



Domine Saluum Fac Regem

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CHRONICLE

JULY, 1949

The Old Edwardians' Association

Telephone
MID. 5209.

67a, NEW STREET,

Telegrams
EDWARDIAN, BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM, 1.

O.E. MEMBERSHIP

The Old Edwardians' Association exists primarily to maintain touch between the School and Old Boys and contacts between Old Boys of different periods.

This purpose is served mainly through Honorary Membership, which carries with it the right to wear Old Edwardians' colours and to receive twice a year the *Old Edwardians' Gazette*, with news of the School and of Old Edwardians.

The Association exists in the second place—a function whose importance has increased now the School is no longer in New Street—to provide a centre for Old Edwardians. The aim of the Association is that Old Boys living in Birmingham or passing through Birmingham may be able to meet friends in the Club Rooms—which provide all the amenities of the Ordinary Social Club.

To attain this end there **must** be a large Membership, apart from Honorary Membership, a membership of Old Boys using the Club Rooms. To secure this, the cost of full membership is carefully graduated.

The following is a list of the grades of Membership with the subscriptions :

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

For Members residing within 25 miles of the Club Building	£3 3 0
But until the expiration of three years from the date of leaving School	1 1 0
and then for the next 7 years	2 2 0
Country Members	0 10 6
Members at a Residential University	0 10 6
Honorary Members	0 5 0

NOTE.—These amounts are reduced by half to Members joining after 1st July in any year, except in the case of Honorary Members, whose subscriptions are payable in full at any time.

N. J. F. CRAIG,

K. B. TAYLOR,

Joint Hon. Secs.

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CLUB

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE SCHOOL CLUB (which includes a subscription to the *SCHOOL CHRONICLE*) is open to all Old Edwardians and to parents of boys in the School, and friends of the School, at a subscription of not less than five shillings per annum. It affords to Old Boys a means of keeping in touch with the School and at the same time of giving support to the School Club. Subscriptions should be made payable to "K.E. High School Club," and sent to the Hon. Treasurer at the School.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
EDITORIAL	1	MUSIC CIRCLE	33
NOTES AND NEWS	1	SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY	33
OBITUARY	5	PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY	34
SPEECH DAY	6	CIVIC SOCIETY	34
" SAINT JOAN "	8	GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY	34
SAVERNE, 1949	9	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY	34
OXFORD LETTER	10	PHILATELIC SOCIETY	35
CAMBRIDGE LETTER	10	ART SOCIETY	35
BIRMINGHAM LETTER	11	CHRISTIAN UNION	35
GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT	12	THE CLOSED CIRCLE	35
RUGBY FOOTBALL RETROSPECT	13	RAILWAY AND MODEL ENGINEERING	
CRICKET REPORT, RESULTS,		SOCIETY	36
CHARACTERS	14	NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY	36
CRICKET RECORDS	20	SOCIÉTÉ DES LANGUES VIVANTES	36
SWIMMING REPORT	21	JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY	36
ATHLETICS REPORT AND RESULTS	22	A FILM SOCIETY ?	36
SHOOTING REPORT AND RESULTS	24	C.C.F. : NAVAL SECTION	37
CHESS REPORT AND RESULTS . .	25	C.C.F. : ARMY AND BASIC SEC-	
FIVES REPORT AND CHARACTERS	25	TION	37
P.T. REPORT	27	C.C.F. : AIR SECTION	39
TENNIS REPORT	27	SCOUT REPORT	39
EIGHT HOUSES	27	SENIOR SCOUT CAMP REPORT	40
MR. BURGESS' HOUSE REPORT	28	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	40
MR. DUNT'S HOUSE REPORT . .	29	IN DEFENCE OF SCIENCE	42
MR. LEEDS' HOUSE REPORT . .	29	THE GATE	42
MR. COPLAND'S HOUSE REPORT	29	ANONYMOUS VERSE	43
THE LIBRARY	30	OEDIPUS TYRANNUS	46
DEBATING SOCIETY, CHARACTERS	30	BOOKS AND PICTURES	46
LITERARY SOCIETY	31	OUR CONTEMPORARIES	48
DRAMATIC SOCIETY	32	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS	49
MUSICAL SOCIETY, COMPETITIONS,			
CONCERT	32		



H. J. Whitlock and Sons, Ltd.

PREFECTS (1948-49)

Standing (left to right).—B. A. HISCOX; A. J. HOMER; P. HUTCHINGS; B. LOBB;
A. J. IRELAND; A. E. H. TURNER; B. C. HOBBS; G. F. B. LAUGHLAND.
Sitting (left to right).—P. H. O'B. COOPER; I. R. MCCLELLAND; J. B. LUDLOW;
J. D. MOUNTFORD (*School Captain*); THE HEAD MASTER; J. R. CHARLESWORTH;
M. VAN MENTS; D. L. RIDOUT; J. B. GOPSILL.

