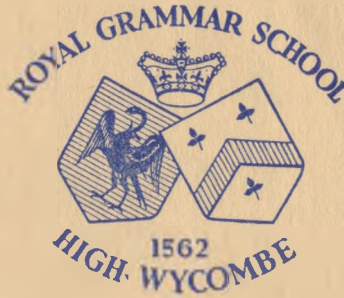


THE
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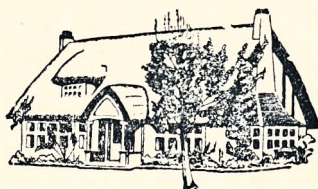
SEPTEMBER, 1955

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SCHOOL 1st XI 1955

Standing : Gilder, T. J., A. J. C. Wright, J. Smithers, Edwards, A. C., Whitehead, A. H. G. J. C. Briden.

Sitting : E. M. Squires, A. Harvey, F. E. J. Hawkins (Capt.), R. F. Sainsbury, M. J. P. Stevens and P. Draper (Scorer).



SCHOOL 1st TENNIS TEAM 1955

Standing : D. F. Simmons, A. J. Gordon, J. A. Barwell.

Sitting : B. K. Johnson (capt.), and G. D. B. Jones.

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

Editor : G. WARNER

Sub-Editors :

J. A. BEDFORD-JAMES (School News)

W. A. BOOTH (Advertisements)

C. E. G. GREELY (Original articles)

A. J. MACTAVISH (Sport)

R. T. PUTNAM (Photographs)

EDITORIAL

Although the inter-House competitions take place regularly every year, no one could say that the School was aflame with House spirit. Praise, indeed, is due to the gallant bands who turn out regularly for their Houses and to the harassed House captain who has the far from enviable task of ensuring that his House is amply represented in every competition. But what of that vast mass of boys who, throughout their School careers, do nothing whatsoever for their House? Are they victims of a widespread *malaise* or are there more tangible reasons for their non-participation?

While it is true that many boys tend to slack when they are not actually compelled to do something, the real reason behind their slackness in House matters seems to me to be the lack of House consciousness, brought about because House rivalry does not, as it should, pervade every aspect of their life at School. It is clearly impracticable for the Houses to be separate buildings, as is the case with the boarders, and it would involve too much expense to have different caps or ties to distinguish them. But apart from this, House consciousness should be built up to such an extent that a boy feels the influence of House as much as that of School.

For example, the scope of the inter-House competitions could be considerably enlarged. At the moment, apart from the Music competition, they are all of a sporting nature, and although no one wishes to belittle inter-House contests in sport, the boy who is not so good at games does feel rather "out of it." Competitions in

other spheres, in which everybody could participate, could easily be introduced. A House drama competition, a House debating contest, and an inter-House General Knowledge quiz are all possible. Even the "fortnightlies" and end-of-term exams could be utilised as means of comparing the four Houses. If this happened, every boy in the School would be personally affected, and could take an honest pride in the collective achievements of his House instead of just being vaguely pleased because a certain letter appears after his name in the Grey Book.

These are radical proposals, but they are by no means impracticable. With a set of House captains as capable and enthusiastic as those we have had during the past year and, above all, with the full co-operation of the Staff, inter-House rivalry could become a vital force inside this School and every boy would be the better for it.

SCHOOL NOTES

On March 31st and the first two days of April, the Dramatic Society presented Ian Hay's comedy "The Housemaster." The play was produced by Mr. R. Howard.

On May 17th, a party of six form boys under Mr. Browning's leadership braved the elements (it SNOWED that evening) and attended the service conducted by Doctor Billy Graham at Wembley Stadium.

On the same day another band of hardy R.G.S. scholars reached the Old Vic and saw a very enjoyable performance of "Henry IV."

The School election was held on May 25th, as a result of which C. P. Keeling (Cons.) was returned with a large majority over R. Sainsbury (Ind. Soc.) and D. M. Jago (Ind. Monarchist). I. Osborne (Ind. Con.) was unlucky enough to poll only 13 votes and so forfeited his deposit.

On Sports Day, June 14th, the bad weather held off long enough for Disraeli to win the House Competition. A. J. Gordon was the Senior Champion, and new records were set up by R. E. Lomas in the Javelin and R. D. Owen in the Discus events.

Several R.G.S. athletes represented Bucks in the All-England School Sports at Belle Vue a month later. Of these A. J. Gordon was placed second in the 440 yards, B. K. Johnson third in the Hop, Step and Jump, and R. E. Lomas fourth in the Javelin.

The Science Society visited Vickers-Armstrong works at Weybridge on July 18th.

The School trip this year was to Portsmouth, where an interesting and enjoyable time was had by all, marred only by the fact that no one fell in the harbour and no one was left behind at the station.

Congratulations to Cpl. John Ticehurst on being awarded his Flying Scholarship. As he has since completed his training, we are anxiously waiting to see if he will join the ranks of the immortals by hurtling his Tiger Moth through the arches of Westminster Bridge, about the only service distinction that the School has yet to achieve.

This year the School is extremely sorry to say farewell to four very popular masters. They are : Mr. T. E. Hood, who has left us for Taunton Grammar School ; Mr. G. E. Morgan, who will teach Science in Germany ; Mr. J. J. D. Dalton, who leaves us after a brief stay during which he gave valuable assistance both as a member of the Classics Staff and by his interest in school athletics ; and Mr. R. Howard, who after a period of 10 years as a Boarding House Master has obeyed the call of the mystic East and leaves to take charge of the Department of English at the English School, Istanbul.

SPEECH DAY

On July 14th, one of the hottest speech day afternoons for many years, the principal speaker, Doctor E. M. W. Tillyard, O.B.E., Litt.D., Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, was received by a Guard of Honour formed by cadets of the Army Section of the C.C.F. Other boys of the R.A.F. and R.N. Sections lined the route, while the band gave an impressive display.

In his opening remarks, the chairman, Mr. P. C. Raffety, J.P., spoke of the need for new buildings and expressed the hope that the County Authority would provide some assistance in attaining this goal. Mr. Raffety then appealed to all parents to help in raising money for the new Memorial Pavilion as an additional £2,000 would be needed owing to the necessity of changing the proposed site. The Chairman went on to refer to G. T. Harris, who gained his "Blue" as cox of the victorious Cambridge boat, and who coxed Jesus College to their position as "Head of the River." In conclusion, he thanked the Headmaster for his co-operation with the Governors, thus making the position of Chairman a great deal easier and more pleasant.

The Headmaster began his Annual Report by welcoming Dr. Tillyard as principal speaker on his first visit to the School, and thanked him for all his help and encouragement in past years. He went on to say that in the past five years boys of the School had been granted ten open awards at Jesus College. At the present time there were twenty boys in residence and four of them had obtained first class Honours degrees, while another, Harris, had been awarded his rowing "Blue."

The Headmaster then paid tribute to four great friends of the School who had unfortunately passed away during the last year. Alderman Haynes and Mr. Angus had been Governors, Mr. P. A. Seymour had been a one time member of the staff, and Mr. A. A. W. Coventry was still a member of the staff at the time of his death. Parents, Old Boys and present members of the School would feel their loss deeply. He also expressed his regret that Mr. Hood had left and that three masters, Messrs. Dalton, Howard and G. E. Morgan would be leaving at the end of the term. Each had served the School admirably, both in their teaching and in their interest in out-of-school activities, especially in the field of sport, and the Headmaster wished them all good fortune in their new posts. At the same time, he welcomed Mr. Chapman and Mr. Walters as new permanent members of the staff, as well as the Rev. J. E. Simpson, the Rev. A. J. Skipp and Mrs. Wilson, who gave valuable part-time assistance. He looked forward to further additions to the staff at the commencement of the new term.

In the academic field, the Headmaster said, seven State Scholarships and seven Open Awards had been gained, six of the latter at either Oxford or Cambridge. He mentioned particularly G. D. B. Jones, who had come top of his group in Classics at Oxford, and G. Warner, who had done the same in History at Cambridge. In the *Times Educational Supplement*, which gave a list of the schools that had done best in the Open Scholarship examinations at Oxford and Cambridge, the School had appeared in a creditable position, one of the only three State-Aided schools figuring in the list.

Old Boys, too, had distinguished themselves. C. J. Goodchild had recently attained a First Class Honours Degree with Distinction in the third part of the Mathematics Tripos, an examination only the best mathematicians took. E. L. Ripley had received an O.B.E. for his work in connection with the "Comet" disaster, while Denis Stevens had been invited to Cornell University in the U.S.A. as a visiting Professor of Music.

The obvious need in the School now, the Headmaster continued, was for new buildings, and there was a real hope that these would be ready by 1956-57 and would include a new laboratory block, Junior school and a new Great Hall.

General School activities had also been successfully pursued. Mr. Ingate had conducted the Opera, "Ruddigore," most successfully in Mr. Piner's regretted absence. Marlow Rowing Club had offered training facilities to members of the School, and there was every possibility that the School would enter a "four" in some event in the near future. An expedition to Wales in the Easter holidays was made by eight senior boys, with the object of discovering a lost stretch of Roman road. The results were very successful and had been examined by several eminent authorities.

As to the future of the School, the Headmaster said that most people now realised that a University Education was open to any boy who cared to work for it. Even so, a recent Government publication had made it clear that the country was missing the services of the boys who left after they had taken their Ordinary Level School Certificate Examination. The Minister of Education and the Federation of British Industries had stressed for some time the fact that there were not enough people for the responsible jobs in industry and the only way the gap could be filled was by more boys availing themselves of the chance to get that degree in Science so valued today. However, the School's excellent nucleus of classicists, modern linguists, historians, etc., should not be sacrificed for the sake of Science, and parents should accept the advice of the Masters as to which sphere their boys' abilities should be directed. The Headmaster then emphasised the fact that with the right spirit, many boys of moderate ability could still touch the heights, as had done some of their contemporaries, and swell the flow of able young men from this school to the world at large.

The Headmaster brought his report to a conclusion by thanking Colonel Watson, the Chairman of the County Council, the Governors, all the parents, and his colleagues, for their wonderful support of the work of the School. The prizes were then presented by Dr. Tillyard.

In his address following the prize-giving, Dr. Tillyard said that, although this was his first visit, he seemed to know the School through contact with the great number of good scholars from here at Jesus College. These scholars always fulfilled their earlier promise by showing extremely good results both as scholars and also as human beings. Dr. Tillyard went on to explain the advantages of Sabbatical leave for masters, and finished by stressing the power of the small group in attaining a goal.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Alderman A. J. Gibbs and seconded by Mr. G. E. Cooke. In the evening a commemoration service was held in the Parish Church. The preacher was Mr. P. C. Sands, late Headmaster of Pocklington School.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES 1954-55

Open Scholarship Awards :

- G. Warner, Open Scholarship in History, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.
- C. R. F. Maunder, Open Scholarship in Mathematics, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- R. E. Lomas, Open Exhibition in Modern Languages, Downing College, Cambridge.
- C. P. Keeling, Open Exhibition (Rustat) in Classics, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- G. B. D. Jones, Welsh Foundation Scholarship in Classics, Jesus College, Oxford.
- D. J. Griffiths, Meyricke Exhibition in Natural Sciences, Jesus College, Oxford.
- G. Sherlock, Open Scholarship in Arts, Leeds University.

State Scholarships Awarded on the Result of the General Certificate of Education, Advanced and Scholarship Level :

- R. D. Barwell for French and German, Leeds University.
W. A. Booth for History and Geography, Balliol College, Oxford.
D. J. Griffiths for Mathematics and Physics, Jesus College, Oxford.
R. J. Handscombe for English, Jesus College, Cambridge.
C. R. F. Maunder for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Jesus College, Cambridge.
M. O. Simmons for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Balliol College, Oxford.
G. Warner for History, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

County Major Scholarship :

- R. E. Lomas for French and German, Downing College, Cambridge.

County Major Exhibitions :

- A. D. Barrett for Mathematics and Science, University College, London.
G. E. Bates for French and German.
I. C. Birch for History and English.
J. G. Deller for Medical Subjects, St. Mary's Hospital, London.
M. S. Dickens for Medical Subjects, Westminster Hospital, London.
J. P. J. Edwards for Mathematics and Science, Southampton University.
K. E. Fountain for Geography and English, Leeds University.
R. H. B. Gittins for Mathematics and Physics, University College, London.
C. E. C. Greely for English and History, St. Catherine's Society, Oxford.
D. M. Jago for English and French, Jesus College, Cambridge.
R. F. Jones for French and Latin, Exeter College, Oxford.
J. A. Collar for French and German.
B. H. Reed for Greek, Latin and Ancient History, University College, London.
C. F. Regan for Mathematics and Science, University College, London.
R. F. Sainsbury for Chemistry and Physics, Jesus College, Cambridge.
G. Sherlock for Geography and English, Leeds University.
J. A. Simmons for Chemistry and Physics, King's College, London.
R. A. Stevenson for Mathematics and Science, University College, London.
J. Weaver for Mathematics and Science, Queen Mary College, London.
A. Windsor for Mathematics and Science, Kings College, London.
J. C. Colver for Law, London School of Economics.
D. G. F. Kay for Economics, Leeds University.
B. Lewis for English.
A. J. Gordon for Mathematics and Physics, Jesus College, Cambridge.

R.A.F. Technical Cadetship : D. E. Wooberry.

R.A.F. Flying Scholarship : J. G. Ticehurst.

Cadetship at Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst : J. A. Collar.

GOVERNORS' CERTIFICATES

G. D. B. Jones, A. J. Gordon, B. K. Johnson, G. E. Bates, W. A. Booth, F. E. J. Hawkins, F. J. R. Hobson, R. F. Jones, C. P. Keeling, M. Lacey, R. E. Lomas, C. R. F. Maunder, R. F. Sainsbury, M. J. Snapes, G. Warner.

SPECIAL PRIZES

Headmaster's Prize : G. D. B. Jones.

Governor's Reading Prize : A. J. Gordon, C. P. Keeling.

Governor's Classics Prize (presented by R. P. Clarke, Esq., C.B.E., M.A., B.C.L.) : G. D. B. Jones.

Graefe Cup for best C.C.F. Cadet : R.S.M. R. D. Mitchell.

Harte Cup for A.T.C. (presented by Wing Commander C. S. W. Harte) : F/Sgt. M. Lacey.

Giles Keen Memorial Cup for best Naval Cadet (presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Keen) : Cadet P/O. J. Perkins.

Art Shield (presented by A. Hastings, Esq.) : R. E. Lamb.

Hope Cup (presented by Mr. and Mrs. W. Hope) : H. C. Bramley.

