, A. J. Frankland, was awarded his half-colours.

However, it is not only in the field of sport that School House contributes towards the achievements of the school as a whole. Three members of the House played a large part in the success of the Greek play "Alcestis", in which R. Heron was outstanding. We also provided seven of the cast of the "Thieves' Carnival", by Jean Anouilh, D. Snodin and C. Koefoed-Nielson playing leading parts.

In inter-Boarding House sport we have had rather mixed fortunes. As expected, we beat both the other Houses at basketball; we easily beat Uplyme at Table Tennis, but lost rather heavily to Tylers Wood. The annual soccer match against Uplyme proved to be an extremely exciting affair, the result being a 2—2 draw.

After many years without a common room of their own, the seniors, with the end of the School Scout Troop, were able to take over the Scout Hut. They put in a lot of hard work getting the place into shape, but unfortunately, owing to an electrical fault, the hut was destroyed by fire, and the seniors were forced to return to their former haunts. A fuller report of the fire can be seen elsewhere in the magazine.

R. A. FEWTRELL.

UPLYME HOUSE

Since the last report there has been a very considerable number of changes in the House. Among those who left us are R. R. Trick, who is now the English assistant at a boys' boarding school in Perigneux, and R. B. Smith, who decided to join the Royal Air Force. J. R. Ward, who re-joined after a year as a

day boy, has now, two terms later, finally left, and W. J. G. Pidgeon has left the boarding house until next year.

During the last two terms there has been great enthusiasm for soccer matches in the House, and the number of games of note played this year is comparatively large. In brief, against VUG we lost, against VUA we won twice and against both School House and Tylers Wood we drew. Although our junior Rugby team crushed School House, we lost to both the other Houses at Table Tennis, while we drew at Basketball, and we came last, and probably decisively least, in the inter-House Shooting match.

Over to the personal achievements department: I. J. Grayson took part in the play "Thieves' Carnival", by Jean Anouilh. J. W. Hume represented the County in the under 15 age group, and R. W. Douglas was awarded his 2nd XV Rugby colours. On the academic side, for a pleasant relief, J. R. Ward gained an open award at Oxford, and he is now leaving for eighteen months' holiday in the United States.

TYLERS WOOD HOUSE

The past two terms have seen an appreciable amount of activity in the Boarding House, both in respect of the personal movement of its members and of their activities on the sports field. Perhaps the most significant event of the year so far has been the departure of Mr. H. W. Johnson, the House tutor for fourteen years, who left us at Christmas to take up an appointment as Housemaster of the Grammar School at Louth, Lincolnshire. His place was taken over by Mr. I. M. Merrylees, who, we hope, will enjoy his stay at our home from home.

This year we have had nine new boys, two from School House, while at Christmas the Ireland brothers left us to become day boys. At the end of this term two prefects are leaving, M. F. Forrester and W. Andrews, and the office of Head Boy will be taken over by P. Ayres. In addition to this coming and going, we have also received numerous visits from Old Boys, who have come back no doubt to see how the place has deteriorated. Walker, Tilling and Thomas have come back to stay occasionally, while Lane, Snodin and Bowman regularly drop in.

In the inter-House sports competitions Tylers has been well to the fore, not being beaten in any particular event, although the Basketball proved a close shave. Eventually, all three Houses came equal first (and last). In other activities Tylers has beaten both School House and Uplyme at Table Tennis, and drawn

3—3 with the latter at Soccer. There were, unfortunately, no Rugger matches this term, thanks to the foul weather. These inclement conditions did not, however, interfere with the customary Hockey matches with the local girls' schools, and although we were only able to draw 2—2 with the High School, we beat Lady Verney's School 3—2.

There is still a staff problem at the House, and while we still have our butler, Walter, there has been no full-time cook since Christmas, when the previous one left us for domestic reasons. In spite of this, however, the House continues in its usual leisurely way, the apathy among its members contributing to its placid existence.

MARK F. FORRESTER.

HOUSE REPORTS

ARNISON HOUSE

This year the House has begun its sporting activities rather more successfully than in previous years. As always, the House has been urged on to higher things by the now well-known "encouragement" of our Housemasters and a clique of senior boys. The majority of the active members of the House have responded very well to the appeal of the notices asking for volunteers for various sporting activities, but even so, on most occasions, last-minute chasing has been necessary to raise a full team for most competitions.

In the Cross-country, the Junior IX packed well enough to win their age group, Bridger and Carver coming in 6th and 7th. The Colts IX ran even better, all seven runners finishing in the first nineteen. Here special mention must be made of Bonnett, who came second, and of Gatland and Aikens who, although competing against boys far older than themselves, came in together at nineteenth. Taylor, as expected, ran his usual fine race to win the senior competition. The other members of the House did their best here, and were just pipped for the first place by Youens. Despite this setback we took the overall Cross-country championship because of the excellent performance of our two younger IX's.

Our superiority in the middle and junior age groups was further emphasised by our fourth form VII under their captain, Gatland, and our fifth form VII, with Brown in command, for both won their respective Rugby competitions. Again, however, our seniors could not equal this fine performance, and came second to a strong Fraser VII, after two hard matches against Youens and Disraeli, in which Bunce and Lane were outstanding.

Arnison won the Boxing competition yet again, mainly through weight of numbers, but the juniors once again excelled themselves. In future years, however, a far greater effort must be made in this sphere, and more entrants are needed, since this year we almost lost our customary place to Disraeli.

In the Basketball we did well to come third, despite having to play teams far superior to us on paper. Here the efforts of Frankland and Douglas must be mentioned, for it needed the juniors to recoup the losses of the seniors.

The newly-instituted House Hockey competition, in keeping with its dubious origins, ended in a victory for Fraser. However, we were able to bluff our way to fourth place.

On the whole, this has been a very promising year, for not only are we in the lead in the House competition, but we should also do well in the summer competitions.

M. HARRIS.

DISRAELI HOUSE

Compared with last year, this year has so far been moderately successful for the House. In the Basketball, which was held last term, we gained fourth place ; and, had it not been for some unfortunate absences among the juniors, it is quite possible that this might have been bettered.

The high point of this term has been our second position in the Boxing competition only four points behind Arnison. This was due mainly to an excellent response among the juniors, and special mention must be made of K. Kavanagh and D. Rance in the junior competition, and I. D. Hental, D. W. Lewis and D. P. Grace in the seniors, all of whom won their finals. The Rugby competition, in which we have traditionally filled the last position, was very successful. The competition was run in the form of a "sevens" tournament, and thus our singular lack of players was perhaps not so obvious as usual. Owing to a good effort in the fifth forms and good luck in the senior draw, we managed to tie for third position. As in last year's Cross-country championships, our juniors performed well, with the result that we gained fourth position, despite coming last in the seniors. Our congratulations must go to Steptoe, who finished first in the Colts. The Chess has not as yet been finished, but Mildon seems to be doing well at the moment.

In conclusion, it seems likely that we shall do considerably better than our miserable place in last year's championship, and the encouraging performance of the juniors perhaps augurs well for the future.

C. J. PACKMAN.

FRASER HOUSE

The House started off this year very well by winning the Basketball competition, both the senior and junior teams remaining unbeaten. This was undoubtedly owing to the fact that with one exception, our senior side was composed of members of the School team, and while our juniors were not so experienced, they made up for this with the enthusiasm which they put into their games. The next event of the season was the final of the Cross-country championships, in which we managed second place. The entries for the Cross-country were rather disappointing this year, and the junior teams had to be chosen mainly from the Grey Book. G. Davies, of Fraser, the winner of the Junior Colts' race, was in this category, which is surely proof that everyone, however bad he might think he is, should enter for the House competitions. Often press-gang tactics reveal hidden talents, but it is far better if the House receives full voluntary support.

In the Rugby sevens which followed, we once again only came second, which was due to the fact that the Colts' team was very badly let down by the failure of one boy to turn up. The Junior Colts came third, and the seniors, although fielding a weakened side, beat Arnison easily in the final. We would like to take the opportunity at this point of congratulating P. Lavender, of Fraser, on being chosen as reserve for England under fifteens Rugby team against Wales at Twickenham during the term.

The entries for the Boxing competition consisted more of quality than quantity this year. The majority of those who entered reached the finals. P. Colley, S. Breed and S. Shearsby won their finals, and A. J. Glynn gave a polished display of hard hitting to win the senior cup, while young Oxlade, still only in the second form, won the junior cup.

In the Badminton we did well to come second, as we have no regular members of the School team. At the time of writing, the Chess, Shooting and Hockey competitions are still unfinished; we hope we do well in them. Next term we hope to repeat the victory of last year in Cricket and Athletics.

At the end of this term we are sorry to have to say goodbye to M. F. Forrester, who has for a long time been an able and active secretary and a leading figure in both the Rugby and Athletic competitions.

M. D. H. PRIESTLEY.

KING'S HOUSE

I have complained in previous reports of the lack of interest shown in House activities by most members. This year, let it suffice to say that the general complacent attitude shown last year has not changed.

We started the year well, and finished in second position in the Basketball championship. That was the only competition

held in the Christmas Term. In the Easter Term there were numerous competitions. Because of the bad weather at the beginning of term, it was decided that the Rugby should be a "sevens" competition, each house fielding three teams, one from the fours, one from the fives and a senior team from five uppers and sixth. The senior team was much weakened by the absence of I. Macwhinnie and J. Davies, two 1st XV players, and D. Ferguson from the 2nd XV. The juniors, although enthusiastic, were too small to be effective, and we finished the Rugby competition in last place.

In the Boxing we suffered from lack of support, yet those boys who did enter boxed very well, particularly junior school boys; congratulations to all of them. Special mention must be made of D. G. Orchard, whose performance on Finals Afternoon will long be remembered by all those present. The Cross-country was badly supported by colts and juniors, but the seniors ran well and finished second in their group. Congratulations must be accorded to Greenwood, who ran an excellent race to finish in second place, and to Andrews, who finished seventh. In the Badminton competition, we have to play Arnison for third place. The Chess competition is still in progress, while both the Hockey and Shooting are, at the time of writing, uncompleted.

At the moment, then, the House is not in a healthy position and its future is dependent on the support of every single member of the House. In conclusion, I would like to thank our Housemasters, Mr. Scott and Mr. Leighton-Jones, for their support in our House activities.

J. M. BARLOW.

QUEEN'S HOUSE

After the improvement in the position of the House last year, it was hoped that we would at least hold our own this year. However, several disastrous performances have dashed these hopes to the ground.

We were sorry to lose Mr. Curry, an extremely energetic Housemaster, at the beginning of the term, but we are fortunate to be joined by Mr. W. B. Watmough.

In the seven-a-side Rugby tournament A. N. Brandes, S. Fone and M. J. Mason played well, but we finished fifth. It was somewhat unfortunate that the teams were only seven in number; we would have had a good chance of winning with a full team. The less said about the Cross-country, the better!

