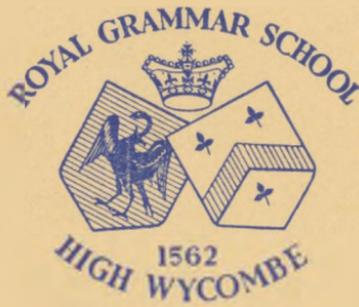


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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(THE WYCOMBE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL MAGAZINE)

Editor : P. E. REAR

Sub-Editors :

B. DAVIES, P. KENNARD, D. SUTTON, O. VOLKONSKY.

EDITORIAL

Today, more people possess more money. The signs are ubiquitous : newspaper advertisements indicate the growing popularity of holidays abroad—places on the map are becoming a reality in many working-class homes ; the traffic problem increases with every bank holiday—the new car is not the remote luxury of a few years ago ; Britain's own beauty-spots are over-run with litter-spreading British coach-parties. And no road is complete without its roof-top forest of television aerials, stark and prominent in all their ugliness.

The difference between the " upper " and the " middle " class is now, thank Heaven, a small one—simply because few of the former have the wealth to form that concrete distinction of the not far-distant past. In this age in this country most people belong to the " middle " class, and their standard of living has progressed to a relatively high one. Their chief means of education takes the shape of the cathode-ray tube.

On the individual tables in our dining-hall it is difficult to pick out a flow of conversation. But above the vague noise of munching, and the clash of trays in the sprint to the serving-hatches, it would seem that 50% of such table-talk as does exist centres upon the modern sitting-room's most prized piece of furniture, the revered box, the Telly. Instead of

" Do you think Arnison can beat Dizzy this afternoon ? " we hear " Will Mr. Bloggs answer the 64,000 Question to-night ? "

Mr. Tom Driberg pointed out recently, in a fine article, the dangers of T.V. education : it gives everybody a little information on a lot of subjects. Soon, if Television becomes the sole means of instruction, a false, *Daily-Mirror*-like sense of social values will spread. Television dominates our life so much. Add to this the increase of population, and industry, and automation, and an awful

prospect seems not far distant : millions of people in rows of council houses, each with free choice of the gaudy splash known as a front door ; the men go to work to push the buttons, and return home to turn the magic knob—which to them and their families is the key to the ultimate in enjoyment. Perhaps they will cross the threshold into an already darkened room—tea-time dominated by Superman or Hopalong Cassidy—the cat no longer allowed to purr ; each commercial is a signal for a frenzied rush for another cup of tea, another cake. An apologetic news-reader intervenes briefly, while father gropes for the tea-pot. Then back to serious work : so many quiz-shows giving so much away that even the “ Daily Splash ” stops giving away, overwhelmingly defeated.

An unending procession of people all gradually becoming the same. With variety fast disappearing from factory-work, now their leisure hours are spent in the one field, as Television lures them inevitably into its grasp. Viewed as a whole, they might just as well be known by the numbers on their little glaring gates. A “ mass ” of people indeed.

With this in mind, the School must do all it can to shape the character of each of its members. It must of course try to eliminate the bad in every one of them and, this taken for granted, help towards the formation of the individual.

At a day-school this is not easy. The influence of the home is the stronger. If a boy is sufficiently intelligent to reach a grammar school, it may follow that his family will co-operate with his teachers in developing him. But this is not always the case : occasionally father insists that he alone will bring up his son—the masters at his school will merely teach him. But this decision is rarely justified in the long run—only a school can give a boy certain invaluable qualities.

In this era the influence of the home combines dangerously with the environment of the “ outside world ”—which we have already pictured. This synthesis predicts an eventual sameness in the lives of the majority. No encroachment upon liberal and democratic rights is implied here—simply that one person’s existence will be similar to that of his neighbour ; this of his own free will ! What this could finally lead to we cannot say for certain—but every vision of this future is immediately a most unpleasant one.

At last the miserable state of House Spirit in this school is the object of much careful study by those in a position to bring about its re-incarnation. House Spirit leads to School Spirit ; but, more important, it, above all else in school life, can bring out the best in a boy and aid in the development of his character. Individual initiative and team-work are, side by side, impressed upon him.

Recent editorials have deplored the absence of both of these within the School, deplored also the lack of school societies and meagre support of those which did exist. But, slowly, things are improving. Society notes are seen to be more optimistic than usual (with the sad but consistent exception of the Spanish Society)—and the newly-formed Camera Club was an instant success. While the Rugby XV maintains its usual high standard, of more note in this respect are the successful re-birth of the Basketball team, and the fact that the present Cross-country captain is the most capable and most enthusiastic we have had for some years. Soon radical changes (which *can* only be for the better) are to be brought about in inter-House activity. At last we have *two* P.T. masters, who will do all they can to ensure the success of the sporting side of the experiment—and rivalry in sport is rightly the most notable side of House competition. We know by experience that the operation will get the full backing of the Staff, especially from those who serve on the Games Committee.

But, in the end, it is up to each one of us to play his part. We ask you to respond for once to the appeals (expressed in this magazine) of your house-captains. The more we put into the attempt to infuse House Spirit into the School, the greater the chances of its success. And the greater will be those personal benefits which, now more than ever, will stand us in good stead when school days are past. The school-leaver will be able to enter a monotonous, mechanical world with a strong spirit of independence, and a character of his own.

SCHOOL NOTES

General

On 10th November the Jazz Club organised a trip to the Royal Festival Hall for the 3rd British Festival of Jazz.

To commemorate the centenary of Heine's death, Mrs. Regina Klemperer, accompanied by Miss Alison Gordon, gave a recital of German songs, on 22nd November. A large number of boys, and some girls from the High School, enjoyed the performance in the School Hall. We greatly appreciate Mrs. Klemperer's periodical visits and look forward to her next recital.

The Music Society heard a Brahms concert at the Royal Festival Hall on 15th November.

On 4th December the Historical Society and T.C.O.S. made a combined visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Tate Gallery.

"Patience" was performed in the School Hall from Monday, 10th December, to Saturday, 15th December. A detailed report will be found elsewhere in this issue.

On 18th January a party of boys in the Dramatic Society saw a performance of Dylan Thomas' "Under Milk Wood."

The School was represented by D. S. Sutton and R. A. P. Wilson in a Bucks Junior Chess team at a Jamboree at the National Chess Centre, London, on 2nd March.

A number of trips to see French and German plays were arranged by the Modern Languages Society during the Christmas and Spring terms. Full details are to be found in the Society notes.

Congratulations to :

P. Chamberlin for his Open Scholarship in Modern Languages at Jesus College, Cambridge.

J. H. Speight for his Open Exhibition in Mathematics at Jesus College, Cambridge.

M. Vaughan-Rees for his Open Exhibition in Modern Languages at St. John's College, Cambridge.

And also to D. C. Willatts for his Army Cadetship at Sandhurst.

Staff Notes

Since the last issue we have welcomed P. D. Brown, Esq. B.Mus. (Lond.), L.R.A.M., A.T.C.L., on the Music Staff to take temporarily Mr. Piner's place. We are very sorry to hear that Mr. Piner is seriously ill and we send our sincere wishes for his quick recovery.

We should like to offer our congratulations to Mr. Gareth Morgan on being awarded his D.Phil. by the University of Oxford for his thesis on "Cretan Poetry under the Venetians, 1210-1669."

We offer our warmest congratulations to Miss M. Grace and Mr. J. G. Lloyd on their marriage last December, and wish them every happiness for the future.

GROUP CAPTAIN G. A. R. MUSCHAMP, M.A.

The sudden very tragic death of our Bursar, Group Captain G. A. R. Muschamp, was a great shock and sorrow to all at the School, especially to those members of the Staff who were most closely associated with him.

Group Captain Muschamp had had a very distinguished career in the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force, and apart from commanding various Stations both here and abroad had himself initiated several enterprises in the Service which made him very well known and greatly respected among thousands of his colleagues. He came to us as Bursar at a rather difficult time, but his force,

vigour and great goodwill soon commanded the friendship of a wide circle on the Staff. He was used to considerable responsibility and he lightened the burdens of many of us by undertaking duties which might not perhaps have been expected to fall his way. He was, however, invariably cheerful, full of sound common sense and essentially a man who enjoyed the companionship of friends in a large community. Consequently the senior members of the Staff had close and most affectionate association with him not only over School matters but in the social affairs which always exist on the fringe of any large community. He was a good bridge player, a most lively, energetic and fit player of tennis and golf, and was always much sought after as a partner by members of the Staff in all of these occupations. He always showed throughout an independence of spirit and the keenest desire to promote the interests and support the dignity of the School, where he will be most deeply missed.

We all offer our sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Muschamp and to Georgina, whom we were often delighted to see at the School. I know that Governors, masters, senior boys and many members of the Staff at the boarding houses and canteen would wish to be associated in this expression of gratitude to a sincere and warm-hearted friend.

E.R.T.

“PATIENCE”

The satire of “Patience” remains surprisingly fresh and topical; perhaps because Gilbert shrewdly chose as his chief victims two perennial types of the bogus in art. Today, when bluntness is mistaken for sincerity and insults may masquerade as wit, Bunthorne, with his professional rudeness, may be found, a national character, on any T.V. panel game; while Grosvenor still postures and poses in Hampstead or Chelsea, concealing his lack of talent beneath carefully cultivated eccentricity and gaining for himself sufficient attention by affecting to scorn that flattery and publicity which his narcissistic nature craves.

Around and between these two flutter and fluctuate a swirl of lovesick maidens, surfeited with sensibility and lacking in sense, ready, at the dictate of fashion, to change their minds and costumes, at one moment all Dresden delicacy and daintiness, and the next as hoydenish as a Hampstead Heath holiday. Their uncritical adulation is offset by the bewildered Philistinism of the Dragoons whose blood, as red as their jackets, boils at the success of the anaemic aesthetes. They do not easily surrender, however, and attempt, if this be the way to win favour, to bend their military rigidity of mind

and manner to the languorous lines of artistic posture ; but intensely stiff, they can only look stiffly intense.

The heroine, Patience, is pure virtue, loth to love except unselfishly. She is in direct contrast to Lady Jane whose single-minded purpose is to get herself a man before her fast-fading charms are over-blown. (Who was the original of this unpleasant and recurring character—had Gilbert an unfavourite aunt whom he has thus pilloried in perpetuity?)

This is not an easy opera for boys to perform because so much depends upon Patience, a cardboard character at best and almost impossible for a boy to portray. Eleven-year-old Roger Mayo, unexpectedly called from the chorus, had three weeks in which to learn the part. He succeeded admirably and the occasional weakness of his singing and the lapses of memory were forgotten in the confidence of his delivery, and his adroit overcoming of some awkward moments such as (on one occasion) the threat of Patience on a monument through unexpected attachment to a tuffet, and a rather precipitate entry on another.

The parts of Bunthorne and Grosvenor were safe in the hands of D. J. Maurice and J. A. Dawes, who had mastered the terrifyingly tongue-twisting lyrics and produced them with speed and clarity. The Dragoons were dashing and vigorous, and A. I. Hunt, D. P. Nash and T. P. Thirlway made the most of their chance when the three military orchids are required to droop and wilt like hothouse blooms in the name of love. The lovesick maidens were prettily precious and dolefully demure at first, and uninhibitedly boisterous at the end.

Perhaps the surprise of the production was the success of D. C. J. Pallett as Lady Jane—totally unlike Gilbert's conception of the character and all the better for that. His grace and slimness completely belied the words put into his mouth and by substituting self-mockery for self-pity he made Jane's predatory swoops on Bunthorne tolerable instead of repulsive. One would have thought it impossible to make this character sympathetic and the Producer and Pallett deserve credit for this achievement.

What is one who knows nothing of music, and who regards the playing of five-finger exercises as a triumph in manual dexterity, to say of the orchestra? It was a merry noise which must have pleased the performers and certainly delighted the audience. The conductor, Mr. J. S. Dawes, looked alarmingly authoritative and it is impossible to conceive of any false notes being engendered beneath his nose. The scenery made less demands than usual upon Mr. G. A. Grant and his assistants but was as satisfactory as we have all come to expect.

Only the producer, Mr. A. G. Hills, knows what nightmares he endured in rehearsing and producing this opera, but if, as one suspects, the School Fund derived little from his efforts, let him

take comfort from the knowledge that the reputation of the Operatic Society has been maintained and that the audience were richly rewarded.

A.J.S.

MESSIAH

Handel's "Messiah" is one of those few masterpieces which remain great no matter what treatment they are accorded. No doubt this fact prompted the School to produce it both in 1951 and again this year. I believe the earlier performance was a considerable success, while in the recent one the School Choir, together with the soloists from "outside" and a generously augmented orchestra did full justice to nearly all aspects of the work.

Unless one wishes to go home in the early hours of the morning, one naturally rarely hears the complete work in one performance. Mr. Dawes gave us nearly all of Part One, much of Part Two, but none of Part Three. This made an effective programme, allowing the climax of the work, the Hallelujah Chorus, to come at the end. Another satisfying feature, to my mind, was the employment of an orchestra and chorus of Handelian, rather than Wagnerian dimensions. It was perhaps unfortunate that the continuo had to be supplied on a piano rather than on a harpsichord.

The four soloists made a generally good team. The two most successful were Rosamund Strode and Kenneth Tudor, the soprano and bass.

The greatest moments in the oratorio are, as always with Handel, in the choruses, and it was here that the School made its main contribution.

The Choir's singing was generally of a high standard, but towards the end there were signs of tiredness, and in consequence the later choruses lacked some of the vitality they deserved. However, the orchestra's accompaniment was ever energetic and there were many impressive moments.

Finally, much praise must go to Mr. Dawes for very able conducting, and more especially for his unflagging enthusiasm during rehearsals. This was chiefly responsible for the very satisfying final performance.

B. TETTMAR.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Forty-two boys were presented to the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Oxford at the Confirmation Service held at the Church of St. Francis, Terriers, on Thursday, 4th April, 1957.

The Rev. John Skipp, an Old Boy of the School, who had prepared the candidates, acted as Bishop's Chaplain at the Service, and the Vicar of Terriers, the Rev. E. B. Shaw, read the Preface.

In his address the Bishop said how glad he was to see that so many Parents and Godparents had come to witness the admission of the candidates to full membership of the Church, and to support them by their presence and their prayers. He emphasised to those being confirmed the nature of the step they were taking, which was the solemn renewal before God and His Church of their baptismal promises. He said that in their lives they would need faith, courage and perseverance if they were to play their true part as full members of the Christian fellowship, and summed up their responsibility as consisting of Worship, Work and Witness. He said that worship meant joining with other Christians in the Fellowship and Services of the Church, and particularly at Holy Communion; work was their personal effort for the advancement of Christ's Church; witness was for them always to think, live and speak so as to help and never to hinder others who were coming to Christ.

On the day after the Confirmation a School Communion was celebrated at St. Francis', when 142 boys made their Communion.

The Vicar of Terriers had very kindly invited the Rev. John Skipp to be the Celebrant.

The names of the newly confirmed are :—

Ashford, Joseph Christopher	Mundy, Michael John
Bird, Michael Francis	Newell, Douglas John
Bird, Stephen Maurice	Oxley, Alan John
Blokland, Peter John	Pain, Andrew Charles
Browne, Robin Proctor	Packman, Geoffrey Robert
Casbeard, Robert James	Palmer, Richard Charles
Cawson, John	Penfold, Ian William
Currell, John Lewis	Pryce, John Francis Ivor
Dury, Ian Robins	Pye, Christopher Robert
Hamilton-Eddy, David Arthur	Rennie, Kenneth John
Hazell, Dennis Kenneth Paul	Richardson, Michael John
Hedley, Roger Hugh	Rubery, David Edgar
Hill, Michael Frank	Saunders, David John
Horrex, Michael Robert	Shackell, John Frank
Hyde, Keith Graham	Shackell, William Edward
Icke, Peter Philip	Smith, Rowland Beresford
Keeley, Roger Alan	Smith, Raymond David
King, Robin	Wheate, Harold Francis
Lawrence, Robert John	Whitby, Neill Joseph
Ludgate, Roger George	Wilson, Peter John
Merchant, Leslie	Yates, Peter John

SCHOOL HOUSE

It becomes increasingly difficult each year to make a house report sufficiently original and removed from a simple list of happenings and names to make it worth while reading. However, we have done our best to set out the most recent comings, goings and doings of members of the House. Having lost at the end of last year all that year's prefects save for M. F. Turner, their successors set about transforming the "study" into their own miniature "Utopia"—the result is said by some to be questionable!

T. G. D. Klemperer must be congratulated on being admitted to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, on results of the December examination, and D. C. Willatts on recently gaining admission to R.M.A., Sandhurst. Some extremely good results in G.C.E. at "ordinary" and "advanced" levels were also achieved.