King Edward's School Chronicle

Vol. LXIV.—New Series.

July, 1949

No. 313.

EDITORIAL

"Dulce et Decorum"?

THE end of the year approaches, and all too soon the familiar figures will be disappearing from our ken, disappearing for a while into the vast and complicated military machine. Within a few brief months they will reappear, close-cropped and khaki-clad, wistfully to savour once again the secure and sheltered atmosphere of that Peter-Pantheon, the Prefects' Room, and to remind its inmates disconcertingly that National Service, like death, comes at last to all men.

The prospect of National Service is a formidable one for most of us. Perhaps we share with the Long-Haired Boys a pious reverence for our own independence and individuality. Perhaps we demurely abhor the vacuous existence that the military life threatens to be. Perhaps we deplore even the mildest forms of the regimentation that has come to take a significant part in our society. Perhaps we believe sincerely that rearmament can never make for peace. And perhaps we are just selfish. There must be few of us who are not reluctant, for one reason or another, to give a compulsory eighteen months of service at a time when we are eager to begin in earnest the long littleness of life.

Distasteful though we may find it, we must finally accept the fact that in these days of grim-visag'd peace we can no longer expect to enjoy all the carefree liberty that we might wish. Even in this enlightened age, patriotism is still not enough. The Social State, so generous with its family allowances and false teeth, has every right to make demands upon us. If the freely-elected gods from their Olympus in Whitehall have decreed that universal military training is vital to the welfare of the nation, then we must willingly resign ourselves to the necessity with all the silent stoicism of a latter-day Vigny. The times demand not blind and bestial obedience, but national discipline—discipline which should be able to prevent so reprehensible a display of renegade selfishness as a Dockers' Strike. Unfortunate it is that the out-worn conceptions of "duty" and "service" are not in the fashion.

G.F.B.L.

NOTES AND NEWS

School Diary

THE Autumn Term ended on Thursday, 16th December. Speech Day was held in Big School on Friday, 17th December, and was attended by the Upper School. Extracts from the Head Master's speech appear elsewhere in the CHRONICLE. The prizes were presented by Dr. Mary Winfield, Bailiff of the Foundation.

The Joint Dance with K.E.G.H.S. was held on Thursday, 16th December, in the Hall, K.E.G.H.S.

The Prefects' Dance was held on Tuesday, 28th December, in Big School. The dance was attended by a large number of recent Old Edwardians and members of the Sixth Form.

The Spring Term began on Thursday, 13th January, and ended on Saturday, 2nd April. Half Term was taken on Saturday, 26th, and Monday, 28th February.

The School Play, "Saint Joan," was presented in Big School on the nights of January 27th, 28th and 29th.

In the course of February, the Head Master introduced two speakers to the Sixth: Mr. Donald McLachlan, Assistant Editor of *The Economist*, on Friday, 4th February; Mr. H. C. Osborne, M.P. for the Acock's Green Division of Birmingham, on Monday, 21st February.

A Joint Debate with K.E.G.H.S. was held on Monday, 7th March, in the Hall, K.E.G.H.S. The motion "That the discovery of America was a misfortune from which this country has never recovered" was proposed by Miss Katherine Dee, opposed by P. A. Gardner, and was lost by 150 votes to 19.

The Head Master granted the School a half-holiday on Wednesday, 9th March.

On Thursday, 17th March, the School was honoured by a visit from the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, Alderman and Mrs. J. C. Burman, who inspected the C.C.F. and the Scouts, and watched the School at work.

The Music Competitions were held in Big School on the evening of Thursday, 24th March. D. R. L. Bircumshaw (trombone) won the Open Instrumental Competition.

The Sports were held in poor weather on Saturday, 2nd April, and were won by Mr. Dunt's House. B. A. Hiscoc, Captain of Athletics, was Senior Champion.

The Summer Term began on Thursday, 5th May. Half Term was taken over Whitsuntide from Friday, 3rd June, to Wednesday, 8th June.

