

THE  
WYCOMBIENSIAN



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APRIL, 1958

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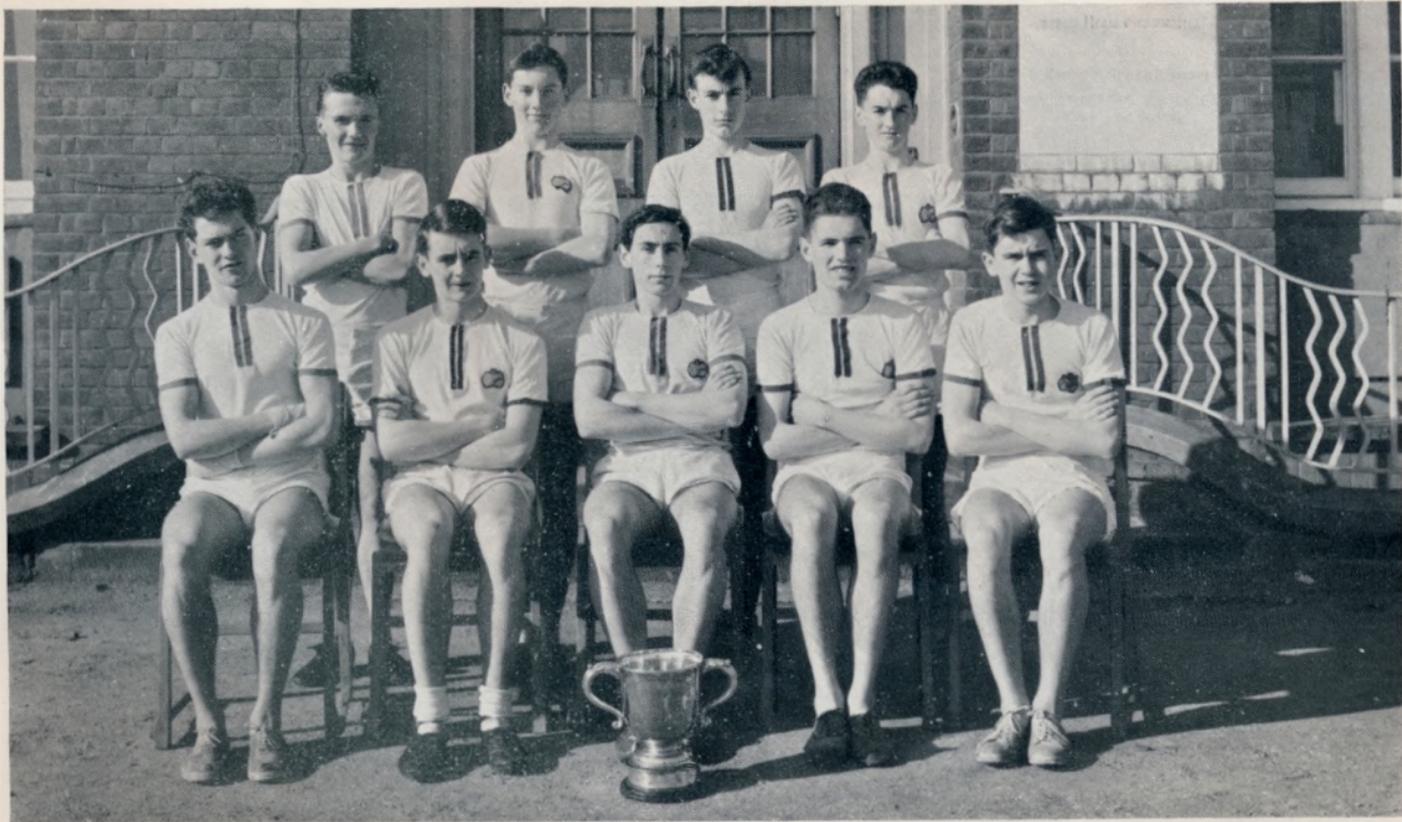
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SCHOOL CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM 1957-58

*Back Row* : D. P. May, D. W. Cox, A. T. Gwynn, J. L. Currell

*Front Row* : M. K. Hussey, A. F. King (*Vice-Captain*), P. J. Dean (*Captain*), D. M. Slatter, D. E. R. Deacon



SCHOOL 1ST XV 1957-58

*Back Row* : P. T. Tomes (*touch-judge*), R. J. Collett, P. J. Blokland, P. J. Muller, A. Brinn, C. S. J. Mardell, J. R. Barkas, A. W. Ralley, T. J. Chenery.

*Front Row* : J. R. Bone, R. C. Jones, G. L. S. Hickey (*Vice-Captain*), T. J. Gilder (*Captain*), D. W. Hollomon, C. J. Cunningham, R. C. Hackett.

# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

*Editor :* E. C. FRANKS

*Sub-Editors :*

H. G. MARCHAND

I. M. TOMES

B. TETTMAR

O. V. VOLKONSKY

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## EDITORIAL

One of the biggest difficulties to be overcome before every issue of the school magazine goes to the printers is the complete inexperience of the new editor and his committee of greenhorns, since almost invariably the magazine has a different editor for each new edition. The dreams of articles pouring in from all sides, of telephones incessantly ringing and of sensational scoops being taken, which the raw editor allows to flit through his mind during the first few hours of his office, are very soon dashed to the ground.



This issue has been prepared a little earlier than previous Spring Term editions ; consequently the usual chaotic rush was increased to such an extent that it seemed impossible for everything

to be ready at the scheduled time. Added to this was the hope that the form of the magazine would be changed in some respects, as a result of numerous complaints that it had set itself into a rut—a rut from which it was by no means impossible to escape. For every editor, however, the compilation of the school magazine is a new venture, whether it follows exactly the same lines as its predecessors or not and, if any extensive changes are to be made, it is inevitable that they should take some time to be carried out.

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### TERRY TRAYHORN, IVx

On Friday, 22nd November, when the School was celebrating a holiday in recognition of summer examination successes, a Middle School boy, Terry Trayhorn, who lived at 207 Dashwood Avenue, High Wycombe, lost his life in a road accident near Beaconsfield.

He was a most pleasant and well-liked boy, intelligent, lively, keen, and interested in all that went on in the School and in his House circle : his quality of mind and character was such that we all confidently expected that he would go on to the University with a Scholarship, in due course ; Terry's bright prospects were cruelly ended by an accident in the darkness, when he was returning home from a friend's house.

The funeral, at St. Mary and St. George Church, Sands, was conducted by the priest in charge and by the Rev. A. J. Skipp, and was attended by a number of the staff as well as by the Head boy, some prefects, and many boys from IVx.

The School's deepest sympathy goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Trayhorn in their tragic bereavement.

E.R.T.

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### SCHOOL NOTES

The Dramatic Society visited the New Theatre in the Haymarket to see Enid Bagnold's "The Chalk Garden" on the 8th November.

A School concert was held in the School Hall on Friday, 13th December, and Saturday, 14th December. A detailed report will be found elsewhere in the magazine.

Mr. Hollingworth once more arranged a number of very enjoyable trips to Twickenham to see the "Varsity" and international matches.

The Prefects' Christmas Dance was held on Tuesday, 17th December. The original "décor" and arrangement of the hall made for an atmosphere which resulted in an unprecedented success. Teddy Chapman and his orchestra once more provided the music, while Mr. D. C. F. Edginton performed his task as M.C. admirably.

During the Christmas holidays a number of boys from the 6th Form attended a course of lectures and discussions in London. These were entitled "Britain's place in a Changing World." The speakers included Viscount Hailsham, Mr. Gaitskell and the Ghanaian Minister of Communications.

The First Cross-Country team crowned a memorable season by winning the Ranelagh Schools Challenge Cup on 1st February.

On 11th February Mr. Chapman, editor of the magazine *Stamp Collecting*, and one of the leading authorities on this subject in the country, gave an interesting general talk on various curious aspects of stamp collecting to members of the Stamp Society.

The 6th Form heard a very instructive and topical talk on "The problems of Mixed Societies" by Sir Hillary Blood, on 13th February. Sir Hillary, who was for two years Governor of Gambia, used his wide experience of the subject to illustrate the talk and to suggest remedies for the problems.

On Thursday, 20th February, the Swan Theatre Group gave a performance of extracts from Shakespeare to the Senior School.

### **Congratulations to :**

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

A. F. King for his Open Exhibition in Classics at Jesus College, Cambridge.

M. Jarman for his Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Jesus College, Cambridge.

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### **STAFF NOTES**

We are glad to welcome back Mr. L. J. Ashford after a term's absence at Balliol College, Oxford, where he has been studying under a Schoolmaster Studentship for his research into the history of High Wycombe.

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to Mr. P. Owen, who spent last term with us taking Mr. Ashford's place.

This term we are glad to welcome two new members to the Staff : Mr. F. J. Brand, M.A. (Princeton), B.A. (British Columbia), B.Sc. (Oxon.), who has come to teach mathematics. Mr. Brand was until recently in charge of cultural affairs at the British Consulate-General, Land North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.

Mr. D. J. Curry, M.A. (Cantab.), who has been with the Nigerian Colonial Administrative Service in Nigeria for the last seven years, has joined us to teach Classics.

We also welcome four student masters, who are with us for this term :

Mr. K. Magraw and Mr. K. Biggin, who are teaching Music ; Mr. D. Free, who is teaching Classics, and Mr. R. Mitchell, who is teaching Modern Languages.

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## CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1957

After a ten-year run of Gilbert and Sullivan operas it was decided to make a change in 1957, and Choral Concerts were given on two nights, 13th and 14th December. There were two main reasons for this change, firstly that other Musical fields might be explored and secondly that on the Dramatic side opportunity might be left for preparations for a large-scale school production of a Shakespeare play which had not been practicable for some years.

The School Choir for these concerts numbered about 150, and in spite of the small number of tenors and the light quality of the bass tone quite a reasonable balance was obtained. This vast concourse was housed on the staging from the gallery and the loftiest members thought they had already joined the heavenly choir. To accompany them an orchestra of old friends of opera days, together with some new friends from London, was most ably led by the members of the Macgibbon String Quartet—of course there was also a large Percussion section, of which more anon.

The programme opened with Dyson's "Three Songs of Courage." Their bold rhythms, felicitous part-writing and superb tunes had endeared them to the Choir in rehearsal so that they sang them with zest and enjoyment.

The visiting soloist was Mr. Kenneth Tudor (baritone), of Westminster Abbey Choir, who had helped in the performance of *Messiah* in March. To this programme of British Music he contributed four songs by Vaughan Williams and Michael Head. To contrast with the rather boisterous choral pieces he had chosen quiet, contemplative songs.

The centre piece of the programme was "The Rio Grande", by Constant Lambert, for Solo Piano, Chorus and Orchestra (including five Percussion players). The Solo Piano part was played by Peter Read, who must be congratulated on the successful way in which he tackled the very difficult part. Four of the Percussion players were boys at school who for the most part had met their instruments for the first time only a few weeks before the concerts. They rehearsed twice a week for half a term and in the end managed to hit the right thing at the right time and not poach on each other's preserves when sharing a triangle or a tambourine. The Tam-Tam

brought the house (and once itself) down! The jazzy rhythms, as may be imagined, were very popular although not so easy to sing as one might think. In the event the atmosphere and the spirit of South America really seemed to pervade the School Hall for the brief fifteen minutes it took to perform.

After the interval the Choir sang a group of unaccompanied Carols. The tone and blend of voices was excellent, but the singing was a little lacking in rhythmic drive and vigorous articulation of the words.

The concerts ended with Stanford's "Songs of the Sea" for Baritone Solo, Chorus and Orchestra. The most memorable impression was the sharp contrast of the clear young treble voices of the Choir with the rousing baritone of the soloist, a contrast which thrilled at each entry of the Chorus. The last song, "The Old Superb," made an exciting end to an interesting programme, and on the second night was encored to the mutual delight of the audience and the Choir.

J.D.

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## SCHOOL HOUSE, UPLYME AND TYLERS WOOD

Correspondents from the three boarding houses sent in their individual reports as usual to the magazine censorship board. Much of this, however, was heavily inked by the red Woolworth's biro of the all too eager censor, but the following facts have managed to slip through.

As in past years boarders from the three houses have added much to the strength of the School teams, now having many "colours" amongst their number. In the summer many of the seniors will be leaving for the University and the academic results of the boarders throughout the School augur well for the future.

The recent recovery of inter-boarding house competitions, which have for some time been dormant, gave rise to keenly-fought basket-ball games and a shooting match. The latter was won very decisively by Tylers Wood House, through the very good and consistent shooting of all members of their team. School House won the series of basket-ball matches, both their first and second teams coming out on top. The annual and farcical football match between Uplyme and School House has still to be played.

