

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



Vol. XIII No. 9

MAY, 1964



HUNT & NASH

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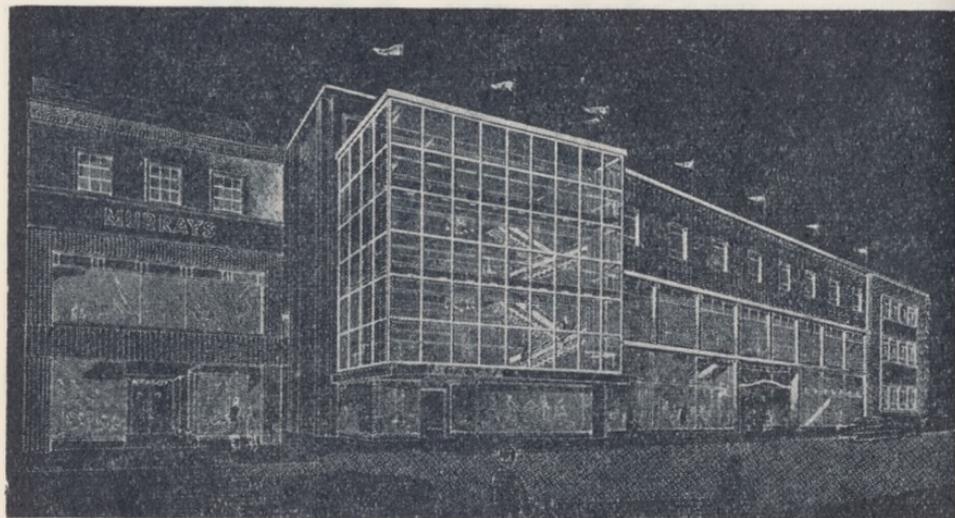
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Back row (left to right) : D. BLYTHEN, P. R. LAVENDER, I. G. COLLINS, P. D. SMITH, S. R. THOMAS, M. H. KEFFORD,
R. W. DOUGLAS, P. R. J. LANE

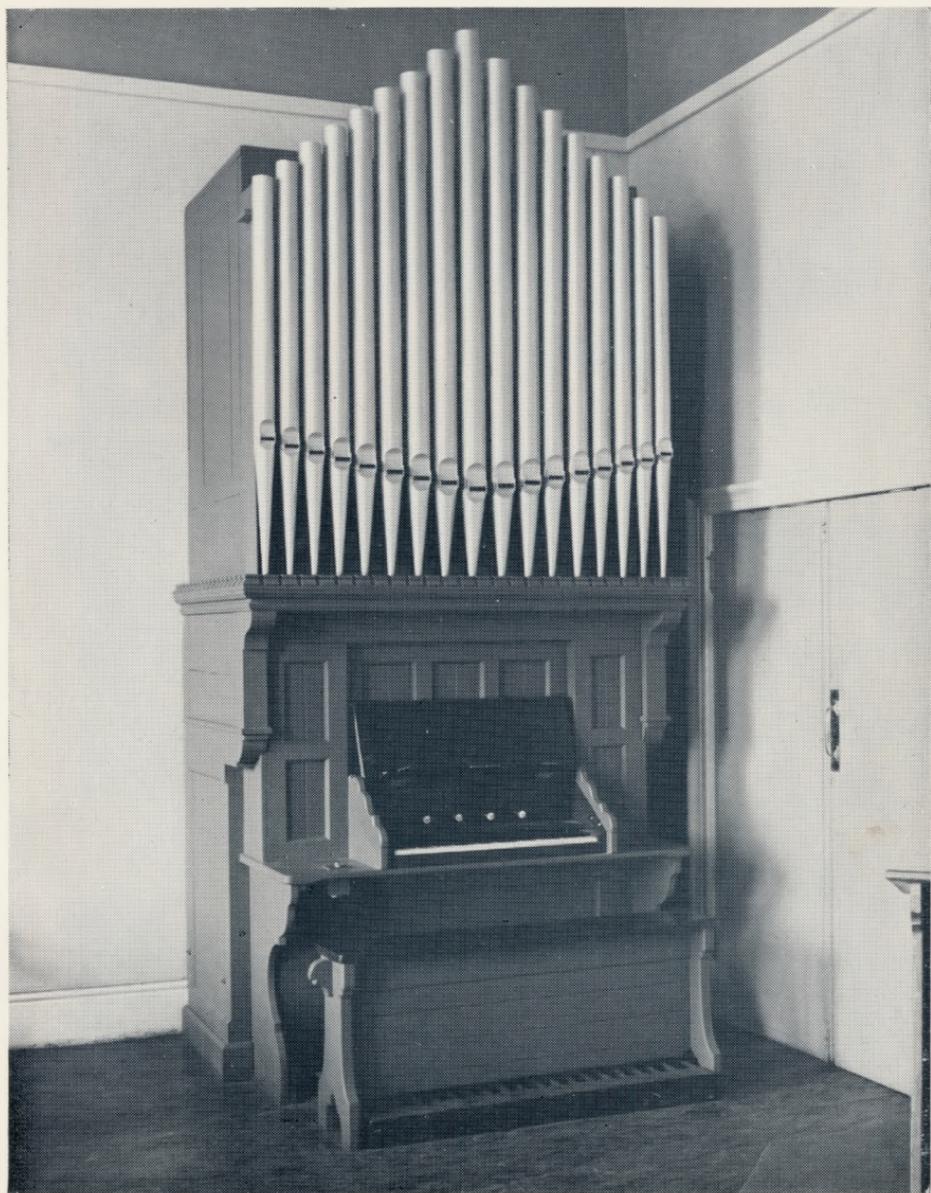
Front row : D. R. ANDREW, R. H. E. HAM, M. HARRIS, R. A. FEWTRELL (Capt.), C. J. PACKMAN, D. G. HORLEY,
M. J. MALEC



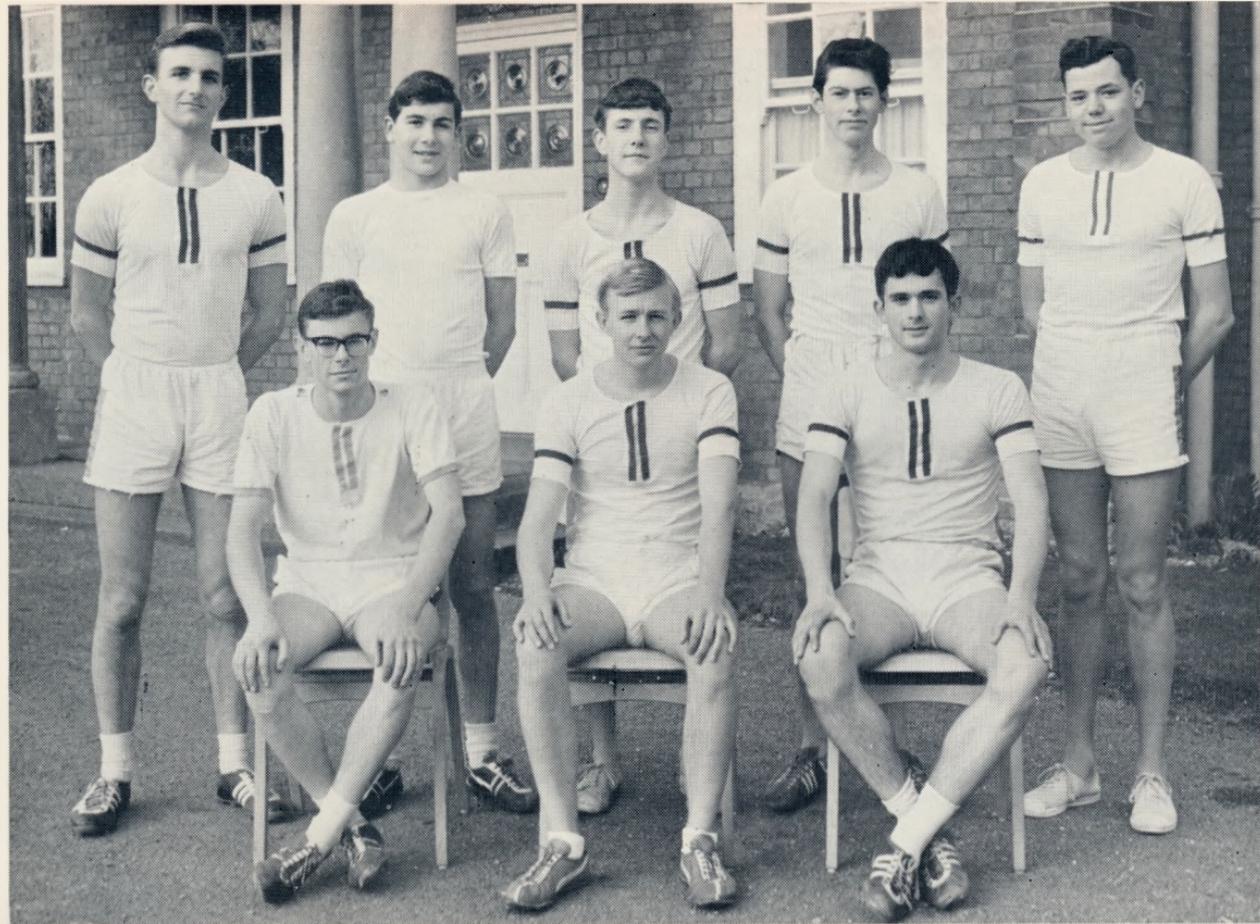
IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF
ALBERTA TUCKER
AND OF HER DEVOTED
SERVICE TO THIS SCHOOL FROM
SEPTEMBER 1933 TO JULY 1962

THIS TABLET AND THE ORGAN WERE PRESENTED BY HER MANY FRIENDS

MEMORIAL TABLET IN THE SCHOOL CHAPEL.



THE MEMORIAL ORGAN



THE CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM, 1963-64

Back row (left to right) : D. GOODMAN, R. L. DAVIS, J. R. KNIGHT, P. V. ANDREWS, C. P. CHALLIS
Front row : S. C. CHARLTON, M. K. JENNER (Capt.), R. F. GREENWOOD

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

This Edition was edited by :

R. C. SNELLING

Assisted by :

D. M. DAVIES, C. J. MYERSOUGH, C. J. PACKMAN

EDITORIAL

Education in the Melting-pot

Education is a topic which has recently been on everyone's lips, so it is not unreasonable to devote this editorial to it, not in the hope of adding anything of significance to the discussions which have been carried on in the national press, but rather in the spirit of rational enquiry, which I trust is not unfitting even in such an avowedly uncontroversial publication as this. What must be appreciated is that the issues raised by both Newsom and Robbins are fundamental to our national life.

Three main issues emerge. First, a revolution in teaching technique must be accomplished to accommodate the growing numbers of pupils at every level of attainment and age-group : the alternative to this is a massive increase in the numbers of teachers, which as everyone knows is a virtual impossibility. As Newsom has melodramatically put it, a society based on the acquisition and application of skills cannot find room for a "mass of morons". Second, the individual approach to educating a child must not be sacrificed by the adoption of more sophisticated techniques. This is equally true of higher education. Lastly, the whole problem is shot through with underlying social tension, hence political rather than human values are juxtaposed to it. It remains to consider what happens next, in the light of the two reports.

The Report of Lord Robbins received an accolade which was not accorded to Newsom ; to judge by the reactions of the Press, the last rampart of privilege had been scaled, and to seal the triumph the Government jumped on the bandwagon. What, in practice, did all this mean ? In its approbation of expansion, Robbins merely seconded a self-evident need—the real significance was in emphasis, because the findings of the Committee gave weight to the advocates of a more utilitarian approach,

like Lord Bowden, to the consequent embarrassment of Oxbridge. Here at last was the promised land of equal opportunity where all earthly troubles cease ; to youth it was an example of parental beneficence to which it was not easy to become accustomed. The fallacy is that, in the pathetic hope of destroying class distinction, a new "élite", that of university graduates, is being self-consciously created to replace the old, without any thought as to whether the education system would be more equitable thereby. The day-dream of equal opportunity lies at the core of the movement to integrate public schools, and evolve Comprehensive Schools to oust the maintained Grammar School.

It is contended that this solution is iniquitous. This is not to dispute the presence of a "double standard" in education—one for those who are clever, and one for those who are not. How are the inmates (I choose this word advisedly in preference to "pupils") of an overcrowded Secondary Modern going to be spared the spurious panaceas of what Richard Hoggart has called "a candy-floss world"? The only answer to this is not root and branch reform, but at most, to adopt the jargon of an eminent sociologist, "piecemeal social engineering". Otherwise there is a real danger of social alienation ; social patterns are changing—and education is the vital link in a causal chain.

Other points spring to mind. A criticism of the Robbins report might accuse it of relying on the eloquence of statistics (here the obtrusive prejudice of a Modernist cannot be discounted). Nevertheless, it remains a truism that an examination-conscious potential undergraduate is a prey to all sorts of pressures which contribute, in some cases, to maladjustment. Freed from the trammels of "A" Level, the student may inhale the invigorating air of a congenial environment at university, the equivalent, indeed, of a therapeutic cure. Yet his knowledge has been imperfectly gleaned, he has acquired a somewhat precocious intellectual maturity, which is henceforth nourished on the esoteric abstractions of an Honours Degree in Psychology. I myself have a horror of the nondescript Arts graduate, who should have imbibed a liberal education, but who is still intellectually emaciated.

The intention of the contentious paragraph preceding was to identify yet another fallacy : that without the benefit of a university education a man is as nothing. This is sheer snobbery. Two factors need remembering : the first is that care should be taken that the university does not become a system of outdoor relief for the state-aided sons of impoverished middle-class parents ; the second is that we do not become, as a nation, prone to manoeuvre the unintelligent school-leaver into a position of ineluctable anonymity. The trouble is that people do not treat education seriously enough.

MR. P. C. RAFFETY

On Saturday, April 18th, Percy Charles Raffety, J.P., Freeman of the Borough of High Wycombe, and Chairman of the Governing Body of the Royal Grammar School from 1947 to 1956, died in his 86th year at his home at Beaconsfield.

Born in 1878, the fourth son of Mr. C. W. Raffety, J.P., of High Wycombe, he came to this School from 1888 to 1892 ; he became a Governor in 1926, Vice-Chairman of Governors in 1939 and Chairman of the reconstituted Governing Body in 1947. He had done an immense amount of devoted public service during his long life ; he was the Hon. Secretary of the High Wycombe Memorial Hospital from 1923 to 1947. Presiding Governor in 1947, a member of the Regional Hospital Board till 1955 ; a Director and Chairman of the Wycombe and District Building Society ; a founder member of the Wycombe Rotary Club ; and a Justice of the Peace for the Borough for more than thirty years.

Himself the head of a famous business since 1910, he always took the greatest pride in his old School ; it was a source of great satisfaction that he was the first Old Boy to be a member of the Governing Body and he guided the School's fortunes with great wisdom and fidelity during a period of very great growth. He took a tremendous joy in the School's achievements and was a most assiduous attender at School functions of every kind.

A Memorial Service attended by the whole School and also by members of the Raffety family and his firm was held in the Queen's Hall on April 29th, conducted by the Chaplain, the Rev. A. J. Skipp ; the Chairman of Governors, Alderman R. P. Clarke, read the lesson.

Members of Staff, boys and Old Boys, while feeling the greatest gratitude for the life and example of their late Chairman, extend their warmest sympathy to Mrs. Ethel Raffety, Mrs. Saunders Harris and to Mr. Raffety's three grandsons.

E.R.T.

STAFF NEWS

At the beginning of the second half of the Autumn Term we welcomed Mr. P. T. Cockle, B.A. (Oxon.), who has come to teach English. In January the usual quota of student masters from the various universities took up their duties. They were : Mr. H. W. D. Bushell, Mr. R. Gosling, Mr. K. E. Harris, Mr. J. C. Mant, and Mr. G. N. Leigh ; we trust that they enjoyed their term of teaching at the School.

At the end of the Spring Term we were sorry to say goodbye to Mr. B. Leighton-Jones, who goes to take up a post with the Educational authorities in Hong Kong, after nearly five years at the School teaching History. Our best wishes go with him.

NEWS ABOUT THE SCHOOL

A year which began auspiciously with the formal occupation of the new buildings has continued in the same vein. The whole School must have felt the impact of at last possessing adequate accommodation commensurate with its size. Sixth-formers no longer have to resort to grimy book-rooms and "cubby-holes" for odd lessons; room has even been found for a self-styled "Latin Quarter" in the old workshop rooms, where the bohemian artists of the School can indulge their flights of fancy amid a welter of denigrations. Seriously, despite the criticism that has been levelled against the front elevation of the new buildings, it is well to remember that the buildings are essentially functional, built on a budget that does not allow for decorative embellishment. The neo-Georgian facade of the old building looked impressive, but the effect was only achieved by a plethora of fenestration (some of the windows are, in fact, bricked-up).

Members of the School have been active in many spheres. The rugby team had one of its most successful seasons for some time, as did the cross-country team. Our record of academic achievement was handsomely maintained with a crop of seven Open Awards gained at Christmas at Oxford and Cambridge.

There was also an Open Bursary at St. Andrew's.

School productions were well to the fore. The Autumn Term saw an excellent production of "The Bacches", by Euripides, staged by the Classical Society. The annual Gilbert and Sullivan opera was, as usual, performed with gusto. Finally, the Dramatic Society laid on a variegated "Triple Bill", consisting of a morality play, an improvisation, and a short play by Chekhov. This replaced the much-heralded "Macbeth", which had to be cancelled owing to the grave illness of its producer, Mr. Newling, who we are now glad to hear has fully recovered.

It remains to be seen whether the swimming pool will materialise.

OPEN AWARDS

Open Awards were gained by the following at the winter Scholarship Examinations, held in December and January at Oxford and Cambridge :—

- A. W. DINGLE, Open Scholarship in English, Lincoln College, Oxford.
- G. M. K. DUNBAR, Open Exhibition in English, Christ's College, Cambridge.
- P. B. FARMER, Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences, Lincoln College, Oxford (Sidgwick Scholarship).
- M. R. FERGUSON, Open Exhibition in Modern Languages, Jesus College, Oxford.

- J. GRIEVE, Open Scholarship (Langdon Brown) in Biological Sciences, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
- C. J. MYERSCOUGH, Open Scholarship in Mathematics and Physics, Churchill College, Cambridge.
- R. C. SNELLING, Open Demysip in History, Magdalen College, Oxford.
- G. M. SEALE, Forbes Bursary in Botany and Zoology, St. Andrew's.

Our congratulations go to all of them.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE PLACES

The following have gained places at Oxford and Cambridge :

- K. E. BURROWS, to read History, Downing College, Cambridge.
- D. M. DAVIES, to read Natural Science, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- R. A. DORKINGS, to read Modern Languages, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- P. M. GLASS, to read Mechanical Sciences, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- J. C. HUGHES, to read Music, Christ Church College, Oxford.
- A. E. LEEK, to read Biochemistry, Pembroke College, Oxford.
- R. N. NUNN, to read Mechanical Sciences, St. John's College, Cambridge.
- C. J. PACKMAN, to read History, Merton College, Oxford.
- A. M. PRATT, to read Modern Languages, St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.

The following boys gained university places on their "A" Level results last summer and went up in the autumn :—

I. M. Macwhinnie (Keele, for History) ; B. R. Hemuss (St. David's College, Lampeter, for Law) ; P. J. Hewett (Leeds, for Geography) ; J. D. Harris (Hull, for Social Studies) ; L. G. Friend (Royal College of Music) ; P. M. Goldring (Nottingham) ; M. D. Arch (Hull) ; J. M. Baxter (Leeds) ; A. N. Brandes (University College, London) ; P. D. Davies (University College, London) ; R. Fountain (Leeds) ; P. A. German (King's College, Newcastle) ; M. W. Giles (Manchester) ; R. W. Gravestock (Manchester, for Electrical Engineering) ; M. J. Jeskins (Manchester) ; D. G. Orchard (Sheffield) ; A. Wilson (Queen Mary College, London) ; A. R. O. Chapman (Liverpool, for Botany and Zoology) ; P. M. J. Shelton (St. Andrew's, for Botany and Zoology) ; R. M. Cass (Sheffield, for Architecture) ; W. R. Jajesnica (Queen Mary College, London, for Engineering) ; A. J. Rogers (London) ; R. S. Strange (London) ; S. Watanangura (Imperial College, London, for Aeronautics) ; M. J. C. Webb (Bristol, for Chemistry) ; C. B. Antill (Manchester) ; J. M. Barlow (Southampton, for Engineering) ; P. J. Capell (Bristol, for Physics) ; I. A. Johnston (Birmingham, for Metallurgy) ; A. J. Oliver (Bristol, for Chemistry) ; R. I. Patterson (Imperial College, London) ; I. E. Rutherford (Leeds, for Mechanical Engineering) ; M. B. Yallop (Manchester, for Civil Engineering) ; P. R. Kern (Queen's College, Dundee, for Dentistry) ; M. K. Rhodes (Imperial College, London).

N.B. This list may still not be complete (Ed.).

CHAPEL NOTES

The Alberta Tucker Memorial

The chapel was crowded on the morning of Saturday, October 12th, 1963, when the Right Reverend Gordon Savage, Bishop of Buckingham, dedicated the organ and memorial tablet which had been purchased by the many friends of Alberta Tucker. The response to the Memorial Fund appeal had been most generous, but was not unexpected, because the organisers knew how widespread was the affection and gratitude that Mrs. Tucker had inspired. It is fitting that a permanent memorial to her should now have its place in the very heart of the School, and that it should add, as she herself did, to the brightness and beauty of chapel services.

The Chapel Windows

The chapel has been greatly beautified by the installation of stained glass windows, the gift of Mrs. Margaret Nutt. Stanley Nutt, whose death occurred just a year ago, was a most faithful Old Boy and his wife wished to commemorate him with a gift to the School which had played such a large part in his life. At the suggestion of Alderman C. W. Lance, she decided to make a gift to the chapel. The chaplain asked for stained glass windows and was delighted when he learned that Mrs. Nutt's generosity would make it possible for all three windows to be filled.

A distinguished stained glass artist, Mr. J. P. Nuttgens, was commissioned to execute the work which was completed in a time for a simple service of dedication conducted by the chaplain on Sunday, March 22nd, in the presence of a large congregation composed of the family and friends of Mrs. Nutt, staff and boys. We are all of us deeply indebted to Mrs. Nutt for the generosity and affection which inspired her to make such a gift to the Chapel ; it is a splendid memorial to a man who loved the School so faithfully and so long.

