

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



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THE LIBRARY

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(THE WYCOMBE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE)

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Assisted by M. J. BANHAM

EDITORIAL

For nine years now this school has ranked as a Public School. It is an honour, to the Headmaster and ourselves, of which we are justly proud, for it is the recognition of great achievements in the first half of this century. But we are also a Grammar School, though a Royal one ; an integral and vital part of the new educational system planned in 1944 : and this is no less an honour because it is shared by thousands of other schools.

Our relations with the public schools and great grammar schools of the country, in friendly rivalry in sport, candidature for University scholarships, and other things, are much prized. It is perhaps less fashionable to consider our relations with our partners in secondary education, the technical and secondary modern schools, who as Mr. Birley said on Speech Day, have the really exciting future in the next few years. The stock Ministry of Education phrase "parity of esteem" is uninspiring. It has not the ring of the true slogan : but it has far more accuracy and justice than most slogans. It does not mean equality, for it is obvious that the grammar school, designed to train managers, teachers, leaders, needs more money, more highly-qualified teachers, more advanced equipment, perhaps more corporate spirit, than the others. It does not mean that being selected for a grammar school at the age of eleven is not a thing to be proud of. But it does specifically deny that we should be considered "above" those who are going to technical schools to become artists, engineers, craftsmen, and to the secondary modern schools to fill every kind of position.

For most of us come from the same elementary schools ; we are mainly supported by the same public funds ; and we are all trying, in our various ways, to avoid mere vocational training, for whatever kind of occupation. It will do us no harm to consider our bonds with our fellows in the task of education, as well as our undoubted differences.

SCHOOL NOTES

Staff.

In the past two terms we have lost two of our most popular masters. At Easter Mr. J. O. Roberts left to become a Housemaster at Dorchester Grammar School. In his 16 years here Mr. Roberts had made his good influence felt beyond the A.T.C. and the classical department, and he will be widely missed.

In July Mr. H. R. Thomas left us to take up a post at Tottenham County School. As master in charge of tennis, as Youens house master, as mentor to the historians and economists, he has been invaluable. The Welsh contingent has suffered a serious loss this year : we wish the best of luck to Mr. Roberts and Mr. Thomas in their new posts.

We were obliged to say "Ave atque vale" to Mr. P. W. Thacker, who was with us for the Summer Term only, teaching classics and propping up the staff cricket team. We also welcome Mr. M. J. Hayes, who comes to us from St. Marylebone Grammar School to teach chemistry.

Mr. Nicholas from Jesus College, Oxford, and Mr. Engler, from Reading University, did teaching practice here during the Spring Term.

Congratulations to Mr. R. Pattinson on winning the Derbyshire Amateur Golf Championship.

Mr. Bowden replaced Mr. Scattergood as School Bursar in April of this year.

General.

On March 9th, 1951, the Reading and District Classical Association met in the school hall, when a talk was given on the Augustan Age. Several boys from the sixth form attended.

The annual House Music Competition was held on March 20th, 1951. Results were as follows : 1. Fraser.

2. Youens.
3. Disraeli.
4. Arnison.

The Junior school at Uplyme was opened at the beginning of the Summer Term, as was the restored School Library.

The School Sports took place on May 2nd, 1951.

On Wednesday, May 23rd, 30 members of the Senior Choir took part in a Choral Concert in Reading University Great Hall, organised by the Reading University Institute of Education.

On June 14th a party of boys from VIM visited "Antony and Cleopatra" at the St. James's Theatre.

Kemsley Prizes were won this year by C. R. F. Maunder, I. J. McCreery, B. Sinnatt, B. Lewis, A. R. McIntosh. Scott Prizes were won by I. H. C. Waters and A. R. McIntosh.

On July 16th and 23rd, 1951, large parties of boys from the school enjoyed visits to the South Bank Exhibition of the Festival of Britain.

On July 24th, 1951, Mr. Courtenay, formerly a war correspondent in Korea, gave a talk to the school on modern strategy and air power.

Junior and Intermediate athletic standard certificates were presented on July 24th to R. I. Garratt, A. J. Gordon, B. K. Johnson, T. A. Long, A. J. Redrup and P. W. Webb.

During July about 30 Finnish boys were the guests of members of the Olympic Society, on a visit to be returned next year.

The Dramatic Society presented "Maria Marten, or the Murder in the Red Barn," in the School Hall on the evenings of Monday and Tuesday, July 23rd and 24th, 1951. A review appears on another page.

Congratulations to :

D. D. Kirby for his Open Scholarship in Modern Languages at Jesus College, Oxford.

D. Bates for his Flying Scholarship.

A. R. MCINTOSH.

SPEECH DAY

School Speech Day this year was held on the afternoon of Thursday, July 19th. The Chairman, Mr. P. C. Raffety, opened the proceedings by thanking the Headmaster and staff for their work during the year. He mentioned the various improvements effected during the year, and said that while we were not satisfied—that would be impossible—we were very much pleased at all that had been done.

The Headmaster opened his report with a special acknowledgement of a debt of gratitude to Mr. Robert Birley, the principal speaker : he recalled the generous help given by the classical staff of Eton College to our scholarship candidates during the war, and the remarkable successes scored by these boys with their aid. He was grateful too for the services of the former Senior Chemistry Master at Eton College, who had come to us for five years after his retirement from the college. Mr. Birley, he said, could be seen, on account of his work in Germany, in Europe, and at home, to be one of the great leaders of thought in this country for the next twenty years.

During the last year, the Headmaster continued, his optimistic hopes had been largely fulfilled. The new Dining Hall and Kitchen had been opened, and carried on successfully under the direction of

Mrs. Freeman, the Supervisor : the opening of Uplyme, with its Hall, six classrooms, laboratory, and two music rooms, had improved the amenities of the main school, at a cost of only £5,000 all told : as a result the Library had been splendidly refurnished, and in ten or twenty years' time should be magnificently equipped. With various improvements in details around the school and the future expansion of Tyler's Wood, he could say that we had almost all we want, although the staff problem was still difficult, and we had been sorry to lose Mr. Roberts and Mr. Thomas.

The list of examination successes shown on the Programme marked the end of an era, for in 1951 the new General Certificate of Education came into force. Compared with 1935, when one boy obtained Higher Certificate and one boy a University Scholarship, fifty-eight boys took Higher Certificate this year, and of these thirty-four or more were proceeding to Universities, a reasonable number with Open Scholarship Awards and a good number with County Grants. At Jesus College, Cambridge, three Open Awards and five places had been secured—an exceptional number. The Headmaster deplored the age limit of sixteen for the new public examination, which meant that many boys had to take the same examination twice, once for the satisfaction of the school, and once for the examiners. He wanted to emphasise that boys who went to Universities were not restricted to the Civil Service or professions, and he particularly mentioned the openings for University graduates in Wycombe's main industry.

The school football, cricket, and cross-country teams had maintained their high level during the year. By the end of the season the First XV had a very good record, and while the cricket had not been quite so distinguished, the cross-country reputation had even been added to, especially by the winning of the Southern Counties C.C. Championship. Lawn tennis this year had started as a full school game, and colours had been awarded for the first time. The C.C.F., and particularly the Air Section, were flourishing, and the "Mikado" at Christmas and "Messiah" at Easter again proved how satisfactory our musical reputation was.

The Headmaster commented on the danger of the Grammar Schools, and many Public Schools, being frustrated by central control of finances, but he was grateful for the understanding and co-operation of the Bucks Education Committee, which gave the school in many ways the best of both worlds.

Mr. Robert Birley, C.M.G., M.A., Headmaster of Eton, presented the prizes, and in his speech emphasised the close links between the Grammar Schools, the Public Schools and the Universities, all of which had the duty to foster the family spirit, social tolerance, and a respect for ability. He said that the schools which

had the truly exciting prospects in the near future were the Secondary Modern Schools, but that the contribution of the "grammar school," in the widest sense, was still vitally important.

After tea in the Dining Hall and a demonstration by the C.C.F. Band, an inspiring commemoration service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. A. L. Evan Hopkins, the Vicar. A packed congregation was greatly impressed by this fine service.

THE LIBRARY

After ten years' use as a Sixth Form room, the Library has now returned to its proper function. The room (which is a very fine one for its purpose) has been redecorated and equipped. It has been possible to repair and polish some of the original furniture, and to add what else was necessary. Our existing stock of books has been collected together, augmented and catalogued. As a result we now have a very pleasant Library, with plenty of room for quiet study—and ample space for additions to our resources.

At first our rather meagre stock of books looked somewhat lost among so much shelving, but gradually we have occupied a little more space. We could easily house several times the number of books we have.

In this matter we should like to invite the co-operation of Old Boys and other friends of the school. Already the senior boys have appreciated the advantages the Library has afforded them, and have shown their appreciation suitably. We feel sure that there are many others who would like to show their recognition of what they owe to the school, and presents of suitable books or money to buy them will be much appreciated. The Librarian is always willing to suggest the names of books required or to advise as to the suitability of any book.

Last term it was necessary to restrict the use of the Library mainly to the Sixth : but this term it will be open to all boys in the main school. We hope that they will make full use of this opportunity.

A.C.H.

"MARIA MARTEN, OR MURDER IN THE RED BARN"

I must confess that when first told that the Dramatic Society was going to present "Maria Marten" I felt extremely pessimistic, holding the view that the skill needed to bring to life such oft-characterised persons as William Corder and Maria Marten was beyond the powers of the school. Undeterred by gloomy forebodings, the Society went ahead with the idea, and succeeded

completely. The imaginative production of Mr. Perfect and Mr. Runswick gave the audience laughs, thrills, and serious moments, and much of the success of the play may be attributed to the skill and enterprise of the producer.

T. Baldwin as poor Maria seemed singularly unmoved by the various extremities of fortune which befell him, but was most convincing as a ghost. Both he and C. P. Keeling, as sister Anne, acted well, but one had the impression that they were merely reading from the script, and more variation of voice would have come as a great relief. This lack of variation was all the more noticeable by contrast with the rich authentic accent of B. K. Debenham, who, acting extremely well as Tim, the yokel, introduced a note of almost hilarious gaiety into this grim story, and almost "stole the show." Two other main contributors to the humour of the piece, I. H. C. Waters and D. M. Phillips, will be long remembered for their portrayal of the two twisting showmen, Flatcatcher and Tobersloper, and a pang of pity will be felt by all for the life that their "assistant" Jacko, so ably played by G. Warner, must have led under their guidance.

The old gipsy Ishmael Lee, played by M. J. Banham, and his two tribesmen Mark—A. M. Harcourt—and Amos—J. Birch—made together as ugly a company as one could wish to meet in a dark lane. Varley, as Pharos Lee, was impressive but rather gentle voiced. The main criticism of Maria's prematurely aged parents, played by G. A. Bradley and C. J. Goodchild, is a slight apathy of word and expression. Even at the grave of his ill-fated daughter Mr. Marten seemed slightly shocked, but not particularly worried or anguished. Dame Marten was, however, particularly convincing in the scene where Maria's ghost appears to her in her sleep.