The icy tentacles of the political cold war have finally penetrated our happy and secluded community. A few weeks ago the Headmaster attended a conference on precautions to be taken in the event of a nuclear bomb explosion in this country. The result of this, as a number of day-boys have recently found out to their great dis-

comfort, was a series of fire practices, to speed up everyone's exit from the boarding houses and to ensure the competent handling of the fire pumps and hoses, which resulted in giving one of the House-masters' cars its first wash for many months.

B. TETTMAR, A. L. HARDSTAFF and J. A. DAWES.

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### C.C.F. NOTES

The strength of the Contingent at the beginning of this term was 597, made up as follows :—

NAVAL SECTION 88, ARMY and BASIC SECTIONS 372, R.A.F. SECTION 137.

The abolition of National Service has made little change to the C.C.F. The powers that be have made it quite clear that although the C.C.F. may have changed its name several times, in principle it has remained the same during the fifty years of its existence. The reasons given for its continuation are the same as those responsible for its formation, namely the development of initiative, self-reliance and qualities of leadership.

In order to keep in step with modern progress there are likely to be changes in the type of training given in the future, although the basic principles of Discipline, Drill, Fieldcraft, Weapon Training and Map Reading of Certificate "A", Part I, will remain.

Subsequent training will be more adventurous and less warlike in character and the Senior Cadets of all three Sections can look forward to expeditions, escape and evasion exercises, map reading in the country as well as in the classroom, and to camps where there will be some departure from the set routine of the post-war camps. I think all will agree that it is a step in the right direction.

R.P.

### SHOOTING

The arrival of Capt. D. W. Broadbridge has enabled Capt. Lloyd to devote all his time to supervision of the Shooting, and excellent use is now being made of the Miniature Range at various times in addition to Parade Hours.

The Boarding Houses have had an Inter-House competition and all sections of the C.C.F. take their turn on Thursday afternoons. The standard of shooting is improving and several members are taking rifle shooting as their main hobby and take part in events outside the school competitions.

In the next few weeks cadets will be competing for places in the Country Life Team and afterwards for the events on the Open Range, events which we look forward to more and more each year.

R.P.

## ARMY SECTION

The activities of the Army Section have been concerned with preparation for Certificate "A", Part I and II, and there is little of interest to report.

68 candidates passed Part I in December  
15 " " Part II in December  
and a similar number is expected to pass this term.

The changes likely to appear in the Part II Syllabus will not take effect this year as they are not yet finally decided, but it is likely that much of the purely infantry work will disappear and a wider syllabus introduced with a choice of subject to fit in with the individuality of each type of school.

A new type of camp will appear, called the "Greenfield" Camp, and schools will be on their own on the moors, or in the mountains, for training in self-reliance, and cadets will be well advised to look up a few cookery recipes before attending!

R.P.

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## R.N. SECTION

Our annual camp at H.M.S. *Thunderer* in the summer was most enjoyable and the programme arranged was varied and interesting. One day was spent at sea in the minesweeper H.M.S. *Mutine*, although we nearly missed her, as directions as to her whereabouts were numerous and different.

Some boys had a short flight in an Anson, although a strong gusty wind prevented all from seeing the sights of Plymouth from the air.

A most interesting day was spent at Manadon, the Navy's engineering college. It is a magnificent establishment, with every facility for learning. The workshops have every type of machine, furnace, measuring device and technical equipment. Students at Manadon are mainly Sub-Lieutenants qualifying as A.I.M.Mech.E., but in the near future it is hoped that officers may obtain an external B.Sc. of London University.

The Section has recently acquired two canoes which should provide some pleasure in the summer. The largest is an eighteen-foot aluminium alloy outrigger canoe. It is propelled by a 165-c.c. engine mounted internally. Sails and paddles are also provided. The second canoe is an inflatable craft, shorter than the other, with sails and oars but no engine. It is hoped that we shall be able to use them for weekend expeditions as camping equipment is now available for our use.

Our work programme is tied pretty strictly to the syllabus provided by the Admiralty, but it is hoped that as we now have more

cadets who have passed their leading seaman exams. than before, a leadership and initiative course is to be included in our timetable. This should be interesting and at the same time serve to improve the standard of leadership and instructional ability, which, though more important than the factual learning of the syllabus, is not as yet of a sufficiently high standard.

D.T.N.

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### R.A.F. SECTION

A satisfying indication of continued good work in the unit is the success gained by cadets in the R.A.F. Proficiency and Advanced Training Examinations. Fourteen cadets were successful in these examinations in December, 1957, and 28 cadets are about to take the March, 1958, examinations. Arrangements are well advanced for R.A.F. camps to be held both at Easter and in the summer. A party of 40 cadets will be spending a week at R.A.F. station Linton-on-Ouse, in Yorkshire, from 16th to 23rd April. One hopes that this camp will maintain the very high level of interest and instruction which we have fortunately encountered on all our previous Easter camps. In July, a summer camp is to be held at R.A.F. Colerne, in Wiltshire. As this is a Transport Command station we may reasonably expect that a very generous amount of flying experience for cadets will be possible during this camp.

E.M.

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### SIGNALS SECTION

Our work this year, as always, has been to keep the voice of 5C. heard all over England on the public schools set. We have had a year of pleasant contacts with people all over the country. These people are known to us only as very distorted voices heard through a curtain of morse and static, but through the medium of wireless waves they have become as friendly with us as the people whom we meet every day in School.

We have also made one or two enemies. These come in the shape of "pirates" who, with quite good equipment, find it amusing to break up our usually well-organized nets and shower abuse on anyone who wields authority. The structure, which recently appeared on top of the signals hut, was an attempt to locate these "trouble makers," but, alas, we were unable to do so. The greater part of this term has been devoted to a Q.S.L. competition which, in spite of considerable interference, has been very successful. We have so far put in many hours of operating, with very creditable results.

Among other activities has been the participation in a wireless net for the pooling of meteorological data. This data is gathered each day by two of our senior operators and sent off to a central control station at midday. The net has so far been very successful and brings credit to the people who take the trouble to run it.

Our future is, at present, uncertain. We are to lose our hut in the near future to make way for the new science block. It is, however, unlikely that 5C. will cease to be heard, for we will find a corner somewhere. By next year we hope to find ourselves installed in a large new building; but we shall be sorry to see the old hut go, since it has been the home of the Signals for many years.

A. L. HARDSTAFF.

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### “GO WEST, YOUNG MAN”

Imagine a country road, miles from anywhere, deserted except for one solitary figure. It is raining. Then in the distance can be seen a black spot: it develops into a square of metal. A lorry? No. A car? Yes. Full? No. Good! Hopefully you raise your hand, thumb extended. The car approaches . . . passes you, your heart sinks. But no! Two welcome spots of red appear, its brakes are on. It stops! Swiftly you gather up your cumbersome rucksack and stumble towards the waiting vehicle. The door is opened.

“Towards — ?” you hopefully ask.

“Yes,” comes the welcome answer.

Thankfully you heave in your luggage and follow it into the car. A few seconds later you are off. This is the supreme climax of hitch-hiking, a lift, but what hours of frustrated waiting it so often costs.

Above, a picture of a hitch-hiker. But why and where is he hitch-hiking? To most people there comes at some time the desire to travel, at home and abroad, to see new places and new things. But too often that bugbear money steps in. Many people think that to travel abroad means spending large amounts of money on travel, food and accommodation. But this need not be so at all.

As regards travel. To cross the Channel will cost money; that is an inevitable cost, but practically the only one. Either side of the Channel hitch-hiking is the obvious answer, if one wants to cover long distances. To give an average day's distance would be misleading, as one day it can be twenty miles, the next four hundred. Some people prefer to cycle. This is a slow and steady method, but your distance is limited. Some will say hitch-hiking is cadging. But no vehicle has to stop unless it wants to. Many people are glad to have the company. Some jump at the chance to practise their

often so poor and yet so proud knowledge of English. But there are many hours spent sitting in silence with no common language to break it.



Youth Hostels are undoubtedly the best answer for cheap accommodation and often cheap food. These hostels, which range from tumbledown houses in French provincial towns to magnificently furnished isolated German castles, are establishments where one can get a bed, a wash, and often recreation facilities for about half-a-crown. Many hostels, especially in Germany, Italy and the Benelux countries, also provide cheap meals. But there is more to these hostels than the satisfaction of material wants. The greatest thing they give, although not realised at the time, is the opportunity for young people of all nationalities to get together, to talk to each other, and to exchange views and ideas. Almost as soon as you enter a hostel, there is the feeling of international friendship and "camaraderie." The result may be a Nigerian talking with a Norwegian; a communist with a liberal. But the individual may keep to himself if he so wishes, no one will force him into anything.

But imagine this. After a long, wet and tiring day of hitch-hiking you are deposited in the centre of a large continental city. An hour later, after asking directions from people who can't speak a word of any language you speak, and after getting on wrong buses and trains, you finally arrive at the hostel. Hopefully you ask if they have any room. "Yes." Having signed the book, deposited your luggage and tidied up, you enter the "Tagesraum" or common room. Usually there are magazines or books lying around. Idly you flip through them. Perhaps you start talking to some of your fellow countrymen, easily recognizable by their knee-length khaki shorts and small Union Jacks. At about seven o'clock you collect your supper from a hatchway and survey the dining room. Ah, a group of pretty young German "fräuleins" on a half-empty table . . .

After the meal a group of German girls and English boys sets out to see the town. Several hours later you roll back into the hostel. With a goodnight you retire to your separate dormitories with promises to see each other in the morning. This hostel-formed comradeship can be called furthering the cause of international relations.

The next morning, after breakfast, you collect your membership card and set off. You, perhaps, take a bus or tram to the outskirts of the town. There you put down your rucksack and, beginning yet another day full of hope, raise your hand, thumb extended, and hopefully survey each approaching vehicle.

Once more you are back "on the road."

I. M. TOMES, VI S.

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## INTRODUCTION TO ROYALTY

The bright sun shining down on Valkenbourg, near the Hague made a pleasant contrast with the pouring rain we left behind when we took off from England. Then some hectic days ensued, with official receptions, trips by coach and air to Snoek, Woensdrecht, and many other towns, where we spent the time yachting, flying and visiting various industries. After this rapid five-day tour we returned to the Hague, where we spent a further four days living with private families.

This time was passed in the old capital, the highlights of the stay being a trip to the University and a picnic in a millionaire's estate, complete with jazz-band. From the Hague we flew on to Deele, where we visited the cemetery and laid a wreath on the memorial to the British airborne troops who died in the Battle of Arnhem. We were three days in Arnhem, spending much of the time gliding (Arnhem has the finest gliding club in Europe) and having more official receptions.

The greatest experience of all, however, which crowned an already wonderful tour, was a visit to the unassuming and yet impressive Royal Palace at Soestdyk, situated in the charming wooded regions of Hilversum. Giving a refreshing gaiety to this memorable first impression, the warm but not uncomfortable sun shone benignly down upon the group of excited young men who were to be received by H.M. Queen Juliana and H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands.

In a long magnificently decorated reception room everyone was introduced to Prince Bernhard and, while drinks were being taken round, we heard that we were soon to go outside to be presented to the Queen. Before this, however, the Prince spoke to us for some time in the reception room. After the presentations, the Prince and the Queen moved slowly amongst our small group, talking quite informally with everyone, the press took photographs, and some shots were taken for a cinema newsreel. This unforgettable hour at the Palace passed by all too quickly and we were soon on the road again with the Palace and its delightful environment rapidly disappearing behind us in a swirl of dust.

C. J. MELSOM, VIc.

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### A SARTORIAL SATIRE :

*With sincere apologies to the late Sir John Moore and Charles Wolfe*

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,  
As the coat to the dust-heap we hurried ;  
Not a schoolboy discharged a farewell shout  
O'er the place where the "duffle" was buried.

We buried it darkly at dead of night,  
The cans with our bayonets turning,  
By the struggling moonbeams' misty light  
And the cigarettes dimly burning.

No useless coffin enclosed its hood,  
Nor in sheet nor in shroud we wound it,  
But it lay as a shapeless garment should,  
With its splintered toggles around it.

Slowly and sadly we laid it down  
From the field of its fate fresh and gloomy ;  
We returned to our "macs," but our grief is profound,  
For that "duffle" was warm and so roomy.

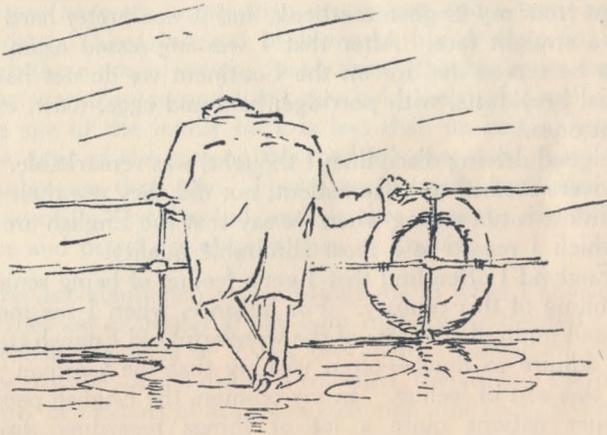
W. J. S. TORRENS-BURTON, VIc.