A brief note on the windows may be useful for future reference. One contains the figure of St. John the Baptist, and beneath him is a small representation of the ruins of the Hospital of St. John in Easton Street, High Wycombe. It was in these buildings that the School was originally housed before being transferred to the yellow brick building, also shown in the picture, which is now the home of the High Wycombe Technical School.

The middle window has at the top a symbolical representation of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove surrounded by tongues of fire. Beneath are the arms of our foundress, Queen

Elizabeth I, and at the bottom of the window is shown the facade of the main block of the School, and superimposed upon it is the School badge. (It may be noted that this badge is executed in the correct heraldic colours as described in the article by B. C. Peatey in *The Wycombiensian*, Vol. XII, No. 2, of September, 1954.) In roundels on either side of the School are portraits of the two headmasters who have guided the destiny of the School during the past sixty years, G. W. Arnison and E. R. Tucker.

The third window, at the special request of Mrs. Nutt, has the figure of St. Catherine of Alexandria. Mrs. Nutt was herself at St. Catherine's School and has retained a strong affection for it. It is perhaps not unsuitable that the patron saint of philosophers should find a place in our School Chapel.

School Confirmation

We were glad that the Right Reverend Gordon Savage, who has recently been appointed Bishop of Southwell, was able to visit us once more before going to his new diocese. The Bishop has been a most popular visitor during his brief period as Bishop of Buckingham and we are sorry to see him go. The thirty-four boys—their names are listed below—who were confirmed by him in the Chapel on Tuesday, March 10th, 1964, will long remember, as will their parents and friends, the Bishop's warmth, sincerity and simple dignity.

The next day the newly-confirmed made their first Communion at a service attended by more than one hundred and eighty members of the School, both staff and boys. The celebrant was the Chaplain, who was most grateful for the assistance, now almost a tradition, of the Reverend John Simpson. The atmosphere at this service is something unique and each year we are grateful for it and made more conscious of the reality of our communion and fellowship.

The following boys were presented to the Right Reverend Gordon Savage, Bishop of Southwell, for Confirmation on March 10th, 1964 :—

Jonathan G. Berks
Peter M. Berks
Adrian J. Bowyer
Peter R. Brown
David C. Burn
Timothy F. Charnock
Richard W. Collett
Richard L. Crayfound
Richard J. Davis
Paul D. Efford
Roger M. Eley
Robert T. Falconer
Garry S. Feely
Alan G. M. Haynes
Michael R. S. Hill
Stephen Jenner
Roy K. Jones

Graham H. King
Ainslie J. Kirkpatrick
Paul H. Marsden
Robert A. Marsden
Paul G. Nicholls
Stephen M. Perfect
Alan J. Rainbow
Paul A. Roberts
Christopher M. D. Settington
Vivian D. Snell
Norman P. R. Stansall
John F. Tapp
Alam P. Waite
Peter J. Wallen
Jeremy J. Ward
Timothy S. Wills
Jeremy R. Woods

A.J.S.

SPEECH DAY

On October 25th last the annual Speech Day and Prize-giving was held in the Queen's Hall, in an atmosphere of spaciousness which must have impressed all present. The guest of honour was Professor H. A. Harris, Professor of Classics at St. David's College, Lampeter.

Alderman R. P. Clarke, in his customary preamble to the proceedings, reminded his audience that Mr. Tucker had just completed thirty years as Headmaster of the School, an achievement which an appreciative audience acknowledged with warm applause. Alderman Clarke also had something to say about the lamentable state of affairs by which the swimming pool had not been included in the contract for the major construction work just completed.

In his report, Mr. Tucker said how gratified he had been by the dignity that had attended the Quater-Centenary Luncheon, at which the School had entertained the Mayor and Corporation. He felt that this particular Speech Day was important for two reasons : first, because of his personal friendship with the guest speaker, and second, because it marked the end of an era of expansion and mounting success which had so distinguished the School. He was happy to report of the continuance of academic attainment during the previous year ; there was no reason, in his mind, why the advance should not be maintained, with a university place awaiting every meritorious candidate. There were even greater opportunities awaiting boys than ever before ; he looked forward with the greatest confidence to the continued success which the School should by right enjoy.

Professor Harris then spoke engagingly on issues recently raised by the publication of the Robbins Report on Higher Education. He remained sceptical about the possible effect of it on education generally. The important issues which faced universities today lay in the selection of suitable undergraduates ; the method of selection was not infallible, but it was susceptible of improvement provided attention was paid to the personal reliability of the student. Addressing the assembled Sixth-form, he advised them to choose an exacting course up to Advanced Level ; thereafter, the despised "red-brick" university afforded an education which would be just as valuable as Oxbridge. The student had the opportunity of expanding his horizons in a new and challenging environment, advantages which far outweighed the attributes of a settled atmosphere of tradition which Oxbridge inculcated.

The annual service of Commemoration, held in the Parish Church, was well attended. The preacher was Howard Ensor, Esq., M.A., Principal of Newland Park Training College.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES, JUNE 1963

G.C.E. Advanced Level Results, July 1963

The following boys have been successful in passing at Advanced Level in the undermentioned subjects. The mark "Dist." indicates that Distinction has been awarded *in the Special Paper* of the subject concerned.

S. W. Bunce (Greek, Latin), R. L. N. Harrison (Greek, Latin), D. J. Rees (English Lit., Latin), A. S. Wickens (Greek, Latin, Ancient History).

M. D. Arch (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), J. M. Baxter (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), J. H. Bettinson (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), A. N. Brandes (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), Alan Cawson (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. Cooper (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), D. M. Davies (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), P. D. Davies (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. L. Davis (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Eng. Drawing), J. J. Ellerton (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), P. B. Farmer (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry (Dist.)), R. Fountain (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), P. A. German (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), M. W. Giles (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), P. M. Glass (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. W. Gravestock (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. H. E. Ham (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), R. N. D. Harrison (Pure and App. Maths., Eng. Drawing), D. A. Heeley (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Eng. Drawing), D. A. Hope (App. Maths.), D. G. Horley (App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), M. J. Jeskins (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), K. R. Marshall (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), P. R. McDowell (App. Maths., Physics), A. McGlashan (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), P. Merrington (Pure and App. Maths., Physics), M. J. Monkman (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), C. J. Myerscough (Pure Maths., App. Maths. (Dist.), Physics (Dist.)), M. R. Nield (Pure and App. Maths.), M. J. O'Hanlon (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), D. G. Orchard (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), I. A. Sifton (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), D. J. Stokes (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), A. Wilson (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. J. Wilson (Pure Maths., App. Maths.), P. M. Wood (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry).

D. G. Cawson (Chemistry, Botany, Zoology), J. M. Clare (Chem., Botany), B. Carritt (Chem., Bot. and Zoology), A. R. O. Chapman (Chem., Bot. (Dist.), Zoology (Dist.)), M. J. Gibb (Chem., Bot. and Zoology), J. Grieve (Chem., Bot. (Dist.), Zoology (Dist.)), K. D. Hunt (Zoology), M. E. J. Panter (Chemistry), G. M. Seale (Chem., Bot., Zoology), P. M. J. Shelton (Physics, Chem., Bot. (Dist.), Zoology (Dist.)), A. F. Thomas (Chemistry), A. E. Leek (Chemistry), R. T. Carwardine (Chemistry), R. M. Cass (Art, Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Eng. Drawing), J. A. Davies (Eng. Drawing), A. H. Dixon (Pure and App. Maths., Eng. Drawing), S. Fone (Pure and App. Maths., Eng. Drawing), W. R. Jajnesnica (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), Torrens St. George Lyster (Economics), C. F. Pass (Pure and App. Maths.), E. G. Rainbow (Pure and App. Maths., Chemistry), K. S. Rhodes (Pure and App. Maths.), M. K. Rhodes (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), A. J. Rogers (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), C. G. Rogers (Chemistry), R. J. Seymour (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), P. B. Spittle (Pure and App. Maths., Eng. Drawing), P. Stenning (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. S. Strange (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), S. Watanangura (Pure and App. Maths., Physics), M. J. C. Webb (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), C. K. Williams (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), A. P. Coniam (Art), C. B. Antill (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), J. M. Barlow (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), P. J. Capell (App. Maths. (Dist.), Physics (Dist.)), C. A. Fair (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), B. A. Fell (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), J. J. Helyar (Pure and App. Maths.), E. A. Janes (Pure and App. Maths., Physics), I. A. Johnston (Pure and App. Maths., Physics, Chemistry), R. N. Nunn (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics (Dist.)), A. J. Oliver (Physics, Chemistry), R. I. Patterson (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), I. A. Rutherford (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), M. B. Yallop (Pure Maths., App. Maths., Physics), K. E. Jones (Pure Maths., Physics).

M. F. Ferguson (English, German), J. D. Harris (French, History), B. R. Hemuss (Economics), P. J. Hewitt (Geography), M. R. Horrex (History, Economics), I. M. Macwhinnie (English, History), A. M. Pratt (English, French, German), M. D. H. Priestley (Geography), R. P. Ayres (English (Dist.), French, Spanish), R. J. Benjamin (English, German), A. J. Birch (Geography), A. R. L. Brain (English, French, History), K. E. Burrows (English, French, History), P. R. G. Clark (English, French, German), A. W. Dingle (English (Dist.), French, History), R. A. Dorkings (English, French, German (Dist.)), R. A. Fewtrell (English, History, Economics), L. G. Friend (English, French Music (Dist.)), P. M. Goldring (English, Latin), S. E. Hamilton-Eddy (History, Economics), N. Hankinson (Art), M. Harris (German), J. C. Hughes (English, French, Music), M. S. McCracken (French, German), M. J. Mobbs (French, German, History), R. M. Overall (Art), C. J. Packman (English (Dist.), German, History), E. R. Piper (Music), J. S. Ray (History, Economics), M. S. Rothwell (History), N. W. Saunders (English, French, German), J. M. Skinner (English, French), R. C. Snelling (English, French, History), D. J. Stubbs (Economics), C. B. Taylor (English, History, Economics), P. B. Tucker (Art), T. S. Ward (English, French, German), P. D. Godfrey (Pure and App. Maths., Physics).

The following boys have been successful in passing in the General Certificate of Education (Oxford), at *Ordinary Level* in at least three subjects ; the number of subjects in which success has been obtained is mentioned beside each name.

A. P. Coniam (4), D. G. Beattie (9), A. D. Bisset (8), D. J. Browning (9), M. H. Collins (8), C. Fewtrell (9), B. C. Fitchett (6), B. J. B. Fox (5), I. J. Fox (7), P. Fradley (5), D. R. C. Hedgeland (9), C. M. Hood (9), J. P. Killingley (8), D. A. Low (9), M. J. Morser (9), A. J. Muir (7), R. H. Mullick (8), P. J. O'Shea (6), A. P. Potts (8), T. N. Rees (8), P. A. Richardson (9), J. S. Robinson (7), P. L. Sears (9), W. J. Seymour (5), P. F. Simpson (9), J. P. Slater (8), Charles Smith (4), Christopher J. Smith (9), K. Stenning (9), J. A. Stevens (9), R. G. Thomas (9), P. R. Thornton (8), M. R. Ward (7), H. J. Weiss (8), R. S. Wilkinson (6), D. M. Wood (8).

A. M. Armstrong (3), A. B. Britnell (6), P. G. Bushby (4), P. V. Chaces (7), M. J. Cornford (6), R. J. B. Cox (3), J. D. Critchley (4), C. East (6), C. J. Forrester (8), J. R. Gomm (6), J. M. Gregory (6), A. Hall (4), S. P. Hall (4), G. P. Handley (6), M. A. Huxley (4), Peter Jones (6), S. E. Kurrein (7), J. D. Morrow (7), N. A. Payne (6), M. A. C. Priestley (4), D. M. Rea (7), J. J. Roberts (6), P. J. Settington (7), G. L. A. Sims (7), D. M. Stone (3), P. J. Symms (4), D. W. Vere (4), A. J. Wands (6), J. S. Bentley (7), J. M. Bingham (7), S. J. Bond (3), C. J. Chivers (5), I. G. Collins (6), R. W. Douglas (6), H. J. French (5), J. E. Gillett (3), M. J. Gooderham (7), I. J. Gray (5), M. P. Hyde (5), C. Jeffrey (7), M. H. Kefford (4), C. S. Nobbs (6), P. J. Pescod (7), P. F. Ray (8), D. A. Rutherford (6), A. P. Scarlett (3), R. P. Steptoe (6), H. R. Thomson (3), S. C. Williams (8), P. R. G. Wilson (7).

A. E. Bailey (3), M. J. Boord (5), A. G. Brill (7), J. H. C. Heygate-Brown (4), R. D. Bufton (6), Robert Davies (5), A. J. Frankland (3), J. Hayter (4), A. W. Jones (4), R. J. Mathewson (3), W. Pitchford (6), N. J. Roe (4), W. A. Shipp (3), H. R. Thomas (3), P. J. C. Wilson (5).

N. Birkitt (4), E. J. Brookes (3), D. R. Cooper (7), N. G. Fairley (3), S. G. Fowler (4), D. P. Grace (3), J. R. Harding (3), M. A. O'Shea (6), P. L. Redican (3), G. Rogers (4), P. A. Throssell (3).

P. V. Andrews (5), J. A. Atkins (6), J. R. Bacon (9), R. C. Bonnett (6), J. A. Bradfield (7), S. Breed (5), T. G. Carthy (3), A. B. Collett (6), G. F. Cutler (9), A. S. Farmer (8), P. A. Fountain (8), P. E. Harley (9), D. J. Hughes (7), G. J. Jellis (7), M. K. Jones (8), N. Leek (8), J. N. McLoughlin (9), D. A. Membry (9), T. J. O'Brien (8), J. D. Peadon (8), J. C. Pettit (7), W. J. Polykett (6), G. Poole (6), P. M. Rawkins (8), R. J. Redrup (9), H. Reynolds (7), J. M. Rivers (8), P. Rodbourn (3), S. J. Russell (9), D. Seward (7), V. S. Smith (9), C. R. Sweeting (7), J. A. Trayhorn (7), D. A. Wakefield (8).

L. J. S. Cox (7), G. S. Field (4), D. P. Frankland (5), M. L. Gibson (4), A. D. Green (8), M. A. Hailwood (6), J. C. Hills (6), T. J. R. Hopkins (7), D. R. James (4), R. A. Janes (5), M. A. Knight (7), P. A. Lambert (7), A. D. Low (7), A. D. Male (4), D. R. Miles (4), R. K. Mills (6), J. E. Moore (3), D. J. Nuttgens (6), P. J. Pearson (3), A. G. Redding (3), A. J. Tilling (7).

BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT

The total collection for the Benevolent Fund last term certainly surpassed all expectations, since it more than doubled the rather disappointing amount of the previous term. £101 was donated by the boys, while a further £17 came from the profits of the Prefects' Dance and the Russian Holiday. This is indeed the greatest sum ever contributed and, one must admit, a truly worthy total. This, I feel, is in part due to the industry of the prefects who have to persuade members of their forms to donate generously.

Some forms have naturally given more than others, with 4A and 4SB both contributing more than £5. Unfortunately it is quite noticeable that the Sixth Formers, other than those in 6S1 and 6T1, do not part with their money very easily, although many of them comprise the largest forms in the School. This is made more evident by the fact that the youngest boys, those in 2E, managed to contribute an admirable £4 9s. 6d.

The amount this term, however, is almost certain to be much less. Three vastly varying circumstances have caused this. Firstly, the ardour of the prefects has been somewhat dampened after their excellent, but nevertheless strenuous efforts of the Christmas Term; secondly, there has been an independent weekly collection for "Oxfam" which, I am sure, has reduced the money that people are prepared to offer to the Benevolent Fund; and, finally, this term is nearly a month shorter than last.

During the past four and a half years since the fund was initiated, the average termly contribution has slowly grown larger until the present total has now nearly reached £900. With an excellent effort by boys and prefects alike the £1,000 can surely be achieved before the end of this school year.

M. HARRIS.

P.S. The final total for the term proved in fact to be £87.

SOCIAL WORK

During the last two terms about twenty Sixth-formers have enjoyed helping the old people of the locality on Thursday afternoons, and at week-ends when the need has arisen. The work undertaken has varied from window-cleaning to painting and decorating.

The idea grew up out of a year's pioneer work by Paul Stenning, which culminated in a more extensive effort by a large number of boys after the conclusion of last year's "A" level

examinations. It was only planned to last for the rest of the term but was such a success that it was suggested it continue during this year. After the departure of both P. Stenning and B. Carrit the leadership was taken over by D. A. Lunnon.

The work has been undertaken in conjunction with the local welfare organizations and under the guidance of Mrs. Parry-Jones.

D. A. LUNNON.

OXFAM COLLECTION

Towards the end of last term a group of Sixth-formers agreed to give at least sixpence a week to help Oxfam in their project to raise one million pounds over Christmas, and to encourage other people to do the same. By the end of term about one hundred and fifty people had pledged their support, and £15 7s. was raised.

This term collections have been taken regularly after prayers on Fridays. The response has been somewhat disappointing; probably only about one-third of the School have ever contributed. The total collected this term was £34 5s. 6d., representing 0.84 pence per boy per collection. Surely we can do better than this!

C. J. MYERSCOUGH.

“THE BACCHAE”

For two nights last November a verdant oasis of sophistication was spawned amid the cultural desolation which renders South Bucks as about as habitable to the “cognoscenti” as the Gobi Desert to nomadic tribesmen. The occasion was the production by the Classical Society of “The Bacchae”, by Euripides, a stark Greek tragedy which is formidable indeed to present. Owing to the intractable nature of the material much depends on the creation of “atmosphere” and the manner in which the statuesque figures of the performers speak their lines. The production satisfied on both counts.

The play deals with the futile attempt by Pentheus, ruler of Thebes, to frustrate the power of a superior being, personified in

the god Dionysus. In itself, the situation is artificial, but the tragedy is unfolded when Pentheus is killed by his own mother, Agave, in the midst of a Bacchic frenzy induced by the god. Agave only realises what she has done in a macabre final scene when her father, Cadmus, reveals the mangled corpse of Pentheus. The farcical possibilities of the scene were thankfully avoided ; the impact of the situation was not dissipated, as it might have been, by over-acting. Even so, what is one to make of a play which itself has the characteristics of a ritual, yet which works itself up to a taut "dénouement"? To the uninitiated, the action must have seemed disjointed with those frequent "musical interludes". All very distressing.

It seems invidious to single out any individual for special praise—every member of the cast performed competently. D. W. Lewis, as Dionysus, had the advantage of a physique well suited to the character he portrayed ; apart from a rather flat delivery, his was a commendable performance. D. J. Rees, who also produced the play and designed the set, displayed good stage bearing as Pentheus ; as might have been expected, his technique was more accomplished than that of the younger performers. This was also true regarding N. W. Saunders and A. W. Dingle, who related the long passages of reported action with maturity of phrasing. The two old men in the play, R. G. Thomas and M. Lowe respectively, were well-contrasted ; Lowe especially spoke up well in the last act. R. L. Heron, as Agave, was suitably uninhibited in his rendering of a very exacting part, which demanded and received its due measure of pathos. It could so easily have lapsed into bathos.

Mention must also be made of the much-despised Chorus, who were anathema to at least one critic. Credit where credit is due ! The members coped manfully, sustained by the guiding hand of Mr. Watmough, who wrote a quite excellent musical score. It was a pity that more opportunity was not available to utilise P. A. Winter's good speaking-voice. Criticisms, of a purely quibbling character, revolve around a regret that the dialogue was not sharply pointed in the first act ; also, an objection to the concession to realism : did Agave and the Guard really have to appear daubed in a synthetic concoction which resembled coagulated marrow-bone jelly ?

On the production side, Rees, with the valuable help of Mr. Ashwell and Mr. Newling, was able to display his talents. The lighting was restrained. The success of the venture is a tribute to the assiduity of the Classical Society, and the "esprit de corps" which animates it. One hopes further productions will follow.

R. C. SNELLING.

“RUDDIGORE”

The Operatic Society presented “Ruddigore” on the last four nights of the fifteenth and penultimate week of the Christmas Term. Your reviewer, attending his first R.G.S. opera production, went fearing the worst: “Ruddigore” in anything less than a good production can be a profound bore, as it is far from vintage Gilbert and Sullivan.

Seating himself gingerly on one of the Queen’s Hall’s new chairs, distinguished by their modern design and old-fashioned discomfort, your reviewer was pleasantly horrified at first by the ghostly cover of the programme and then gently lulled by the soothing warmth in the Hall—by no means a common experience in school halls, whether they be venerable with antique beams or aggressively modern with glass and concrete. With minimal pomp, the conductor arrived and launched the orchestra into the potpourri of the work’s tunes which makes up the overture. It was immediately apparent that this was to be no ordinary amateur production: the orchestra played with zest and lightness: under Mr. Dawes’ guidance the music fizzed happily with just the right spirit.

The plot of “Ruddigore” is too weird and wonderful to bear repeating in detail here: suffice it to say that there are two brothers, the elder of whom feigned death to avoid succeeding to the title and character of the wicked baronetcy of the Murgatroyd family: this deceit is discovered: the younger brother thankfully relinquishes his title and his wickedness. Before a court of the ghosts of his ancestors, who step down from their pictures in the Picture Gallery at Ruddigore Castle, the new baronet is arraigned on a charge of failing to do his daily wicked deed: his act of atonement is to abduct an elderly Sabine who turns out to be the fiancée of the wretched baronet’s uncle: when this worthy man descends from his frame a second time—a veritable *deus ex machina*—there is the customary ritual marriage feast and rejoicing to end the play. There are also the usual maidens in, and out of, love with the various main characters and there are choruses of, of all things, professional bridesmaids, fisher girls, bucks and ancestors. With an array as motley as this, the omens of disaster are clustered close round any projected performance.

This was in no respect a disastrous performance: on the contrary it was a thoroughly excellent evening’s entertainment. The wholly successful production diarchy, with Mr. Dawes in charge of the music and Mr. Newling directing the acting, gave us a stylish performance of great panache. The cast of seventy all sang well: the chorus had been well drilled and its interjections “Hail the bridegroom, hail the bride” in the Finale of Act One were perfectly timed and delivered. The grouping of

the chorus was unobtrusively and effectively organised : in the revelling scenes, where the large stage was thronged with cavorting couples, any collision was quite unthinkable. This production was a far cry from the usual nadir of school presentations where, through insufficient discipline, somebody either treads on the train of his neighbour's costume or, thinking he will be unnoticed, chats to his neighbour. It was splendid.