Marti Prize for French (presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Marti) : R. F. Jones.

Goodchild Prize for Mathematics (presented by C. J. Goodchild, Esq.) : R. R. F. Maunder.

Thorne Prize for English (presented by Mrs. G. Bayley) : C. E. C. Greely.

Westney Prize for Music (presented by M. W. Westney, Esq.) : F. J. R. Hobson.

Lance Memorial Prize for Persistent Progress : 1st year—B. R. Harding ; 2nd year—A. W. Rally.

FORM PRIZES

FORM II_A :

1st, C. D. Leach
2nd, R. A. Richards

FORM II_B :

1st, M. G. Smith
2nd, T. Smith

FORM II_C :

1st, D. R. Cox
2nd, R. W. Hammett

FORM II_D :

1st, J. M. Colley
2nd, D. N. Hubble

FORM III_X :

1st, M. B. Wood
2nd, R. P. H. Green
3rd, K. R. Puddephatt

FORM III_A :

1st, P. J. Yates
2nd, R. F. S. Vere

FORM III_S :

1st, R. J. Lawrance
2nd, R. I. Rothwell

FORM IV_X :

1st, H. G. Bramley
2nd, D. A. King
3rd, J. A. Vickers

FORM IV_A :

1st, J. R. Garland
2nd, A. J. Watters

FORM IV_S :

1st, R. Pratley
2nd, P. J. Thompson

FORM IV SHELL :

1st, D. J. Rendall
2nd, D. W. Cox

FORM V_X :

1st, C. J. Date
2nd, J. D. Neville
3rd, R. W. Thorne

Form Prizes—continued

FORM VA :

- 1st, C. N. Dowdy
- 2nd, P. J. Muller

FORM VS :

- 1st, J. C. Holdbrook
- 2nd, D. E. Breslin

FORM V SHELL :

- 1st, J. M. Barnard
- 2nd, R. C. Chandler

FORM VUA :

- 1st, P. Read
- 2nd, D. G. McCoy

FORM VUS :

- 1st, C. W. Anthony
- 2nd, P. D. Hares

FORM VU SHELL :

- 1st, J. P. Quick
- 2nd, P. H. Warner

NEATNESS PRIZES :

- VU T. Randall
- V I. M. Tomes
- IV G. P. Vincent
- III G. S. Wood
- II A. J. Merrell

SPEECH PRIZES :

- VI R. T. Putnam
- VU & VX C. D. Lane
- V R. A. P. Wilson
- IV J. H. Holmes
- P. J. Thompson
- III J. E. Burnell
- II J. M. Colley

HANDICRAFT PRIZE :

- L. D. Weston

MUSIC PRIZE :

- D. M. Jago

FORM VI—1ST YEAR :

Ancient

- History* : A. F. King
- Classics* : A. Harvey
- French* : P. M. Slotkin
- German* : D. S. Sutton
- English* : J. A. B. James
- History* : T. G. D. Klemperer
- Geography* : D. C. Willatts
- Economics* : D. T. Elias
- Chemistry* : J. O. Small
- Physics* : J. W. Beckford
- Mathematics* : J. W. Freeth
- Botany* : J. Kotlar
- Zoology* : G. R. Williams

FORM VI—2ND and 3RD YEAR :

- Greek* : C. P. Keeling
- Latin* : R. Babb
- Ancient*
- History* : G. D. B. Jones
- Modern*

- Languages* : R. E. Lomas
- French* : G. E. Bates
- German* : P. Chamberlin
- English* : D. M. Jago
- T. B. Baldwin
- Spanish* : J. L. Wingrove
- History* : G. Warner
- W. A. Booth
- Geography* : D. R. A. Friend
- Economics* : I. C. Birch
- Chemistry* :
- 2nd Year J. J. Gowan
- 3rd Year J. A. Simmons
- Physics* : D. J. Griffiths
- 2nd Year J. H. Speight
- 3rd Year A. J. Gordon
- Botany* : R. C. Todd
- Zoology* : J. M. Chinery
- Mathematics* : C. R. F. Maunder
- D. N. Crowther

C.C.F. NOTES

ARMY SECTION

This term has followed the pattern of many other Summer terms, except that there was no Annual Inspection this year. This gave the contingent an opportunity to concentrate on other things, at the expense of the ceremonial side.

The results well justified the change of policy, for in the early part of the term, two teams went to Bulford for the Salisbury Plain District Rifle Meeting. The "B" team was runner-up in the Falling Plate Competition and the VIII gave a very satisfactory account of itself in the Application. The team was R. D. Mitchell (capt.), P. Aikens, R. D. S. Clark, J. A. Fisher, R. Hart, G. Hickey, A. Mactavish, C. J. Melsom, M. J. Snapes. The team was unfortunate in losing the services of last year's captain, J. A. Collar, but all would wish to congratulate him on a Sandhurst Cadetship.

The usual Guard of Honour was provided on Speech Day, and the Band, in Beating Retreat, lost none of its now well-established reputation; whilst the Camp Guard obtained a very useful Dress Rehearsal which no doubt had its good effect later.

A record number of nearly a hundred and thirty cadets went to camp at Shorncliffe at the end of term. One cannot be sure if the record number was due to a genuine desire to obtain the benefits of a well-conducted camp as a preliminary to National Service or if it was due to the attraction of the proximity of the sea, or if, perhaps, it was a desire to miss the last few days of School. Whatever the reason, everyone seemed to enjoy it and the camp finished on a very good note, with the Guard being judged the best Camp Guard. This was the first time the School had won the Guard Competition and it was the result of several years' enthusiasm on the part of the cadets themselves, and was a particular credit to the Cadet R.S.M., R. D. Mitchell, who was responsible for its training. In the competition itself he acted as Orderly Officer and was ably assisted by C.S.M. R. D. Thomson as Orderly Sergeant. The Guard consisted of Sgt. J. A. Cox, the Guard Commander; and Cadets R. B. Humphries, P. D. Hares, J. T. Moore, P. W. H. North, M. J. Richardson and D. J. Slade. The ceremony was watched by Major-General Cowley, the Chief of Staff Eastern Command, who personally congratulated Cadet R.S.M. Mitchell.

The Band was the only one in camp, but it added a page to its history by Beating Retreat in a very creditable manner. Buglers P. E. Dalton and A. Free did very good work in providing bugle calls for the whole camp in the latter half of the week.

The Signal Platoon will feel the loss of Lieut. G. E. Morgan, and he will be missed by his three colleagues at next year's camp, a week in which much history is made for the good name of the School and where friendships are cemented to last for ever.

R.P.

R.A.F. SECTION

Training during the term culminated in a record total of 66 cadets presenting themselves for the Proficiency and Advanced Proficiency Examinations in July. This reflects the size of the unit which is, at present, 148 cadets. The number of cadets who have proceeded to the Advanced Proficiency stage is now greater than it has ever been.

The camp held in April at R.A.F. Station Llandow was outstandingly successful. The average flying time per cadet reached the unusual figure of almost four hours. A great deal of this was in Ansons, but there was also a considerable amount of Chipmunk flying and a few Meteor flights. Group Captain R. D. M. Clarke, O.B.E., an old boy of the School, visited the camp and several cadets were flown by him in his Anson. We were also most grateful to Group Captain Clarke for further flying facilities which he provided during the camp and which were greatly appreciated by the cadets. The additional activities, involving visits to Llandarey oil refinery and to Barry Docks, were most interesting and well-conducted. An enjoyable escape exercise was carried out and there was a very popular trip in an air-sea rescue launch.

The Summer camp, commencing on the last day of term, is to be at R.A.F. Lyneham, in Wiltshire. Almost all the overseas flying of Transport Command is routed through R.A.F. Lyneham, which is, consequently, a very busy and most interesting station. There will certainly be plenty of flying to be seen and the indications are that cadets will be able to get a good deal of flying themselves, most probably in Hastings aircraft.

At White Waltham, on Saturday, August 13th, Home Command will be holding an annual "A.T.C. Day," when the various activities associated with the A.T.C. and R.A.F./C.C.F. will be demonstrated. This unit has been invited to send a team of cadets to the demonstration to show the Primary Glider in action. A team is now busy practising "hops" and the speedy dismantling of the glider. Their efficiency in this may be judged by the fact that, in rehearsal, they have completely dismantled the glider in 2 mins. 50 secs. They should give a most attractive and impressive demonstration on August 13th.

Cpl. J. G. Ticehurst is to be congratulated on successfully completing his Flying Scholarship training in the Easter vacation and on gaining his Pilot's Licence. Congratulations are also accorded to F/Sgt. M. Lacey for his success in being awarded a University Cadetship in the Technical Branch of the Royal Air Force. Best wishes for the success of his career in the Royal Air Force are offered to F/Sgt. M. Lacey and, at the same time, sincere appreciation is expressed for the excellence of his work in the unit as a Senior N.C.O.

E.M.

SCHOOL HOUSE

The end of this Summer term is a very sad time for School House, because we shall be losing Mr. Howard, who has been Housemaster for the last nine years. He has always performed his duties in a scrupulously fair and cheerful way and has always put the House first. Among many other things, he has given us a Scout Troop of which we can be justly proud.

In the Troop, the 25th High Wycombe, we have three Queen's Scouts : R. F. Sainsbury, R. C. Todd and J. Smithers ; and seven First Class Scouts. The Troop holds the Hughes Trophy for Senior Scouts, the Graeffe Cup for Junior Scouts, and the High Wycombe Association Progress Shield.

The House, as usual, has been well represented in all the School's activities. R. A. Mann, whom we lost at the end of the Christmas term, and R. F. Sainsbury, were both regular members of the School 1st XV. A. J. C. Wright was captain of the 2nd XV, and R. C. Todd of the 3rd XV. J. Smithers played for the 2nd XV, R. C. Jones and E. C. Franks played for the Colts XV, while Mann and Clark did so for the Junior Colts.

During the Summer term, R. F. Sainsbury (an old Colour), A. J. C. Wright and J. Smithers have all been regular members of the School Cricket XI and we must congratulate the last two named on obtaining their colours. "Jack" Dawes, one of our Juniors, has also played occasionally for the Junior Colts XI. In the inter-House activities this year, the House has acquitted itself very well. We beat both Uplyme and Tylers Wood at table-tennis, and we thus became House Champions for the fourth time in succession. At Basketball, we beat Uplyme, but lost rather badly to Tylers Wood. We were beating the latter, however, in a tennis match during the Summer term, when rain, unfortunately, put an end to the match.

At the end of this term we are losing Roger Sainsbury, who is going to Cambridge, Peter Draper, who is going to Leeds, and Gary Savin, who, after his short stay with us, is going to work at Aylesbury.

I should like to extend a welcome to all those new boys who are coming at the beginning of the Christmas term. They may find life a bit tough at first, but as time passes they will find that they are starting one of the most enjoyable stages of their lives.

R. F. SAINSBURY.

UPLYME HOUSE

Since the last report, a rather long year ago, the House has undergone quite a few changes. After four and a half years we have said goodbye to our Matron, Miss MacIntyre. As a leaving present, the House presented her with a silver cake tray. She will be missed very much, but we wish her every success in her new venture. Several boys have left us to justify their existence elsewhere, including Braybrooke, Tagg and Gregory.

A few O.B.'s decided that we were worth a visit at the time of the O.B.'s dinner. Harcourt appeared with a wonderful beard, since removed, and spun a few yarns about his sailing experiences. Robin Thirlway and "Froggy" Waters are frequent visitors. Thirlway is now at O.C.T.U. and "Froggy" is spending his summer holiday working for the L.T.E. as a 'bus conductor.

Last Rugby season seven members of the House played for School teams. This term only two boys, Thorne and Volkonsky, have been representing the House in the Colts' Cricket team and the tennis team respectively, with any regularity. A brighter thought, perhaps, is that seven of our boys will be collecting prizes on Speech Day. This could probably be explained by the fact that this past term has seen fourteen boys reeling under the impact of the G.C.E. at both levels. We hope that the respective postcards will bring "Glad tidings of great joy."

R. D. MITCHELL.

TYLERS WOOD HOUSE

It has been a busy year for the House and, as usual, time has passed quickly by. Both intellectual activity and, perhaps, to an equal degree, activity in the realms of sport, have filled our time. The former has just reached its peak in the Summer exams; School exams for the luckier ones and G.C.E. for some dozen others. A few minor peaks arose during the year in the shape of the University Schols. and "mock" G.C.E.

But if, intellectually, we are given to sudden and mad spates of energy, in sport, we are not, and matches have been played as regularly as work has permitted. We have indulged in most sports and, we are proud to say, with some measure of success. An enjoyable but muddy game of Seven-a-side Rugby was played and won against a combined School House and Uplyme side. At Basketball, we had some fairly heavy victories over the other two Houses, although at table-tennis we were not so successful. Meanwhile, the Juniors have started a friendly rivalry with the local church choir team. During the winter, they had three games of Soccer, each side winning one and drawing one. In the Summer term also, the House won two handsome victories at cricket.

Outside the House, too, our boys have made their mark. A. J. Gordon captained the 1st XV, and G. Hickey, A. Edwards and R. D. Owen gained their 2nd XV colours, G. Hickey playing once for the 1st XV. A. Edwards has played regularly for the 1st XI at cricket this season and we hope that before it is over, he will have gained his colours. Finally, R. D. Owen and A. J. Gordon will be representing Bucks in the Schools A.A. Championships at Manchester.

We cannot close without offering our congratulations to Mr. "One-putt" Pattinson (if he will excuse the newspaper "quote") on his fine performance in the Amateur Golf Championships. His progress was followed most closely and our delight when he beat the American Walker Cup captain was made manifest to all the neighbours. Well done, sir! Good luck in future competitions!

In closing, we cannot help wondering how different the House will be in its make-up next year with three new prefects and many new Juniors. Those of us who are leaving, wish the House the best of luck and hope that all those just starting will derive as much benefit from their stay here as we realise we have done.

A. J. GORDON.

"HOUSEMASTER"

Swish! Swish! Swish! The familiar and significant sound caused by sharp and painful contact between cane and juvenile rump—strangely to be heard so frequently throughout the land's many and varied educational establishments for boys—quickly brought a respectful hush from the large audience which attended the Dramatic Society's production of "The Housemaster." It was, indeed, very effective—especially when it was whispered that this was nothing compared with the energetic exercise taken by the producer on less special occasions! However, it should not be thought that the opening was the only impression to be had from the evening.