## MY FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLAND

*(We welcome the following article from a German visitor to the School)*

It is a well-known fact that you have to cross the Channel, when you want to get to England, and everyone is afraid to do so for fear of the stormy crossing. I, too, was anxious when I went on the ship, anxious as to whether I should be sea-sick, which, in fact, happens very often to me when I am at sea.

The day when I started from the Continent, the weather was cold, wet and stormy, and I prepared myself for a terrible night. Fortunately, I had a cabin to myself and, as soon as I got there, I went to bed and tried to sleep. But I was not able to do so because, when the vessel reached open water, the storm seized her, threw her from one side to the other and shook her through and through.



The cabin-walls began to shudder and from the other cabins I heard women screaming and children crying when the ship heeled heavily over. And after a time the thing for which I had been waiting apprehensively happened. I followed the example given by the other passengers. But it was a wonderful Channel crossing, the Channel showed itself in its full old tradition and glory, and the poor old vessel was three hours late, when she arrived, at last, in Harwich Harbour.

When England is the subject of a discussion in Germany, we always mention the English weather. I think that the weather is a very important factor in the English way of life. How would an Englishman begin a conversation if he did not have his notorious

weather? In nearly all foreign textbooks of the English language there is a lesson beginning, "Good morning, Mr. Smith, lovely morning to-day," and a conversation about the weather follows. When we think of English weather, however, we do not think of lovely mornings, but of misty, rainy, foggy and windy days—the traditional English weather!

You can imagine my surprise when I arrived in Harwich harbour after that stormy night and came out of my cabin and saw the sun shining. I was really disappointed, but in a pleasant way. I soon found myself sitting in the train watching the English countryside through the window, which looked fresh and beautiful in the bright sunshine, and admiring the well-kept green lawns which I saw everywhere and which belong exclusively to England, for I have never seen lawns of this quality on the Continent.

I was suddenly interrupted by the waiter, who wished me a good-morning and then said,

"Lovely morning, sir, isn't it?" to which I could only reply, "Yes, indeed," because it was so funny that he had said just what I had learnt from my English textbook, and it was pretty hard for me to keep a straight face. After that I was impressed again by the breakfast he served me, for on the Continent we do not have very substantial breakfasts, with porridge, ham and eggs, toast, etc., but only light ones.

The good driving discipline, I thought, was remarkable. None of the drivers seemed to be impatient, nor did they use their horns; and I think it is not wrong when we say that the English are phlegmatic, which I regard as a most admirable quality.

In England I often find that I get a feeling of being removed to the beginning of this century. For instance, when I see men with bowlers and umbrellas—parts of the wonderful old English tradition, which I admire so much—often wishing that the German people, too, had this sort of feeling. In my opinion, the English people can teach other nations quite a lot of things regarding discipline, behaviour and tradition.

CH. VON STECHOW.

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## NEW ZEALAND

Amongst other exotic titles, New Zealand has been called the "Britain of the South Seas." It has, however, a population which is little more than a third of that within the area controlled by L.C.C., and it boasts among other things glaciers and geysers; but since this article is intended for publication in a magazine which is never lacking in documentary details, I shall endeavour to confine myself to observations of interest to those in England rather than to statistical comparisons.

The first thing that will strike a visitor from Europe, I think, is the relative youth of this nation compared with the long-settled continent he has left. As far as the British Government was concerned, New Zealand did not come into existence until 1840, having previously been regarded as a thorn in the side of the British Empire. Within the relatively short space of sixty-seven years the small colony of a few thousand inhabitants had become an independent dominion. As a result of this national youth, the country is not stifled by incongruous and impeding traditions, though law and the government are strongly influenced by the British system.

New Zealand's settlement after the Treaty of Waitangi, which gave Maoris and Europeans equal rights, set things going smoothly, but was disturbed once more in the Maori Wars 1860-71. Finally a just settlement was made and the two nations have lived together in peace ever since. During the war many Maoris were brought to work in the factories, but they liked the new kind of life so much that the Maori town population has never stopped growing.

Wages here are higher than in England and a forty-hour week is standard. The standard of living is higher than in England, although there are, of course, many things that are more expensive; cars, for example—second-hand cars hold their price well; but the average age of the family hack is less than its English equivalent, because most of the cars on the road are post-war. Confectionery and clothes are dear, too. There are, however, two sides to every penny, even in New Zealand, and watches, cameras, cigarettes, dairy produce and petrol are cheaper than in England.

The last-mentioned article brings me to what I consider to be one of the best examples of day-light robbery yet devised: the way they reckon the fares of 'buses over here. Instead of calculating the fare payable on the distance travelled, they divide the route into a number of sections of approximately one mile each. Within each section there are several 'bus-stops placed at strategic points. To travel the first section or part of a section costs sixpence, the second section threepence, the third twopence, the fourth and any further sections one penny each. With this system the public transport authorities hoped to encourage people to use the 'buses for long journeys, but all it does is to give rise to the illogical and idiotic situation of a journey of two hundred yards costing as much as one of two miles.

One subject that I must obviously touch on is the education system. Broadly speaking, this follows the same pattern as in England before the days of G.C.E. Tuition is free, but books and stationery have to be paid for, as well as a nominal fee of seven-and-six to cover the cost of sports equipment. The schools fall into three main groups, primary intermediate and secondary. The last-mentioned

group includes grammar schools. Unlike English grammar schools, here the interest is not aimed at getting as many as possible through University Entrance (higher than G.C.E. "O" level but below "A" level), but at getting the Majority School Certificate (lower than "O" level) and then sending them on their way. The standard of tuition is high and many of the grammar school masters have taken degrees or courses in Europe or America.

Both at school and in everyday life, everything stops for or is centred on sport. The average Kiwi lives an outdoor life as much as he can, and the climate certainly encourages him to do so. Every fine week-end sees an exodus to the beaches and baches. Originally a bach was a small hut, the fewer conveniences the better, situated near a beach, lake, river or other beauty spots "away from it all," but nowadays baches are quite well equipped.

I am writing this near a window from which I can see a very English scene, but the radio is on beside me, and leads me to the New Zealand Broadcasting Service. The N.Z.B.S. runs a chain of stations all over New Zealand and, according to the size of the population, nearly every town has one or more stations. Of these one will be a national station and the other may be a commercial. There is only one commercial station to each town, although in Auckland and Wellington one of the national stations does occasionally—about once every three records—erupt into a spot commercial. All stations are government owned and run. Many B.B.C. programmes are used by the national stations such as "Take it from Here," "The Goons," and documentaries. The commercial stations use American and Australian material as well as programmes produced over here, the quality of which is very high. Three times a day the news from London is broadcast and at 7 a.m. there are also items of home news from Britain.

Taken all in all, New Zealand is a good country to live in. The climate is, on the whole, warmer than in the British Isles. Kiwis dislike ingratitude and many of the Hungarian refugees, whom New Zealand so kindly sheltered and brought over here free of charge, have become very unpopular because they have not the basic decency to say "thank you" and to make the best of their unfortunate lot. But let us finish on a happier note. Given half a chance, the New Zealanders are only too ready to be friendly towards you, if you do not come here expecting a paradise on earth and then shout your disappointment from the roof-tops. Hard work brings good wages, but if you disdain such means of making a livelihood, you can still find work that will bring you enough to live on and a very enjoyable life with this young, hardworking nation.

*(The above article has been received from P. M. WILSON, who emigrated to New Zealand 15 months ago.)*

The summers since this time  
Have lingered on ;  
And all we see of souvenir  
Is like some sheep,  
Whose rubbing 'gainst a hedge  
Has left a wake of woollen tufts  
Along, beside our way.  
Some are trammelled in roses,  
While others find their home in sharp, sharp gorse.  
Some we gazed at joyfully,  
While others freeze the heart,  
And ask of us a tear.  
Yet mercilessly they cling,  
Like downy clouds upon  
A summer sky,  
Like winking stars  
Set in a midnight-blue ;  
And we will ever walk the same, same road.  
But let me hope that in remembering this,  
My eyes will never ever see again  
One thorn to which a memory clings.

H. G. MARCHAND, VIM.

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## WORM FISHING FOR TROUT

Worm fishing for trout is usually scorned and looked down upon by the dry fly purists. True, it lacks the skill of fly fishing, but upstream worming in coloured water is a deadly way to kill trout. On most of the well-known chalk and limestone streams it is banned because it harms the stream's stock of trout and is unfair to the other anglers.

The best time for worming is just after rain, when the water is beginning to rise, owing to the water seeping out into the stream from the adjoining land. This addition of water generally makes the stream flow faster and causes the mud and silt to be stirred up. Up to an hour after such an increase of water the fish seem to feed well, but after this they go off the worm until conditions settle again : this is purely a personal point of view, but seems to be accepted among some anglers.

Upstream worming requires accurate casting, but the weight of the tackle, although light, is sufficient to carry the line without the skill and practice of fly casting, and owing to the discoloration of the water the angler has not to worry so much about being seen. The experienced angler chooses the parts of the swollen stream

where there is cover for trout and puts his worm in such a spot, realising that in a good stream fish will be in such places.

The best places in a stream are the quiet stretches where the current divides for a yard or two ; below a waterfall, where the current takes the worm to one side and not downstream until it has made a circuit of the sheltered part ; below a stone which juts out of the water causing a break of the current to be made ; the tail of a deep pool, and the quiet strip of water which flows under the roots of an old tree : these are excellent places to find trout.



Any type of rod and reel will serve the angler, a gut cast of about three yards and a penell-type worming hook ; bite a few split shot on to the line, the depth of water will tell you where. The worms should be scoured before use, as the fresh-dug worm is too soft and weak. To scour them, place the worms into some dry moss for a day or two. A bag of fine grit for the fingers is a good plan and it helps the fingers to grip the worm more easily if the fingers are dipped into such a bag.

These are only the bare details of flood time worming, but they should suffice. The golden rule is, when the worm is in the water, to keep it on a tight line, so that you can strike the instant the trout takes. Clear water worming requires a different technique : but that is another story.

R. C. HACKETT, VI S.

## THE PRISONER

The iron door of his cell clanged shut ; he was a prisoner of the Spanish Inquisition and he had been sentenced to death. He had a hazy vision of the featureless face of the black-clothed judge as he pronounced the death-sentence, death by torture. "Death by torture!" The words echoed through his brain, conjuring up visions of writhing bodies on the rack ; the screams of demented men as they felt the garrot—the method of slow strangulation, which was so favoured by the torturers, tightening around their necks . . . his legs collapsed beneath him, and he fell fainting on to the stone floor of his cell.

When he came to his senses once more, he found a pitcher of water and food set by his side ; as he reached a hand out to grasp the water he found that his hands had been bound together, not tightly, but enough to restrict his movements. The purpose of this binding soon became clear ; the pitcher had no handle and was rather round and large : he could not get his hands round the vessel to lift it in order to drink the water. In a fit of fury he rose and kicked the vessel across the cell ; it smashed against the iron door. A deep laugh vibrated around him—from the roof of his cell.

Glancing up, he caught a glimpse of a fiendish face smiling at him through a trap-door in the roof, then a voice sounded round his cell. "My friend, you are now in my care. Would you like to meet some of my friends, who are to be your companions?" The prisoner noticed a large cage being lowered from the trap-door ; he could not see what the cage contained.

Nausea welled up from the pit of his stomach when he was able to see the contents of the cage—rats, sewer rats, the largest ones he had ever seen. Their dirty grey bodies stank of the sewers they had been captured in ; their eyes gleamed red, hungry in their search for food. Each rat looked like some devil in miniature as they wrestled and struggled with each other, flashing their wicked teeth at their companions as they tumbled on to the floor of the cell.

It was clear to the prisoner that these rats had been starved to such an extent that they would attack any living creature. He had only one hope of salvation, which was to cast his uneaten food among them, and then destroy them as they ate.

The rats were nearly on him before he threw his dish of food at them ; immediately they halted, and began to devour the meagre scraps of food. It was no easy task for the prisoner to force himself into their midst and strangle each rat with his own hands. The rats climbed up over him, and he felt their vile teeth and smelt their putrid smell as he plucked them off and dashed them to the floor.

Exhausted and bleeding, he crushed the last rat, and turned from the carnage around him. Once again he remembered the words

spoken by the judge, "Death by torture." No, surely it was "Death by slow torture!" Screaming curses, he threw himself at the door of his cell and beat himself against it, until oblivion grasped him, and he fell unconscious to the floor.