The principals, as well as being able to sing, could act. We will long remember the horrific entrance of Mad Margaret, Rose Maybud composedly consulting her book of etiquette, Sir Despard Murgatroyd's towering villainy and the excellent portrayal of Dame Hannah. It is perhaps invidious to pick out stars in such an excellent group, but J. G. Scouse's acting and singing were in the highest class. His every gesture and every intonation fitted perfectly the part of Sir Despard. As his brother, Sir Ruthven, A. H. Dixon gave the necessary highly polished performance of this dapper squire, while R. W. Gravestock sang well as Dick Dauntless, though one could have wished him to be at times more flamboyant, particularly during the hornpipe. R. C. Jones was a splendidly arrogant chief ghost. The lesser parts were well played by R. H. Mullick, P. G. Engel and A. D. Havard. The women were excellent. S. Jenner, as Rose Maybud, the girl who realised that it was not etiquette to hint, in print, managed his large part well ; M. D. Goldring brought off brilliantly the portrayal of the old woman, Dame Hannah, and sang with distinguished excellence, while P. A. Roberts' Mad Margaret was in a class of its own. His acting of Margaret Mad—appearing like some Preraphaelite Ophelia—and of Margaret Not-so-mad, where Despard curbs her outbursts with the most pregnant of passwords, "Beaconsfield", will long linger in our minds. Particularly noteworthy was the patter song in which, while the smoke began to rise from the over-heated violins, the three participants not only acted but sang in such a way that every word was clearly audible, at least in Row G. D'Oyley Carte please note—it *is* possible. One slight oddity. Almost all the strapping great heroes were going to get married to charming heroines who barely reached their fiances, elbow. This oddity must clearly remain as long as the Operatic Society puts on works which have characters of two sexes with actors of only one. Is co-operation with the High School really out of the question ?

The production was acclaimed with the prolonged applause it deserved : your reviewer thoroughly enjoyed himself and looks forward eagerly to the producers' next offering, whether it be Mozart, Purcell, John Gay or G. & S. again.

D.J.A.

“TRIPLE BILL”

We were all very sorry to hear that the unfortunate illness of Mr. T. J. Newling made the proposed Shakespeare production impossible. Nevertheless, the performances we saw on those two nights looked far from a hurried substitute for this performance. Indeed, all three pieces were produced in a most professional and effective manner; and all those who came could not have had a more enjoyable evening.

The first play, the medieval “Everyman”, is perhaps the most exacting of the three, particularly on the production side. The set for it is necessarily very simple and there is little movement throughout, which would seem to make it fairly easy to produce. What the set and action must do, however, and this is most difficult, is to create atmosphere. Unless a modern audience can, in some measure, be taken back to medieval times, the play is in grave danger of becoming meaningless. To me, at least, Mr. Ashwell’s production, from the initial music and lighting onwards, certainly achieved the required transformation. Indeed this inspired beginning assured that the desertion of Everyman by everything save his “Good Deeds” struck a true note. The final death scene recreated this atmosphere and indeed added to it, with the result that the meaning of the play was well and truly thrust home. Mr. Ashwell’s production certainly assured “Everyman’s” success, and I cannot praise it enough; but the actors themselves are all to be highly congratulated as well. David Lewis was outstanding in the title role, and we can clearly expect some really first-class performances from him in future school productions. John Hume proved an effective Death, and Martin Jenner showed the same appealing ability as Fellowship as some of us enjoyed in an informal one-act play last summer. An amusing, yet effective, interpretation of Goods was provided by Graham King, and David Snodin gave a polished performance as Good Deeds, while his brother Michael, and Richard Jones, as usual, spoke their lines most clearly. All these were supported excellently by the rest of the cast—Graham Huggins as Kindred, Colin Smith as the Cousin, Michael Yorke as Confession, Jeremy Knight as Beauty, Andrew Wands as Strength, David Morton as Discretion, and David Gostlow as Five Wits.

The “Improvisation” provided by Mr. Ashwell, Mr. MacTavish and members of 4A proved interesting and highly amusing. The introductory miming was excellently natural, and in particular I remember the mimed sadness at the death of a friend. One could have heard a pin drop in the Hall—it was most realistic. The main part of the “Improvisation”, the confrontation of Mr. Them and a politician, provided us with an outstanding example of acting on the part of both Mr. Ashwell

and Mr. MacTavish. Again we must congratulate Mr. Ashwell on his originality—one wonders how much time he must have spent producing this and “Everyman”.

Chekhov’s “The Anniversary”, “a short fast-moving comedy” rounded off the evening’s entertainment in a very suitable manner. It was hilarious at times, without ever getting out of hand, and provided an excellent vehicle for the talents of the small cast. Michael Baker’s portrayal of the grumpy, but hard-working bank cashier without whom the chairman would have been lost was delightful and afforded much amusement. Jim Scouse, as this very chairman, produced another fine performance, while Paul Roberts played his fun-loving, gossiping wife to perfection. Roger Heron’s elderly lady was another performance of which he can be proud, and these four were well supported by Michael Dalley, Bryan Fox, Peter Colley and Geoffrey Handley, who did all that was necessary of them, while David Rees’ direction assured that these fine individual performances were combined into a pleasing whole.

Indeed, all three productions were so accomplished that I could find no important fault in any of them, and each cast is to be congratulated. Of course, no performance can be produced without many people working hard behind the scenes, and there are many who should be mentioned here in that category. Mr. A. C. Hills, Mr. M. J. Eaton and Mr. J. C. R. Davies are to be thanked for supervising the make-up, set-construction and box-office, for the whole Bill. Mr. and Mrs. Ashwell, among their many other tasks, supervised the scenery and costumes for “Everyman”, while Mrs. F. N. Cooper supervised the wardrobe for “The Anniversary”. They and their many helpers are to be thanked, as are those boys who helped with stage management and lighting. They all played an indispensable part in a memorable evening’s entertainment.

C. J. PACKMAN.

RUSSIAN RHAPSODY

Late one fine morning last August a party of twenty-nine masters and boys embarked on the *Hook of Holland* boat at Harwich, and soon we saw England vanishing in the stern wake. We were off to Russia on the most ambitious school trip to date.

The journey by boat and train to Moscow was uneventful, but interesting to the geographically and politically minded, since during three days and two nights we passed through Holland, West Germany, East Germany, Berlin, Poland and Russia. It was especially revealing to compare the shabbiness of East

Germany with conditions in Poland and Russia ; few of us will forget the control-posts around Berlin, which were teeming with armed police.

Our four days in Moscow were, to say the least, hectic. Most of the time was spent in organised excursions directed by our guide, a knowledgeable young lady with admirable statistics named Irena.

Moscow is a city of violent contrasts : first, there is the Kremlin and its environs ; one could spend many days inspecting the parts which are open to the public of the fortified buildings extending over thirteen acres which constitute the Kremlin. The Armoury contains a fantastic collection of treasures, including gold crowns studded with up to a thousand diamonds, and an enormous amount of silverware, including a three thousand, two hundred and eighty piece silver tea set, weighing about two tons. One wonders whether the Tsars entertained the whole nation to tea ! Also inside the walls are three silver-domed cathedrals, together with the famous Tsar Bell, the largest of its kind in the world.

Outside the Kremlin, whose walls form one side of Red Square, is the Lenin mausoleum ; the frigid cold inside and the sight of Lenin's embalmed body, of which only the head and arms were visible, was a gruesome and unforgettable experience. Another side of Red Square is occupied by St. Basil's Cathedral, a fantastic structure in Oriental style which looks as if the builder designed it as he went along. To the south-west lies a huge modern suburb housing half a million people ; further on, the State University is housed in a gigantic structure which from a distance appears to be an outsize wedding-cake. We went up by express lift to the twenty-fourth floor, to view the city laid out as if on a map beneath. Nine out of ten students study science and technology ; our visit certainly brought home to us the reasons for the ability of the Russians to hurl men into space at the most politically opportune moment.

One noticeable feature is the great shortage of consumer goods of all types. Time and again members of our party were approached by Russians, who generally spoke English quite well, wishing to purchase our dirty shirts, socks, or pullovers. The sums of money they offered were often several times the market price, and some of our party managed to "make a deal" ; one had to be careful, however, since sometimes Secret Police agents attempt to entice foreign tourists into these illegal sales, and we did not want to create an international incident. Soon we moved on to Leningrad.

This "Versailles of the North" has an unforgettable sparkle. While Moscow is somehow typically Russian and Asiatic, Leningrad is definitely European. Its outstanding glory is the

Winter Palace with its Hermitage Art Gallery, containing two million pictures ; almost the whole of this elegant white and turquoise Baroque palace is given over to it. If one examined each picture for only ten seconds, it would take two years, eight hours a day, to see every picture. Leningrad contains many other magnificent buildings, in a city which is not as featureless as Moscow ; there is a large area of neo-Classical buildings beautifully kept and colour-washed in pastel shades. The overall effect is breath-taking. We also visited one of the Tsar's summer palaces, about fifteen miles from Leningrad ; here Peter the Great indulged his perverse sense of humour by soaking dignitaries with hidden jets of water placed in the grounds. These "trick" fountains were tested by our party with varying degrees of misfortune.

So at last we had to leave Russia : a relaxing end to the holiday was provided by the sea voyage home from Leningrad, with ports of call including Helsinki, Stockholm and Copenhagen. We had learned that the Russians are fundamentally no different from us ; they desire a peaceful settlement of the world's problems just as we do.

Our thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Perfect, who had the difficult task of organising the trip, which included such problems as International Vaccination Certificates and visa requirements ; also to Mr. Skipp and Mr. Merrylees for their assistance.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH, 6S3.

H.M.M.L. 2840

At 4.30 p.m. on Monday, the 19th of August, several weary cadets clambered from the stationary Birkenhead express at High Wycombe. After momentary doubts as to the whereabouts of Lieutenant Benson, buses were boarded and we cadets ultimately arrived home.

It had begun a week before, when, after an uneventful journey to Portsmouth in a dingy Southern Region train, we found ourselves peering over the guard-rails of a large supply ship, the *Bellerophon*. Barely visible, alongside the starboard quarter, was a small, antiquated motor-launch H.M.M.L. 2840, our home for the next week. Cautiously we descended the precarious ladder to the quarter-deck of the M.L., where we were introduced to the captain and only officer, Lieutenant-Commander Lamb, D.S.M., R.N. Members of the crew then showed us to our quarters, after which we immediately went ashore for the remainder of the evening, to sample the produce of Portsmouth.

The ship was a war veteran, having been built in 1941. She was powered by two diesel engines and had seen active service with the Coastal Forces.

On the Monday we were introduced to the ways of the Navy, being woken at 6.30 a.m. After a greasy breakfast we were politely shown the upper deck, handed rags and tins of metal polish, and told to get busy with the numerous brass fittings on the deck and the bridge. Fortunately, dinner was soon ready and, after a meal prepared as only the Navy knows how, we slipped our moorings and proceeded to Poole.

In a moderate sea, which became worse later on, the first of our number succumbed to sea-sickness. We cadets passed the time taking turns at the helm, and learning the science of navigation and the intricacies of radar. During Monday night we experienced night watches, which were not so bleak as we had imagined. Each pair of cadets spent two hours on watch, most of the time being passed in the galley brewing evil-looking liquids which had a vague resemblance to coffee and cooking toast which had the texture of best-quality leather.

Tuesday morning saw us heading for Jersey. The weather was considerably worse than on the previous day and in spite of Admiralty pattern sea-sickness tablets all but two of the party were sick. However, we had recovered sufficiently well to be able to spend the evening sampling Jersey's duty-free commodities.

The next day we were host to a party of the Royal Marine Volunteer Corps, who spent a day at sea with us. The only other event of the day occurred during a hard turn to starboard. The Chief's (Engineering Chief Petty Officer's) dinner slid slowly across the mess-deck table and tilted into his lap. A stew-strewn Chief arose from the table swearing volubly, creating a stir on board. Censorship precludes repetition here.

The Captain had intended to go to Guernsey by way of Alderney on Thursday, but once we had left harbour all the magnetic repeater compasses broke down owing to a blown fuse. And, if this were not enough, a little further on we collided with a large tin can, which had the fantastic effect of ripping several yards of copper-plating from the ship's hull. After that we made for Guernsey by the shortest possible route.

Originally it was intended that we should cross to Dartmouth on the Friday, but unexpected gales kept us in St. Peter Port; like animals in a cage there we remained until Sunday morning, when the Captain made a short-lived attempt to reach Plymouth. Fate had decided otherwise, and soon water was cascading on to the bridge and surging down the forecastle in great green masses.

The sea ahead was flecked with white and vicious-looking. Without wasting any more time we headed back to Guernsey. We attended the local church, in company with the Cox'n, who expressed his disappointment with the singing by vowing to become a Methodist.

A second attempt to reach Plymouth was made in the evening ; after weighing anchor we headed in the general direction of England. The sea had subsided somewhat, but it was still rough. Awaking on Monday morning, we found ourselves moored alongside a minesweeper, safe in Plymouth harbour. After breakfast we began the long journey home.

The week had proved most profitable to all concerned, and it is a great pity that more people do not avail themselves of the excellent training facilities which the C.C.F. offers.

D. A. WAKFIELD, 6M1.

AT THIS CRIMSON HOUR OF DAY

At this crimson hour of day
Evening breathes on evening land :
Sun surrenders in the dusk,
Hear what summer has to say.
Far from you my voice's husk :
Lean out on the sea and sand.

Unseen in each other's eyes
For the understanding there,
Though not more than we supply,
Complications must arise
That no talk will satisfy,
Spoken through your guarded stare.

Each anticipates the time
Far beyond this phase that bores,
Free from all initial pain,
Free from language. Be the crime
Uncommitted, we remain
Sympathetic to a cause.

M. V. L. TURNER.

THE COLOUR OF HIS SKIN

Michael Jones is an ordinary man at college, he has done well and has a good education, and it is not surprising that he looks upon life with great satisfaction. Michael Jones is the son of parents who have fought for the freedom of their country. This man Michael Jones has many friends but there are some who hate him ; the reason for this is that the colour of his skin is different : it is not white.

To most the colour of a man's skin does not change anything, but there are some who consider him no better than a dog, the so-called "man's best friend".

Perhaps the theory that the colour of your skin decides whether you are acceptable or not, comes from the days of the slave traders. Coloured people were shipped from different parts of the world, especially Africa, to the plantations of the Americas. The average plantation owner did not care if they died from overwork, as they could easily be replaced for a small amount of money. This is not true of all plantation owners, as some treated their employees well. The amazing fact was that after the slave trader had made three trips with the hold of his ship full of coloured people, he was able to retire and live comfortably for the rest of his life. The coloured people were sold like cattle and treated like cattle.

There were some men like Wilberforce who deplored slave trading. It was these men who spent their lives in the freeing of slaves. These men knew that people were born equal regardless of colour. It is a pity that some people in the twentieth century still do not see that men are born equal.

Michael Jones has lived in a separate community from his white college friends. He is forbidden to ride on some buses ; he is forbidden to enter "white man's" restaurants and coffee bars. Segregation leads to trouble, and where there is trouble there is usually violence. In many parts of the world violence is breaking out in mixed communities ; we say that it is not our fault that the outbreaks have occurred, but is this really true ? Surely if we had not despised and treated the coloured man like dirt, we might have settled our differences far more peacefully and better than we are doing now.

Michael Jones was born into a world of great prosperity ; his chances of being successful, however, were limited, but he has succeeded, and is now setting an example to us all by helping with racial problems in New York.

M. GOODMAN, 5UG.

“TREED”

A few moments ago he was the arrogant bragger, but now he is a shivering pale victim, victim of a joke dreamed up by the boy with the thick black greasy hair, who is now clutching his ribs in a state of forced laughter. The ladder has been taken away. Thirty feet of smooth grey beech between his feet and where the trunk split up into many roots.

But he is going to climb on. Which branch did they say? He is climbing, feeling, pulling steadily—and then he slips. He grabs a branch and pulls himself into an astride position on the limb. His heart had frozen, but now pounds in irregular thumps. A few seconds later he is starting again, heaving and grasping gently with both hands; he had reached the crooked branch as far as he had to go.

He backs down slowly, his body alternately hot and cold, his scalp tightening around his ears as he imagines himself limply slithering through the branches and landing in a twisted heap of pain on the sharp, flinty soil.

With shivering limbs he clammers down to the lowest branches of the tree, working out his next move. It is a long way to the ground; his heart flutters. His mind races through a series of moments of doubt, and in a moment of indecision he pushes himself off the branch: the knot of his stomach muscles tighten as the ground rushes up to meet him, on impact forcing his knees to his chin. He stands up, and with a hint of self-pity limps off among his friends. The pride of a dare accepted erases the memory of his fear.

“Good fun that was,” he claims as he strolls off with them.

J. W. HUME, 5UR.

“THE FIFTH ESTATE” (1)

Until about twenty years ago the social structure of this country consisted of three main groups. These were the upper, leisured class, the middle, professional and mercantile class, and the lower class of manual and clerical workers. The political history of the United Kingdom during the previous hundred years or so was the story of the transfer of electoral power from the upper class to the middle and, especially, the lower class.

Over the last few years, however, the social structure has been rapidly changing. A new class has appeared—that of experts in all fields. Scientists, technologists, engineers, economists, and trained managers are becoming more and more common in response to the demand for them that exists in modern society. Remembering Voltaire’s dictum that the press

constituted a fourth estate, we could call this class a fifth estate. Does the present political system of this country allow members of this fifth estate to reach positions commensurate with their ability ?

Under whichever government that is likely to come to power in the near future, ministerial posts will be offered to men from one of two groups that have much in common. Almost all of them went to independent schools where they were instructed in the language, ways, and ideals of two thousand years ago. None has more than the most elementary scientific training, and some still believe that the government of this country resembles a game of cricket, best placed in the hands of amateurs. Those appointed to ministries are not allowed to acquire much knowledge of their responsibilities before being moved to another, usually totally different, ministry, thus continuing the ludicrous game of musical chairs which characterises any British Government.

The Conservative party appears to think that the battle for the survival of this country is fought on the playing fields of Eton. It is almost incredible that half the Cabinet and a considerable proportion of Members of Parliament have been educated at the same school, at a time when it has been conclusively shown that the only superiority of that school is in terms of social prestige. The worst feature of this oligarchical system where the old school tie counts for more than ability is that it is self-perpetuating ; the government becomes more and more divorced from reality. One has only to examine the boards of directors of most businesses to see that this state of affairs persists in industry too.

The aim of most members of the Labour party, and many Liberals, too, is to reduce society to its lowest common denominator. For example, they eagerly plan for the day when they can introduce comprehensive schools throughout the country. The consequences of this anti-intellectual policy in terms of lowered academic standards, producing frustration and boredom among the brighter children, are unimaginable. Instead of the meritocracy at which we should be aiming, a mediocrity would appear.

None of the political parties of this country, therefore, seriously considers the aspirations of the fifth estate. Yet this class is growing rapidly at the expense of others. Surely it must be seen quite soon by the electorate that we need the best economist in the country as Chancellor of the Exchequer, a highly experienced ex-Headmaster or Vice-Chancellor at the Ministry of Education, a really good doctor at the Ministry of Health, and so on. The effectiveness of this type of government was amply demonstrated by the Kennedy regime in America ; this country is plagued by hysterical fear of those quite imaginary

persons, the "faceless men". Meanwhile the steady flow of disillusioned experts from this country to America steadily increases. The British nation will deserve to be plunged into obscurity if it fails to realise that the time has come for responsibility to be given to people in proportion to their merit.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH, 6S3.

"THE FIFTH ESTATE"? (2)

To christen "experts in all fields" "the fifth estate" is to perpetuate an idea that I believe is both old-fashioned and harmful. This idea is that the people who live in this country belong to separate "estates" or "classes". Even in earlier centuries when one spoke of "the natural order of things" this was not entirely true, and in the present period of social mobility it is far from true. The idea of class warfare is therefore really not relevant to the present situation, but nevertheless the fact that it can still be spoken about in the new context of experts against amateurs must surely reflect some iniquities.

The place where experts should be, and at the moment are not, is the Civil Service, but not politics. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, for example, should be able to hold his own in economics but should not be the best economist in the country—that person should be a member of the Chancellor's staff. The Chancellor's job should be to listen to the advice of his experts and to formulate policy in accordance with this and the demands of other departments, many of which cannot be evaluated merely on economic grounds. The same is true for any minister; for his job is to co-ordinate the advice of experts and balance his policy with the claims and aims of other departments. Because of this it is therefore desirable that a minister should not head one department for long but should rather have experience of as many departments as possible. This last argument is enforced by the fact that all ministers are candidates for a future premiership and ought to gain experience of as many posts as they can.

A word is perhaps relevant here concerning the so-called "old school tie" system which is said to operate in the present government. A fact that is often forgotten, and that I think explains the presence in the Cabinet of so many people educated at a certain independent school, is that the education of these ministers, for the most part, took place thirty or more years ago. At that time the quality of state schools was not as high as at present, and not many people leaving these schools seriously considered entering politics. In the independent schools, however, it was almost the natural thing to, for even then their

choice of career was not very far removed from the traditional "church, army, or politics". The situation with regard to the representation of independent schools in Parliament will undoubtedly change as those educated in the post-war years find their way into Parliament. If it should not, then one could justifiably claim that "the old school tie" was being accorded too much importance.

To talk of warring classes and the preponderance of the "old school tie" is to exaggerate the situation. The "old school tie", I feel sure, will disappear with the development of education. The question of the position of experts is of more importance. An island such as this, with so few natural resources, depends almost entirely on brain power for its survival, and if this island is to survive the position with regard to experts must be improved in the near future. It is a mistake, however, to believe that this improvement should take place in politics, for, apart from the other arguments, their abilities would probably be wasted there. The place for the experts is in the departments that the politicians head.

C. J. PACKMAN, 6M3.

"WE SHALL NEVER SEE HIS LIKE AGAIN . . ."

As most people must by now be aware, April 23rd is the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of the world's greatest dramatist, William Shakespeare, Gent., of Stratford-upon-Avon. At least it is give or take a day, for we do not know the exact date of his birth—but what's good enough for St. George is good enough for Will, I suppose.

The expected celebrations at Stratford will, of course, be the main attraction for the pilgrims: this year in a "Son et lumière" entitled "The Swan of Avon", Miss Lesley Caron, in "Birthday clothes", made specially for the event, will swim down the river from Clopton Bridge to Trinity Church, and a special performance will be given of John Barton's version of "The Silent Woman", renamed "Shut that Trap". Tourists will be able to buy such souvenirs as plaster busts of Shakespeare's mother, Elizabeth Arden of Wilmcote, London and Paris, plastic working models of Anne Hathaway's courting settle, Will Shakespeare's own ale pots (issued by Sir Fordham Flower), and bronze medals of Mr. Peter Hall flanked by Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr. Harold Wilson as the tragic and comic muses.