Yet the virility of the opening heralded a robust and strong presentation, surely springing from the actors' obvious and often impish delight in what was, for them, a projection of life on its most interesting plane, namely the mysterious and often exciting abode of a boarding school housemaster. True, that after a little while in the first scene the tempo of the play seemed to have slowed, but Rosemary and Chris (in the first place, having been ideally made-up in the guise and fashion of the modern teen-age girl) quickly overcame this and from then on, the sharp interchange of words and actions never again failed to maintain interest.

As the plot unravelled itself, the mild humour of the opening scenes was replaced by a far more riotous fun, but it was noticeable that this was never allowed to become out of hand and, consequently, the dramatic clash of personalities forming the climax was never endangered. Anthony Gordon, realising this, was fully able to create "Hell fire" when needed, but more readily showed those finer feelings that in such a character as the old bachelor, Donkin, produce the poignancy that offsets the blatant fun found elsewhere in such hilarious situations as his discovery of the midnight feast. Michael Dickens, taking a role not unlike that in which he made such a successful debut last year, without, however, any worries this time over knitting, had the confident air of an experienced actor and, like Gordon, showed commendable restraint—avoiding well the common pitfall of playing to the public.

While restraint was the keynote for Old Donkin and Miss Jane, it was their complete abandonment that made those two really dreadful children, "Bimbo" (John Dawes) and "Button" (Richard Pearson), so beloved of the audience. Both were word-perfect and cheeky with gusto. Timothy Gowan's and Michael Vaughan-Rees' interpretation of Rosemary and Chris was, as already mentioned, praiseworthy, both showing considerable improvement on their previous performances. Of the school chums, "Flossie" Nightingale (John Bedford-James) displayed the manner of one obviously at ease with the other sex, "Pop" (David Slatter) was pleasantly handsome, while Travers (John Small) and "Old Crump" (Thomas Klemperer) made a picturesque and entirely natural pair.

Of the masters, Thomas Baldwin as Frank Hastings played well the part of foil to the fiery Donkin, but Gerald Hickey, while bringing elegance to the part of the sports master, lacked the loud recklessness associated with the part. Only a very experienced actor could have given us enough of Philip de Pourville's sentiment without appearing emotional; John Ticehurst made a very gallant and not unrewarding attempt; Ellen and Matron (Michael Turner and Peter Matthews), perhaps unwittingly, but none the less surely, provided plenty of laughter. Sir Berkeley Nightingale (Maurice Simmons) was purposefully pompous.

Often a school production reveals at least one new player of great talent and, if this was the case in "The Housemaster," it is surely true of Gerald Williams, who played the Headmaster. A fine character study of an intriguing personality, Williams' acting brought out the very best in Gordon in the final scenes and brought just that added vigour and tightness to the play when it was most needed.

Mr. Howard must be congratulated, particularly on his excellent casting, so vital a factor in any amateur production, as also must be those responsible for the scenery, even if they were unaware of the elementary code concerning the placing of an oar on a study wall! The audience behaved itself splendidly, even after what was, I feel sure, a calculated attack upon it by means of a combination of jazz and loudspeakers. The play was, financially, a success, and, moreover, everybody enjoyed themselves, even, I am told, those boys who were cajoled into smoking the occasional cigarette in the cause of realism. It was surely refreshed that we returned to school life the following day, although not, unfortunately, to the innumerable rest periods described so hopefully on the timetable on Mr. Donkin's door.

C. E. C. GREELY, VIM.

THE QUEST FOR SARN HELEN

Impressions of the R.G.S. archaeological expedition to Brecknockshire, April, 1955

South-central Wales is rough country. Anyone tramping over its hills can readily understand why the professional archaeologists have neglected the area and its stretches of untraced Roman road for the juicier plums in more hospitable regions of Britain. But Barri Jones, the organiser of our expedition, did not mind the country. Moreover, he knew that we, as amateurs, were limited in scope. Villas, forts and towns were clearly beyond us, but roads were a different story. Inspired by an appeal from the late Rev. M. P. Charlesworth for "some teamwork by eager investigators" to uncover the lost Roman roads in Wales, he planned the expedition and recruited its members. He first mentioned the subject at the end of January and by the middle of April eight of us were in Wales.

Of course, such a project demanded a great deal of preparation. With the possible exception of R. Thomson, we were ignorant of the more technical aspects of archaeology and this defect had to be remedied. We had to find out exactly how much was known about the region we proposed to explore and Barri Jones and I spent a morning at the headquarters of the Society for the Promotion of

Greek and Roman Studies in London examining all available literature. A visit to the Ordnance Survey Archaeological Division, arranged by Mr. Hume, of the Aylesbury Museum, who gave so much encouragement to our project all along, provided us with more information and gave us the tantalising prospect of having our work, if successful, recorded on the new edition of the O.S. "Roman Britain" map, which we actually saw on the drawing boards.

Another side of our preparation entailed a "get fit" programme to ensure that we would survive in the supposedly frightful climatic conditions. Our equipment—tents, groundsheets, gas capes, water bottles, sleeping bags and cooking utensils—was begged, borrowed or removed from various sources, and tinned food, for the first few days, was bought and stowed away in our already well-filled packs.

Finally, at midnight on April 14th (or should it be 15th?) we started. An all-night coach journey on which sleep was, to say the least, a luxury, brought us to Neath, South Wales. An Emmett-like train took us up country towards Brecon, although we only travelled as far as Senny Bridge, a "town" which has only the dubious attraction of an artillery camp. Still, we were grateful to the Army for giving us a lift along the road to our first camp site in one of their refuse trucks. It was uncomfortable, but a paradise compared with the trudge that ensued. Wearing heavy clothing, because we thought it would be cold, and shouldering 40-50-lb. packs, as well as attempting to carry various hold-alls with our cooking utensils inside, we staggered the last two or three miles in a seventy degree heat.

The first camp site was beside a stream at Halfway—halfway to where, we never really found out—a little village on the Brecon-Llandovery road, the same road, by the way, which runs through Wycombe—the A.40. This was a trial camp and we did little archaeological work here. It enabled us, however, to get used to living under canvas, not in the luxurious conditions prevailing at the last C.C.F. Army camp, but in tiny tents for two people, who slept in sleeping-bags beneath which the hard ground was only too noticeable, despite layers of bracken and groundsheets. The leader of the expedition, despite his flying-suit, which it took a full twenty minutes to don, was frozen on the first night and had to resort to further wrappings.

We did climb the hills, however, to the two temporary Roman forts at Y Pigwn, quite nearby. We dug a trial cross-section here, too, where we definitely knew the Roman road ran. This was to give us an idea of what a Roman road would look like when we came to examining the untraced section. But everyone was keen to get on to our next camp site, where our real task was to begin. Barri Jones and R. Thomson were so keen, in fact, that they left Halfway the day before the rest of the party. Apart from the 'bus to Senny Bridge, they had to walk, whereas the rest of us, for a modest sum,

had the comparative comfort of a ride in a cleaned-out cattle lorry to the foot of the hill upon which our camp was to be pitched. A local farmer, who regarded us with some curiosity, was kind enough to let his son carry up our kit on his tractor and so we could enjoy, untrammelled, the magnificent prospect of our camp site, Cwm Du, a glaciated corrie, scooped out of the hills, 1,200 feet above sea-level. (See photograph.)

Cwm Du was about seven miles south-south-east of Senny Bridge and we thought that it provided the ideal base for our operations. The Roman road we were trying to trace, known, as are so many Roman roads in Wales, as Sarn Helen, ran from the Gaer (or fort) at Brecon to two other forts at Coelbren and Neath. Its course as far as Maen Llia, just south of where we were encamped, was known. We were trying to bridge the gap between Maen Llia and a point south of the Brecon Gaer, where previous investigations had met with a dead end.

We soon hit upon what we thought was the Roman road. R. Thomson would career about the countryside with a steel rifle-cleaner which he used as a probe. Every now and then, he would ram the probe into the earth. If its downward course was stopped five or six inches below the surface, he was satisfied. If not, he would jab around nearby until he was. The reason for this seemingly odd behaviour is that bed-rock is normally more than five or six inches below the surface. If, therefore, one found a hard surface with a distinct camber at such a uniform depth and if, moreover, this surface had a fairly uniform width, it was a safe assumption to make that it was the Roman road. With the help of a compass, we took bearings and back-bearings every few yards and soon realised that our sub-surface layer was behaving in the traditional Roman manner, by travelling in a dead straight line. With the aid of the air-photographs, which C. P. Keeling had obtained for us, we also noticed little hollows, running parallel to this sub-surface layer. These, we decided, were "quarrying depressions," whence the engineers took materials for the road. This was an additional proof in most places, but was sometimes the only one when, for some reason or other, the sub-surface layer had become broken up. To reinforce our findings, we discovered a built-up ford at one point along our road, and the remains of a ramp and stone piles for a bridge at another. Still further confirmation of our theory was provided by the huge slabs of stone which had, the previous year, taken a substantial toll of a local farmer's ploughshares and by our cross-sections, which clearly revealed the different layers which go to make up a Roman road. Each day, our findings were plotted on one of the six-inch O.S. maps that Barri carried around with him, and D. J. Griffiths, the expedition's photographer, was detailed to photograph any interesting features.

Meanwhile, camp life went on as usual. Up at about 7.30 a.m. on the average, our capable culinary experts, R. E. Lomas, C. P. Keeling, W. A. Booth and R. Thomson, cooked the breakfast. Very tasty breakfasts they were, too, which is some feat, given the tinned food and primitive implements we had. I can safely say that, apart from one can of mauve tea, the cooking was first-rate throughout the ten days in Wales. After breakfast, there were the usual chores and then the party would split up for archaeological work, each group taking sandwiches for lunch and Army water-bottles filled with lemon squash. Someone usually remained in camp to tidy up and "keep guard" while the rest were away. All returned in the evening for another substantial meal and then, after a wash in the cold stream that ran right by our camp—an operation infinitely more pleasurable in the evening than in the early morning—we retired.

The smooth-running of the camp itself would have been impossible without the co-operation of the local farmers, who supplied us with such necessities as fresh milk and eggs. The Morgans, at Plas-y-fan farm, just about a mile from Cwm Du, were especially good to us. Apart from the supplies we received from them we can never forget how, whenever we called for mail or whenever we were passing through on our archaeological investigations, we were regaled with cups of tea and liberal helpings of home-made cake. The farmers at Blaen Senni, the other farm in the neighbourhood, also deserve our gratitude. It was on their tractor that our weighty kit was carried up to Cwm Du and it was in their Land Rover that the eight of us, albeit rather cramped, were transported back to Senny Bridge to catch the return train to Neath.

Finally, on Monday, April 25th, the day before the Summer term began, we arrived back in Wycombe. We must have looked like hardy pioneers with our packs, our ten-day growth of beard and our brown, weather-beaten faces. But, in fact, camp life in Wales was easier than we had been led to expect. The weather, for once, had behaved itself perfectly. On one occasion, only, was there the slightest hint of rain and, even then, none materialised. So, in addition to finding the road and thereby contributing to the sum of archaeological knowledge, we had thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and that, surely, is the criterion of any camp, whatever its purpose.

In conclusion, we must not forget the people who were so helpful in making our expedition a success. Mr. Hume has already been mentioned, but any number of references could not do justice to his invaluable assistance. Mr. Cooke and the officials of the Bucks County Education Committee kindly defrayed much of the cost of the expedition and have since shown a tremendous enthusiasm in its results. The School C.C.F., the Hazlemere Scout

Troop and Mr. Howard, on behalf of the boarders' Scout Troop, are to be thanked for providing essential equipment. We are grateful, too, to the numerous individuals who loaned packs and sleeping-bags to the members of the party : they were greatly appreciated. Finally, we must thank the Headmaster, who, ever since the expedition was first mentioned to him, did everything he could to ensure its success. His unflinching efforts and his much-appreciated assistance were, perhaps, the most important factors making for the success of a venture, which, as far as we know, has no parallel in the history of the School.

G. WARNER.

Here is the composition of the party : G. D. B. Jones, C. P. Keeling, W. A. Booth, R. E. Lomas, B. K. Johnson, D. J. Griffiths, R. Thomson and G. Warner.

SUMMERTIME

The air shimmers above the grasses, but below, it is cooler, among the soft, green blades. Soon one begins to wonder drowsily if there really is anything beyond the tall grass that hems one in on all sides—just grass and sky. Far up, flutters a lark, seemingly suspended from the infinite blue dome. But the eye fails to hold the distant speck and it is lost among the haze.

No sound can be heard, save the occasional cracking of vetch pods and even this soon appears to cease. Not a breath of wind stirs ; and a small beetle, crawling spirally up a stem, seems to be alone in possessing any will to move. And even he soon abandons his attempt to reach the lark in the cool upper air ; he's earthbound too and has a world even smaller than ours and, so, must see even less. The sun becomes warmer, heat is everywhere and thought is effort :

All time is distant, quite beyond,
And nature seems to rest, but feigns.
The sweet aroma of the hay
Is all that to the sense remains
And so I sleep.
The tireless flies still hover round,
Then fearlessly ascend my brow,
And there is left but one low sound
Of quiet and whole content
From all that lives.

R. D. OWEN, VIs.

CRICKET WITH A DIFFERENCE

We were pleased that we had such a good day for the match. I think that 2C had been looking forward to it from the first day of term, when the Headmaster promised it to us. 2C won the toss and took the first innings on a plumb wicket. The Headmaster's first bowler, Miss M. Durkin, bowled very well and took the first four wickets of the match, her analysis at the end being 5 for 7. 2C were rather disappointed in their captain, B. R. Harding, as he was bowled first ball for a duck. The vice-captain, however, soon made up for this with the well-deserved score of 14 and a bowling analysis of 3 for 4.

Miss Patricia Tucker scored an excellent 24, of which 20 were in boundaries; she was not out at the end. The Headmaster bowled well in his three overs, taking two wickets for four runs, but, unselfishly, he did not bat, putting himself last man in.

The match drew many spectators, including several masters, one of whom took photos. We were very grateful to G. Warner and P. Prescott for umpiring and we were very pleased that all the Headmaster's team were able to play.

Scores : 2C XI : 40 (J. Fowler, 14; J. Camp, 8; Miss Durkin, 5 for 7; Mrs. Folley, 3 for 14; Mr. Tucker, 2 for 4).

Headmaster's XI : 44 for 9 wkts. (Miss P. Tucker, 24 not out; J. Fowler, 3 for 4; G. Stewart, 2 for 13; J. Hill, 2 for 9).

Teams : 2C XI : J. Hill, J. Fowler, A. J. Merrel, B. R. Heading (capt.), A. Payne, J. Camp, G. Stewart, D. A. Walker, J. Vine, W. Prior and P. Bowen.