Sporting success has been transferred from the prefects to other senior members of the House, although M. F. Turner has played for the 3rd XV! R. C. Jones, a double Colour, continues to serve School first teams with great success, while C. Hall, who has unfortunately suffered from a bad leg injury, together with S. C. Williams and H. W. Clark, have done good work for School cross-country teams.

Mr. Runswick, who is now well geared to life in School House, has become an addict of the "metal H," but this has not prevented him from steering the House along a relatively steady course.

T. O. SMALL.

TYLERS WOOD HOUSE

Since the last issue of the magazine there have been very few changes in the House. Only four new boys joined us at the beginning of the school year. We would like to congratulate A. G. Newton and G. S. Matthews, who left us in the summer, both of whom have University places.

We have had only two inter-House sporting fixtures: we played seven-a-side rugby against Uplyme and won easily; also we produced two teams to play School House at basketball. Also on the sporting side, G. Hickey, our only 1st XV Colour, unfortunately sustained a lasting injury at the start of the season; 2nd XV Colours were awarded to P. Aikens, P. Hares, S. Mardell and D. Scott-Kiddie. Quite a few of our younger members played regularly for School teams and we look forward to seeing many of them in the senior teams next year.

P. AIKENS.

UPLYME HOUSE

The last six months have seen Uplyme distinguishing itself in practically all walks of school life. Our former Head Boy, J. H. Speight, was awarded an Open Exhibition in Mathematics at Jesus College and is now working for Metro-Vickers until he goes up to University in October. On the rugby field R. C. Hackett has distinguished himself by gaining his 1st XV Colours. R. W. Thorne captained the 2nd XV most of the season, while D. J. Maurice, J. A. Dawes and O. Volkonsky played regularly for the 3rd XV.

All our boys who took G.C.E. last summer managed to obtain good certificates both in advanced as well as ordinary level. In the production of "Patience" last term Dawes, Maurice, Barrett, Pallett, Thirlway (T.) and Thirlway (M.) all took principal parts; in fact it could almost be called the Uplyme opera. Inter-house activities still flourish and although we beat Tylers Wood at basketball, we were narrowly beaten by School House.

The end of the Summer term saw the departure of several of our boys and we hope that all those who have taken their places will have successful careers at Uplyme. Since the last issue we have been visited by R. D. Mitchell, who tells us he is working very hard at London University, and P. W. H. North, who has been rowing for his University Eight at Reading.

J. W. J. FREETH.

C.C.F. NOTES

ARMY SECTION

The C.C.F. has now reached a strength of over 600 and there are only seven or eight larger contingents in the British Isles.

Recent activities have been confined to training for the various examinations, the successes in which have been quite satisfactory. Future activities will include various shooting competitions, the most immediate being the "Country Life" competition on the miniature range.

Annual Camp this year will begin on the 22nd July and will be on Salisbury Plain, the first time for many years. It is hoped that the usual large number will represent the School and obtain the benefits of what promises to be an excellent camp.

A steady flow of ex-cadets into National Service commissions has been maintained and D. C. Willatts is to be congratulated on passing into Sandhurst at his first attempt. It is to be hoped that others will soon achieve similar success.

R.P.

R.A.F. SECTION

During the present session the strength of the section has risen to 132 cadets. The Proficiency Certificate has been gained by 35 of these cadets and, indeed, most of them (26) have also passed the Advanced Examination. Cadets continue to do extremely well in the Advanced Examination. Of four cadets who gained this award in December 1956, three did so with credit marks. An unusually large number of cadets is about to be presented for the Proficiency and Advanced Examinations in March. A great deal of work has been done by cadet instructors in preparation for these examinations and it is confidently expected that the results will be rewarding to them.

The Summer Camp held in July 1956 at R.A.F. Hawarden was marred by violent summer gales! All cadets had 20 minutes of "flying time." Even this relatively small amount of flying was achieved in the face of difficulties. An Easter Camp is to be held (April 1957) at R.A.F. Hemswell, in Lincolnshire. A party of 30 cadets is to attend this camp, which should be enjoyable and instructive.

E.M.

R.N. SECTION

Since the last report our numbers have risen considerably and now stand just above the 80 mark. As a matter of interest, we are now one of the largest R.N. sections in the country.

The annual camp was held at H.M.S. *St. Vincent* at Gosport, one of the three Royal Naval Training Schools for boy seamen. Our cadets were housed in one of many blocks of buildings with the cadets from three other schools, each having a dormitory and washing facilities.

Every day during the visit began at 6.15 a.m., when the boys were wakened by the sound of the bugle. Five minutes later they all had to be on the parade ground for P.T., followed by a swim in the establishment's swimming pool. Lights out in the evening was at 9 p.m., which after a long and busy day was not too early.

During their stay the boys visited two Naval establishments and the aircraft carrier, H.M.S. *Bulwark*, had one afternoon sailing, played water-polo, and spent a good deal of time in *St. Vincent's* well-equipped class-rooms learning about things nautical.

On the parade ground was a mast 120 feet high and on the last day all but two of the cadets made the perilous ascent.

During the Christmas holidays five boys attended courses which included gunnery and P.T.

R. Drewitt, D. A. Scott-Kiddie and B. L. Davies passed Part I Proficiency Examination and are now rated Leading Seamen.

The Annual General Inspection is to be held this year on the 6th June, when the inspecting officer will be Rear Admiral Sir Charles Madden, Bt., C.B., R.N.

I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Benson on being promoted to Lieutenant, and of welcoming Sub. Lt. D. C. F. Edginton to the Naval Section, who will be invaluable to us with our increased numbers.

D.T.N.

ARNISON HOUSE

The first half of the Spring term has produced only one result in House competitions. Unfortunately the weather has permitted only the senior house rugby to be played to its conclusion; the Colts and Juniors competitions were prematurely finished. This was a pity, for the Colts promised to be a very good side, while the Juniors could more than hold their own.

Arnison came second in the senior rugby, after beating Fraser and Youens, and losing to Disraeli. In the last match we were well beaten—no excuses—and although we had an equal number of 1st XV Colours theirs was the better balanced side.

Entries for the boxing were, to say the least, disappointing. Year after year it has been proved that, in this event, force of numbers win every time, something that was sadly lacking in Arnison's effort this year.

We look forward eagerly to the cross-country championships, for with a nucleus of three first team runners we should prove a good match for the other Houses.

The Summer term provides the cricket, tennis, and athletics, and hopes are high for wins in these competitions. The cricket team will field many of the Arnison side that played last season, while the tennis team includes the School captain and vice-captain of tennis.

The placings for the athletics are said in some circles to be a foregone conclusion, but Arnison will do its best to show that these speculations are not at all well founded.

Everyone who is a member of the House should take some part in House competitions. The role of a member of the House involves more than the raising of a hand in House meetings. Each must be ready to partake in House activity, however meagre his contribution may seem to be. If there is no place in the rugby team, then try the cross-country, or athletics, or even the music! House competitions are, in the most part, won by force of numbers. A real effort by every Arnison member would make all the difference to the results—and it is then really worthwhile.

E. H. SQUIRES.

DISRAELI HOUSE

This school year promises to be one of the most successful Disraeli has enjoyed for many years, and the enthusiasm displayed on the part of the Juniors augurs well for future years. Although many stalwarts left at the end of the Summer term the available talent is more than adequate for a firm foundation to start Disraeli on the path of success. This opinion was quickly substantiated in the very first competition, which was the rugby.

This was played on a league basis, and by winning all their three games Disraeli Junior XV regained the championship which they relinquished two years ago. Although it must be admitted that the other Houses were slightly weakened by injuries to their star players, this does not in any way detract from the excellence of the side's performance. The whole side rose to the occasion magnificently each time, and for this reason it has been considered unjust to mention individual names. The Colts' competition unfortunately had to be cancelled—unfortunate because it would have been very interesting to find out the strength of the House in the Middle School, for in previous years this is the department in which Disraeli has been most lacking. But perhaps the success of the rest of the House will rouse them to stirring action, of which they are undoubtedly capable. The Juniors were knocked out in the first round of their competition by Youens, but forced their victors to a replay. In both games they displayed plenty of spirit which the House captain was most desirous to see ; for it is amazing what a little spirit can achieve.

The boxing competition is now in full swing, much to some people's discomfort. After witnessing the success of Arnison last year most Houses realised that it could be won by sheer force of numbers and tried to follow this example. Disraeli were not backward in coming forward in this respect and entered the largest number of boxers for many years. By so doing they have ensured that the House will again distinguish itself in this competition, and indeed stands a very good chance of winning it once more ; but the future will decide that problem. All Houses at the present moment are busily making preparations for the Music competition and cross-country championships. It is hoped that everybody will give their full support and co-operation to the members in charge, *viz.* G. W. F. Ewins and M. K. Hussey respectively. It is a few years since Disraeli have won either of these competitions, but perhaps this is our year.

The year is yet young and the majority of the House competitions are still to come, but Disraeli have started on the right footing. However, they are not content to rest on their laurels but

are determined to remove some Houses from the lofty perches which they appear to have occupied prematurely. But to be enabled to accomplish this fact everybody must make a contribution.

A. HARVEY.

FRASER HOUSE

At the end of the Christmas term we were unfortunate enough to lose the House Captain, J. H. Speight. His services in the front row of the pack were badly missed, and the rugby team, although it played with great spirit and determination, was unable to gain a victory. Owing to the present deficiency in competent players, we had to call upon some of the Colts to play, and W. Shackell, A. J. Styles, G. R. Gunning and B. Quirke all played extremely well. On these performances there is every reason to look forward to a brighter future.

In the boxing competition, which is at the present in "full swing," we should finish high up. There was a very encouraging entry from the Senior School, but, unexpectedly, the Juniors, usually our strongest section, were, by and large, content to "leave it to the next fellow."

This, it need hardly be said, is a very bad policy to take. These people are too ready to acknowledge a House success, but what do the majority contribute to it—nothing. In future, I want everybody to make it his duty to do his best for the House, so that he can be justly proud of it. The days when a House could rely for success on a few talented members are gone, and, like it or not, it is now the responsibility of each and every House member to endeavour, in every way, to gain the points that yield success.

We are also hoping to do well in the cross-country, and we look and expect P. J. Dean, the School cross-country captain and course record holder, L. Bristow, R. Babb and J. A. Dawes in the Senior, and J. Currell in the Colts to give good performances. Following the cross-country competition is the Music Shield, which we hope to regain after losing it last year. This year our effort will be under the guidance of J. A. Dawes, so please give him all the help you can.

Given reasonable luck we should retain the athletics championship in the Summer term. The Senior team retains most of its strength and P. J. Dean, the School Open and All-England mile champion, D. W. Holloman and I. Bunday should do well. A victory cannot be accomplished, however, without support from the Junior members of the House. If every member of the House gained one standard, the House would enter Sports Day with at least 200 very useful points. On the subject of athletics, we would like to wish a speedy recovery to C. Hall, one of the House's best athletes, who is in hospital.

In the Summer term we will be trying to win the cricket competition for the third year running. If this is achieved, we can be justly proud for the House contains none of the School's cricket stars.

In finishing, I would like to appeal to you to give your best in the forthcoming competitions, so that we can make Fraser a House of which we can all be proud.

T. J. GILDER.

YOUENS HOUSE

We welcome to the House this year Mr. Gareth Morgan, who replaces Mr. G. M. Jones, who left the School at the end of the last school year.

I think the dominating feature of the House this year is the lack of House spirit in the Senior School. Apart from a few "old faithfuls" who enter for everything, no one else enters any competitions unless they are practically forced to do so. This sort of thing is not good enough, so from now on I should like to see a few more boys in the Senior School entering competitions voluntarily. The Junior members of the House show great spirit and enthusiasm.

In the rugby competition the Senior XV did not come up to expectations, mainly, I think, because of the bad weather, which had made the ground very muddy. The backs, for this reason, could not take full advantage of their potential, while the forwards, who did not possess a great deal of talent, played very well indeed against some rather superior packs from the opposition. Although losing to Disraeli and Arnison we managed to beat Fraser.

The Junior XV have won through into the final of the Junior knockout competition, and under the very able captaincy of R. J. C. Clark, they stand a very good chance of winning.

The boxing competition drew only ten entries from the Senior School, while there were twenty-five from the Junior School. With this small entry there is little chance of gaining honours, but I must wish these boxers the best of luck.

All that I can do now is to hope that the House spirit revives itself and that the House has greater success in the remaining part of this School year.

M. J. RICHARDSON.

ROWING

Rowing during the Christmas and Easter term has been very handicapped by the withdrawal of buses from the High Wycombe—Marlow route on Sunday mornings, but despite this and the occasional flooding of the river, a few Senior boys have managed to

drag their Saturday-afternoon-games-bruised bodies to Marlow to row up and down the river between Marlow and Temple locks.

The First Four are rowing reasonably well and are no longer regarded sceptically by the regular members of the Rowing Club, but they are badly in need of a regular coach who can show them their faults and instil in them a definite style of rowing.

A number of boys who have recently joined are busy learning to row in the bank—and moving tubs and will eventually form a second four, thus giving the first four competition and racing experience.

R. D. S. CLARK.

RUGBY RETROSPECT

1st XV

School matches : Won 7, Drawn 2, Lost 5

Other matches : Won 3, Lost 2

We look back on an interesting season of rather mixed fortunes : the team was much stronger behind the pack than forward, but when the whole team was playing at its best it was a most attractive one to watch. The centre three-quarters were as good as ever we have had, and the wings (all three of them, for E. M. Squires recovered by mid-season from a long period of injury) were fast and scored plenty of tries : on the the other hand, they showed little sense of position and missed a good many points in attack and defence. At half-back, T. J. Gilder had to give up his position at full-back and do his best at scrum-half, where he was resolute and most aggressive, but often a wild passer ; luckily, catching was his partner M. J. Richardson's strongest point ; the rest of whose game was more steady than brilliant except for tantalising glimpses of first-class ability. J. C. Briden had some good games at full-back. Forward, the captain, B. E. Devlin, was late in finding his own previous form, and it was several weeks before the pack took any sort of shape. R. C. Jones hooked and played consistently well, C. R. Rake led the pack with marked success after Christmas, and R. C. Hackett was on the whole the best of several other promising newcomers.

In January, A. Harvey took over the captaincy and led the team well : he has been for long an outstandingly skilful and entirely wholehearted player. This was very much a dry weather team, fast running and passing by the backs being its chief strength, but it was also pleasant to see some really top-class tackling, notably against the very strong Leighton Park side and at Balliol. Gilder, Harvey,

C. J. Cunningham and G. L. S. Hickey have played for Bucks Schoolboys, Gilder with particular distinction at full-back.

The first match, against Windsor, was won comfortably, with the wings Cunningham and D. W. Hollomon in good scoring form : the latter was unfortunately injured in the next practice game. St. Marylebone brought a much improved side over and a drawn game seemed a fair result. At Wandsworth we made a poor start against Emanuel School and staged a recovery far too late. P. J. Muller was prominent in defence. In the home game against Watford we spent most of the game desperately defending our line, the only promising counter-attack being cut short by half-time : although we lost, our inexperienced forwards learned a good deal in this game, so that the team combined better next Saturday to beat St. Benedict's decisively ; Briden, playing full-back for the first time, did well. City of Oxford had a well-organised defence, but, getting plenty of the ball, and with Harvey always difficult to hold, we managed to win safely. Gilder dropped an excellent goal after an earlier practice shot.

After beating Stowe 2nd XV we lost a level game against Tiffin School mainly through careless, half-hearted, play, though neither side seemed at its best. We were very pleased to win the return match at Watford, crossing their line three times but conceding a couple of penalty goals. Abingdon had bad luck with injuries during the game, and St. Edward's 2nd XV were not very formidable this year. At Reading the usual hard battle was fought out. Alas, Harvey, who had been making a number of good breaks, was injured in the middle of the second half when we were leading by three points. Reading equalled with a fine, spectacular, dropped goal from a mark far out, and with Harvey off the field, we were glad enough to draw. Leighton Park had a big and skilful side, and we were fairly satisfied to lose by two tries and three penalties to two tries. Our back-row forwards (except P. J. Blokland) rather disgraced themselves, but the tackling, especially of the backs, was excellent, and Squires, deputising for Harvey, had a thoroughly good game in the centre.

In January, P. D. Fry brought a formidable side of masters and Old Boys to play the School, with J. E. Woodward a strange full-back and R. E. Syrett in the pack. The visitors played in disjointed fashion and the School won easily. Mr. Nightingale earned several days of enforced holiday. Those interested in the diagnosis of concussion may care to know that he remembered every detail of the game, but was firmly convinced he dreamed them. Gilder's place-kicking, soccer style, was very effective. The team continued to play well, narrowly beating the Saracens Gipsy XV, a good team, and despite Gilder's absence through a leg injury they outplayed Balliol on a dry pitch in the Parks. Muller deputising at stand-off

set the lead with some violently successful tackles on his opposite number. Rake's absence from the pack and Harvey's from the centre still further weakened the side, which lost to St. Bartholomew's in a mudlark made notable by the excellent play of their full-back. A. G. Eales in the front row found the conditions to his liking. A slightly stronger team lost by 3 points to 6 against Jesus College, Oxford, being badly outplayed forward by an experienced pack on a wet and heavy ground. As the last match of the season (except for a holiday visit to Ystalyfera) the Wycombiensians beat a much depleted School team by 12 points to 8. Quite a good game played in wind and rain ; but as the Wycombiensians had undertaken to field a side composed of Old Boys we were disappointed that they had not done so.