But probably the most interesting contribution to the quatercentenary year is the forthcoming National Theatre production of "Amleth," so I visited the Theatre's literary adviser, Dr. A. L.

Rowse, in his study at All Souls' College, Oxford ; his recent book about Elizabeth I, entitled "I was the Dark Lady of the Sonnets" supports the identification of Henry VIII as the rival poet. As to the unusual spelling of the title, he remarked that they had reverted to the original tenth-century name, found in Saxo-Grammaticus, the noted Anglo-Saxon wit. The production itself is highly original : "Amleth", in Dr. Rowse's interpretation, is the real murderer of the Ghost, and Claudius' marriage to Gertrud is a blind to conceal from the Danes the true identity of Fortinbras, who is really Amleth's son by Ofelia, a Norwegian nun.

The distinguished cast is headed by Dame Sybil Thorndike, recently voted by the *Evening Standard* "Most Promising Actress of 1963" ; also in the cast is Sir Michael Redgrave (now in the latest Whitehall Farce). Miss Elizabeth Taylor, who was to play Ofelia, has had to withdraw because of other commitments. Music's latest Life Peers, Lennon and McCartney, have composed the score for guitar, french horn and amplifier. Sean Kenny has designed the set, a revolving sphere of pink polythene.

But the ultimate responsibility lies with Sir Laurence Olivier, who is directing and playing Amleth. He has slightly rearranged the text, so that the play opens with Amleth's soliloquy :

"How all occasions inform that this
Too solid flesh would melt—Oh, what a rogue
And peasant slave to be, or not to be—
Oh, all you host of heaven ! Oh hell, what else !"

The curtain will fall after the words of Amleth—the "rest is silence".

It should be a marvellous occasion, but I hear the first night is completely sold out, mainly as a result of the presence of the Royal Family, enjoying their annual theatre trip. There are, however, standing tickets in the Gallery at fifteen guineas each.

"The rest is silence", except for one of the Bard's own quotations—"God for Larry, England, and St. Will".

D. J. REES, 6C3.

"YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED . . ."

Now the rugby season is over (or will be by the time you read this), perhaps it is only fair to warn those enthusiasts of the game about a scourge and pestilence that is to be found at every large rugby ground, Sudbury and Twickenham in particular.

This bane to which I refer is, of course, the professional rugby spectator. I will supply a few details which will facilitate

recognition, and therefore avoidance, of this hateful creature, so providing for a more enjoyable day's watching in the future.

The uniform he wears is almost invariably a dark brown Prince of Wales tweed coat and matching cloth cap, with a faded pair of generously-cut trousers tucked into bilious green socks which are encased in burnished veldtschoen that have seen good service on grouse moor and peat bog. A club tie is an optional extra.

The only accoutrements he is encumbered with are : a shooting-stick for half-time, a vacuum flask of coffee, generously laced with a spirituous liquid, and the ubiquitous hip-flash containing the latter fortifying beverage. He finds a programme superfluous, knowing all the players personally, a fact of which he reminds everyone within earshot whenever a suitably quiet moment presents itself, by loudly congratulating players by their Christian names for some artless move. He will also have been at school with all the internationals from Weston-super-Mare to Stockton-on-Tees, and all his schoolmasters will have been budding prospects. A condensed character study of the aforementioned will be supplied almost without request ; one of the advantages of a wide academic career, I imagine.

His pearls of wisdom will not be restricted to garbled instructions to the captains on how best to deploy their men or what tactics to use, but sage advice will also be proffered to some unfortunate who has been caught with the ball by several corpulent forwards. "Get rid of it !" the oracle will command.

The referee will also have the benefit of the spectator's eagle eye, intently watching for any violation of the rules by the opposition. By concentrating on any one particular player, the spectator will be able to spot from his perch, a hundred yards away and strategically near the bar and the "Gentlemen's", some malefaction which the referee has been unable to see from ten.

This spectator prefers the company of novices to that of old hands, so that he may give a simplified version of the rules as well as the history of the game.

The 'Varsity match is his favourite hunting-ground, as then he has an opportunity to relate the details of a scholastic training that embraces both universities and spans almost half a century. It is an unfortunate trait among spectators that, while remaining insensitive to their own raucous, stentorian bellow, they are hypersensitive to any noise immediately to their rear. That is to say, if one vigorously exhales the contents of one's lungs, through the orifice of a bugle positioned in the immediate vicinity of the spectator's auricular organs, that person is liable to become unreasonably agitated and threaten to do alarming things, worthy of a contortionist, with the said instrument.

One further aid to recognition of this spectator is his paradoxical omission to supply the details of his own rugby career ; this leads one rather to suspect that he, lamentably, never rose above the ethereal elevation of the "extra C's", and then only as a result of a wildfire 'flu epidemic.

D. W. LEWIS, 5UY.

ELEGY

Well, so the time has come at last
for you to leave :
I could not care, I would not show regret,
I should not grieve,
but for the unobstructed sheen
the leather sofa bears . . .

It is not simply done—this passing on,
dismissing easily with slight concern.
I carelessly had hoped for some obscurer mercy,
sometimes to feel how fully you have gone ;
(and the vase of daffodils, thinking well on their loss,
fade yellower and shrivel).

We mourn a precious fragment
whose departure is your departure.
The lace patterns fill the curtain now
no less :

 I ponder how
the sad reflections on the ephemeral hour
reflecting every sadness
call on a memory for absolution.

But how the garden's sunlight disappoints
the graceful lilacs, noble, tall and mauve.

It is not left for me
to sing soft elegies around an empty grave.
I shall not pine in wistful melancholy
for figments' sake ; I am no stricken deer
that leaves the herd, nor I'll allow
some other one to pave the morning light,
more sinful in your absence.

M. V. L. TURNER.

PORTRAIT OF GREECE

Greece is a country of many beauties, from the ruins of ancient Delphi to the modern Hilton Hotel in Athens. The sun pours down on a landscape which is composed of mountains and plains ; villages gleam like snow on the hillsides ; the valleys below are studded with orange groves, carpeted by brightly-coloured flowers. Islands, connected with the mainland by quaint and dilapidated ferries, proliferate.

Life in Greece proceeds at a spasmodic pace. The working day begins at dawn and ends at noon, when everything stops for a siesta. Then, towards evening, people promenade up and down the pavements as though they have nowhere to go, sometimes stopping for a "pasta" (a form of fancy cake) and a cup of coffee with the inevitable glass of water. Most cafes provide their own entertainment in the form of a three-piece "bouzouki" band.

Houses in the villages differ from the towns considerably. The ground floor is given over to the animals. The second storey contains a long living-room, usually furnished with long wooden chests in which they store their grain ; the balcony is indispensable to the Greek—who is fond of carrying on conversations from it. The tiled roof is held in place by stones. Night-life in the villages is almost non-existent : the only thing to do is to sit in a cafe drinking the licorice drink "Ouzo", flavoured with aniseed, or the thick, black Turkish coffee.

Greece's greatest attraction remains its ruins, many of which are being restored. Apart from the "Acropolis", the famous building which dominates Athens, there is Delphi, home of the oracle, and Marathon, with its burial mound, where all the dead were interred after the victory over the Persians. Epidaurus' magnificent theatre is still in use, as is the theatre in the Acropolis. However, the country remains one of the poorest in Europe. Communism is rampant, and in some areas nearly one out of five people cannot read or write.

Nevertheless, the wonderful climate and generous hospitality of the people make Greece an ideal country for a holiday.

P. G. NICHOLLS, 5SB.

"CORN FROM TWO COUNTRIES"

When a traveller goes to a foreign country he will be guided by some ideas about the country and the human beings there. So what does the Englishman expect to find in Germany? Well, of course, the "typical" German must wear his leather shorts, white socks, a white shirt with rolled-up sleeves and a

green hat with feathers on it. And, if one is lucky, one can even see him yodelling, with a beer-mug in his hand, bouncing around and beating his shoes with his hands.

On the other hand, the German expects to find in England a human being who will look like the following : the Englishman stands in the fog with an umbrella, his arm clutching a rolled-up newspaper, while he balances a cup of tea and a plate of biscuits in his hand. And, of course, he wears a bowler-hat and waits for someone to come who will introduce him to someone else, so that he can talk about the weather.

However, one might feel the urge to communicate, which leads to the question of foreign languages. One need, however, not worry about that, for it is quite enough for a brilliant conversation to know two words : those two miraculous words are in German "Wurst" and "Bier". I really do not know what Germany is more famed for, Goethe or her sausages. Anyway, it is lovely to look at those German sausages, in their different shapes, from short ones the size of a baby's fingers, to those three feet in length with a diameter of a baby's head. Beer, on the other hand, keeps German throats smooth so that the sausage can glide the faster down to German stomachs.

The German in England must know the words "tea" and "weather". Instead he might say "rain", which means the same. Where would the English be without tea or the Germans without beer? I dare not think. If once the supply stopped, all the disheartened and cadaverous faces would give one a presentiment of Doomsday.

The traveller in a foreign country might be keen to explore his new surroundings, and prefer public transport to his own feet. I remember a poor, unsuspecting German who wanted to get on a bus. At the bus-stop one woman—apparently English to the core—was waiting. So the German stood beside her, and got a terrible shock when she said in an unearthly voice : "I am a queue!" This phenomenon will not be found in Germany. When a tram arrives a struggle of life or death ensues, as everybody considers it his privilege to get on the tram first. Once on the tram a strange thing happens. For, not only do school-children and boy-scouts occupying a seat stand up, but everyone considers it a matter of course, an honour even, to offer his seat to his elders.

And thus one nation is made strong by fog, rain, tea, Shakespeare and queueing, another gets its strength from beer, sausages, Goethe, and perpetual fighting in public transport.

But, as long as we smile at each other's peculiarities and do not criticise them seriously and bitterly—and even love them for their peculiarities—we are well on the way to a united Europe.

F. H. EIGLER.

SOCIETY REPORTS

AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

During Speech Day the Society organised a model aircraft competition. The first prize for a flying model was awarded to D. R. S. Hedgeland, and first prize for a solid model was gained by P. D. Thomson.

The Autumn Term trip to Hunting's factory at Luton was a great success and enjoyed by all.

A series of aircraft recognition competitions was held during the term, with Gardener and Russell attaining the highest scores.

P. F. Ray gave the first two lectures on radio control for model aircraft, and it is hoped that he will continue during the Summer Term.

The first prize for the model aircraft competition held at the end of the Spring Term was won by R. J. Calcutt.

M. P. HYDE.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Several important events have taken place this term. The S.C.M. Conference was held at the School this year, when Dr. Robinson's controversial book "Honest to God" was debated with interest. On the following day the annual Confirmation Service took place in the Chapel and thirty boys were confirmed by the Bishop of Buckingham, after which there was a Communion Service in which all boys who had been confirmed were invited to take part, and the Chapel was filled to overflowing.

At the end of term the first meeting of the newly-formed Joint Christian Fellowship was held in the form of an Easter Service in the Chapel. This was conducted by the Rev. A. J. Skipp, and the Rev. E. Crew, a Methodist minister, preached the sermon.

As well as these events, Prayer Meetings have been held daily in the Chapel and a Bible Study Group has met weekly.

The Junior Christian Fellowship has been limited to quizzes because of a lack of time during the dinner hour, but it is hoped to find a more convenient time for the meeting.

P. LANGSTON.

CAMERA CLUB

During this term the Club was at last able to obtain a new enlarger, thanks to the generosity of the School. With this enlarger it is now possible to enlarge all negative sizes up to 3½ in. x 2½ in., instead of the previous restriction to thirty-five millimetre only restriction. Stocks of chemicals and materials have been greatly extended, and now 35 m.m. film is on sale to members.

Near the end of term a photographic competition was held. In the Open section, C. J. Myerscough gained first prize, while S. C. Charlton gained second and third. In the Junior section, G. Easter was first and A. G. M. Haynes second. More interest is being shown in photography in the senior school, but not enough in the junior school. It is hoped that this situation will improve.

S. C. CHARLTON.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Since this magazine last went to press the Classical Society has organised a number of interesting activities besides mounting the November production of Euripides' "The Bacchae", of which a fuller report can be found above.

Two theatre visits have been made—one to the Oxford Playhouse Company's production of "The Bacchae" at the newly-built Lamda Theatre Club, after which members were able to talk with the producer and some of the cast; the other to the musical based on the plays of Plautus, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", at the Strand Theatre.

Members have been able to attend several talks: "The Trojan War", given by a visiting speaker at Wycombe High School; Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana", by Mr. D. J. Authers; and three short papers given in October by R. G. Thomas, G. A. K. Stansall and A. S. Wickens.

A playreading was held in February of Plautus' "The Captives", and the Society has arranged the Annual Latin Reading competition for the last week of the Spring Term.

DAVID REES.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Once again the time to report on the progress of the Society has arrived. This year's choice of a production had to be chosen carefully after the success of "The Government Inspector" and "Thieves' Carnival", and it was decided to stage Shakespeare's "Macbeth". The large cast would have been supplemented

mainly by the five-uppers who are studying this play for "O" Level, if it had not been for Mr. Newling's illness. As he fell ill with pneumonia at the beginning of the term, it was decided that "Macbeth" would be too difficult a play to produce in such a short time without him, and so a "Triple Bill" was planned. It seems a pity that one of Shakespeare's great plays could not be produced on his 400th anniversary, but . . .

The "Triple Bill" included "Everyman"—the first production at this school by Mr. Ashwell—"The Anniversary"—Chekhov's fast-moving comedy produced by David Rees, who also produced "The Bacchae" and "Alcestis"—and "Improvisation"—under the supervision of Mr. Ashwell. A report of this "Triple Bill" appears elsewhere in the magazine.

So far this year two trips have been arranged, one to "The Bed-sitting Room" and one to "Poor Bitos". The former, written by John Antrobus and Spike Milligan, should have starred Spike Milligan, but unfortunately he was ill and the production at the Comedy Theatre seemed to have suffered without him. Travel by London Transport double-decker bus in November was perhaps novel, but rather draughty.

"Poor Bitos", one of Jean Anouilh's greatest plays, of which he banned any performances outside France for seven years, was enjoyed by all who saw it at the "Duke of York's" on Friday, March 13th! Excellently directed by Shirley Butler, the cast included Donald Pleasance, Charles Gray, Ronald Lewis and Terence Alexander.

So much for the past. For the future it is hoped to show some films and arrange more trips, but that will come in its own good time.

For the present, the Society would like to send its best wishes to Mr. Newling and it hopes that he will have a quick recovery.

I. J. GRAYSON.

P.S. Since writing, we are glad to see that Mr. Newling has returned to School fully recovered.

FILM SOCIETY

Impervious to the severe financial losses incurred by the Film Society of last year, it was decided that a further attempt should be made to instil some form of culture into the masses of the School. However, less than sixty people chose to join the Society. Last term two full-length programmes were presented after school. The first was comprised of three short silent comedies, featuring Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy; this

was attended by no more than thirty boys. When "The Italian Straw Hat" was shown, certain members of the Upper School, who had attended owing to misleading publicity, succeeded in ruining the enjoyment of those who were capable of appreciating the finer points of René Clair's masterpiece of French comedy.

Among the shorter films shown at lunch-time to encouragingly small audiences, the most interesting has undoubtedly been "Je", a French film of mime. The Society's next major enterprise will be "The Battleship Potemkin", which will be shown at the end of term. It is hoped that there will be a large audience for this great classic. Next term's programme will be equally entertaining and any support will be appreciated. Finally, we would like to offer our thanks to Mr. Newling and Mr. MacTavish for their encouragement and assistance.

J. PIDGEON, A. BRADLEY.

HISTORY SOCIETY

This year has been exceptional in the number of very distinguished outside speakers. On October 1st, Dr. J. D. Walsh, a Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, spoke on "Methodism", and on January 14th Mr. A. F. Thompson, a Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, gave a talk on Gladstone. Max Beloff, the Gladstone Professor of Government and Public Administration at Oxford, is to talk on early twentieth-century American history on March 16th.

In addition, there have been several other talks. A. H. Schmidt spoke on "The Great Siege of Malta", the Rev. D. S. Owens on the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and D. G. Walker on Hitler. The size of audiences has fluctuated widely, but in general the Society has not met with the apathy that has been such a feature in the past. Even so, an audience of barely a dozen for one talk hardly does justice to the amount of preparation necessary; and it certainly has not done justice to the quality of the talks.

It was hoped that there would be a historical exhibition at the end of last Summer Term. For a variety of reasons, this was not possible, but instead one was held in October, to coincide with Speech Day. Among the articles offered for exhibition there was the inevitable surfeit of weapons, but too few other articles to establish a new and more satisfactory balance while still maintaining the exhibition at an acceptable size. Nevertheless, mainly because of a careful and orderly layout, the exhibition was a great success.

J. E. HAVARD.

ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL STUDIES SOCIETY

With the ever-growing importance of sociology in general, and of economics in particular, there has clearly been room for a society dealing with these subjects. As a result, a meeting was held on January 21st to form an Economics and Social Studies Society, and the following officers were elected :—

<i>Chairman</i>	....	....	R. C. File, Esq.
<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	....	....	J. E. Havard
<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	....	....	D. G. Walker
<i>Committee</i>	....	....	C. J. Packman P. D. Smith

There has only been one activity so far : on March 9th a party of 22 boys and 1 master visited the Stock Exchange. It is doubtful whether there will be many activities next term—the examinations usually impede society activities in the summer—but arrangements are being made to procure speakers for the Autumn Term.

Prospects for the Society are bright. There are large economics sets in the Sixth Form, and several historians have joined in order to broaden their knowledge of economics and sociology. If wide and continued support seems probable, financial prospects are encouraging too : the Economics Society is not the most likely one to come to an ignominious end because of faulty finance !

J. E. HAVARD.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

The most notable feature in the Society's programme this year has been a series of talks in which politicians explain their parties' policies. So far, speakers from the Communist Party and the Freedom Group have visited us ; John Hall, M.P., has spoken on Conservative Party policy. The series will be completed next term, when both the Labour and Liberal parties will be represented.

In other fields, the Society has had an unusually full and varied programme. On October 16th Mr. Hett talked on "The Change in Manners in the Twentieth Century", and, also in the Autumn Term, there were talks by Mr. Merrylees and Mr. Ashwell.

Perhaps the most successful of the Society's meetings was a debate on the subject of "Linguae Antiquae Delendae Sunt" : supporting the motion were A. H. Schmidt, Mr. File and Mr. Saunders ; K. N. Simons, Mr. Authers and Mr. Cooper opposed

it. Much of the interest came from the different tactics of the speakers : while the motion's supporters tended to be sarcastic and witty, the Classicists were more serious and academic—with the notable exception of Mr. Authers, who on several occasions met his opponents on their own ground. The outcome was a very interesting and lively debate.

Mr. Saunders is regarded as the most fluent and amusing speaker in the School, and in his talk entitled "The Art of Debate" he greatly enhanced his reputation. It was a pity that so few people were present to benefit from what proved to be a refreshing and interesting function.

Meetings next term will inevitably be fewer, because of examinations ; nevertheless, they should continue to be as stimulating as they have been until now.

J. E. HAVARD.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

For a long time the Department of Mathematics in this school has been almost alone in having no society associated with it to stimulate interest in the subject. At the beginning of this term several staff and sixth-formers decided that this situation should be remedied, and a meeting of persons interested was called.

The response has been almost overwhelming. The membership of the Society is now over sixty, and several meetings concerned with the making of mathematical models were extremely well attended. Two problem competitions were, however, less well supported, especially by the main school.

On Thursday, March 12th, a party of thirty-one staff and sixth-formers visited the University of London Computer Unit. There we had a quite elementary but very illuminating lecture on the basic principles of computing and also a demonstration of the use of a Ferranti "Mercury" Computer.

Finally, we must thank Mrs. Wood and Mr. Duffield for their assistance and encouragement at meetings of this Society, and hope that sufficient interest will be sustained for many more reports to follow this one.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH.

JAZZ APPRECIATION SOCIETY

This year has seen the revival of the Society's activities after the always dormant period of the Summer Term; a certain amount of success may thus be claimed from what has regrettably become an annual struggle against apathy.

Both membership of the Society and attendances at the weekly record sessions have risen considerably in comparison to last year, with meetings now being held in a more central position within the School. Earlier this term experimental meetings were held after school, and although this seriously affected attendances, it was decided to revert permanently to this system in view of the much wider range of material which could be embodied in one longer session. The actual content of the sessions has, however, remained unchanged. Mingus, Dolphy, Monk and Eldridge have all been featured, together with "occasional trips into the 30s", as my predecessor somewhat quaintly called them.

Only one trip has been arranged so far this year, once more to see the versatile Duke. It would certainly be difficult for anyone to forget the playing of such brilliant artists as Paul Gonsalves, Cat Anderson and Sam Woodyard. Tickets have been obtained for other concerts, with trips in the future promising the Modern Jazz Quartet and also Stan Getz.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to Mr. Gray, without whose advice and assistance at all times the Society would not be flourishing as it most certainly is at present.

M. R. D. YORKE.

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

On February 17th this year, we had what was probably the Club's most successful short trip, when we visited Swindon locomotive works, together with eight Motive Power Depots, including two at Bristol. Almost double the number of boys for which there were places wished to go, and consequently many were disappointed. At Christmas, we visited two Western, two Southern, one Eastern and two Midland M.P.D.'s in the London area—always popular in the winter months when daylight is at a minimum, as it is so easy to reach. In October our venue was Eastleigh works, with one Western and three Southern Region M.P.D.'s, including Salisbury.

As last year's Speech Day fell at the end of October, and not in July as it usually does, we were unable to have on exhibition our usual "OO" working layout. However, there was an interesting "TT" layout, lent by one of the members, and a display of static locomotives, including an impressive 3¼-inch gauge loco., on loan from the father of one of the boys. We hope to arrange for more of these fascinating models for the coming Speech Day, and if any parent or boy has anything that is suitable for display, and that they are prepared to loan us, we will be pleased to accept them. Any exhibition will only be a success if enough people are prepared to loan the models.

We are allowed to show only five films per term now, and we had these during the Autumn Term, most of them having to be repeated owing to the large audiences—second only to the educational travel films. We also tried two new things—one a success, one not so successful. In January, we gave a selection of railway recordings, but partly owing to lack of advertising and partly to rival attractions, only about ten people turned up.

The other thing was a locomotive recognition competition—three in fact. These really uncovered the knowledge of many boys who thought that they were good at recognising engines.