On Tuesday, 10th May, the School lined the Bristol Road to greet the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh during their visit to the City. A half-holiday was granted on Friday, 3rd June, in honour of their Royal Highnesses' visit.

On Saturday, 14th May, Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout, inspected the 70th (K.E.S.) Birmingham Group when he visited the University Scout and Guide Club.

A Debate against K.E.G.H.S. was held on Monday, 30th May, in Big School. The motion "That Higher Education is wasted on girls" was proposed by G. F. B. Laughland, opposed by Miss Angela Herickx, and was defeated by 37 votes to 170.

The Musical Society Concert was held in Big School on the evening of Tuesday, 31st May. Two pieces by Vaughan Williams performed by the Choir, Orchestra and Organ opened and closed a varied programme.

On Tuesday, 9th June, Lt.-Gen. Sir Frank Simpson (G.O.C. Western Command) inspected the Combined Cadet Force and watched cadets in training. He afterwards gave an address in Big School and asked the Head Master to grant the C.C.F. a half-holiday.

The Cricket Match with the Old Edwardians was played in brilliant weather on Saturday, 25th June, and resulted in a draw. A generous tea was served at the ground to some 450 boys and guests of the School.

Scholarships

We congratulate:

J. D. Mountford on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Classics at Wadham College, Oxford.

J. W. Watts on being elected to a Minor Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Wadham College, Oxford.

R. T. Harrison on being elected to a Minor Scholarship in Mathematics and Physics at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

B. H. Laister on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Modern Languages at St. John's College, Cambridge.

M. P. Hopkins on being elected to an Exhibition in Modern Languages at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

H. B. Gottschalk on being elected to an Open Scholarship in Classics at Peterhouse, Cambridge.

A. J. Cooke on being elected to an Organ Scholarship at Keble College, Oxford.

J. S. Williamson on being elected to an Abbot Scholarship in Mathematics and Physics at the University of Oxford.

The Governors and Staff.

We offer our congratulations to Sir Raymond Priestley, Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University and a Governor of the School, upon his knighthood announced in the New Year's Honours.

We offer our congratulations to Alderman Harrison Barrow, a Governor of the School, who received the Freedom of the City in April.

We regret that Professor Smalley-Baker is resigning from the Board of Governors, and offer him best wishes for success as Principal of Osgoode College, Toronto.

We offer our congratulations to the Head Master and Mrs. Howarth on the birth of a daughter on April 27th.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Barlow on the birth of a son on March 17th.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Traynor on the birth of a daughter on May 6th.

The School's gift of an inscribed umbrella and English dictionary was presented to Mr. Street at his home in Solihull, where he has remained since July, 1948, before moving to the South of England to enjoy his retirement.

The School's gift of a set of pipes and an inscribed ash-tray, which was promised to Mr. Sheldon at a short farewell ceremony in Big School last December, was sent to his home in Prestatyn.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. M. A. Porter, Mr. V. J. Biggs, Mr. F. J. Williams, and Mr. J. A. Nicholson on their appointment as Housemasters of the four new Houses.

Mr. W. D. Rees, who served with the Royal Welch Regiment during the war, has joined the C.C.F., Basic Section, with the rank of Lieutenant.

Mr. W. Barlow will be retiring from the C.C.F. at the end of the year.

Mr. J. P. Vaughan will join the Staff in September to teach English and History.

Prefects

We congratulate J. R. CHARLESWORTH on his appointment as Vice-Captain of the School.

We congratulate the following on their appointment as Prefects:

In March:

B. A. HISCOX, Captain of Athletics and School P.T. Leader, of Mr. Dunt's House.

A. E. H. TURNER, Rugger and Fives Captain to Mr. Burgess' House.

In May:

R. N. DOUBLEDAY, School Librarian, of Mr. Burgess' House.

J. R. GRUNDON, Cricket Captain to Mr. Burgess' House and Secretary of the Christian Union.

The following Prefect left in the course of the Spring Term:

R. F. GRIFFITHS (1944-49): Prefect, 1947-48-49; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; School P.T. Leader, 1948-49; Captain of Tennis, 1948-49; Secretary of Tennis, 1947-48; Recorder of the School Club, 1947-48; House Secretary, 1947-48-49; House Rugger Captain, 1948-49; House P.T. Leader, 1947-48-49.

(*Mr. Copland's House*).

The following Prefects will be leaving at the End of Term:

J. D. MOUNTFORD (1941-49): Captain of the School and General Secretary of the School Club, 1948-49; Prefect, 1947-48-49; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; Sub-Editor of the CHRONICLE, 1946-47-48-49; Secretary of Civic Society, 1947-48; House Secretary, 1947-48-49; House Chess Captain, 1946-47-48; President of the Foundation Conference, 1949; Scholar of Wadham College, Oxford.