In the Basketball and Boxing we have fared reasonably, although there was insufficient support from members of the House for the latter. The Badminton was won and a good position in the Chess seems assured, in both cases owing to a virtual monopoly of the School team. There remains this term

the Hockey and Shooting, and next term the Athletics, Cricket and Tennis. Everyone who has any talent at all at any of these should enter.

For the three years 1959-61, Queen's won the Raffety House Cup three times in succession, but last year Disraeli succeeded in wresting it from us. Since about one-third of the sixth form prize-winners are in Queen's, a greater effort in the academic field, too, is necessary from the Lower School.

————— R. S. WATANANGURA.

YOUENS HOUSE

The criterion of a house's success is to be measured by the extent to which it realises its potential. We must keep this in mind while looking back at the previous terms' activities.

Basketball is won by individual ability and our poor showing was only a reflection of our scarcity of both junior and senior talent. Success in the Cross-country on the other hand, depends more on enthusiasm than individual brilliance. This was met with somewhat mixed response from the juniors and colts who came fourth and fifth respectively, but the seniors responded admirably and excelled themselves to become easy victors. The performances of Flitney in the junior competition and Ellerton, Jenner and Rothwell in the senior event are worthy of note.

The departure of M. P. A. Solomon at Christmas proved to be a serious handicap in the senior Rugby, but the colts and juniors (under the excellent leadership of Killingley) came third and second respectively.

Our mediocrity was gain displayed in our coming fifth in the Boxing, but this should not detract us from the excellent performances of Flitney, Newitt, O'Shea, Tinton, Darvill and the two Johns.

Our withdrawal from the Badminton through lack of a team was nothing short of disgusting. It is not always easy to kindle House spirit in a large day school, but the following should be remembered. The house system is created for the pupils' benefit. It enables people who are unable to win a place in a school team to participate in extra-academic activities. It is fashionable (especially in some senior quarters) to ridicule "house spirit", but participation gives one not only a sense of belonging to the house but to the school. One derives some sense of contribution by so doing which contrasts strongly with the aimless drifting of so many boys.

In short, it appears that the House is not quite realising its full potential. This is in no way a reflection of our Housemasters, Mr. Newling and Mr. Cooper. They have shown interest and enthusiasm in all our activities and will no doubt be of great help in the Summer Term.

I. R. W. WHITWHAM.

HOUSE BOXING TOURNAMENT

The finals of the House Boxing Tournament were held in the School Hall on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 27th, 1963. Many interesting bouts were seen and the general standard of boxing was quite high, when one considers the small amount of time spent on coaching boxing in school.

In the junior section P. Oxlade gave a polished performance and was a worthy winner of the Junior Boxing Cup. In the senior section A. G. Glynn won the cup for the best boxer. His fight with T. T. McCormick provided the most skilled exhibition of boxing in the whole of the afternoon's programme.

RESULTS

Juniors

R. Ireland (A)	beat	R. Huggins (F)	over	9 stones
B. Wood (A)	"	R. Redican (Q)	"	7 st. 7 lbs.
P. Hudson (K)	"	D. O'Hanlon	"	7 st.
D. A. Job	"	I. A. Gill (D)	"	8 st.
C. Wood (A)	"	C. R. Brocklehurst (Q)	"	7 st. 7 lbs.
B. Smith (A)	"	D. A. Beasley (D)	"	7 st.
I. Evans (K)	"	D. A. Long (K)	"	6 st. 7 lbs.
M. Burrows (K)	"	P. Avery (A)	under	5 st.

Seniors

P. Simons (Q)	beat	B. Rea-Taylor (A)	over	10 st.
I. Hume (A)	"	B. Tinton (Y)	"	10 st.
N. Gilson (A)	"	M. Sansom (F)	"	9 st.
D. W. Lewis (D)	"	N. Hampton (Q)	"	9 st.
B. Pattinson (A)	"	I. John (Y)	"	7 st.
L. C. North (K)	"	A. John (Y)	"	6 st.
R. Darvill (Y)	"	A. John (Y)	"	6 st.
R. Darvill (Y)	"	I. J. Belsham (Q)	under	6 st.

Results decided on the day of the finals :

Juniors

R. A. Flitney (Y)	beat	V. R. Browne (Q)	over	5 st.
K. Watkins (Q)	"	W. M. Gerrish (A)	"	5 st. 7 lbs.
P. Oxlade (F)	"	P. Wagner (Q)	"	6 st.
B. Newitt (Y)	"	C. Carver (A)	"	6 st.
K. Kavanah (Q)	"	R. Churn (Q)	"	6 st. 7 lbs.
S. Shearsby (F)	"	M. Jacomb (D)	"	8 st.
D. Rance (D)	"	S. Perfect (D)	"	6 st.

Seniors

J. D. Hental (D)	beat	P. J. O'Shea (Y)	over	8 st.
D. P. Grace (D)	"	D. Hawes (K)	"	10 st.
A. G. Glynn (F)	"	T. T. McCormick (F)	"	7 st.
M. Harris (A)	"	S. Bunce (A)	"	12 st.
S. Breed (F)	"	M. Kefford (A)	"	11 st.
D. Orchard (K)	"	R. Watanangura (Q)	"	9 st.

Final House Positions

1. Arnison	4. Queen's
2. Disraeli	5. Youens
3. Fraser	6. King's

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY 1963

The School Inter-House Cross-country Championship was held in rather inclement weather this term. However, the standard of running and the support given to the championship were a very encouraging feature.

The Senior School race proved to be a duel for supremacy. Taylor, Ellerton and other members of the Cross-country team set a cracking pace from the gun, leaving the less fit members of their teams floundering in their wake. First to complete the very hazardous course was Taylor, of Arnison, in the sound time of 19 mins. 22 secs. Second was Greenwood (King's). The Senior Team Championship was won by Youens, with King's second.

The Colts' race produced a worthy winner in Steptoe, of Disraeli. He led from the gun to finish well ahead of his rivals in the commendable time of 19 mins. 45 secs. Bonnett (Arnison), his close rival in School Cross-country, finished a good second, with Glynn (Fraser) taking third place.

The Junior race was won by G. Davies, of Fraser. He must be congratulated on his fine performance under these atrocious conditions. His time was 15 mins. 39 secs. for the two and a half mile circuit. J. Smith (Queen's) and Perfect (Disraeli) filled the second and third positions.

The championship title goes to Arnison, with Fraser and Youens second and third respectively.

HOUSE POSITIONS TO DATE

<i>House :</i>	<i>Arnison</i>	<i>Disraeli</i>	<i>Fraser</i>	<i>King's</i>	<i>Queen's</i>	<i>Youens</i>						
	Pl.	Pts.	Pl.	Pts.	Pl.	Pts.						
Basketball	... 3rd	9	4th	6	1st	15	2nd	12	5th	3	6th	11
Boxing	... 1st	15	2nd	12	3rd	9	6th	1	4th	6	5th	3
Cross-Country	1st	20	4th	9	2nd	15	5th	6	6th	3	3rd	12
Rugby	... 1st	20	3rd	12	2nd	15	6th	3	5th	6	3rd	12
Hockey	... 4th	6	6th	1	1st	15	2nd	12	3rd	9	5th	3
Points to date	70	40	69	34	27	31						

1st	Arnison	(70)		4th	King's	(34)
2nd	Fraser	(69)		5th	Youens	(31)
3rd	Disraeli	(40)		6th	Queen's	(27)

RUGBY

1st XV

Played 16, Won 7, Drawn 1, Lost 8, Points for 127, against 158

Much has been said and written about this winter with regard to its effect on sport, so I will just mention that it curtailed nearly all attempts to play rugby in the second half of the season. Thus most of our games against club and college sides were cancelled, the exceptions being one game against Wycombe Rugby Club "A" side and of course the usual seven-a-side tournaments played at the end of term.

The team started off in fine form against Windsor G.S. and showed ability to play football, which did not make itself apparent for many more matches. After playing well in the first game, the school three-quarter line completely lost cohesion both in attack and defence, and only when Horley moved from full-back into the centre did any semblance of a real defence show in their play. After many experiments to find a suitable combination in the centre, the arrival back in the team of Fone after injury seemed to bring back some of the drive in attack and solidity in defence.

On the right wing Forrester showed glimpses of pace when given room to move, but seemed to have lost the fire and dash of last year. Malec on the other wing lacked pace, but made up for this by determined running and sound defence.

If any strength showed in the backs it was because of the ability of Fewtrell and Whitwham to combine well as half-backs. Whitwham, lacking in stature, gave a good service and his kicking from the base of the scrum and from the line-out showed a maturity beyond his years. Fewtrell started the season very quietly and it wasn't until later when he gained confidence in his own ability that he showed his true worth. Perhaps his best game was the last of the season against Wycombe "A", when he virtually dictated the pattern of play throughout the game.

No player could possibly dictate the pattern of play without having possession of the ball, and thus the hooking of Mason must be mentioned. He, ably supported by Hickman and Macwhinnie, have proved a formidable trio in the front row. These three have formed the basis of a pack which has gradually improved throughout the season.

In the second row, Ham and Pass have proved an able combination. Ham in the line-out has been quite outstanding, especially towards the end of the season. Pass, on the other hand, has proved to be a very mobile second-row forward.

In the back row, Harris, Fountain and Davies have worked hard and shown the ability to produce intelligent back row play.

1st XV RUGBY FIXTURES 1962/63

Sat.	Sept. 22	Windsor Grammar School	(H)	W	21	9
Sat.	Sept. 29	St. Bartholomew's, G.S., Newbury ...	(A)	L	11	12
Wed.	Oct. 3	Northampton G.S.	(A)	L	6	26
Sat.	Oct. 6	St. Marylebone G.S.	(H)	L	6	14
Wed.	Oct. 10	Watford G.S.	(A)	L	0	6
Sat.	Oct. 13	St. Benedict's School	(A)	L	3	13
Sat.	Oct. 20	City of Oxford School	(A)	W	16	3
Sat.	Oct. 27	Sir William Borlase School, Marlow ...	(A)	W	10	8
Wed.	Nov. 7	Tiffin School	(A)	L	6	28
Sat.	Nov. 10	Watford G.S.	(H)	W	6	3
Sat.	Nov. 17	Abingdon School	(A)	W	9	6
Wed.	Nov. 21	Emanuel School	(A)	L	0	16
Sat.	Nov. 24	Luton G.S.	(A)	W	3	0
Sat.	Dec. 1	Leighton Park School	(H)	D	11	11
Wed.	Dec. 5	Staff Match	(H)	L	3	8
Sat.	Dec. 8	Hitchin G.S.	(H)	Cancelled		
Wed.	Dec. 12	R. W. Harding's XV	(H)	L	0	5

1963

Sat.	Jan. 19	R.A.F. Halton Apprentices	(A)	} Cancelled		
Sat.	Jan. 26	Saracens' Schools XV	(H)			
Wed.	Jan. 30	Metropolitan Police Cadets	(A)			
Sat.	Feb. 2	Balliol College, Oxford	(A)			
Sat.	Feb. 9	Newlands Park	(H)			
Sat.	Feb. 10	St. Nicholas G.S., Northwood	(H)			
Wed.	Feb. 20	Metropolitan Police Cadets	(H)			
Sat.	Mar. 2	Jesus College, Oxford	(H)			
Sat.	Mar. 16	High Wycombe R.U.F.C. 'A' XV ...	(A)	W	16	6

2nd XV

Played 16, Won 11, Drawn 1, Lost 4, Points for 217, against 94

This year the 2nd XV has enjoyed a remarkably successful season, for not only has it won most of its games, but it has won them in a most enjoyable fashion. With the exception of three games which were lost owing to carelessness rather than to any positive weakness, and the rather unfortunate meeting with Emanuel, when we lost in the gathering dusk, all the games have been won.