All in all, a very gratifying half-year's work, with the Club layout making rapid strides towards completion, although it will be a long while yet before it is finished.

P. J. HOSKINGS.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

This year saw the departure of our vice-chairman, Michael Ferguson, treasurer, Keith Burrows, and committee member Tony Pratt. Mr. Flinders is our new chairman, but the difficulty we had in replacing the others bears witness to the appalling apathy towards our activities among the Sixth Form, particularly the first year.

Our main feature last term was a Fernandel comedy, "His Greatest Role". This was well supported by large contingents from the High School and Lady Verney's, but only by a handful of boys from this school. The short films shown fortnightly are, generally speaking, well attended, but mostly by boys from the Lower School.

The only theatre trip arranged was to Oxford to see Molière's "Tartuffe". Unfortunately this excursion was cancelled, owing to a misunderstanding about the tickets.

W. H. N. LAWS.

MUSIC SOCIETY

Musical activities in the School take many forms, and while the Music Society is concerned mainly with listening to music, perhaps mention should be made under this heading of the many other activities that take place.

Last term saw the performance of "Ruddigore", which went with its usual vigour and sparkle. This term rehearsals are in progress for the Schools' Choir Festival, for which we are supplying tenors and basses, and for the School's performance in the summer of "Belshazzar's Feast" and "The Creation".

A junior orchestra has been set up to bridge the gap between violin classes and the School orchestra. This is proving beneficial and enjoyable to all concerned.

At the beginning of March, a concert was given by the "Jupiter Wind Sextet", who played with great accuracy and musicianship, and whose performance was enjoyed by all present.

The Music Society as such was slow to start at the beginning of the year on account of rehearsals for the Opera, but J. C. Hughes gave an inaugural piano recital before Christmas, and since then record recitals have been regular, being held after school if choir practices took place during the lunch hour. The records covered a wide range, embracing such composers as Mozart, Elgar, Rachmaninoff, Scriabine, Stravinsky, and Gordon Jacob.

Attendance has been fair, though membership is low, owing to the fact that there were no membership cards at the beginning of the season.

J. C. HUGHES.

SCIENCE SOCIETY

During the Spring Term, a Mathematical Society has been formed to cater for the more theoretically-inclined members of this Society. This does not mean that this Society has lost any of its support, in fact our membership has now risen to over the hundred mark.

Film shows during the term have been based on a selection of biological films from Unilever's, and films made by the Atomic Energy Authority.

After last term's rather disappointing, but still interesting, visit to Pye Records at Mitcham, the organising of a visit for this term has been difficult. After several unsuccessful enquiries elsewhere, Hoover Ltd. have kindly agreed to show a party around their factory at Perivale.

A new committee member now being in charge of arranging lectures, we are expecting to have at least two in the Summer Term, which should widen the scope of our activities.

A. H. DIXON.

STAMP SOCIETY

Since the beginning of the Christmas Term meetings of the Society have been held in one of the new classrooms ; this change has resulted in a considerably greater attendance, especially by younger boys. In fact, it is very heartening to see so many second-formers eagerly exchanging stamps and buying the approvals obtained through the Society.

A series of talks by senior members on philatelic topics was commenced at the beginning of this term, but was interrupted for a time by the demands of examinations. These talks were extremely well attended.

On Wednesday, March 18th, a party of two masters and thirty-nine boys took part in our annual excursion to "Stampex". This trip was greatly enjoyed by all.

Finally, the Society owes a great debt of gratitude to Lord Thomson ; he recently presented the School with a beautifully-bound catalogue of the Royal Stamp collection. This will become one of our most treasured possessions.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH.

C.C.F. NOTES

Since the last issue activities have been confined mainly to routine training. By the time of publication, however, five officers and thirty cadets will have attended an Arduous Training Camp in Staffordshire. Summer Camp is planned for Dartmoor.

Parents, boys and former members of the C.C.F. will be interested in recent changes announced for the C.C.F. There has been an effort on the part of the War Office to decrease the number of Cadets in the C.C.F. The decision has been most unpopular in most schools, some of which have been forced to close their contingents as a result.

The effect on this school is likely to be an overall reduction in size and considerable reduction in the Naval and R.A.F. sections. In order to comply with the directions given, the entry into the C.C.F. has been delayed a year and boys will now be recruited from the Fifth Forms. Entry will be directly into the appropriate Service Section, but the Service restrictions may not allow complete freedom of entry into R.A.F. and Naval sections. Service with the C.C.F. will be under the same conditions as before, *i.e.*, all boys will take part unless good reason is produced and the Headmaster's permission obtained. Some relaxation of these rules will be allowed to boys who have completed over three years' service in the C.C.F. and offer a useful and supervised alternative activity.

R.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

Many cadets attended courses in the summer holidays. The most instructive of these was the trip with the Dartmouth Training Squadron, the highlight of which was a four-day visit, in glorious sunshine, to France. Other parties of cadets attended training in H.M.S. *Sutton* and at Loch Ewe and ten cadets crewed a motor launch, H.M.M.L. 2840, on a trip to the Channel Isles. This course, as well as providing cadets with first-hand experience of simple navigation, also provided some very rough weather.

Work during the last two terms has continued as usual, but with greater emphasis on the practical side. In the Autumn Term a group of N.C.O.'s attended an Instructors' Course at H.M.S. *Dryad*, which provided a full weekend's training and included a Remembrance Sunday Church Parade.

As a result of the re-arrangement of the C.C.F., one of our Leading Seamen has been seconded to the Basic Company, where he gives regular lectures on the naval side of the C.C.F.

We are very glad to welcome Lieutenant J. Philippo to the Section and hope his stay will prove pleasant and rewarding.

C. R. ILIFFE, Cox'n.

ARMY SECTION EASTER CAMP 1964

During the Easter holiday, five officers and twenty-seven cadets attended Arduous Training Camp, near Leek, in Staffordshire.

The excellent training area gave us an opportunity of practising fieldcraft and tactical exercises which officers and senior N.C.O.'s had been wanting for some time.

No. 89 Week End Training Centre was exceptionally well equipped for such a camp. The cadets were housed in hutted accommodation with coke fires and an unlimited supply of fuel to keep out the cold ; the excellent cookhouse facilities enabled the cadets to have a menu to satisfy the healthy appetites aroused on exercises over the open hills and wooded valleys of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and by the keen, dry air of the Peak District.

Perhaps the best way to show the great enthusiasm of the camp, and to demonstrate the valuable practical exercise in

command and leadership which was given to the cadets, is to draw on the logs of a typical tactical exercise :—

Monday, April 6th

Platoon Commander's Report :

"I had been briefed that a party of 8 enemy had gone to ground in a valley about 2 miles long and 1 mile broad, which was surrounded by high ground on all sides except its lower end. Transport took the platoon to this lower east end and I immediately adopted a defensive position to seal the one possible exit from the area. I then sent out three patrols to observe the valley from the high ground and I told the N.C.O.'s in charge that, as the area was very bare of cover, it was most likely that the enemy were in the bushy, deep stream ravine that ran down the middle through to our defensive lines at the end. There was plenty of cover there for the enemy, especially at the junctions of three streamlet gullies with the main water-course . . ."

No. 1 Patrol Commander's Report :

"I took up a position on the crest of the hills to the south-east. At 1045 hrs., one of my men incautiously sat up, silhouetting himself on the skyline, and was sniped at from the valley. We could not observe where this shot came from. I got one of the patrol to expose himself briefly, in the hope of drawing another shot, but this didn't work . . ."

1115 hrs. Four figures cautiously approach the defensive position along the stream bed. A voice challenges them :

"Halt ! . . . Tea."

"Cup."

"Pass, friend. . . . No. 3 patrol's back, sergeant !"

No. 3 Patrol Commander's Report :

"After observing from the high ground to the south, I moved back down from the top through one of the gullies which meets the main stream about a mile away. I split the patrol into two pairs and we moved alternately, observing continually through field glasses. The only thing suspicious that we saw was the ruined house on the hill where we met the main ravine. I watched it for five minutes through the glasses from 100 yards, but I couldn't get closer as there was no cover at all from where I was. There could be people there as one of the heaps of stone by the door looks a little shaky, as if it had been piled up recently . . ."

1145 hrs. The defensive position. A shot from the stream suddenly shatters the silence. The defenders crouch lower and peer forward. A sergeant wriggles to the corporal in charge.

“Can you see him?”

“Blowed if I can! . . . Yes! I’ve got him! See that steep bit of bank about 50 yards down on the other side? Ten yards past it. He’s kneeling right in the water—and he’s pressed up under that big clump of heather.”

“Seen. Right, he’s probably waiting for a few minutes before he retires and he doesn’t know he’s been spotted. Cover me while I take a man and try to get round to him.”

The sergeant crawls back away from the position with a rifleman, crosses the stream round the bend behind them and advances up the bracken on the other side. In five minutes, they are ten yards from the top of the bank, where the sniper has not moved. Together the two rush forward and hurl themselves over the top. A few seconds later a dripping “enemy”, his face streaked with camouflage cream and with grass in his cap-comforter, is being taken to the platoon commander. His rifle, the barrel of which is indistinguishable beneath hessian binding, is now held by the sergeant.

Platoon Commander’s Report :

“. . . As I could get nothing out of the captive, I allowed him to ‘escape’, in the hope that one of the patrols would observe his route back to his position. . . .”

1230 hrs. *No. 2 Patrol Commander’s Report :*

“We saw the sniper return up the stream—in fact he was walking up it, keeping under the banks, and was difficult to spot. He turned up the gully that is just the other side of the ruined house, and suddenly disappeared. There’s only one tiny bit of that gully that we can’t see and I don’t reckon that eight men could be there. But there is a tiny grassy bank from there to the house. If he did a leopard crawl for about 100 yards, he could get there and we wouldn’t know. I reckon they must be there.”

Platoon Commander’s Report :

“. . . I reasoned that the only place they could be was in the house. The rest of the area had been observed continually for movement and none had been seen. The only place where eight men could move about at all was there, suspicion had been thrown on the rocks in the shattered doorways and the sniper had ended up in that area.

“The platoon moved upstream. As the point section came to the junction below the house, a figure suddenly broke cover at the top of the 20-ft bank and threw an object which fortunately fell in a deep pool and merely sent up a huge column of water when it exploded, splashing the men, who had gone to ground. The lone man withdrew under a hail of fire from the house. I then proceeded to launch a platoon attack, strengthening my covering fire with an airburst rocket. As the extended line of the assault went in, the enemy bolted from the back door and did not even have time to fuse a thunderflash with which we presume that had intended to delay our occupation. We found the house had been defended all round from positions behind artificial heaps of rubble and that they had abandoned a gas burner on which was a boiling jug of soup. It was delicious !”

R.P. ; A.J.M.

R.A.F. SECTION

Cadet J. E. Havard is to be congratulated on being awarded a Flying Scholarship. Together with Cadet M. T. Brooks, he will be training at Elstree Flying Club, during the Easter vacation, for his Civilian Pilot's Licence.

A large number of cadets offered themselves for the R.A.F. Proficiency Examination and for the Advanced Training Examinations in December 1963. The results reflect great credit on all concerned. Thirty-six cadets passed the Proficiency Examination and, in the Advanced Training Examination, fourteen cadets were successful.

Arrangements have been completed for the Easter Camp. This will be held at R.A.F. Watton, in Norfolk, from the 8th to the 15th April and will be attended by twenty-five cadets.

Gliding continues to make a strong appeal. Several cadets have already commenced attendance at weekend courses at 613 Gliding School at R.A.F. Halton. In addition, four cadets will join a nine-day continuous course in the Easter holidays. A second group of four cadets will attend a similar course at Whitsuntide and, in August, there will be two separate courses, on each of which we shall have four cadets. With these cadets in training we can hope to equal the gliding achievements of last year and possibly to surpass them.

E.M.

HOUSE REPORTS

ARNISON HOUSE

Quite recently I was reading the first *Wycombiensian* I received at this school. I came upon an article written by E. C. Franks and H. W. Clark (who was then a boy at the School) headed "House Hullabaloo" which advocated having six rather than the four houses at that time. In their opinion this would go a long way to improve the general house system. As is quite evident today, however, this was not a great success and so a committee of four senior boys and two masters has been formed to decide upon some changes for the future.

Naturally we all hope that this will be most successful, since the present state of affairs is deplorable for a school of our standing ; but one should not blame the boys as much as the present system, which will never run smoothly. Most houses find great difficulty in raising the smallest teams, although we in Arnison are probably more fortunate than most.

Because of this we have once again started the House Championship in a most impressive fashion. In the Basketball, which was the only event of the Christmas Term, we finished third, mainly to a fine performance by the junior team in which N. R. M. Thorne, who played throughout with his left arm broken, was in excellent form.

Of the three other events completed this term one could not wish for a better result, since we finished first in each. For the Junior Boxing special congratulations must go to Anderson, Davie, Saunders, L. J. Thorne and Wood, who each won his respective weight.

In the two other events, which are considered the main competitions of the winter, we were first equal with Disraeli in one and achieved the premier place in the other. There was a good all-round effort in each year to secure first place in the Rugby, with the fifth form and senior team winning all their matches. We also had a thoroughly convincing win in the Cross-country thanks to the fine running of many people, especially Bridge, who came second in the Junior race.

Clearly, Arnison yet again has an excellent chance of winning the House Championship and thus upholding its wonderful record of the last few years. I only hope that next term there is a little more support, particularly from boys at the senior end of the School. With good support, particularly from boys at the senior end of the School, especially in events like the Athletics, I feel sure that Arnison can once again secure first position.

M. HARRIS.

DISRAELI HOUSE

We began this year's championship in a disastrous manner by filling the bottom position in the Basketball competition. Dorkings and Beasley strove manfully in the Seniors and Juniors respectively, but a complete lack of cohesion reaped its sorry reward in both teams.

This term, however, has seen an unprecedented rise in our fortunes. Our finishing equal first in the Rugby competition was the first unexpected success. This was mainly the result of excellent performances by the juniors but was reinforced by an adequate performance by the senior "seven-a-side" team. We had hardly recovered from this when we achieved an almost as great, and certainly as unexpected success in the Cross-country championships. This time we finished second, and again it was the Juniors and Colts by finishing first and second respectively who were the foundation of our success. Reitz must be singled out for his convincing win in the Junior race, but all members of the house who ran are to be congratulated on a fine performance.

Unfortunately the Juniors were not able to continue in this vein for their Boxing competition, but it would be unfair to expect them to excel in every event and this is their only failure to date. The Chess, Badminton and Hockey competitions have not yet taken place, or have not been completed.

The House has therefore been successful in the two major competitions of this term, and is in a position to improve upon its final placing last year. To do this, however, a real effort will be needed in the Athletics competition. The Juniors, I am sure, will serve their house well once more, but if we are to succeed a far greater effort will be required from the Senior members. So few people enter the "open" group of this competition that valuable points can be gained by very inexperienced competitors simply by turning up for these events. If members do make the effort, and I am sure they will, they most certainly will be able to look back on Disraeli's most successful year since the present house system was initiated five years ago.

C. J. PACKMAN.

FRASER HOUSE

At the beginning of last school year we lost several of the more senior members of the House, but in spite of this Fraser has started the year successfully.

For the fourth time in five years we finished in first position in the Basketball competition. This was due to all-round ability and keenness by those who represented the House. Many who

were unable to gain a place showed great promise, and this augurs well for future years. In the Badminton we have already reached the final by defeating Disraeli in the semi-final. This achievement is worthy of particular mention as we do not have any regular member of the School team. Other competitions that are to be held this term are the Cross-country, Hockey and Rugby. In the latter, which has already started, only the fifth form side has distinguished itself so far, mainly owing to the ability of G. Davies, P. Colley and T. McCormick. In fact, if it had not been that three of our team were ill on the day of the final, we should undoubtedly have beaten Arnison comfortably.

Next school year may well see the introduction of several new competitions in the inter-house competition, most of which will not necessarily require sporting ability. At the moment well under 50% of Fraser represent their house in any inter-house activity during each school year, and although this can often be put down to laziness, it is also true that there is not always the opportunity for all members to compete. However, with some innovations there should be a marked increase in the number of people representing their House next year.

Next term we hope for a large entry in the Athletics, for as we are able to boast two outstanding athletes in Floyd and Malec, we may well be able to improve on last year's position of second. We also have high hopes of winning the Cricket for the third year running, although we have lost several members of last year's victorious team.

Finally I would like to thank both Mr. D. G. Jones and Mr. R. C. File for the help and encouragement that they have given to members of the House.

————— R. A. FEWTRELL.

KINGS HOUSE

During the Christmas Term the only house activity was the Basketball competition. Cowan and Grove were supported well by the rest of the team and we won the Senior competition, but our Junior team was not so strong and we finished 4th overall.

In the Spring Term there has been Rugby, Cross-country, Badminton, and the Junior Boxing Tournament. Our third position in the Junior Boxing was better than in previous years. The Badminton has not yet been completed, but we should come third or fourth. In the Rugby we came fourth overall. Our Senior team was weakened by the absence of Seale, but the fourth form team won their section. In the Cross-country the Juniors and Colts ran well to finish second and second-equal, but the Seniors, after packing five men in the first eleven, failed to finish with a full team and came fifth.

R. F. GREENWOOD.

QUEEN'S HOUSE

Rugby, 3rd ; Basketball, 2nd ; Cross-country, 5th.

The House would like to welcome its two new house-masters who have instilled new life and jugged most members out of their complacent attitude towards representing the House. The results of their enthusiasm were soon shown in the Basketball, in which the House unexpectedly came second through teamwork in both sections rather than individual brilliance.

The Rugby competition was arranged for each year, and the first-year boys (especially Miles and Thomas) must be congratulated for being the winning house in that year, while the fourth form boys again showed what teamwork can do against better opposition and were well captained by Smith. The Senior Rugby was in the form of a seven-a-side tournament, and the House seemed to have a supply of good forwards but a lack of talent in the back division. We met Arnison in the semi-final and were rather overawed by their array of first team players, although Ham, Cavanna, Reddican and Pitchford all played well throughout. The Badminton, under the able guidance of Ray and Tomkinson, is reaching its climax with the final being fought out against Fraser in the near future.

It was the Middle School who let down the House very badly in the Cross-country, and a few of those who did run in the Colts had to be forced into running, which is always a rather unfortunate affair for the boy concerned and the House officials. Congratulations to Pattison, who won the Colts race, and to Charlton, Rackstraw and Gorsky, who all ran very well in the Senior race.

The Hockey competition has been postponed twice already, but the House seems to have a very good chance, as was shown in the trial.

In future there will have to be a more concerted effort from members if they are to repay some of the effort put in on their behalf by Myerscough and Iliffe.

M. J. MASON.

YOUENS HOUSE

The House has been efficiently idle during the past term. The machinery at the top is running smoothly, but it lacks the power which it can only derive from the masses of the Middle School. We cannot hope for better results while the House is represented on all levels by a devoted few.

Despite this apathy which has become synonymous with the House system in this school, the Juniors came second in the Boxing, the Junior Colts have some keen runners and in the Seniors the response to the Hockey competition has been good ; prospects in that direction look promising.

Unfortunately the House has few energetic sixth-form members, and though the Rugby of the Lower School was far from abysmal, the response of the Upper School to this sport does not augur well.

Let us hope that the warmer weather of the summer will tempt more of the House on to the field for the Athletics.

Finally, may I express my sincere gratitude to an extremely conscientious house-master, Mr. Cooper, and thanks to our vice-captain, R. C. Jones, for his staunch support. Mr. Newling has been prevented from taking a full part in the running of the House because of illness—the whole House joins me in wishing him well now he has returned.

M. K. JENNER.

BOARDING-HOUSE REPORTS

SCHOOL HOUSE

At the beginning of the present term there were three leavers : R. A. Dorkings, who gained a well-earned place at Jesus College, Cambridge, A. Cawson and R. N. C. Harrison. The latter, training at Sandhurst, tells us that he is looking forward to 1988, when he will once again be a free man. We only hope that he lasts out, and we wish him luck.

There are plans for a new common room for the Seniors, which will be a welcome innovation, as at the moment there are forty people crowded into the one room. The annual farcical football match against Uplyme has still to be played, and it may well be that Uplyme are a little worried following our 8—2 trouncing of Tylers Wood.

It is worth recording that many members of the House continue to do well for School teams, and that we were well represented in both the School opera "Ruddigore" and the Greek play "The Bacchae". In fact it is doubtful whether some of the School productions would ever take place if it were not for the support given to them by many boarders.

R. A. FEWTRELL.

TYLERS WOOD HOUSE

Life continues much as usual in the rustic depths of this quaint backwater. The aspidistras have begun to bloom in the front garden ; the birds flit merrily among the trees ; happy, smiling Juniors execute their daily tasks. Gone is the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness : another winter of frantic industry has burst upon us.

Constructive activities have included considerable indulgence in hockey and football (of a most barbaric nature). No attention must be paid to the libellous reports of other Houses. What are ten goals between friends ? In any case, this House prides itself on its academic reputation. It seems to be traditional that I should say a few words about the coming examinations. I fail to detect an aura of foreboding in the boarding-house, rather, everyone seems to be peculiarly happy. "Mock" results and replies from universities produce the usual "wailing and gnashing of teeth"—but no one has committed suicide or taken to "Purple Hearts". In fact, the nearest we have come to disaster was a mild attack of the plague before half-term, which carried off four Juniors (to the sick room). Generally speaking, we are all fairly confident of passing the occasional "O" or "A" Level.

Approach to examinations differs widely in this little community. We have one eminent gentleman who can be seen at all hours of the night with a look of ecstatic concentration on his bespectacled face ready to write down any words of wisdom which might seep through from his fertile brain. Others favour a broader, more casual approach. A little spasmodic French is resorted to after an hour or so concentrating on James Bond. One member of the boarding-house has taken to smoking cigars.

I would like to conclude that if the Editors decide to put this article in without amendments to the spelling and punctuation, I have an horrible fate in store for them.

R. C. JONES.

(A poor reflection on boarding-house discipline.—Ed.)

UPLYME HOUSE

Since the last report there has been a considerable change in the House. Last summer we lost C. B. Antill, who went to Manchester University ; D. G. Cawson, who is teaching for a year in Ghana ; and M. S. Rothwell, who is at Newland Park Teachers' Training College. After the holidays we were rejoined by I. S. Pattie and seven Juniors were "sent down" from School House. At Christmas R. N. Nunn left us because he has a place at Cambridge where, we hope, and are quite sure, that he will do well. W. G. Griffin also left us to become a day-boy so as to continue his "motor-cycle" education. In Griffin's place we

welcomed Winfield to an existence somewhat different from that of Nyasaland.