C.M.H.

The following were included in the 1st XV photograph : all have been awarded their 1st XV colours in this or previous seasons : J. C. Briden, D. W. Hollomon, A. Harvey (Vice-Captain), P. J. Muller, C. J. Cunningham, E. M. Squires, M. J. Richardson, T. J. Gilder, B. E. Devlin (Captain), R. C. Jones, C. R. Rake, R. T. Tate, J. R. Bone, G. L. S. Hickey, A. G. Eales, P. J. Blokland, R. C. Hackett.

Others who played for the 1st XV were : K. R. Miller, P. Aikens, P. D. Hares, O. V. Volkonsky, R. Pratley, C. J. Melsom, H. L. Barrow, D. A. Scott-Kiddie, R. J. Collett, A. Brinn, A. S. Whatley.

(After Christmas Harvey was elected Captain in place of Devlin, who left, and Rake Vice-Captain. Unfortunately Hickey, one of last season's colours, was prevented by injury from playing all but a few matches.)

2nd XV

Won 8, Drawn 2, Lost 6.

The Second Fifteen, despite constant derangement of their side by experiments and injuries in the 1st XV, did the School much credit. They did particularly well to hold Lord Williams's School, Thame, to five points to six at Thame in January ; and as their record shows Leighton Park were the only team to win easily against them. R. W. Thorne was conspicuous as Captain and R. Pratley made a promising centre with him. R. F. Palmer added some skilful tackling to his familiar dash on the wing, and D. Fone has been a good and constantly improving stand-off half. The forwards played with plenty of life, and several could find places in next year's First Fifteen. Certainly we shall go all out to find eight fit, intelligent

and, if possible, hefty forwards, and there are eight vacancies at the beginning of every season, colours or no colours.

The following appeared in the 2nd XV photograph (* indicates the award of 2nd XV colours) : R. J. Collett*, R. F. Palmer*, P. A. Chamberlin*, R. Pratley*, R. W. Thorne* (Captain), D. Fone*, P. D. Hares*, H. L. Barrow*, C. J. Melsom*, A. S. Whatley*, S. C. J. Mardell*, S. A. Leader*, P. Aikens*, D. A. Scott-Kiddie*, C. M. Wilkins, D. J. Higgins.

Others who played for the 2nd XV were : O. V. Volkonsky, C. Chandrubeksa, H. W. Clark, P. J. Holtorp, E. G. Mann, A. Brinn, J. W. J. Freeth, J. A. Dawes, D. H. Bond, J. S. Cockburn, A. W. Ralley, A. J. Styles, M. D. Humphries.

3rd XV

Won 5, Drawn 1, Lost 8.

A mixed side of old gentlemen and promising youngsters, the 3rd XV have nearly always given a good account of themselves.

The following were chosen to appear in the team photograph: K. R. Miller, D. J. Maurice, J. A. Dawes, P. J. Holtorp, D. E. Breslin, O. V. Volkonsky, R. P. G. Owen, E. C. Franks, K. F. Biggs (Cpt.), I. R. Bunday, E. G. Mann, C. A. W. Dobson, J. A. W. C. Brannan, H. C. Bramley, J. H. Speight, C. H. Simpson, A. Brinn.

Others who played were : R. Rolfe, W. A. C. Knowles, W. J. S. Torrens-Burton, E. R. Carter, D. M. Cunnold, T. Randell, P. T. Tomes, F. W. J. Freeth, M. H. Vaughan-Rees, J. A. Barwell, C. C. Marsden, B. L. White.

4th XV

Won 1, Lost 1.

The following played in the 4th XV : J. A. Barwell, M. H. Vaughan-Rees, R. A. Patterson, R. Rolfe, F. W. J. Freeth, M. F. Turner, T. Randall, P. E. Rear, R. C. Carey, W. F. Hodge, R. A. P. Wilson, B. L. White, D. M. Cunnold, E. R. Carter, W. J. S. Torrens-Burton, P. Prescott, M. Hanson, B. J. Rogers.

COLTS XV (under 15)

Won 7, Lost 3.

A good season, in which the team showed up well under pressure, and played best when a man short. The chosen captain, W. E. Shackell, was injured in the first ten minutes of the first game, but A. W. Ralley led the side effectively for the rest of the season.

The following boys played for the team : A. I. Barnard, D. H. Bond, T. J. Chenery, J. S. Cockburn, D. J. Darvill, W. H. Douglas, G. R. Gunning, R. G. Hollingworth, M. D. Humphries, I. J. King, F. G. Marsh, R. W. Moore, D. J. H. Munro, G. R. Packman, A. C. Pain, J. A. N. Priestley, K. R. Puddephatt, B. A. J. Quirke, R. F. Quirke, A. W. Ralley, L. J. Scrivener, W. E. Shackell, A. J. Styles, J. R. Ward, I. G. Woodcraft.

JUNIOR COLTS XV (under 14)

Won 9, Drawn 1, Lost 1.

After a disappointing start, this team reached the high standard set by Junior Colts teams of recent seasons. This improvement was brought about by the keenness of all who turned up for the weekly fixtures, whether they managed to get a place in the side or not, and also to several positional changes. M. G. Smith was outstanding amongst a hard-running set of backs, and R. D. Hall, on returning to the pack, added much fire which had been lacking in the earlier games. A very promising newcomer was J. H. Comer.

The following played : P. Bowler, J. C. Bowman, R. J. Casbeard, M. M. Clarke, J. H. Comer, R. J. Coppock, G. H. Cunnold, J. H. Dawes, T. E. Dedman, P. M. Dronfield, S. N. M. Evans, R. W. Fox, M. F. Gillett, R. D. Hall, B. R. Harding, E. Holdship, J. A. Johnson, R. King, G. D. Nash, A. Payne, A. A. Perfect, M. D. H. Priestley, W. E. G. Prior, J. S. Simpson (Captain), G. F. Smith, M. G. Smith, J. O. Smith, R. A. O. Stockwell, B. A. Torrens-Burton, M. F. Turner, A. R. Watters, A. R. Williams, P. J. Yates.

JUNIOR XV (under 13)

Lost 4.

A fast but rather small team who played well against some heavy teams. The following played : R. J. Casbeard, P. J. C. Clark (Captain), D. W. Collins, B. H. J. Cronin, J. M. Davies, P. G. Davies, G. R. J. Dorsett, N. S. Hailstone, R. W. Harding, M. P. Holland, A. R. Hope, A. Lawrence, R. M. Layton, M. D. H. Priestley, R. G. Saunders, P. J. A. Snowden, J. D. Taylor, A. J. Tuffs.

HOUSE MATCHES

Senior League. The cup was won by Disraeli after a close struggle with Youens in the first round and with Arnison in the third. Disraeli's main strength was behind the scrum. One noticeable feature of these hard-fought games is the difficulty that most players have in playing well in an unfamiliar position.

The Colts' competition has not yet started as we go to press, and the Junior final between Arnison and Youens has still to be played.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

1st XV

Sept.	22	Windsor Grammar School ...	...	Home	Won	33	0
"	29	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	...	Home	Drawn	5	5
Oct.	6	Emanuel School ...	...	Away	Lost	3	12
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Home	Lost	0	8
"	13	St. Benedict's School ...	...	Away	Won	22	0
"	20	City of Oxford School ...	...	Home	Won	9	5
"	24	Stowe School, 2nd XV ...	...	Home	Won	9	0
Nov.	7	Tiffin School ...	...	Away	Lost	11	16
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Away	Won	11	6
"	17	Abingdon School ...	...	Away	Won	20	5
"	21	St. Edward's, 2nd XV ...	...	Away	Won	25	3
"	28	Reading School ...	...	Away	Drawn	6	6
Dec.	1	Leighton Park School ...	...	Home	Lost	6	15
Jan.	16	P. D. Fry's XV ...	...	Home	Won	24	3
"	19	Saracens Gipsy XV ...	...	Home	Won	12	9
Feb.	2	Balliol College ...	...	Away	Won	13	0
"	9	St. Bartholomew's, Newbury ...	...	Away	Lost	0	5
"	16	Jesus College, Oxford ...	...	Away	Lost	3	6
"	23	Wycombiensians ...	...	Home	Lost	8	12

2nd XV

Sept.	29	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	...	Away	Lost	3	8
Oct.	6	Aylesbury Grammar School, 1s XV	...	Home	Won	25	11
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Away	Won	15	0
"	13	St. Benedict's School ...	...	Away	Won	25	3
"	24	Stowe School, 3rd XV ...	...	Home	Lost	0	6
"	27	Stoneham School, 1st XV ...	...	Home	Won	34	0
Nov.	7	Tiffin School ...	...	Home	Drawn	11	11
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Home	Won	15	3
"	17	Abingdon School ...	...	Away	Won	12	8
"	21	St. Edward's School, 3rd XV ...	...	Away	Lost	0	8
"	28	Reading School ...	...	Home	Drawn	0	0
Dec.	1	Leighton Park School ...	...	Away	Lost	0	27
Jan.	19	Lord Williams's School, Thame, 1st XV	...	Away	Lost	5	6
"	26	Stoneham School, 1st XV ...	...	Home	Won	14	6
Feb.	9	St. Bartholomew's, Newbury ...	...	Away	Won	10	0
"	16	Southfield School, 1st XV ...	...	Away	Lost	9	15

3rd XV

Sept.	22	Windsor Grammar School, 2nd XV	...	Away	Lost	0	24
Oct.	6	Borlase School, Marlow, 2nd XV ...	...	Away	Lost	8	13
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Away	Lost	11	14
"	13	St. Benedict's School ...	...	Home	Won	13	8
"	20	City of Oxford School, u/16 XV ...	...	Home	Won	22	0
Nov.	7	Tiffin School ...	...	Home	Lost	8	10
"	10	Watford Grammar School ...	...	Home	Drawn	3	3
"	14	Slough Technical School, 1st XV ...	...	Away	Won	12	8
"	17	Wycombiensians "B" XV ...	...	Home	Won	20	6
"	21	Borlase School, Marlow, 2nd XV ...	...	Home	Lost	6	11
"	28	Reading School ...	...	Away	Lost	6	14
Dec.	1	Leighton Park School ...	...	Away	Lost	8	9
"	8	Wycombiensians "B" XV ...	...	Away	Won	16	0
Feb.	2	Wycombiensians "B" XV ...	...	Home	Lost	0	3

4th XV

Oct. 10	Watford Grammar School	Home	Lost	3	14
Nov. 14	Slough Technical School, 2nd XV ...	Away	Won	46	0

COLTS XV (under 15)

Sept. 22	Windsor Grammar School	Home	Won	18	12
.. 29	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Away	Won	9	3
Oct. 6	Watford Grammar School	Home	Lost	12	13
.. 13	St. Benedict's School	Away	Won	9	3
.. 20	Henley Grammar School	Away	Won	24	3
Nov. 10	Watford Grammar School	Away	Lost	9	17
.. 17	Stoneham School	Away	Won	13	5
.. 28	Reading School	Away	Lost	3	6
Dec. 1	Leighton Park School	Home	Won	33	0
.. 8	Southfield School	Home	Won	12	0

JUNIOR COLTS XV (under 14)

Sept. 22	Windsor Grammar School	Away	Won	28	9
.. 29	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Away	Lost	12	35
Oct. 6	Watford Grammar School	Home	Drawn	0	0
.. 13	St. Benedict's School	Away	Won	42	0
.. 20	{ Henley Grammar School	Away	Won	37	9
	{ Borlase School, Marlow	Away	Won	35	11
.. 28	Reading School	Home	Won	43	6
Nov. 17	Stoneham School	Home	Won	27	6
.. 24	St. Nicholas G.S., Northwood ...	Home	Won	28	6
Dec. 1	Watford Grammar School	Away	Won	23	12
.. 8	Southfield School	Home	Won	31	0

JUNIOR TEAM (under 13)

Oct. 13	St. Benedict's School	Home	Lost	0	12
.. 17	Stoneham School	Away	Lost	3	6
.. 24	St. Nicholas G.S., Northwood ...	Home	Lost	3	12
Dec. 1	Watford Grammar School	Away	Lost	0	25

SENIOR LEAGUE RESULTS

Disraeli	beat	Youens	12 pts. to 8
Disraeli	beat	Fraser	23 pts. to 0
Disraeli	beat	Arnison	13 pts. to 0
Arnison	beat	Fraser	15 pts. to 6
Arnison	beat	Youens	8 pts. to 3
Youens	beat	Fraser	19 pts. to 6

HOCKEY

About thirty sixth-form boys played hockey in the second half of the term; interrupted, as usual, by the calls of the Boxing Tournament and Rugby Sevens. A match against a well-blended High Wycombe H.C. eleven was lost 2—4. Oddly enough, it was the veterans, not the schoolboys, who gained strength in the last fifteen minutes. In the usual scenes of ribaldry a staff match was played in the last week of term. After the lead had changed hands

three times, the School won in the last seconds, 4—3. An Old Boys' match is arranged as this goes to press.

The School has been represented by : P. E. Rear, J. R. Bone, R. T. Tate, J. W. J. Freeth, H. W. Clark, P. D. Hares, P. J. Muller, M. J. Richardson, G. L. S. Hickey, T. J. Gilder (Captain), D. J. Maurice and W. E. Shackell.

The Staff XI was Messrs. G. Morgan, H. W. Johnson, J. K. Taylor, J. G. Parker, M. M. Davies, A. Davies, J. Percy, F. E. Hawkins, D. T. Nightingale. A. H. Hall and D. C. F. Edginton.

G.M.

CROSS-COUNTRY

1st Team

Ran 13, Won 11, Lost 2

v Newlands Park Training College	Away	Won
v Bishopshalt School	Home	Won
v Army Apprentices, Arborfield	Home	Won
v Harrow County School	Home	Won
v R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	Away	Lost
v William Ellis School	Home	Won
v Nautical College, Pangbourne	Away	Won
v Jesus College, Oxford	Away	Won
v Keble College, Oxford	Away	Won
v Wycombe Phoenix Harriers and Vale of Aylesbury Harriers	Home	Won
v District Schools		Won
v Newlands Park Training College	Home	Won
v Haberdashers and Emanuel Schools	Home	Won
v Watford Grammar School	Home	Lost

Ranelagh Schools Championship—6th

Southern Cross-Country Championship—13th

Cross-country Colours were awarded to the following boys during the season : R. D. S. Clark, S. E. Deacon, M. K. Hussey, R. W. James, A. F. King, and D. Slatter.

2nd Team : Ran 5, Won 1, Lost 4

Colts' Team : Ran 6, Won 6

The 1st cross-country running team by half term will have almost completed one of the most successful seasons up to date. Besides being fortunate in having so many natural runners, the main reason for the success is the enthusiasm and team spirit among its members.

If any runner is to be mentioned it must be D. Slatter, who has showed consistent good form throughout the season, during which he won the Bucks Youths' Title and finished a very creditable 21st in the Southern Counties Championships.

The Colts' team also had a good season, many of the 1st team being young enough to run for them. However, support for the

2nd and Junior Colts' teams was disappointingly lethargic, although a few boys were seen to train spasmodically.

The prospects for next season seem good, as young runners such as Bristow, Cox, Currell and James will probably be at School, and there are always some athletes discovered when they start their running on Wenesday afternoons.

Many thanks are extended to Mr. T. V. Sheppard for his support and encouragement for the teams.

P. J. DEAN.

INDIVIDUAL AND HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The cross-country this year was run on Wednesday, 13th March, in weather more suited to watching than competing, but we saw some very good performances, especially by Dean (Fraser), who won the Senior race in the record time of 19 minutes 13½ seconds. D. Slatter (Arnison), last year's winner, was second, and James (Disraeli) third.

The Colts' race was won easily by Currell (Fraser) with a time of 18 minutes 38½ seconds, 18½ seconds outside the record. Gwynn (Youens) was second, and Free (Youens) third.

Perfect (Disraeli) won the Junior Colts' race in 15 minutes 17½ seconds. This is 1 minute 27½ seconds outside the record, but nevertheless it was a good race, with Clark (Youens) second, and Gelder (Fraser) third.

In the news boys' race (1st year) Allen (Disraeli) was first, Capel (Youens) second, and Whitwham (Disraeli) third.

The final House order was : Fraser 1st, Disraeli 2nd, Youens 3rd, and Arnison 4th.