Headmaster's XI : Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Shand, Mrs. Nightingale, Mrs. Eldridge, Miss Toulson, Mrs. Scrubs, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Folley, Miss Durkin, Miss Tucker and Mr. E. R. Tucker (capt.).

G. STEWART and W. E. G. PRIOR, IIc.

A VISIT TO BEKONSCOT

Bekonscot is described by many people as the best model village in England. I, for one, agree with this. It started as a gentleman's hobby and when his friends suggested that he should let the public into the grounds and give the money to charity, he agreed, and Bekonscot was thrown open to the public. Of course, when it was first opened it was not nearly so big as it is now, but it has since grown.

It is difficult to describe Bekonscot because of the many things there are to see, but I will try, at least, to mention some of the most

interesting of them. On entering Bekonscot, one passes through a Zoo in which there are elephants, deer, camels, rhinos in a swamp and bears in a pit, as well as many other animals. In the Zoo grounds, there is even a notice requesting visitors not to feed the animals! On leaving the Zoo, one comes to a field in which a game of cricket is in progress. The score, according to the scoreboard, is 77 for 3, the last man getting 20. Past the cricket ground one goes over a railway bridge under which the Maryloo-Bekonscot-Green Hailey express runs. Continuing by the "Spider's Web" hotel and by a water-wheel, one comes to a stretch of four railway lines, running abreast. The lines lead to the junction and main station of Maryloo, from whence trains go in all directions. Before one gets to Maryloo, there is a number of houses and shops—the original Bekonscot. The names of the shops are rather strange here :—I. Slash and E. Dabsit—housepainters ; Nabbit and Shute—turf accountants ; and A. Boddy—butcher.

After Maryloo, one comes to a big fairground. Here are chair-planes, big dippers, flying bombs, roundabouts and so on, all really working. Past the fair is Northrow Airport. After the airport are more railway stations, a boy scout camp, a lake, a race-course and a game of polo.

I have only described a fraction of all the things at Bekonscot because, as I said before, there is far too much to describe in full. One thing, which I think makes Bekonscot outstanding, is the number of small-scale models—miniature trees, lamp-standards and even miniature drains. But any description must be imperfect, so let me end by reminding anyone interested that a visit is well worth while.

— J. BODDY, IVA.

THE SCHOOL ELECTION

My first encounter with politics came in the form of the first of many speeches given by one or other of the candidates campaigning in the School election. It was delivered from the air-raid shelter and the prospective "M.P." warmed up by talking about his manifesto. It should be pointed out that, whenever the opposing party was mentioned, a great cheer arose. Yet when the candidate's own party was mentioned, a storm of booing ensued. This worked him up into quite a pitch, but he and his followers were soon cooled by the ensuing rain. The first scene had ended, leaving me rather bewildered.

The events of the next few days proved very interesting, but when, amidst a shower of both rain and gym-shoes, one candidate denounced his audience as a "mob of cabbage-heads," I was puzzled—could this be the normal procedure? Surely the House of

Commons is a quiet and refined place of government and such a person could never be admitted? One candidate even strutted around like a fighting-cock, frequently bursting out in a torrent of long words, demanding absolute power for the monarch. This, and his use of the names of various detergents, was watched with a feeling of contempt and envy by the other candidates. I came to the conclusion that it was the candidate least heard who was the most popular. Again, I was puzzled. . . .

The great day drew near and party propaganda decorated most of the School notice-boards. At an Eve-of-Poll Rally, when the member of one party committee expressed his annoyance at the hecklers in the crowd, they quoted Orwell's "1984" in a universal chant of "Hate! Hate! Hate!" My impression was that physical fitness is the key-word to success in elections.

On the next day, I joined the queue to vote. I was given a slip of paper with the names of the candidates on it. I put my cross against the candidate of my choice and made my way out. I had received valuable training for my prospective role as a citizen of the free world . . . or had I . . . ?

P. L. WARREN, IVX.

THE ATTACK

It was a peaceful scene looking from the slopes of the hill. Away in the distance was the sea ; nearer at hand in a field at the bottom a few sheep moved slowly over the grass and a feather of smoke came from a farmhouse. But on the hillside itself was feverish activity—a platoon was preparing to resist the rapidly advancing enemy. Riflemen were camouflaging themselves ; the platoon sergeant was checking positions ; the Bren group were hurriedly digging a scrape for themselves behind a shallow fold. There was little time to make elaborate defences, for the enemy was moving up just behind the next hill : even now the shots of the two forward snipers could be heard. Soon they doubled back, dodging through the tussocks of grass and the defenders crouched lower, straining their eyes forward.

There was the first scout. Not realising how near he was, he carelessly crossed a gap in the lower hedge, bent low in the characteristic defensive crouch of the infantryman. Again he showed himself—a shot—he disappeared. The Bren gunner cautiously eased his position. A movement further along the hill : a section was moving up, obviously intending to give covering fire to the main body advancing under cover below. The all too exposed position of the defenders was felt even more acutely as the enemy was now seen to be looking down on them. The Bren opened up,

first single shots, then bursts. Flames leapt from the muzzle, fired cases bounced over the ground. The enemy replied and the platoon came under heavy fire, too heavy, seeing their exposed position. It was pointless holding on ; while they had thus been checking the enemy, the other platoon had been preparing a better line of defences some way back and were now ready to withstand a heavy attack. The officer gave the order and the platoon withdrew, the Bren leaving first under covering fire and then the remainder. They slipped through the gate behind their position and stumbled through the dried-up scrub into the open again, sheltered by a thick hedge. Soon they came upon the second platoon, who were in a far better place ; and here they changed over, for there was only one machine gun and the retiring platoon had no present need of it. The two gunners slipped thankfully into their present cover and made ready to receive the next attack.

The situation was now completely reversed, for the defenders were well hidden, while the enemy were without any well-covered line of approach and it was difficult for them to reach any good firing point. They did try but their only line of movement, along sketchy wire fences, was met with murderous fire. The Bren fired ceaselessly, empty magazines were feverishly replaced by full ; the barrel grew so hot it seared the trunk of the small tree against which it rested. Yet even this defence had to fall to the ruthless enemy advance and they were forced to retire right back to the enemy objective, another hill about a quarter of a mile to the rear.

Now there was to be no retreat, they were ordered to stand to the last man. Both platoons were set out on the lower slopes and behind the barbed wire fence at the foot of the hill. Once again the Bren was dug in, here in a shallow trench halfway up the steep gradient. Turves were cut and laid, grassy side outward, to camouflage the position. The weapon itself was brought up in parts and reassembled there to hide its position from any enemy scouts. Ammunition was distributed to the riflemen who were seizing the opportunity to have a bite to eat. They settled down to wait for the attack. Scouts were seen but were not fired on so as not to betray the position. Tension mounted as the anticipated time of assault drew near. The field and belt of trees to the front seemed peaceful enough but all were intent on trying to see the invisible enemy they held. A whistle blast. Heavy fire from a low bank on the far right. Covering fire all right, but where. . . . Yells and screams. Through the belt of trees charged figures firing determinedly, led by a gallant sergeant-major who, regardless of the fire, was turning to encourage his men. Over the fence. Through the dazed defenders. Still yelling. Up the slope. Last magazine nearly empty. Unscathed, the leader stumbled past the post. The gunner jumped with a roar and emptied the gun at him. It was the end. . . .

. . . of a very exciting exercise. We gathered up our equipment and the Bren, specially adapted to fire blanks, and jogged down to where friend and foe were forming up in their platoons, joking and recounting their tales. And so back to Dibgate Camp and a very welcome meal.

—————
A. J. MACTAVISH.

AN EXTRACT

from a conversation between Lance-Corporal D. M. Jago and Mr. A. N. Other

D. M. JAGO : . . . And then, of course, we have a large and flourishing C.C.F. contingent.

A. N. OTHER : Indeed? I myself have never had a very high opinion of school cadet forces.

D.M.J. : My dear sir, you have obviously never been privileged to serve in one. You would then have discovered its many great advantages.

A.N.O. : Such as?

D.M.J. : Well, to take only one example, when you do your National Service, you are automatically considered for a commission . . . or something.

A.N.O. : I don't suppose every boy wants a commission. Besides, the Army is notorious for its broken promises. Now I have a friend who has a friend who was in a cadet force, but when he was called up, they said——

D.M.J. (quickly, to forestall what was obviously going to be a long story) : Yes, of course, but that is not the only advantage. Take discipline. The contingent, so to speak, kills two birds with one stone : not only does it teach the younger boys to obey orders, it also teaches the older boys, when they are made N.C.O.'s, to take charge of squads and classes, to give orders, and, in short, to exercise that quality of commanding respect and keeping discipline which will stand them in such good stead in later life.

A.N.O. : But surely that discipline is to be found among the prefects?

D.M.J. : To a certain extent, yes. But then the stricter discipline of the Army is so much more effective and so much better for the boys. Moreover, the prefects only have to keep order ; they do not have to teach boys the basic principles of warfare that they will find so useful when they get into the Army.

A.N.O. : It seems I must give way on this point. No one can deny the worth of an institution which can instil a proper sense of discipline into the minds of its members. May I come over and see it in action one week?

D.M.J. (hastily) : Well, perhaps it would be better to leave it for a while. We—er—are just coping with a flood of new recruits at the moment. To see the contingent working really smoothly you should come . . . well . . . later on.

A.N.O. : I see. You mentioned something about the “ principles of warfare.” I suppose you, being in the country, can get the cadets out into the woods and fields around the School and so teach them such things as camouflage, attack and defence, and so on. I hear you have a rifle range. There they can practice their shooting to their hearts’ content. They must enjoy themselves ! I suppose you have frequent exercises ?

D.M.J. : Well, there are rather a lot of them for that, you know. We—er—usually prefer to keep them fairly near the School. Of course, we do teach them camouflage and attack and defence, but I’m afraid it has to be blackboard work mainly. Of course, they enjoy that just as much. You do get so hot and scratched, ploughing through the undergrowth. And then they all go shooting. I think I may say without fear of contradiction that every boy in the contingent shoots at least twice a year—at least, there may be a few who only get to the range once, but we are rather a large contingent.

A.N.O. : Don’t apologise for it. It is an eloquent testimony to the universal popularity of the cadet force. I suppose, though, there are a few boys who prefer not to do it ?

D.M.J. : Well, actually, it’s compulsory. You see, the School considers that the advantages to be gained from it are so great that all the boys should be able to benefit from them. Moreover, the School prefers a large contingent, believing that it is easier to handle. Besides, we might not know what to do with those who did not join during the time when the others are enjoying their training.

A.N.O. : These objections do not seem to me to be insuperable.

D.M.J. : Indeed ? They have always been found so.

A.N.O. : However, I suppose that so few boys are unwilling to join the contingent that the unfairness of making it compulsory is felt by very few ?

D.M.J. : Oh yes ! I may say that the Combined Cadet Force of the Royal Grammar School has attained such a degree of efficiency over the years and offers such an interesting and varied range of activities to its members that I doubt if there are a dozen boys in the School today who would leave if they were given the opportunity.

A.N.O. : Sir, may I offer the School, through you, my heartiest congratulations. My own son's school does not possess such an institution, but, after hearing what an excellent job yours does, I, as a governor, will advise the headmaster to start one on similar lines. . . .

LE QUATORZE JUILLET

This year, Speech Day was held on a very significant date. Significant, that is, for the French people, because July 14th is the French national holiday and it commemorated, this year, the 166th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille. Many English people, their minds clouded with memories of the Baroness Orczy and *A Tale of Two Cities*, tend to look upon the French Revolution as a rather bizarre blood-bath and they regard the storming of the Bastille as further confirmation of their belief. This article attempts to show that it was something more, that it marked a critical stage in the development of a real-life drama and that its story, with its complex undertones, is as interesting and as exciting as anything in the realm of fiction.

Imagine France in 1789. Over fifty years of maladministration had brought this prosperous country to the verge of bankruptcy. Propagandists, disciples of reform, flooded France with "solutions" of the country's ills, and if they achieved nothing positive, they inspired the more intelligent classes with a strong hatred of the existing system and an equally strong determination to change it. Louis XVI, Bourbon king of France, could only see one way out of his difficulties. Under pressure, he decided to summon the only representative body France possessed—a body which had not met since 1614—the States-General. This body opened its sessions on May 5th, 1789, and although it retained the mediaeval division of three Estates (clergy, nobility and lower classes), it quickly became the focal-point of hope for that majority of Frenchmen who desired reform. Its Third Estate actually defied the clergy and nobility and set themselves up as a National Assembly, with power to legislate for the whole of France. Their leader, Mirabeau, told the king's representatives, "Go and tell those who sent you that we are here by the will of the people, and that we cannot be moved hence save by force of bayonets!"

Now imagine Paris in this same, sultry summer of 1789. Five times larger than any other town in France, it was the centre of wealth and intellect and yet, at the same time, a home of squalid poverty. It was a city buzzing with new ideas, with a naive faith in the Third Estate and with not unfounded fears that Louis XVI would try and nip the revolution in the bud, by means of an armed

coup. For Louis was surrounded by reactionary nobles and he was henpecked by his Austrian wife, Marie Antoinette. All wanted to crush this dangerous reform movement before it got out of hand. Eventually, Louis was persuaded. He could not rely upon his French troops, as they were too sympathetic to the popular cause, but he had quite a few foreign mercenaries whom he hoped to use to overawe the National Assembly and to prevent an insurrection in Paris. Troops were stationed near where the Assembly met and Paris was surrounded by twenty regiments.

On July 11th, Louis opened his offensive. He dismissed Necker, the Swiss banker, and the only minister in whom the Third Estate had any faith. The trial of strength had come. Unfortunately, Paris was in a rebellious temper. The price of bread was alarmingly high, due to the poor harvest, and the poorer elements of the city, packed together in the teeming tenements of the East and South sides of Paris, had economic as well as political grievances. There was no lack of leaders to unite this mass of discontented humanity. One of the few enlightened nobles, the Duke of Orleans (who later styled himself "Philip Equality" and whom some suspected of designs upon the throne) had thrown open the grounds of his *Palais Royal* and they became the centre of revolutionary intrigue. The middle-class Parisians, too, who were privileged to elect the city's deputies to the States-General, had not disbanded. They continued to meet in the Town Hall and had ousted the royal nominees from control of the municipality.