This success was due primarily to a very powerful pack which, although often smaller than its opponents, was never decisively beaten in the tight play, and always acquitted itself admirably in the loose. The compact front row, consisting of S. W. Bunce, D. Blythen and R. Forward, always managed to make life unpleasant for their opposite numbers while securing a generous share of the ball. Forward was, moreover, an excellent place-kicker, and during the course of our much curtailed season he scored 77 points. The second row, G. F. Cutler and S. R. Thomas, besides providing the power, also performed well in the line-outs, whilst the back row of S. Breed, R. B. Smith and D. R. Ferguson harassed the opposing backs.

The school three-quarters, although they sometimes appeared weak in defence, nearly always managed to suppress the source of danger in the nick of time, and were never slow to seize an

opportunity of attacking. The centres, R. W. Douglas and M. H. Kefford, provided marked contrasts, one relying on strong running to make the break, while the other used more subtle methods. The same can also be said of the wings, for while P. B. Spittle made use of his weight to burst his way through the opposition, R. M. S. Fox relied more on his speed. In spite of these contrasts, the backs combined and defended well, and it is worth noting that, even when beaten, we only lost by penalties and drop goals.

At half-back, M. P. A. Solomon, the captain until Christmas, and P. R. J. Lane played together well, and provided an excellent link between the forwards and the backs. Lane made a fine scrum-half and his short defensive kicks often saved the team, while Solomon always ran well, and proved himself an excellent captain. On his departure at Christmas, and during his absence earlier in the season, G. M. Seale proved an admirable replacement, for not only was he a good stand-off half, but he was also a safe full-back, who was quite capable of launching an attack on his own.

The following were regular members of the team: Old Colours—M. P. A. Solomon (Captain), S. W. Bunce, G. M. Seale, A. N. Brandes; New Colours—M. H. Kefford, P. B. Spittle, P. R. J. Lane, R. Forward, D. Blythen, G. F. Cutler, D. R. Ferguson, R. B. Smith, R. W. Douglas, S. Breed, S. R. Thomas.

The following have also played: C. G. Rogers, Jeskins, Sifton.

2nd XV

Sat.	Sept. 22	Windsor Grammar School	...	...	(A)	W	23	3
Sat.	Sept. 29	St Bartholomew's G.S., Newbury	...	...	(H)	W	19	3
Wed.	Oct. 3	Northampton G.S.	...	...	(A)	L	9	14
Sat.	Oct. 6	St. Marylebone G.S.	...	...	(H)	D	6	6
Wed.	Oct. 10	Watford G.S.	...	...	(H)	W	18	8
Sat.	Oct. 13	St. Benedict's School	...	...	(A)	W	30	14
Sat.	Oct. 20	City of Oxford School	...	...	(A)	W	13	9
Sat.	Oct. 27	Henley G.S.	...	...	(A)	W	14	3
Wed.	Nov. 7	Tiffin School	...	...	(H)	L	0	6
Sat.	Nov. 10	Watford G.S.	...	...	(A)	L	0	3
Wed.	Nov. 14	Slough Technical School	...	...	(H)	W	34	5
Sat.	Nov. 17	Abingdon School	...	...	(A)	W	5	3
Wed.	Nov. 21	Emanuel	...	...	(A)	L	3	6
Sat.	Nov. 24	Luton G.S.	...	...	(A)	W	13	5
Sat.	Dec. 1	Leighton Park School	...	...	(A)	W	14	3
Sat.	Dec. 8	Hitchin G.S.	...	...	(H)			
1963								
Sat.	Jan. 19	R.A.F. Halton Apprentices	...	...	(A)			
Sat.	Jan. 20	Thame G.S.	...	...	(A)			
Wed.	Jan. 30	Metropolitan Police Cadets	...	...	(A)			
Sat.	Feb. 2	Southfield	...	...	(H)			
Sat.	Feb. 9	Newland Park T.C.	...	...	(H)			
Sat.	Feb. 10	St. Nicholas G.S.	...	...	(H)			
Wed.	Feb. 20	Metropolitan Police Cadets	...	...	(H)			
Sat.	Mar. 2	Old Pennanians	...	...	(A)	W	17	3

} Cancelled

3rd XV

Played 12, Won 8, Lost 4

The 3rd XV got off to a splendid start, winning their first five matches. Apathy, however, crept in and the standard was not quite maintained. For Saturday games in particular some players made a habit of "crying off" and this was responsible for some of the poorer results.

Looking on the brighter side, the pack, although light, always played well, especially in the loose. Perhaps the pack leader, Davies, Ayres and Sifton can be singled out. Breed was exceptional in the early stages but, as the team captain put it, "was purloined by the 2nd XV and he hasn't been seen since".

The half-backs improved as the season went on and the three-quarters, although not inspired, were consistently adequate, with perhaps Orchard standing out (if only because his shorts would have seemed long on a player of twice his height). The kicking generally was of a high standard but very much overdone, especially by the halves. Ironically, Jeskins at full-back fell short of this standard, but his tackling was heroic and he set an excellent example as captain.

The following boys played : M. J. Jeskins (Captain), R. P. Ayres, A. N. Brandes, I. G. Collins, J. A. Davies, N. J. Gooderham, D. J. Hawes, W. H. N. Laws, J. L. Newman, M. J. O'Hanlon, D. G. Orchard, M. A. Priestley, C. G. Rogers, I. A. Sifton, C. R. Sweeting.

COLTS XV

Played 12, Won 7, Drawn 1, Lost 4

Despite the respectable appearance of their record, this has been a rather disappointing season for the Colts. With so many strong and talented boys in the side only excellence could have truly satisfied.

The pack was heavy and certainly played with great vigour. Lavender, who twice travelled as reserve for the England Schools XV (under 15 group), was always in the thick of the forward battle—usually making considerable ground. Of the other forwards, Rivers (the Captain), Gostlow (a voracious tackler), Lewis and Tinton deserve mention for their spirited forward play.

Few of the backs were lacking in spirit either, but as a unit they hardly functioned at all. Perhaps the frequent loss of Beasley, a promising outside-half, prevented the three-quarters from settling down. Certainly Hampton, who understands the art of drawing an opponent before passing, improved when allowed to play outside Beasley.

No member of the side played with greater enthusiasm, courage or promise than did Brown at scrum-half, which is possibly not his natural position, but, like so many of the team, he did not think sufficiently about his function in what is so fundamentally a team game. Every member of the side is capable of developing into a really valuable 1st XV player, if, but only if, he is prepared to think and learn about positional play and combining with others.

The following boys played : J. M. Rivers (Captain), P. A. Beasley, P. D. L. Brown, J. Dixon, B. J. B. Fox, B. C. Fitchett, D. A. Gostlow, N. P. Hampton, J. D. Hentall, J. W. Hume, P. R. Lavender, D. W. Lewis, M. F. Quin, N. D. Mitchenall, S. C. B. Tinton, C. Fewtrell.

JUNIOR COLTS

Played 10, Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 6

This season's results are no measure of the Junior Colts' keenness and team spirit. The backs were good individual players, well led by Gatland, but they did not manage to click into top gear as a complete division until the last game, when they reaped the reward of straight running and accurate passing. Most of the earlier tries were individual efforts. The strength of the team lay in the pack, who played with great courage and determination and more than held their own against opponents who often seemed to be much bigger boys. The most satisfying game was the draw against St. Benedict's, who had beaten us 50—0 last season. The team was captained by Killingley. He and Gatland set a very high standard of keenness both off and on the field, and led a very well-disciplined side.

All who played are worthy of special mention : J. F. Killingley (Captain), D. P. J. Aikens, R. I. Andrews, D. G. Bibby, J. W. E. C. Clark, P. M. Colley, J. P. Colley, K. J. Chamberlain, J. Culley, K. Darville, G. Davies, D. J. Gatland, J. P. Hartwright, A. P. D. Hogg, I. C. Lippiatt, T. T. McCormick, N. P. R. Stansall, C. A. Smyth, N. R. M. Thorne, K. G. Turner, I. R. Whitelock.

UNDER 13 TEAM

Played 8, Won 2, Lost 6

This team potentially is better than its record suggests. Several games lost by narrow margins could have resulted in victories with more experience in tactics. For example, while the forwards always played hard, they did not always play intelligently, and bring their backs into the game sufficiently. Battering-ram tactics do not always pay, and a little more finesse would have turned the game on several occasions. Once this fact is appreciated, one feels certain the team will do much better in the future. There are some very promising players, both in the forwards and backs, and there was never any lack of keenness and enthusiasm. Many thanks are due to all those boys who turned out regularly for practice games after school, even if they did not manage to gain a regular place in the side. Perhaps they will achieve this in the future.

CROSS-COUNTRY

This year the School Cross-country team has had a rather erratic season, but on the whole it has proved more successful than in recent years. Before Christmas, under the leadership of D. S. Culley, the team lost only one match, and this in spite of the fact that in almost every match someone got lost. Our first reverse was in the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, Schools' Relay, where we eventually came fourth. This was, however, no mean achievement, since it was our best result since 1959. This efficient team of D. S. Culley, J. J. Ellerton, D. R. Walker and C. B. Taylor provided the backbone of the team before Christmas, and they were ably supported by R. F. Greenwood, S. C. Charlton, P. D. Davies and M. K. Jenner.

However, after the winter break, the situation was somewhat changed, since owing to the "Big Freeze" we had little opportunity to train. Unfortunately, while all the school matches were cancelled, the important races were invariably run off, regardless of conditions, thus we were rarely match fit. However, in the Ranelagh Schools' Cup, facing the strong competition of many large southern schools, the School finished second overall, thanks to a fine all-round team display. Jenner finished 32nd, Charlton 26th, Greenwood 20th, Ellerton 11th and Taylor 2nd. Since three of these runners are staying on next year, we may hope for better things in the future. This display was, however, followed by an anti-climax, for in the Bucks Championships the team lost

the title to Amersham Grammar School, while in the Southern Counties Championships the transport arrived so late that two runners missed the start, and the remainder were unable to warm up. Moreover, this year only J. Ellerton succeeded in reaching the All-England Schools' Championships, where he finished 99th in a field of some 300 runners. However, the team did begin to recoup its losses towards the end of the season, when it beat three formidable rivals, Haberdashers, Reading Grammar School and the City of London School in a fine competition.