He was left alone for some days after his destruction of the rats : the rats were left to rot on the floor, however, and their decaying smell brought on long periods of sickness for the prisoner. The torture had become more subtle now : he was given little or no food, and he was not able to drink because of the cord which bound his hands. He became weaker and weaker, and, as his body slowly deteriorated, so his mind wavered between reality and hallucination.

Finally, after a period of terrible dreams of inquisition tortures—he felt the agony of the rack ; the heat of the hot iron before it sank into his flesh ; the sharp pain of the dagger as it slit his nostrils open—he regained his sanity. His body was weak, but his mind was clear, too clear.

Unsteadily he rose to his feet and surveyed his cell : grass was shooting up from between the flagstones ; water was dripping from the walls, forming pools in the corners ; a pile of bones in the middle of the floor was all that remained of the rats. As he raised his hands in horror at the scene, the cords that bound his hands, rotten through the damp, snapped apart. It was obvious that the castle where he had been imprisoned was . . . deserted.

R. C. JONES, VI M.

## A PYRENEAN BULLFIGHT



Sitting on a hard wooden bench, I watched my first bullfight. It was on a hot August afternoon in Collioure, a small town situated just north of the Spanish border.

First a rather bedraggled-looking procession walked across the ring, bowed before the president of the event and then walked back. A Toreador and his team of four then walked in and took up their positions. Then from the other side of the arena a bull came charging in and each Matador in turn passed it on to the next Matador by using their capes. Following this the Toreador came and "played" the bull with his scarlet cape; he then signalled to the Picador to come and wound the bull's tossing muscle. The Picador rode in on a very padded horse and when the bull came close enough to him he thrust a Pic, which is a long rod with a sharp point on the end, into the back of the bull's neck. Now unable to toss its head around much, the bull turned angrily away to face a Matador running towards it with a banderilla in each hand. The Matador zigzagged towards the bull's lowered horns and neatly stuck the darts into the bull's neck just behind its head and then he swivelled on the banderillas away over the horns. This was repeated several times so as to weaken the bull. Now carrying a sword, the Toreador went up to the president and asked if he might now kill the bull. The president having consented, the Toreador, with his sword hidden behind his cape, played the bull for a while, then, when he thought he had it "fixed," he plunged the sword into the back of the bull's neck, and after a few seconds it staggered to the ground and rolled over dead. Almost immediately the crowd began shouting "Olé, olé," which means "Bravo, bravo." When the crowd had quietened down a little the President held up two handkerchiefs as a sign to give the Toreador the bull's ears. These he held up and then tossed into the crowd.

The next two deaths were very similar except that one Toreador attempted to kill the bull seven times but failed six.

At the end of the third death an announcement was made saying that there was a fire on the hillside behind the arena and would all firemen please go and help.

The fourth Toreador was a very brave man who walked up to the bull and then knelt beside it without a cape or sword to protect him. He also did some very fine actions. He was rewarded at the end with two ears and the tail, and when he tossed them among the crowd they threw sweets, flowers, shoes, and fans at him because he had done so well.

The fifth Toreador called his Picador in too soon and the crowd were so annoyed that they threw bottles and stones at the Picador, who was soon driven out again.

The last death was a good clean one and the Toreador and his cuadrilla (team of four) did all the clever things one reads about in a book. The only incident was when the bull charged the fencing

and broke the top spar, but it was soon mended by two carpenters who hurried to the scene.

All too soon the bullfight ended and we made our way through a surging throng of people who were all wearing different-shaped and coloured hats. We finally reached the car and drove out of the town and were surprised to see people still walking to their cars two kilometres outside.

S. C. TOMES, IVx.

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## HOUSE HULLABALOO

### Arnison, Disraeli, Fraser, Youens

Recently there have been increasing murmurs amongst house captains and society officials about the lack of support for their various ventures. The general apathy of the boys is blamed for this, but perhaps the main fault lies in the fact that there are so few houses for such a large number of boys. When the School was first divided into four houses, the total number of boys was only comparatively small; during the last few years, however, our numbers have swollen unbelievably, but the original number of houses has still remained the same. Thus, in houses of two hundred, fifty boys at the most are required for rigger teams and very many less for all the other competitions.

For the future, it has been proposed to counteract the great excess of numbers by creating six houses, and so that no loyalties will be hurt, everyone will be completely reshuffled. As a result of this division, a great many more boys will be called upon to compete in the various competitions: the surprises that spring up every year, and the admission of enjoyment and satisfaction by many boys, once they have made the effort, are sufficient proof of the worth of this redivision.

The present house system includes a competition which concerns all the boys in the School, although a great number of them do not realise this. It is based on points, for fortnightly marks and examination results, and last year the Raffety House Cup was won by Youens.

More recently Youens did very well to win the Senior House Basket-ball contest, a victory which was greatly due to the partnership of Jones and Muller, who were well backed up by the rest of the team. Run on the "knock-out" basis, the results of this competition were:—

Youens beat Fraser  
Disraeli beat Arnison

Youens beat Disraeli (Final)  
Fraser beat Arnison (in the fight for  
the wooden spoon)

### UNDER 15 "KNOCK-OUT"

Youens beat Disraeli (Final)

The Senior rugby competition was won by Fraser House, not easily because the battle against Youens was only won by a splendid last-minute try engineered by Gilder and finished off by H. W. Clark, and in the last round, this year's Cinderella held them to a draw, neither side being able to score. Hickey earned a new reputation as a place-kicker.

#### SENIOR LEAGUE

Fraser beat Youens	14 pts. to 12
Fraser beat Disraeli	27 pts. to 9
Fraser drew with Arnison	0 pts. to 0
Youens beat Disraeli	9 pts. to 6
Youens beat Arnison	22 pts. to 0
Disraeli beat Arnison	27 pts. to 9

#### UNDER 15 "KNOCK-OUT"

**Final :** Youens beat Disraeli 17 pts. to 0

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL "KNOCK-OUT"

**Final :** Disraeli beat Youens 13 pts. to 3

(In the game for the wooden spoon, Fraser beat Arnison 14 pts. to 0)

Many, indeed, most of this year's House competitions have still to be competed : they include Shooting, Hockey, Music, Boxing, Cross-country, Cricket, Chess, Tennis and the Raffety House Cup.

Fear that the standard of play will be lowered by the introduction of six houses is undoubtedly well founded, but surely this is not the idea of House competitions? What is most important in the house system is for every boy to realise that these competitions, whether hockey or cricket, chess or academic results, are not organised to produce State Scholars or National Champions, but to give the individual a chance to pull his weight and to do so with enjoyment along with the rest of the House and secondly to open up opportunities for new experiences, which he has never previously enjoyed.

H. W. CLARK and E. C. FRANKS.

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#### AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

This society is now in its second term of existence. The highlight of our activities so far has been the visit to Fairey Aviation Ltd. at Hayes. Here we saw part of the production line for Gannet aircraft. Unfortunately, as is the case with several aircraft firms, the factory was not in full production. Despite this, we all had a very enjoyable and instructive afternoon.

The League Competition has been (and, I hope, will be) very popular, and the high standard of the entries has surprised us all.

The lectures given by our members on subjects varying from "Sputniks" to "British Civil Aviation" have also been very well attended.

We are very grateful to those members of the staff whose help and co-operation has done much to help us on our way. Finally, we must thank our members who have given lectures or helped in any other way. Next year we hope to enlarge our activities still further.

R. SIMMONS.

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### CHESS CLUB

Senior—Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 4

Junior—Won 0, Drawn 1, Lost 2

As anyone in the main corridor at lunch-time will testify, the Chess Club is a thriving society with a membership of over fifty boys. Of this number the majority is from the Junior School, a fact that augurs well for the future, but which accentuates the embarrassing lack of seniors. Having lost only two of last season's team, however, we expected to have a fairly successful run of matches. Unfortunately this has been only partly the case, as the above results show. Once again, several of our School team have been selected to represent Bucks in both correspondence and tournament chess. At the time of writing we are still in the Berks and Bucks Shield, having beaten Pangbourne Nautical College 6—0.

R. A. P. WILSON.

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### THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Last term's activities, although few in number, were quite successful. We had two excellent lectures, both given by Old Boys of the School, who quite clearly were experts in their respective subjects. The first, given by Mr. D. A. Hester, was a talk on the Linear B Script, the study of which Mr. Hester had been engaged upon at Cambridge. The lecture was obviously of limited appeal to non-members of the society, but it was nevertheless quite well supported. On November 29th, Mr. G. D. B. Jones, of Jesus College, Oxford, gave a fascinating talk on the Ancient City of Rome, which was liberally illustrated with photographs. The meeting was very well attended, and several members remained afterwards to see photographs taken by Mr. Jones himself.

Our activities, we feel, are of considerable value and appeal to boys lower down in the School who study Classics, and also to many sixth-formers who are not classicists. The society needs new members, as it is from these two sections of people that we believe the new members should come.

R. J. COLLETT.

## TWENTIETH CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

With the final extinction of U.N.A. there were fears that the T.C.O.S. was going in the same direction. The general apathy and reluctance towards doing anything constructive that has been predominant in the School over the past few years has been felt more keenly in the societies that depend upon discussion, debating, and other forms of expression. Perhaps it is because societies of this nature have nothing *material* to offer that they suffer most. The T.C.O.S. is not in a position to offer the attractions of excursions to West End theatres or aircraft factories ; its scope is limited to the opinions and expression of Twentieth Century people, and the only attraction it will ever have lies in the enthusiasm of its members.

However, in the course of the year, some progress has been made, and we are proceeding with our programme. To date only two debates have been held, the latter, an external debate with Piper's Corner School. At this function, which took place at R.G.S., the attendance was in the region of 40—an optimistic number indicating that, perhaps, "the winter of our discontent" is now nearly over. Full credit is due to members of the committee, and all others, in particulars M. A. Hollingham, for their efforts and enthusiasm in trying to keep the society alive and *solvent*. Our thanks must also be extended to the Science Society for financial assistance rendered when the society was in danger of bankruptcy.

H. G. MARCHAND.

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## DRAMATIC SOCIETY

We started last term with our Annual General Meeting during which officers for the year were elected. A few play-reading sessions were shortly followed by a trip to the Haymarket Theatre to see Enid Bagnold's "The Chalk Garden." This term we are returning to an old favourite, The New Theatre, St. Martin's Lane, for Jean Anouilh's "Dinner with the Family." This trip shows promise of an extremely enjoyable evening, as the play had a very successful run at the Oxford Playhouse before coming to London.

After our last venture, "The Ascent of F.6," we have now turned our attentions to this term's production, and the enormous cast is already well under way with their rehearsals. After a long lapse, Shakespeare is back with us again, only this time with a revolutionary difference. Mr. Edginton is producing "Julius Caesar" in modern dress, adding a touch of amusement to a tragedy. This will make rather a rare and interesting mixture which should prove very enjoyable to our audience. We hope to have the full support of the whole School which is always necessary for the success of these plays.

M. J. GREEN.

## MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

It is perhaps inevitable that French should be the predominant language in this society, but this year it might well have been called "Le Cercle Français." For with the invaluable help of Mons. Bur and Mons. Wiart we have arranged records, films and play-readings (all of which have been in French) for the benefit of members of the society.

Since its foundation little over two years ago most of the society's activities have been held in co-operation with our sister society at the High School.

Whenever there is a good production of a French or German play within reach of the School, tickets are obtained and transport provided for members of the society. No opportunity, however, has arisen recently enabling us to do this. It was suggested that a trip should be arranged to see Jean Anouilh's play, "Le Rendez-vous de Senlis," but since the production is in English entitled "Dinner with the Family," the committee decided against this. Whether we shall be lucky enough to see any French or German companies performing in the near future, however, still remains to be seen.

E. C. FRANKS.

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## MUSIC SOCIETY

The society wound up events for last term with a trip to the "Proms," where we heard Mr. Shura Cherkassky give scintillating performances of Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini and Strauss's Burlesque. The orchestra, the B.B.C. Symphony, conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent, also played Sibelius's Second Symphony and Rimsky-Korsakov's Capriccio Espagnol.

The new school year brought no radical change in the society. We have continued our weekly record concerts and, lately, have held two a week. The attendance at these concerts has been variable; modern or little known compositions generally attract small audiences, Janacek's Sinfonietta provided a notable exception, while repertoire orchestral works are most popular. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those masters and boys who have lent us records for these concerts.

The society has arranged no large-scale trips yet this year, but a few boys have been to some of the "Sir Robert Mayer Youth Concerts." It is hoped that a trip to an opera will be arranged sometime this term.

B. TETTMAR.

## RUGBY RETROSPECT

The School has carried out a big programme of matches, with only a few cancellations for bad weather, and fielded six regular sides besides an occasional fourth fifteen and new boys' side. No fewer than 165 boys have played for a school team. Our congratulations to R. E. Syrett on gaining a regular place in the England side this season. At school Syrett usually played in the front row of the scrum, and we hope his success will encourage forward play throughout the School.