(*Mr. Leeds' House*).

J. R. CHARLESWORTH (1941-49): Vice-Captain of the School, 1949; Prefect, 1947-48-49; Captain of Cricket, 1949; Secretary of Cricket, 1948; Cricket Colours, 1947-48-49; Cricket Blazer, 1947-48-49; Second XI Colours, 1945-46-47-48-49; Captain of Fives, 1948-49; Fives Colours, 1948-49; Captain of Tennis, 1949; Vice-Captain of Tennis, 1948; Sub-Treasurer of the School Club, 1947-48; House Secretary, 1948-49; House Fives Captain, 1946-47; House Tennis Captain, 1948.

(*Mr. Burgess' House*).

J. B. LUDLOW (1943-49): Prefect, 1947-48-49; Captain of Shooting, 1947-48-49; Shooting Colours, 1946-47-48-49; Secretary of Musical Society, 1946-47-48-49; C.S.M. in C.C.F., 1948-49; House Company Commander, 1948-49; Secretary of the Foundation Conference, 1949; Leader of the National Youth Orchestra, 1948-49.

(*Mr. Burgess' House*).

I. R. MCCLELLAND (1942-49): Prefect, 1948-49; Secretary of Rugby Football, 1948-49; Rugger Colours, 1947-48-49; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; Cricket Blazer, 1947-48-49; Second XI Colours, 1947-48-49; Captain of Fives, 1949; Secretary of Fives, 1948-49; Fives Colours, 1948-49; House Rugger Captain, 1948-49; House Cricket Captain, 1948-49; House Athletics Captain, 1949; House Fives Captain, 1947-48-49; Captain of the England A.T.C. XV, Easter 1949.

(*Mr. Leeds' House*).

D. L. RIDOUT (1943-49): Prefect, 1948-49; School Librarian, 1947-48-49; Sub-Treasurer of the School Club, 1948-49; House Secretary, 1949.

(*Mr. Copland's House*).

P. H. O'B. COOPER (1942-49): Prefect, 1948-49; R.S.M. in C.C.F., 1949; Senior C.S.M., 1948-49; House Shooting Captain, 1948-49; House Company Commander, 1948-49.

(*Mr. Leeds' House*).

J. B. GOPSILL (1942-49): Prefect, 1948-49; Secretary of Shooting, 1948-49; Shooting Colours, 1947-48-49; C.S.M. in C.C.F., 1949; House Captain of Shooting, 1947-48-49; House Company Commander, 1948-49.

(*Mr. Dunt's House*).

P. HUTCHINGS (1943-49): Prefect, 1948-49; Captain of Rugby Football, 1948-49; Rugger Colours, 1947-48-49; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; Secretary of Cricket, 1949; Cricket Colours, 1948-49; Cricket Blazer, 1948-49; Second XI Colours, 1947-48-49; House Athletics Captain, 1948.

(*Mr. Dunt's House*).

A. J. IRELAND (1943-49): Prefect, 1948-49; Captain of Swimming, 1948-49; Vice-Captain of Swimming, 1947-48; Secretary of Swimming, 1946-47; Swimming Colours, 1946-47-48-49; W.O. II in C.C.F., 1949; Flight-Sergeant, 1948-49; House Swimming Captain, 1948-49.

(*Mr. Leeds' House*).

B. LOBB (1941-49): Prefect, 1948-49; Vice-Captain of Rugby Football, 1948-49; Rugger Colours, 1947-48-49; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; Cricket Colours, 1948-49; Cricket Blazer, 1947-48-49; Second XI Colours, 1947-48-49; Athletics Colours, 1947-48-49; House Rugger Captain, 1948-49; House Fives Captain, 1947-48-49.

(*Mr. Dunt's House*).

A. E. H. TURNER (1941-49): Prefect, 1949; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49; Athletics Colours, 1949; House Rugger Captain, 1948-49; House Fives Captain, 1948-49.

(*Mr. Burgess' House*).

School Club

We regret the unseasonable resignation of J. R. Charlesworth from the Captaincies of Cricket, Tennis and Fives.

We congratulate A. J. Homer (Vice-Captain) on his election as Captain of Cricket, I. R. McClelland (Secretary) on his election as Captain of Fives, and G. C. Weeks (Secretary) on his election as Captain of Tennis.