The weather which so adversely affected the performance of the 1st team also had an unfortunate result upon the performance of the other teams. Nevertheless, in spite of these difficulties, Steptoe and Andrews in the Colts' team were constantly outstanding.

Finally, we should like to thank Mr. Sheppard for managing our affairs so efficiently and ensuring the smooth running of our home fixtures. We should also like to thank Mr. Williams, who has helped in the training of the 1st team by taking them for long hard runs.

Old Colours : D. S. Culley, J. J. Ellerton, C. B. Taylor.

Colours have been awarded to : P. D. Davies, M. K. Jenner, R. F. Greenwood and S. C. Charlton.

The following have also regularly run for the 1st team : M. Priestley, D. Stubbs, D. Goodman and K. J. F. Crayford.

It is worth noting that Priestley has run for the 1st team for three years, but because of his commitments to other school activities and other sports, he has never been able to gain his 1st team colours.

CROSS-COUNTRY RESULTS

Army Apprentices, Arborfield	...	(A)	Won
Bishopshalt School	... ..	(H)	Won
Abingdon Grammar School	... ..	(A)	Won
William Ellis School	... ..	(A)	Won
R.G.S., Guildford, Relay	... ..	(A)	4th of 25
Ranelagh Schools Cup	... ..	(A)	2nd of 16
Reading G.S. and City of Oxford	... ..	(A)	Won
St. Nicholas G.S. and Haberdashers	... ..	(A)	2nd
R.A.F. Halton	... ..	(A)	Won
Count Championship	... ..	(A)	2nd

C. B. TAYLOR.

HOCKEY

Played 9, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 4, Goals for 11, against 12

Other team reports will have already referred to the effect of the unusual winter on fixture lists. The Hockey 1st XI fixture list was particularly hard hit, for we were deprived of no less than

sixteen victories! Our team was virtually unchanged for the nine matches we did play.

Homer, on the left wing, played with great promise but lacks positive penetration and has yet to develop the type of hard centre that brings goals. R. C. Jones, at inside left, is obviously a talented player but is inclined to over-elaborate and his habit of flicking the ball, when a hit was required, has lessened his potential. P. G. Ayres has scored several goals from the centre-forward position and distributed the ball well. His flair and drive have been invaluable in attack. Smiley is at present too lethargic to be dangerous but has nevertheless played some useful games at inside-right. Our outside-right was J. M. Barlow, the captain of cricket, who while starting Hockey only this season developed so quickly he became our best forward, showing great speed and penetration. Cricketers always take to Hockey easily and those who do play, invariably find it their ideal winter game. Left-half J. M. Baxter was a model of consistency and played one outstanding game on a rough pitch at Newland Park. Our centre-half, vice-captain and most accomplished player was L. Macready. He quite dictated the course of several matches and his brilliant play at R.A.F. Halton inspired us to a notable victory. J. F. Shackell, at right-half, has improved steadily throughout the season. His bustling energy has retrieved many awkward situations. P. S. Cockerham is a left-back of experience and low cunning. This, coupled with his deceptive appearance, allowed him to break up countless attacks. He was well covered by a very promising right-back, Smyth, who is a most promising player and who will be a great asset to the team in years to come when he reaches greater maturity. In goal, and captaining the side, was E. H. Janes. Our twelfth man, who played on several occasions, was Day. It is always a great asset for a team to have such a reserve player as Day, for although he was unable to find a permanent place in the XI, he always gave of his best, and his admirable zeal and tenacity brought him the reward of the winning goal against R.A.F. Halton.

We are now the proud owners of two pitches at Redfords and while, at present, their playing surfaces leave a lot to be desired, we hope that, in time, they will develop into top-class pitches. Another innovation this year was the House six-a-side Hockey Tournament in which a surprisingly high standard of play was achieved. This tournament offers the opportunity of playing the game to some non-hockey types, and we hope to be joined by some enlightened converts next year.

Once again we are indebted to our Master-in-charge and long-suffering umpire, Mr. M. J. Eaton, who has spent so much of his time in encouraging and organising us.

L. Macready was selected for the South of England school-boys coaching weekend at Motspur Park, and E. H. Janes and R. C. Jones were selected for the Bucks Colts XI in the inter-counties tournament at Seaford College, Sussex.

Old colours : E. H. Janes, L. Macready, P. G. Ayres, J. M. Baxter.

New colours : J. M. Barlow, P. S. Cockerham, R. C. Jones, J. F. Shackell.

RESULTS

October	Newland Park T.C.	...	...	L	1	3
"	Slough G.S.	...	...	W	1	0
"	Slough G.S.	...	...	D	0	0
November	R.A.F. Halton Apprentices	...	...	W	1	0
"	Newland Park T.C.	...	...	W	2	0
December	H.W.H.C. 4th XI	...	...	W	4	0
March	Windsor G.S.	...	...	L	0	2
"	H.W.H.C. 3rd XI	...	...	L	1	3
April	Brian Matthews' XI	...	...	L	1	4

E. H. JANES.

BADMINTON CLUB

First we regret that Mr. H. W. Johnson has left us. Although he did not leave until Christmas, his place as Master-in-charge of Badminton was taken in September by Mr. R. A. P. Wilson, to whom we are indebted for his support and encouragement throughout the season. Also at Christmas, the captain, R. R. Shoosmith, left, and his place as captain was taken by R. Watanangura, the only remaining player from last season's team.

The five members of the team—J. S. Ray, J. H. Bettinson, S. E. Kurrein, B. J. Hankey and G. Tomkinson—settled down and began to play well together, but were unfortunate to lose a few matches early on in the season. P. Lane has also represented the school regularly during the Spring Term.

New colours were awarded to : J. S. Ray, J. H. Bettinson, B. J. Hankey, S. E. Kurrein.

RESULTS

Union Baptist B.C.	...	...	H	Won	6—3
Loakes Park B.C.	...	...	H	Won	6—3
Loakes Park B.C.	...	...	H	Lost	4—5
Trinity B.C.	...	...	H	Lost	4—5
Oakley B.C.	...	...	H	Lost	1—8
Trinity B.C.	...	...	H	Lost	4—5
Loakes Park B.C.	...	...	H	Won	5—4
R.A.F. Benson B.C.	...	...	H	Won	5—4
High Wycombe College of F.E.	...	...	H	Won	6—3
Charters C.S. School	...	...	H	Won	8—1
Licensed Victuallers' School	...	...	A	Lost	2—7
Charters C.S. School	...	...	A	Won	5—4
William Penn School	...	...	H	Won	6—3
Licensed Victuallers' School	...	...	H	Won	7—2
Warrenfield Comprehensive School	...	...	H	Won	9—0
Warrenfield Comprehensive School	...	...	A	Won	8—1
William Penn School	...	...	A	Won	6—3

BASKETBALL

Played 12, Won 9, Lost 3. One to play.

This year has been quite successful, although the team rarely played as well as they were capable. The most notable wins of the season were those against R.A.F. Halton and Aylesbury School Masters, both matches played away. This year we have played three new fixtures, losing only to the U.S.A.F. team.

Of this year's team three players have been outstanding, Priestley, Fewtrell and Stubbs. Fewtrell and Stubbs have been our main scorers, both playing consistently well throughout the season, while Priestley at back was a most effective player who jumped well and always fought for the loose ball. Malec and Dorkings both played well at back and they will provide a sound defence in next year's team. Frankland, the only newcomer to the team, played well, particularly in the games against Rickmansworth G.S. and Aylesbury G.S. After the game against Aylesbury G.S. he was awarded his colours.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. H. W. Clark for all his help as Master-in-charge and for arranging our fixtures. Thanks also to M. Mason for scoring throughout the season.

The following played regularly for the 1st team : J. Barlow (captain), R. A. Fewtrell (vice-captain), M. D. H. Priestley, D. J. Stubbs, M. J. Malec, R. A. Dorkings, A. J. Frankland.

Mason and Grove also played.

BOAT CLUB

The beginning of the season has shown a great increase in the enthusiasm—and the membership of—the Club. This is due, I am sure, to the arrival of Mr. A. J. Mactavish as Master-in-charge of Rowing.

It is interesting to note that, although many field sports were suspended owing to the bad weather during the winter months, the Boat Club still continued to make its twice weekly outings. During the next few months we hope to enter our two Clinker Fours in the dozen or so local regattas.

M. S. F. BIRD (Captain).

CHESS CLUB

Half-colours : M. J. Mobbs (Captain), A. T. Ludgate (Secretary).

Membership of the Chess Club rose to the unprecedented peak of 168. The School Chess team has had an even more successful season than last year. The senior team, fielding practically the same six in every match, often won heavily and their few defeats were all narrow ones. The junior team improved steadily and always put up a hard struggle. Results to date are :—

	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	For	Points Against
Seniors	24	18	1	5	107	44
Juniors	13	5	3	5	45	33

The school reached the semi-finals of its zone in the *Sunday Times* Schools Tournament, beating, amongst others, Eton by $5\frac{1}{2} : \frac{1}{2}$. In the annual match against High Wycombe Chess Club the school, who had won both the previous matches, was just beaten 3 : 4. On both the under 18 and the full County sides our players scored better than before on much higher boards. In January two of our players were chosen to play against the British champion, J. Penrose, in a simultaneous display. Ludgate managed to draw, while Myant lost. The inter-House Chess competition is still in progress, as are both knock-out competitions. The final of the senior one will be Myant *versus* Mildon.

The following play regularly in the teams :—

Seniors—A. T. Ludgate, M. J. Mobbs, M. R. Myant, R. J. Mildon, S. I. Chorley, M. D. Arch.

Juniors—P. Langston, R. Hitchcock, W. T. Bradford, D. J. Gatland, R. B. Kenyon, S. T. Bradford.

A. T. LUDGATE.

TENNIS CLUB

We start this season with our best year yet behind us. Last year we had some stronger fixtures than in other years and we came out of them creditably. We reached the area final of the Glanville Cup, where we lost to Highgate, who finished second in the overall contest. We competed in the Boys' Schools L.T.A. competition at Wimbledon, where we caused a slight stir by taking the first rubber from Millfield, the eventual winners. This was due to the fine performance of Peter Moores, who beat Peter Curtis, the present Junior Covered Court Champion of Great Britain, in three exciting sets.

In the junior event Peter Farmer and Chris East fulfilled our hopes to win the junior event.