And so we come to the villain—Squire Corder in person—played by M. S. Matthews with all the skill that we have come to expect of him. Whether as a brutal murderer, an insinuating and plausible rogue, or a condemned prisoner, he was always in command of the play, and the audience. He may rest assured that the boos and hisses that always greeted his entrance on the scene were a compliment, and not a slur on his histrionic ability.

The principals were well backed up by Smyth as Corder's servant, and Mauder, Todd and Thatcher as villagers. A word must also be said in praise of the technicians of this play. The make-up was superb, and the electricians and stage hands excelled themselves. A vital factor, too, was the musical accompaniment. The highest praise is due to Mr. Bernarr Rainbow and his "select ensemble" for the really fascinating music they provided. Even if one had gone determined to dislike the play, it would have been worth going to hear the music : "higher praise know I none . . ."

F. A. NEAL.

SHORTENILLS COURSE ON U.N.O.

(JULY 16th-20th, 1951)

The school courses held at this secluded camp already look like becoming a regular event of the school year, and the especial privilege of the small number of senior boys who are prepared to break the monotony of the last few weeks of term when normal activities seem to die down.

This year forty boys and girls from the Sixth Forms of various local schools—including half a dozen Polish girls—assembled to discuss the specialised agencies of U.N.O., a formidable title but, when studied under the ideal conditions we enjoyed, a fascinating subject. The number was smaller than last year, and this may have engendered the friendly atmosphere noticeable both among the students themselves and towards the staff who represented the schools present. It was a matter of disappointment to the hardened campers among us that we were to sleep in huts, though tents were up in the field.

The programme for the five days consisted of films, lectures and study groups. The talks—all but one from persons closely connected with U.N., the remaining speech being by a lecturer from the London School of Economics, who flattered us by using the notes he employed for his first year students—afforded a great contrast to the public harangues given by less well-informed speakers which we are accustomed to hear. Our lecturers were concerned to instruct us, and did not hesitate mercilessly to expose the truth. Adequate time was allotted for questions afterwards and anything we chose to ask was answered as fully as could be hoped. Short films shown on two occasions, unfortunately when it was very hot—we enjoyed fine weather all the week—served to illustrate points in the talks. The most important result and the most convincing proof of our industry came in the reports on Friday of the work of the study groups into which we had been divided. Representatives of the groups gave reports on their appointed subjects, which showed the extent of the research done in the increased time allotted; but the last two speakers, who dealt with the International Court of Justice and Human Rights, gave illuminating lectures rather than learned talks.

Apart from these activities, several boys gained useful experience in the menial duties of serving and washing-up. The social evening on Wednesday, due largely to the energy of Mr. Thacker, who acted as M.C., was a complete success. Doubtless many were lured into the dances by the prospect of the boxes of chocolates offered as prizes. On our last evening, the staff kindly allowed a sing-song, which went on late into the night. So after dinner on Friday we

sadly split up and went our several ways, after a week which will long remain in the minds of those who attended. I incline to believe that schooldays *are* the happiest days in your life

K. J. P. WESTNEY, VI.

THE BOARDING HOUSES :

SCHOOL HOUSE

During the past term the largest object on the horizon of many of the members of the House has been the examinations : four of us sat Higher and three School Certificate. There has been consequently a strong atmosphere of work in the higher regions of the building, and until a few weeks from the end of term some studious fellows had only been seen to emerge from their lexicons and flora for meals, and then to retire again to the depths of their study. As a result, there has been less time than usual for inter-house games. In the sporting field, however, Todd, Wright, Dixon, Sainsbury, Edgington and Smithers have all played for junior teams, but among the senior members of the House there seems to remain a feeling that Rugger is the only game worthy of their attention : neither commendable nor balanced, for the indifference to Cricket among the older ones is more laziness than ineptitude.

A ray of aestheticism burst upon us this term in the person of M. S. Matthews. He has quickly developed a good boarder's contempt for mere day-boys : although he doubtless came with a feeling of *lasciati ogni speranza*, he now declares "*J'y suis, j'y reste.*" Goudy, of 4x, joined us at the same time.

All those boarders who earned prizes on Speech Day must be congratulated on their achievement—boarders are no longer incorrigibly at the bottom of every form. Whether the advent of so many bright little boys is good or not, it is certainly a change from what used to be the rule. The Scouts, too, who intend to camp at Bude this year, deserve mention for their winning of the Hughes Trophy in the face of keen competition from other troops. At the end of this term Hugh Platt is leaving to take up his place at University College, London ; John Birch is handing over the reins of office to someone as yet unknown, and is going to be engaged in two years compulsory defence of our Motherland with Malcolm Matthews, whom he hopes to meet at Cambridge when and if they are both released.

Next term will bring new boys to the House, and we who are leaving trust that those who do remain will inoculate the customs and traditions firmly into those embryo leaders of the school, so that they in their turn will be able to produce a Rugger team of such keenness and spirit as that which so nobly beat the rest of the school.

J. BIRCH.

UPLYME HOUSE

The fear, which we expressed in the last edition of the Magazine, of Uplyme being overpowered by the Junior School, was luckily unjustified. They have quietly taken possession of Uplyme and they leave it in a state of complete tidiness. Thus the daily routine of the boarder continues, undisturbed by his rival—the day boy.

This term has been very quiet and the junior section of the community has undertaken the onerous task of gardening the expansive wastes of Uplyme. Towards the end of the term their enthusiasm began to wane but their labours were not in vain, for a few flowers and vegetables have sprouted up among the weeds ! Their labours, however fruitful, achieved an object by keeping them occupied, and thus they managed to keep out of harm's way.

At sport we have once again played our part. Boarders from three Boarding Houses formed a quarter of the players for the school's four cricket teams. From Uplyme, only Sallows played regularly for the Junior Colts, and Reg. Robey has been one of the bowling stalwarts of the First XV as well as its Vice-Captain. He is to be congratulated on being signed on by Kent C.C after he has finished his military service and on his 62 for Fraser House in the House matches. Tony Harcourt and Nobby Hall both played, when called upon to do so, for the School VI at Tennis. The latter with Reader represented the town at the County Sports. Unfortunately neither obtained a high enough standard to represent the county in the All-England Sports.

This term we say goodbye to most of our seniors. I. Waters, A. M. Harcourt, R. Robey and R. Jones are all leaving. We also say goodbye to G. Warner, who goes back to the rival ranks of day boys, and we hope he has enjoyed his short stay at the House. The job of finding Prefects for all three Houses has thus become very difficult. Nevertheless, we wish our successors the very best of luck—*Aide toi et Dieu t'aidera.*

IAN H. C. WATERS.

TYLER'S WOOD

As this term has shown, it is possible for study and sports to be profitably combined. We must congratulate "Felix" Johnston, Brian Edwards and Peter Elliott for having played for the First XI, and for having gained their Second XI colours. Jeremy Edwards was awarded his Colts colours after a season of ups and downs ; Richard Bristow, who is showing great promise, and Alan Robertson played for the Junior Colts. We hope we have not damaged Mr. Ludlow's (the gardener) beautiful roses with the establishment of

a cricket net on the lower lawn. On the athletic side there has been a great amount of enthusiasm. We now possess five cups for Running and Boxing. Anthony Gordon and Philip Webb did exceptionally well to reach the All-England School Sports, and Norman Pulley and Tim Abdallah also ran in the County Sports : they have all represented the School in two athletic meetings. The Tennis has seen a great increase in players who we hope will reach a good standard soon.

In the academic field, as well as those who have taken public examinations—to whom we wish every success—we have had a creditable number of school prizes. D. M. Phillips was awarded a Governors' certificate ; Frank Simmatt the History prize for the first year Sixth. Ali Hussein received prizes for outstanding work in Botany and Zoology, and Peter Elliott, Tim Abdallah, Bobby Bernet, Richard Bristow and Alan Robertson were all awarded form prizes. Taking the report as a whole, it can be seen that the motto “work hard and play hard” is bearing its fruits.

We should like to congratulate Mr. R. Pattinson on winning the Derbyshire open amateur golf championship, and also Mr. Johnson, who has reached magnificent batting form with his full-blooded sixes. We have had various visits from Old Boys. Peter Groom is studying hard, and Colin Engeham has obtained a commission in the Army. Richard Saunders, having recovered from a serious illness, is flowering again at Sheffield University. We extend our farewells to D. M. Phillips, who is going to University College, London ; Norman Pulley, who is going to read Theology at the University of Leeds ; Reginald Smith and Derek Davis, who are leaving after a year in the Sixth ; Peter King, who is going “on the beat” in the Police Force ; and Brian Edwards, who is going in for insurance. We hope they will come back and visit the House occasionally.

D. M. PHILLIPS.

ARNISON HOUSE

Throughout the past year there has been a marked increase of inter-house rivalry shown in the House Competitions. Arnison House has competed keenly in all those House events, and this keenness has been rewarded with considerable success, particularly among the junior members—a fact which promises well for the future.

In the Senior Rugby competition, a tie for first place between Arnison, Youens and Fraser made a “play-off” necessary. Though defeating Youens in the first round, we were eventually beaten in the final by a stronger Fraser team. The Arnison colts were second

in their Rugby competition, while the Junior colts won their event without conceding a point, a very good performance indeed.

Both the Arnison colts and the Junior colts won their Cross-Country championships, but the Seniors had to be content with fourth place. Our biggest triumph of the year was the Boxing Competition. A grand House effort enabled Arnison to win with comparative ease. Though a good deal of hard work was put in by some members of the house, a lack of real musical talent caused the house to be fourth in the Music Competition.

During the Summer term Arnison won the school's first House Tennis Competition, and came second in the Sports and in the Cricket. The final of the Cricket was a very exciting match, Fraser just winning by one wicket. Throughout the year only Fraser can report more successes than Arnison. However, there is still room for improvement in this very important aspect of school life. Any effort at keenness is well rewarded, for the House Competitions give stimulating interest to those boys who take part.

B. WOODBRIDGE.

DISRAELI HOUSE

Some members of Disraeli House, which for so many years has occupied a leading position, may have been somewhat dismayed by the comparatively humble position to which the House has apparently sunk. They need not, however, be perturbed. Indeed, the House, although it has lost during the past two years almost all its leading seniors, has maintained a surprisingly high standard in many of the year's events, and in those in which it has been seriously outclassed, it has displayed an admirable determination to do its best. Our House spirit has been improved by adversity, and the second and third forms are particularly enthusiastic, as is proved by their performances in Rugby, Cricket and Boxing.

In the Rugby football we reached a true nadir : without a single first XV colour, and seriously depleted by colds and injuries, we fought doggedly to the end of every match, even gaining a points lead early on in the games against Arnison and Fraser. The Colts were in a considerably better position, and the Junior Colts were only beaten by Arnison House. In the boxing, with a large number in the semi-finals and several victories, we tied for second place with Fraser—an honourable conclusion.