CROSS-COUNTRY HOUSE POINTS AND POSITIONS

<i>Team</i>	Arnison	Disraeli	Fraser	Youens
1st Year	222	116	130	100
Junior	146	130	108	146
Colts	198	94	145	107
Senior	94	183	108	182
Totals	660	523	491	535
Order	4th	2nd	1st	3rd

INTER-HOUSE BOXING

The annual Inter-House Boxing Championships was held on Wednesday, 20th March, when most of the School was packed into the Hall to watch and encourage the boxers.

During the afternoon twelve bouts took place and we saw some interesting fights. Probably the best bout of the afternoon was between T. J. Gilder (F) and C. J. Melsom (Y). Both boys were very fit and boxed well. T. J. Gilder was judged the winner and presented with the Senior boxing cup for the best performance.

A Lawrence (F) was presented with the Junior boxing cup.

I should like to thank Mr. J. K. Taylor, a Governor of the School for presenting the cups and certificates; also Mr. Franks, P.T. Organiser for Bucks, for refereeing; Mr. Chinn, who helped to judge the competition; and Dr. D. Ellis, who examined and pronounced fit all the boys who boxed during the afternoon.

D.T.N.

RESULTS

Junior School

Under 5 st.		Orchard (A)	beat	Cronin (F)
5 st. 9 lb.	and under	Smyth (A)	..	Walker (D)
6 st. 4 lb.	..	Stossler (F)	..	Coyne (Y)
6 st. 12 lb.	..	Clarke (Y)	..	Rolfe (F)
7 st. 6 lb.	..	Lawrence (F)	..	Janes (A)
8 st. 1 lb.	..	Speight (F)	..	Bunce (D)
8 st. 9 lb.	..	J. Davies (Y)	..	Clare (F)
9 st. 6 lb.	..	Bowler (D)	..	Dupond (D)
10 st. 2 lb.	..	Whitby (Y)	..	Cann (Y)

Senior School

6 st. 1 lb.	..	Hill (A)	..	Gelder (F)
7 st. 10 lb.	..	Hill (Y)	..	Packman (A)
8 st. 4 lb.	..	Currell (F)	..	Claridge (F)
8 st. 12 lb.	..	James (D)	..	May (F)
9 st. 6 lb.	..	Hares (D)	..	Hodge (F)
10 st. 0 lb.	..	Thorne (F)	..	Chandrubeksa (Y)
10 st. 8 lb.	..	Gilder (F)	..	Melsom (Y)
11 st. 2 lb.	..	Richardson (Y)	..	Gilbertson (D)
11 st. 10 lb.	..	Cunningham (D)	..	Muller (Y)
13 st. 0 lb.	..	Brinn (D)	..	Tate (D)
13 st. 8 lb.	..	Bone (D)	..	Griffin (D)

House Positions

1st	Disraeli	178	points
2nd	Fraser	166	..
3rd	Youens	126	..
4th	Arnison	72	..

BASKETBALL

Played 9, Won 3, Lost 6
(2 matches to be played)

Points for 235, Points against 346

			<i>Games played</i>	<i>Points scored</i>				<i>Games played</i>	<i>Points scored</i>
Rear...	...	...	7	56	Gilder	...	...	6	25
Jones	...	...	8	59	Clark	...	...	5	10
Muller	...	...	8	13	Richardson	...	...	5	0
Barwell	...	...	7	24	Bone	...	...	5	0
Randell	...	...	7	5	Harvey	...	...	3	2
Biggs	...	...	7	25	Davenport	...	...	1	0

Scorer : R. P. Owen

The basketball team have had quite a full fixture list this season and have been reasonably successful considering that most of the players were new to the team and the majority of our opponents were adult sides. Our fixtures tend to be repeated often more than twice, as we limit our travel and play only local teams. However, the keenness of the team has been most satisfying and training has been attended without fail by all the regular players.

P. Rear must be congratulated on his most efficient captaining of the team. The success we have achieved could not have been reached without his presence. I would like to extend my thanks to R. P. G. Owen for his attendance as scorer at all our matches.

The standard of play has been most satisfactory and has shown considerable improvement. Basketball is an easy game to play badly, but to reach any quality a great deal of practice is needed, and the School team must be congratulated on reaching their present competence. A great deal has still to be learnt about the finer points of the game, but I am sure that next season will again show a big improvement.

It is difficult to pick out any outstanding player in the team, for all have played well, and with determination. R. C. Jones' accuracy in shooting combined with the fact that he is left-handed has been an asset, and so has Randell's height and Muller's powers of jumping, and Rear's ability to appreciate the game and direct the play of the team.

D.T.N.

CRICKET CLUB 1957

Captain : A. Harvey.

Vice-Captain : E. M. Squires.

Old Colours : A. Harvey, E. M. Squires, J. C. Briden, R. C. Jones.

Cricket Sub-Committee : Messrs. H. W. Johnson, D. T. Nightingale, and M. Bridges, A. Harvey, E. M. Squires and J. C. Briden.

This season the Sub-Committee responsible for the running of the School cricket must be unique in the history of the School and perhaps in the history of any school. All members of the Committee are holders of cricket "colours" which have been awarded by this School. In fact there are three School cricket captains and two School vice-captains among the six members. This being so, at least there should be no break away from tradition this season!

Before the season starts it is hoped to run a three-day course on the same lines as the Easter holiday course at Lords. The dates are yet to be fixed, but the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the Easter week seem to suit the "Staff." This course will be open to all and will start at 10 a.m. and finish at 4 p.m. each day, with a short break for lunch. Details will be issued later and it is hoped that a good turn-out will take place.

Fixtures this season follow the usual pattern. New games against Trinity School, Croydon, City of Oxford School and a visit from Bolton (Lancs.) during their tour in this area are the additional fixtures. Old Boys will welcome the all-day fixture at the end of June, when it is hoped that a strong Old Boys' XI can be raised.

Only four old colours are returning, but the experience of three of them should be a great asset. Harvey, in his fifth year with the XI, with two years as vice-captain behind him and with all his experience in senior cricket—he was twelfth man for the full County XI in one game last season and was awarded his County Colts Cap as well—should lead the side well.

The Memorial Pavilion will be in use from the start of the season with, we hope, the surrounds in keeping with the building. All that is needed is a good term's weather for a most enjoyable, and for some the final School cricket season.

H.W.J.

THE MERIONETHSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION

On March 28th, 1956, the main party of the Archaeological Expedition set out to travel the 180 miles from High Wycombe to Dolgelly, in North Wales. The journey was uneventful, apart from encountering a blazing car on the roadside in Worcestershire. We arrived at our camp site at about 5 p.m. to find the advance party returning to camp after a preliminary examination of the area. They had travelled in Mr. E. Jones' car the previous day and had pitched the tents and generally prepared the site.

The tents were pitched close to a mountain stream, the Afon Clwydog, which provided both our water supply and a washing place. On the farther bank, reached by a tree-trunk bridge (which,

incidentally, gave way eventually and had to be replaced by stepping stones) was a derelict farmhouse, Gwanas Fawr. This was to provide a place of refuge if the weather proved too inclement. There were six small hike tents, four for sleeping in, one for stores and one for archaeological gear. Cooking was done over a wood fire, kindled with the help of solid methylated spirit. This last saved a lot of time in the high winds which prevailed for most of our stay. The usual evening routine was to prepare our meal, after which we retired to the "Cross Foxes," an inn about a quarter of a mile away, where we could sit in a warm room and plan our next day's route. We turned in at about ten o'clock most nights as we were walking distances of fifteen to twenty miles each day and needed all the rest we could get. The nights were cold but we were warm beneath about five layers of clothing, sleeping bag, and extra blankets.

We used to leave camp at about 10.30 a.m. each morning, when we had had our breakfast and done the various camp chores. We usually divided into two parties for archaeological work and tried to arrange it so that only one party would need the car, driven by Mr. Jones, who was staying in a hotel at Aberdovey, twenty miles away. The purpose of the expedition was to trace two Roman roads in the district. One ran from North to South and was partially known, there being a gap of about forty miles between Ffestiniog in the North and Aberystwyth in the South, which we were trying to fill in. The other ran from East to West and came down from Chester, ostensibly to join the North-South road, known as Sarn Helen, but petered out near Lake Bala, about twenty miles short of its objective. These two roads formed a Y-shaped figure with its central point at Dolgelley. There was also the possibility of a road linking the two Northern sites at Ffestiniog and Bala, the top points of the "Y."

The first day we examined a fairly definite stretch of road South-West of the Roman fort at Bala, called *Caer Gai*. *Caer* in Welsh means a fort, like the English "caster" or "chester" in Lancaster and Winchester. To prove the existence of a Roman road one needs measurements of the width of the causeway surviving and notes on its preservation. These can be inserted on the six inches to one mile Ordnance Survey maps used for plotting its course. Photographs of both the surface evidence and the soil formation beneath, which is revealed by digging a trench across the causeway to a depth of about three feet are also required. To do all this on a stretch of road about five miles long took the whole day, during which time it rained almost continuously. This, however, was our only wet day and the next day we split up into two parties. The party I was in examined another section of the same road nearer Dolgelley, with a view to finding where it joined the other road. We traced it for about three miles, but then it petered out. The other party had been down to Pennal, the Roman fort on the North bank

of the Dovey, in the extreme South of our area, and had tried to find where the road crossed the River Dovey. They were, however, unsuccessful. When we returned to camp we found that a bull had ripped the canvas of one of our sleeping tents and that had to be sewn up before we could go to bed. After that we erected anti-bull defences consisting of large branches from dead trees which we found in the derelict farm and managed to surround our camp site with them. They proved quite effective.

The next day was a Saturday and a lovely fine day it was too. My party attempted to trace Sarn Helen, the North-South road over the hills to the South of our camp-site and down into the slate-mining village of Aberllefenni. We found a definite track all the way, about fifteen miles, but were unable to prove it Roman. We were picked up by the car at about five o'clock and brought back to camp. The next day, Easter Sunday, was also April the first, not a very auspicious date, but we continued our work trying to trace Sarn Helen north of the point where we had started on the day before. Our route lay over the foothills of Cader Idris and down into the town of Dolgelley. Once again we found a continuous track but were unable to prove it definitely Roman. This day we had to do without transport as the other party were using it all day and so we walked about twenty miles.

We had arranged to take a rest from archaeological work the following day and so four of us decided to climb Cader Idris, 2,927 feet high. On the way up one member of the party, who shall be nameless, dropped his pack a thousand feet down a precipice whilst posing for a photograph. It took nearly an hour to climb down and retrieve it. When we eventually reached the summit we found that owing to the heat-haze (on April 2nd!) we could only see about two miles. Nevertheless, it was something to have reached the top.

Next day it was back to archaeological work and three of us picked up the search for the North-South road at Aberllefenni, where we had left it the previous Saturday, and walked down the valley for about twelve miles with much the same results as before. This time we used the bus, travelling down on the morning bus and back by the evening one—they are the only two along that way each day, although they connect two towns, Dolgelley and Machynlleth, about as big as Marlow.

On Wednesday we worked North from Dolgelley along the North-South road and reached Pont ar Eden, about ten miles up the valley. We narrowed down the search to two possible routes in that section, one of them leading past an old gold-mine, but could not pin-point it any more definitely. On Thursday we had rather an uninteresting day on the East-West route, trying to prove that the road did not go down the South side of the valley and therefore must follow the main road on the North side.

Our last day, Friday, was spent in excavating a large mound in a nearby field known as Caergnwch. The "Caer" in the name made us suspect a Roman "castra" (fort) there. We established that the site had been fortified at some time but found no datable evidence such as coins or pottery. On the Saturday we returned home after striking camp, part of the party by train and the other part by car.

After further work by G. D. B. Jones in August the results of the expedition included the tracing of a road twenty miles long connecting the two northern forts, and the tracing of another twenty miles of road south-west of Lake Bala from the fort at Caer Gai. Various theories were engendered for the North-South road, but as yet none of them have been proved. The expedition failed to join the roads together in the Dolgelley area and also failed to find a crossing for the North-South road of either of the two chief rivers, the Mawddach and the Dovey. Nevertheless, all who took part enjoyed themselves very much, and it is hoped to arrange another expedition this coming Easter, this time to the Builth Wells area.

The seven members of the party were G. D. B. Jones (R.G.S. and Jesus College, Oxford), the leader of the expedition, R. D. M. Thompson (R.G.S.), deputy leader, D. J. Griffiths (R.G.S. and Jesus College, Oxford), photographer, W. A. Booth (R.G.S. and Balliol College, Oxford), B. E. Devlin (R.G.S.), J. W. Harding (R.G.S.) and A. F. King (R.G.S.).

Our thanks are due to the Buckinghamshire Education Committee, without whose most generous grant the expedition would not have been possible ; to Mr. E. R. Tucker, Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, for his constant help and encouragement ; to Mr. C. W. Phillips, Director of the Archaeological Department of Ordnance Survey ; and to Mr. E. Jones, who provided the day-to-day transport on the spot and gave up his holiday to help us. We are also deeply grateful to Miss M. V. Taylor, of the Ashmolean Museum ; Mr. J. G. Griffith, Vice-Principal of Jesus College, Oxford ; and Professor I. L. Foster, Professor of Celtic studies, for their most valuable advice and assistance.

A. F. KING, VIC.

WALKING IN SWITZERLAND

It was four o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday, August 12th. We (M.J.R. and I.R.B.) were two of a party of fourteen Youth Hostellers on our way to Switzerland for a walking holiday. Leaving London on this sunny Sunday afternoon we did not know what adventures awaited us, or what new friends we would make. We were the two youngest members of the party, which was made up

of teachers, university students, office workers, a cabinet maker and a laboratory assistant. The train soon sped through Southern England and it was not long before we were embarking on the boat for Boulogne.

When we arrived on French soil it was quite dark and our train for Basle was waiting in the station. The journey across France to Basle took ten hours. Sleep was practically impossible, the only comfortable place being the luggage rack. Gradually dawn broke over the countryside of France and soon the train was pulling into Basle station.

We were in Switzerland at last—here we met our Swiss guide who, much to the enjoyment of the male section of the party, turned out to be a girl. We all introduced ourselves and she took us off to a restaurant where we had our breakfast. Soon it was time to leave Basle and to board the train again for the last short journey to Lucerne. Here we were met with the full splendour of the Swiss landscape, towering snow-capped mountains rolling down to the incredibly blue lake. Steamer was our next means of transport ; this took us across the lake to Vitznau. This was a very relaxing journey and it gave us time to sun-bathe and to try and take in some of this beautiful landscape. When we arrived at Vitznau we started walking to the nearest youth hostel, about three miles away. It was at this time that we younger two compared the size of our rucksacks to our companions'. We had brought everything but the kitchen sink: but we all learn by experience. The hostel was situated alongside the lake and young people from many countries were there, French, Germans, Italians, Americans and English. The first thing we did was to take a swim in the freezing waters of the lake.

Sleep came to us very quickly that night ; it was the first real rest we had had for 48 hours. The next day we started our walking programme, and the first item was the ascent of Rigi, a mountain 5,000 ft. high. The climb took us three hours, but it was well worth it, for at the top the view was wonderful. When we arrived back at the hostel we prepared ourselves for a visit to a hotel in Vitznau. There we saw folk dancing, yodelling, a young man juggling with a very large Swiss flag, and two men blowing Alpine horns. It was altogether a most exciting evening and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The next morning was a very beautiful one : we went by motor-boat on a tour of Lake Lucerne, stopping for a while at the very picturesque town of Brunnen, on the lakeside. In the afternoon we went swimming, and ended a perfect day with a singing party in which we were joined by German and French hostellers.

The following day we moved on to our next hostel. The journey consisted of travelling from Vitznau by steamer to Buochs ; from there we walked for about an hour in the boiling sun until we

came to Stans, then a restful journey by rail to Engelberg. The valley of Engelberg has mountains on three of the four sides ; the fourth is the simplest way out by rail or road, but there is an elaborate cable railway which enables one to come or go by the more difficult route.

When we eventually reached the hostel, which was a very spacious chalet, we all needed a good rest. Blisters were becoming very common now (M.J.R. claimed the biggest : $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in.).

The following day we took packed lunches and set off to try and climb Bruni, a mountain of about 8,000 ft. The first part of the ascent was done by cable-car, but soon we reached the earth with a bump. The heat was terrific and the climbing slow. At about halfway we stopped to rest, and only a few carried on any further. The peak of the mountain was not reached as the weather took a turn for the worse, although it had been so hot before ; it is surprising how quickly it can change. The rest of the party had descended upon a farmer who was in his summer "residence" halfway up the mountain. The chalet in which he was living was very dirty, but it seemed to suit the old man, who had a grey, flowing beard ; he smoked a large pipe which, every time it was lit, nearly sent his beard up in flames. Here the old man was making cheese by the same method that had been used by his forefathers, and by the look of the place it had never been swept since then either.