The House has given even more support than usual to School activities. On the cultural side, R. L. Crayford, S. W. David, A. R. N. Harrison and J. P. Theophilus were in "Ruddigore", D. W. Lewis in "The Bacchae", and M. J. Dalley, J. W. Hume and D. W. Lewis in the three one-act plays. It must be put on record that Hume and Lewis are showing strong acting potential. We hope to see M. R. Ward awarded the Hope Cup for art for the third time on Speech Day, and, if it shows cultural development, H. W. Norfolk is in the Junior Chess team.

On the sports field we have pulled our weight, R. W. Douglas playing for the first XV, P. A. Beasley, C. Fewtrell, Hume and Lewis for the "thirds", and N. F. Avery and D. R. Cooper for the "fourths". T. T. McCormick and R. B. Gash have been our sole representatives in the Colts and Under-14 teams respectively. M. R. Nield plays for the School Hockey team, while Hume and Beasley are members of the Under-16 Basketball team. Cooper and Hume find themselves playing for various teams of the High Wycombe Rugby Club on Saturday afternoons.

Believers in "skill will always overcome brute force" should try to explain our hockey victory over Lady Verney. Tylers Wood held us to a 2—2 draw in a football match that was never replayed.

Academically we remain about average, which means that the few who do well make up for the majority which is struggling. House spirit, however, is high and that is the main thing.

M. R. NIELD.

S P O R T

RUGBY 1st XV

Plated 21, Won 14, Lost 7, Points For 258, Points Against 146

The first XV has had a successful season. They started off with a series of ten wins in a row, but after this excellent start they lost a few games and never recaptured in full the smoothness in attack and general decisive play which brought them their earlier success.

This loss of form started, not so much with the first game they lost, for I feel they were very lucky to win some of the games, especially against Watford Grammar School away, but this can be attributed to the large number of injuries sustained by boys in the first team. Only four members of the team played in every match, whilst a total of twenty-seven players was needed to fulfil our fixture list. A team is disrupted when one or two key players are injured, but from the half-term in February until the

end of the season more than once five first team members were injured, and I think it is true to say we never fielded a full first team from that time. Thus much praise must be given to the members of the second team who played so well when they were called on as reserves.

The most outstanding feature of our play was the ability of the backs to link up smoothly in attack and much of this is due to R. A. Fewtrell, who captained the side from the outside half position. He proved on many occasions to be the spear-head in attack and he was always ably supported by the two centres, P. D. Smith and M. H. Kefford. Lane at scrum-half was particularly outstanding earlier in the season, giving an excellent service and kicking with much gymnastic agility. His deputy, C. Brown, proved to be a courageous player and should provide the first XV with an experienced half-back next year.

In the forwards, M. Harris proved an able pack leader, and the back row of C. Packman, G. Seale and himself were always ready to snap up any loose ball and begin an attack. D. Andrew, S. R. Thomas and R. H. E. Ham worked tirelessly in the tight and loose, and R. H. E. Ham proved to be tower of strength in the line-out, and the team missed his dominance when he was injured.

In all, I think the boys enjoyed their games this season and with so many boys having first team experience I hope for another fine season next year.

Old Colours : R. A. Fewtrell, M. Harris, C. J. Packman, D. G. Horley, R. H. E. Ham, M. J. Malec.

Colours awarded to : M. H. Kefford, G. M. Seale, D. R. Andrew, P. R. Lane, R. Douglas, S. Thomas, I. Sifton, P. D. Smith, D. Blythen.

1st XV RESULTS

v Windsor G.S.	... ..	away	won	23	5
v St. Bartholomew's, Newbury	... ..	home	won	31	11
v St. Marylebone G.S.	... ..	away	won	25	5
v Watford G.S.	... ..	home	won	20	3
v St. Benedict's School	... ..	home	won	27	13
v Sir W. Borlase	... ..	home	won	11	3
v Watford G.S.	... ..	away	won	11	3
v Tiffins School	... ..	home	won	3	0
v Abingdon School	... ..	home	won	8	5
v Luton G.S.	... ..	home	won	19	5
v Leighton Park School	... ..	away	lost	0	11
v Hitchin G.S.	... ..	away	lost	8	11
v Staff	... ..	home	won	12	3
v M. F. Forrester's XV	... ..	home	won	15	0
v R.A.F. Halton Apprentices	... ..	home	lost	3	8
v Saracens Schools XV	... ..	home	lost	5	11
v Metropolitan Police Cadets	... ..	away	lost	0	9
v Balliol College	... ..	away	won	18	6
v R.A.F. Technical College, Henlow	... ..	home	won	12	11
v Jesus College	... ..	away	lost	5	14
v St. Nicholas's, Northwood	... ..	away	lost	0	9

2nd XV

Played 18, Won 14, Drawn 1, Lost 3, Points For 270, Against 55

As the above results show, the 2nd XV has had a very successful season. This happened in spite of the fact that the full team very rarely took the field owing to injuries to players and calls for the first XV. The success therefore is at least partly due to the reserves, who always acquitted themselves well.

The strong point of the team was defence and as a result only four teams crossed our line. Of these four only one beat us. At the beginning of the season the attack more than matched the defence. In this the forwards were at least as good as the backs, and became skilful at slipping the ball in the loose. But after the first defeat, by Tiffins, the attack faltered and, although it reappeared occasionally, it never seemed as strong.

From the set scrums, at least a fair share of the ball was always obtained, even when on retreat, and this was no doubt due to Fayle's consistent hooking. From the line-outs the ball was occasionally tapped back and ground lost, but all the forwards were capable of catching the ball cleanly and passing it back. Breed and Fayle often made useful breaks from the line-outs and Cutler and Collins used their weight well. There was a tendency to hack the ball on in the loose, but when it came to hand ground was usually gained quickly. The back row of Turmezei, Breed and Laws, was always quick on any mistakes made by the opposing side, and Gostlow supported them well.

There appeared to be no "star" players in the backs, but this was probably due to the general high standard. All the players linked up well at the beginning of the season, but this did not last. The tackling and handling was always good, but there was a tendency to kick too often. Gooderham's place-kicking deserves mention and he scored many points this way.

3rd XV

Played 12, Won 7, Drawn 3, Lost 2, Points For 124, Against 49

Any 3rd XV is bound to suffer from the loss of its most successful players to the more senior teams, but this year the team was well provided with reserves of a most acceptable standard. Only two games were lost and those by narrow margins.

The team work was not good ; the loose scrummaging being particularly untidy and purposeless. Individually Pettit, Rivers (the captain), Cavanna and C. Fewtrell were strong hard-working

forwards, and O'Hanlon's fast striking won a large share of the ball in the tight. At scrum-half Fox was perhaps slow and short of pass, but was a constant trier, and often kicked well in a position new to him.

Of the threequarters, Pitchford, Frankland, Hindley and Hume were all penetrative runners although they were careless in collecting or distributing the ball en route. At full-back, Mitchenall tackled with great courage and determination and his kicking steadily improved.

R.C.F.

4th XV

Played 4, Won 2, Drawn 1, Lost 1, Points For 52, Against 23

The 4th XV usually has two roles to fill—that of providing a stepping stone to the higher teams for promising players, and that of giving more boys the opportunity to play for their school.

This season the team had four fixtures : against Watford G.S. and Vyners School the team played well and won both matches. Against Warren Field we lost a close match, and we ended the season by drawing with Tiffins School.

Amongst the forwards, Wakefield and Haley must be mentioned, whilst Daines, Melson and Bufton stood out with their standard of play in the backs.

R. P. AYRES.

COLTS XV

Played 10, Won 5, Lost 5, Points For 104, Points Against 86

This season has been a poor one for the Colts. The occasions on which the team managed to play cohesive rugby against strong opponents were few indeed. The forwards, heavy and vigorous as most of them were, lacked mobility and failed to hunt as a pack. Individually, Hogg, Hartwright and Killingley, the captain, were prominent, and Turner did well as a makeshift hooker after Bibby broke a leg early in the season.

The most glaring weaknesses were at half-back. Whitelock, Minnet, Clark and Stansall all possessed obvious talents in some departments of the game, but in others, especially—and most disastrously for half-backs—in linking with their partners and centres they had equally obvious weaknesses. In the circumstances, Aikens, a strictly orthodox player, was the most successful half.

With these problems, it was inevitable that the threequarters should have been poorly served. This was particularly unfortunate, as Gatland, Darvill and the Colley brothers could all put in strong runs if they were given a good opportunity. Unhappily they could make little of the half-chance that was their usual lot. It is pleasant to be able to record unqualified satisfaction with the full-back Davies. His fielding was calm and competent, his kicking safe, and his falling and tackling frequently kept the enemy at bay.

A very pleasant if rather surprising event marked the end of the season : a Colts VII consisting of Killingley, Hartwright, Hogg, Davies, Colley (P.), McCormick and Darvill (Gatland was injured in the first round), won the Uxbridge Schools Seven-a-side competition handsomely in rather wet conditions.

R.C.F.

UNDER 14 XV

Played 11, Won 6, Drawn 2, Lost 3, Points For 138, Against 56

The team had a very successful season, marred only by the loss of the scrum-half, who broke his collar-bone in one of the earlier games. He proved difficult to replace, and, as a result, the backs never realised their full potential. They were strong individual runners with the ball but their handling and tackling were suspect. The notable exception was the full-back, whose "bone-crushing" tackles had to be seen to be believed. The forwards, well led by Huggins, who also captained the side, obtained good possession of the ball and showed vigour and determination. The whole side was enthusiastic, and if they continue to develop the basic skills, should do well in the future.

The following represented the side : Huggins, Berks, Bridger, Brownrigg, Butler, Castles, Cowell, Crees, Debnam, Gardner, Hannant, Highfield, Hodson, Laxen, Macintosh, Preston, Reitz, Russel, Shearsby, Smith, Thain, Wood.

UNDER 13 XV

Played 7, Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 1, Points For 71, Against 40

The Under 13 Rugby XV maintained a high standard of rugby throughout the season, losing only one game and beating strong opposition from Luton, Windsor and Borlase.

The strength of the team lay in the hard scrummaging and rucking of the pack, who played as one. Haynes, Hoath and Smith laid the foundation in the front row and Beasley and Wood proved to be strong scrummagers as well as good runners with the

ball. The back row of Broadway, Pattinson and Jackson was very effective both in attack and defence.

Given a good supply of the ball, the backs did not make full use of their scoring potential. However, Gamester showed great maturity at fly-half and was a constant threat to the opposition. Gerrish should develop into a useful scrum-half if he can quicken his service. Woodford ran very well in the centre, ably supported by Worley and Avery on the wings. Flitney and Taylor showed great courage in the centre and Bailey saved many a difficult situation at full-back.

Pattinson led the team well, more by example than by word, and he generated a very strong team spirit which means so much to the enjoyment of the game.

UNDER 12 XV

The new boys began their rugby careers with their usual enthusiasm and a number of boys showed considerable promise for the future. Much time was lost last term through the weather so that by Christmas the players were still in a very ignorant state about the laws, but much progress has been made this term and the standard of play is now most encouraging. A number of matches were played in none of which were the boys disgraced. Thorpe House showed up our lack of practice and were a well-trained side.

Miles, Smith, Pickering and Elvery stood out as good determined runners in the threequarters, while Woodbridge has a good pair of hands and a nice pass at fly-half. Parkins and Orme both showed promise at scrum-half. Lunn, Leslie, Davies, Chamberlain and Gunning were all strong front-row forwards, and when Tomlinson and Davies learn how to use their unusual strength they will be a good second row. There were a number of useful back-row forwards such as Ham, Beasley, Brownrigg, Biggs and Wood, who all tackled well and liked to run with the ball. Jarman showed he can be an adventurous full-back.

A feature of the Under 12's rugby has indeed been their inclination to run with the ball, overcoming their natural reaction to hack it on or kick it into touch. If they continue in this vein and remember that the game is one primarily of running and passing they will not only improve their own play but enjoy the game so much more.

Boys who played in School matches were : Miles, Jarman, Anderson, Woodhouse, Smith (C.), Ellingham, Parkins, Lunn, Leslie, Gunning, Chamberlain, Davis, Tomlinson, Davies, Wood, Brownrigg, Elvery, Biggs, Orme, Berry, Tracey, Kirkwood, Beasley, Darvill, Collins, Cavey.

Results : Lost to Windsor G.S. 0—29 ; lost to Thorpe House 0—23 ; beat Warren Field 26—0.

CROSS-COUNTRY

This has been a good season and the first team has come through it with only two defeats, and those marginal. The Haskell Cup was rather disappointing and the School was unlucky in the Ranelagh Harriers race, when all but two of the team fell in the massed start.

We have seen some splendid runs by the vice-captain, Greenwood, but Charlton, Goodman and Challis have all had a very good season. For the Colts, Morrison has run consistently well and Pattison and Turner have shown promise. Perhaps the most pleasing results have come from the Juniors, who have fulfilled their fixture list without defeat; Reitz, Hannant and Knight reached a high standard of performance.

Next year does not look too promising, for there will be no Colours left at school.

Colours have been awarded this year to Goodman, Challis and Davies.

Knight, Andrews, Gorski and Carritt have all run at some time for the first team.

Results : Run 13, Won 10, Lost 2, Drawn 1.

M. K. JENNER.

HOCKEY

Owing to the loss of nine of last year's team at the end of the academic year, this year's team has been comparatively young and inexperienced. Our record up to date has not been impressive: two games having been won, one drawn, and four lost. None of our defeats has been by more than two goals, and defeat has certainly not impaired our enjoyment.

Six of the present team will be staying on for at least another year, and with experience some of them will be very good players. There are also a number of young players of considerable potential in the first hockey set, facts which augur well for the future. A general criticism of the team's play is that, while we have tried and on occasion succeeded in playing attractively, other teams have played more direct, positive hockey. Greater fitness would probably remedy this deficiency; better stickwork and positional sense, which come with experience, should produce a team next year which looks like being particularly good.

Many schools are now running hockey as their major sport during the Easter Term, and consequently have an advantage over us. Perhaps, once our hockey pitches have been brought up to standard, we shall be able to compete on equal terms by

joining this trend, thus drawing players from the whole School. Meanwhile I would encourage any boys who have even a basic knowledge of hockey, and who would like to have a change from the sport they are doing, to join the hockey set next season.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Eaton for organising our matches this season. At the time of writing we still have four to play, some of which we have more than a reasonable chance of winning.

The following boys played regularly this season : Tilling, Birch, McLoughlin, Janes, Nield, Jones, Handley, Porter, Smyth and Williams. Newman, Pearson, Simmons and Pidgeon have also played.

R. C. JONES (Captain).

BASKETBALL

The Basketball team this year is vastly different from the one fielded last year, in that the nucleus of good players has left us. However, the newcomers to the team have pulled their weight and, although we have only won two of our eight matches, the defeats have been by narrow margins.

The causes of the defeats can be narrowed down to the facts that when in possession the team does not press home an attack sufficiently and that the defence at times lacks speed in covering.

The team is made up of several good individual players, A. J. Frankland and R. A. Fewtrell being worthy of mention, but they find it difficult to combine to produce good movements. This lack of understanding can be attributed to the fact that the team seldom has the chance to practise together.

Of the backs, Priestley would be much improved if he jumped higher to retrieve loose balls under his own basket ; but he has, as Grove, matured into a hard-working back and is an asset to the team.

The remainder of the team have all played well in their respective positions and have contributed to the scores throughout the season.

Congratulations are extended to M. J. Malec, A. J. Frankland and Priestley, who have been selected to represent the first ever County Basketball team.

The Colts team this year has had two matches only and does not appear to be as successful as in previous years.

Lastly, our thanks must be conveyed to Mr. H. W. Clark, who has willingly refereed our matches.

M. J. MALEC.

BADMINTON CLUB

With the loss of four of last season's Colours who helped us to win the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Schools Shield, the Club was faced with the rebuilding of the team. Several trials were held under the guidance and encouragement of Mr. R. A. P. Wilson and the team shows promise. This season's captain, J. S. Ray, will not, however, be able to play in Shield matches, being over the age limit. At the time of going to print, 13 matches have been played, of which 8 were won, the matches lost being mostly against senior Wycombe Badminton clubs.

J. S. Ray, S. E. Kurrein, G. S. Tomkinson, P. Cant, R. Cowan, C. Arch have regularly represented the School.

THE BOAT CLUB

Last September there were only six members of the previous club remaining ; two of these, however, have since left. Luckily both of the coxes were old members, which is a great advantage when taking out new crews.

It was four weeks before the new members were sufficiently proficient in their rowing to enable them to go out in a four. Since then they have been in an eight and have been split into two crews. One of the conditions of joining the Boat Club was to be available to come rowing on Sunday mornings ; some of the members, however, seem to forget this if the weather is bad, and as a result four other members of the crew are unable to go out, although they have travelled to Marlow Rowing Club.

Depending on how we progress in the next few months, we hope to enter in some Regattas in the Summer Term in the Public Schools Fours Classification.

We are very grateful for the time and energy Mr. MacTavish has devoted to coaching us. However, it is a pity that there is not another master with rowing experience who could coach the second four.

RIFLE CLUB

The activity of the last two terms has been centred almost exclusively on .22 calibre shooting. This is, of course, due mainly to the weather conditions, which have at times made even .22 shooting uncomfortable. However, some .303 shooting took place during September on the almost deserted "Century" Range at Bisley.

The first VIII have had an exceptionally busy .22 season, shooting some 7 matches by post against other schools, winning two. Shoulder-to-shoulder matches were shot against the Staff and Watford Grammar School and both were won easily. The team has shown consistent improvement and there is no doubt that these matches helped the team to become less nervous in competition, a most important point in this sport. Solid progress has been made in rapid, possibles being scored occasionally. Congratulations to D. A. Heeley, M. P. Hyde and W. J. Seymour on being awarded their Colours!

“Mock” Examinations permitting, the Easter Term has been devoted to preparations for the “Country Life” competition, in which we came 4th last year and, during the two weeks previous to the competition, practices were held in every spare minute. Two teams were entered as usual and both produced very creditable totals, great improvements on last year. Unfortunately, however, the result will not be available until next term.

Meanwhile, and somewhat in the background, members of the Club have continued to shoot on Tuesday evenings under the supervision of Sergeant Harrison. The Annual Competition for the Club trophies is now being shot and it is encouraging to see the progress being made in the younger sections.

Mr. Cooper, always ready with useful suggestions, has been a tremendous help and we thank him for his lively interest.

C. R. ILIFFE.

CHESS CLUB

Half-colours : M. J. Mobbs (captain), S. I. Chorley (vice-captain), M. R. Myant (secretary), R. J. Mildon, R. Hitchcock.

Membership of the Chess Club fell by half this season to reach the more reasonable number of 80. The Chess team, weakened by the loss of M. D. Arch and A. T. Ludgate (probably the strongest player the School has ever produced) had a mediocre season. Absences meant that full team strength was rarely attained, and results suffered accordingly. Despite this, the senior team was rather unlucky, on several occasions losing by the smallest of margins. The junior team tried hard, but tended to be erratic. Results to date are :—

							Points	
			Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
Seniors	...	...	13	6	1	6	47	39
Juniors	...	...	9	3	1	5	24½	29½

In the *Sunday Times* Schools Tournament, we beat Bedford Modern 2nd Team $4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$ in a highly confusing telephone match, but then had the misfortune to meet Magdalen College School, one of the strongest teams in the competition. We did, however, give them an extremely hard match, losing only $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$. Both Mildon and Myant have represented the Under-18 and full County sides. The Inter-House Chess competition has just begun ; its form has been revised and it is now fairer but more complicated. S. T. Bradford won the Junior Knock-out competition, while the Senior one is still in progress.

The following have played regularly for the teams : *Seniors*—M. J. Mobbs, M. R. Myant, R. J. Mildon, S. I. Chorley, R. Hitchcock, Bradford (W. T.) ; *Juniors*—Gatland (D. J.), Kenyon (R. B.), Floyd (J. E.), Heron (R. L.), Bradford (S. T.), Norfolk (H. W.).

The following have also played for the teams : Langston (P.), Coe (A. J.), Levin (D. S.), Thornton (P. R.).

M. J. MOBBS.

CRICKET CLUB

1964 Season

Captain : R. A. Fewtrell. *Vice-Captain* : M. Harris.

Old Colours returning : J. Hayter, J. N. McLoughlin, R. C. Jones.

As a new season approaches a report for this magazine is one of the first of many duties to be done, and it is always difficult to prepare a pre-view of a cricket season.

With only one recognised batsman, J. Hayter, returning from the 1963 XI, there is a great chance for the batsmen of last year's Colts and Second XI's to fill the remaining positions in the team. The bowling, however, is more complete, but the team would benefit from one more bowler if possible. There is only one new fixture this summer, and that is against King Edward VI G.S. Southampton, who will be on a short tour of the South of England.

As Easter is very early this year, there will be more than two weeks' school before the first match, and therefore there will not be any nets during the Easter holidays. The side should turn out to be a well-balanced one, and all that is needed is a fine summer, and a display of fighting spirit by all members of the XI to ensure a successful season.

R. A. FEWTRILL.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Basketball

The Basketball competition, which was played in two sections—a Senior and a Junior—took place during the Christmas Term. The final positions were as follows :—

- 1, Fraser ;
- 2nd, Queens ;
- 3rd, Arnison ;
- 4th, Kings ;
- 5th, Youens ;
- 6th, Disraeli.

Rugby

This year there was a full tournament for each year of the Lower School and a seven-a-side tournament for the Sixth Form and Upper Fifth. Final House positions :—

- 1st, Arnison and Disraeli ;
- 3rd, Queens ;
- 4th, Kings ;
- 5th, Fraser ;
- 6th, Youens.

Cross-country

The Cross-country Championships were held on March 11th in far kinder weather than last year. The individual winners were : Seniors—R. F. Greenwood (K) ; Colts—G. E. Pattison (Q) ; Juniors—J. M. Reitz (D). Final House positions :—

- 1st, Arnison ;
- 2nd, Disraeli ;
- 3rd, Fraser ;
- 4th, Kings ;
- 5th, Queens ;
- 6th, Youens.