All those who entered for the Music Competition deserve praise, especially the choir, which persevered through weeks of painful rehearsal and confounded the dismal critics on the day. There were some excellent individual efforts in the Cross-Country, and a high morale was obvious in the School Sports, during which the House struggled from bottom to third, with a good points lead over

Youens. The Tennis team, playing star-spangled Fraser, was defeated "not without honour," while the Cricket results have been pleasing, and a fierce battle was waged against Fraser. The second form league cheered us with repeated Disraeli victories. After this roughish passage, we must look to the years ahead, and if our juniors fulfil their present promise we can look forward to a prominent position in the future.

M. S. MATTHEWS.

FRASER HOUSE

It has been widely noticed during the year that there has been a great resurgence in House spirit. Ageing seniors have emerged from semi-retirement to help the House, and the juniors have carried on with their usual enthusiasm. In such circumstances Fraser's record is perhaps all the more praiseworthy. With solid support from all three boarding houses we won the Rugger, the Music Shield, the Sports and the Cricket ; in the Boxing we were second, and we lost to Arnison in the House Tennis. Despite the epidemic of influenza we retained the Rugger Cup for the third successive time, although a replay was necessary. Perhaps the most unexpected triumph was the gaining of the Music Shield. The year before Fraser had barely offered any competition, but the splendid work of the choir and the addition of P. Gillard and T. Baldwin to the House contributed to a victory which scarcely anyone anticipated. Sound teamwork won the sports for Fraser. We had two group champions, D. M. Phillips in Group 6 and R. Burgess in Group 5, but all those who entered and gained valuable points for standards must share in a victory which revealed a lead of 100 points over our nearest rival. The final burst of excitement came at the end of the Summer Term, when we won the House Cricket in a very good game against Arnison by one wicket. File, Robey and Johnston played grand innings in a match which was a source of excitement from beginning to end. Although it might seem carping criticism, the Boxing was rather disappointing. Too many juniors were content to remain spectators, but the House had a worthy champion in D. M. Phillips. Altogether it has been a year of triumph for Fraser, marred only by a certain slackness in the middle school.

J. C. CARRICK.

YOUENS HOUSE

This year has unfortunately been the last year of office for Mr. Thomas, who is leaving the school to take up a new post. Mr. Thomas has been a popular and enthusiastic housemaster, and the House owes him a great deal. We wish him good luck in the future.

The House activities this year have shown a great improvement, particularly in Music and Football. Some very good play, with a great deal of enthusiasm, was shown by all teams in the House Rugby Competition, and many of the star players from opposing teams had a thin time. In the Music Competition, a tremendous improvement was found. I think this was due largely to the hard work put in by A. R. McIntosh. In Athletics, we once again had T. Long to run for us, and the Cross-Country was most successful, our senior team scoring an easy win. Although our Sports Day showing was rather poor in some ways, the keenness of junior members of the House in particular was most noticeable. Cricket and Tennis have been closely followed, and we must congratulate Keen for his play both for the House and for School teams.

Half-way through the year our Captain, F. A. Neal, left us, after a profitable term of office. I would like to wish good luck to junior members of the House, who I am sure will always keep up a good standard of house spirit and efficiency. Our thanks are due to Mr. Thomas and Mr. G. M. Jones for their leadership throughout a good year.

M. A. BIRD.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

The School Confirmation Service this year was held at St. Francis' Church, Terriers, on March 16th, 1951. The service was conducted by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Buckingham, assisted by the Vicar of Terriers (the Rev. E. W. Shaw) and the Vicar of High Wycombe (the Rev. A. L. Evan Hopkins).

On the Monday of Holy Week the newly-confirmed, and boys who had been confirmed in previous years, attended a celebration of Holy Communion at St. Francis' Church. The Celebrant was the Vicar of Terriers and ninety-three boys made their communion.

The following boys were confirmed this year :—

G. W. Andrews	P. A. D. Green
M. F. Andrews	C. L. Hortin
I. C. Birch	M. J. Smith
J. E. Brooks	J. Smithers
B. H. Cornish	H. P. Smithson
C. J. Elton	G. Warner
A. J. R. Deacon	D. E. Wooberry
C. R. Goudy	R. J. Wooberry

G.G.B.

SOCIETY REPORTS

Since the last report on the activities of the numerous School Societies, much has happened to show that these societies are rapidly gaining in their importance to the running of the school. In the past too many people considered the societies to be only a rather strange gathering of certain people who rather liked to hear themselves talk, and served no useful purpose. Now, though, that impression is rapidly being dispelled. The different societies all have a definite purpose and function in the school, and the increasing support they are gaining from members of the staff is most encouraging. Subjects dealt with by the societies are those for which no room can be found in the ordinary curriculum, but which are of importance as background or added knowledge to that gained from the ordinary school lessons.

The Science Society has been playing a noble part in widening the knowledge of its members. The society has presented three films, concerned with explosives, lime and malaria : members enjoyed a lecture on "Wool" from Mrs. Cornish, of the International Wool Secretariat. Following the excellent policy of discovering how the things they know about in theory work in practice, the society arranged trips to Vauxhall Motors at Luton, the Wycombe electricity works, and Broom and Wade's, the engineers, and are now hoping to get permission to tour the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington. An important development of the society has been the formation of a "Natural History Section," which had its inaugural meeting on April 27th, and has high hopes of playing a large part in the future activities of the Science Society.

The History Society has had one monster effort during the year of which it is justly proud—that is, the Trial of Napoleon, which was held on March 19th. Mr. Ashford was the judge, whilst J. Birch played the part of Napoleon, accused of a series of crimes against humanity, the world, and his country. The trial was held in the Hall, with the audience of 200 boys forming the jury. A. R. McIntosh was Counsel for the Prosecution, and M. J. Banham for the Defence. After an exciting afternoon the jury acquitted Napoleon of all charges by a substantial majority. The whole proceedings were run exactly as they would be in a proper court, and thus, in addition to being furnished with the most obscure facts about Napoleon, the large jury gained some idea of the workings of a British court. A visit to Blenheim Palace at the end of the Summer term was only partially successful, but an afternoon away from school was enjoyed by all.

The Twentieth Century Opinion Society, as befits this Festival Year, has been in a frolicsome mood. In its first debate it rather lowered its prestige by passing a vote of confidence in the Festival

of Britain, but it redeemed this decision by defeating the motion "That the only use of the old school tie is to keep the trousers up." Many members are looking forward to a resignation of the Government for an excuse for the society to hold another election itself and reaffirm their faith in Conservatism.

The Chess Club has continued in its quiet unruffled way to provide enjoyment for many people, as has the Music Society, which attracted a large audience to hear Act I of the school's forthcoming production "H.M.S. Pinafore," while the regular weekly concerts have been fairly well attended and always enjoyed. The Dramatic Society produced the Victorian melodrama "Maria Marten" at the end of the Summer term, a report of which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

We rather pride ourselves that we have an imposing array of societies, and we do appeal to those boys who are not members to join one or more of them—the small subscription charged is amazingly low for the resulting enjoyment.

M. J. BANHAM, VI.

"THE CONVERT"

Like most day-boys, I had regarded the boarding house with an unfounded and almost superstitious dread. During my first years at the school my ears had frequently trembled at that once familiar refrain

"I don't want to be a Boarder;
Mama, I wanna go home!"

The awe inspired by this musical testament of life in the boarding house grew to a terror when it was supplemented by tales of sanguinary fights which took place in that very dilapidated and rather pathetic hut which was once the Junior Common Room. I actually witnessed one or two rather barbaric battles that had strayed from the seclusion of School House into the school itself. Certainly, so suspicious was I of boarding house activities that I never dared approach those mysterious swing doors on any mission, unless in the company of three or more day-boys.

This vague mistrust continued, stupidly enough, and completely without foundation, until I actually became a boarder myself; sometimes in recent years I have been invited up the four flights of stone steps to the prefects' study, but never, however amiable my reception, did I feel completely at ease. Such stories as that of the boy whose finger was chopped off in a childish fight must have sunk deep into my childish soul.

Undoubtedly many of these gruesome narratives were amplified and "improved" for the benefit of credulous day-boys like myself. Nowadays, however, there is nothing of the sort, either true or fabled in boarding house life, and the two or three veteran boarders who talk rather regretfully of "the good old days" belong to an earlier age. Of course, there are some things that take getting used to. I vividly remember my first night : on either side of me two persons, both equally oblivious of my distress, snored determinedly, and rendered sleep a desirable but very unlikely proposition ; to make the night a little more unendurable, a small but persistent breeze caused the windows to rattle in their frames like an army of skeletons on the march ; finally, as I was once again turning over in another effort to sleep, the school clock, with an Olympian contempt for the struggles of mortals, exploded with great vehemence full eleven times. These events re-occurred, boring and monotonous, several times before "morphean slumbers" triumphed over irritation.

But these early trials are long since over, and once one is used to boarding house life, a good deal of enjoyment can be had from it. What is more, there is an incredible amount of time available, which for the average day-boy is occupied by the journey to and from school, and by, in many cases, home jobs of the washing-up variety. Personally, I shall always be glad that I spent my last term in School House, and I can assure anyone for whom there is the prospect of becoming a boarder that there is nothing to fear, and certainly plenty to look forward to.

M. S. MATTHEWS.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Enclosed by this vast stone immensity,
I'd dream of choirs of spheres
And songs amid the dying sights
Of some old dynasty of dreams,
Drawn by the shadows cast
Through arches fading in the West.

So sails the ship of time,
Across the wastes
Of depthless space and
Dawnless days,
That beauty only lies
In known expanse,
And songs are sightless
Without words.

M. S. MATTHEWS, VI.

"WHO KNOWETH THE INTERPRETATION OF THE THING?"

I want to know why
They all wear the School tie,
Or something so like it,
These men as they all sit
In trains or in buses,
In tubes or in stations ;
Are they all imitations ?
I've seen them in Devon,
In Kent and Kesteven,
I've spied them in Harrods,
And mending the by-roads.
I can't understand it,
And they don't explain it,
So I'll have to lump it
And never know why
They all wear the School tie.

M. S. MATTHEWS, VI.

For the Editor's benefit : I have found out that these ties are actually R.A.F. ties.

THE DANCE IN "MARIA MARTEN"

(*With apologies to W. Wordsworth*)

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high through months and years,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of sheepish villagers,
Beside the stage, beneath the frieze,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle in the night's dark page
They stretched in a soon ending line
Along the margin of the stage :
Ten of them saw I at a glance
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The flies beside them danced, but they
Out-did the buzzing flies in glee :
A poet could not be but gay
In such a jocund company !
I gazed—and gazed—but little guessed
How soon I should be with the rest.

C. R. F. MAUNDER, IVx.

FESTIVAL FEELING

In this glorious year of 1951, Britain is on show to the world. Every aspect of our national life is open to inspection for our visitors from abroad. One of our most famous national institutions, however, has somehow been overlooked by the authorities (*i.e.* nondescript gaggle of civil servants). I refer, of course, to the High Wycombe R.G.S. To compensate for this result of bureaucratic incompetence, we suggest that this famous old (1562) school should set about, on its own, to brighten itself up and attract our foreign guests.

We suggest that the campaign should be divided into two parts. Phase one, "Brightening Up"; phase two, "Attraction of Dollar-bearing Democrats."