Early next morning we continued our journey. We walked to the cable railway terminus and took the easy way up the mountains. After we had gone up about 500 ft. we changed to another cable which took us up about another 1,000 ft. to the top of the Jock Pass, 9,000 ft. above sea level. Snow-balling was the immediate incentive ; when we had finished we started off on another long walk. We had just caught sight of the next village, Tanalp, when the skies opened and it poured. It was too late to put on a cape, as in a few seconds we were wet through, but this did not help the walking either, because on one side was a sheer drop of about 400 ft., and one had to be reasonably careful. This sudden immersion did solve a little problem for us : we had been amused to see the inhabitants of the mountain carrying umbrellas with them wherever they went, but we all learn by experience ! When we eventually arrived at Tanalp we were very wet but still in high spirits. The village consisted of a hotel, a small chapel, and about a dozen chalets. The Youth Hostel was attached to the hotel and meals were served for us in the hotel restaurant. That evening we joined in with the locals who had come to the hotel for the weekly dance.

Melsche Frutt was the next stop, and after only one hour's walking next morning we arrived there. This was another hostel attached to a hotel. The centre is famous for its winter sports, and it is then that the hotel has most visitors. The afternoon was spent

climbing ; it was here that we reached the highest point of 12,000 ft., which is quite good for inexperienced mountaineers. That night was also spent dancing with the local inhabitants.

The next day we faced our longest walk, but it was at least down hill, and it managed to rain all the time. When we arrived at Melchtal it looked a very quiet town, but we had not heard "the bells." There were three sets of bells in the village : one in the church tower and the other two in the monastery and convent. Unfortunately they were not synchronized and at every hour the noise lasted for about ten minutes. It was not too bad in the day, but little sleep was gained that night. The following day was a rest day, so we decided to go to Sarnen, about six miles away. Here we had the unforgettable experience of travelling in a Swiss bus along a very narrow mountain road. The bus possessed a beautiful system of Klaxon horns which were played at every bend—these were needed, because the driver seemed to be in a hurry—it is doubtful if our speed was below 40 m.p.h. all the way. Sarnen was quite a large town and gave us an opportunity of doing a little shopping. When we arrived back at Melchtal (in one piece) we all shook hands with the driver on alighting from the bus, and gave him our thanks for an unforgettable ride.

Next morning we started on our walk to Sarnen, but we deliberately took a different route from the bus on the previous day. From Sarnen we took a train to Giswil. Here we were told it was quite good for swimming, but the weather not being too warm and Swiss lakes being freezing cold, the offer was declined. That evening we held a little celebration for a girl member of our party who was 21. Interlaken was the place visited the following day ; here we met more English people than anywhere else in Switzerland we had visited.

The journey next day was our return to Basle *via* Lucerne. We spent the greater part of the day sight-seeing in Lucerne. By this time we were all fairly tired and any opportunity to catch up on our beauty sleep was taken. Basle now looked to us a very bleak city, but let me say here that it is not. The sky was overcast and light rain was falling.

The following day was our last one, and was packed with incidents. We woke up at 5.30 a.m. ; by 6.30 we had left Basle Youth Hostel and were walking through the city streets to find a place to have breakfast. At 8 o'clock we were waiting for a train to take us into Germany. It was not long before we were in Lorrach, a small town on the German border. Here we bought odd presents : cameras and clocks were cheap, so they were the main buys. We returned to Basle to have lunch and then started to look round the city. Rain was falling heavily and it was quite depressing just

walking round, so we headed for the nearest cinema, which was showing an English film with French and German sub-titles. All too soon it was time to say goodbye to Switzerland and to the new friends we had made. Slowly the train pulled out of the station and we again looked forward to that 19-hour train journey and rough boat trip back to England.

I. R. BUNDEY, VIM. ; M. J. RICHARDSON, VIS.

PISA, A TUSCAN CITY OF ITALY

During a visit to Italy last year I visited the well-known city of Pisa with my parents, and ascended its famous leaning tower. From one of the topmost balconies we had an excellent view of the Cathedral and Baptistry.

The Cathedral, which dates from 1063, is of white marble and has an elliptical dome. It has a magnificent bronze door and the famous lamp of Galileo is to be seen within. The Baptistry, built during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, was begun by Diotisalvi, and continued by Nicola Pisano, who built the pulpit inside. The building has a diameter of 116 feet and a dome of 190 feet high ; it took almost 150 years to complete. Inside the slightest sound reverberates in the hollow dome. The tower itself is 179 feet high and has circular balconies, all of which are composed of marble. It leans at an angle of approximately nine degrees to the vertical, and this is very noticeable as one ascends. When I reached the summit I discovered by means of a compass that it leans towards the north.

To ascend the tower we were charged 150 lire (about 1/9), then we climbed about 300 stairs, looked out from each of the balconies—which have no railings to prevent one falling into the street—took several photographs, and hurried back down the steps to rejoin our coach party.

Pisa, standing on the River Arno, has very many other interesting buildings such as the fine church of Santa Maria della Spina, and San Nicola, which has also a leaning tower and dates from the eleventh century. The architecture of the fourteenth-century University is among the finest in Italy. Pisa is famous for the manufacture of glass and other articles of interest to tourists.

We should have liked to stay longer and explore the city thoroughly, but that was impossible, as we had to be in Genoa that evening.

PETER GALLOWAY, VIS.

BRUGES

Bruges lies in the province of West Flanders, in Belgium, about 12 miles from the North Sea port of Ostend. In the middle ages it was one of the most important commercial cities in Western Europe. Art flourished under the Court of Burgundy, as is seen from the magnificent architecture of many of the buildings. Fortunately the city was largely undamaged by the war, and it is now very popular with tourists.

On entering Bruges one is struck by the general air of desertion : that the town has changed little in this respect in the last 150 years or so is shown by these lines of Wordsworth :

“ In Bruges town is many a street
Whence busy life hath fled,
Where, without hurry, noiseless feet
The grass-grown pavement tread.”

Bruges is, indeed, still known in Belgium as “ *la ville morte*.”

Bruges is one of Belgium's cities of arts. Every other street seems to have its church ; there are a great number of museums full of paintings by Flemish masters, and the town is characterised by its “ step-gabled ” houses (see photograph). The best known building is the fourteenth-century Belfry (as it is known), whose tower dominates the town. The chime of its famous bells is unique. A network of placid canals flows through the town, and the bridges which span them are extremely picturesque—the Flemish form of the town's name, Brugge, means bridges. Because of its canals Bruges has been called the Venice of the North.

But the twentieth century has changed the city.

The tall tower of the Belfry is now rivalled by the smokey chimney of an immense new power-station which has to a certain extent contaminated the canals. The huge square overlooked by the Belfry is now a car park, and road signs stand on every corner. Bruges used to be famous for embroidery ; now it is better known for engineering. In the summer one sees more tourists than townsfolk, and most of the inhabitants speak French and English as well as their native Flemish.

Yet the city largely retains its medieval character, with its narrow cobbled streets, its ancient monuments and churches, its canals and bridges, its Belfry, and the characteristic architecture of its houses. In spite of the tourists Bruges is still “ *la ville morte*,” “ whence busy life hath fled.”

P. M. SLOTKIN, VIM.

HOPES FOR BRITISH GRAND PRIX CARS IN 1957

During the past season British Grand Prix cars have suffered from a series of annoying failures. It is now nearly two years since a major European Grand Prix was won by a British car, although at the opening of the 1956 season hopes were boosted when Stirling Moss driving a Vanwall soundly beat a strong Italian challenge from the Ferrari works team, but this was the only major race to be won by a British car last year.

Probably the best contender for Grand Prix honours hailing from a British stable is the Vanwall. A variety of afflictions seems to have descended upon this unfortunate car, the most common seeming to be loss of air pressure and valve failure. During last year's European Grand Prix, which was run at Monza, in Italy, British hopes ran high as American Harry Schell led the race in his Vanwall ; unfortunately he was forced to retire after 37 laps owing to loss of oil pressure. Nevertheless, this effort showed that the only thing lacking from the Vanwall was durability, although this is a most important factor. Despite the failure of the Vanwalls, British Connaughts contrived to finish in third and fifth positions ; it should be pointed out that these cars did not gain their partial success by way of their great speed, but rather by way of their durability. The race for them consisted of clinging on to the faster cars in the hope that they would blow up, which some of them obligingly did.

Connaughts always do fairly well in any event, but unfortunately they are cramped by lack of funds—however, a Connaught supporters' club has now been formed with the idea of financing more cars on the starting-grid ; it is hoped that the club will raise sufficient funds to enable two more cars to run in nearly every Grand Prix during 1957.

Finally the least successful of the British Grand Prix cars—the much maligned B.R.M. Undoubtedly the fastest car since the W196 Mercedes of 1955, this unfortunate car has yet to complete a Grand Prix, but anyone who has seen these cars in action cannot fail to be impressed by their fantastic acceleration, rock-steady cornering and superb braking power. The sight of two British cars in the lead at the end of the first lap in the British Grand Prix at Silverstone last year so moved the spectators in the Pit area that they stood up and cheered, but their excitement was short lived : by the 26th lap they were both out of the race.

This series of failures has continued for about four years ; in fact some have accepted the failure of British cars as permanent and have resigned themselves to the fact that the only people who can make Grand Prix cars that last are the Germans and the Italians.

What are the reasons for the failure of British cars? Everything is in our favour, there are ample funds (all except Connaught are amply provided for), the manufacturers have much experience and some excellent craftsmen; and yet we are unable to produce a good car. What is the use of our supply of the world's best racing drivers if they have to go abroad to find scope for their talents?

Let us hope that 1957 will see British cars winning several major Grand Prix. We could certainly do with the change.

D. W. PARKINSON, VIM.

BIRD PROTECTION

The introduction of Television has, through showing nature films, greatly increased the public interest in birds. The public attitude towards birds today is very different from the attitude in the nineteenth century. In those "dark" days the attitude was to shoot anything that had wings. Today that urge to kill has been replaced by the urge to observe.

During the nineteenth century many birds became rare, owing chiefly to the shotgun menace, keepers, and collectors.

Other causes were the draining of fenland and marshes, the decrease in the size of woods and the spread of industry.

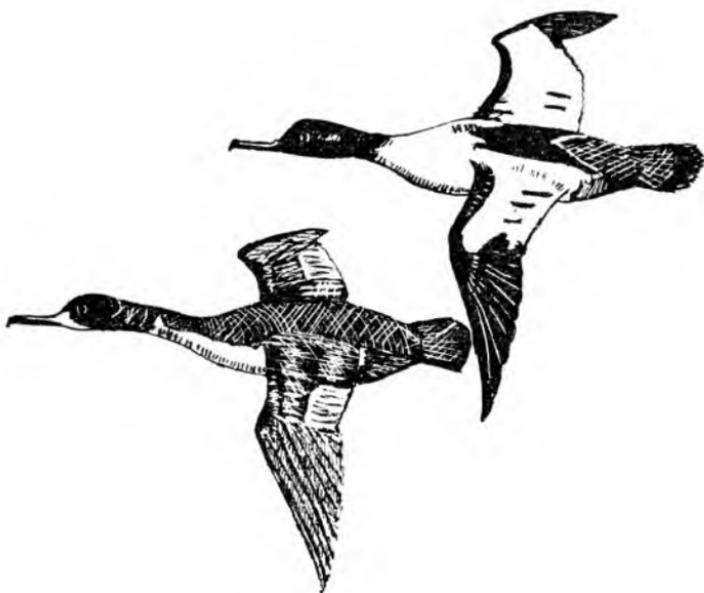
Eight species ceased to breed in Britain in the nineteenth century. Five of these have bred again in this century and two of these have re-established themselves (the Bittern and Avocet). Five of these eight are marsh birds—the Avocet, the Black Tern, the Bittern, the Black-tailed Godwit and the Ruff. The other three are the Honey Buzzard and Great Buzzard, shot and robbed by man, and the Great Auk, taken for food by man.

Despite the heavy toll inflicted on birds by the depredations of the shooters and collectors, three new birds were established in Britain (the Little Owl, Capercaillie and Red-legged Partridge) and four species formed colonies (the Gadwall, Wigeon, Pintail, Goosander).

Bird-protection has only been in progress since the beginning of this century. Has this protection achieved anything in the last fifty-six years?

Let us divide the birds into ecological groups and then inspect each group in turn. There are five main groups—Birds of the Sea, Birds of the Mountain and Moorland, Birds of Prey, Birds of Woodland, and Birds of Marsh and Freshwater.

Sea-birds have, on the whole, increased. Most remarkable is the colonisation of the Fulmar and Gannet. Gulls have also increased (due to the spread of the fishing industry), and so have the Terns (due to the protection of their eggs). The Puffin, Razorbill



A PAIR OF GOOSANDERS



GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

J. N. Keeling. 6S²B

and Guillemot, however, have decreased, due to some unknown cause.

Quite a high proportion of the mountain birds are still decreasing, particularly the Ring Ouzel, Twite, Wheatear and Stonechat.

The Dartford Warbler still survives, but only just. Its decrease seems to be due to the activities of egg collectors. The Chough and Grey Wagtail are slowly increasing, but the Moorland Waders (Dunlin, Whimbrel, Dotterel, and Golden Plover) are decreasing. The Stone Curlew population seems to remain constant.

The predatory birds (Crow family, Owls, Hawks, Falcons, Harriers, Eagles and Buzzards) had a very hard time at the end of the last century. The effect of this persecution lasted into the beginning of the present century. In the last twenty years, however, people have realised the benefit gained from Owls and the beauty and elegance of birds of prey. This thought, however, was too late to save three birds (the Honey-Buzzard, Osprey and White-tailed Eagle) which became extinct in this country. Most of the other predators have increased except the Sparrowhawk, which is slowly decreasing.

It is impossible to assess the changes in all the woodland birds. Some have noticeably decreased in the past few years, especially the Yellow Wagtail, Corn Bunting and Wryneck. The cause is unknown.

The decrease of the Corncrake has been proved to be due to the mechanisation of the farming methods. Three birds have greatly increased, the Lapwing, the Great Spotted Woodpecker, and the Nuthatch.

Over half the marsh and water birds have increased in the last fifty years. Six have arrived as colonists and only one has become extinct—the Kentish Plover. I am sorry to say that that beautiful bird, the Black-throated Diver, is slowly becoming rarer and rarer.

The most encouraging thing is the tremendous increase in Marsh birds. The Duck family has increased considerably; the Gadwall, Goosander, Pintail, and Wigeon have all colonised.

The crowning glory is the re-introduction of the Avocet. This bird ceased to breed in this country in the 1840's. In 1947 a small colony bred on an island in East Anglia. In 1948 they again bred and so the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds bought the island and spent a great amount of money in making the breeding conditions just right for the Avocets. In 1955 sixty-five pairs bred—a truly great achievement.

This brief survey of the British bird population shows that, although there have been increases in a lot of species, we have lost some species, which we should try to overcome by re-establishment of these by-gone residents.

J. N. KEELING, VI.

A MATTER OF TIMING

Michael got up, walked over to the ash tray and stubbed his cigarette. The troubled frown he had had a few hours ago was gone ; instead he wore the quiet look of self-satisfaction that mathematicians have when they have solved a problem. But he had solved a problem, one that was far more awkward than the hardest maths question imaginable. Two hours ago he had been in the throes of despair, now he saw the way clear to the end of all his troubles.

I suppose he must have read the story many times . . . "nephew plots death of rich uncle to inherit will." But now this was different, it was real, it was actually happening !

Michael was in debt to the amount of £10,000, just because he couldn't keep off the race-tracks. Every bet he thought would be a winner, a dead cert that would clear off his other debts, but now it was too late, this was the only way.

It was common knowledge that old Thomas Reynolds had bequeathed nearly twenty thousand pounds to Michael Lorrimer, who was his only living relation. Uncle Thomas lived on his own, with his only company provided by a golden retriever. It was the fact that there was only one dog now that had suggested the idea to Michael. For the past ten years there had been two dogs, both of them perfect specimens of their breed, but only a few weeks ago one had died. It was pretty obvious that he was deeply missed by the old man ; everybody in the village had noticed this. If anything were to happen to the other dog . . .

It was Michael's custom to visit his uncle on Tuesday and Friday in the evening, at about eight, and on Sunday at about four. On these occasions he had noticed that his uncle always summoned the dogs with a hand-carved wooden whistle that he wore on his watch chain. The first move was to get the whistle. Of the three days in the week on which an opportunity might arise, he chose the Tuesday ; this was because the local ironmonger always delivered paraffin on the following day ; he was in fact the only trader that delivered by van, and that point was most essential to Michael's plan.

Tuesday arrived.

Michael was careful not to get there early and was his usual cheery self. His uncle was always glad to see him, and openly said so. Michael's activities on the race-course were completely unknown to him. During the course of the evening Michael swung the conversation round to watches ; he had purposely bought a new one with this in mind.

"Not so good as the old ones, eh, Uncle ; now take yours, that's a watch."

Uncle Thomas responded as Michael had hoped, and took his watch and chain off and handed them to Michael ; he compared the two watches.