News of Necker's dismissal reached Paris on Sunday, July 12th. In the afternoon, crowds in the *Palais Royal* heard Camille Desmoulins, an extremist journalist, calling upon them to arm themselves and defend Paris against an aristocratic conspiracy. The crowd broke up and started to look for what it needed to carry out Desmoulins' suggestion—guns and ammunition. They pillaged gunsmiths' shops and the bill presented by the gunsmiths to the Assembly after the whole affair was over amounted to over £9,000. Barricades were erected, presumably to prevent Royalist troops entering the city. Demonstrators clashed with the Prince of Lambesc's German cavalry in Louis XV Square and several were killed, but the commander of the Paris garrison, Besenval, realising that the city was in complete revolt, withdrew to the West side of the city, leaving the rebels in control.

On the Monday, the middle-class Electors mentioned above decided to take charge of affairs. Much damage had already been done to private property and the ever-increasing mob had to be restrained. They set up a Permanent Committee to govern the city and issued instructions for the formation of a militia, to defend the capital from the Royalists without and the rabble within. The

militia was supposed to exclude the poorer citizens from its membership and all irregulars were supposed to be disarmed. In the state of emergency, however, it is doubtful whether much was done to carry out the last proposal.

The crowds were still clamouring for weapons. At the Town Hall, a Committee member was casually doling out gunpowder, regardless of safety precautions! On Tuesday, July 14th, the *Invalides*, a kind of Chelsea Hospital, was invaded and 32,000 muskets were taken. By now, it was thought that Royalist forces must be marching on the capital. Danger-spots seemed to be the heights of Montmartre and the Bastille prison, from whence, it was thought, the authorities could cannonade the rebels. The Bastille also possessed a large arsenal of guns and powder, so the mob made for it in force.

De Launey, the governor, did not have a strong garrison, but the fortress itself was impregnable. At ten o'clock, De Launey told representatives of the Committee that he would not fire on the crowd. At twelve, the Committee called upon him to surrender, realising that if he did not the mob might take it into their heads to try and take the Bastille by storm. De Launey refused to surrender to civilians and when, at about half-past twelve, a section of the crowd got into the unguarded Outer Courtyard, he panicked at the thought of an attack and had them shot down.

There was no possible compromise now. As the angry mob surged forward, it became clear that the Bastille would either be taken by them or relieved by a Royalist force marching on Paris. De Launey's men fired on a third deputation from the Committee, thus ending their attempts at mediation. French Guardsmen, who were supposed to be loyal to the throne, brought up some cannon to help the mob and their N.C.O.'s led the assaults on the walls. De Launey threatened to blow up the fortress, but his panic-stricken garrison persuaded him to surrender. At about five o'clock, he did so.

The mob leaders had promised to spare him if he gave in, but they were unable to control their followers. De Launey was murdered; his head was cut off and stuck on a pike. A member of the Committee who had tried to restrain the mob met with a similar fate. The prisoners in the Bastille, all seven of them, were released and fêted. However, they were a disappointing crew to exhibit as victims of royal despotism and two had to be removed to a lunatic asylum. Paris on the night of the 14th expected attack from the troops stationed outside, as it had expected attack for the past three days. But no attack came.

As soon as Louis heard what had happened, his resolution failed him. He recalled Necker on the 15th. The same day, his brother led the first batch of reactionary nobles, who realised which

way the wind was blowing, over the eastern frontier. On the 17th, Louis entered his capital, forgave those who had defied his authority and became, once more, the idol of his people.

The importance of the fall of the Bastille is many-sided. If Louis' appeal to force had come off, there might have been no French Revolution. As it was, the first, and greatest, breach had been made in the royal power. Within two years, the Assembly had profoundly altered the religious, social and political bases of French society by means of their reforms, and within four years France was a Republic. The fall of the Bastille confirmed the power of the Electors of Paris and they and their successors jealously guarded their independence. July 14th became what it is to-day, a national holiday, and in 1790 it was the occasion of a joyful reunion of patriotic Frenchmen. But perhaps the most pointed comment on the whole affair comes from an anti-reform journalist, Rivarol, who so accurately predicted the outcome of the mob triumph of July 14th. "The time will come," he says, "and that time isn't very far away, when the National Assembly will say to the mob: 'You've saved us from despotism, but who's going to save us from you?'"

G. WARNER, VIM.

THE TRADER—A Science Fiction Story

The trader brought his little, sleek Star Cruiser down through the thin, dusty atmosphere of the planet Drannek, tiny world on the fringe of his race's interstellar empire. It was also on the edge of the sphere of space that was the star of the hated, hideous aliens, wherein lay its extreme importance. Drannek, in fact, was a neutral world, a world where, in spite of the hatred that lay between them, the two races met and traded, for each had many things the other coveted. The ship rolled gently to a stop on the red sands among the purple rocks of little Drannek. Checking his instruments, the trader found that he was several days early for his rendezvous with one of the monstrous aliens. He sighed, for this meant living on short rations for the next few days. Hesitantly, the trader opened the twin doors of the small airlock of the little Star Cruiser, not bothering with a cumbersome space-suit, as the thin atmosphere of Drannek was just near enough to the conditions of his home planet for him to be able to survive without one.

He stepped down on to the red, sandy soil, feeling, in spite of his attempt to remain cool and calm, rather excited, for this was his first trip as a trader. He was, he supposed, lucky to get such an important first assignment. The fear in his stomach, however, still

remained—fear of the repulsive, nauseating aliens. Bloodthirsty, callous, they had killed on sight when the two races had first met under the strange light of the double suns of the Sirius system. After that, there had been war—savage, bitter war—for generations. At last, however, the repugnant aliens had got slightly the better of things, and forced a treaty, highly favourable, naturally enough, to themselves. From then on, the two empires had lived side by side in peace, if not in actual friendship. Few of his race had ever seen one of the loathsome aliens. After the tales of the war-veterans, few, indeed, wished to, for the aliens were weird, almost beyond belief, fantastic figments of a distorted imagination. Hideous they were, and only an urgent need for a certain very rare element made the people of the trader's race able to submit to meeting these horrible, monstrous beings.

Before the next few days had passed, the trader was bored, cold, rather hungry and very scared. Above all else, he was scared, with a stomach-sickening fright that nearly made him return to his ship and blast off. Scared of the moment when the alien ship would drop gently through the skies and he would meet, for the first time, one of the terrifying aliens, he waited.

A peculiarly shaped, fantastic ship, worse even than he had imagined, dropped through the darkening sky a day later and slid gently to a stop only a short distance from where he was standing. They were spot-on navigators, he had to admit. Hating himself for his fright, yet unable to suppress it, he walked slowly towards the weird ship and stood waiting on the red sand.

“Just like the proud, haughty aliens to keep me waiting,” he thought illogically, after some minutes had elapsed, although he knew that the alien also had to check his instruments. In his indignation, however, he lost some of his great fear for which he was devoutly thankful. But when the airlock of the alien ship swung slowly open and the tall figure could be dimly seen in the darkness, his fear returned twofold. He fixed his eyes on the alien form and, as it stepped slowly through the lock, almost fell backwards in sheer shock. Disbelievingly, he looked again and the utter horror of the alien body made him feel even more afraid than he would have thought possible. As he stood there, his mind numb, the alien advanced slowly towards him and he almost fainted.

“It was true,” he thought, “the tales were horrible understatements!” He looked again at the monstrous form in front of him and shuddered anew. Pale-skinned it was, with firm flesh and only two arms and two legs, one head with hair on it and no yellow feathers on its body! “Mornin’,” said the alien to the trader. “Is anything the matter?” the man added politely.

P. KENNARD, VIM.

ARNISON HOUSE

The year 1954-55 has not been a very successful year for Arnison in the House activities. The Senior Rugby was lost to Fraser, although the House team, inspired by Devlin, managed to hold the strong Disraeli side to a draw. The Juniors did very well to win their tournament. The Cross-Country was the one activity in which Arnison was successful; the Seniors convincingly won their race, providing the individual winner in Rackstraw, who ran very well. As Arnison won the Colts Cross-Country also, there is every chance that the House will be successful in this competition for a few years to come.

In all House activities, there are those which may be won or lost due to the amount of "talent" available—such as the Rugby. But in the Boxing, and to a certain extent, the Music competitions, the honours may be won solely by force of numbers. The Boxing, in particular, showed up the reluctance of the greater part of Arnison House to pull their weight. At the moment, there is a definite lack of House spirit, which, if existing, would compel boys to enter into these competitions for the sake of their House. It has been proved that the House Boxing tournament can be won, even without a single winning finalist, and it is to be hoped that next year boys will be keener to enter for this competition. We were unable to win the Music competition, in spite of the work put in by Norrish. The choir and soloists performed creditably, but more compositions would have turned the contest in favour of Arnison—another instance of the lack of House spirit.

The Cricket competition was one thing Arnison had hopes of winning, providing the "professionals" came off. They did not and, needless to say, we lost to the better balanced Fraser side, for whom the opening bat from Derbyshire bowled his flighted leg-breaks to good effect.

It is to be hoped that, after reading this report, members of Arnison House will realise that House competitions may be, and often are, won by enthusiasm and not necessarily by "talent" alone. If boys bear this in mind, we can hope for a more successful House record next year.

————— F. E. J. HAWKINS.

DISRAELI HOUSE

Another School year has ended and it has been quite a successful one for Disraeli. We had the best Rugby team on paper, but owing to some fine play by Fraser, in particular, and an injury to Harvey, which necessitated a complete reshuffle of the three-quarters, we failed to win the competition. We managed to draw with Arnison,

beat Youens and lost to Fraser after a great struggle. The Colts won their competition. They beat Arnison in the first round and thrashed Fraser in the final. The Juniors performed creditably in beating Youens and losing to Arnison.

Our Cross-Country runners tried hard, but we were unfortunately placed last in the Senior competition. It is pleasing to note, however, that Disraeli have some extremely promising Junior runners, since they easily won their competition. The Colts did well to be placed second.

Although we did not manage to retain the Boxing trophy, we won four titles. The winners were : R. F. Quirke, P. D. Hares, R. E. Lamb and R. E. Lomas. Hobson once again worked hard with our musicians, but we were not quite successful.

Disraeli reached the final of the Cricket competition, in which we were defeated by Fraser after a rather astonishing batting collapse. Harvey captained the side well. Our athletes, I am glad to say, triumphed in the School Sports. This was mainly due to a grand entry, which shows the team spirit undoubtedly existing in Disraeli House.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing my successor the best of luck as Disraeli House captain.

B. K. JOHNSON.

FRASER HOUSE

Without a doubt, this has been a magnificent year for Fraser. At the beginning of the year, not even our most ardent supporters would have dared to suggest that we would win four out of the six House competitions. But we did, and we showed the School that House competitions are won by using the whole House and not by relying just on a few talented individuals.

The Rugby competition was our first success. Before the matches were played, we were definitely the favourites for the "wooden spoon." But, mainly due to great House spirit and fine hooking by our captain, Kelly, we won the competition and remained unbeaten throughout it.

Our next victory came in the Boxing competition. Although we had very few brilliant boxers, we had a very large entry and we won the competition with comparative ease. In the Cross-Country and the Sports, our Seniors were rather weak and we only managed to finish third. In the Sports, however, our Juniors did very well and this offers good hope for the future.

Mainly due to magnificent work by Baldwin and his choir, we won the Music shield for the fourth time in succession. Unfortunately, we shall be losing Baldwin at the end of this year, but we are hoping, nevertheless, that we shall be able to keep our magnificent run next year.

In the final competition of the School year, the Cricket, we again showed that House spirit means a lot in these House competitions. In the first match, we beat Arnison by 5 wickets, and in the final, we beat Disraeli by 25 runs. We won both these matches mainly because of our two spin bowlers, who were backed up by some magnificent fielding.

R. F. SAINSBURY.

ATHLETICS

Results

Group VI (Open, over 17)

100 Yards :	1 Gordon (Y), 2 Johnson (D), 3 Owen (Y).	11.2 sec.
220 Yards :	1 Gordon (Y), 2 Johnson (D), 3 Owen (Y).	
440 Yards :	1 Gordon (Y), 2 Johnson (D), 3 Clark (A).	53.5 sec.
880 Yards :	1 Gordon (Y), 2 Norrish (A), 3 Clark (A).	2 min. 13 sec.
1 Mile :	1 Norrish (A), 2 Greenwood (A), 3 Clark (A).	5 min. 7.7 sec.
Long Jump :	1 Johnson (D), 2 Gordon (Y), 3 Richardson (Y).	19 ft. 0½ in.
High Jump :	1 Johnson (D), 2 Bunday (F), 3 Chandrubeksa (—).	5 ft. 1¼ in.
Shot :	1 Hobson (D), 2 Johnson (D), 3 Gordon (Y).	37 ft. 9½ in.
Discus :	1 Owen (Y), 2 Johnson (D), 3 Hickey (Y).	
Javelin :	1 Lomas (D), 2 Lamb (D), 3 Johnson (D).	178 ft. 2½ in.
Cricket Ball :	1 Gosling (F), 2 Squires (A), 3 Johnson (D).	245 ft. 2 in.
Tug-of-War :	1 Youens, 2 Arnison, 3 Disraeli.	
Relay :	1 Disraeli, 2 Youens, 3 Arnison.	50 sec.

Group V (Under 17)

100 Yards :	1 Craft (A), 2 Bunday (F), 3 Richardson (Y).	11.1 sec.
220 Yards :	1 Craft (A), 2 Sullivan (A), 3 Richardson (Y).	25.1 sec.
440 Yards :	1 Craft (A), 2 Richardson (Y), 3 Bunday (F).	57.5 sec.
880 Yards :	1 Craft (A), 2 Dawes (F), 3 Richardson (Y).	
1 Mile :	1 Dawes (F), 2 Greenwood (A), 3 Craft (A).	5 min. 18 sec.
Long Jump :	1 Bunday (F), 2 Richardson (Y), 3 Gilder (F).	18 ft. 8½ in.
High Jump :	1 Chandrubeksa (—), 2 Bunday (F), Edwards (F).	4 ft. 11¼ in.
Shot :	1 Craft (A), 2 Hickey (Y), 3 Smithers (D).	33 ft. 5 in.
Discus :	1 Richardson (Y), 2 Hickey (Y), 3 Slade (Y).	124 ft. 4 in.
Javelin :	1 Austin (D), 2 Smithers (D), 3 Youens (D).	123 ft.
Relay :	1 Youens, 2 Arnison, 3 Fraser.	52.1 sec.