Phase one—the brightening up and glamorising section, is something in which all the school can help. The newly-established Tuck Shop must be made the hub of the universe. By scratching a few remarks such as "I procured a roast fowl here—W. Shakespeare, 1342," or "Here Iye restede on mye waye to Canterbury—Chorcer, 1837," or even "Tony loves Cleo," on the walls, it may be possible to make some people believe that this was actually part of the Ark. Some of the extremely Olde English Fare which the establishment boasts might also be displayed, festooned with original Elizabethan cobwebs. Inside the school, the new psychological attitude towards teaching should be displayed by hanging in every form-room the motto "Spare the rod and please the child." British motor engineering during the last hundred years will be symbolised by a display, in the Library, of staff cars. At a small price rides will be given in some of them, which are guaranteed to be quite as thrilling as any "Big Dipper." A feature of great interest will be a series of three models showing "Britain as I should like it in Fifty Years" and "Britain as it will be in Fifty Years." The first model will be prepared by the right wing reactionaries amongst the Sixth, and will show all the plebians chained together, grovelling at the foot of a certain "Paddy," who will be mounted on a horse. The second, prepared by the left wing reactionaries, will show not only the plebians, but the aristocracy and gentlefolk as well, chained together and grovelling at the foot of a certain Scotsman who will be sitting in a large shiny jet car. The third model, depicting Britain as it will be may be one of three things, a packet of chewing gum, a glass of vodka, or a cloud of smoke. The last seems the most likely.

Having brightened up, it will now be possible to start on the second phase of the campaign. The best way to attract Americans is to provide some venerable old philosopher, composer or poet whom they may come and idolise. Unfortunately we have none of these at school, but what we have got is several people who certainly will become one of these types. By advertising these promising

geniuses we may attract some visitors. However, the "piece de resistance" (French, they tell me) will be the annual parade of the school foxhounds. The foxhounds will be procured from all boys who own dogs, horses for the huntsmen from neighbouring fields, and red cloth for the huntsmen from a gentleman at Canterbury.

Thus we may show the Authorities that the R.G.S. has initiative and enterprise, and prove our right to be considered as foremost amongst British public schools.

M. J. BANHAM, VI.

MODERN ART

The recent criticism of the Arts Council for purchasing the picture "Autumn Landscape" shows that modern art is not loved by the general public. It is clear that artists are suffering, as did the French impressionists, and the Jews at the hands of Hitler, because of the ignorance and fear of their persecutors. Although there is no direct persecution of the modern artist, he suffers a bad fate. The attitude of the majority of the population, as exemplified by this school, is one of indifference. The artist has no battle, no cause to fight with sweat and tears : his struggle is against a cold barrier of ignorant impassivity. To gain a living he may be forced to turn from original creative work to the uninspiring but profitable commercial "art."

The artist is enveloped by a myth, and is accused, as was Whistler, of "throwing a pot of paint at the face of the public." It is important to realise that modern art is passing through a transitional period ; the artist, like the musician, is searching for a new form in which to express himself, and has abandoned the traditional post-Giotto naturalism. Picasso illustrates this point inasmuch as he is an experimentalist trying out new ideas in order to find a form which will become a part of the tradition of Art, although he has been recognised as one of the most perfect draughtsmen ever known. Remember when looking at a painting not to seek only objects of everyday life. Although naturalism is a permanent feature of our art, it must be recognised that the modern artist has turned away from it, rather expressing an emotional or intellectual impression or idea by abstraction or symbolism. The many names, such as "futurist" and "pragmatist," are confusing, but they make up a period of conflicting ideas in art. There is a wonderful amount of beautiful pattern, colour and design in a painter like Paul Klee. In the subtle colour and distorted shape of Paul Nash there is an intense emotional appeal. Modigliani, the Russian Jew who lived in Paris, is a connecting link between the renascence and modern art. His beauty of line and the elongated pose of his figures was influenced without doubt by Botticelli.

The modern artist, like the Romantics, has turned from realism to his own ego for inspiration in creative work. There is, of course, a limit to what can be termed modern art. Before rejecting it as a whole, before being labelled "insensitive" by the modern artist, search out the pictures you like : it will be a surprise to find how much has value. Of course, you will reject much, for there are a great many artists who paint trash under the title of modern art. Once your interest has been awakened you will soon know what is true and what is false, and you will find yourself in a new and exciting world.

D. M. PHILLIPS.

C.C.F.

Army Section

This term the usual training routine in the Army Section of the C.C.F. was enlivened by a field day on June 7th. On this day the training area resounded to the crashes of thunderflashes and the rattle of blank cartridges, which were often fired with more enthusiasm than direction or discretion. Even the mildest boys developed most murderous propensities and claimed a large bag of victims. The area in which the "battle" was fought was very enclosed, and the difficulty of controlling even as small a unit as the section was brought very forcibly to the various commanders. It is hoped that it will be possible to arrange more field days in the future, as they provide very valuable practical experience in handling cadets, and putting theory into practice.

Another landmark of the term was the completion of the miniature range. This will satisfy a long-felt want, and it is hoped that next session will see the range in full use, and every cadet getting an opportunity of learning to shoot.

Finally came the annual summer camp at Bourley, near Aldershot, from July 21st to 28th. This year a greater number of boys attended the camp than ever before, which is most gratifying, because no boy can obtain the full benefit from the corps unless he has attended the annual camp. Apart from getting a taste of what life means under service conditions, he also has the benefit of seeing demonstrations of how it is done by the experts, and ideal ground for attempting to put the lessons learned into practice. This does not mean that camp is all hard work and no play : Captain Young's bowling performance with an outsize rounders ball had to be seen to be believed, while the officers' quarters have been, as usual, enlivened by Captain Davies' tuneful repertoire. Not even a most determined attempt by the weather, in the form of two tremendous thunderstorms on the second day in camp, damped the spirits of "this

happy band of warriors." All things considered, this year's camp promises to be the most enjoyable and successful of any since the war.

We have pleasure in noting that of former cadets F. C. Tucker and R. E. W. Roberts have been commissioned, and M. Zander and C. R. Engeham are at O.C.T.U.

L.T.H.

R.A.F. SECTION

The departure of S/Ldr. J. O. Roberts at the end of the Spring Term meant a great loss to the R.A.F. Section of the C.C.F. Under the command of S/Ldr. Roberts the unit had enjoyed a period of marked development and progress which reflected his devoted and efficient service. There are many cadets who will long be grateful for his sympathy, understanding and encouragement. The best wishes of officers and cadets accompany S/Ldr. Roberts in his appointment as a housemaster at Dorchester Grammar School, where he will continue his interest in C.C.F. affairs.

This term has been one of reorganisation consequent upon the termination of courses based on the Old Syllabus of work and the introduction of the New Syllabus. The unusually large number of 43 cadets taking the Proficiency Examination at the end of this term was an outcome of this reorganisation. All examinations in future will be based on the New Syllabus and a clearly defined course of work will be started in September for all cadets. It is hoped that the resulting simplification in aim and organisation will result in large numbers of cadets attaining the Proficiency standard in December. Sincere thanks are expressed to Mr. T. V. Sheppard and Mr. A. D. Leggett and to the officers who have all responded generously to the extra calls made upon them because of this process of reorganisation. The unit may also be proud of the successes of individual cadets. M. E. Rankin, the 1st Flying Scholarship winner, is now a candidate for a Cranwell cadetship. Sgt. D. Bates, the second Flying Scholarship winner to qualify for his civilian pilot's "A" licence, and to whom the Harte Cup was presented this year, is also make the R.A.F. College at Cranwell his aim. Cpl. D. S. Blackshaw and Cpl. R. Chambers have both passed the interview stage of selection for Flying Scholarships and have only to complete flying aptitude tests to gain these scholarships : they have the best wishes of all personnel of the unit. It is confidently anticipated that in the very near future further Flying Scholarships will be won by cadets of the unit.

The Field Day which was held this term in connection with the Army and Navy Sections of the corps was thoroughly enjoyable. The experience of being "dropped" at an unknown spot in the surrounding country and being faced with the problem of discovering

one's whereabouts and subsequently navigating by map, proved extremely popular. The R.A.F. Section also derived a great deal of satisfaction from the fact that 42 out of 66 cadets were successful in returning to base through the "enemy base" without being captured.

A limited but enthusiastic group of cadets continues to follow the gliding courses at Booker, and Cpl. Chambers is within measurable distance of gaining his "C" Certificate. All cadets, however, will be interested to learn of the possibility of one of the new Eon primary gliders being supplied to the school. These gliders, which can be caterpulted by elastic ropes, can be used in a school field. At the present time, the cadets at the Summer Camp at R.A.F. Station, Cottesmore, are making themselves familiar with the operation and hopes run high that it will be in action on the school field next term.

—
E.M.

NAVAL SECTION

The section has now been in existence for a year, and most of its members, including the Officer I/C, have found their sea legs. Nearly half our number now sport a stripe on their left sleeve as a result of passing the first examination for ranking as Cadet A.B. Unfortunately several of our senior cadets are leaving, including Petty Officer Shewring and Leading Seaman Bird. We offer our thanks for their willing and useful services, and wish them luck hereafter.

—
T.E.H.

STAFF GOLF FOURSOMES

The handicap committee are warmly congratulated on at last allowing the Hon. Secretary, who has been competing since 1939, to be included in the winning couple. Mr. Young was supposed to be the rabbit in the successful pair, but it was not always obvious from the play ; for the tiger showed a marked liking for the jungle country. All that can be truthfully said of the final is that the winners were slightly less outrageous than the losers.

First Round : H. W. Johnson and H. R. Thomas (18) beat S. Morgan and G. M. Jones (5) by 5 and 3 ; C. M. Haworth and G. Young (9) beat R. Pattinson and W. A. Rees (Scratch) by 1 up ; A. S. Hett and M. M. Davies (14) beat H. Scott and J. P. Cowan (12) by 2 and 1.

Semi-Finals : Haworth and Young beat Johnson and Thomas 1 up ; G. G. Browning and T. E. Hood (14) beat Hett and Davies by 6 and 5.

Final : Haworth and Young beat Browning and Hood by 2 and 1.

C.M.H.

CRICKET CLUB 1951

" Consider cricket in full length. It is the perfect mirror of character, the true reflection of nature. If we are cricketers, great or humble, the game means to us something primordially human, something that lives next door to the elements of life ; it brings with it the rare smell of mown grass, pleasant breezes in the face, panoramas of rolling meadows and green hedges, or—in the more serious moments—noble pavilions towering to the blue sky, seas of faces. Let your mind dwell for a space upon this storied game, and there will glide in, almost unbidden, a host of images which you treasure more highly than any picture painted by the brush of man. . . . You will remember days when you battled like a fool and made thirty ; when you resisted, nobly in your small way, the bowler's every thrust and resource for an hour, and then fell at last for some ten runs, so paltry in print, so treasured in retrospect ! Days when you bowled but ill, when the pitch seemed thirty yards, and yet you got your five wickets ; days when you bowled like a king and got no wickets at all—and the world judged you accordingly.