“ What do you think of mine, Uncle ? ”

It didn't need trained hands to slip the whistle off its ring. Then he took his own watch, just as the hall clock struck ten, which was his usual time to leave. He said good-night, and anxiously went out, resisting the urge to hurry and so incite his Uncle's curiosity.

Thomas Reynolds had a housekeeper who lived in, and had every Saturday off ; if all went well this was the day that the old man would commit “ suicide.”

The drive to the house had several bends in it and at one point was quite thickly wooded. It was there that Michael hid himself. He could see the dog sleeping on the lawn about eighty yards away. His fate rested on his timing of blowing the whistle. He crouched low. Every rustle of the leaves sounded like the van he was waiting for. At last he heard it ; if he had miscalculated the time he was finished. He raised the whistle to his lips, waited and blew. The next thing he heard was a screech of brakes, and a whining howl. He had been right. Silently he crept off.

The next day, Thursday, he spent the morning shopping in the village ; the news had spread already, everyone was talking about it. So far, so good.

He visited his uncle as usual on Friday, and was almost sorry to see how upset he was over the death of his dog. The evening dragged by and Michael was glad when it was time for him to go ; he was just going out of the front door when he heard the words which meant a change of plan . . . he thought for the better.

“ You sure you don't mind me going early this weekend, Mr. Reynolds ? ”

Mrs. Cooper and Michael walked down the drive together, and they both agreed how low Uncle Thomas was feeling.

“ Proper shame, ain't it ? ”

One hour later found Michael knocking at his Uncle's door. He apologised for calling again and mumbled something about hoping he was feeling all right. It did not need much of Michael's strength to gag and hold the old man, who was most shocked and conveniently fainted on the spot. He was gagged with Michael's scarf and loosely tied with wide bandages. Tight enough to hold him but not to mark his wrists. Very methodically he closed all the windows, pushed the old man's head in the oven and switched on the gas, wiped his finger-prints off, and locked the door. He stood a second listening to the fatal hissing.

The next two hours were nerve-racking : twice Michael had to overcome his feelings to rush back and drag his uncle out. But he didn't. All he had to do now was to go back, untie his uncle and

go without being noticed. Using his handkerchief as a mask, he rushed into the kitchen, switched off the gas to avoid killing himself, and pulled the bandages and scarf off and hurried out and slammed the door. Now he had to get home ; he pulled his gloves off as he ran over the lawn ; he was sweating all over. But it was over, his troubles were finished.

Saturday was a day of nervousness and of waiting. Michael knew that Mrs. Cooper would not discover the body until Sunday morning, so he should expect the police to arrive or phone at about eleven on Sunday morning. He wasn't far out, for at ten minutes to eleven the door bell rung. The events of the next few seconds happened so quickly that all Michael could remember hearing was

“. . . and anything you say may be used in evidence against you.” All Michael could stammer out was :

“ But . . . how ? ”

“ I am afraid, Mr. Lorrimer, that a dead man can't switch off the gas.”

J. KOTLAR, VI.

FELLOW PASSENGERS

There are several types of people who seem to spend their time just sitting on buses.

There is the overgrown grandmotherly type immersed in a prickly tweed coat with air-vents at the seams. She is so weighty that the springs have given up hope and come into the two-sevenths of the seat that she has left for you to sit on.

You sit down and she shoves her basket half on to your knees. You look into it and she snatches it back and blows her breakfasty breath all over you as she gives you what is probably one of her nasty looks, although it may be her everyday expression.

Then she becomes obsessed with the desire to blow or wipe her ample nose. She heaves like a hippopotamus in a quagmire and squeezes a fat thumb and forefinger into a narrow pocket. The handkerchief is the size of a guinea pig's tail and has pixies embroidered in the corner. She dabs at the large area of her face covered by nose and replaces the hanky whence it came.

Then she gets up without an “ Excuse me ” and lumbers off the bus.

Then there is the nervous young business man who sits bolt upright on one of the bench seats near the back of a double-decker.

You sit opposite him and stare at the adverts. above his head. He thinks you're staring at him and daren't look at you to make sure. He gulps and licks his lips. You continue reading the advertisements and he doesn't know what to do with his face (what

there is of it to do anything with). He looks sideways and the person sitting next to him stares at him. He looks back again and you are still looking at him. He gives in, and looks down at his lap. You sit and wait; he soon gets cramp in the neck and jerks his head back suddenly, hitting the bus window. Everybody turns and stares at him; this is the last straw, he goes white, tries to smile, goes blood red and his eyes rove all around but without focusing on anybody's face. They still stare at him, he turns to his last resort, taking off his gloves and pretending to find something in his inside pocket. He finishes this, but everybody is still staring, he jumps to his feet and gets off at the next stop.

Then there is the very little girl sitting on Mummy's lap.

"Hallo," she says.

"Hallo," you say very quietly, going pink.

"What's your name?"

"Aha!"

"Oh, go on, tell me!"

"Aha!"

"My name's Alice Brunddelbourg and I'm six. I've got a brother Thomas Brunddelbourg and he's ten, and Mummy's forty-three!"

Mummy goes pink and smiles sheepishly at you. Before she can speak to her dear little daughter the latter is off again.

"What's your name?" All the bus heard that one.

"Aha!" You hope nobody heard that.

"Oh, go on, tell me."

"Aha!"

"Mummy, what's the little boy's name?"

(Little boy, indeed. I wish I had a gun, little beast.)

"I don't know, dear, and I don't think the little boy is a very nice little boy anyway."

This time you get up and get off.

But the worst place to sit is between Mrs. Berkley and Mrs. Ham having the world to pieces. Mrs. Ham is recuperating from her speech and Mrs. Berkley is holding forth.

"I says 'e says, Mrs. 'Am, where's me braces, 'e says, wot did you use to make a new band for your 'at with, 'e says, 'oo was looking for a piece of elastic, 'e says. Where's my braces, 'e says. Oh, I says, and wots that 'anging off the back of your trousers, I says, 'ave you grown a tail, I says.

"Talk about laugh, I shot three press-studs out the window, Mrs. 'Am, 'ave you grown a tail, I says; laugh, I nearly 'ad me breakfast up. 'Ave you grown a tail, I says. You should 'ave seen 'is face, Mrs. 'Am. Excuse me, Sonny, can I sit next to Mrs. 'Am I want to talk to 'er."

J. C. HOLDBROOK, VI.

ULTIMATE LONELINESS

The letter—short but containing a surprising message—got down to business, after the usual formalities :

“ Prince Edward will be travelling aboard your ship to Mars for the launching of the ‘Aries,’ which will, next year, endeavour to reach Titan. It is necessary, however, that you learn something few men know ; long ago it was realised that the Monarchy was an unfair burden to inflict on any human being : no monarch has ever been able to do those things he wanted to do : he has, instead, had to watch many totally uninteresting things, and he has never been able to leave the meticulously-planned official routes. A few years ago—with an advance in the science of robotics—it at last became possible to remedy this.

“ In brief, the Prince Edward who will travel with you is not the real Prince Edward ; he is a robot. (There is, of course, a real Prince Edward, and a real Royal Family, but they appear only on the more important—and interesting—occasions ; this occasion is important, but it was felt that the heir to the throne was too valuable to risk on such dangerous things as space flight). Your job is to keep the prince isolated from outside interference ; if this is successfully done you will receive a bonus—but, should you attempt to profit from your knowledge, the real prince will be produced, and you will be black-listed. . . .”

Captain Geddes screwed the letter up, stuck it in his pocket, and decided to ditch it into space when he went across to the Space Station to meet the prince ; that way it would forever be safe from prying eyes.

An hour later, after the few passengers who were Mars-bound this trip had all checked aboard, and gone to their cabins, Geddes returned to Space Station One, was introduced to the Prince, and was surprised to see just how far robotics had progressed ; had he not been told, Geddes would never even have *suspected* that the Prince was not a real, flesh-and-blood human being.

The robot must, it occurred to Geddes, be made to resemble the real prince in more than just physical appearance : it must be like him and react like him in *every* way ; in intelligence, interests, and so on. The prince, then—judging from this version—was a pleasant, mentally-alert young man ; Geddes escorted him across to the “ Lucian ”—he was travelling without a retinue, and seemed glad of it—and while showing him around the personnel sphere of the dumb-bell-shaped spaceship, was asked several highly technical questions.

Thirty minutes later—with the prince watching interestedly from a space chair—Geddes fired the jets briefly, and the “ Lucian ” drifted slowly away from Space Station One.

Nine days out along the orbit that led to Phobos—where they would transfer to the winged ferryship that would carry them down, through the Martian atmosphere, to Port Schiaparelli—Prince Edward asked to be shown over the other part of the ship—the sphere that contained the atomic motors.

“ I don’t see why not,” mused Geddes, who, already, had almost forgotten that the prince was not the prince. “ I’ll see if anyone else wants to come.” He assembled the rest of the passengers in the observation lounge, and asked if any of them felt like joining the prince and himself.

“ What about the radiation ? ” demanded a small fat accountant, who was going to Mars to do a cost-analysis of the colony’s operations.

“ No need to worry about that,” Geddes replied cheerfully. “ You can spend anything up to half an hour in there without harm, and there’s an additional margin they don’t tell us ; after all, we only fly the ship.”

Despite this assurance, however, only twelve passengers elected to see the engine dumb-bell ; the rest, illogically, failed to place much faith in the scientists who had designed the ship. . . .

They stared curiously at the motors as Geddes explained that they were, in fact, far more efficient than the old-fashioned chemical motors ; the general impression, however, was that it seemed a small thing on which to chance one’s life. . . .

“ Right,” said Geddes, looking at this watch, “ we’ve been here thirteen minutes : we’d better be getting back.” Going across to the door, he pushed casually at the button which operated it, waited, and—it failed to open. He pushed again, more anxiously, but, again, was unable to open it.

“ What’s up ? ” asked the little accountant, worried, as the passengers clustered around Geddes.

“ The door’s stuck,” Geddes returned, trying to imply that this sort of thing often happened.

They all lined up to push, shove, and punch—more and more forcibly and frantically—at the button, but the door stubbornly refused to budge, and morale visibly disappeared.

“ Must be some sort of electric short-circuit,” volunteered the accountant.

“ Thank you,” a drawling voice snarled, “ I shall always treasure that piece of surprising, valuable, and useful information : now we know that we’re all right.”

“ Quit that,” warned Geddes, looking again at his watch. “ We’ve got eleven minutes to think of some way out of this, and quarrelling amongst ourselves won’t help. . . . Anyone got any worthwhile ideas ? ”

No one had.

“ What about them in the personnel sphere ? ” a skinny man offered.

"No reason why they should realise we ought to have been back until it's too late—for us," replied Geddes grimly.

"That hatch ; what does it open on ?" Prince Edward enquired, pointing.

"Emergency hatch ; straight into space," Geddes informed him reluctantly. "Normally anyone who comes here wears a radiation suit, since he usually has to do some lengthy repair job—but it didn't seem necessary for us . . ." The words tailed awkwardly away.

"No good banging on the door, I suppose ?" queried the skinny man, hopefully.

"Not the slightest," Geddes said, resignedly, "no, we've had it : best to wait quietly."

One of the three women who had come along began to cry hopelessly to herself ; her husband, comforting her, glared beligerently around, but no one else was at all interested : some—Geddes among them—who had accepted their end, were trying to make their peace with their own particular God, and some—Prince Edward, for example—were still furiously trying to think of a saving scheme.

"Captain," the skinny man said suddenly, "I seem to remember reading once that a man can survive for a while in absolute vacuum."

"Your body-gases'd expand, and you'd explode," repudiated the accountant.

"No," Geddes denied. "Lab tests show a healthy man can live through a pressure drop of seven and a half pounds in less than half a second, and that's at least twice what it'd be if you opened that hatch, but what's that ?"

"Well, couldn't someone go out there, float over to the other sphere, and knock up the crew ?"

"But you can't breathe space ; not and get away with it," said the accountant, indignantly.

"Shut up, Stupid," advised the drawling voice, "don't you want to be saved ? Here's a great big hero waiting to get you out of this mess, and you tell him not to bother—it's too risky !"

"I also read," continued the skinny man, before Geddes—whose brain had suddenly stirred—could speak, "that, if you breathe deeply for several minutes, flush your lungs out, and fill your system with oxygen, you can go five minutes without needing to breathe again."

"That's right," Geddes nodded, "but who's going to do it ?"

"Go on, then," the drawling voice recommended. "Good luck."

"Not me," objected the skinny man hastily : "I thought of it ; someone else can do it."

The owner of the drawl sneered.

"It'd better be you," Geddes said, pointing at the drawler, "you're the best built of us, so you'd have most chance."

"Not me, either," said the drawler hurriedly. "Let's have some sort of draw—leaving out the women, of course—to see who goes."

The skinny man, seeing his chance, leered revoltingly at the drawler.

"Don't bother ; I'll go," Prince Edward said, unexpectedly, and Geddes, who had taken much longer than he should have done—shock, perhaps—to remember that the prince, being a robot, could, of course, float about in space as long as he liked, and who, remembering the letter, had tried to think of some way to suggest this without letting the proverbial cat out, quickly agreed.

"There's not much time," he said, urgently, "breathe out . . . hold it, don't strain . . . okay, breathe in . . . breathe out . . ."

"Hey," exclaimed the accountant in sudden alarm, "won't he let out air when he gets out of the hatch ?"

"Do you want to die *really* painfully ?" demanded the drawling voice pleasantly.

"No," Geddes assured the accountant, motioning the prince to breathe out, "we'll still have enough ; anyway, we'd have to risk it."

The prince shook hands with Geddes—who reflected, irrelevantly, on the ability of the roboticists—pulled his magnetic boots off, bent his knees, straightened them, drifted up to the hatch, climbed through it, and slammed it hurriedly behind him.

"There goes a brave man," admitted the accountant, "braver than me." This time the drawler didn't sneer. . . .

Ten minutes later—when Geddes was really beginning to worry—Arnold and Bunyard, his immediate subordinates, came and let them out. . . .

"How's the prince ?" asked Geddes, after reaching the personnel sphere and a drink.

"Dead ; it was his heart," Bunyard revealed, sorrowfully. Geddes killed his surprise ; the vacuum of space must have ruined some delicate piece of mechanism in the robot. . . .

"Did he say anything ?" he enquired, feeling he had to say something.

"Mumbled away for a few minutes," informed Arnold. "I recorded it all, of course."

"Well, we'll have the Burial Service tomorrow," Geddes decided, realising that, in order to preserve the prince's secret, he would have to get rid of the evidence as soon as possible.

Before the service, however, Geddes listened, as was his duty, to the recording of the prince's last words ; they were low and blurred, but—just—understandable.

“ Tell my parents I'm sorry, but I've always wanted to get into space, and see the stars as they really are ; ” once again, Geddes felt admiration for the superb job the roboticists had done : somehow—after hearing that—it was even harder to think of him as no more than a creation of metal and plastic. . . .

They held the Burial Service the next day, outside the ship's main lock ; Geddes, forcing himself to sound sincere, read the appropriate words—which had long ago been adapted for use in space—the crew and passengers sang a hymn :

Almighty Ruler of the All,
Whose power extends to great and small,
Who guides the stars with steadfast law,
Whose least creation fills with awe ;
Oh, grant Thy mercy and Thy grace
To those who venture into space : ”

and Geddes, putting his hand on the “ corpse's ” face, gave it the push that, sometime in the years that were to come, would, inevitably, take it into the heart of the Sun.

The “ corpse ” sped away, the people muttered one last “ amen, ” and, glad to be alive, yet sorry for the price that had had to be paid went back into the ship.

Geddes, watching the speck dwindle out of sight, went in last, shut the lock doors—and a memory—behind him, and, thinking with wonder of the robot's last words, began to strip off his suit ; half finished, he stopped, and stared in horror at the tiny, yet all-revealing, patch of red on his glove : it was, without doubt, blood. . . .

P. KENNARD, VIIM.

QUITE SIMPLE

The following explanation of the game of cricket was given to an American G.I. by the local expert :—

“ Cricket is really quite simple. You have two sides in—one out in the field, one in. Each man on the side that's in goes out in turn to have his innings—and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out. Then, when all are out, that ends the innings and the side that's out in the field comes in—and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in out. Sometimes of course you get men who are still in and not out—and when both sides have been in and out, including not-outs—that ends the game.”

P. J. GRIFFIN, VIS.

CHESS CLUB

After a period of inactivity because of examinations and other difficulties, the Chess Club will, at the time of publication, have started regular meetings again. Our new quarters are in the Main School and it is hoped that more of the senior boys, perhaps discouraged before by the walk down to Uplyme, will show a livelier interest, for at the moment nearly all the members are juniors. As the School team is formed of Senior boys, their lack of support can only result in a fall from the recent standard.

During the Christmas term our team was moderately successful (Played 6, Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 2). Because of various postponements, most of our fixtures have yet to be played, but we have unfortunately been eliminated already from the Berks and Bucks Competition after the 1st round, losing by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ against Sir William Borlase's School.