Junior Boxing

The Boxing competition this year was confined to members of the Second and Third Forms. The following boys fought in the finals :—

FORM 2

5st.—5st. 7lbs. ...	R. L. Thorne (A)	beat	A. Muckley (D)
5st. 7lbs.—6st. ...	K. J. Anderson (A)	„	M. R. Daniel (K)
6st.—6st. 7lbs. ...	C. H. Davie (A)	„	P. J. Ham (Y)
6st. 7lbs.—7st. ...	Woodhouse (F)	„	J. Grayson (K)
7st.—7st. 7lbs. ...	J. C. Dixon (Y)	„	J. F. Twine (Y)
7st. 7lbs.—8st. ...	P. R. Beasley (D)	„	Tomlinson (Y)
Over 8st. ...	D. Lishman (F)	„	P. Davies (D)

FORM 3

5st. 7lbs.—6st. ...	Flitney (Y)	beat	Browne (D)
6st.—6st. 7lbs. ...	Jackson (K)	„	Gerish (A)
6st. 7lbs.—7st. ...	Avery (K)	„	Brown (A)
7st.—7st. 7lbs. ...	Saunders (A)	„	Oxlade (F)
7st. 7lbs.—8st. ...	Wood (A)	„	Gostlow (Y)
Over 8st. ...	Piercy (Y)	„	Pattinson (A)

Final House positions :—

- 1st, Arnison ;
- 2nd, Youens ;
- 3rd, Kings ;
- 4th, Fraser ;
- 5th, Disraeli ;
- 6th, Queens.

XXVth HIGH WYCOMBE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP

Senior Troop

Since the last issue of *Wycombiensian* the Headmaster has allowed us to enlarge the Troop to include fifteen members. Meetings are held every Thursday in the Gym, under the control of Mr. L. Lawrence, the Scoutmaster and Mr. I. White.

With the increase in numbers we have had to incorporate the "patrol system" into the Troop. We have formed two patrols of six members each, namely "Guy Gibson" and "James Cook", the former named after Wing Commander G. Gibson, V.C., D.F.C., D.S.O., the latter after the famous explorer.

With the competitive spirit between the two patrols we have been able to hold several "Wide Games". Visits have been made to places outside the School, a most interesting one having been the visit to Merritt and Hatcher (*Bucks Free Press*).

As usual, we should like the opportunity to thank all those who have helped in the running of the Troop, especially Mr. Lawrence, Mr. M. M. Davies, Mr. A. J. Skipp, the P.T.I.'s, and the Headmaster.

Junior Troop

Although the majority of Junior boarders want a troop, we cannot start one until a Scoutmaster, and if possible an Assistant Scoutmaster, is found. Should any master feel he would like to take on the extra responsibility, would he please get in touch with Mr. Lawrence, either via the Headmaster or one of the Senior Scouts?

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

The Annual Dinner 1964

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, March 21st, 1964, at the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe. One hundred and twenty Old Wycombiensians attended the dinner, which was preceded by the Annual General Meeting in the Residents' Lounge of the hotel.

At the Annual General Meeting the following officers were elected for 1964-65 :—

The President : E. R. Tucker, Esq.

The Chairman : L. B. Barnes, Esq.

Vice-Presidents : Messrs. G. W. Arnison, W. J. Bartle, The Rev. A. M. Berry, Messrs. G. A. Grant, P. L. Jones, P. C. Raffety, Col. L. L. C. Reynolds.

Committee : The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929-37), N. H. Theed (1912-19), R. W. Bartlett (1900-07), J. K. Prior (1934-40), G. C. Rayner (1937-41), D. J. Hann (1924-29), W. A. C. Knowles (1951-58), L. B. Barnes (1924-30), G. E. Green (1940-46), S. E. Hands (1915-20), F. E. J. Hawkins (1948-56), J. P. Lord (1934-38), G. W. Ray (1917-23).

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

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

The Chairman of the Club, L. B. Barnes, Esq., proposed the toast to the Queen. This year we had three "Old Masters" as our Guests of Honour : R. Matthews, Esq., B.A. (1909-19), E. C. Millington, Esq., M.Sc., Ph.D. (1928-45), and C. E. C. Eastman, Esq., M.A. (1936-45). Mr. P. L. Jones (1916—) proposed the health of our guests in three short speeches full of his special brand of dry humour and welcomed them back from the outside world where they had gone on to do great things. Mr. R. Matthews had become Headmaster of a Cathedral School in Nottingham until he retired and had been a tower of strength in the cultural life of the community there. Mr. E. C. Millington is now a staff inspector for the L.C.C. for science and higher education and responsible for technical and polytechnical colleges. Mr. C. E. C. Eastman is director of training at Stewart and Lloyds, the great steel firm, and is also responsible for recruitment. In their brief replies all three paid tribute to the two great Headmasters whose influence spanned the last sixty years and they reminisced about the happy years they had passed at the Royal Grammar School.

Mr. R. C. File (1945-53) proposed the toast to the School and the Club and in his amusing speech implied that the greatness of the School rested upon the appointment of a Jones in 1916, to be followed by myriads of Joneses in the following years.

Mr. Tucker, in the preliminary remarks to his reply to the toast, dropped a broad hint that he would be retiring shortly. He said : "I wanted to retire last year but the Governors persuaded me that I was not too old. However, I shall not be going on much longer."

Mr. Tucker then briefly outlined the year the School had just completed. "Last year was very busy and successful with a special lunch rounding off our Quater-centenary celebrations. We have in our new buildings the finest set of buildings under a Local Authority. One hundred and fifty new boys joined the School, while seventy-five left at the other end for University—twenty-three to Oxford and Cambridge—a remarkable figure."

Mr. Tucker admitted that he was deeply moved by the decision to erect a tablet and install an organ in the School Chapel in memory of his wife. He added : "The last thing to make the Chapel complete and beautiful is the putting in of the stained-glass windows by Mrs. Stanley Nutt in memory of her husband, Mr. Stanley Nutt (1900-07)."

The formal side of the dinner ended with a few remarks from the Chairman. He informed all Old Boys that next year's Annual Dinner would be held in London—"to celebrate something that would be happening shortly and which concerned our Headmaster, whom we would all wish to honour in a very special way."

Births

EDWARDS, C. M. J. (1946-53). On July 19th, at 384 Davenport Road, Toronto, to Mr. and Mrs. C. M. J. Edwards, a daughter, Leslie Jane.

HORTIN, C. L. (1944-51). On December 1st, 1963, to Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Horton, a son, Nicholas.

KING, J. A. C. (1925-31). On March 22nd, 1964, at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Beaconsfield, to Mr. and Mrs. Jack King, a son, Gerald Stephen, a brother for Deborah, Roger, Marjorie and David.

MINTER, Colin (1949-54). On February 19th, 1964, at Southend-on-Sea, to Mr. and Mrs. Colin Minter, a daughter, Sarah Alice Sharman, a sister for Paul.

PORTLOCK, J. J. (1950-57). On December 4th, 1963, at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Portlock, a son, James Matthew.

PRIOR, J. K. (1934-40). On October 2nd, 1963, at Cuckfield, to Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Prior, a daughter.

SALLOWS, A. J. (1950-54). On May 29th, 1963, in Germany, to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sallows, a daughter, Kerstin Jean.

VERE, A. J. (1952-56). On February 1st, 1964, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Vere, a daughter, Gillian Caroline.

Marriages

BROOKS—ROBERTS. On March 14th, 1964, at Little Marlow Church, J. E. Brooks (1947-52) to Miss Anthea Roberts.

HART—PARSLOW. On September 11th, 1963, at the Parish Church, Marlow, R. J. M. Hart (1948-54) to Miss Rita Mavis Parslow.

Deaths

A. E. K. GRACE (1914-20). On February 1st, 1964, at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Beaconsfield, aged 60 years.

Alfred Edward Keith Grace, of "Bluehills", Totteridge Road, High Wycombe, was head of one of High Wycombe's oldest building firms, W. Grace and Sons Ltd. He helped to found the Totteridge Baptist Church and work for the church took up much of his time. Apart from singing in the choir, he was treasurer and a very active member behind the scenes.

His other great love was football. After years of watching Wycombe Wanderers from the outside, he was invited on to the committee and served for nearly eight years. He was a member of the Princes Risborough Masonic Lodge.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Kathie Grace, and a son, Jeremy.

W. LINE (1909-15). Mr. Arnison sends notes on William Line, who died recently in Canada. The son of Mr. and Mrs. John Line, of Lane End, William Line was outstanding at school for general ability; he was a prefect and captain of both 1st XI's. He served as a Lieutenant in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry and was wounded in 1917. He went to Canada some time after the war and many years later Mr. Arnison heard that he had done well and was a Doctor of Psychology and a Professor at Toronto University. He had an elder brother, Walter, at the School who became a schoolmaster. S. C. Willott (1908-13) reports that Walter Line was a Local Preacher while still a schoolboy.

F. J. NOBLE-JONES (1911-17). On July 29th, 1963, at his home, "Red Marley", Gerrards Cross, aged 65 years.

Frederick James Noble-Jones was a School Prefect and Cadet Officer in the O.T.C. His father presented a challenge cup to the O.T.C. to be held by the most efficient recruit each year. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Enid Noble-Jones.

W. H. E. TIMMS (1905-11). On October 9th, 1963, at High Wycombe Hospital, age 69 years.

William Henry Ebenezer Timms was one of the best known and most popular members of the Buckinghamshire farming community. He lived at "Cobblesholme", Haw Lane, Bledlow Ridge, after his retirement about four years ago, but before that he farmed all his life at Cobbles Farm, Wycombe Marsh, where he was born and which he took over from his father, Mr. Ebenezer Timms.

"Farmer Timms", as he was popularly known, was a loyal and helpful friend to many people. He divided his life between farming and service to others. A bachelor, he spent many years of his life caring for his mother until she died at the age of 95 in 1951.

He was a prominent member of the Bucks County Executive of the National Farmers' Union and of the Bucks Education Committee, and was a Governor of Wycombe Technical High School, and Hatters Lane and Mill End Secondary Schools. He was a life-long member of Loudwater Parish Church. Mr. Timms left £250 to the trustees of the Frederick Youens, V.C., Memorial Fund of the Royal Grammar School.

D. J. WATSON (1903–09). On March 21st, 1964, suddenly after attending the Old Boys' Annual Dinner in High Wycombe, aged 73 years.

Douglas John Watson was the son of Herbert Watson, of Beaconsfield. He entered the R.G.S. in 1903 and in 1907 he won the Ewelme Exhibition open to candidates from Berks, Bucks and Oxon, and later won an Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Clare College, Cambridge. In 1910 he was in the 1st Class, Part I, of the Mathematical Tripos, and in 1912 became a Wrangler. He was a School Prefect and Captain of both first elevens. In the first World War he served in the R.E. and was wounded in 1917. After the war he joined the Alliance Insurance Company and held an important actuarial appointment for many years until he retired in 1952. He was the Guest of Honour of the Old Boys' Club at its Annual Dinner some years ago. He had lived all his life in the house in which he was born—at "Pondstile", Seer Green—and latterly had been looked after by his sister, Miss Evelyn Watson. He was a modest, self-effacing bachelor and very popular in Seer Green, where he took a keen interest in local affairs, particularly in cricket and football. He loved the Bucks countryside, enjoyed walking—and never took a holiday.

Staff

The REV. A. M. BERRY (1914–33) writes from his new address :—

5 Wood Street, Woburn Sands, Bletchley
(Tel. Woburn Sands 2321)

He had hoped to die in harness but resigned his living at the end of September 1963. He says he cannot now stand for more than about ten minutes and gets very short of breath. There is a branch of the County Library very near and he does a great amount of reading. He would like to see the new buildings but doesn't feel very sure that he will ever get there. He ends on a cheerful note : "We're off to Bedford tomorrow to see the musical 'Oklahoma'." He is now 91 years of age.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

R. C. ASHBY (1950-54) was travelling reserve when England played Scotland at Murrayfield in March 1964. He and F. E. J. HAWKINS (1948-56) played together as half-backs for the East Midlands against the All Blacks and did very well.

Hawkins has resigned from his teaching position at the R.G.S. to go into business with Woodward and Stalder. He leaves as a member of our Staff at Whitsun.

E. L. BARRETT (1954-60) completed his training at Sandhurst on December 19th, 1963, and in January went off to Aldershot to a R.A.S.C. Young Officers' Course. He has broken his nose four times since leaving the R.G.S., and last summer in a Land Rover he fractured his skull near Zagreb on his way to Turkey. He spent three weeks in hospital in Jugoslavia. He has also been on a scheme to Libya and spent two weeks in the desert—he didn't see any proper sand—just rock. Not a bad life provided he keeps alive!

A. BRINN (1956-58) called in at the School recently. He is now an Area Representative for Lombank Limited and plays in the second row for Gloucester. He looks a very fit 16 stone.

J. F. BROOKS (1947-52) is now living in Caversham, Reading, after his marriage. He has had to resign from the Committee of the Old Boys' Club and we thank him for his years of faithful service.

C. P. BROWN (1955-62) writes from Devonshire Hall at Leeds University giving news of some of the thirty or forty Old Boys now studying there. Taking finals this year are A. BARWELL (1949-56) in law, P. DRONFIELD (1953-60) in French after spending a year in France, J. COMER (1954-61) in Music, D. ROBERY (1953-61) in civil engineering. In the second year are P. J. C. CLARK (1955-62) and R. HARDING (1955-62), who have done well on the rugby field—Clark has made several appearances in the University 1st XV. K. SANSOM (1954-62) and B. W. FORD (1955-62) are all enjoying the wide facilities provided by the University. Among the "freshers" Brown has met are P. HEWETT (1955-62), S. BAXTER (1957-63), I. RUTHERFORD (1955-63), S. TOMES (1954-62) and R. FOUNTAIN (1956-63), who have all settled down well. G. W. BOIREAU (1954-62) is busy reading sociology and philosophy and has discovered the magic of pot-holing.

J. C. BOWMAN (1955-61) continues to send news of Old Boys at the R.A.F. Technical College at Henlow. Ray D. SMITH (1955-60), now commissioned, visited Israel recently. C. R. S. WOOD (1954-59) went walking and camping in Sweden. Bowman himself hitch-hiked to Naples and met there Father Mario Borrelli of "The House of the Urchins" fame. He has also managed to make contact again with A. R. COOPER (1955-58), who left in 1958 to emigrate to New Zealand, where he is now studying at Victoria University, Wellington. Cooper is also a member of the Fire Brigade! Bowman and Wood will be commissioned in July 1964 but will remain at Henlow until Easter 1966 to complete their Electrical Engineering Course. Wood is soon to spend ten days in the U.S.A. visiting Washington, New York and the U.S.A.F. Academy at Colorado Springs.

J. BOVINGDON (1957-61), who joined H.M.S. *Fisgard*, has successfully completed Part I of his artificer apprenticeship. He has now been drafted to H.M.S. *Caledonia*, near Rosyth, where he will undergo a further two years eight months training in marine engineering. Whilst at H.M.S. *Fisgard* he achieved the distinction of obtaining a 1st Class pass in craftsmanship, being awarded 1st Prize and also qualified Ordinary National Certificate (S.1).

The late GILBERT BURCH (1910-17), who became Deputy President of the National Rose Society in January 1963 and died in the March following, has been honoured posthumously with the award of the Dean Hole Medal. This medal is the highest honour in the power of the Society to bestow. In the main it is awarded to presidents who reach the position as a result of outstanding service.

JOHN CAWSON (1955-61) has returned from Mfantshipim School in Ghana and is at the Imperial College of Science reading for a degree in electrical engineering. His brother David (1956-63) is now teaching for a year at the Mawuli School, in Ho, Ghana. John ran the Scout Troop and the Red Cross at his school and the Red Cross section received a box containing bandages, lint, etc., at regular intervals from a Welsh school to help it run a medical service in the villages around. He wonders whether the R.G.S. could help.

J. N. CLARE (1955-62) is now at the Rutherford College of Technology, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He is doing a B.Sc. degree (London external) in Psychology, Chemistry and Physics. He wants to know if there are any Old Boys either at King's College, Newcastle, or Rutherford College.

A. S. DEVENING (1933-37) has been living for some time in 120 Plateau Road, Te Marua, Upper Hutt, Wellington, New Zealand. He is an assistant engineer with the Dunlop Rubber Company there. He is married with four children.

G. C. DYER (1934-36). In a recent honours list F/Lt. Gordon C. Dyer was commended for an award. The commendation was by C.-in-C. Bomber Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Kenneth Cross, in the form of a certificate awarded for meritorious service in the R.A.F. whilst serving in Bomber Command. The presentation was recently made by Air Commodore MacGill at R.A.F. Manby, Lincs. G. C. Dyer is the youngest son of Mr. W. S. Dyer, 267 Micklefield Road, High Wycombe.

D. R. A. FRIEND (1953-56). After leaving school Friend studied for two years at Leicester University and then went into the R.A.F., where he spent two years in Cyprus as a Radar fitter. On leaving the R.A.F. he went to Hunting Surveys Ltd., Borehamwood, as an electronics technician. He discovered C. SCHAUVERIEN (1942-46) there, who joined the survey business after working as a Radio Officer in the Merchant Navy. Friend is now in Spain, making a survey for a new Autopista from Barcelona to the Costa Brava.

A. FREE (1952-56) has obtained his first mate's certificate at London University. He will rejoin his ship *The City of Birkenhead* shortly.

P. D. FRY (1941-49) has been chosen as prospective Conservative candidate by the North Nottingham Conservative Association.

PETER GALLOWAY (1950-57) has graduated in astronomy at St. Andrew's and went to Canada for the eclipse of the sun. He had a very successful trip and took some good photographs. He is now working at Jodrell Bank.

C. S. GRIFFITHS (1955-62) writes from Neuadd Sibly giving more news of life at Swansea University College, where he was joined by J. M. DAVIES (1955-63) last September. Griffiths edits a magazine *Conspectus*, rows for the Boat Club, plays Rugby for Swansea Uplands and is preparing himself for a degree in Politics and Geography.

The REV. C. A. GRIFFITHS (1919-24) was once again far too busy to attend the Dinner this year but next year, as an unattached cleric, he hopes to be able to take a week-end off and come along. He is resigning his appointment as assistant curate in Banbury as from Whit Sunday, when he hopes to receive the Bishop of Oxford's permission and licence to officiate generally in the Diocese.

H. S. GROOM (1906-08). We learn with regret that H. S. Groom, Clerk to Chalfont St. Giles Parish Council, has entered a London hospital for an operation.

J. S. HADDON (1942-47) writes from B18, Tanderra, Whyalla North, South Australia. He is now working for the Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd. at their Whyalla steel works testing the strength of steel, concrete and bricks. He is taking charge of the laboratory for this in their Metallurgy Department and is very happy about the future. The country is semi-desert sheep country. Rainfall is 10 inches per annum, so all the water comes by pipeline from the river Murray.

E. HALL (1944-53). Fl/Lt. Eric Hall is now C.O. of R.A.F. Riyan in the Aden Protectorate. The local Sultan has invited him to banquets already and he is now very proficient at eating with his fingers.

S. E. HANDS (1915-20) has been appointed chairman of the High Wycombe furniture firm of William Hands and Sons Ltd., following the death of Mr. Albert Hands, his brother. JOHN HANDS (1937-44), who has been sales manager for the ten years, has been appointed sales director.

D. J. HANN (1924-29) has just been made Chairman of the School Management Committee of the local Divisional Executive. It is the first time that an Old Boy has been honoured in this way.

M. T. HARRIS (1939-46) read with interest the item in the last Old Boys' Notes regarding D. T. Nightingale and R. E. Syrett and their daughters. He has written to offer advice (?) on sons. He has three sons and makes the following observations :—

- (a) I consider this is a matter of concentration and mind over matter.
- (b) Whilst at the R.G.S. I think I must have had the unenviable but very justified record of being the most caned pupil ever. Whether this has any bearing on my having three sons is an interesting problem for medical experts.

J. H. HOLMES (1952-59) writes from 5921 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia 49, Pa., U.S.A. He left in 1959 to do Leather Science at Leeds University. The course is basically chemistry, biochemistry and physics and not a training for

cobblers, he makes very clear. He graduated in 1963 with Honours and won the Lawrence Ingle Prize for the best Research Project. He is now in the U.S.A. doing developmental and applications research for an international concern which makes over 700 chemicals for all the various industries. He is gaining valuable industrial experience and hopes that the work he is doing will qualify him for Associateship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry—he has already been accepted as a Graduate Member. Holmes is struck by the pace of life out there—road traffic is chaotic during rush hours—just one big rat-race with nobody caring about the other vehicles on the road. On top of this is all the high-pressure salesmanship combined with the continuous advertising and cut-throat competition. It looks as if Holmes will be glad to be home one day.

P. J. HOLTORP (1954–57) has gained a Short Service Commission in the R.E.M.E. after completing a course at O.C.S. Mons.

H. W. JOHNSON (1930–36), who is Housemaster at the King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth, is forming a Lincolnshire Branch of the Old Boys' Club with his Headmaster, D. R. WITNEY (1934–42). At the moment the other members are E. M. SQUIRES (1949–57), A. J. SADDLER (1947–53) and R. A. FRENCH (1957–60). Will any Old Boys please contact him at the school in Louth. They hope to hold a dinner in Lincoln one day.

R. KING (1954–59), after giving up the “grilling” at the Savoy Hotel, is now travelling for a firm selling heating appliances and doing well.

N. E. KROHN (1954–58) is now Assistant Manager of the Talbot Hotel, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos., and has severed all connections with his home town Buckingham.

A. T. LUDGATE (1956–63), of Selwyn College, played second board for Cambridge against Oxford in the annual chess match.

J. P. MARTIN (1938–41) writes giving his new address : Barclays Bank D.C.O., P.O. Box 180, Bridgetown, Barbados, West Indies. He has just completed four years in Trinidad and returned recently to Barbados.

S. MERRINGTON (1956–63). Cambridge University German Society presented this year a modern play—Durrenmatt's “Romulus der Grosse” and Merrington, who is at St. John's, was reported by *The Times Educational Supplement* as having the right vulgar swagger for the trouser-manufacturer Rupf. He informs us that BARRY L. DAVIES (1954–57), once at St. John's, is getting married in Switzerland soon.

C. MINTER (1949-54) writes from 34 Quebec Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, to give news of the birth of his daughter and invites any Old Boy visiting Southend to call on him. He is now with the Eastern National Omnibus Company at Southend and states that any suggestions that he started the recent strike are untrue. On the contrary, he arranged transport for the thousands of holiday-makers using the Airport during that difficult time.

C. W. K. NEALE (1904-10), after being out of touch for many years, saw one of the new Old Boys' ties which very much took his fancy. He has now bought one (and a School History) and become a Life Member. When he came to the School in 1904 the total number of boys was about 40! These were in four forms! All four afternoons of the week (Wednesdays and Saturdays were half-holidays) were devoted to French and Latin—no other subject. Freddy Youens, V.C., followed him through the School and they were great pals. Youens was most unassuming but a fine debater. D. J. Watson was a year ahead—his achievement of a scholarship at Cambridge was in those days little short of sensational. He well remembers Mr. Arnison coming to the School as the new Headmaster after Mr. Peachell's death. C. W. K. Neale believes he was the last of Mr. Peachell's pupils to leave the School. He still puts in a full week at the office as a Certified Accountant to keep himself from rusting and getting lazy. His elder daughter is still with him and she is a Certified Accountant too.