" It is such things as these, triumphs welcomed with humility, failures breeding discipline of spirit, which day by day go to the making of each new generation of cricketers ; to fit players for the noblest game in the world, a game so great and yet so humbling, in which merit often goes unrewarded, in which perfect fitness of mind and body alone lead to the possibility of success, in which so very few can justly say :

' I do what many dream of all their lives—Dream ? Strive to do and agonise to do, and fail in doing.'

" And yet we love the striving and the agonising, and revel in the very failure of the doing."

So wrote one of the finest of our modern writers on cricket and sums up the season admirably. We have had our triumphs—seeing the total on the scoreboard opposite our number gradually approaching the fifty—and we have had our failures and, unfortunately from the record point of view, the failures have outnumbered the successes. However, the season has been a very pleasant one. The captain obtained the best from his side and at times the best was extremely good. The club has suffered from the lack of a really hostile and accurate attack but has made up for this by good sound batting. The best performance was perhaps the annual Staff *v.* Boys match, when the Boys were set 191 to win in two and a quarter hours and obtained these in two hours in fine style.

Our thanks must go to the members of the Staff responsible for the coaching of the 2nd, Colts and Junior Colts XI's, who have worked so hard for their sides, also to Mr. Hills and Mr. Howard, who have umpired the 1st XI so willingly and well.

The standard of cricket is steadily rising, as the House matches so easily demonstrated. The House Leagues in the afternoon games periods have aroused enthusiasm, especially in the Fifth forms and below. The Wednesday League games were ruined by the lack of field space and poor display of enthusiasm by the older boys involved.

The wicket this season has been at its best and is almost too true for afternoon games, as the great number of drawn games (most of them at home) shows.

This year we are losing many of our stalwarts who have given such valuable help to the school cricket by their individual performances and attitude towards the game. The captain, Brian Woodbridge, who has handled the side for two years, has always shown imagination and attack in his outlook on cricket. "George" Robey has bowled his left-hand spinners for the last time for the school and on more than one occasion has "made the ball talk." He must be congratulated for his success at the Kent County Trials and we wish him well when he reports to the County ground after his National Service. "Young Charlie" Howard has made many runs this season and has also broken many school records with his marathon spells at the crease. John Carrick has bowled with vigour and batted with success in spite of his favourite leg shot. Brian Walker, who has overcome great difficulties, was unlucky not to reach his 300 runs for the season, and Billy Binder has improved steadily throughout the season. We shall also miss Mr. Thomas in our club games next season. Although he took but few wickets this season he bowled well and his batting was always calculated to liven up the game, as he had so many "shots" to show us.

The Old Boys' match at the end of the season was a great success. The 135 not out by Don Witney, who captained the school side in 1940, the bowling of Pat Sharpe and the fielding of the whole side were a lesson in themselves to the school team.

We must now pack away our outdoor gear and prepare for the tennis ball and small bat, which has already improved the batting after but one winter.

H.W.J.

1st XI Colours were awarded to : B. Woodbridge (1948), R. Robey (1949), J. C. Carrick (1949), H. D. Howard (1949), B. Walker (1950), M. Bridges (1950), R. Wing (1950), A. Binder (1951), T. Keen (1951), M. Walker (1951). Scorer : P. Draper.

2nd XI Colours were awarded to : Edwards, Crump, Johnston, White, Stevens, McMurdo, Ransley, Simmons.

Colts Colours were awarded to : Dixon, Saddler, Ashby, Bignell, Brooks, Sainsbury, Dean.

1st XI RECORD

School Games					Club Games				
Played	...	...	...	13	Played	...	...	...	7
Won	...	...	...	2	Won	...	...	...	1
Lost	...	...	...	3	Lost	...	...	...	5
Drawn	...	...	...	6	Drawn	...	...	...	1
Abandoned	...	...	...	2					

FIRST XI RESULTS

- Versus* St. Marylebone (Away)—Won by 6 runs.
R.G.S. 68 (H. Howard 17), St. Marylebone 62 (A. Binder 5 for 15).
- Versus* Slough Grammar (Home)—Lost by 6 wkts.
R.G.S. 97 for 8 wkts. (dec.) (B. Woodbridge 45), Slough 98 for 4 wkts. (A. Binder 2 for 23).
- Versus* Abingdon (Home)—Drawn.
R.G.S. 103 for 9 wkts. (dec.) (B. Woodbridge 23, J. Carrick 26), Abingdon 67 for 7 wkts. (R. Robey 3 for 15, M. Walker 3 for 7).
- Versus* R.A.F. (High Wycombe) (Home)—Lost by 5 wkts.
R.G.S. 103 for 8 wkts. (dec.) (Mr. Johnson 57), R.A.F. 106 for 5 wkts. (Mr. Beeson 3 for 35).
- Versus* Leighton Park, Reading (Away)—Abandoned.
Leighton Park 128 for 6 wkts. (J. Carrick 2 for 16), R.G.S. did not bat.
- Versus* William Borlase, Marlow (Home)—Drawn.
R.G.S. 151 for 5 wkts. (dec.) (B. Walker 20, J. C. Carrick 37, H. D. Howard 52 not out, R. Robey 23 not out), Marlow 51 for 9 wkts. (R. Robey 5 for 25).
- Versus* Watford Grammar (Away)—Lost by 5 wkts.
R.G.S. 101 (J. Carrick 29), Watford 102 for 5 wkts. (A. Binder 3 for 17).
- Versus* Newland Park Training College (Home)—Lost by 19 runs.
Newland Park 145 for 1 wkt. (dec.), R.G.S. 126 (B. Walker 39, B. Woodbridge 29).
- Versus* Reading (Home)—Abandoned.
Reading 152 for 2 wkts. R.G.S. did not bat.
- Versus* Culham College (Away)—Lost by 9 wkts.
R.G.S. 107 (Mr. Thomas 21 not out), Culham 108 for 1 wkt.
- Versus* Parents XI (Home)—Drawn.
R.G.S. 130 for 7 wkts. (dec.) (B. Woodbridge 52, R. Wing 22), Parents 78 for 9 wkts. (R. Robey 4 for 16).
- Versus* Southfield School, Oxford (Home)—Won by 3 wkts.
Southfield 128 for 7 wkts. (dec.) (A. Binder 3 for 35, M. Bridges 3 for 8), R.G.S. 129 for 7 wkts. (J. Carrick 39, Keen, T. 40).

Versus Windsor County Grammar (Away)—Drawn.

Windsor County 143 for 6 wkts. (dec.) (J. Carrick 3 for 34), R.G.S. 108 for 7 wkts. (B. Walker 20, H. D. Howard 24, R. Wing 38 not out).

Versus High Wycombe C.C. Wednesday XI (Away)—Lost by 104 runs.

High Wycombe C.C. 244 for 6 wkts. (dec.) (Mr. Davies 2 for 71), R.G.S. 140 (B. Walker 47, J. C. Carrick 31, M. Bridges 25 not out).

Versus Newbury Grammar (Home)—Drawn.

Newbury 156 for 6 wkts. (dec.) (A. Binder 2 for 22), R.G.S. 95 for 6 wkts. (B. Woodbridge 21, T. Keen 26, M. Bridges 23).

Versus Slough C.C. Wednesday XI (Home)—Lost by 79 runs.

Slough C.C. 200 for 4 wkts. (dec.) (R. Robey 2 for 55), R.G.S. 121 (Mr. Johnson 41, Mr. Beeson 21, B. Woodbridge 17).

Versus Amersham Grammar (Home)—Drawn.

R.G.S. 112 for 9 wkts. (dec.) (B. Walker 43), Amersham 61 for 7 wkts. (R. Robey 4 for 15).

Versus Dunstable Grammar (Away)—Lost by 2 wkts.

R.G.S. 102 (T. Keen 33), Dunstable 105 for 9 wkts. (A. Binder 7 for 49).

Versus Staff XI (Home)—Won by 6 wkts.

Staff 190 for 7 wkts. (dec.) (A. Binder 3 for 57, Mr. Morgan 71, Mr. Coventry 57 not out), R.G.S. 191 for 4 wkts. (B. Walker 39, M. Walker 55, B. Woodbridge 63).

Final House Match : Fraser v. Arnison (Home)—Fraser won by 1 wkt.

Arnison 148 (R. Wing 28, B. Woodbridge 35, A. Binder 4 for 57), Fraser 149 for 9 wkts. (J. C. Carrick 21, File, R., 28, R. Rovey 27, Johnston, I., 20 not out, McMurdo 5 for 58).

Versus Old Boys XI (Home)—Drawn.

Old Boys 222 for 7 wkts. (dec.) (R. D. Witney 135 not out, R. E. Syrett 20, C. R. Engeham 16, A. Binder 3 for 80, M. Bridges 3 for 43), R.G.S. 150 for 8 wkts. (B. Walker 29, M. Walker 21, B. Woodbridge 19, H. D. Howard 38, Elliott, P., 16, P. Sharpe 5 for 73).

FIRST XI AVERAGES

Batting

	No. of Innings	Times Not Out	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average
B. Woodbridge	18	368	63	20.4
B. Walker	16	299	47	19.9
M. Walker	10	116	55	19.3
H. D. Howard	18	256	52*	16.0
T. Keen	13	148	40	14.8
J. C. Carrick	19	256	39	13.5
R. C. Wing	16	168	38*	12.0
M. Bridges	15	105	25*	8.7

Bowling						
		Overs	Runs	Wickets	Average	
A. Binder	174.5	565	41	13.8
M. Bridges	38	116	8	14.5
R. Robey	138	498	30	16.6
J. C. Carrick	166.1	522	25	20.8
M. Walker	89.1	279	10	27.9
B. Edwards	33	109	3	36.1

SECOND XI

The Second XI, on the whole, had an interesting, if not completely successful season. Three matches were won, four lost and the rest drawn. More than once rain, poor fielding, and time conspired to lessen the number of victories. The most interesting match was that played at Southfield, where a race against time was won, victory being secured on the last ball.

Batting was bright and largely cross-batted. Elliott, White, Edwards and Ransley batted well, while Crump and Stevens achieved success by less orthodox methods. The team's bowling was steady and accurate : Simmons, McMurdo, and latterly Emmins and Dean, provided a varied attack.

The captaincy of File was good : he led his side well and made many good decisions, although perhaps some of his declarations were left a little late.

The team for the photograph included File, Edwards, White, Collier, McMurdo, Ransley, Stevens, Emmins, Redrup, Peters, Dean and Webb. To the latter must go our thanks for scoring so ably. Colours were awarded to Crump, Edwards, McMurdo, Ransley, Simmons, Stevens and White.

P.W.T.

SECOND XI RESULTS

Played 14, Won 3, Lost 4, Drawn 4, Abandoned 3.