Before Christmas Wilson and Hardy played for the Bucks under 18 team *v.* Berks at Reading. Bucks won by $10\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$. Sutton and Wilson played for Bucks Junior Team at boards 3 and 12 respectively in a Jamboree match at the National Chess Centre on March 2nd. Surrey was the winner and Bucks came 6th out of the nine counties taking part.

B. J. HARDY

STAMP SOCIETY

This year the Society has continued to flourish, with membership rising to well over seventy. Although the Society is well supported amongst the juniors, the number of members from the Senior School is disappointing.

Last December, a tour of the printing works of Harrison and Sons, Ltd., of High Wycombe, was arranged. It received such strong support that only those people who had not been on the previous trip in 1956 were allowed to go this time. It is interesting to note that we may well have seen the printing of the famous (infamous?) "Dartford Tuppennies," whilst we were at the factory. Readers may like to know that Stanley Gibbons are not going to catalogue these controversial stamps.

A competition has been arranged for the best page of mounted stamps. It is scheduled to take place at the end of this term. Colonel S. Hands, Treasurer of the Royal Philatelic Society, has kindly agreed to act as a judge for us.

P. J. GRIFFIN

DON'T SKIP THIS

You may think this is a strange heading for an article. I chose it because I know that, if it had been headed "Christian Fellowship," many people would pass it by and read the next page. It will only take you three minutes to read this, so why not look at it before you turn to the next page?

As school societies go we are one of the smallest—we did not get a mention in the Grey Book. We are mostly Sixth-formers, though we have a few friends from the Main School. There are usually about a dozen at our meetings. Why not come and join us? I think that many people do not come because they are frightened of being "preached at." You need not worry about this. We usually discuss afterwards what the speaker has said. We have occasional discussions on subjects of general and religious interest—not formal debates, but friendly discussions. Among the things we have talked about has been Collective Punishment, a subject on which many of you must have strong views.

I imagine some of you will say, "Why should I be interested in religion?" or "What has Jesus Christ to do with me?" This is partly answered by the words:

"All ye that pass by, to Jesus draw nigh,
To you is it nothing, that Jesus should die?"

There is another point of view. One day each of us will come face to face with our Creator. That day will come: what will you say then?

The Christian Fellowship issues a challenge to anyone (that means you), to come and tell us why he does not believe in Jesus Christ, or, why he does not go to church. We offer, to anyone who will accept this challenge, twenty minutes of a dinner-hour, to put his case. There is the challenge, will you take it up? If you will, then there is our offer, but if you know in your heart that you cannot, then the previous invitation stands. Why not come?

B. P. BOWERS

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

This year a new departure was made in the organisation of the Twentieth Century Opinion Society in that Mr. J. G. Lloyd was elected chairman. His advice and help is welcomed by all members of the committee.

Three debates have been held so far this session. The two held in the lunch break were severely limited by time; in these foreign policy towards the United States and the Abolition of School Uniform were discussed.

One evening a debate was held with Pipers Corner School on the motion that "Politicians are the source of all evil." This was defeated by a large majority despite the spirited arguments of Mr. Devlin.

In the Autumn term a trip was organised jointly with the History Society to the Houses of Parliament. In the morning we were shown round by Mr. John Hall, the Member for High Wycombe, and in the afternoon we went on to the Tate Gallery.

J. KITCHING

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society has made a valiant effort to arouse interest, but we still find that our supporters are mostly biologists. We scientists are often being told to broaden our outlook ; perhaps it would also be worth while for the Modern Linguists and Classicists to take more interest in the world of nature.

Mr. Solomon, from the Pest Investigation Laboratories at Slough, gave a most interesting lecture on insects. At the beginning of this term a colour film of the animals of East Africa was shown and greatly enjoyed by everyone present. At the time of going to press preliminary arrangements are being made for a trip to the Severn Wildfowl Trust.

J. N. KEELING

JAZZ CLUB

The new school year saw the inauguration of something long sought after by officials of the Club : weekly record-programmes. In this connection Bignell and Nash deserve special mention, and we thank also Mr. Mewse for the use of his room, and Mr. Dawes for lending the gramophone so willingly.

The trip to the Royal Festival Hall, in November, appeared colourless in comparison with other years, but it was nevertheless an enjoyable evening, kindly supervised by our Chairman. We are hoping to organise another outing before July, and would naturally prefer to see and hear a visitor from overseas, as such opportunities are rare.

Total membership now numbers 75 (the highest in the School ?) and the "kitty" stands at £4 11s. 9d.—this after a gift of £1 to the Hungarian Relief Fund. Our best year to date—there is no reason why we should not make further progress.

P. E. REAR

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This year started with a flourish when G. Warner gave two lectures on the Paris Riots of 1934 entitled "Fascism versus the Republic." In his first lecture Warner gave us a clear and detailed description of the state of France in 1934, describing vividly the feeling of insecurity and discontent. The second lecture was devoted to the actual Paris disturbances of February 4th, 1934, and their influence on French politics, culminating in the "Front Populaire" of 1936. On Tuesday, December 5th, a party of thirty members of the Society were shown round the Houses of Parliament by John Hall, Esq., and in the afternoon visited the Tate Gallery.

T. G. D. KLEMPERER

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The deplorable lack of support, under which handicap most of the societies in the School seem to labour, is not a reflection upon the true quality of the Classical Society. In the minds of most boys, who are non-classicists, Classics conjures up the idea of something dull, uninteresting, and of no use whatsoever; this is, of course, a stupid and false notion, and also suggests a rather narrow outlook on life. The indolence displayed by the classicists in the Middle School would not seem to herald an immediate revival.

Nevertheless, last term's lectures are to be recorded as definite successes, as those few non-classicists who attended will testify. The first, which took place on November 16th, was given by Mr. G. Morgan, on the subject of "Greece in Modern Times," and was based on the personal experience of a recent visit to the afore-named country. This subject was chosen so as to afford interest to even those who are not in the least classically minded, but the number who attended did not in any way approach one worthy of the lecture. However, it is to be hoped that this speaker will not be content to rest on his laurels, but will delight the Society with another lecture in the near future. The second, which took place on November 30th, was given by Mr. F. Robertson on the subject of "The Roman Stage," and this Scotsman from Reading University possessed a very fine sense of humour, which, alas, failed to earn the appreciation it deserved—the reason given was the alleged inaudibility of the speaker. This also was poorly attended, although the Headmaster himself expressed the usefulness of such a lecture to everybody.

Perhaps it is the classicists who are labouring under a delusion, but I do not think so.

A. HARVEY

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

There has been some speculation that the Modern Languages Society would soon become a "French Society." This fear has been dispelled by a visit paid at the beginning of this term to the Cambridge University Dramatic Society's production of "Der Zerbrochene Krug," by Kleist.

Last term a trip to the Palace Theatre, London, to see Molière's "Le Misanthrope" was arranged. The party enjoyed an excellent production by Jean-Louis Barrault and his company.

At this term's joint committee meeting with our counterparts at the Wycombe High School it was decided to hold another play-reading session: "Antigone," by Anouilh, was chosen for the reading.

Another trip to the Palace Theatre has been arranged to see Racine's "Phèdre" on March 20th.

The film-shows at lunchtime are continuing to prove popular and have attracted not only modern linguists but scientists and classicists also.

O. V. VOLKONSKY

CAMERA CLUB

This Club has been so far in the experimental stage. It has been an attempt to bring into the limelight a hobby which many of us regard as an art, or if not an art, a hobby with a very wide field of interest and scope. Since the war, many people in this country have been in a position to use a camera. Most people therefore have either conscientiously or otherwise taken a shallow interest in photography. Thus a club such as "The Camera Club" has many possibilities to stimulate enthusiasm for this pastime and provide a very useful and peaceful outlet for people's energies.

The results of the Club so far have been varied. There have been a few good lectures by prominent members. We have also had several "other" ones. In the early part of the Autumn term last year, we were very successful with our "Beginners Classes," but this success was unfortunately short-lived. By the time this article has been printed we hope to have re-started the classes. A competition organised by my predecessor also proved to be very successful.

In future we will hold an annual exhibition or competition. Such an event will be of great value to the Club. People from outside the School will also come to give talks and help us generally in our activities. Lastly, we will have to pay more attention to visiting other exhibitions; this will help to bring our own work into line with that of more experienced people. It will also give us an opportunity to compare our photos with those of others.

At present our Club consists mainly of a " bunch of beginners." There are various gentlemen who regard themselves above that class, but on the whole I think we will all derive great benefits by being together as a club and comparing notes and mistakes. The general outlook seems bright and I think that the Club will survive well " the changes and chances of this fleeting world."

G. L. HARDSTAFF

SCIENCE SOCIETY

This year's figures for the Society's membership are at a maximum and we are probably the largest society in the School. This is mainly due to the increased numbers from more junior forms. It is most pleasing to see that these youngsters are just as keen as the senior members.

Last term a party of thirty boys visited I.C.I. Paints Division at Slough. The trip was most successful and we intend organising a similar visit towards the end of this term, with three more visits during next term. A series of scientific films, usually shown every other Friday, has consistently drawn large audiences. Other activities included a very instructive lecture given by P. G. Galloway, entitled " General Astronomy." More lectures of this type would be welcomed. On the whole Society functions have been most satisfactory.

D. A. SCOTT-KIDDIE.

MUSIC SOCIETY

The Music Society has maintained its regular, if somewhat unspectacular, activity during the last six months, despite the fame of Messrs. Haley and Presley. The purchase of a three-speed record-player by the School has, at long last, allowed us to make regular use of long-playing records for our weekly record concerts. In consequence the scope and variety of these concerts has considerably increased and our audiences have been able to hear not only a representative selection of the great classics but also a large amount of modern music.

So far the most memorable event of this school year has been the visit by nearly thirty boys to the Royal Festival Hall to hear a magnificent Brahms concert by the Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Otto Klemperer. It was a pleasant sign for the future to see the large number of junior boys who came on this trip.

B. TETTMAR,

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

After its not so far distant success, "Busman's Honeymoon," the Dramatic Society started the new school year with a good deal more activity than has been noted in previous years. A series of three play-readings was successfully accomplished last term, together with the casting for the Society's new production, Auden and Isherwood's "The Ascent of F6." This play is somewhat of a change from the customary "whodunnit" of farce. It is a modern tragedy on rather unorthodox lines, and should prove interesting to both cast and audience. This term has seen a successful trip to Dylan Thomas' "Under Milk Wood" at the New Theatre, St. Martin's Lane. It was thoroughly enjoyed by most of the party, though it was felt that the younger ones among them did not fully appreciate it. All energy is now focused on "The Ascent of F6."

J. O. SMALL

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

Births

- ABBOTT, M. J. (1938-43). On October 11th, 1956, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Abbott, a daughter.
- BRADLEY, B. (1943-51). On December 12th, 1955, at Bledlow to Mr. and Mrs. B. Bradley, a daughter.
- GRACE, B. W. (1936-42). On January 8th, 1957, at Epsom, to Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Grace, a ~~daughter~~. **SON**
- HICKMAN, H. C. (1939-46). On September 10th, 1956, at Guildford, to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hickman, a daughter.
- HOPKINS, N. G. (1931-36). On October 8th, 1956, at Naphill, to Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Hopkins, a son.
- NIGHTINGALE, D. T. (1941-46). On December 6th, 1956, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Nightingale, a daughter.
- OAKESHOTT, K. R. (1930-37). On February 22nd, 1957, at Holmwood, Surrey, to Mr. and Mrs. Keith Oakeshott, a daughter.
- PICKLES, B. (1937-42). On November 25th, 1956, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Pickles, a son.
- RANCE, P. J. (1939-47). On February 12th, 1957, at Wiggshall St. Peter, Norfolk, to Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Rance, a son.
- STAMMERS, D. J. (1936-41). On September 21st, 1956, in London, to Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Stammers, a second daughter.

- STEVENS, D. W. (1933-40). On September 30th, 1956, at Croydon, to Mr. and Mrs. D. Stevens, a son.
- SYRETT, R. (1942-47). On October 29th, 1956, at Wheeler End, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Syrett, a daughter.
- WESTNEY, M. E. W. (1940-47). On February 11th, 1956, to Mr. and Mrs. M. E. W. Westney, a son.

Marriages

- ELIOT—FLETCHER. On January 10th, 1957, at St. Barnabas, Kensington, Mr. T. S. Eliot, O.M. (1915-16) to Miss E. V. Fletcher.
- GROOM—NICKSON. On September 1st, 1956, at Hazlemere, High Wycombe, P. S. Groom (1942-49) to Miss E. V. Nickson.
- MELLOR—MILLIDGE. On September 1st, 1956, at Beaconsfield, R. Mellor (1942-48) to Miss B. A. Millidge.
- PRIOR—STACEY. On December 21st, 1956, at Uxbridge, J. R. Prior (1934-40) to Miss Heather V. Stacey.
- SHEPHERD—CLIFFORD. On August 20th, 1956, at Cirencester, Glos., John Royston Shepherd (1944-51) to Miss J. E. Clifford.
- TUNMER—PHILLIPS. On July 14th, 1956, at Farnham Royal, R. H. Tunmer (1941-47) to Miss Shirley Phillips.

Deaths

J. B. GRIFFIN (1908-10). On February 21st, 1957, at the University Hospital, James Bernard Griffin.

J. B. Griffin was a boarder with his two brothers A. C. and E. S., and was in the 1st Soccer and Cricket XI's. Commissioned in the Middlesex Regiment in the 1914 War, he was demobbed as a Major, and decided to enter the Church, to become the most distinguished parson O.B. of the Royal Grammar School and one of the clerical notabilities in the diocese of Exeter. After holding several curacies he was from 1928-1955 Director of London Diocesan Council of Youth and author of "A Good Warfare," 1931. He was made Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Exeter, 1943, Honorary Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter, 1947, and Prebendary and Canon of Exeter Cathedral from 1948.

E. J. L. ROBERTSON (1934-40). On July 24th, 1956, at Kotagiri, India, Eric J. L. Robertson, aged 33 years.

When he left the Army, Robertson taught, for about four years, in Sands, and then, in the service of the Quakers, departed for India. After five and a half years he was due to come home on leave, but, following an operation for appendicitis, he died, leaving a widow and four children, who are now residing at the Quaker College Hostel, Birmingham; the School and Club wish to tender their full sympathy to his family and to his parents—he was an only child.

D. R. SYRED (1925-29). On September 19th, 1956, at Oxford, Dr. Deryck Ralph Syred, aged 41.

Syred, who qualified as a doctor in 1940, and who, during the Second World War, was a prisoner-of-war in Japan, leaves a widow and three children.

OLD BOYS' NOTES AND NEWS

MR. BARTLE (1901-35), after the Dinner, used to visit his daughter Ella in Reading, but unfortunately she has moved to Wolverhampton; he has mortgaged his petrol ration on District Council work and so will not be present; he sends his apologies together with £1 towards dinner expenses. About a month ago the church people, much to his surprise and consternation, presented a churchwarden of fifty years and himself with an anglepoise lamp and an illuminated address. He sends his kindest regards to all.

MR. BRAND (1911-45), writing on September 10th, 1956, said that his aches and pains had now disappeared and he was able to do light work in the garden. His son-in-law did the hard work with the Clifford Cultivator while Pauline was looking after her two daughters.

THE REV. A. M. BERRY (1914-33). The lovely Parish Church of Willen, where he is Rector, is one of the old churches in Bucks that needs help for repairs. The entire population of the parish is 40, and between £2,500 and £3,000 is needed to restore the church. A successful whist drive for church funds brings in about £3.

MR. D. INGATE (1952-56) left the R.G.S. to become Assistant Organist at Chichester Cathedral. He has now been appointed Organist and Choir Master of Beverley Minster, East Yorkshire. He recently announced his engagement.

C. S. ABBOTT (1915-18) took three weeks' holiday from his job—in one of the big furniture stores in Northern Rhodesia—to renew old friendships in High Wycombe; when he is not at work, "Mac," who is a life member of a Transvaal Association of Hunters, hunts elephant in the Zambesi Valley. Recently, at his home in Bulwayo, he entertained Dick Kimber, another Old Boy, who attended the School (1919-23).

S. E. ABBOTT (1930-35), who joined the O.B.L.I. when he left school, and who was a prisoner-of-war during the last war, is now with the Battalion as C.S.M. of B Company in Cyprus; a large photograph of him talking to Field Marshal Sir John Harding, who recently visited the regiment, appeared a short while ago in the local Press.

J. A. AXTON (1922-26) had, when he wrote, in August, 1956, just taken the tenancy of the Royal Oak, Watford Heath, a delightful little house in a good-class area, with excellent trade, a mile outside Watford. When he left school, Axton was apprenticed to the Pacific Steam Navigation Co., in which he reached Second Mate, but which he left in 1933 to join the Neon Sign trade. On the outbreak of war, he went back to the Merchant Navy as a third, and later a second, officer, and, for the last four years of the war, was in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary. After his "demob" in 1946, he went to South Africa as Branch Manager for Claude Neon Lights, and is now ready to give a hearty welcome to any Old Boy who happens to pass anywhere near the Royal Oak.