### 1st XV

School matches	.....	Won 10, Lost 3
Other matches	.....	Won 2, Lost 1

As at other schools, the beginning of season training was interrupted by Asian 'flu and injuries, and this loss was reflected in the standard of team-work all through the season. T. J. Gilder has been an excellent and composed captain of an erratic team: he has given the game a lot of thought as well as effort. It has been good to see the clean and smart turn-out of this year's team. G.L.S. Hickey has been an effective and loyal vice-captain.

We began by losing at Sudbury to Marylebone G.S., where we were outplayed forward partly perhaps through lack of match practice; then we beat Marlow none too decisively but with a much depleted team. At Watford, Gilder's fine play at full-back on his return from injury gave the team new confidence; D. W. Hollomon, C. J. Cunningham and Hickey were all conspicuous, and J. L. Bone kicked well to give us a comfortable win. St. Benedict's proved too weak in defence, and the game at Stowe was scrappy, though H. W. Clark played well at stand-off, and Hollomon's individual efforts in the centre and good co-operation between the backs and forwards brought another win. A rather similar game was won away against the City of Oxford School.

A very wet home game against Watford was lost by the only try. Our play against an improved side was sadly unimaginative. So changes were now made in an effort to get more aggressive and enterprising play. Gilder came to stand-off and T. J. Chenery to scrum half: Hollomon was officially confirmed as a centre despite his short-comings as a link. Unfortunately the new full-back, W. E. Shackell, was injured at the very beginning of the next game, against Tiffin School at home, but P. J. Blokland deputised well. Despite a lack of cohesion, the forwards got on top after half-time: Hickey and A. Brinn were conspicuous and R. C. Hackett, No. 8, had two tries. Against Emanuel School a strange duel of penalty

kicks (3 each) was won at home by 20 pts. to 14. Emanuel had a well-drilled pack and tackled well under pressure. Our forwards tackled and rushed well but rarely heeled quickly. Hollomon had two good tries and Gilder dropped a goal. Abingdon School were weak in defence, but Luton (a new fixture) put up stout opposition despite the early loss of their stand-off. Hickey had no difficulty in dealing with his substitute, and Chenery gave us a fast service. P. J. Muller scored a good try in the centre. The game at Leighton Park was fought really hard by both sides—a great pleasure to watch. With Hollomon and Chenery away, we were perhaps unlucky to lose by a try and two penalties to a try and a penalty.

In the Easter Term, P. D. Fry's team of young Old Boys included at least three ex-captains in A. G. Duckering, A. J. Gordon and F. E. J. Hawkins. The School found the Old Boys' midfield triangle hard to hold with Hawkins polished and aggressive and Neil Harris punching repeated holes in a nervous defence. The wings, however, held their men confidently and Gilder covered the gaps which experience had taught him would not be done by the forwards. E. G. Mann, though a one-footed kicker, played very steadily at full-back. Two good tries by Cunningham just saw us home.

Lazy forwards nearly lost us the, as usual, enjoyable game against a lively Balliol side, but it was won in "injury time," or perhaps by special licence, with a grand combined passing movement. Next week, despite much improved forward play and two good tries by R. C. Jones and Muller, the attack got out of gear and we deservedly lost to Jesus College. The last game of the season—a particularly fine one—against Halton Apprentices was played during a steady fall of wet snow. Both sides made a realistic appreciation of what could and what could not be done under such conditions. The whole team played well together and tarnished reputations were restored; one might pick out Mann as steady under heavy pressure at full-back and Chenery as having so good a game against his excellent opposite number of the Halton team. Appropriately enough, Gilder himself dropped the goal and kicked the penalty which gave us a narrow win over Halton's one try.

A strong and individually clever pack of forwards rose to the heights at times, but were temperamentally a sluggish lot hard to stir into action. R. C. Jones, the hooker, had several excellent games, towards the end of the season, and all through it, was often the first to get across to cover a break-through. A. Brinn usually did good work in the line-out, while his partner in the second row, J. L. Bone made some good place-kicking his main contribution. P. J. Blokland on the blind side was quick on the loose ball, dribbled well and was always whole-hearted. The leader of the pack and open side "spoiler" was G. L. S. Hickey, a clever handler, now big and rather heavy for this position, but unkind to slow or inexperienced half-backs.

The halves have done very well together. T. J. Gilder himself, by "profession" a full-back, is a fine handler and kicker as well as a most elusive runner. He was always good in defence and sometimes brilliant in attack, but there were other days when he got the line moving too slowly to be effective. P. J. Muller was steady as one centre, and D. W. Hollomon, though often enough careless and inaccurate in his play, has developed great powers of penetration. His kicking in attack and tackling too can be very good. On the right wing Cunningham was most determined and aggressive and got some splendid tries.

On the whole a very good season. It is so easy to criticise : I can only add that I hoped the team enjoyed playing as much as we have enjoyed watching them.

C.M.H.

The team, all new members of which were awarded their colours, was as follows : E. G. Mann ; C. J. Cunningham, P. J. Muller, D. W. Hollomon, J. R. Barkas ; T. J. Gilder (Captain), T. J. Chenery ; A. W. Ralley, R. C. Jones, C. S. J. Mardell ; J. L. Bone, A. Brinn ; G. L. S. Hickey (Vice-Captain), R. C. Hackett, P. J. Blokland.

Also played : K. R. Miller, P. J. Holtorp, H. W. Clark, E. C. Franks, R. J. Collett (who appears in the team photograph), S. A. Leader, D. A. Scott-Kiddie, W. E. Shackell, M. D. Packman, A. J. Styles, C. J. Melsom, D. H. Bond.

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## 2nd XV

Played 14, Won 9, Drawn 1, Lost 4

Once the team was able to settle down, which was not until after Half Term, it became a very workmanlike side, with plenty of competent reserves available. The last seven consecutive victories and the preceding draw were all against good sides. As there were one or two old colours unable to play often through injuries, the committee has been discreetly liberal over team colours.

The pack, well led by the captain, D. A. Scott-Kiddie, who played and captained the side admirably, got their heads down and played as forwards should. Behind the scrum H. W. Clark, who had several very good games for the 1st XV, was the most polished player in a good line.

The 2nd XV was as follows (players who played only in a few games are shown in brackets :—R. J. Collett, (W. E. Shackell) ; P. J. Holtorp, K. R. Miller, (R. Pratley), E. C. Franks, (D. H. Bond), R. F. Quirke ; H. W. Clark, M. D. Packman ; C. J. Melsom, A. J. Styles, W. A. C. Knowles ; S. A. Leader, W. J. C. Torrens-Burton,

D. A. Scott-Kiddie (Captain), M. D. Humphries, J. A. Dawes. All new members of this team received their second XV colours.

R. P. G. Owen appeared in the team photograph and others to play were : H. C. Bramley, B. A. J. Quirke, A. C. Pain, R. W. Tabner, A. I. Barnard, K. R. Puddephatt, R. C. Smith, B. J. Bull, J. R. Ward, R. A. P. Wilson, R. P. H. Green and J. C. Ashford.

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### 3rd XV

Played 10, Won 3, Lost 7

Enthusiasm rather than great skill has been the feature of the 3rd XV games. The side has always seemed to enjoy playing their matches and one or two of the younger players have shown distinct promise.

Regular members of the team were (\* indicates a new award of stockings) :—R. P. G. Owen (Captain), R. C. Smith\* ; I. G. Woodcraft\*, K. R. Puddephatt\*, R. W. Tabner\*, G. R. Gunning, (O. V. Volkonsky), A. C. Pain\*, H. C. Bramley\*, R. A. P. Wilson\*, B. A. J. Quirke\*, B. L. White\*, J. R. Ward, B. J. Bull\*, C. J. Russell\*, A. I. Barnard\*.

Others who played were :—D. M. Cunnold\*, A. J. Riley\*, C. C. Marsden, J. A. Sagar, W. M. Douglas, D. K. Luscombe, A. L. Hardstaff, V. W. Punton, A. G. Lane, M. E. Ledger, E. J. Belcher, A. B. Miller, I. M. Tomes, G. E. Watson, P. L. Chandler, D. J. Darvill, J. C. Alabaster.

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### 4th XV

Won 1, Drawn 1

We shall have to try and find a few more fixtures for this team, which has had plenty of competent and promising players ranging from round-cheeked innocence to bearded seniority. The following played for the team :—J. C. Ashford, I. W. McCue, J. A. Sagar, W. M. Douglas, P. Prescott, K. J. V. Wrench, D. K. Luscombe, A. L. Hardstaff, P. A. Taylor, V. W. Punton, A. G. Lane, E. R. Carter, E. J. Belcher, J. O. Smith, R. J. Cann, A. B. Miller.

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### Colts (under 15) XV

Played 9, Won 4, Lost 5

The season began inauspiciously. So many players succumbed to Asian 'flu that the team had little chance of settling down before the middle of October.

The pack was heavy yet vigorous, the backs both speedy and resourceful. While individual style was evident on more than one occasion, the team, throughout the season, worked well together.

R. A. O. Stockwell, G. D. Nash and G. F. Smith were the mainstays of the scrum, while J. S. Simpson and P. J. Yates gave the three line many opportunities to open out play in an aggressive manner. Behind them, M. F. Turner at full-back was certain in defence and aided the pack considerably by accurate kicking for touch. J. H. Dawes and P. M. Dronfield combined well to link scrum and backs together.

The success of the season can best be judged by the total of the scores, 103 points against, 102 points for.

Colours (an experimental innovation) were awarded to J. S. Simpson, the Captain, R. A. O. Stockwell, the Vice-Captain, G. D. Nash, G. F. Smith, M. F. Turner and P. J. Yates who, at times, played exceptionally promising rugby football.

The following played for the team :—J. S. Simpson, R. A. O. Stockwell, J. C. Bowman, J. H. Comer, R. J. Coppock, G. H. Cunnold, J. H. Dawes, T. E. Dedman, P. M. Dronfield, S. N. M. Evans, A. W. Fountain, R. W. F. Fox, M. F. Gillett, B. R. Harding, E. Holdship, R. King, G. D. Nash, G. F. Smith, J. O. Smith, M. G. Smith, B. A. Torrens-Burton, M. F. Turner, R. P. Williams, P. J. Yates.

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### Junior Colts (under 14) XV

Played 10, Won 6, Lost 4

This team, after winning all its first five matches, managed to win only one of the last five, so that the season ended rather disappointingly, for there was promising material among the forwards and backs. There are two reasons for this decline : the forwards never quite managed to develop into a strong united pack, and consequently in their later games failed to win the forward battle : the other reason lay in a tendency for certain players to blame others when the game was not going well, and nothing destroys team spirit more effectively than this habit. That was why this team did not quite measure up to its predecessors.

The following played for the team :—R. W. Harding, R. G. Saunders, M. P. Holland, R. N. Broadley, R. M. Layton, G. R. J. Dorsett, A. R. Hope, D. W. Collins, R. J. Casbeard, P. J. A. Snowden, E. A. Speight, J. E. Steward, J. D. Taylor, A. Lawrence, C. S. Griffiths, P. J. C. Clark (Captain), I. M. Macwhinnie, N. S. Hailstone, P. G. Davies, A. J. Tuffs, J. M. Barlow, D. S. Culley, M. B. Yallop, G. W. Stossler, S. F. Young, B. Downing, D. K. P. Hazell, A. P. R. Coates, T. J. Dell, M. D. H. Priestley, R. B. Smith.

## Junior (under 13) XV

Played 6, Won 1, Lost 5

A physically small team with some promising and plucky boys in it. The captain, R. L. Smyth, set his men a fine example in tackling all comers of all sizes, and M. J. Mason was a really hard-working forward. The following played for the team:—I. F. L. Bevan, J. H. Bettinson, S. W. Bunce, K. E. Burrows, B. H. J. B. Cronin, J. M. Davies, M. Everitt, R. A. Fewtrell, S. Fone, D. A. Glass, M. J. Mason, C. F. Pass, D. G. Orchard, C. J. Osbaldeston, C. G. Rogers, G. H. Rothwell, J. F. Shackell, R. L. Smyth (Captain), I. R. W. Whitwam.

## New Boys' (First-year Entry) XV

Played 2, Won 1, Drawn 1

Two enjoyable games were played against our nearest neighbours. The following played:—D. G. Horley, M. J. O'Hanlon, R. A. Dorkins, M. P. A. Solomon, K. R. Marshall, P. J. Moores, T. S. Ward, C. J. Packman (Captain), T. P. K. Owen, A. R. L. Brain, R. H. E. Ham, M. Harris, G. M. Smyth, I. A. Sifton, P. R. G. Clark, D. Blythen.