AVERAGES

Batting

		No. of Innings	Times Not Out	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average
Crump	4	137	50*	45.7
Edwards	4	69	44	17.2
Johnston	8	86	26*	17.2
White	11	135	27	15.0
Stevens	10	109	24	10.9
McMurdo	12	92	30	9.2
File	12	108	24	9.0
Ransley	11	86	31	8.6

Bowling

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
Dean	23.1	9	28
McMurdo	53.8	18	119
Simmons	78	21	223
Emmins	31	4	118
Stevens	41	4	134

COLTS 1951

This was, on the whole, a disappointing team ; a nucleus that did not develop into a full team of 11 boys, all worthy of their colours.

As the season progressed, Ashby emerged as a reliable and very effective bowler, and Saddler bowled intelligently, sometimes with devastating results. Dixon, as captain, did not perhaps bowl as often as he should have done. The batting never really settled down, and the side seldom enjoyed the comfort of a good foundation laid by the opening pair.

In spite of this, the team retained its keenness and confidence to the end, and just won its last match—against an unbeaten side !

L.J.A.

COLTS XI RESULTS

Played 11, Won 4, Lost 4, Drawn 1, Abandoned 2.

AVERAGES

Batting

	<i>No. of Innings</i>	<i>Times Not Out</i>	<i>Total Runs</i>	<i>Highest Score</i>	<i>Average</i>
Dixon	10	0	112
Brooks	10	0	75
Bignell	9	0	48

Bowling

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
Ashby	57.4	22	96
Dixon	38.1	13	76
Saddler	43.5	12	83
Bignell	36	8	70
Dean	43.1	15	70

JUNIOR COLTS

Record :

Under 13½ : Played 2, Won 0, Lost 2, Drawn 0, Abandoned 0

Under 14 : Played 8, Won 5, Lost 1, Drawn 1, Abandoned 1

This has been a most encouraging season. The matches lost were all very closely contested and might easily have gone the other way. The potential strength of the team was evident very soon and after a very exciting game had been lost at Reading I took the risk of predicting that no more games would be lost. This indeed was the case and the growing confidence and power of the team were reflected in the mounting scores and growing speed of scoring which culminated very fittingly in the Speech Day match against Dunstable with 166 for 4 wickets in one and a half hours.

The team showed also a very welcome ability to fight back from a bad position. Against Windsor the match was won after six wickets had been lost for 12 runs. At Borlase School the whole side was dismissed for 38, and then attacked with such accurate bowling and keen fielding that the Borlase team was out for 33.

The real strength of the side has been in its bowling. Olsen, Briden and Jones have provided an attack, varied and hostile, which no team has properly mastered. Briden in particular bowled his leg-breaks with considerable judgment. Sallows towards the end of the season also showed pace and fire. Bristow, however, was rather disappointing, never quite fulfilling his promise of the previous year, though never giving anything away.

Jones was quite the most consistent batsman, making a number of useful scores. He never allowed himself to be overcome by the occasion and was always ready to use good attacking strokes. Smithers and Squires were a very young opening pair, who will again be under 14 next year. They both showed considerable promise, although lacking the necessary confidence to play the correct stroke. Price also showed a regrettable tendency to play back to half-volleys, but he made several useful scores. Olsen could usually be relied upon for some hard-hit runs. Hawkins finished the season with scores of 68 and 89. If he had had just a little luck at the beginning of the season there is no doubt that there would have been a stream of such scores. Watching him bat when he made his big scores made us all feel what a treat we had missed through his inability to find his real form earlier. He is clearly quite the best batsman in the team and his promise is indeed quite exceptional.

The match at Reading was lost because two difficult catches were dropped. It is undoubtedly true that the team which fields consistently well loses very few matches. Not nearly enough boys field as well as they ought, and certainly all could practise harder. There were several good fielders in the side. Jones and Squires took some remarkable catches close to the wicket. Wright was always active and alert at square-leg, while Price's clean picking-up and accurate throwing at cover-point were consistently the best feature of the fielding. But there were too many who were slow in anticipation and in movement.

The wicket-keeping of Hawkins caused comment at almost every school we visited. He had some very difficult bowling to take at times and missed very little. All his work was neat and accomplished, and his stumping very fast. He also captained the side with some skill, willing to learn and generally using his bowling well.

This has indeed been a pleasant side to be with, always full of bite and going for a win, yet never losing its sense of fun and enjoying its games thoroughly.

Team chosen from : Hawkins, Bristow, Briden, Jones, Price, Wright, Olsen, Smithers, Squires, Sallops, Burrows, Todd, Babb.

The following also played for Under 13½ Team : Robertson, Bond, Taylor, Whiting, Vickers, Rear.

F.S.E.

JUNIOR COLTS XI AVERAGES

Batting

		No. of Innings	Total Runs	Highest Score	Average
Hawkins	...	8	176	89	22
Jones	...	8	139	36	17.4
Olsen	...	6	77	40	15.4

Bowling

	Overs	Runs	Wickets	Average
Jones	54	69	18	3.9
Briden	69	136	31	4.4

ATHLETICS

RESULTS

Group VI (open, boys over 17)

- 100 Yards—1, D. M. Phillips ; 2, D. J. Thomas ; 3, H. S. Platt. 11.2 secs.
 220 Yards—1, D. M. Phillips ; 2, R. M. Dakin ; 3, G. W. Bradley. 25.2 secs.
 440 Yards—1, D. M. Phillips ; 2, G. W. Bradley ; 3, R. M. Dakin. 56.4 secs.
 880 Yards—1, R. M. Dakin ; 2, R. Garratt ; 3, D. M. Phillips. 2 mins.
 13.8 secs.

Mile.—1, T. A. Long ; 2, R. M. Dakin ; 3, A. J. Redrup. 5 mins. 3.5 secs.
120 Yards Hurdles—1, R. Burgess ; 2, P. C. White ; 3, N. S. Pulley. 20.5 secs.
Long Jump—1, R. Burgess ; 2, D. M. Phillips ; 3, B. Evans. 18 ft. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.
High Jump—1, N. S. Pulley ; 2, P. Reader ; 3, H. S. Platt.
Javelin—1, R. Hester ; 2, A. Kenyon ; 3, R. C. W. Robey. 93 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Discus—1, R. Hester ; 2, D. M. Phillips ; 3, A. Kenyon.
Shot—1, E. Hall ; 2, H. S. Platt ; 3, A. Kenyon.
Relay (4 x 110 yds.)—1, Fraser ; 2, Disraeli ; 3, Youens. 54.2 secs.
Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, M. Bridges ; 2, J. P. Osborne ; 3, R. Hester.
79 yds. 2 ft. 3 ins.

Group V (under 17)

100 Yards—1, R. Burgess ; 2, B. Evans ; 3, T. A. Long. 11.3 secs.
220 Yards—1, R. I. Garratt ; 2, B. Evans ; 3, R. Burgess. 25.3 secs.
440 Yards—1, P. Carpenter ; 2, B. Evans.
880 Yards—1, R. I. Garratt ; 2, P. C. S. Hall ; 3, R. Ludlam. 2 mins. 19.6 secs.
Mile—1, T. A. Long ; 2, L. A. Dean ; 3, A. J. Redrup. 5 mins. 10.2 secs.
Long Jump—1, R. Burgess ; 2, T. W. Abdallah ; 3, B. Evans. 17 ft. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
High Jump—1, R. E. Hester ; 2, P. Reader ; 3, R. J. Young.
Javelin—1, E. Hall ; 2, J. P. Osborne ; 3, R. E. Hester.
Discus—1, R. E. Hester ; 2, A. Kenyon ; 3, T. A. Long. 111 ft. 11 ins.
Shot—1, A. Kenyon ; 2, A. M. Sellar ; 3, C. M. J. Edwards. 35 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Relay—1, Fraser ; 2, Youens ; 3, Arnison. 52 secs.

Group IV (Colts)

100 Yards—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, J. W. Pursey ; 3, P. J. Webb. 11.5 secs.
220 Yards—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, P. J. Webb ; 3, G. Sherlock. 26.2 secs.
440 Yards—1, P. J. Webb ; 2, A. J. Gordon ; 3, J. S. Dunningham. 61.9 secs.
880 Yards—1, A. J. Gordon ; 2, J. A. Norrish ; 3, J. S. Dunningham.
2 mins. 27.8 secs.
Hurdles—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, P. J. Webb ; 3, J. F. Edgington. 12.2 secs.
High Jump—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, G. D. B. Jones ; 3, J. S. Dunningham.
4 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Long Jump—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, P. J. Webb ; 3, G. D. B. Jones. 16 ft.
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Shot—1, J. A. Norrish ; 2, B. K. Johnson ; 3, P. J. Webb.
Javelin—1, B. K. Johnson ; 2, A. F. Abercrombie ; 3, R. C. Jones. 125 ft.
Discus—1, P. J. Webb ; 2, J. S. Dunningham ; 3, M. J. Garratt. 110 ft.
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Relay (4 x 110 yds.)—1, Arnison ; 2, Fraser. 54.8 sec.s

Group III (under 14)

100 Yards—1, C. E. Bond ; 2, E. M. Horne ; 3, M. T. Stubbs. 13.2 secs.
220 Yards—1, K. C. Jones ; 2, G. W. Snapes ; 3, F. E. J. Hawkins. 29 secs.
440 Yards—1, K. C. Jones ; 2, F. E. J. Hawkins ; 3, C. G. Burrell. 1 min.
5.6 secs.
80 Yards—1, K. C. Jones ; 2, F. E. J. Hawkins ; 3, Lawrence.
Hurdles—1, F. E. J. Hawkins ; 2, A. J. C. Wright ; 3, A. J. Sallops. 14.8 secs.
Long Jump—1, A. J. C. Wright ; 2, R. J. M. Hart ; 3, A. J. Sallops. 14 ft.
7 ins.
High Jump—1, T. W. R. Dean ; 2, E. M. Horne ; 3, A. J. C. Wright.
4 ft. 5 ins.
Shot—1, A. J. C. Wright ; 2, D. J. Gittings ; 3, C. J. White. 28 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.
Relay—1, Arnison ; 2, Disraeli ; 3, Fraser. 58.4 secs.

Group II (under 13)

100 Yards—1, E. M. Squires ; 2, D. K. Wise ; 3, I. S. Smith. 12.8 secs.
220 Yards—1, E. M. Squires ; 2, I. S. Smith ; 3, J. W. Harding. 29.4 secs.
440 Yards—1, E. M. Squires ; 2, K. Faulkner ; 3, J. W. Harding. 69.1 secs.
High Jump—1, E. M. Squires ; 2, K. Faulkner ; 3, J. W. Harding. 4 ft. 3 ins.
Long Jump—1, E. M. Squires ; 2, K. Faulkner ; 3, J. W. Harding. 15 ft.
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
Relay—1, Fraser ; 2, Youens ; 3, Arnison. 62 secs.

Group I (under 12)

80 Yards—1, J. V. Sullivan ; 2, J. O. Small ; 3, J. T. Bishop. 11 secs.
150 Yards—1, J. V. Sullivan ; 2, G. Savin ; 3, J. O. Small. 22 secs.
Long Jump—1, J. V. Sullivan ; 2, C. L. Rankin ; 3, R. J. Austin. 12 ft. 10 ins.
High Jump—1, L. J. McIntyre ; 2, P. Cresswell ; 3, P. Hares. 3 ft. 10 ins.