In the Public Schools competition we put in our best performance ever in this event to reach the quarter-final. This was the first time that the school has ever passed the second round in this competition. Peter Farmer and Chris East put up another fine show in also reaching the quarter-finals.

Now to the coming season—at the moment it seems likely to be very interesting. We have lost Robin Smith, who with Peter Moores formed a very formidable partnership, and Colin Farmer, who was a very steady and reliable asset. Their replacements at the moment show promise, but only coming matches will show if they can fulfil it. Their burden will become appreciably greater now.

In conclusion, I think mention should be made of the wonderful performances of Peter Moores. Last summer he won every junior tournament that he competed in except the national junior tournaments and in each of these he reached the last eight in the singles. In the hard court event he just lost 6—4, 3—6, 5—7 to Graham Stilwell, the country's number two junior. In the covered court event he also reached the semi-final of the boys' doubles. For his good performances he was made a member of the L.T.A. training squad and awarded free facilities at the Queen's Club for one year—a great honour indeed.

D. G. ORCHARD.

SHOOTING

In two ways shooting has taken a new turn since the Christmas Term. From an official point of view we have been given a place on the Wednesday afternoon games timetable. Twenty boys were chosen to shoot then and about twice that number had to be turned away, as even with quite slick changes between the details there is a limit to the number of boys who can do useful practice in the hour and a quarter available.

The large number of people who wanted to shoot led to a suggestion that here was an untapped reserve of good will and perhaps skill. After informal meetings in the Stores it was clear that Sgt. Harrison's enthusiasm was boundless. G1 was booked—and packed. One hundred and eleven boys signed on, were divided into five groups according to age and assigned a particular rifle. They had the opportunity to shoot once that term and about once a fortnight this term until Mock and Country Life interrupted activities. Early next term there will be a competition for trophies. There has been a perhaps inevitable falling off after the first enthusiasm. Not everyone made use of his

chances to shoot and one was hardly surprised at this in the appalling weather at the beginning of this term. Still, a great many regularly appeared for practice and the list for next term stands at just over seventy.

Sgt. Harrison has cheerfully given a great deal of his time in organising the club and its practices. He has in fact been one of its mainsprings—one of them because the encouraging thing is that his efforts have coincided with those of a great many boys.

The boarding houses have had two competitions. *Pour encourager les autres* it is worth reporting that two of the Junior House teams beat their own seniors in the first competition. In the second no junior teams entered.

The main .22 Competition of the year is the Country Life and practice this term, including a match against St. Bartholomew's School, Newbury, has been concentrated on this. On March 16th the School First and Second teams shot in the competition. Unfortunately two very good shots, Seymour and Hyde, were away because they had been in hospital. The results have yet to be announced and our guesses about the scores will be kept back until the official verdict is released. However, the First team have quite high hopes—Mayo, O'Brien and J. P. Killingley shot particularly well. In the Second team, Malec and Garner put up very competent performances. The landscape was as hard as any recent one and was a considerable test of the precision of the leaders.

At the end of term the House matches were shot and a report on these will appear in next term's magazine.

Next term we start .303 shooting again in preparation for the Ashburton on July 24th.

We were sorry to lose Shoosmith, who left at the end of the Christmas Term. The new captain of the Shooting VIII, C. R. A. G. Iliffe, has quietly put in a great deal of hard work and kept things running smoothly—an important consideration in this particular sport. Fortunately he will be here for another year. Mayo and Iliffe are to be congratulated on winning their colours.

RESULTS

Boarding House Competition

1. Tylers Wood 2. School House 3. Uplyme

Highest Individual Score (possible 70) : A. Cawson (School) 67

High Team Score (possible 280) : School House: Senior) 254.

v. St. Bartholomew's School, Newbury (possible 800)

St. Bartholomew's School 652 R.G.S., High Wycombe 637

Highest Individual Score (possible 100) : Hyde 92.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS

KEELE

When the decision had been made to build a new university, the sponsors and the principal designate agreed to break away from the usual "red-brick" pattern. The normal degree courses offered by most universities were considered to be not at all suitable. Keele had to offer a much wider course, ensuring that every student is aware of what happens outside his own specialized sphere of knowledge.

This widened outlook comes from two main sources at Keele. The first is the Foundation Year which has to be successfully completed before starting the degree course proper. The basis of the Foundation Year is a series of lectures covering the "Background and Heritage of Modern Western Society". These lectures are not intended to be a comprehensive survey, but rather to serve as an introduction to further study. Students also have to study in greater detail a number of subjects not previously encountered at Advanced Level. Thus one day may be spent in studying Plato's "Republic", the next on modern psychology and the third in explaining the significance of Newton and Einstein to modern science.

The second main influence for a "widened outlook" comes from the degree course itself. Every student takes two principal subjects for the full three years, and two subsidiary subjects for one year. Interesting combinations of topics such as psychology and biology are encouraged; the only stipulation is that every science student must take at least one arts subject (usually at subsidiary level) and *vice versa*.

As well as offering a broad range of study, a great deal of importance is attached to a close staff-student relationship. Small and highly informal tutorial groups are made to play a large part in the teaching system.

Perhaps the unique feature of Keele is that it is entirely residential. Keele avoids the horrible spectre that haunts so many universities, the search for "digs". There are no "9 to 5" students, and everyone can gain the full benefit of university life. Consequently, the students' union and the many societies gain much more support than is usual elsewhere.

It would be naive to suggest that Keele gives a perfect and completely balanced course, but Keele can claim to give a university education.

R. P. BRADSHAW.

LONDON LETTER

London University and University College, London

There must be someone who holds the record of having seen more of the University of London than anyone else, but it must be equally as certain that he has not seen it all. The forty or so colleges, institutes, hospitals and polytechnics which, with their 25,000 students, are designated the University, are diffused throughout the Metropolis, the most distant being the far-flung Wye College, deep in Kent. The sizes of the colleges vary just as greatly, from near the hundred—two hundred mark to four thousand, the largest college being University College, the founder college of the early nineteenth century, though some of the affiliated institutions, notably St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School, can be traced back to the Middle Ages.

University College, which could quite well stand as a university on its own, reflects the state of the university as a whole. It rambles over scores of acres—a strange assortment of new and old buildings (or, at least, constructions), attached to the Gothic portico and quadrangle. Having grown up in such a piecemeal fashion, there is scarcely any regularity in the topography of University College and it is not too difficult to get lost—the shortest route is seldom a straight line. Thus it is a great feat of one-upmanship to be able to direct someone to, let us say, the Egyptology departments, and for this reason it is advisable to obtain a working acquaintance of the colleges and their environs as soon as possible.

The scattered nature of the college and the wide area of London in which the undergraduates live, means that any corporate life is very tenuous, with only one-sixth of the undergraduates living in halls of residence. Indeed, the only certain way of contacting someone is by post, and it is a measure of the disorganised nature of the college that it has its own internal postal system—otherwise there really would be chaos.

Notwithstanding all this, there is a wealth of opportunities if one is not initially put off by the size of the college and taken unawares by the insidious and almost complete lack of organised routine. There are college and university clubs covering just about any activity one cares to name—with a little effort one can find a club that interests one, whether it be the debating or the winetasting, the mountaineering or the tiddleywink. Add to this all the facilities which are available in the wider city itself; on the academic side, there is a wide choice of libraries and sources of information. The British Museum is but a short walk away, and there is no limit to the scope for study. Of course, the two sides of undergraduate life have been known to come into conflict;

probably one is more exposed to it at London than anywhere else, so that to create the "Complete Undergraduate" considerable strength of character is required. There are ample opportunities to achieve a great deal or very little, for at London you are very much master of your own fate.

C. SWAIN.

COLEG PRIFATHROFAOL ABERTAWE

The title above which, roughly translated means "University College, Swansea", no doubt conjures up in the mind of the secluded schoolboy a picture of wild, barbaric Welshmen. There are indeed a few such spectacles in Swansea, but no more than in any other university. If the truth were only known, most of them are probably of English descent, and thus the average student is the epitome of respectability.

Basically there is little difference between Swansea and any other university, for although in name it is a college, in practice it is a full university. Next session there will be 2,000 students, the majority of whom will be "foreigners". As in most other such establishments, a vast number of publications, clubs and societies all flourish, ranging from the more common ones to the "Society for the Partition of Monmouthshire". The standard of sport is reasonably high and, naturally enough, rugby takes pride of place, and Brian Davies is now following the footsteps of such illustrious forbears as Claude Davey and Haydn Tanner. Unfortunately space at the moment is somewhat restricted, but new sports facilities are being prepared.

Any member of the school who should chance to have the train fare to Swansea will, one hopes, not be too dismayed by the ruin and desolation of the lower Swansea Valley. The first impressions should not be lasting, for the rest of the town bears no resemblance to this wilderness. The centre of the Municipal Borough was devastated during the war and, although the ingenuity demonstrated in the rebuilding of Coventry is lacking here, a new town has grown up which is clean and a marked improvement on pre-war Swansea. Thus, since the college is situated to the west of the town, and the heavy industry and docks which one associates with South Wales are to be found on the east, there is a general air of scholastic calm about the place. Moreover, the college buildings were erected in one of the many parks in Swansea. This site, which overlooks Swansea Bay, is, according to *The Observer*, "the most desirable university setting in Britain". It must be remembered too that Swansea is on one end of the National Trust area of the Gower coast, which contains some of the most beautiful stretches of British coastline.

The buildings of the college itself are a mixture of the austere, the grim and the new : fortunately the second category is not permanent. The college was originally founded in 1920, in Singleton Abbey, but a collection of buildings that are little more than prefabricated huts was added, and these are now being replaced. As in almost every other university, building is in progress, and we are lucky in having a completed union building. If one knows the facilities in U.L.U.—London's union catering for 25,000, it can be compared with the union at Swansea which deals with a twelfth of that number.

One advantage of being part of the University of Wales is the inter-college rivalry which adds fire to the various competitions. In Swansea College, the hatred of Cardiff, Aberystwyth and Bangor is such that, on a U.W. day, it is not unknown for 500 students to migrate from one college to another. However, the event of the year which can be surpassed by no other university is the Welsh Colleges' Eisteddfod. Many people dismiss an eisteddfod as something quaint. If this is so, then the expression of any other form of art must be similarly dismissed. This year it was held in Swansea, and it started at 9 a.m. in various parts of the college with the harp playing, and finished at 3 a.m. the following morning with the massed choirs. The programme included art, photography, poetry, singing and instrumental playing in many forms.

While this college might have its shortcomings, such as an acute shortage of Halls of Residence, especially when compared with such places as Oxford and Cambridge, I have found it a fine place, and have never regretted being a Swansea undergraduate.

C. S. GRIFFITHS.

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY

When I read the history of the school, I noticed that only one person had gone to Southampton University from the school, myself being the second since 1954. I decided then to write a short article for the "School Mag" to let others know of the existence of this establishment.