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

#### 1st XV

Oct.	5	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Away	Lost	0	11
..	12	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Home	Won	10	3
..	16	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Won	16	3
..	19	St. Benedict's School ... ..	Home	Won	35	0
..	23	Stowe School, 2nd XV ... ..	Away	Won	16	6
..	26	City of Oxford School ... ..	Away	Won	13	3
Nov.	9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Home	Lost	0	3
..	13	Tiffin School ... ..	Home	Won	16	3
..	20	Emanuel School ... ..	Home	Won	20	14
..	23	Abingdon School ... ..	Home	Won	35	3
..	30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Home	Won	12	0
Dec.	7	Leighton Park School ... ..	Away	Lost	6	9
Jan.	14	Old Boys (P. D. Fry's XV) ... ..	Home	Won	6	3
Feb.	8	Balliol College ... ..	Away	Won	17	16
..	15	Jesus College, Oxford ... ..	Away	Lost	6	11
..	22	No. 1 School of Technical Training, R.A.F., Halton ... ..	Home	Won	6	3

### 2nd XV

Oct.	5	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Home	Lost	3	9
"	9	Aylesbury Grammar School, 1st XV	Away	Won	37	3
"	16	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Home	Lost	3	8
"	19	St. Benedict's School ... ..	Home	Won	21	3
"	23	Stowe School, 3rd XV ... ..	Away	Lost	0	33
Nov.	9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	0	11
"	13	Tiffin School ... ..	Away	Drawn	0	0
"	20	Emanuel School ... ..	Home	Won	8	6
"	23	Abingdon School ... ..	Home	Won	17	0
"	30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Home	Won	8	5
Dec.	7	Leighton Park School ... ..	Home	Won	11	0
Jan.	18	Southfield School, 1st XV ... ..	Home	Won	11	6
Feb.	1	Henley Grammar School, 1st XV ...	Away	Won	19	0
"	15	Stoneham School, 1st XV ... ..	Home	Won	16	15

### 3rd XV

Oct.	9	Slough Technical School, 1st XV ...	Away	Won	58	0
"	12	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow, 2nd XV ... ..	Home	Won	5	3
"	16	Watford Grammar School ... ..	H	Lost	9	14
"	19	St. Benedict's School, under 16 ...	Away	Lost	0	38
"	26	City of Oxford School, 2nd XV ...	Away	Lost	3	8
Nov.	9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	0	17
"	13	Tiffin School ... ..	Away	Lost	6	14
"	27	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow, 2nd XV ... ..	Away	Lost	9	27
"	30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Home	Won	9	5
Dec.	7	Leighton Park School ... ..	Home	Lost	5	27

### 4th XV

Oct.	9	Slough Technical School, 2nd XV ...	Away	Won	42	0
"	16	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Drawn	3	3

### COLTS (under 15) XV

Oct.	5	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Away	Lost	14	20
"	12	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	0	27
"	19	St. Benedict's School ... ..	Home	Won	25	9
"	26	Henley Grammar School ... ..	Home	Won	25	3
Nov.	9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Home	Lost	3	17
"	16	Stoneham School ... ..	Away	Won	10	6
"	23	Southfield School ... ..	Away	Lost	6	8
"	30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	3	11
Dec.	7	Leighton Park School ... ..	Away	Won	16	3

### JUNIOR COLTS (under 14) XV

Oct.	5	St. Marylebone Grammar School ...	Home	Won	6	3
"	12	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Away	Won	3	0
"	19	St. Benedict's School ... ..	Away	Won	17	12
"	26	Henley Grammar School ... ..	Home	Won	12	0
"	26	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Home	Won	17	3
Nov.	9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Home	Lost	0	6
"	15	Stoneham School ... ..	Away	Won	22	0
"	23	Southfield School ... ..	Away	Lost	6	8
"	30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	8	11
Dec.	7	St. Nicholas's Grammar School, Nortnwood ... ..	Home	Lost	3	8

### JUNIOR (under 13) XV

Oct. 19	St. Benedict's School ... ..	Away	Lost	0	12
.. 26	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Home	Lost	5	10
Nov. 9	Watford Grammar School ... ..	Home	Lost	0	3
.. 23	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Away	Lost	0	18
.. 30	Luton Grammar School ... ..	Away	Lost	0	6
Dec. 7	St. Nicholas's Grammar School, Northwood ... ..	Home	Won	17	0

### NEW BOYS (First Year) XV

Feb. 15	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Home	Won	12	3
.. 22	Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow	Away	Drawn	0	0

## BASKETBALL

The basketball team this year has had quite a good season so far. In all, fourteen matches have been arranged, mainly against R.A.F. sides. To date, halfway through the season, we have won five and lost four matches.

The standard of play has much improved over the past three years. In fact, I would say that the present team is the most skilful we have had in the School, and the eight regular players combine to make a very workmanlike team.

Despite this increase in skill, two main criticisms may be given. Firstly, the team do not press home an attack sufficiently. Secondly, the defence at times lacks speed in covering.

Five players remain from last season: R. C. Jones (captain), P. J. Muller, H. W. Clark, J. R. Bone and T. J. Gilder. R. W. Tabner and ex-colt R. Priestley have joined the regular eight this year.

This is only an interim report as there are still a number of matches to be played, so a full appreciation of the season must be left until the next publication of the School magazine.

Half colours have been awarded to R. C. Jones, P. J. Muller, H. W. Clark, J. R. Bone and T. J. Gilder.

D.T.N.

## CRICKET CLUB 1958

<i>Captain</i> .....	T. J. GILDER
<i>Vice-Captain</i> .....	P. J. BLOKLAND
<i>Hon. Secretary</i> .....	R. C. JONES

*Old Colours returning:*

T. J. Gilder, P. J. Blokland, R. C. Jones, J. R. Bone, J. A. Dawes

The question that must be in the minds of all candidates for the 1958 XI is "Can the standard set by the unbeaten team of 1957 be maintained?" The more experienced members of the last XI have left. Harvey, Squires and Kennard have joined the R.A.F. for National Service and Briden is up at Oxford. If the runs scored by these four were taken from the total number scored by the whole XI in 1957 not many would remain. That does not mean, however, that we cannot look forward to a good season. All of last year's players who are returning had their moments of triumph in 1957 and were only prevented from scoring many more runs by the fact that numbers 1—4 were getting most of the runs that were needed. The scoring of centuries is now no longer a far-away dream but has become an accepted fact. Fine weather and the usual good wickets should produce a good crop of runs once more. The bowling could be better than last year and the usual high standard of fielding can be reached and even bettered. This is the one department of the game where there is little or no excuse for failure and a weakness in the other departments can always be offset by improvement in fielding.

T. J. Gilder, the new captain, has done a fine job of work as Rucker Captain and the experience he gained here will be of great help in the summer. He is the fourth member to captain the School in Cricket and Rucker since the war, the others being J. E. Woodward, F. E. J. Hawkins and A. Harvey.

By the time that this magazine is in print the second Easter Cricket School will have been completed. During the past year Mr. Bridges and Mr. Beeson have attended coaching courses and obtained the M.C.C. Coaching Certificate.

A new fixture for the 1st and U/15 XI's has been obtained with the R.G.S., Worcester. It would be a fine thing if all the Royal Grammar Schools could partake in inter-school fixtures, but distance and time make this impossible.

Our congratulations must go to R. E. Syrett—Cricket Captain in 1949—on gaining his England Rucker Cap; to A. Harvey for his success last August as Captain of the Bucks Young Amateurs, his selection for the English Grammar Schools XI *v* Wales Public Schools and Young Professionals (in the last game at Lords he made 60), and also for his inclusion in the Bucks County XI in the Minor Counties Competition *v* Norfolk; and finally to J. C. Briden and P. Kennard for their regular selection for the Bucks Young Amateurs.

A final point to remember. An unbeaten record at cricket can have one of these meanings. Firstly that the XI is really strong, secondly that it is playing not to lose, and thirdly that the fixture list is not strong enough. It is hoped that the School XI will never maintain an unbeaten record for the second reason, and if the third reason is applicable steps will be taken to provide the remedy.

H.W.J.

## CROSS-COUNTRY 1957-58

The intensive training put in at the beginning of last term has resulted in the most successful season the School 1st team has enjoyed for many years. Not only have all the inter-school and club matches been won, but the team has performed most creditably in Open Championships. Perhaps the best achievement was the winning of the Ranelagh Schools Challenge Cup for the first time in the School's history by a handsome margin over strong opposition. This term the team was successful in the match against Watford Grammar School, who suffered their first home defeat for seven years.

The success of the 1st team was reflected in the other teams, which all performed above their usual level and, like the 1st team, owed much of their success to good packing.

The teams owe a deep debt to Mr. Sheppard for the many hours of his time he has devoted to them.

New colours this year :—D. W. Cox, J. L. Currell, A. T. Gwynn and D. P. May.

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### CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

#### 1st Team

Ran 11, Won 11

v Bishopshalt School ... ..	27-55
v Harrow County School ... ..	21-69
v R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton ... ..	21-67
v William Ellis School ... ..	23-86
v Nautical College ... ..	23-62
v Keble College, Oxon ... ..	26-32
v Exeter College, Oxon ... ..	15-53
v Wycombe Phoenix Harriers and Vale of Aylesbury A.C. ... ..	91-99-142
v Culham College and Jesus College ... ..	23-89-50
Bucks County Championship—2nd	
v Watford Grammar School ... ..	35-49
v Aske's Haberdashers and Emmanuel Schools ... ..	27-97-72
Ranelagh Schools Cup—1st	
Southern Counties Championship—7th	

#### 2nd Team

Ran 8, Won 4, Lost 3, Drawn 1

#### Colts Team

Ran 6, Won 4, Lost 2

#### Junior Colts

Ran 4, Won 4

# OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

## Births

- BANHAM, R. (1940-45). On August 27th, 1957, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Banham, a son.
- COWLETT, T. A. (1943-50). On May 30th, 1956, at Oxford, to Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Cowlett, a son.
- GROOM, P. S. (1942-49). On Christmas Day, 1957, at "Nordcross," Hazlemere, Bucks, to Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Groom, a son.
- LIDGLEY, P. (1944-49). On January 3rd, 1958, at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, Beaconsfield, to Mr. and Mrs. Lidgley, a son.
- PICKLES, B. (1937-42). On Saturday, March 8th, 1958, at the "Shrubbery," High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Pickles, a daughter.
- TANNER, D. W. (1940-46). On April 27th, 1956, to F/Lt. D. W. and Mrs. Tanner, a daughter.
- WHITE, L. A. J. (1935-39). On September 28th, 1957, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. L. A. J. White, a daughter.
- WHITE, R. (1940-45). On July 13th, 1957, at Chalfont St. Peter, to Mr. and Mrs. R. White, twin boys.

## Marriages

- ASHFORD—WILKIN. On March 14th, 1956, at St. Michael's Church, Waikanae Beach, Wellington, New Zealand, R. G. Ashford (1941-47) to Miss Valerie J. Wilkin.
- COX—MUNRO. On April 26th, 1957, at King's College Chapel, Aberdeen, D. J. Cox (1939-47) to Miss Margaret J. Munro.
- KEEN—HOUSDEN. On October 5th, 1957, at St. Michael and All Angels, Hughenden, M. Keen (1942-48) to Miss Sheila A. Housden.
- MANSFIELD—BENSON. On September 28th, 1957, at Uxbridge, M. A. Mansfield (1946-49) to Miss Jennifer Benson.
- McCOY—MILES. On June 15th, 1957, at the Parish Church, Chalfont St. Peter, Brian A. McCoy (1946-51) to Miss Ruth I. Miles.
- PARROT—KEMPSON. On October 5th, 1957, at Holy Trinity Church, Walton, Aylesbury, F. G. Parrot (1928-34) to Miss Betty J. Kempson.
- PETTITT—SMITH. On October 11th, 1957, at Hughenden Church, P. Pettitt (1940-45) to Miss Brenda Rose Smith.

## Deaths

R. G. BLAKE (1921-25). On August 2nd, 1957, at University College Hospital, R. G. Blake, aged 48 years.

When he left School R. G. Blake joined his father's old-established bakery in Beaconsfield. He joined the R.A.F. and was attached to a New Zealand squadron. After the war he entered a firm of Stock Exchange brokers. He had been in ill health for about two years. The Club extend their sympathy to Mrs. Blake and to his twelve-year-old daughter, June.

S. J. LAWRENCE (1927-33). On December 4th, 1957, killed in the train crash near Lewisham, aged 41 years.

S. J. Lawrence was a representative of paper manufacturers and lived in Totteridge, High Wycombe. About six months before the accident he was appointed manager of a paper factory at Wimborne, near Bournemouth, where he and his wife made their home. There is no family. The Club wishes to express their sympathy with Mrs. Lawrence in her untimely bereavement.

A. STEELE (1920-25). On February 1st, 1958, at the War Memorial Hospital, aged 47 years.

After being employed in Slough Divisional Education Office, Alan Steele since 1950 had been on the staff of Aylesbury Youth Employment Office.