Group IV (under 15)

100 Yards :	1 Holloman (F), 2 Muller (Y), 3 Whatley (A).	11 sec.
220 Yards :	1 Holloman (F), 2 Muller (Y), 3 Hodkinson (F).	26.2 sec.
440 Yards :	1 Holloman (F), 2 Gilbertson (D), 3 Whatley (A).	60 sec.
880 Yards :	1 Slatter (A), 2 Gilbertson (D), Whatley (A).	
Long Jump :	1 Vincent (D), 2 Jarman (A), 3 Breslin (F).	13 ft. 4½ in.
High Jump :	1 Leslie (D), 2 Breslin (F), Johnson (A).	4 ft. 9 in.
Shot :	1 Jones, R. C. (Y), 2 Gilbertson (D), 3 Leader (A).	34 ft. 1 in.
Discus :	1 Gilbertson (D), 2 Jones, R. C. (Y), 3 Muller (Y).	76 ft.
Javelin :	1 Whatley (A), 2 Muller (Y), 3 Gilbertson (D).	124 ft. 3 in.
Relay :	1 Fraser, 2 Youens, 3 Arnison.	54.8 sec.

Group III (under 14)

100 Yards : 1 Pratley (D), 2 Holthorp (Y), 3 Currell (F). 11.6 sec.
220 Yards : 1 Pratley (D), 2 Holthorp (Y), 3 Sagar (D). 27 sec.
440 Yards : 1 Pratley (D), Currell (F), 3 Robson (F). 62.5 sec.
880 Yards : 1 Currell (F), 2 Tomes (D). 2 min. 41.5 sec.
Long Jump : 1 Sagar (D), 2 Holthorp (Y), Hudson (D). 15 ft. 7 in.
High Jump : 1 Robson (F), 2 Nicholls (D), 3 Holthorp (Y). 4 ft. 6 in.
Shot : 1 Holthorp (Y), 2 Nicholls (D), 3 Youds (D). 29 ft.
Relay : 1 Disraeli, 2 Fraser, 3 Arnison. 56.9 sec.

Group II (under 13)

100 Yards : 1 Smith, J. (F), 2 Douglas (D), 3 Hearn (A). 12.6 sec.
220 Yards : 1 Smith, J. (F), 2 Darvill (D), Douglas (D). 29.7 sec.
Long Jump : 1 Smith, J. (F), 2 Pallette (Y), 3 Douglas (D). 13 ft. 6½ in.
High Jump : 1 Yates (Y), 2 Gillett (A), 3 Simpson (D). 4 ft. 1 in.
Relay : 1 Disraeli, 2 Fraser, 3 Arnison. 59.4 sec.

Group I (under 12)

80 Yards : 1 Greenaway (A), 2 Perfect (D), 3 Stewart (A).
150 Yards : 1 Greenaway (A), 2 Perfect (D), 3 Stewart (A).
Long Jump : 1 Greenaway (A), 2 Bowman (Y), 3 Perfect (D). 12 ft. 11½ in.
High Jump : 1 Stewart (A), 2 Iremonger (Y), 3 Greenaway (A). 3 ft. 11 in.
Relay : 1, Disraeli, 2 Fraser, 3 Arnison. 63.5 sec.

The House Championship was won by Disraeli, with Youens a very close second. Fraser was third.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

Open :	A. J. Gordon	Runner-up,	B. K. Johnson.
Under 17 :	N. Craft.	Runners-up,	I. Bunday and J. H. Richardson.
Under 15 :	D. W. Holloman.	Runner-up,	G. Gilbertson.
Under 14 :	R. Pratley.	Runner-up,	P. J. Holthorp.
Under 13 :	J. O. Smith.	Runner-up,	M. Douglas.
Under 12 :	I. Greenaway.	Runners-up,	G. Stewart and A. Perfect.

DISTRICT SPORTS—31st May

Results were not so good as in previous years : indeed in the Under 13 and Under 15 competitions, Sagar recorded the only win, in the Discus event. However, in the Under 17 competition, the following boys gained first places :—

J. H. Richardson in the 100 Yards with a record time of 11.1 secs.

J. V. Sullivan in the 220 Yards.

N. Craft in the 880 Yards.

J. Greenwood in the 1 Mile.

D. J. Slade in the Discus.

G. Hickey in the Shot.

The Relay team, composed of Richardson, Craft, Sullivan and Chandrubeksa, also gained first place.

COUNTY SPORTS—18th June

Here the Senior boys, having had no competition at the District Sports, came into their own and almost swept the board. Gordon won the 100 Yards and 200, Johnson won the Long Jump and Hop, Step and Jump, and Hobson the weight-putting event. Neither of the other expected winners, Owen and Lomas, could put in a winning throw.

In the Junior boys' events, Holloman broke a six-years-old record by winning the 100 Yards in 10.7 secs. In the Intermediate boys' event, Bondey was first in the Hop, Step and Jump, with Richardson a close second. Craft won the 440 Yards, and Austin gained a new record with a Javelin throw of 162 ft.

ALL-ENGLAND SPORTS—Manchester, 15th-16th July

School representatives in the County Team were : Gordon, Johnson, Lomas, Craft, Owen, Holloman, Bunday, Richardson and Austin. Unfortunately our other performer, Hobson, was found to be just over age and was thus debarred from the competition. Gordon was very narrowly beaten in the 440 Yards and had to be content with second place in the very good time of 52.2 secs. Johnson came third in the Hop, Step and Jump with a distance of 42 ft. 5 ins., which was only 5 ins. less than the winner's achievement. Lomas gained fourth place in the Javelin. These performances helped the Bucks team to win the Minor Counties Trophy.

BOXING—30th March, 1955

The results in the House Championships were :—

Fraser	....	....	....	....	58 points
Arnison	....	....	....	....	48 points
Disraeli	....	....	....	....	47 points
Youens	....	....	....	....	29 points

The individual results were as follows, the winners being the first named in each bout :—

JUNIOR SCHOOL

<i>Bout</i>	<i>Weight</i>				
1	Leaf	F. J. Castellaro (F)	<i>v</i>	B. A. Torrens-Burton (F)	
2	Cigarette	C. C. Chadwick (A)	<i>v</i>	P. J. Larkin (F)	
3	Paper	B. A. Quirke (F)	<i>v</i>	A. C. Wood (D)	
4	Midge	R. F. Quirke (D)	<i>v</i>	A. W. Ralley (A)	
5	Gnat	R. King (A)	<i>v</i>	G. Stewart (A)	
6	Mosquito	P. J. Holthorp (Y)	<i>v</i>	B. J. Bull (Y)	

SENIOR SCHOOL

<i>Bout</i>	<i>Weight</i>			<i>v</i>		
7	Fly	W. F. Hodge	(F)	<i>v</i>	G. W. Ewins	(D)
8	Bantam	H. W. Clarke	(F)	<i>v</i>	J. N. Johnson	(A)
9	Feather	P. D. Hares	(D)	<i>v</i>	J. H. Pettifer	(A)
10	Light	T. J. Gilder	(F)	<i>v</i>	R. H. Ragg	(F)
11	Welter	R. W. Thorne	(F)	<i>v</i>	D. J. Piercey	(A)
12	Middle	R. E. Lamb	(D)	<i>v</i>	P. Chamberlain	(D)
13	Light-Heavy	A. J. C. Wright	(F)	<i>v</i>	D. J. Gittins	(Y)
14	Heavy	R. E. Lomas	(D)	<i>v</i>	A. J. Gordon	(Y)

CRICKET CLUB 1955

Captain : F. E. J. HAWKINS

Vice-Captain : A. HARVEY

Played 23, Won 13, Lost 6, Drawn 3, Abandoned 1

This season can be divided into three parts : the first month provided typical English cricket weather, cold and wet, with soft wickets and slow out-fields. During this period the team played 6, won 4, drew 1 and had 1 abandoned. The cricket was steady but not inspiring and the fielding was below standard. The second phase, the pre-exam period, produced 5 defeats in a row, due almost entirely to the failure of the middle batting and the injury to E. M. Squires, which reduced the School attack to M. J. P. Stevens, the one bowler who could be relied upon and a variety of leg-spinners, who were always unpredictable. But the third phase, played in glorious weather and on hard wickets, produced the most delightful cricket one could wish to see, with the School side right on top of the opponents. In this period the School played 11, won 9, lost 1 and drew 1.

Throughout the season the team was led in a most professional and competent way by F. E. J. Hawkins, who made an inexperienced side into a first-class school cricket team. He was ably supported on and off the field by A. Harvey, his Vice-Captain, and by his committee, R. F. Sainsbury and E. M. Squires. He handled his limited bowling strength with skill and his placing of the field was within the best traditions. A School side depends so much upon its Captain and this season F. E. J. Hawkins insisted upon and obtained a very high standard of play.

From the start of the season it has been obvious that a great deal depended upon the three experienced batsmen. Only once did all three fail to make a score and the side were all out for 47. The opening pair, Sainsbury and Harvey, did an excellent job throughout the season. They were a steady pair who could usually be relied

upon to take the sting from the opposing attack. Wright at No. 3, although not a pretty bat to watch, was a determined player and more than once got the side out of difficulty. The Captain, at No. 4, came into his own as a batsman. He scored fast all round the wicket and many a time changed the whole course of the game. Smithers and Edwards did their part and the rest of the side occasionally had an "on" day.

Stevens and Squires were a good opening pair of quick bowlers. As the wickets hardened and Squires' knee improved, the speed of the attack was well above usual school cricket standards. Stevens bowled intelligently and for long spells. Leg-spinners Briden and Wright met with varying success, according to the skill of the opposition. Smithers was called upon occasionally, and Harvey, with the memory of the 1954 Royal Masonic game fading into the past, had a few overs towards the end of the season.

The fielding improved rapidly and mention must be made of the slip-catching of Sainsbury and Gilder, the cover fielding by Harvey and, as usual, the wicket-keeping of the Captain. The records speak for themselves—Sainsbury caught 15, Gilder 5, Hawkins caught 12 and stumped 22.

The final cricket week was a fitting end to a very pleasant season. Some matches that stand out in the mind as the teams leave the field for the last time are the game against King's Norton, Birmingham, where Hawkins and Harvey put on 179 for the second wicket, Hawkins scoring his maiden century in 94 minutes and Harvey making his highest score, 84 not out, in 200 minutes. The School declaring at 236 for 3 and removing the opposition for 75. The game against the Bucks Colts Trial XI, when we won by one wicket for 4 minutes to go. In this game Squires broke the back of a formidable batting side, Stevens bowled 18 overs and took 5 for 53, and the Captain, speaking without notes this time, dropped a fairly solid brick at tea and almost came to regretting it. The game against the full Halton Apprentices 1st XI was won by 5 wickets, with one ball to go. Here Sainsbury and Smithers carried us to a fine victory, after Briden had bowled well to take 6 for 31.

Perhaps the most depressing part during the season was the time for farewell. First to Mr. Howard, who has umpired so magnificently for five years. The presentation of a silver cigarette box from Old Boys and present members of the School XI's was made during the game against Wycombe "A." The Captain, in a very pleasant maiden speech, expressed the appreciation of us all. Mr. Howard, replied with his usual wit and his best joke, if not appreciated by some fair members at the tea table, was well understood by the cricketing fraternity. F. E. J. Hawkins, who has played for four seasons with the XI, leaves us, all being well, for

Birmingham University, to continue his games successes in the P.T. degree course. R. F. Sainsbury is off to Jesus, Cambridge, and M. J. P. Stevens to the Forces. They all have served School cricket well and we wish them luck in the future.

Our thanks again to Mr. Hills for his umpiring and transport, on Wednesdays, to Mrs. Freeman and Staff for teas, to Mr. Beeson for his good wickets, and to P. Draper, our scorer, who leaves us with our best wishes for his noble work for the past six years.

H.W.J.

Colours were awarded to : M. J. P. Stevens, J. C. Briden, A. J. C. Wright, J. Smithers.

FIRST XI RESULTS

- May 7—*v* High Wycombe "A" XI, at home. R.G.S. won by 7 wkts.
Wycombe "A" XI 68 runs all out.
R.G.S. 69 for 3 wkts.
- .. 11—*v* Amersham Grammar School, at home. R.G.S. won by 60 runs.
R.G.S. 150 for 6 wkts. dec. (F. E. J. Hawkins 54, R. F. Sainsbury 39).
Amersham 90 all out (Briden 5 wkts. for 15 runs).
- .. 14—*v* Abingdon School, at home. Match abandoned.
R.G.S. 101 for 7 wkts. dec. (A. Harvey 67 not out).
Abingdon 65 for 4 wkts. Hail stopped play.
- .. 21—*v* Windsor County Boys' School, away. R.G.S. won by 35 runs.
R.G.S. 70 all out (R. Sainsbury 30).
Windsor 35 all out (Briden 5 for 11, Smithers, J., 4 for 19).
- .. 25—*v* Slough Grammar School, at home. Match drawn.
R.G.S. 118 for 8 wkts. dec. (F. E. J. Hawkins 30).
Slough 55 for 3 wkts.
- June 1—*v* Sir William Borlase School, Marlow, at home. R.G.S. won by 42 runs.
R.G.S. 129 for 9 wkts. dec. (Wright, A. J. C., 39 not out).
Marlow 87 all out (Stevens, M., 5 for 23).
- .. 4—*v* Reading School, at home. R.G.S. lost by 6 wkts.
R.G.S. 47 all out.
Reading 50 for 4 wkts. (Briden 4 for 20).
- .. 8—*v* Culham College, at home. R.G.S. lost by 33 runs.
Culham 117 all out (F. E. Beeson, Esq., 4 for 16).
R.G.S. 84 all out.
- .. 11—*v* Royal Masonic School, Bushey, away. R.G.S. lost by 13 runs.
Royal Masonic 131 for 9 wkts. dec. (Briden, J. C., 5 for 39).
R.G.S. 118 all out (F. E. J. Hawkins 53, A. Harvey 31).
- .. 15—*v* R.A.F., Medmenham, away. R.G.S. lost by 6 wkts.
R.G.S. 54 all out.
R.A.F. 55 for 4 wkts.
- .. 18—*v* Watford Grammar School, away. Match drawn.
R.G.S. 125 all out (A. Harvey 77).
Watford 121 for 7 wkts.