At the **District Sports**, held on June 7th, our team did extremely well, and some very good performances were put up, especially by Long (880), Garratt and Gordon (440), Redrup (Mile), Webb (Discus), and Johnson (Long Jump). These boys, augmented by the over-17 contingent, were among a considerable number from the school representing the District in the **Inter-District Competition** at Slough Stadium on June 23rd, and on their excellent showing were chosen (with Dakin) to represent the County at the **All-England Sports** at Southampton on July 21st. All except Garratt and Gordon got through to the finals, although competition was unusually strong. It is all the more creditable, then, that Long and Johnson gained 3rd places in these finals. The former, after winning his heat in the fastest heat time of 2 min. 3.7 secs., did an even faster time in the finals to beat the existing All-England record of 2 min. 3 secs., though he could only gain third place. Johnson, who has jumped 19 ft. 7 ins., could only jump 18 ft. 11 ins. to gain 3rd place to a boy who jumped 19 ft. $7\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Two athletic fixtures were arranged in the Summer Term. Against Watford the school team did very well and won the junior events with a comfortable margin, but senior events were not so successful, and we lost the match. The following week Southfield School, Oxford, were the hosts, and after a really enjoyable meeting were clearly the winners. It was here that Johnson (in the under 15 age group) jumped 19 ft. 7 ins., and, in his first experience of the hop, step and jump, gained second place. Incidentally, it says much for the versatility of our athletes that Kenyon, a specialist in the throwing events and more at home nailing fly-halves in the Rugger field than sprinting along a measured line, was able after two attempts to hop, step and jump a sufficient distance to gain 3rd place. In this event Phillips, sprinter and thrusting wing three-quarter, gained second place.

It is with great regret that we have to face the fact that Long is leaving school. Throughout his stay he has been an outstanding performer in cross-country runs and athletics : it is hoped that his example will continue to be an inspiration to all boys concerned with these activities. Another cause for regret is the loss of Dakin, who has led the cross-country team in so many victories, and who, by his quiet confidence, efficient leadership and competent performances, did so much for our cross-country and athletics.

W.A.R.

LAWN TENNIS CLUB

The summer of 1951 will be remembered as a period of steady improvement in the standard of school tennis. In April our hopes were low. Waters, the captain, and Miller alone had played for the school before, and neither had been regular members of the 1950 team. From February to April, normally the building-up time of the tennis team, the weather had prevented any serious practice, so the selectors had no evidence to guide them. We hardly dared to hope for more than an odd victory or so.

We were needlessly pessimistic. Our old ally, France, and friendly dominion, South Africa, provided us with unexpected and able reinforcements in the persons of Fournout and Ashby respectively. A heartening early success against Newlands Park, and the fact that Mr. Hollingworth needed an "XI" to beat us, led to increased enthusiasm. The most difficult problem was that of finding a third pair who could win an occasional event : how difficult this was is shown by the fact that as many as fourteen boys played in the team. In spite of this, out of the eleven matches played, five were won, and only two of the six defeats were in any way overwhelming. The Staff once again proved too much for us, and all we could claim was one set, while Leighton Park gave us a reminder of how far we have to go before we become a really good school team. Our best performances were probably in our win against Watford G.S. at home, and in our defeats at the hands of Watford G.S. away, and the Old Boys.

RESULTS OF MATCHES

					Away	Won	Lost
April	21	Newland Park College	...	...	Home	3—6	5—4
"	28	Mr. L. J. Hollingworth's "XI"	...	...	Away	7—2	Abandoned
May	5	High Wycombe L.T.C. "A"	...	...	Home	0—5	4—5
"	19	Reading School	...	...	Away	6—3	5—2
"	26	Leighton Park School	...	...	Away	0—9	3—6
June	2	Watford G.S.	...	...	Away	6—3	4—5
"	6	Newland Park College	...	...	Home	7—2	5—4
"	13	High Wycombe L.T.C. "A"	...	...	Away	3—6	6—3
"	23	Watford G.S.	...	...	Home	0—9	6—3
July	7	Borlase School	...	...	Home	6—3	5—2
"	13	Staff	...	...	Home	3—6	6—3
"	21	Old Boys	...	...	Home	0—9	5—2

School Colours for Tennis were awarded for the first time this year to : I. H. C. Waters, R. H. Miller, B. B. M. Ashby and R. A. Kipping. Kipping and Ashby are probably the most improved players in the school this year, and it promises well for the future that they will both be available next year. The following have played for the school VI : Harcourt, Hall, Fournout, Osborne, Hester, Wing, Crump, Redrup, Kenyon and Clapton.

The increasing popularity of tennis in the school was shown by the large entry in the singles and doubles tournaments. In both the standard of play generally was higher than last year. In the doubles tournament the outstanding performance was that of Osborne and Hester in reaching the final ; they were beaten decisively by Wing and Miller, 6—4, 6—2, but it was no walkover, and Osborne in particular showed great promise. In the singles Ashby won the title with comparative ease, defeating Miller 6—1, 6—4 in the semi-final, and Waters 6—2, 6—1 in the final. Waters' defeat of Wing in the other semi-final was a triumph for tenacity and steadiness. The standard of school tennis cannot but rise as a result of these tournaments.

The House Tennis Knock-out Competition, inaugurated this year, was too onesided to be interesting. Arnison were much stronger than the other Houses, and won very easily.

RESULTS

First Round : Arnison beat Youens 5—0

Fraser beat Disraeli 5—1

Final : Arnison beat Fraser $5\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$

STAFF ANNUAL LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP

This year the handicap placed on the players was twofold : in addition to the usual pairing of the best with the worst, a points handicap was added. That this points handicap was understood by the handicapper alone added an element of uncertainty to the tournament. But the handicapping was successful in that the tournament was the most open that we have had. Match after match went to three sets. Mr. Davies was defeated, for the first time in the history of these events, by the bounding Mr. Hood. Many of the "rabbits" played extremely well, some so well that they cannot hope to be classed as "rabbits" in the future. The final between Mr. Hett and Mr. Runswick and Mr. Hood and Mr. Emlyn Jones was appropriately the best match of the tournament, the standard of play being surprisingly high. Mr. Hett's steadiness and Mr. Runswick's service aces in the last set gave them a deserved win by 6—2, 3—6, 6—4.

H.R.T.

BOXING—1951 CHAMPIONSHIPS

		<i>Winner</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
1.	<i>Leaf Weight</i> ...	Foxhall (A)	Hares (D)
2.	<i>Cigarette Weight</i> ...	Inglis (D)	Stacey (Y)
3.	<i>Gnat Weight</i> ...	Sperl (A)	Price (Y)
4.	<i>Paper Weight</i> ...	Hawkins (A)	Wright (F)
5.	<i>Midge Weight</i> ...	Oxley (D)	Sears (D)
6.	<i>Mosquito Weight</i> ...	Bond (D)	Ransley (A)
7.	<i>Fly Weight</i> ...	Harvey (A)	Reavey (Y)
8.	<i>Bantam Weight</i> ...	Johnston (F)	Dunningham (F)
9.	<i>Feather Weight</i> ...	Smith (D)	Wing (A)
10.	<i>Light Weight</i> ...	Smyth (A)	Ludlam (Y)
11.	<i>Welter Weight</i> ...	Phillips (F)	Waters (F)
12.	<i>Middle Weight</i> ...	Clapton (Y)	Garratt (F)
13.	<i>Heavy Weight</i> ...	Robey (F)	Davies (F)
<i>Special Awards</i> ...		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Williams} \\ \text{Austin} \end{array} \right\}$	2B
<i>Junior Champion</i> ...		Hawkins (A)	
<i>Senior Champion</i> ...		Phillips (F)	

Result—	1.	Arnison	... 69 points
	2.	Disraeli	... 58 "
		Fraser	... 36 "

CONTEMPLATION ON THE LAST 150 YEARS

Prayers that echo in the empty dreams of space,
 Tears that fall on the world's blank waters ;
 Sad memories of a long-dead race,
 And its weeping dead men's daughters.

Those who had thought
 That they'd found a river of life,
 Had but vainly sought
 And traced from the caverns of agony, strife.

A trail of dust in a desert of death.
 They escaped through a waste
 Of blood, rags, and flesh without breath ;
 Escaped, and were lost, with only the bitter taste
 Of the withered berries of a barren land,
 And the memories of efforts wasted,
 And a trail of time, in the sand, sand, sand.

M. S. MATTHEWS, VI.

OLD WYCOMBIENSANS' CLUB

The Annual General Meeting

The President (Mr. Tucker) took the chair at the Annual General Meeting which was held in the Art Room at 6.45 p.m. on Saturday, July 21st, 1951. Twenty-two Old Boys were present. In his report for the year 1950-51 the Secretary again drew attention to the unsatisfactory number of annual subscribers, and also to the scarcity of news sent in by Old Boys, many of whom did not even notify a change of address until two or three Magazines had been forwarded from their previous homes. The Officers elected for 1951-52 were :—

President : E. R. Tucker, Esq.

Chairman : R. W. Bartlett, Esq.

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

Committee : Messrs. L. B. Barnes (1924-30), A. G. Duckering (1941-47), P. S. Groom (1942-49), S. E. Hands (1915-20), H. C. Hickman (1934-38), H. H. Lee (1929-35), J. P. Lord (1934-38), J. K. Price (1934-40), G. C. Rayner (1937-44), N. H. Theed (1912-19).

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : Mr. P. L. Jones.

Assistant Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : Mr. H. W. Johnson.

Hon. Auditor : Mr. A. E. Franklin-Hole.

Sausage Supper

It was proposed at the last A.G.M. that after the next General Meeting of the Club, in order to encourage attendance and enable Old Boys who for various reasons could not attend the Annual Dinner to meet one another, an informal supper should be arranged. Some doubts were expressed as to its success, owing to holidays, cricket and "Z" reservists, and many wrote to say that they would not be able to come for these very reasons. The experiment, however, was a huge success, so much so that one enthusiast was heard to wish for one a month. Eighty-eight O.B.'s turned up to sausage and mash, raspberries and ice cream, cheese and biscuits, and coffee, all perfectly set out in the School Canteen under the management of Mrs. Freeman. There were no speeches, and at 11 p.m. there were still groups of O.B.'s sitting around tables discussing everything under the sun. There will undoubtedly be a Sausage Supper next year, and the news of the success of the first should bring far more Old Boys to this summer reunion.

Annual Dinner

At the Annual General Meeting it was unanimously decided to support the suggestion put forward at the 1951 Dinner that the next reunion be held at the same place. The 1952 Dinner will therefore be held at the Tavistock Restaurant, Charing Cross Road, on Saturday, March 22nd, 1952. An improved menu (chicken !) will necessitate an increased charge of 12/6 (from 10/-), but it is certain that if O.B.'s who have been present at the function will broadcast how enjoyable and pleasant they have always been, the guaranteed number of 140 will be easily surpassed. So will you please pass along the date to all O.B.'s, whether members of the Club or not ? Apply for tickets on sale or return at the appropriate time, but start canvassing NOW.