It achieved University status in 1952, being known previously as the Hartley University College and before that as the Hartley Institute. Its benefactor was a Southampton wine merchant (most apt), Henry Hartley (1780-1850), who left £100,000 to be used for educational purposes.

The University has at present about 2,000 students, but is rapidly expanding and will soon house 5,000. The University caters for all tastes, but is particularly noted for its Engineering

Faculty. Some of its success is due perhaps to the amount of work asked of the students ; the engineers are recognised as being the most hard worked.

Being the School's sole representative, I am trying to uphold the tradition of the "Superiority of the R.G.S." and am at the present serving on the Rag Committee. We are at an awkward stage in the development of Rag in Southampton, as in 1958 they had such a Rag that there was not another until 1960, and we are only just regaining the public's support. We hope this year to raise at least £2,500 for charities.

Southampton, though a small university, has done exceedingly well in some spheres. We entered for the Brighton—London Scooter Race and the London—Leicester Pram Race and achieved the most worthy positions of last and next to last respectively. We did, however, produce the second best Jazz Band and the best Musician at the Inter-University Jazz Federation Competition.

I already know of a few boys intending to come to Southampton next year and I welcome them and any others who decide to make Southampton their future seat of learning.

J. N. FOWLER.

(P.S. : Please send the author's remuneration to the above Address. These grants don't go very far.—JIM.)

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

The Annual Dinner 1963

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, March 30th, 1963, at the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe. Nearly 150 Old Wycombiensians attended the dinner, which was preceded by the Annual General Meeting in the Residents' Lounge of the hotel.

The Chairman of the Club, the Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929–37), proposed the toast to the Queen. The toast to the School was proposed by Councillor Douglas J. Hann (1924–29), who outlined details of the new extensions now nearing completion. They were, he said, the subject of controversy by those who maintained that it was wrong to hide the facade of the present building, but the extensions would enable the Junior School, now housed in wretched wooden buildings in "Uplyme", to be merged into the school proper and would include a magnificent hall to hold up to 1,000 people, as well as music rooms and a staff common room with a quiet room attached, an administrative block, and a

headmaster's study worthy of the Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, the second largest in the country. The extensions would be in occupation in September 1963, and when they were completed, the builders would be able to begin work on the new swimming pool and canteen.

Councillor Hann also recalled outstanding events of the past year, the school quarter-centenary, of which the foremost had been the visit of the Queen. He paid moving tribute to Mrs. Tucker, whose death had been such a shock to a multitude of people who had admired her for many years. On July 13th, 1963, a civic reception and Open Day would take place and in the afternoon the new extensions would be opened by the Lord Lieutenant of the County, Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd.

In his reply to the toast the Headmaster thanked all those whose sympathy had uplifted him at a time when he was deeply shaken. Mr. Tucker then went on to express his delight at the four Open Awards gained at Oxford and announced only the previous day. More people had gone from the school to Oxford and Cambridge this year than in any previous year, and the Headmaster expressed the earnest hope that the school would go on to very much greater things than it had ever known in the past.

The toast to The Club was proposed by Mr. C. K. Hillard, who came to teach Chemistry at the school in 1960. He came to us from Eton, where he had been a Master for very many years. His delightfully droll introduction was followed by some constructive criticism. The Old Boys' Club should have more than 600 members when one realises that about 200 boys leave every year. "But there is today among young men too much apathy and too great a dislike for giving service, and the sense of loyalty is less than it was". Among suggestions for enlarging the membership of the Club, Mr. Hillard proposed the formation of Old Boys' Branches at the different Universities, and the extension of the Cricket Club to offer Golf, Squash and Tennis. At the conclusion of his speech, Mr. Hillard expressed the very genuine regret of all present that Mr. P. L. Jones was unable to attend owing to a mild attack of influenza.

Mr. L. B. Barnes (1924-30) responded on behalf of the Club and thanked the proposer of the toast for his constructive proposals. He knew that a great deal remained to be done, but the foundation had been well laid and there was every indication of real growth in the future, as 116 Old Boys had paid a subscription of either £5 5s. 0d. Life Membership, or 10/- Annual Membership to the Club in 1962.

Births

- BECKET, G. A. (1936-40). On December 24th, 1962, at "Tuscany", School Close, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Becket, a son, Noel Stephen, a brother for Henry and Adrian.
- BRISTOW, G. J. (1944-51). On October 11th, 1962, to Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Bristow, a son, Alexander, a brother for Sarah.
- CRUTCHFIELD, D. W. H. (1935-42). On February 11th, 1963, at 3 Green Road, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. D. W. H. Crutchfield, a daughter, Helena Jane, a sister for Penelope, Georgina and Nicholas.
- MINTER, C. (1949-54). On February 22nd, 1962, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Minter, a son, Paul.
- REEVES, E. J. (1943-48). On February 22nd, 1963, at the Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Taplow, to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Reeves, a son, Gordon Paul.
- SADDLER, A. J. (1947-53). On September 9th, 1962, at 10 Broadway, Lincoln, to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Saddler, a son, Timothy Mark.
- STEPHENSON, W. R. (1941-46). On October 4th, 1962, to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Stephenson, a son, Paul Michael, a brother for Gillian and Wendy Jane.
- TILLION, M. F. (1944-50). On April 21st, 1962, to Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Tillion, a daughter, Caroline.
- TUNMER, R. H. (1941-47). On March 4th, 1963, to Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Tunmer, a daughter, Ann, a sister for Julie.

Marriages

- DAWES—LAWSON. On September 29th, 1962, at St. John's Church, High Wycombe, J. A. Dawes (1954-57) to Miss Wendy Jean Lawson.
- HORTIN—MAYS. On October 13th, 1962, at St. Andrew's Church, Roxbourne, South Harrow, C. L. Hortin (1944-51) to Miss Rita Mays.
- BATES—LEES. On April 6th, 1963, at St. Peter's Church, Burnham, Bucks, G. E. Bates (1948-56) to Miss Elizabeth Allen Lees.
- DEAN—LAWRENCE. On August 2nd, 1962, at St. Augustine's Church, High Wycombe, P. J. Dean (1956-59) to Miss Teresa Lawrence.

Deaths

A. V. BRITNELL (1907-15), on July 11th, 1962, in Read, near Burnley, aged 62 years.

Albert Varney, second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Britnell, served in the 1914-18 War as a Pilot in the R.N.A.S. and the R.A.F. He was a Squadron Leader in the last war. He was a solicitor, and leaves a widow and one son.

G. D. BURCH (1910-17). On March 13th, 1963, suddenly, at Amersham Hospital, aged 62 years.

Gilbert Douglas Burch, of "The Wapentaki", Baring Road, Beaconsfield, was one of Britain's most noted growers of roses and a well-known High Wycombe business man. A member of the National Rose Society for thirty years, he had recently been elected its Deputy President. He would have become its President in 1964—the greatest honour in the rose world. He had more than 5,000 rose trees and several times won the major awards at the National Rose Society's shows. He was in great demand as a judge. He was in business as an insurance broker at Oxford Road, High Wycombe. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Alice Burch, and a daughter, Mrs. Joan Janes.

A. E. GINGER (1909-16). On February 7th, 1963, at his home, 33 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, aged 63 years.

A. E. Ginger was Head Boy and Sergt.-Major of the O.T.C. when he left to join the Army. He was a County Council Local Science Exhibitor, but after leaving the Army decided against University and took up accountancy. He was known to be a brilliant company accountant. He leaves a widow and son, Donald E. Ginger (1938-44).

J. C. S. NUTT (1900-07). On March 23rd, 1963, suddenly, at his home, 7 Green Road, High Wycombe, aged 73 years.

J. C. Stanley Nutt was a founder member of the Old Boys' Club and for a while was Assistant Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. At school, according to Mr. Arnison, he was a first-class player of all ball games and excelled as a bowler in the 1st XI. He was also a very good scholar, winning many prizes. He left school in 1907 to enter his father's business in Gerrards Cross. Stanley Nutt was an authority on the old days at R.G.S. and he expressed some of his love for the school in his beautifully-bound volumes of *The Wycombiensian*, starting at Vol. I, No. 1, Dec., 1905. He was buried on March 28th, 1963, Mr. Arnison's birthday, and leaves a widow, Mrs. Margaret Nutt.

B. M. PUSEY (1948-51). Killed on his motor-bike at the age of 28.

He leaves a wife and two children, who live at 7 Cherry Close, West End Close, Ruislip.

C. G. STRATTON (1899–1902). On March 27th, 1963, suddenly, at his home, "The Paddock", Princes Risborough, aged 76 years.

Captain Charles Gurney Stratton was a former Chairman of Princes Risborough magistrates. His record in the First World War was Captain R.H.A., twice wounded. While serving as a magistrate C. G. Stratton was also a member of the Bucks Standing Joint Committee. He was President of Princes Risborough British Legion for twenty-one years. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Kathleen Stratton, and a son and daughter.

P. T. TOMES (1953–59). On March 19th, 1963, killed on duty in Germany, aged 21 years.

Patrick Thurstan, 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, the son of Air Commodore and Mrs. Tomes and brother of Ian M. (1951–58) and Simon (1955–62).

Staff

The REV. A. M. BERRY (1914–33) has now reached the age of four score years and ten at Willen Vicarage, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. He writes that his health has much deteriorated lately and he is unable to come to the dinner. He has a complete set of *The Wycombiensian* for about twelve years—since the fire that destroyed all his papers. He wants to know if anyone would welcome the complete set or parts of it. Mr. Arnison writes that Mr. Berry's date of birth is given as February 12th, 1873 in the Oxford Diocesan Gazette, but that in the Staff Register it is entered as February 13th!

ALAN DAVIES (1955–57) left us to take up a post at Queen Elizabeth School, Barnet (1957–58). In 1958 he went to teach in an African Secondary School in Kenya and stayed there until 1962. He is now back in England with his wife and children and is spending this year at Birmingham University writing a thesis on the African writing of English. He hopes to take up teaching again when this thesis is completed. He lives at 4 Kingsmead Close, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.

H. W. JOHNSON—Old Boy (1930–36), Staff (1940–62), left in December, 1962, to take up an appointment as Housemaster at King Edward VIth Grammar School, Louth, Lincolnshire, under the Headmastership of another Old Boy, D. R. WITNEY, Esq., M.A. (1934–42). Horace Johnson is enjoying all of the life there and his letters indicate a renewed zest for living. In September another Old Boy, E. M. SQUIRES (1949–57), goes there to teach Geography.

R. MATTHEWS (1909-18). Mr. and Mrs. Matthews celebrated their Golden Wedding recently. They now live in London.

W. J. BARTLE (1901-35) was unable to attend the dinner this year, but wrote wishing the Old Boys' Club every success. He looks back with great pleasure to the day the Queen came to us and obviously enjoyed the Dinner in London. What pleased him greatly was the large number of Old Boys who recognised him after twenty-seven years of retirement.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

M. A. BIRD (1943-51) is thinking of emigrating to Canada with his family. C. M. J. EDWARDS (1946-53), who lives in Toronto, Ontario, has been called in to give advice.