- June 25—*v* St. Benedict's School, Ealing, at home. R.G.S. lost by 4 wkts.
R.G.S. 137 for 8 wkts. dec. (R. F. Sainsbury 32, Edwards, A., 37 not out).
St. Benedict's 138 for 6 wkts.
- .. 29—*v* Culham College, away. R.G.S. won by 49 runs.
R.G.S. 152 for 6 wkts. dec. (D. T. Nightingale, Esq., 69, F. E. J.
Hawkins 32).
Culham 103 all out (D. J. Barnes, Esq., 4 for 13).
- July 2—*v* St. Bartholomew's School, Newbury, at home. Match drawn.
R.G.S. 148 for 5 wkts. dec. (R. F. Sainsbury 42 not out, F. E. J. Hawkins
64).
Newbury 123 for 4 wkts.
- .. 6—*v* Bishopshalt School, Uxbridge, at home. R.G.S. won by 86 runs.
R.G.S. 155 for 8 wkts. dec. (F. E. J. Hawkins 32, Wright, A. J. C., 30,
R. F. Sainsbury 30).
Bishopshalt 60 all out (E. M. Squires 7 for 25).
- .. 9—*v* Harrow County School, at home. R.G.S. won by 6 wkts.
Harrow County 76 all out (M. J. P. Stevens 3 for 10, Wright, A. J. C.,
3 for 15).
R.G.S. 77 for 4 wkts. (F. E. J. Hawkins 43).
- .. 13—*v* Dunstable Grammar School, away. R.G.S. won by 8 wkts.
Dunstable 64 all out (E. M. Squires 4 for 12, Wright, A. J. C., 3 for 14).
R.G.S. 66 for 2 wkts.
- .. 15—*v* King's Norton School, Birmingham, at home. R.G.S. won by 160 runs.
R.G.S. 236 for 6 wkts. dec. (F. E. J. Hawkins 103, A. Harvey 84 not out).
Kings' Norton 76 all out (M. J. P. Stevens 6 for 27).
- .. 16—*v* High Wycombe "A" XI, at home. R.G.S. won by 54 runs.
R.G.S. 165 for 6 wkts. dec. (F. E. J. Hawkins 60, A. Harvey 56).
Wycombe "A" 111 all out (M. J. P. Stevens 4 for 33, E. M. Squires
3 for 23).
- .. 18—*v* Bucks Colts Trial XI, at home. R.G.S. won by 1 wkt.
Bucks Colts 105 all out (M. J. P. Stevens 5 for 33, E. M. Squires 3 for 40).
R.G.S. 107 for 9 wkts.
- .. 19—*v* W/Cdr. Edwards' XI, at home. R.G.S. lost by 8 wkts.
R.G.S. 122 all out.
W/Cdr. Edwards' XI 123 for 2 wkts.
- .. 20—R.A.F., Halton (App.) 1st XI, at home. R.G.S. won by 5 wkts.
R.A.F. Halton 110 all out (J. C. Briden 6 for 31).
R.G.S. 111 for 5 wkts. (R. F. Sainsbury 40 not out, Smithers, J., 33
not out).
- .. 21—*v* Mr. Johnson's XI, at home. R.G.S. won by 6 wkts.
Mr. Johnson's XI 168 for 7 wkts. dec. (E. M. Squires 4 for 36).
R.G.S. 169 for 4 wkts. (F. E. J. Hawkins 88).

FIRST XI AVERAGES

Batting (Qualification 75 runs)

Name	Runs	Innings	Times		Highest Score	Average
			Not Out			
F. Hawkins	711	23	1		103	32.3
A. Harvey	500	23	4		84*	26.3
R. Sainsbury	407	22	2		42*	20.3
A. Wright	259	22	3		39*	13.6
Edwards, A.	164	20	6		37*	11.7
M. Stevens	76	13	5		14*	9.5
J. Smithers	151	19	1		33*	8.3

*—not out.

Bowling (Qualification 10 wkts.)

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
M. Stevens	... .. 224.1	70	468	48	9.7
E. Squires	... .. 120.2	24	287	27	10.6
J. Briden	... .. 193.3	31	595	51	11.6
J. Smithers	... .. 57.2	18	122	10	12.2
A. Wright	... .. 64.4	10	250	17	14.7

Stumpings : F. Hawkins 22.

Catches : R. Sainsbury 15, F. Hawkins 12, J. Briden 10, A. Harvey 8, J. Smithers 7, A. Wright 6, Gilder, T., 5, M. Stevens 5, Edwards, A., 4, Austin, R., 3, Whitehead, A., 2, E. Squires 1, Bone 1.

SECOND XI

Played 13, Won 5, Drawn 4, Lost 4

The 2nd XI this year has performed somewhat after the manner of the weather : moderate to depressing at the beginning of the season, bright and even carefree at the end.

But on balance it has been a much better performance than might have been expected, seeing that only one member of the last year's team remained with us. This has been the result of the real enthusiasm shown by those who played, an enthusiasm shared by the one or two who came to nets regularly, but never quite held a regular place in the team.

Jones and Dawe settled down to an admirable opening pair, quick to take advantage of the loose ball. Hares never quite "came off," but showed us that he is potentially a good bat, while Whitehead always kept the fielders alert and was a great help to the team until removed to a higher sphere. Bates and the more scientific Todd hit the ball hard, as did the cultured colt, Bone. Another colt, Saunders, played steadily in the responsible position of No. 3 and gained valuable experience.

Of the bowlers, Kelly has always looked dangerous and potentially the best of them, while Tilbury has toiled away and has deserved his wickets. Bates, too, has had success, on his less erratic days. They have been supported by Hares and Reeves.

But the most improved feature of the team's play has been its fielding. This has become good, even brilliant at times, with Glenister and Jones outstanding. Thanks are due to Mr. Barnes for his lunch-time help, and to Dawe, the Captain, who has proved an enthusiastic and capable Captain, as well as a much improved bat.

The success came to a fitting close with a most enjoyable and exciting match with King's Norton Grammar School, Birmingham, lost by one wicket because of the only no-ball given by the umpire this season.

J.G.L.

Colours were awarded to : Dawe, R.,* Griffiths, D. J.,* Kelly, J. S., Jones, R. F., Whitehead, A. H., Tilbury, J. A., Bates, G. E., Hares, P. D.

* *Old Colours.*

The following also played : Todd, Kennard, Gilder, T. J., Reeves, Sullivan, Dawes, Hickey, Murphy, Austin, Youens.

SECOND XI AVERAGES

Batting					
Name	Runs	Innings	Times Not Out	Highest Score	Average
Whitehead, A. H.	173	10	2	46	21.6
Bone	77	5	1	41*	19.25
Jones, R. F.	129	11	0	27	11.7
Hares	111	11	0	31	10.1
Glenister	67	9	2	19	9.6
Todd	38	6	2	19*	9.5
Saunders	26	3	0	13	8.7
Dawe, R.	110	13	0	23	8.5
Small	25	4	1	21*	8.3
Reeves	66	11	1	26	6.6
Bates	38	7	0	19	5.4
Tilbury	33	10	0	11	3.3
Sullivan	13	4	0	11	3.25
Kelly	6	7	2	3	1.2

Bowling					
Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Kelly	99.4	46	164	30	5.46
Bates	38	16	77	8	9.6
Dean	46.3	23	70	10	7.0
Tilbury	82	40	145	20	7.25
Hares	24.2	14	63	8	7.9

Catches : Dawe, R., 5, Glenister 5, Tilbury 4, Jones 4, Dean 3, Whitehead 2, Hares 2, Kelly 2, Bone 2, Reeves 1, Bates 1, Saunders 1.

COLTS' XI

Played 8, Won 7, Lost 1

At the beginning of the term the Colts' XI looked a promising side and they lived up to expectations by winning seven matches and losing only one.

For the first four matches Bone ably captained the side until he was selected for the 1st XI. Pettifer took over and proved an excellent skipper.

The fielding gradually improved until the end of the season, their performance was reasonably creditable and few runs were gained by opponents because of slackness in the field. Thorne kept wicket well and missed very few chances.

Whether on hard or soft wickets, Pettifer bowled extremely well throughout the season and always kept an immaculate length which, combined with his medium-slow off spinners, gained many wickets. He was well supported by the other bowlers, Bratchel, Jones and the two late-comers, White and Blockland.

During the first few games the batting lacked spirit, but this showed improvement until every loose ball received was well dealt with, or at least an effort made to deal with it. Cruikshank showed us how the strokes should be played. Next year when he has more strength he should get a lot of runs. Saunders had one or two good innings and always looked as though he was set to score. The rest of the side batted quite well but lacked finesse, a cross-bat or a front foot nowhere near the ball usually causing their downfall.

Colts Colours have been awarded to : Saunders, Jones, Cruikshank, Collett, Thorne, Breslin, Bratchel.

D.T.N.

JUNIOR COLTS

Played 9, Won 4, Lost 5

This year's team was probably a better side than the figures indicate. Nevertheless, the season was rather disappointing. The reasons are not hard to find. In the first place there was only one batsman in the side who was prepared to apply in matches the lessons learnt in the nets ; he improved steadily throughout the season. The others, though capable of making plenty of good strokes, when they reached the crease in a match, returned to all their old bad habits and ham-fisted methods, forgetting all about stance, grip, straight bat, etc. The fact that they continued to make such small scores made no difference. Young boys learning to play cricket must realise that there are certain precepts of batting which cannot be ignored if they are to progress, otherwise one is simply wasting time.

Another reason for lack of success was that it was comparatively late in the season that Currell emerged as a really useful opening bowler, and only in the last two matches that White came in as his most able partner.

The fielding was patchy. Some of it was downright bad, but it improved greatly in the end and two or three catches remain in the memory as some of the best I have seen in this class of cricket.

F.S.E.

Team chosen from : Simpson, C. (captain), Horley, Currell, Munro, Cox, Puddephatt, Punton, Dronfield, Dawes, White, B., Perfect, Wrench, Simpson, J.

JUNIOR COLTS AVERAGES

			Batting				
<i>Name</i>			<i>Runs</i>	<i>Innings</i>	<i>Times Not Out</i>	<i>Highest Score</i>	<i>Average</i>
Dronfield	...	...	49	5	2	19	16.3
Simpson, C.	...	...	90	9	0	29	10
Perfect	...	...	24	4	1	10*	8
Punton	...	...	64	9	0	27	7.1
Dawes	...	...	27	4	0	19	7
Puddephatt	...	...	50	9	0	16	5.6
Cox	...	...	38	8	0	11	4.7
Munro	...	...	38	9	0	11	3.6
Horley	...	...	26	8	0	12	3.3

			Bowling				
<i>Name</i>			<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
White	...	...	17	6	34	10	3.4
Currell	...	...	50.1	20	74	10	4.6
Munro	...	...	41.1	20	65	7	9.3
Cox	...	...	23	4	86	4	21.5

Catches : Currell 4, Puddephatt 4, Horley 3, Simpson, C., 2, Dronfield 2, Munro 2, Perfect 1, Cox 1.

TENNIS REPORT

Captain : B. K. JOHNSON

Vice-Captain : G. D. B. JONES

This has been another season of tremendous keenness and remarkable progress in the development of the standard of tennis in the School has been made. Many years of hard work lie ahead before we have a team of six boys of good standard and it is up to the youngsters in the School to put in the necessary practice so that the professional coaching, which should start again next year, may be utilised to the full.

The team this year showed its usual lack of balance—a good first pair, a satisfactory second pair and a keen, but rather weak, third pair. They play King's College School, Wimbledon, in the first round of the Public Schools' Youll Cup this year and they have our best wishes. K.C.S. are former holders! The School tournaments tried the capacity of our two courts to the full (fifty pairs entered for the handicap doubles) and all matches were keenly contested.

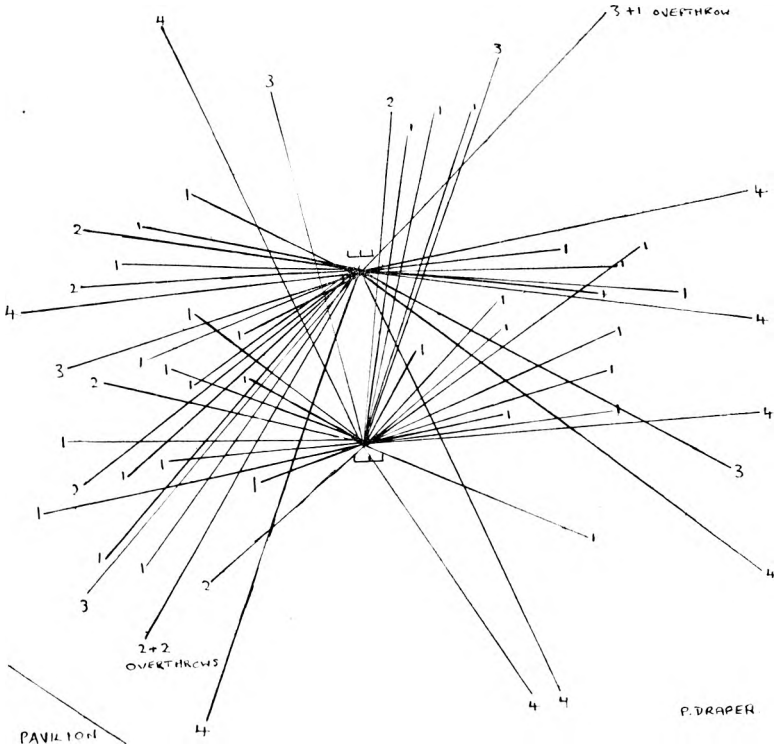
Results : Open Singles : B. K. Johnson beat G. D. B. Jones 6—1,
6—1.

Handicap Doubles : Johnson and Jones beat Gordon and
Sainsbury 6—3, 6 2.

Under 16 Open Singles : Bone beat Sim 7—5, 6—3.

Colours have been awarded to : Gordon, Simmons, Rear and
Barwell.

M.M.D.



F. E. J. HAWKINS—103 runs v King's Norton Grammar School, Birmingham

OLD BOYS' SECTION

(Compiled by MR. P. L. JONES)

Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. was held in the Art Room at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19th, 1955, with the President, Mr. E. R. Tucker, in the chair. Thirty-five Old Boys were present. Mr. Tucker said that only a few points had to be settled about the exact position of the Memorial Pavilion before work could start on the actual construction. The Bucks County Council had promised to give anything up to £1,000 towards the £3,000 estimated to be the total cost. It was decided that the Committee should consider more fully the possibility of the Annual Supper becoming more popular and better attended. It was also resolved that the subscription to the Club should remain the same for the time being. D. G. Hyde took the place on the Committee of H. H. Lee, who has left the district for Woking, and the Committee were empowered to co-opt the extra member.

At a Committee meeting held on April 25th, 1955, J. P. Lord was appointed Chairman of the Committee, and R. W. Bartlett and S. E. Hands to the *ad hoc* Committee, to deal with the building of the Memorial Pavilion.