We also congratulate:

B. Baker and J. Hutchings on being awarded School Rugger Colours; A. J. K. Dore, P. A. Gardner, J. D. Giles and F. B. Revill on being awarded School Second XV Colours for the season 1948-49.

P. Hutchings and B. Lobb on being re-awarded their School Cricket Colours; B. C. Hobbs on being re-awarded his School Cricket Blazer; P. A. Gough on being awarded his School Cricket Blazer; F. B. Revill, P. Vernon, D. H. Benson, B. A. Hiscox, R. F. Coleman and B. C. Homer on being awarded School Second XI Colours for the season 1949.

G. L. Roberts, D. B. Hill, G. T. Lyall, V. C. Keyte, L. T. Chamberlain, A. E. H. Turner and P. J. Chadoir on being awarded

School Athletics Colours for the season 1949 ; and B. Lobb, I. R. McClelland, J. R. Heron and K. C. P. Waldron on being re-awarded School Athletics Colours.

J. B. Janney, J. R. Luckett and O. Wheatley on being awarded School Swimming Colours for the season 1948-49.

M. C. Jones on being re-awarded School Shooting Colours ; J. F. Perret, A. J. Potter, C. G. B. Nicholas and M. R. Berlyn on being awarded School Shooting Colours for the season 1948-49.

School News

We congratulate M. N. Barker on winning the British Boys' Chess Championship at Hastings on April 29th. Barker had also won the Warwickshire Junior Championship two weeks previously.

We congratulate C. S. M. Cooper on his promotion to the rank of R.S.M., and Flt.-Sgt. Ireland on his promotion to the rank of W.O. II. This is the first time that either of these ranks has been held by a cadet of the School C.C.F.

On Wednesday, 8th June, the Head Master announced that in September the School will be divided into eight Houses instead of into the four created in 1904. Full details of the change in the House system will be found elsewhere in the CHRONICLE.

At the same time, the Head Master announced that School Uniform will be resumed from the beginning of the Autumn Term. This will consist of a School blazer and grey flannels. For the Sixth Form, the wearing of School Uniform will continue to be optional.

On Monday, 31st January, tea was served for the first time in the Dining Hall to boys attending Societies and other School activities on full School days. The taking of tea has since become an unbreakable habit with a discerning few. We take this opportunity of thanking the Dining Hall Staff for the almost unimpeachable excellence of their catering.

The Tuck Shop, too, is a great success. The advantages that the School enjoys there are the envy of Birmingham.

We are glad to see renewed activity in dramatics in the Lower School. The performances in Big School on the evening of Friday, 1st April, showed much promise and were a credit to the four forms which took part.

The Playing Fields, laid down last year, have been brought within bounds. It is hoped to use them for House games next year.

We have long forborne to remark on the inadequacy of the Eastern Road games accommodation. Now that the war is over, we are glad to see that a step has been taken in the right direction by the construction of an excellent changing-room up at School above the new field.

In our last issue we noted that the

reconstruction of the New Street Upper Corridor was " rising, Phoenix-like, from the ruins of the past." Now we can report that the walls are just over Remus-high—so long does the restoration of the old School take.

We are sorry to see that the new accommodation provided for the Scout Group in a corner of Park Vale bears a strong resemblance to a Nissen hut.

We note with interest the hanging of reproductions of the Flemish school along Lower Corridor and outside the Library. Their relevance, we confess, is obscure ; their congruity, we submit, doubtful : for, as the CHRONICLE has long insisted, the School is not yet even passably provided with decorative records of its past, and traffic-torn corridor walls are not ideal backgrounds for works of art.

We note, too, with personal interest, the construction of a third Music Room at the end of Lower Corridor. Thus Andrea del Sarto and Abt Vogler are well served, but Gigadibs is left to play with spoons.

We would be guilty of a grave dereliction of duty if we failed to record that 1949 was the year in which the Prefects' Room underwent redecoration.

We end our " School News " on a fashion note by welcoming the renewed popularity of straw-hats. Some fifty have been observed, and the variety of " basher-bands " adds to them an illegal charm.

Old Edwardian News

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM SLIM, whose appointment as C.I.G.S. we noted at length in the last issue of the CHRONICLE, has been promoted to the rank of Field Marshal.

Air Vice-Marshal C. E. N. Guest was appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operations) in December last year. Air Vice-Marshal Guest had a distinguished record of service through the war and since 1947 had been Air Officer Commanding No. 1 Group, Bomber Command.