J. BOVINGDON (1957-61) has passed the examination for entry into the Royal Navy as an artificer apprentice and has joined H.M.S. *Fishguard*, the training establishment at Torpoint, Cornwall.

J. C. BOWMAN (1955-61) writes from the R.A.F. Technical College at Henlow giving news of himself and other Old Boys there. C. R. S. WOOD (1954-59) was one of eight second-year cadets to be promoted to Senior Technical Cadet—from these eight, four will become the Under-Officers of 1963-64. RAY D. SMITH (1955-60) is a Senior Under-Officer this year and is a strong favourite for the Sword of Honour when he graduates in July, 1963. Bowman and Wood graduate in July, 1964, but remain at the College for another one and a half years to complete the engineering course.

R. P. BRADSHAW (1956-61) last summer decided on a strenuous vacation. Roy, a Queen's Scout, decided to climb to the summit of Mont Blanc (15,781 feet) with two other Scouts (one was Derek Sharp, still at R.G.S.). The climb took them three days and during the nights they stayed at huts on the mountain-side. Roy suffered from snow blindness and had to be helped down.

J. C. BRIDEN (1949-57) took part in the academic procession when the Queen with the Duke of Edinburgh opened the Menzies Library at the Australian National University in Canberra on March 13th, 1963. He also saw one of the Test Matches in Sydney and enjoyed the experience of watching it from the celebrated "Hill".

JOHN CAMP (1954-60) is doing Law at Jesus, Oxford, after gaining his Open Award in Modern Languages. After his law degree is completed he is to prepare himself for Ordination. He is Secretary of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers and enjoys ringing outings on Saturdays and peals during the week with the City Ringers.

JOHN CAWSON (1955-61). Last year he obtained a place at the Imperial College of Science for October, 1963, and has been teaching and gaining much in experience at the Mfantshipim School, Cape Coast, Ghana.

T. J. COLEMAN (1956-61) is now doing medicine at St. Mary's Hospital—he has met another Old Boy, R. T. TATE (1955-56), there.

D. R. COX (1954-61). After gaining his Open Award in Modern Languages, he went up to Jesus, Cambridge, last October to study Law. Before that he had worked for some months with a firm of solicitors in Lausanne and Zurich.

G. W. COX (1936-41) writes from 103 Bath Street, Abingdon, giving news of himself and his two brothers. George W. married Jonkvrouwe Jacomina E. Elias in her home town of Nijmegen in June, 1954. They now have three children, Pieter, Johanna and Paul. He is Health Physicist at Wantage Research Laboratory (part of A.E.R.E., Harwell), having joined A.E.R.E. when he came down from Cambridge in 1948. His brother, D. J. COX (1939-46) has now left the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and is a consultant to Liebig's Ltd. He lives with his wife and young son in Woking. The youngest brother, A. E. COX (1942-49) is still with H.M. Stationery Office and lives in Bristol.

C. J. CUNNINGHAM (1950-57). We were happy to read the announcement of his engagement to Miss Elizabeth Gaile. Cunningham is doing very well indeed in the Westminster Bank. He plays Rugby for the Bank and is studying hard.

BARRY L. DAVIES (1954-57). After completing his degree in Modern Languages at St. John's College, Cambridge, he is now working in Geneva on the enlarging of the Airport with a firm of structural engineers named Induni.

J. G. DELLER (1952-53) is now a doctor in general practice in a small country town 70 miles north of Brisbane, in Queensland, Australia. It is a delightful spot and he and his wife are very happy there. They have a daughter and are expecting another baby in April, 1963. They return to England in 1964.

A. DUNN (1954-61) goes in October, 1963, to study at the Sutherland Dental School of King's College, University of Durham.

P. J. A. FINDLAY (1958-62) is now up at Jesus College, Cambridge, reading Modern Languages, and last term distinguished himself as Mephisto in the Cambridge German Dramatic Society's production of the "Urfaust".

R. A. FRENCH (1957-60) writes from R.A.F. Lindholme, near Doncaster. In October, 1962, he was doing the Navigational and Bombing System Course, and after Christmas was to join one of the V-Bombers as a navigator radar.

P. G. P. GALLOWAY (1950-57) is now in his final year at St. Andrew's and takes his Honours degree in Astronomy in June next. The Observatory at St. Andrew's possesses the largest telescope in Britain and Galloway spends a lot of his time observing the night sky.

G. GILBERTSON (1951-58) is doing German in his final year at Manchester University. He did a year as English Assistant in Darmstadt, south of Frankfurt. Before that he spent a term at Marburg University and then worked for three months on a German building site, where he learnt more Italian than German. He represented the athletic team of Marburg on the running track and his love for things physical has caused him to apply to the Carnegie P.T. College at Leeds to do a one-year course for graduates leading to a Diploma in Physical Education.

A. GRAINGE (1951-58) gained a degree in Classics at London University in 1962. When he wrote to the Headmaster in August last he hoped to take up a teaching post in the Sudan. He now writes from Via Cornarotta 2, Treviso, Italy, where he eventually found the sort of teaching job he wanted.

L. C. O. GREEN (1932-36) took over his duties as High Wycombe's new Stationmaster on November 5th, 1962. He has been a British Railways' employee for twenty-four years and a Stationmaster for fourteen years.

C. S. GRIFFITHS (1955-62) writes a very happy letter from the new Sibley Hall of Residence at the University College of Swansea. He is preparing himself for a degree in History, Politics and Geography.

J. S. HADDON (1942-47) writes from 400 Station Street, Bonbeach, Victoria, Australia. He is very interested in Australian Rules Football and wants the R.G.S. to try it out. He is on the committee of the local football club and wishes to promote the A.N.P.C. code. He has also started a club for English Folk Dancing in the Mornington Peninsular area of Victoria.

C. L. HORTIN (1944-51). At his wedding Hortin's own arrangement of Wagner's "Lohengrin Wedding March" was played by the French Horn Section of the Sadler's Wells Opera Orchestra. Another Old Boy, P. A. D. GREEN (1946-51), was the best man. One of the Ushers was K. J. P. WESTNEY (1944-52). Hortin has passed his finals of the Durham Bachelor of Music Examination and has been on tour with the Sadler's Wells Opera Company.

M. K. HUSSEY (1955-58) came to the R.G.S. from the Technical School and his ambition then was to pass at the "O" Level of the G.C.E. He did, however, go to Hull University eventually, and what is more, got a "first" in Pure and Applied Mathematics. He hopes to read for a higher degree.

ALLAN E. M. JANES (1914-19), who was awarded the O.B.E. some time ago, has just retired as Secretary of the High Wycombe and District Furniture Manufacturers' Society. In recognition of his twenty-four years' distinguished service he was presented with a gold watch.

G. D. B. JONES (1947-55). We are happy to record that as a result of his work on Etruscan and Roman archaeological remains in an area in Southern Etruria, near Rome, his thesis was considered worthy of a doctorate at Oxford. He is now Dr. G. D. B. Jones.

R. C. JONES (1951-58) took his Honours Degree at London University and is now preparing for his Diploma in Education at Nottingham University. He has been doing his practical teaching at Derby School, where the Headmaster, Mr. Tucker, once taught and where Mr. Pattinson and Mr. Hollingworth were pupils.

P. R. KERN (1955-59). We are happy to hear of his good progress in the School of Dentistry at Queen's College, Dundee.

R. KING (1954-59) is still training in the kitchens of the Savoy. Two friends of his from "Uplyme" days, A. J. OXLEY (1954-62), now at Imperial College, and E. L. BARRETT (1954-60), still at Sandhurst, went to the Savoy, ordered a mixed grill and asked for it to be prepared by King. They enjoyed it, but didn't get it any cheaper. They hope to be out of debt by 1964.

W. A. C. KNOWLES (1951-58), after completing a degree in Law at Cambridge, went on a poor man's "grand tour" of the Middle East. He is now working for a firm of solicitors in London.

E. G. MANN (1953-57) passed his final examinations for the Licentiate of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons last October—by now he will have taken the B.D.S. degree final examination papers. He would like to recommend dentistry to anyone who is interested in medicine and is practical. He is working as an Assistant House Surgeon (unpaid) at the moment. His brother, R. A. MANN (1948-54), is finding his work at the Westminster Hospital very interesting.

P. S. MATTHEWS (1952-55), writing to the Headmaster, says he has just started a Graduate Apprenticeship with the Bristol Aircraft Company Ltd., after having obtained a degree in Mechanical Engineering at Leeds University.

C. J. MELSOM (1951-57) has gained a permanent commission in the Technical Branch of the R.A.F. He has been appointed Pilot Officer and was reporting in February to R.A.F. Jurby, Isle of Man.

P. H. NEWTON (1933-38) obtained his A.M.I.C.E. shortly after the war. After engineering work in this country he was Assistant Port Engineer for some years in Ghana. Now, after four years in Nigeria, he has been appointed Chief Engineer for the whole of the Nigerian Port Authority docks and harbours. His brother, T. C. S. NEWTON (1935-39), is now Managing Editor and Studio Manager of the Educational magazines of the Fleetway Press.

D. M. NORTH (1956-60) writes home from H.M.S. *Caprice* at Brisbane. Last September they were making a tour of Australia. North took part in an initiative hike from Sydney to Brisbane—650 miles. Three teams of three took part. North and two junior seamen had 5/- each and two tins of food per man. They “bummed” their way across and met kindness all the way. North’s team won by at least 36 hours. The Press was waiting for them and they got into the papers and on the radio too.

DAVID OXLADE (1945-49), of 91 Southfield Road, High Wycombe, has been selected for appointment to the service of the Government of Kenya as an Education Officer. He went from the R.G.S. to Edinburgh University, where he gained his Diploma in Education. For two years he was on the staff of Bearsden Academy, Glasgow, and for the past two years he has taught at Mill End Secondary School, High Wycombe.

R. M. PEARSON (1953-61) writes from Cambridge after having completed the first of his six years before he qualifies as a doctor. He met an Old Boy, DR. R. A. KIPPING (1945-51), in the Dissecting Room. Dr. Kipping was holding a temporary appointment as Demonstrator in Anatomy at the time.

W. L. PENDER (1953-58), a subaltern in the R.A., is stationed at R.A.F. Brampton, but is trying to convince the powers that be of his undoubted potentialities as C.I.G.S. He hopes that developments will soon take place and with them a move and some promotion.

J. J. PORTLOCK (1950-57) called in with news of himself and other Old Boys at Leeds University. After completing his degree, Portlock is now working for Aeropreen Products Ltd. in High Wycombe. M. F. TURNER (1949-56) has gone out to Nigeria to an educational post. D. W. BRADFIELD (1950-56) completed his degree and is now working for Ercol Furniture.