R. BARNES (1935-43), after two years in the R.A.F., became Assistant County Medical Officer in the West Riding in 1952, and two years later Senior Assistant and Deputy Medical Officer of Health in the Barnsley area, has now been appointed Divisional Medical Officer of Health in the West Riding.

V. A. BENNETT (1919-23) has moved from South Orange, and gives his present address as 1155, New York 28, New York. Duncan, his elder son, who hopes to graduate in June 1957, is a Senior at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut, and Ian a Fifth-Former at the Choate Preparatory School, Wallingford, Connecticut

M. A. BIRD (1944-51) gives his address as c/o Sleeping Sickness Service, Kaduna, N. Nigeria; both he and his wife are glad to be well away from the fogs and rains of England. He has lately passed two examinations, was placed first for 1956 in the diploma exam. of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, and, as a result, was awarded a cash prize. Any Old Boy interested in the Colonial Service need, he says, only ask for help and information and Bird will be pleased to give it.

J. A. BLAND (1939-46) has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Cambridge University. Accompanied by his wife and daughter, he recently went to Ottawa to take up a Fellowship with the National Research Council of Canada.

W. A. BRADLEY (1941-46), after spending two years at Goldsmith's College and two more in the Army, spent two years as a resident master in Reading Blue Coat School, which he finally left to take up what he calls "a more purposeful career" in village schools. He built his own house at Bledlow, and sold it to buy a rambling old wheelwright's cottage. In 1953 he was married, in December 1955 had a daughter, and is now busily organising a Youth Club at Lacey Green.

D. J. CRUMP (1944-53) obtained his B.A. with honours in music, at Durham University in June 1956, and can also, if he likes, put the letters A.R.C.O. after his name.

R. S. C. GILES (1939-44), who, for almost four years, has been working in New Zealand with the Post and Telegraph Department on Telephone Exchange Construction, has made good use of his off-duty hours by taking an active part in amateur theatricals (which, in the Dominion, is a strongly-supported entertainment form); although he prefers to work back-stage, Giles thoroughly enjoyed his one public appearance in the farming centre of Wairarapa with the Masterton Little Theatre: the majority of such companies present three or four public performances each year, and a member is expected to fill any gap that turns up. Giles knows New Zealand very well, and is most enthusiastic about its possibilities and pleasures; there are quite a number of Old Boys—G. Waite, B. J. Ransley, and the Surridge Brothers, for example—in the Dominion, and any who wish to find their way more easily are strongly advised to contact Ronald Giles at 59 Shakespeare Road, Napier.

D. J. GREEN (1934-38) has been promoted to Squadron Leader, and thinks he will go back to the all-weather fighter. This at the age of thirty-three, he finds pleasing. He is elated at the success of his instructional tour, which improved his pilot's ability, his technical knowledge, and, most of all, his patience. He strongly recommends all Old Boys going up to Oxford to have a crack at the Air Squadron; it is, he says, the only organisation in which one is paid to learn to fly in one's spare time, and the experience gained will, in the future, be of infinite value. The aerial photograph, which he, Hall and Griffiths flew over the School in Chipmunks to take, was, he regretted, a failure; the camera operator, needless to say, was not an Old Boy.

C. HORTIN (1944-52) gained his L.R.A.M. in December 1956.

D. E. KYLE (1924-30) was re-elected President of Great Missenden Young Farmers' Club, at their annual general meeting in October 1956.

M. LACEY (1947-55) has been commissioned in the Technical Branch of the R.A.F., and will go on to University for a further three years' study.

C. D. LANE (1954-56) sends an account of his life as an apprentice at the R.A.F. Technical College, Farnborough; three days a week are spent in studying Maths., Physics, Chemistry, and Engineering, and in discussing political and social matters. Later, for four years, they will do a six-weeks Sandwich course, aircraft work, and six weeks at college to qualify for A.M.I.E. (Electric and Mechanical) and A.F.R.Ae.S.; their progress depends throughout on regular and frequent exams.

C. MORRIS (1914-19) won the two major awards at the Royal South Bucks Show; he took the King George VIth Cup for the best cultivated root and green crops, and the Clifton-Brown Challenge Bowl for the best cultivated farm of more than one hundred

and forty acres (including all livestock). This is the third time in four attempts that he has won the King George VIth Cup, and he will now have a replica for retention presented to him by the Queen.

J. READ (1942-50), having passed the Final Exam. of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, is now waiting for his "call-up."

A. J. REDRUP (1946-51) beat Peter Driver, the British Empire six-miles champion, by nearly half a lap in a thrilling five-mile road race at the August 1956 inter-club athletic contest; this race, now revived, was a highlight of the Bucks sporting year. Redrup, who has since won many events, started 1957 by coming first, in 39 minutes 46 seconds, in a seven-mile cross-country race at Bletchley.

J. N. ROBINSON (1928-33) once again writes from a new address: in Lagos, Nigeria (where P. R. F. Britnell is attached to the Department of Labour), which, he says, is about the worst station he has ever been at; West Africa, although with malaria well under control and no longer the "white man's grave," is still quite hot and sticky, and the natives, in a quiet way, are anti-white. Robinson, who does not object to their gaining self-government, hopes, if he can last out till then, to get three months' home leave in August.

R. A. SHEPPARD (1918-24), after several years in the London advertising world, has settled down in the firm of H. W. Young ("Tailors and Outfitters to Gentlemen and their Sons"), at 15 Northgate Street, Gloucester, which is just opposite the famous "New Inn." He will be pleased to see any Old Boy in either place, especially one with a photograph of the 1923-24 Soccer XI. His eighteen-year-old son hopes to take an Hon. Degree in Engineering at Birmingham University.

L. S. SMERDON (1920-23), who joined the Army in 1924, and who saw service with the Fourth Recce Regiment in North Africa, Italy, Greece and Austria, has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal as a Staff Sergeant in the R.A.S.C. He is still in the Army with 34 years' service.

The REV. A. H. M. WARE (1921-26), whose first curacy was at the Church of St. Mary and St. John, Oxford, who was for many years actively associated with St. John's Church, High Wycombe, and who since 1953 has been curate-in-chief at St. Andrew's Church, Chippenham, has now been appointed Vicar of All Saints' Church, Maidenhead.

The following information, too late for classification, was obtained from replies to the Re-union circular, many from Old Boys unable to attend.

Complaints were received from several O.B. students at "Redbrick" Universities, especially Leeds, that they could not be present because the Dinner took place before the end of term. A later date was suggested and this has been supported from other sources.

T. W. ABDULLAH (1946-54) has finished with the Army and is reading Law at Exeter College, Oxford.

G. E. BATES (1948-56) has been posted to Scotland for his National Service and will not get leave till after Easter.

A. DODGSON (1913-18) flew to Stockholm to spend Christmas with his married daughter; his younger daughter is a secretary in Toronto, Canada, and earning more money than her father. Dodgson is a headmaster!!

J. E. FIGG (1945-50) is in Zanzibar.

T. H. S. HAMLETT (1941-46) was married in 1952 and has a daughter of two and a half years.

S. E. HANDS (1915-20) is taking the Chair at his Corps Dinner on the same night as the O.B. Re-union.

P. G. HOWARD (1942-48) was married on March 17th, 1956, to Miss K. Fause.

A. P. LITCHFIELD (1942-47), as a fully qualified Chartered Surveyor, finds it congenial to look after an airfield in the north of Scotland. He is a Pilot Officer.

E. G. J. OLIVER (1948-55) is looking forward to civilian life in seven months' time. He is stationed at Wittering working on Valiant "A" Bombers. E. R. MANN is in the same camp.

R. G. PILGRIM (1945-54), after finishing at Newland Park this year, hopes to take a third year supplementary course in Mathematics at Redlands College, Bristol.

D. W. STEVENS (1933-40) is leaving with his family in August to become Professor of Musicology and Dean of the Music Faculty at McGill University, Montreal.

F. WOOSTER (1919-23) had another operation on his lung on February 7th at a Maidstone hospital. If everything goes well he hopes to be about in twelve weeks and be well enough to visit his brother at Chinnor, and it is hoped "Oliphant" will also visit the R.G.S.

P. W. E. JEANS (1947-52) sailed for New Zealand on the *Rangitata* on January 18th, 1957.

R. F. JONES (1948-54) is with the R.A.F. in Hong Kong.

G. B. PHILPOTT (1940-47), who hopes to come to the Dinner, married Betty Field, of Marlow, in November, 1955.

J. F. WALTER, at the age of 18, joined the family business to deal with parcels and sweep the floors before he came to the High Wycombe branch with his father as manager. Last year he became the Managing Director. He still visits the local branch, but

spends most of his time in London. He supervises the administration, is responsible for all the buying, and finds himself involved in Budgeting and Stock Control, Profit Margins, Import Duties and Discounts.

C. MINTER (1949-54) is engaged in survey work on the Northern Frontier Province of Kenya with the Royal Engineers.

J. SMITHERS (1949-55) is reading Geology at Leicester University and earns "big money" working during the holidays.

M. J. TUCKETT (1947-50) was married on September 29th, 1956, to Miss Sheila Coy. He has recently taken up the appointment of Technical Assistant in the Export Sales Division of May & Baker Ltd., of Dagenham.

R. WHITE (1940-45), at present Assistant Lecturer in the Chemistry Department of Chelsea Polytechnic, is leaving to take up a Research Fellowship at University College, London.

R. RANCE (1937-44) has given up sub-station building with the Eastern Electricity Board to start at the Board's headquarters at Ipswich. In the meantime he is at Birmingham University acquiring new techniques; his week-ends are filled with preparations for moving from Shenfield to Ipswich.

K. H. B. ILES (1931-37) writes that although keeping very well these days he will not be able to be at the Re-union.

B. J. MEARS (1942-47) was presented with a daughter on October 20th, 1956, born at Southampton General Hospital.

J. M. HANNA (1947-53) is working for the Rhodesian and Nyasaland Government.

P. J. AGAR (1948-53) is not expected back from Malta before September or October.

P. J. PRIOR (1929-36) was married in February, 1957, at Berwick Salome, near Watlington, to Miss P. M. Moreau.

Twenty-three members of Vsc, which broke up in July 1948, have kept active contact over the years, and have formed a club with the logical, if rather unpronounceable, name of "The V Sc-ian Society"; a Gazette is published yearly, and is sent to places as far apart as Nigeria and Canada, Japan and South Africa. Annual meetings and social functions of various kinds and in divers places have been held. According to the auditor, R. Stone, the Society's balance on December 1st, 1956, was 9s. 3d.!

News of the following O.B.'s, at the School roughly between 1943 and 1951, has been given by R. E. Wynands, the Hon. Treasurer. Similar information from other forms either A, C, M, Sc. or Shell will be very much appreciated.

T. BALL is 2nd Radio Officer in the Merchant Navy on Far East runs. Lives at Brighton.

E. BINDER is now in the timber haulage business.

H. D. BISHOP has part shares in a small printing concern, may have special rates for his friends.

B. W. BOWLER, Assistant Personnel Manager at Molins, Princes Risborough, finds the work congenial after two years with the Army in the Far East. Married.

H. D. COLLARD, after emigrating to the U.S.A. in 1949 and successfully sitting for his B.A., in Maths., found his career as an Aerodynamist overshadowed by a spell in the U.S. Army. With a wife and a family of one is now settled with AVRO'S of Canada.

A. E. COX attends High Wycombe College for Further Education for instruction in vehicle maintenance. He is married and works in the Stationery Office, Wembley.

A. E. ELBURN is a Pilot Officer in the Technical Branch of the R.A.F.; B.A. (Cantab.) 1st Class in Engineering. Married a year ago.

P. FOWLER still printing with *Jewish Chronicle and Evening News*. Married recently.

D. JENNINGS. Timber seasoning at F. D. Walters.

R. McCULLOCH, Lieut. R.N.A.S., flying Sea Venoms, H.M.S. *Heron*, Yeovilton.

D. MILES passed City and Guilds Estimating and Surveying Final; with Y. J. Lovells.

R. J. REAR, after being usefully employed at Kodaks Ltd., retires to his London flat to enjoy his ever-growing collection of Jazz records.

J. R. STEVENS has joined the family firm of butchers. He is getting married April 27th, 1957.

R. H. STONE has added the Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering to his other attainments and is enjoying a belated National Service with the Royal Navy as a Petty Officer.

R. TAPPING owns a car and works in an office.

J. TOURNIER works in Cossor Research Laboratory, specialising in Hi-Fri works. Takes the A.I.M.E. in 1957.

B. G. WALKER obtained his M.Sc. (Maths.) at Queen Mary College, London, in December 1955, and is employed by the Sperry Gyroscope Ltd., Brentford.

R. H. WHEELBAND doing Haematology at Hillingdon Hospital. Now A.I.M.L.T. studying for his Fellowship.

M. WISE, a graduate of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers. Working with British Communications on Electronics at Wembley.

R. H. WYNANDS is at Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough. Has finished long Soccer career.

A. C. COLLINS (1934-40) meets members of the R.G.S. Rugby teams when they visit Watford, where he teaches. He is responsible for the School Scout Troop and they will be camping near Bourne End during August.

J. E. SHEPHERD (1944-51), at Royal Agricultural College for two years, has now left for Nigeria to take up a post as Agricultural Superintendent.



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(A. E. BRANCH)

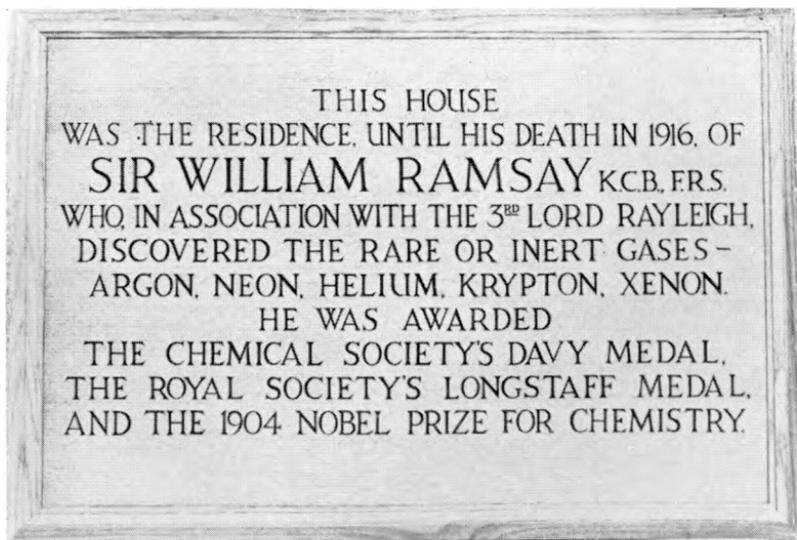
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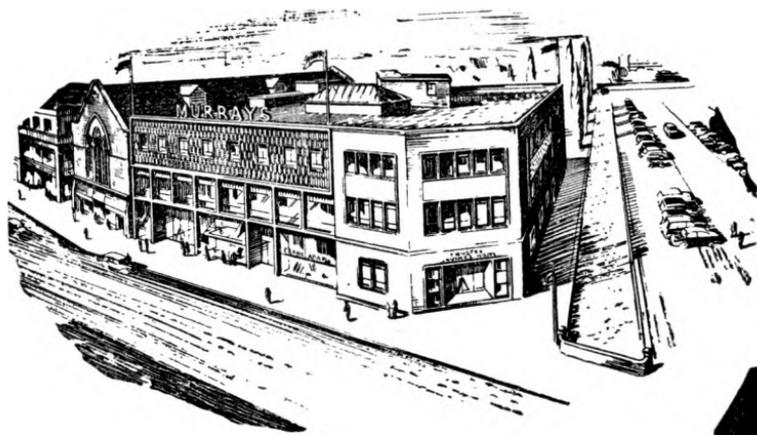
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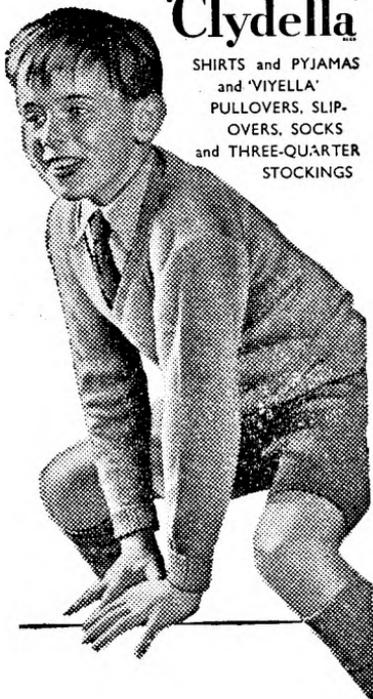


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