Old Boys' Cricket Match

Saturday, July 21st, at the School. Match drawn.

Old Boys' XI : 222 for 7 declared (D. R. Witney 135 not out, R. E. Syrett 20, C. R. Engeham 16, B. E. McQueen 12).

R.G.S. : 150 for 8 wickets (H. D. Howard 38, B. G. Walker 29, P. Sharpe 23-5-73-5).

The Old Boys' XI was extremely strong in batting and the School side did well to get 7 wickets down for just over 200 runs. However, this score could have been kept down by better ground fielding. The 134 by D. R. Witney is one of the highest scores on the field. The School side batted steadily against very accurate bowling by Pat Sharpe, who bowled throughout the innings (2½ hours). Unfortunately the Old Boys' captain knew the favourite shots of the side and many runs were saved in this way. The fielding of the Old Boys' XI was a lesson to many of the School side. The biggest stand of the School was that between Howard and Elliott, who put on 56 runs for the sixth wicket. A very enjoyable game to finish the season, with more spectators than ever before this year.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

MR. BRAND (1911-46) played D. R. Stansbury at tennis in May, and must have won, because he issues a challenge to any O.B. who may be anywhere near Cambridge.

Writing from H.M.S. *Triumph*, London, M. J. F. ASHFORD (1939-42), finding that he will not be in England for some time, wants to play a lot of cricket, in spite of the fact that he has lost his Cricket Cap (size 6 7/8). He hopes the School and Old Boys will have successful Rugby seasons.

D. R. BOREHAM (1943-50) found himself working in an R.A.F. hospital in Ceylon under an O.B., A. D. MOORE. They had an interesting talk, discussing among other things their former Biology master.

PAT GUEST (Junior) (1919-23), for some mysterious reason, requires many details of the school, especially its connection with the Disraeli family. His large brother is still in Canada and doing well.

MALCOLM LOCHHEAD (1939-45) was rather disappointed to be transferred from Malaya to gunnery retraining in Tripolitania—he preferred the Malayan greenery to the endless African sand, despite the fine bathing and sailing. He met almost by chance in North Africa his brother Ian, a dashing brown Bombardier.

W. A. MALLABURN (1945-50) is now in Germany and was sorry not to be able to attend the A.G.M.

JOHN MARTIN (1943-48) works at Barclays Bank in Nassau, Bahamas, where he enjoys such exotic sports as shark fishing.

D. S. MILLER (1943-49) has been in Egypt for 13 months, and is going to Liverpool University in October.

P. B. NEWELL (1938-45) now works in Oxford for the City Engineer, and finds that most of his time is pleasantly out of doors. In August he will be for 14 days with the 4th Btn. K.O.Y.L.I., when he hopes to meet friends of his Malayan days. He would be grateful for the present address of A. S. GANN.

S. J. RAMAGE (1934-38) is with the Indian Copper Corporation in Bihar, where he has been since last August, keeping very fit playing golf and tennis.

JOHN SANDERS (1941-46) writes on most impressive notepaper and is in business as an artist designer.

NORMAN SEARS (1924-29) is now in partnership with another O.B., J. B. NICHOLSON at their Richmond office. He sends news of his marriage and the birth of a son and daughter, the latter just in time for the Income Tax this year! He is the Hon. Financial Secretary of the National Sunday School Union, and still enjoys watching Rugby matches near his home.

V. W. SKUES (1929-33) is leading a very busy life in Marwah, New Jersey, U.S.A., and would have enjoyed being at the Sausage Supper if it had been possible.

B. SCOTT (1938-43) as a "Bevin Boy" did 3½ years underground, and when released joined the R.A.F. for a change. He is now stationed with his brother in the Canal Zone near Port Said: he takes part in all the sport available and has a good chance of getting into the Cricket XI. His brother Eric is married and has a baby daughter. Scott hopes to get married on his return to England.

M. E. W. WESTNEY (1947-47), working at Somerset House, has met Polden (ex Podeshva), John King and Carter in various parts of London. Westney has very kindly presented a prize to the School to be awarded each year for Music.

D. F. WILLIAMS (1937-43) left for Mauritius in July to take up a post as Quantity Surveyor on the island. He is the first to hold that position.

E. N. (Nat) ALLEN (1918-23) with his Band has recently been touring the Continent. He has since been engaged for the Festival of Britain ballroom from May 3rd to November 10th.

G. D. BURCH (1911-15), exhibiting in the unaided Amateurs' Class at the National Rose Society's summer show at Westminster on June 29th, repeated his success of last year by again winning the Brayfort perpetual challenge cup. He has also had many successes at the Windsor and other local shows.

J. W. CAPE (1916-21), Headmaster of the Halifax School of Art, has been appointed Principal of the London Technical College for the Furnishing Trade. This Technical College is the former Shoreditch Technical Institute, from which the Junior School was evacuated to the Wycombe Technical Institute in the second World War.

R. N. STONE (1938-42), at Durham University, has gained his B.Sc. with Honours in Physics. He first went to Durham on an R.A.F. short course in 1944, returning in 1948 to complete his Degree course.

W. E. WHITE (1928-33), who is an accountancy assistant in the Borough Treasurer's department of the High Wycombe Corporation, has passed the Final Examination of the Institute of Municipal Treasurers.

The name of H. T. BRINDLEY (1910-15), Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Ceylon, appeared in the King's Birthday Honours (June, 1951) as a recipient of the King's Police and Fire Services Medal.

Old Wycombiensian Rugby Union Club

In his Annual Report the Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of the Club, S. E. Hands, states that the running of the Club now involves the handling of nearly £5,000 annually, which means heavy and responsible work for all connected with its successful activities.

1950-51 SEASON

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
1st XV ...	32	18	4	10	279	213
"A" XV ...	26	18	2	6	266	100
Extra "A" XV ...	22	14	0	8	252	203
"B" XV ...	22	16	1	5	274	114
Colts XV ...	1	1	0	0	6	3

Marriages

COLES—CUTLER. On March 31st, 1951, at Hughenden, *Bernard Francis Coles* (1937-44 or 45) to Miss M. F. Cutler.

LANCE—RAY. On May 26th, 1951, at High Wycombe, *R. W. Lance* (1939-45 or 46) to Miss J. P. Ray.

STEVENS—BISHOP. On March 26th, 1951, at Newport, I.W., *S. J. Stevens* (1935-40) to Miss R. Bishop.

WEBBER—PALMER. On June 14th, 1951, at Aylestone, Leicestershire, *Ronald Burston Webber* (1924-30) to Miss J. Palmer.

YOUENS—TAIT. On March 24th, 1951, at Ashford, Kent, *B. H. Youens* (1940-45) to Miss P. M. Tait.

Births

R. R. DICKETY (1926-31). On February 16th, 1951, at Aylesbury, to Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Dickey, a son.

G. F. HOPKINS (1934-39). On June 5th, 1951, at Muswell Hill, to Mr. and Mrs. F. Hopkins, a daughter.

B. F. LANCE (1934-42). On July 16th, 1951, at Colinswood Nursing Home, to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lance, a son.

C. H. N. LOCKE (1921-25). On February 23rd, 1951, at Ruislip, to Mr. and Mrs. Corris Locke, a daughter.

B. E. H. MCQUEEN (1938-43). On April 20th, 1951, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. Brian McQueen, a daughter.

G. B. PEATEY (1937-42). On February 23rd, 1951, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Peatey, a son.

G. W. ROGERS (1938-42). On March 29th, 1951, at Taplow, to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Rogers, a daughter.

N. SEARS (1924-29). On April 5th, 1951, at Twickenham, to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sears, a daughter.

K. SINCLAIR (1926-30). On May 6th, 1951, at Durban, South Africa, to Mr. and Mrs. Ken Sinclair, a daughter.

Deaths

F. J. GILLETT (1879-84). In February, 1951, at Booker, Francis Joseph Gillett, aged 81.

F. J. Gillett was for many years a farmer in the High Wycombe district, first at Burford Farm, near Marlow, and later at Mill End Farm, Sands, which had been farmed by his family for three generations. Gillett's Lane, once a rough farm track, received its name from the Gillett family's association with the district. One of his sons, G. J. Gillett (1907-10) is an Old Boy.

R. A. PEARCE (1876-82). On May 11th, 1951, at High Wycombe, Reuben Albert Pearce, aged 83.

R. A. Pearce was the last surviving member of the original three partners in the Wycombe firm Messrs. Hull, Loosley & Pearce Ltd. In his younger days he was prominent as an athlete, was a noted swimmer, and a member of the former High Wycombe Fire Brigade. He had been a Life Member of the Old Wycombien-sian Club since its foundation, and his three sons are all Old Boys of the R.G.S.

G. P. WOOLLCOMBE (1877-82). On July 2nd, 1951, at Ottawa, Canada, the Rev. Canon George Penrose Woollcombe, M.A., LL.D., aged 84.

G. P. Woollcombe was the eldest son of the late Rev. W. P. Woollcombe, a former vicar of Loudwater. His brother T. V. was also at the Royal Grammar School.



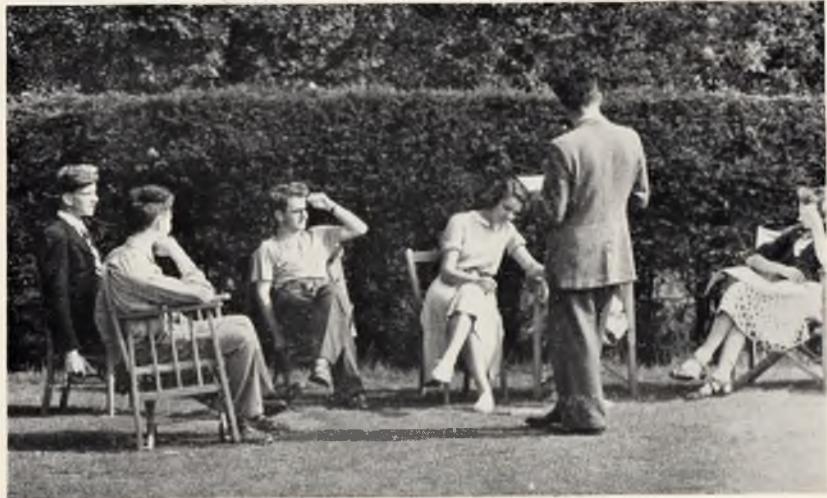
SPEECH DAY: ARRIVAL OF MR. BIRLEY



TUG-OF-WAR: THE GALLANT LOSERS



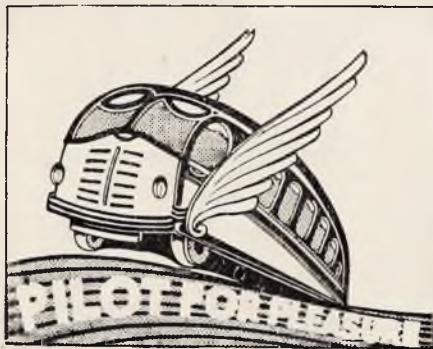
SHORTENILLS, JULY, 1951



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