M. R. COLES (1956-60), after spending a year in Germany, is now studying at Leeds for a degree in German. An old friend of Portlock, G. T. BIGNELL (1950-56), is now collecting death returns for the L.C.C. G. W. BOIREAU (1954-62) and P. J. C. CLARK (1955-62) called in with news of about twenty other Old Boys up at Leeds University with them. We hope to have a Leeds Letter in the next edition of the magazine.

R. L. PRIESTLEY (1935-37) writes a very breezy letter to the Headmaster from 19 Wyett Street, Launceston, Tasmania. He is the son of Alick P. Priestley, who in 1936 was Chief Clerk of the County Court. Priestley managed to "scrape through the war" and in 1945 got himself tangled up with the Palestine Police Force. He then decided to enter the field of transportation and joined the staff of B.E.A. He was seconded to Trans-Australia Airlines and went on through the agency mill to the point where he has now his own lusty young agency in Tasmania. He is married and has a daughter and two sons. He has the letters A.I.S.M. and M.T.A.I. after his name and in six years in the Middle East succeeded in mastering Arabic and attaining the High Government Diploma—he finds this odd because poor M. Marti's efforts with him French fell on very barren ground.

PETER READ (1950-58) has gained his F.R.C.O. and with it the Limpus Prize (for the highest marks in the country). He is going up to Balliol College, Oxford, to study music.

K. SINCLAIR (1926-31) sent for a School History from 213 Livingstone Avenue, Mufulira, N. Rhodesia.

B. SINNATT (1946-54) writes from Tanganyika Shell Ltd., Box 9043, Dar es Salaam. He regrets being unable to come to the Dinner this year for reasons that will be apparent from the address. He sends his good wishes from darkest East Africa and the independent republic of Tanganyika.

J. H. SPEIGHT (1954-56). After completing his degree in Maths. and Physics at Cambridge, he is now a graduate apprentice studying for his Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering at the Phillips Croydon Works Ltd. He has also worked at the Phillips factory in Eindhoven, in Holland.

DENNIS W. STEVENS (1933-39). Dr. Stevens was invited to be our Guest of Honour at this year's Dinner but he had to decline. He is now Professor of Music at Pennsylvania State University and is living there at the moment with his wife and children. Last year he was Guest Professor in California for six months. Before going to America Dr. Stevens directed his own editing of Monteverdi's Vespers in Westminster Abbey and *The Times* commented on how fruitful can be the marriage between scholarship and practical musicianship as demonstrated by Dennis Stevens' direction of the performance.

G. W. STEVENS (1936-41). After serving in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1947, he followed a Business Administration Course at Balham College in 1948. He joined Lintafelt Limited in 1949 and is now Managing Director of Textile Laminations Limited.

S. J. STEVENS (1935-39), of 479 Durham Street, Christchurch, New Zealand, was home in High Wycombe on a three-week holiday visit over Christmas. Thirteen members of this well-known Buckinghamshire family of Stevens, all of them butchers and at least seven of them Old Boys, had a re-union to greet him. He has now returned home via America.

C. SWAIN (1954-61) is now at University College, London, and plays chess for London University. He met the Queen Mother when she opened their new hostel recently.

M. G. SWIFT (1952-59) gained his B.A. Honours Degree in Geography at Leeds University last summer and is now doing a one-year post-graduate course at the University of Leicester. Among Old Boys at Leeds who graduated with him were P. F. DUNSTERVILLE (1952-58), also in Geography, G. W. MOSS (1953-58) and J. D. PEACE (1953-58) both in Mechanical Engineering.

H. G. TIDY (1924-32), an Instructor-Commander in the Royal Navy, was invested with the O.B.E. by the Queen at an Investiture at Buckingham Palace. He went from the R.G.S. to Reading University, where he took a B.Sc. degree. He entered the Royal Navy in 1936. Since the war Commander Tidy has served in Turkey and spent three years at the Royal Australian Naval College. He is now with H.M.S. *St. Vincent* at Gosport.

R. R. TRICK (1956-62) writes from the Lycée in Perigueux, Dordogne, France. He is very happy in this large school of 1,500 boys. He has plenty of free time and plays in a local dance band. He gets around the night spots and is learning a lot of French (?)

A. J. TUFFS (1955-61) tried to make a career in the business world on leaving school but couldn't stand it. He is now teaching in a French school and hopes to get a place at London University next October.

H. T. TURNBULL (1919-26), who is Deputy Chairman of Lintafoam Industries Ltd., is now fully recovered from the operation he underwent towards the end of last summer. He is showing the benefit gained from his South African trip—he went by sea both ways.

P. G. UPPARD (1957-61) has at 17 successfully completed the L.R.A.M. performers' diploma examination. He commenced his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in September, 1962.

M. H. VAUGHAN-REES (1949-57) completed his Modern Language degree at Cambridge, wandered around French for a while and is now married with a baby and teaching French at Guernsey Grammar School.

OLEG VOLKONSKY (1952-57), after completing his Russian studies at Christ Church, Oxford, is now based on Munich broadcasting in Russian for the Americans.

JOHN WHY (1942-50) sent in a Life Membership cheque from Flat 6, 98 Isollard Street, Slienia, Malta.

P. F. WILLIAMS (1925-30), of Sweet Lane, Peaslake, Surrey, has been invested by the Queen with the M.B.E. He is a Field Officer in the Ministry of Agriculture. His mother lives at 72 Hughenden Road, High Wycombe.

S. C. WILLOTT (1908-13) has been presented with the Civil Defence Long Service medal by the Mayor, Councillor W. L. Wharton, at the meeting of High Wycombe Town Council. S. C. Willott served as a party leader in the Borough First Aid and Rescue Team from January, 1939, until 1945. He rejoined the newly-formed Civil Defence Corps in 1950 and qualified as a local instructor in 1951.

C. MORRIS (1914-19). C. Morris and Son, of Handy Cross Farm, High Wycombe, was placed first in the class for best cultivated farms in the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association's judging. He also scored for spring wheat, barley and stubble and clover ley. Councillor Morris is Chairman of the Wycombe Rural District Council.

G. W. McAVAN (1929-36). A wartime curate at West Wycombe Parish Church, the Rev. G. W. McAvan, until recently Warden of St. Andrew's School, Rose Hill, Mauritius, and Canon of St. James's Cathedral, Mauritius, has been appointed Vicar of Cantley, near Doncaster. His services in Mauritius have been recognised by his appointment as an officer of the Order of the British Empire.

F. H. M. MEADE (1915-23), whose address is Cable and Wireless, Quinta Nova, Carcavelos, Portugal, called on Mr. Arnison and Mr. Tucker recently. He hopes that his twin sons will be able to come to the R.G.S. as boarders in due course.

L. S. BAKER (1918-23) distinguished himself in this year's Buckinghamshire grassland competition sponsored by the National Agricultural Advisory Service, Stoke Mandeville. L. S. Baker who lives at Manor Farm, Seer Green, won the first prize in the over-100 acres class.

H. E. YOUENS (1940-45). The Rev. H. E. Youens, son of Mrs. H. J. Buckett, of 59 Amersham Road, High Wycombe, and the late Mr. Hubert St. J. E. Youens, has been instituted Vicar of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Kempsey, Worcester. Before entering the Church the Rev. H. E. Youens was engaged in furniture manufacture and also served in the Royal Engineers. Before going to Kempsey, he was assistant Curate at Halesowen.

C. J. GEE (1952-59), of "Trees", Holmer Green Road, Hazlemere, was a successful candidate at the Intermediate Examinations of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. He was articled to W. C. PEATEY (1927-33), F.C.A., a partner in the firm of Messrs. R. M. Blaikie and Co.

P. J. B. HAMES (1948-56) graduated with Honours in International Relations from Keele University in 1960. Since then he has been teaching and has been in charge of General and Liberal Studies at Stoke-on-Trent College of Art since 1961. He married Jane Cresswell, a fellow graduate, in 1961, and they are living at Oulton, near Stone, Staffordshire.

A. DODGSON (1913-19) writes to Mr. Arnison from the home of his daughter and son-in-law in Montreal, Canada. He and Mrs. Dodgson had been having the most wonderful holiday seeing Canada and the U.S.A. and enjoying overwhelming kindness and hospitality. Dodgson still feels, however, that England has more to offer in gracious living than the most beautiful parts they visited.

R. I. ROTHWELL (1953-60) is still at the Middlesex Hospital and has just passed his 2nd M.B. He is looking forward to three years' clinical experience before finals.

P. W. E. JEANS (1947-52) is back in this country again after spending six years in New Zealand. He was a Life Assurance Broker out in Auckland and is now doing similar work with Noble Lowndes and Partners Ltd. Jeans brought to the Dinner news of T. C. OLSEN (1948-53), who is Sales Manager of the New Zealand Education Foundation, which sells encyclopaedias. Olsen's address is : M.L.C. Assurance Coy., Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand. B. J. RANSLEY (1947-52) is also doing well as an executive of Lines Bros. and lives at 92 Bradbury Road, Howick, Auckland.

A. E. JEFFRIES (1928-34) has been invited to judge at the 1963 Royal Smithfield Show—this is “the top” in cattle judging.

W. H. E. TIMMS (1905-11). We learn with great regret that W. H. E. Timms has been ill for some considerable time. He is suffering from some form of crippling of the joints of arms and legs, and has spent four months at Guy's Hospital. He is now out of hospital but not making much progress.

P. J. DEAN (1956-59), after completing a degree in Civil Engineering at King's, London, went into the Army. He has been in the Royal Engineers since October, 1961, and is now in the Strategic Reserve. His address is : Officers' Mess, Mooltan Bks., Tidworth, Hants. He is full of enthusiasm for the opportunities offered to Science Graduates in the Army.

A. F. JEFFRIES (1947-51) left in 1951 thinking he might make a career for himself in the Army. He spent eight and a half years in the Royal Engineers, but is now back in High Wycombe in charge of the Bernatone Hearing Aid Centre which is run from Hughes, Chemist, in the High Street.

P. W. H. NORTH (1949-55) writes from The Boma, P.O. Box 1, Katete, N. Rhodesia, to wish the Old Boys well at the Annual Dinner. He has been transferred from Lundazi after two happy years there. The first written account he had of the Queen's visit to us was in Cinuanja, the local language, written by an African in the local newspaper. This African was on a course for Local Government employees in London and happened to be in High Wycombe on the day of the Royal visit. North comes home on his first leave in August (he sailed from England in the middle of 1960) and has six months here, during which time he intends looking us all up. Just after writing North was going on a short leave to the Luangwa Valley to shoot an elephant.

(M.M.D wishes to thank all Old Boys who have written or called with news. He hopes that they will continue to do so.)

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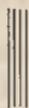
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