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## OLD BOYS' NOTES AND NEWS

When Mr. ARNISON wrote after Christmas he said he was having a three-week rest cure in bed and was being fed on baby food! X-ray examination had revealed an ulcer of the duodenal variety. He missed his Christmas dinner and was in the lap of luxury, waited on hand and foot by his wife, daughter and granddaughter. All O.B.'s sincerely hope that he will be quite strong and healthy enough to stand and enjoy the Club's Annual Dinner.

REV. A. M. BERRY (1914-1933). On Friday, January 3rd, 1948, a party was given in the parish hall at Great Woolston to mark the golden wedding anniversary of their Vicar, the Rev. A. M. and Mrs. Berry. They were presented with a cheque, and a basket of flowers was given to Mrs. Berry on behalf of the Mothers' Union of which she had been the enrolling member for forty years. They were married on December 30th, 1907, at Woolwich Parish Church. For some years they lived in Guernsey and in 1914 moved to High Wycombe, when Mr. Berry became history master at the R.G.S. He was ordained deacon and in 1918 was curate at Hazlemere before he became Rector of Horsenden and Ilmer. In 1933 Mr. Berry

retired from teaching to become Vicar of Great Woolston, Little Woolston and Willen, and he has been there ever since. The Bishop of Oxford, to mark the occasion, preached at Evensong at Willen Church and two of Mr. Berry's sons read the lessons. They had four sons, three of whom, C. A. F., M. V., and O. L., attended the R.G.S. M.V. ("Monty") lost his life on active service with the R.A.F. in 1941.

For some time the Berry family have been working hard to raise money for the restoration of Willen Church, whose list of Vicars goes back to 1223. With only thirty-nine people in the village, his task has been formidable, but his parishioners alone have raised over £500 in the last two years. In the "Week's Good Cause" at 8.25 p.m. on Sunday, January 5th, 1953, Mr. C. A. Joyce made an appeal for their Restoration Fund in the London Home Service of the B.B.C. The Old Wycombiensians' Club sends its congratulations, best wishes and an early triumph to their financial efforts.

T. W. ABDALLAH (1946-54) passed Law Moderations after two terms at Exeter College, Oxford. He left after the third term to join his father's business in London.

A. W. BARNARD (1939-46) sent his voluntary contribution of two guineas to the Club even before the increase in the pay of the Services becomes operative. As a Squadron Leader with the R.A.F. in Ayios Nikolaos he has seen very little of his baby son born last November.

E. G. BARRATT (1947-54); B. A. BOREHAM (1948-53); R. J. M. HART (1948-55) have passed the Intermediate Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales.

V. A. BENNETT (1919-25), with his greetings, wrote that his company continued to prosper and were completing their tenth year. His elder son Duncan, after graduating from Trinity College, was doing his National Service in the Navy, and Ian was in his senior year and heading for College next September.

D. J. BLOXHAM (1950-56) started his National Service on February 17th, 1958. He ended his Service on February 19th—is this the shortest time on record? He intended joining for five years, but unfortunately in the very stiff five-day test he failed in the severe medical examination. He is still interested in jazz and has played in several West End jazz clubs.

A. BRADLEY (1938-43) was unable to attend the Reunion because he had a County Drama Festival the same evening. He gets quite a lively time with his family, Jeremy (3 years), Simon (2 years), and Petra (1 year).

R. W. BRAYBROOKE (1952-55) will be in the R.A.O.C. for three years and much to his surprise managed to get into the Battalion team. He wished the School well and wanted two tickets for the Opera!

J. A. COLLAR (1948-55) corresponds regularly with J. A. Norrish in Hong Kong and with G. Snapes in Berlin ; both are in the R.A.F. Although he finds life in Germany enjoyable and cheap, Collar is looking forward to the pay rise in April.

H. D. COLLARD'S (1943-49) permanent address is now Rt. 1, Box 107H, Maple Valley, Washington. His life since he left the R.C.S. he gives as : 1949-50, attended " High School," Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. ; Sept. 1950-June 1951, first year at Read College, Oregon ; in the summer, heavy labour in a lumber mill in the mountains and also for the next four or five summers and in his final year ended with a B.A. in Mathematics. In Sept. 1954 he was an Architectural Draughtsman while he finished his thesis ; 1955-57, Aerodynamicist with Aero Aircraft Limited, Toronto, Canada ; since then he has been Associate Engineer in the Power Plant Staff Transport Division, Boeing Airplane Co., Washington, and is a specialist in heat transfer. He was married in 1955 and has two sons aged 1½ years and 5 months. He likes it, gets a pretty good income and is able to save.

T. A. COWLETT (1943-50) is teaching music at Larksmead County Secondary Modern School, Abingdon, Berks.

G. A. CULLEN (1950-56) is at present having a slack time at the Royal Veterinary College, London, after passing his first professional examination last July.

The highlight of the annual meeting of the Princes Risborough branch of the National Farmers' Union in November 1957 was the presentation of a portable wireless to the retiring secretary, R. R. DICKETY (1926-31). He will continue as secretary of the Aylesbury branch.

Writing from 35 Mount Pleasant Road, Wellington, New Zealand, R. G. ASHFORD (1941-47) writes that, after seven years in the Merchant Navy as Assistant Purser in the Shaw Savill Line, he decided to " swallow the anchor " and get married to a New Zealand girl and live down under. He hopes O.B.'s will make a note of his address and call for a cup of tea when near.

A " happy snap " in the local press showed E. GEORGE (1915-22), managing director of F. W. George Ltd., with singing star Joan Regan. George was at the Hurseal Group's winter " At Home " to receive the Hurseal Silver Challenge Cup and a cash prize of £150 for his firm's window display in the Group's display competition.

W. T. GRIMSDALE (1920-25), c/o H. K. and Whampon Dock Co. Ltd., Kowloon Docks, Hong Kong, encloses with his " voluntary " levy a large cutting of the *China Mail* dated 3/7/57. This contained a large photograph of E. S. KIRBY (1919-25), Mrs. Kirby and their three children. Professor E. S. Kirby is Head of the Department of Economics and Political Science in the University

of Hong Kong. He was about to leave on a six weeks' lecture tour of the United States to speak on current affairs and economic problems of China, Hong Kong and the Far East. He was to lecture at seven of the largest United States towns before flying to London. Here he will visit the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London, and some academic centres on the Continent. He will return to Hong Kong by way of a lecture tour of India and Pakistan, and will present a paper on Problems of Economic Development in Asia at the Conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations at Lahore. His wife is "XX," the *China Mail* Music Critic.

Grimsdale himself will make a strong effort to see something of his Old Schools when he is next home in 1959.

When the Headmaster with 30 other school heads visited the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst he met two O.B.'s, MAJOR ANGUS HARRIS (1936-41), who has been an instructor there for nearly three years, and Officer Cadet D. C. WILLATTS, who left school in September 1957. Mr. Tucker was there to confer with Army officers about the problems facing boys who chose the Army as a career.

H. C. HICKMAN (1939-46) was transferred to the grade of Associate Membership of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers (A.M.I.E.) in May 1957.

R. C. HOING (1947-52) has passed his Part II Final Examination of the Incorporated Society of Accountants.

R. B. HUMPHRIES (1948-56) is in his second year of a five-year apprenticeship with B.T.H. Co. Ltd., Rugby, studying for an external London B.Sc. He hopes to run in the National Cross-Country Championship at Birkenhead in March.

ERIC JANES (1928-31) has designed something new in architecture. It is a giant concrete canopy to adorn the Embankment entrance to the famous Savoy Hotel. His design has aroused considerable interest in architectural circles and at the opening ceremony at the hotel Janes was congratulated by Sir Albert Richardson, former President of the Royal Academy, by the Deputy High Commissioner of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, by the director of the Savoy, General Sir Frederick Browning, and by the Chairman of the L.C.C.

HARRY JANES (1915-23) will be the managing director of a new company to be known as Nicholls and Janes (1958) Ltd. The original firm of Nicholls and Janes was founded in 1868 in Newland by Janes' grandfather. The firm is to take over a furniture factory in Queens Road because the present factory has been acquired by the Buckinghamshire County Council as an extension site of the Technical College. The firm will take with them the famous carved gates, a notable landmark designed and carved by Janes' father over fifty years ago.

M. KEEN (1943-49) has passed the Law Society's final examination and has applied for admission to the Rolls as solicitor of the Supreme Court.

A. M. LACEY (1951-55) is in his second year of the engineering course at the Imperial College, London.

C. MINTER (1949-54). When his father last wrote was in hospital but was expected to be out in about a week's time. He was stationed in Nairobi, Kenya. They seemed to be very short of qualified surveyors and in consequence he was working very hard, and for months his only respite seemed to be attendance at Church on Sunday. He is attached to 89 Field Survey Squadron, R.E.

R. D. MITCHELL (1949-54) writes that King's College, London, can now challenge Jesus College, Cambridge, for the number of O.B.'s from R.G.S. S. R. C. Malin, J. W. J. Freeth, and J. Beckford are in residence, while M. J. Knight and J. R. P. Ashby have just left. Mitchell sometimes meets Tony Wright, who is too modest about his success as Captain of Queen Mary's College XV. Mitchell, having weathered successfully Part I Degree Examination, worked with Esso during the summer. This summer he hopes to make big money working for a firm making agricultural fertilizers on the Franco-Spanish border. His new address is 24 Woodland Rise, Muswell Hill, N.10.

Although C. MORRIS (1914-19) just failed to win the King George VI Cup for the fourth year at the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Show, his successes included First and Seconds in a keen competition with H.M. the Queen, Viscount Astor and many well-known Buckinghamshire farmers. As part of a plan to improve better understanding between town and country the Mayor and Corporation and about a hundred members of various organisations were taken in tractors round his Handy Cross Farm, near Marlow.

M. J. NICHOLLS (1950-55) has terminated his successful career in the Merchant Navy and is spending one year at Durham University before going to a Theological College for a further three years.

R. D. OWEN (1949-54) is now fully entitled to put L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. after his name.

N. PERFECT (1946-50) has passed the final examination of the Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants.

J. N. ROBINSON (1934-40) was entitled to three months' leave after being eighteen months in West Africa. He spent it at Totteridge, but in November he was almost wishing himself back in the sunshine of Lagos. While on leave he went down with malaria, listened to the Rev. A. J. Skipp at the Parish Church and met his old friend Goulborn. In Kenya he had a very long gossip with P. R. F. Britnell. Last year Robinson received the Regular Army Long Service and Good Conduct Medal for eighteen years' "un-

detected crime." This he considers unique in the history of the O.B.'s. He has been promoted to the rank of Conductor, together with 1st Class Gunner, R.A., the highest warrant rank in the Army. He wonders whether the present compulsory retirements will allow him to continue in the Services when his twenty years are up in 1960.

T. ROSE (1931-36), editor of *Amateur Movie-Maker*, gave a half-hour talk on the B.B.C. Network Three radio programme on amateur movies.

A. J. SALLOWS (1950-54) has passed the Intermediate Examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants and hopes to be successful in the finals in 1960. He has been impeded lately by a dislocated finger from playing with the Aylesbury "A" XV.

R. A. SHEPPARD (1918-24) hopes his son will meet some R.G.S. students at Leeds University, where he has just started Civil Engineering Honours Course.

R. SYRETT (1944-48), on the day after his twenty-seventh birthday on Sunday, January 5th, 1958, was informed that he had been chosen to play for England against Wales at Twickenham. Since he left school Syrett has played regularly for the Wasps. He was awarded a Service cap and has played for Middlesex in more than one County Championship and was in the combined England and Wales team against Scotland and Ireland at Dublin. Now he has caught up with Woodward, his brother-in-law and the first R.G.S. O.B. to be awarded an England cap.

Amongst the Old Boys in the Wycombe Phoenix Harriers, TONY REDRUP (1937-45) has been distinguishing himself. He finished second in the North of Thames Cross-Country Championships and then a fortnight later at Parliament Hill Fields, London, he came eighth in the Southern Counties Cross-Country Championship, only a few inches behind Ken Norris, last year's champion.

In the Junior Race at the Southern Counties (K. CATTERMOLE (1945-54), who was Cross-Country Captain in the 1954-55 season, finished fifty-third.

B. HALL (1946-51) and A. DALE (1947-52) are other O.B.'s who run regularly with the Wycombe Phoenix Harriers.

S. J. RAMAGE (1934-38), after six years in India, now lives in Birmingham and works with I.C.I. He had been married about five months when he wrote on February 14th, 1958.

D. W. TANNER (1940-46), who with B. D. BATCHELOR (1950-54) took an active part with the R.A.F. against the rebels, expects to return from Kharmaksar in April of this year.