G. R. PACKMAN (1953-59), after graduating from Leeds in 1963 with an honours degree in Economics with History, has an interesting job of accounting with Romford Borough Council. He has just started studying for the I.M.T.A. qualification, which is very necessary for all aspiring Local Government accountants.

R. C. PALMER (1955-61) is very happy in his banking career with Lloyds. He has passed Part I of the Institute of Bankers in Commercial English, Economics and Bookkeeping. G. D. JONES (1955-63) has settled down well in Lloyds, High Wycombe.

R. F. PARKER (1917-22) sends a very attractive card from his new address, c/o W. Parker, "Firemore", 227 Dartmouth Road, Paignton, Devon. He has recently returned from a health trip to Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea. He was away six months and is now fit again.

M. R. PATTINSON (1953-60) continues to distinguish himself in the shooting world. He has been selected to join the British rifle shooting team to tour Canada this summer. The team will leave England immediately after the Bisley meeting in July and will be away for three weeks. He obtained his Blue for shooting at Cambridge three years in succession and represented England in the match rifle competition at Bisley in 1963 and was selected for the British team on his performance at the last Bisley meeting when he finished sixth in the grand aggregate. He returned for the fourth year at Cambridge to take the Diploma Course in Education and next September takes up his first post at Hurstpierpoint College in Sussex as teacher of Biology.

W. N. PENDER (1953-59) has by now finished his course at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, Wilts. He has found time for rugby, squash and riding and the occasional parachute jump.

J. J. PORTLOCK (1950-57). Since the serious accident to his father, he has left Aeropreen and taken over the family catering business.

K. J. RENNIE (1956-61) is back again at the Constantine Technical College, Middlesbrough, continuing his engineering course. He spent the summer at I.C.I., Billingham, undergoing practical training and ran into JAMES ANDREW (1954-61) on a University vacation course in the engineering workshops. Rennie has joined the T.A. (Parachute Regiment) and has completed some drops.

P. J. RICKARD (1944-50) writes from 9 Otley Street, Christchurch 4, New Zealand. He retired from the Royal N.Z. Air Force in 1962 after nine years' service with a long-range squadron flying regularly to England through the Middle East or by way of the United States. Since leaving the service he has been working as a ranger in the bush—to regain some of his fitness. He reckons he is probably the first bushranger to have an R.G.S. education. In 1964 he will commence a year-long course at the Christchurch Teachers' Training College. He would very much like to see any Old Boy out in New Zealand.

P. N. ROGERS (1949-57), whose mother lives in Chorley Road, High Wycombe, has completed his research and has been granted his Ph.D. He is now Dr. Peter Norman Rogers.

A. J. SALLOWS (1950-54) attended the Dinner this year and gave news of himself. He is a qualified accountant, was married in August 1962 in Hanover and has just returned from

two years in Hamburg with a German wife and baby. He is settling down in his new job as European Management Accountant to the proprietors of Hay's Wharf Ltd. In this job he will travel in Austria, Germany, Belgium and France.

E. SMITH (1953-59), of Southfield Road, has finished his studies for the Society of Shipping Executives and is now preparing himself for the Institute of Export examinations.

R. B. SMITH (1955-62) is studying at the Navigation School, R.A.F. Hullavington, Wiltshire—he finishes in June 1964 and then goes off to R.A.F. Stratishall for Advanced Navigation Training. He informs us that P/O. M. R. EMMETT (1954-60), of R.A.F. Topcliff, Yorks, is flying to Malta.

C. SWAIN (1954-62) is optimistic about his studies at University College, London. He continues to play hockey and chess and hopes to go to Eastern Europe on a chess-cum-holiday trip with members of the University Chess Club.

C. R. SWEETING (1958-63) has a great affection for the School and has joined the Old Boys' Club while a pupil at Watford Grammar School (he moved to Radlett last year). When he wrote he was preparing himself for a hard rugby match—Watford G.S. *versus* R.G.S. High Wycombe!

JOHN SIMPSON (1953-61) wrote a very interesting letter from Cape Town to the Headmaster. He is up at Jesus College, Cambridge, doing medicine and proceeds to St. Mary's later this year. The University ran a cheap charter flight to South Africa and a good friend at Cambridge offered accommodation in Johannesburg. Simpson was lucky enough to get two jobs in native hospitals to help pay for the trip and this enabled him to get to know the African. He is not very optimistic about a solution to the problem of Apartheid—African Nationalism *versus* the grim determination of the white people to hold the African down are such strong forces in opposition. He was deeply shocked by the Dutch Reformed Church's attitude to the problem—they justify Apartheid on the grounds that if God had wanted only one race, He would not have created two.

At a party he met MICHAEL CROWTHER (1947-51), also a Jesus man. He thinks Cape Town one of the most beautiful cities in the world. He travelled to the Victoria Falls and can now understand Livingstone's words, "A sight so beauteous must have been gazed on by angels in their flight."

D. J. THORNTON (1955-62) has obtained a place to read medicine at Bristol University.

G. P. M. WALKER (1953-60), of Selwyn College, Cambridge, is completing this year the second part of the Modern Language Tripos (largely in Philology). Recently he spent a very interesting fortnight in East Germany visiting East Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig and Weimar and gaining a fascinating insight into life behind the Iron Curtain. His brother, D. R. WALKER (1957-63), now at Edinburgh University studying Art and Architecture, last summer motored through France to Morocco, and the youngest brother, D. G., went to Russia with the School trip. The Walkers get around.

JOHN R. WARD (1956-63), who is spending a year in Washington with his father before going up to Balliol in October, undertook a major hike down into Grand Canyon and back—an estimated total distance of 30 miles, with an ascent of 5,000 feet on the return journey. The temperature was well over 100° F. for part of the way, but he didn't find it too difficult after the hot humid Washington summer.

M. E. W. WESTNEY (1940-47) has now finished with the Inland Revenue and has started a two-year course at Lichfield Theological College. His brother, K. J. P. (1944-51), has left banking and, after taking a Teaching Diploma Course at University College, London, is now a Classics Master at Northampton Grammar School.

M. G. WELCH (1954-61) is in his third year of Mechanical Engineering at the Borough Polytechnic and hopes to be a research engineer.

P. WINDSOR (1952-53) has broadcast on Germany on the Home Service.

T. C. WILLIAMS (1947-52) commenced his seventh year with the Bank of West Africa last November. He has been manager of the Kenema Branch in Sierra Leone for two years. The bank is right in the middle of the diamond area, but he regrets that free samples are rather scarce. His wife and child love the sunshine. He has a house in Great Kingshill and when he is next on leave in May 1965 he will be pleased to see any Old Boys for a natter and a noggin. When he wrote, he had just met R. J. COLLETT (1951-58), who is a lecturer at Fourah Bay College, in Freetown, the capital.

P. J. WILSON (1954-60). When last seen, he had just returned from a three-year stint in opencast coal mining in Fife. He is following a Structural Engineering Course at Cambridge and finishes this summer.

BRIAN YOUENS (1952-54). After a serious accident when doing his National Service in Germany, Youens trained as a hairdresser and now has his own shop in Green Street, High Wycombe.

P. J. YATES (1953-60) keeps in the headlines as a runner. He is now the National Junior Cross-country Champion and beat off the challenge of over 400 other runners to win the title over a six-mile course.

DUDLEY J. MAY (1951-60) was 671st in the National Senior Cross-country, but he has only just taken up running again. He has completed an Honours Course at the Imperial College of Science and is now doing research which should lead to a Ph.D.

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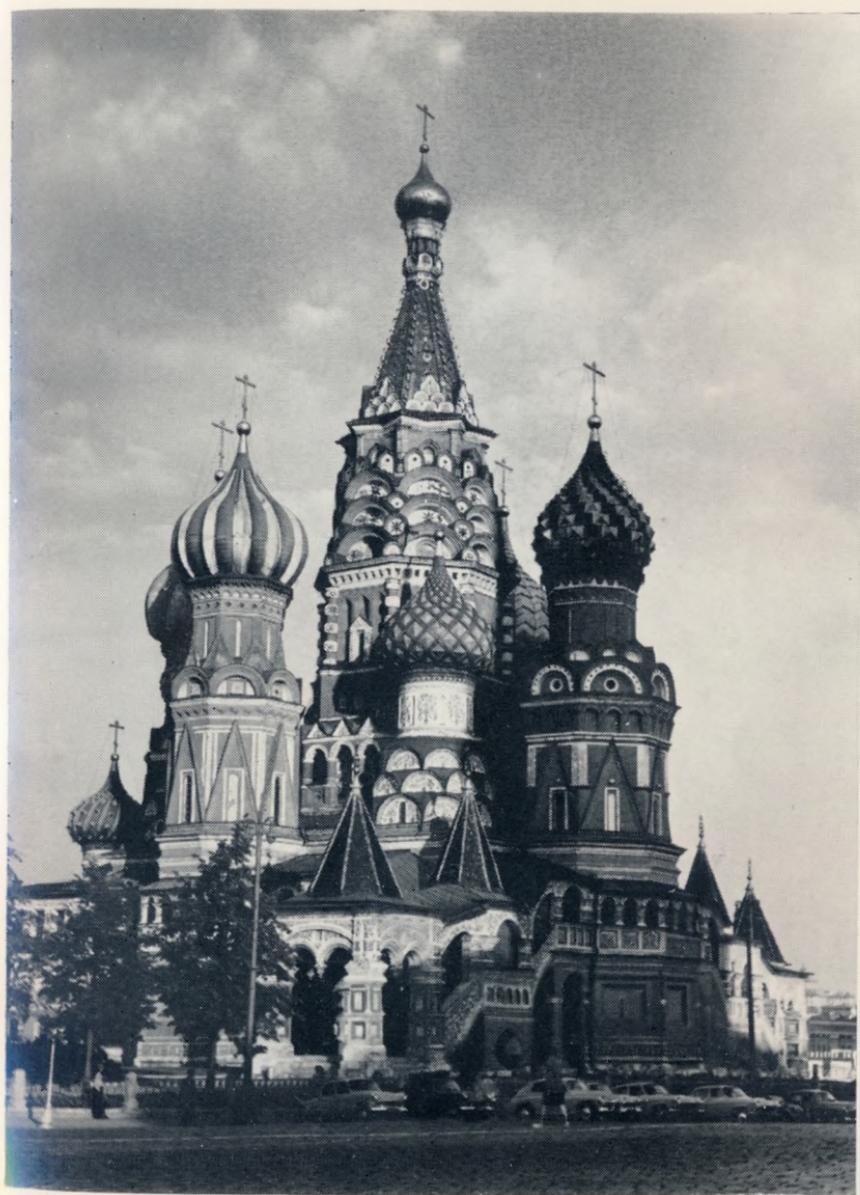
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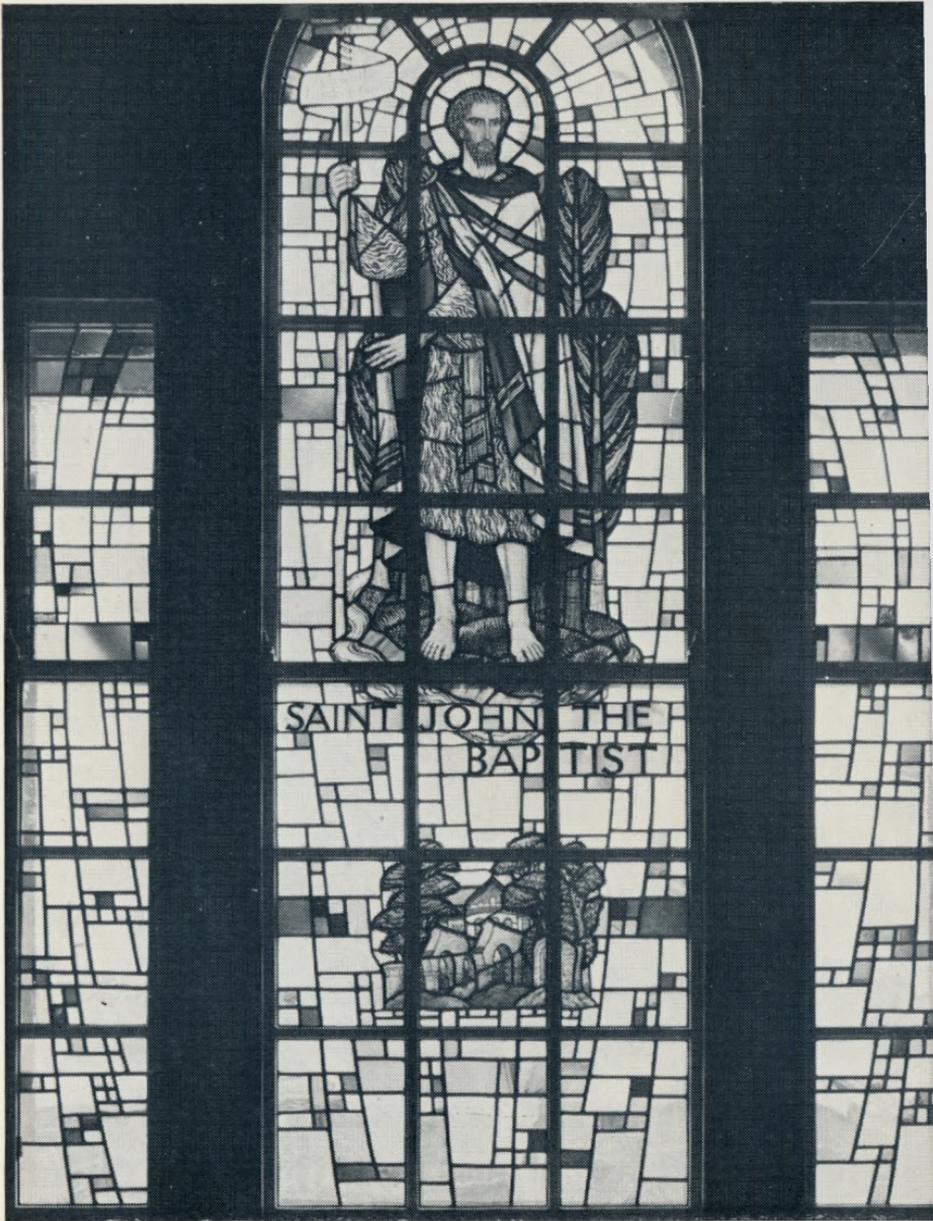
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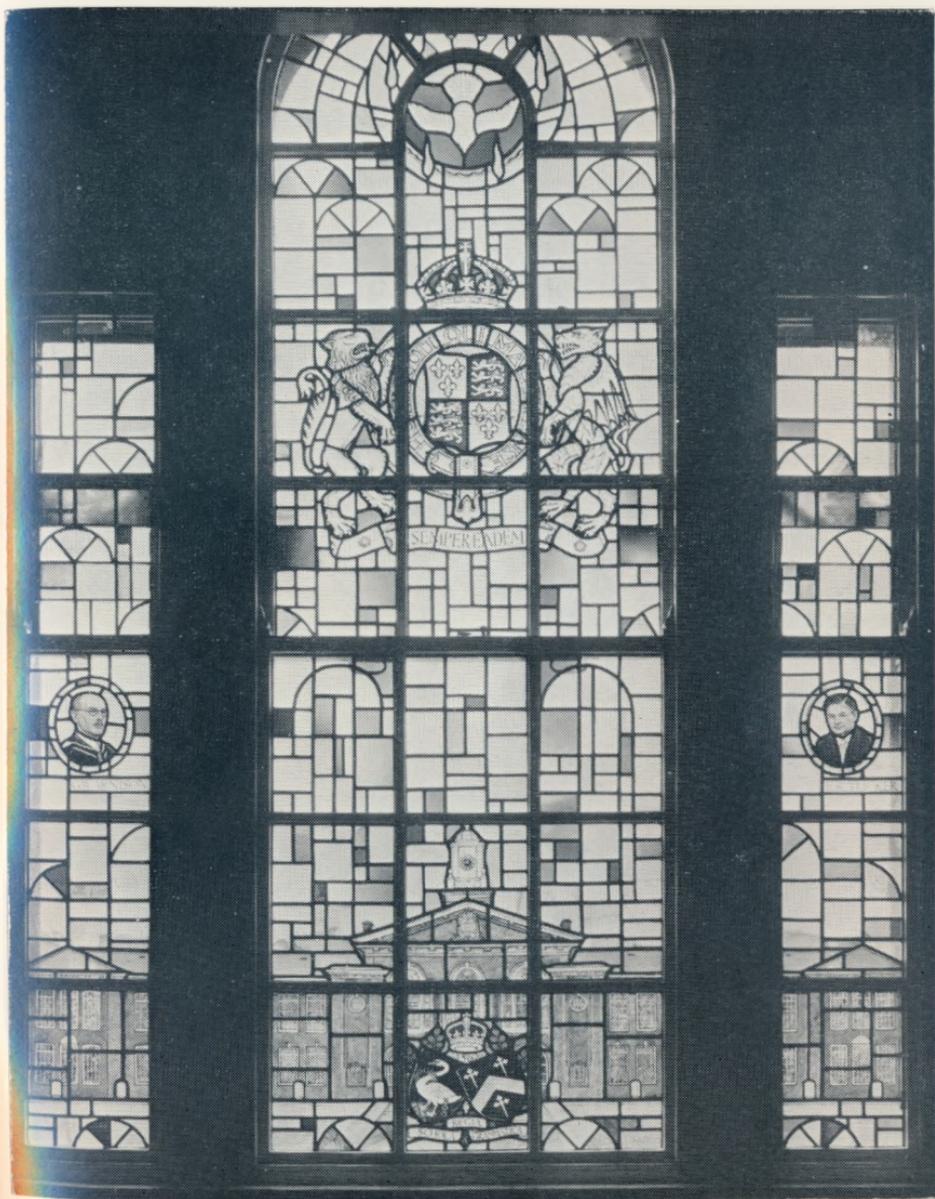


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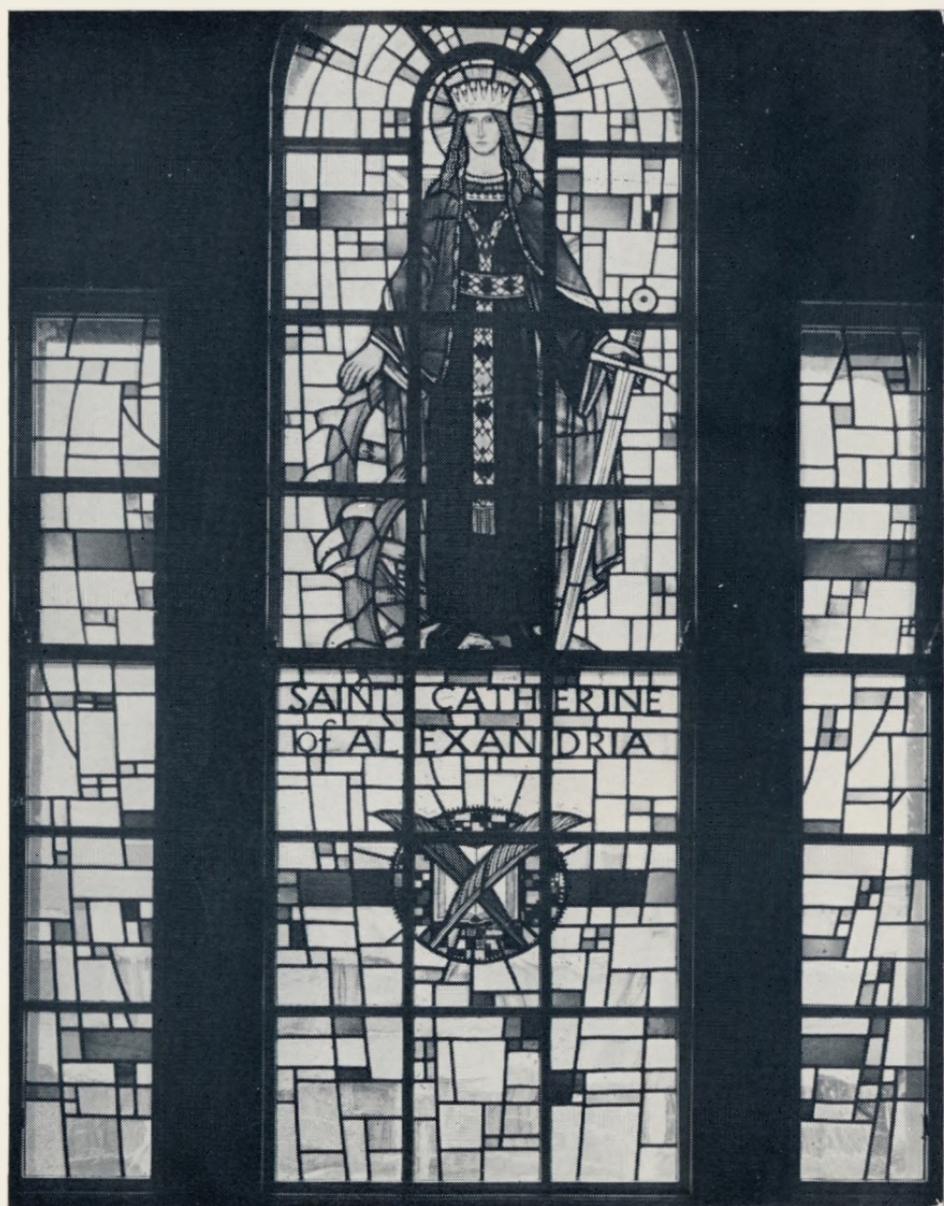
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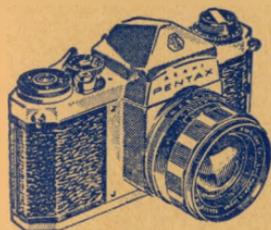
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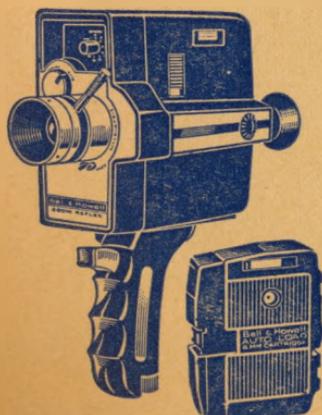
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