Statement of Accounts for 1954

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank, 31/12/54 ...	95	3	2	Dinner	72	0	0
Cash in Savings Bank ...	425	14	9	Stamps, etc.	13	1	3
Subscriptions :				Magazines	60	9	0
46 at 5/-	11	10	0	Freer & Hayter	16	4	9
3 at 10/-	1	10	0	Electrical Installations	1	10	0
16 at £3/3/0	50	8	0	Cheque Book	4	0	
48 Bankers' Orders at 5/-	12	0	0	Cash at Bank, 31/12/54 ...	108	16	2
Dinner (169 at 10/-) ...	84	10	0	Cash at Savings Bank ...	436	9	4
Supper, 47 (5/-), less £5/18/6 expenses ...	5	16	6				
3½% War Loan (£325) Interest	11	7	6				
Savings Bank Interest ...	10	14	7				
	£708	14	6		£708	14	6

Officers for 1955-56

President : E. R. Tucker, Esq.

Chairman : J. P. Lord, Esq.

Vice-Presidents : G. W. Arnison, Esq., W. J. Bartle, Esq.,
Rev. A. M. Berry, H. G. Brand, Esq., P. C. Raffety, Esq., Col.
L. L. C. Reynolds.

Committee : Messrs. L. B. Barnes (1924-30), A. G. Duckering
(1941-47), H. C. Hickman (1939-46), J. K. Prior (1934-40), R. W.
Bartlett (1900-07), J. Read (1942-50), G. C. Rayner (1937-44),
N. H. Theed (1912-14), D. G. Hyde (1948-51).

Hon. Sec. : P. L. Jones, Esq.

Asst. Hon. Sec. : H. W. Johnson, Esq.

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

Annual Dinner

In spite of many not being able to attend at the last minute, 144 O.B.'s turned up for the Annual Dinner, which was held, once more, in the School Hall on Saturday, March 19th, 1955. The President of the Club (Mr. E. R. Tucker) took the chair, supported at the top table by Mr. Arnison, Mr. Bartle, the Rev. A. M. Berry, Governors of the School and senior O.B.'s. Mr. Brand and Mr. Grant could not attend, owing to illness.

The Guest of Honour was P. C. Raffety, Esq., J.P. (1888-93), Chairman of the Governors. In proposing his toast, the Headmaster read extracts from an old log book which showed that boys of the "gay 90's" behaved very much as they do today and their present eminence did not mean that they had never "cut" school or neglected their homework. Mr. Raffety in his reply asked O.B.'s not only to be proud of the progress of their Old School, but to proclaim, far and wide, its importance and influence. "School and Club" was proposed by Mr. M. M. Davies, who compared the characteristics of the School and its O.B.'s with the stature and personality of its respective headmasters present: Mr. Arnison, Headmaster up to 1933, and Mr. Tucker, to the present time. D. T. Nightingale (1940-46), in reply, asked for the support of the O.B.'s to keep up the name and maintain the reputation of the Old Wycombiensians Rugby Club, now unfortunately known as the Wycombiensians Rugby Club.

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

Births

B. GLENISTER (1931-37). On July 22nd, 1955, at Beaconsfield, to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Glenister, a second son.

T. F. RAYNER (1934-39). On May 18th, 1955, at Cliveden, to Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Rayner, a third son.

G. E. ROLFE (1919-22). On April 13th, 1955, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. George Rolfe, a son.

J. F. STANNERS (1933-40). On April 24th, 1955, at Morden, to Mr. and Mrs. John Stanners, a son.

Marriages

BIRD—LILLEY. On September 11th, 1954, M. A. Bird (1946-51) to Miss Elizabeth Diana Lilley.

FREDERICKS—KNOWLES. On March 26th, 1955, at High Wycombe, R. J. Fredericks (1939-45) to Miss Delia Knowles.

GRACE—SALTER. On March 19th, 1955, at High Wycombe, B. W. Grace (1936-43) to Miss Nancy Salter.

HARRIS—ALLISTON. On May 8th, 1955, at Sudbury, M. J. Harris (1942-47) to Miss Julie Alliston.

HICKMAN—FITCHETT. On April 9th, 1955, at Hayes, H. C. Hickman (1939-46) to Miss Margery Fitchett.

LEADBITTER—WRIGHT. On June 4th, 1955, at Little Marlow, A. C. F. Leadbitter (1938-43) to Miss Patricia Wright.

LIDGLEY—WEEKS. On April 16th, at Princes Risborough, P. G. Lidgley (1934-39) to Miss Pamela Weeks.

LITCHFIELD—NORTHAM. On March 26th, at Monks Risborough, A. P. Litchfield (1942-47) to Miss Elizabeth Northam.

MEARS—HAYWARD. On September 25th, 1954, at Southampton, B. J. Mears (1942-47) to Miss Phyllis Hayward.

RIPPINGTON—EDGINGTON. On July 2nd, 1955, at Amersham, R. J. Rippington (1937-42) to Miss June Edgington.

WICKENS—POTTER. On June 11th, 1955, at West Wycombe, D. J. Wickens (1935-43) to Miss Phyllis Potter.

Deaths

J. A. BARNICOTT (1944-51). On May 31st, 1955, at his home in High Wycombe, John Arthur Barnicott, aged 20.

J. A. Barnicott took an active part in all School activities. While in the C.C.F. he passed both parts of Certificate A and was a prominent member of the band. The School operas made a special appeal to him and he was indispensable to the members of the staff

concerned with their production. Of a quiet and willing disposition, he was popular with all. When he left he became identified with All Saints' Youth Club and was a deputy leader for two years. As a recognition of his services he was elected Alderman. All who knew him at School and the members of the Old Wycombiensians' Club wish to express their sympathy with his parents on his untimely death.

A. J. DEXTER (1897-1900). On June 14th, 1955, at his home in Hazlemere, Alfred John Dexter, aged 72 years.

N. W. JOHNS (1917-19). On July 23rd, 1955, at High Wycombe Hospital, Norman Walter Johns, aged 50 years.

Johns succeeded to the High Wycombe bakery founded by his father after an apprenticeship at the London Polytechnic. He was keenly interested in all sports and gave freely but unostentatiously to the poor and sick and aged in the locality and to the disabled patients at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. He was a member of the Worshipful Company of Master Bakers, a guarantor of High Wycombe Old People's Dinner, and a founder member of the Old Wycombiensians Lodge of Freemasons.

W. E. WILLIS (1940-45). On July 15th, 1955, at Hong Kong, killed in a crash while piloting a Vampire jet plane, Walter Edward Willis, aged 25.

Willis, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Willis, went to Halton as an apprentice in August, 1945. He was so keen that he qualified as a fitter in 1948, spent his leave and week-ends flying at Denham Aero Club and was selected for flying duties. In October, 1950, he obtained his wings as Pilot Officer and trained for jets. He was posted to No. 1 Squadron and was soon a Flying Officer and a member of the Aerobatics Team. After two and a half years at Tangmere he went to Hong Kong and gave brilliant displays of aerobatics to large and distinguished crowds. He became leader of the Far East Aerobatics Team and was mentioned by senior R.A.F. officers and by the Press for his daring and brilliance, and was promoted to Flight Lieutenant with a permanent commission.

The School wishes to express sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Willis in their tragic loss.

OLD BOYS' NOTES AND NEWS

H. ACKROYD (1942-45) told Tony Duckering, who relieved him of 5/-, to join the Club, that he now was a married man and lived at 307 Uxbridge Road, W.3. He manufactures car mats and upholstery on the managerial side. He plays for the Wasps and enjoys his games against the Old Boys.

P. G. BADCOCK (1945-51), now that he has completed his National Service, hopes to become an Incorporated Accountant, and hopes his School Certificate will get him exemption from the preliminary examination.

B. D. BATCHELOR (1950-54) is at present in Canada as an R.A.F. Pilot Officer, training under the scheme drawn up by the member-nations of N.A.T.O. and with him are lads from Denmark, France, Holland, Turkey and Portugal. He received his flying training on a Harvard aircraft, graduated top of the course and was awarded the Scroll of Honour. He is now at Portage-la-Prairie, Manitoba, training in Silver Star jets and hopes to get his wings in about 12 weeks' time.

M. A. BIRD (1946-51) is still busy on the tsetse-fly and when he wrote, was rushing around organising and preparing for a visit from the Governor. When he comes home, he intends to take an examination in Public Health and Hygiene. In spite of his two letters, Bird forgot to mention where he was married. He has prepared some slides for the Biology Department, but they seem to have got lost in transit from Nigeria to High Wycombe.

G. D. BURCH (1911-15). As usual, Burch was among the winners at the National Rose Society Show at Westminster—the Nicholson Cup for twelve specimen blooms in the unaided amateurs' classes. In a letter to Mr. Arnison, he shows that his horticultural activities are nearly a full-time occupation. He is a judge for the Rutland Scheme for gardens and for the High Wycombe Housing Estate. For the N.R.S. he judges in Leeds, Colchester, Bristol, Hitchin, Windsor, London and the *Evening News* Show. He has been appointed Chairman for three years of the N.R.S. Exhibitions Committee, responsible for London and provincial shows, and is also Chairman of the New Seedling Panel.

L. CUBBAGE (1927-32) is a director in his father's firm known as Crown Works. They have opened a new factory on the Cressex industrial estate. They will now be able to cope more adequately with bigger steel structural jobs and recently captured an important contract for timber drying kilns for Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

R. H. DANCER (1917-23), after being Vice-Chairman, was appointed the new Chairman of the Wycombe Rural District Council and was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace at Wycombe County Magistrates' Court.

J. L. FELLOWS (1946-54) has been commissioned from the Eaton Hall Officer Cadet School into the Royal Hampshire Regiment.

W. O. HAINES (1913-19), President of the High Wycombe Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, was appointed to represent the London North-west District at the Methodist Conference in Manchester on July 4th, 1955.

F. HALLASEY (1913-18) read the April issue of the magazine with dismay at the death of E. J. Read and learnt for the first time of the proposed School War Memorial, towards which he has promised a donation. His interests in Canada are building up so much that he has better hopes of visiting the School this year. He saw pictures of the O.B.'s dinner in the *Free Press* and thought that Mr. Arnison looked as young as ever.

L. W. HATCHETT (1946-51) was successful in the City and Guilds Motor Vehicle and Mechanics Examination and is working hard for the Technicians' Exam.

M. C. HICKMAN (1939-46) for the first time in his life is living in a flat at Hayes until his permanent home in Guildford is ready—in a couple of months, he hopes.

A. E. FRANKLIN-HOLE (1925-31) has been appointed one of the directors of Messrs. Davenport, Vernon and Co., High Wycombe.

A. LEESER (1939-47) could not attend the O.B.'s dinner because he was preparing for his marriage to Miss Mary W. Piper. He struggles with the bassoon as relaxation and was very pleased to play in the School Opera. Sergeant-Major Clifford works with him on Ford's Blotting Paper Staff, while his cousin, H. A. B. LEESER (1939-45) is an assistant manager at a Marks and Spencer's store.

A. P. MALEIN (1950-54) and T. R. MALEIN (1948-54) are undergoing a course of six to nine months at T. F. Firth Ltd., Heckmondwicke, Yorkshire, one of the leading textile and carpet manufacturers in the country. They are studying the designing and weaving of textiles for the furniture trade and, according to their father, are enjoying the course very much.

J. P. MARTIN (1938-43) has left the "Isles of June" and is now with Barclay's Bank at Belize, British Honduras. The change is very considerable: from small islands to the mainland; from blue seas to muddy rivers and to big commodity exports such as lumber and chicle. There seems to be no happy medium in Honduras. The lumbermen want it dry to haul the wood from the forest, while the chicleros want it wet for the sap and the Martin family want just water, and buy 2,000 gallons for about £6, with no hopes of a good wallow in a bath.

B. J. MEARS (1942-47) was unable to attend the reunion because he had just returned from a few months' stay in the West Indies.

G. PYE (1942-47) writes to say that he has a shop and printing works at Windsor and will be very willing to help the School with any printing difficulties.

E. L. RIPLEY (1930-36) has been awarded the O.B.E. for his outstanding findings and work connected with the "Comet" crash, and there was an interesting article about the case in the June issue of *Readers' Digest*. Ripley is just back from America and has promised to send a brief account of his recent activities.

C. W. SHAW (1936-42) has been elected as an Independent member of the Wrekin Division of the Shropshire County Council.

D. STEVENS (1933-40) has been invited to Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., as a visiting Professor of Music for the "fall term" from August, 1955, to February, 1956. Stevens has presented the School with a volume of music dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II, which, he thinks, should go to a school founded by her illustrious predecessor and namesake.

R. SYRETT (1942-47) was selected to play for the Barbarians on their Easter tour in Wales and also for the London Counties in their matches against Italy.

R. WILCOX (1953-54) was among the 218 candidates who entered the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst in March, 1955.

D. F. A. WILLIAMSON (1931-36) has been taken into partnership by Mr. Colin Cooper, of the firm Brocklehurst and Cooper, Chartered Architects and Surveyors, High Wycombe. Williamson served in the Royal Engineers from 1939-45 and completed his training at the Regent Street Polytechnic School of Architecture.

F. WOOSTER (1919-25) wrote from Bevendean Hospital, Ward No. 3, Beer Road, Brighton 7. He is there with TB, contracted on H.M. service during the last war. He had to sell the "Queen's Head" Hotel, Sedlescombe, near Battle, and will have to find a very light job when he leaves after treatment which may last many months. All O.B.'s wish "Oliphant" Wooster a speedy and sound recovery.

OLD BOYS IN LOCAL AFFAIRS

Downley Parish Council : A. E. Mines (1923-26).

Penn Parish Council : G. W. Perfect (1932-37).

High Wycombe Borough Council : E. L. Webb (1920-25).

High Wycombe Rural District Council :

C. B. Bowler (1908-12) ; R. H. Dancer (1917-23) (Chairman).

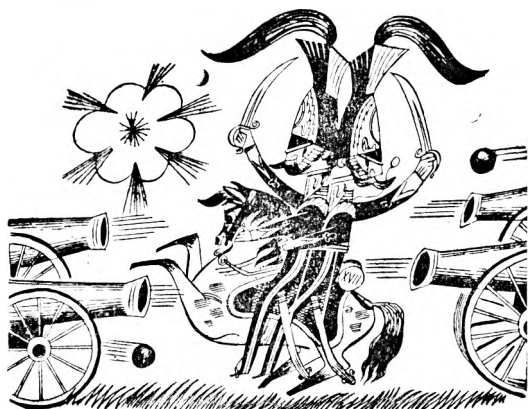
Justices of the Peace :

R. H. Dancer (1917-23) ; G. H. Baker (1906-12) ; P. C. Raffety (1888-93) ; H. T. Turnbull (1919-26).

High Wycombe Horticultural Association :

G. D. Burch (1911-15) (President).

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