M. TAYLOR (1950-54) when he left went to Australia. After two years' training at a teachers' college at Geelong, Victoria, he taught an age group from five to fifteen at a school near that town. He returned two years ago to teach general subjects at Holmer Green School and now he is going back to Australia to teach in Victoria.

R. W. THORNE (1951-57) is enjoying his life as a cadet at the Naval College, Dartmouth.

H. TRENDELL (1910-15) is chairman of High Wycombe Orpheus Male Voice Choir.

M. J. TUCKETT (1947-50) could not attend the Dinner because he was on a tour of South America.

R. UDEN (1930-35) would be delighted to meet O.B.'s at the Oxford office of Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd., where he now works. He is married with three children skilfully arranged over the last twelve years.

A. J. VERE (1952-56) has been working at West Wycombe Railway Station for the last eighteen months. He likes the job so much that by taking a course on signalling and salesmanship he hopes to become an Inspector and later on a Station Master.

D. J. WICKERS (1935-42), after being a legal assistant to High Wycombe Town Council, became assistant solicitor with Uxbridge Borough Council. On February 10th, 1958, he was expecting to take up his duties as the new Deputy Clerk for East Barnet Council.

T. C. WILLIAMS (1947-53) is with the West Africa Bank Limited at Freetown, Sierra Leone.

D. A. WINTER (1914-22), Ph.D., A.R.C.S., D.I.C., M.Inst. Gas.E., is the Technical Staff Appointments Officer at the Research Laboratories of Radiation Ltd., Aston, Birmingham. He sent to the School a brochure of the Laboratories' activities in the hope that they would be of interest to any boy with technical leanings and who would like to consider a post with Radiation Ltd.

W. A. ("SAMMY") WOODS (1912-17), as a representative of Broom and Wade's, has this time returned from a visit on their behalf to Sierra Leone, Ghana, Johannesburg, Kenya, Durban and Aden. By now Sammy must have represented the firm in most parts of the world.

Congratulations to E. L. WEBB (1920-25) on joining the other five Old Boys on the Board of Governors of this old School.

The latest gazette (Christmas 1957) of the "Old 5 Sc-ians" marks the tenth anniversary of the society. Although contact has been lost with some of the members, now scattered all over the world, it is still going strong and members continue to meet from time to time, generally at the Red Lion.

News of the following O.B.'s have been copied from their Gazette.

TONY BALE is serving with the Merchant Navy, holding the rank of Purser/Senior Radio Officer aboard M.V. *Agamemnon* trading between Malaya and Australia.

BRYAN BENNETT is employed at Barclays Bank, Gerrards Cross ; he has three children.

TED BINDER, Timber Contractor, was married on March 2nd, 1957.

DUDLEY BISHOP is studying for the Higher National in Chemistry while employed at Wycombe Marsh Paper Mills.

BERNARD BOWLER is preparing for the Associateship of the Institute of Industrial Management.

ALAN CUSSELL was married on May 4th, 1957.

ALAN ELBURN follows a commissioned military career.

PETE FOWLER is still with the *Jewish Chronicle and Evening News*.

BOB McCULLOCH flies Sea Venoms from H.M.S. *Eagle*. He partook in recent N.A.T.O. exercises with the U.S. Fleet.

ERIC PEDDLE lives in a bungalow at Booker and works at the Lintafoam Chemistry Laboratory.

JIM REAR is a business partner in photo-lithography after passing the City and Guilds (Intermediate) in Photography.

JOHN STEVENS is a stalwart member of the High Wycombe Tennis Club.

REG STONE is a Petty Officer on H.M.S. *Venus*.

REG TAPPING is a travelling salesman for Peak Frean biscuits.

BRIAN WALKER has left Sperry's and is teaching at a London College for Higher Technology. Recently engaged.

DICK WHEELBAND has reached his Fellowship of the Institute of Medical Laboratory Technology. Also recently engaged.

MIKE WISE has started a three-year contract with Canadair Ltd.—address 1300, Decavie Boulevard, Apartment 44, St. Laurent, Montreal, 9, Quebec—very happy and making big money.

DICK WYNARDS wears a crash helmet when using a low second-hand motor scooter to get to his work at Princes Risborough Forest Products Laboratory and is the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Old 5 Sc-ians Gazette.

B. C. BURROWS (1947-52) is working at Hawkers Aircraft Aerodrome, Dunfield, as a service representative for Rolls Royce. He is allowed one day off per week to attend Guildford Technical College to study for the Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering.

B. W. GRACE (1936-43) is now the Senior Geography Master at Eltham College.

P. J. GREEN (1936-41) has taken a new appointment in Paris. He does not state what the post is, and after mentioning that he is neither engaged or married, ends with the rather mysterious advice to watch the Sunday newspapers.

J. HANNA (1900-05), according to his mother, could not attend the Dinner because he is in Rhodesia.

J. L. WINGROVE (1948-53) at present is acting as Assistant in the Lycée de Deauville.

D. R. WITNEY (1934-41) has been appointed Headmaster of Louth Grammar School, Lincs.

J. R. P. ASHBY (1950-56) is having a tremendous time at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, and in the Industrial Engineering course he is pursuing is directed towards statistics, cost accountancy, production, planning and electronic computing. He understands that R. B. JAMES (1945-49), after five years in various corners of the world, is now back in Hampstead. Ashby would like any O.B. to call at his address, 315 Elmwood Avenue, Ithaca, Upper New York State.

B. C. PEATEY (1941-42) has been working at the Ministry of Education for about two years. Despairing of the train journey from High Wycombe to London, he has moved to 5 Felix Road, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

J. R. MORGANS (1948-56), now at the University College, Swansea, finds the Welsh language difficult except for a few swear words. While working for the Royal Navy last summer he met an O.B., J. T. JONES (1936-39) and naturally talked about members of the staff still at the R.C.S.

C. MINTER (1949-54) has another eighteen months in Kenya and is still busy in the desert, although some are moving into the better weather in the jungle. He finds the job rather wearing but likes it.

T. EMERY (1944-50) has been in Canada for nearly a year and finds it very enjoyable. He works for a newspaper and has landed a pretty good and cushy job. A group of exiles formed a rugby club last June and are now about 40 strong. The season is in two sessions, September to November and April to July. He will be glad to welcome any O.B. at his address, 226 King George Street, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada. He paid the Club's subscription in Canadian dollars.

P. W. H. NORTH (1949-56) is training for the Head of the River races at Reading and Putney. He hopes to come against other O.B.'s who may have taken up rowing.

J. P. MARTIN (1938-43) finds the Barbados enjoyable after forests and swamps. He and his family, Mrs. Martin, Rosemary Ann, 4½ years, and Gavin Page, 2½ years, anticipate spending another two years there before being posted elsewhere.

C. J. W. HARTE (1926-31), although hardened to strap-hanging, will never love it. He finds the work interesting, though sometimes frustrating. Recently he has met another O.B., a Wing Commander working for the Ministry, M. M. Gardham. He has spoken to but not seen H. A. Crambe.

R. A. KIPPING (1945-52), still at the Westminster Hospital, is in the last year of the medical course—final exams. in June. In December, while passing a series of medical exams. in Cambridge, he met Alan Reynolds and Tony Kenyon doing the same thing. Kipping is secretary of the Hospital Sailing Club, and while playing for the 1st Hockey team has played other O.B.'s studying in London colleges.

R. F. JONES (1948-55), after spending eight extremely pleasant (and also lazy) months with the R.A.F. in Hong Kong, is now at Exeter College, Oxford. He has decided to give up French and Russian, and will be sitting his "prelims" in Geography very shortly. He thinks J. A. Norrish is at the moment in Hong Kong as a Chinese interpreter with the R.A.F.

Two Old Boys, VICTOR A. BENNETT (1919-23) and FRANK HALLASEY (1913-19), have both sent "dollars" to help the Club's finances. Bennett will miss the O.B. Reunion by about a week, while Hallasey will be making a flying visit to High Wycombe and Stockholm in June. Bennett's address is Six East 45th Street, New York 17, N.Y., and Hallasey's 228 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan. They would be pleased to meet any O.B.—there are five or six—who are either staying or working in the U.S.A.



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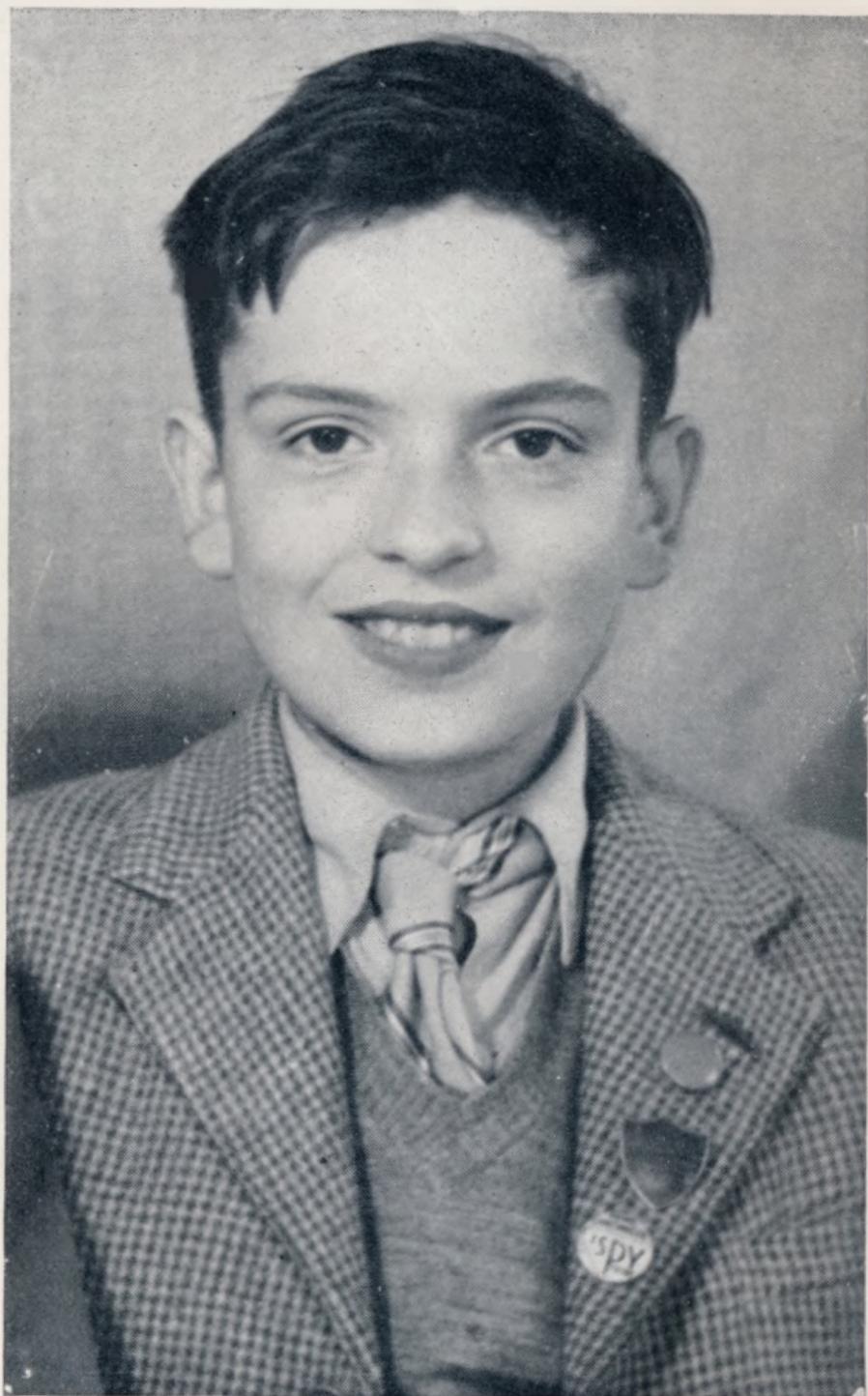
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TERRY TRAYHORN



R. E. SYRETT

In the School team 1946 and 1947. Club : Wasps. Has played representative rugger for Middlesex, London Counties, R.A.F., Barbarians, and a combined England-Scotland side, besides gaining trial caps. This season Syrett has crowned his previous achievements by playing for England against Wales, Australia, Ireland and France.



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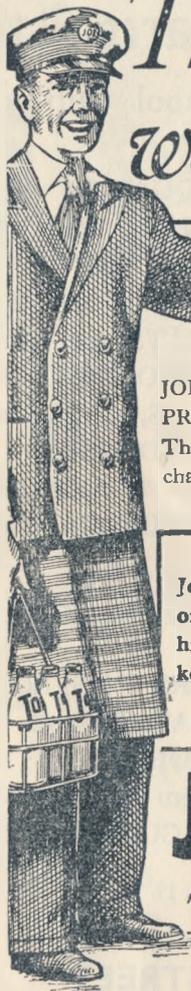
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