Mr. E. V. Knox, who was at School from 1891 to 1894 before going on to Rugby, has retired from the Editorship of *Punch*. The CHRONICLE was graced with a reprint of a *Punch* article by " Evoe " in 1930, two years before Mr. Knox became the Editor.

Mr. G. H. Matstone has been appointed British Vice-Consul in Stockholm.

Mr. R. Furneaux Jordan, F.R.I.B.A., has been appointed Principal of the Architectural Association School of Architecture.

Mr. J. F. Gregg has been appointed Town Clerk of the City of Birmingham. Mr. Gregg left School in 1929 and became Deputy Town Clerk in 1946.

Mr. J. B. Gardner has been elected Mayor of Wednesbury.

Mr. Aubrey Halford has been appointed deputy to M. Camille Paris, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

OBITUARY

Rev. C. H. Heath

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death on June 22nd of the Rev. Charles Heath, one of the most notable figures in the School at New Street, and a master whose association with King Edward's stretches unbroken over half a century. To Mrs. Heath we offer our profound sympathy in her bereavement.

We are grateful to the Venerable Michael Parker, Archdeacon of Aston, for permitting us to print this tribute, delivered at the funeral ceremony on Friday, 24th June:

"It so happens that this day on which we are met together is the Festival of St. John the Baptist, whom you may remember Our Lord described as 'A burning and a shining light.' Our purpose in meeting is primarily to commit into the keeping of Almighty God the soul of Charles Heath, who was and still remains a burning and a shining light for generations of men who in their boyhood came under his influence.

"Like that of the Baptist, the life of Charles Heath was rooted and grounded in the things of the Spirit, the Majesty of God, and the reality of His Kingdom. Although he was not ordained to the Ministry of the Church until late in life, he may be said to have exercised a ministry all through his career. He was a devoted son of the Church. Though his long time in Birmingham was almost exclusively connected with the parishes of St. Augustine and St. Germain (Gibson and Lucas being at one time his pupils) he always had a great concern for the life of the Church throughout the diocese and overseas.

"For many here to-day, however, the name of Charlie Heath will always be associated with days spent in what was one of the few buildings of architectural merit in Birmingham. Coming to King Edward's in 1900, he served successively under Vardy, Cary Gilson, and England. What 'Mr. Chips' was to his boys, so Heath was to the boys of King Edward's. I have often been told of his outstanding ability as a teacher, and of his personal influence in the classroom. It would be interesting to know how many of his former pupils owe the fact of their ordination to the Ministry of the Church to his influence. As in actual schoolwork, so on the field of play, he gave himself entirely in the interests of those whom he was content to serve. It was a rare thing for him to be absent from a School or House Match. Though he resigned in 1931 he never lost touch with the School. To Charles Heath schoolmastering was a vocation. Old Edwardians the world over will bear

witness to the fact that he was the burning and the shining light of their younger days. To their testimony I will add only one thing more. As a boy I used to visit him during the war of 1914-1918. In my mind's eye I can still see adorning the walls of his sitting-room the scores of photographs of Old Edwardians who were serving in the Forces. Though officially he was the keeper of the Record of Service, he was in fact much more. From intimate knowledge I can bear witness to the fact that during those dark days he kept in close touch with his former pupils in whatever way he could—being careful for both their physical and spiritual preservation. The influence of his shining light is something for which Birmingham should be truly thoughtful.

"May He who for our salvation was content to sojourn in the school of this world, grant him eternal rest and peace."

Charles Heath was born in London in 1865 and was educated at the City of London School, where he won distinction as Captain of the School, as Captain of Football, and as the Athletic Sports Champion for three successive years. In December, 1882, he was elected to a Minor Scholarship at St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he became the Captain of Rugby Football in 1886-7. In 1886 he took the Classical Tripos Part II, 2nd Class, 1st Division.

After leaving Cambridge, he spent ten years at Highgate School, where he taught Classics and Mathematics. In 1898 he went to Cape Colony to recover from an illness, and in December of the following year was appointed an Assistant Master at King Edward's, under Rev. A. R. Vardy.

Mr. Heath succeeded Edward Carter as Master of the "Fifth Class" and Modern Sixth, and in addition to his teaching duties was Chairman of the Swimming Section (1902-1917), Chairman of the Library Committee (1903-1918), and Chairman of the Football Committee (1921-1928). During the 1914-1918 War, he was responsible for the O.E. Record of Service. In 1904, when the House System was first started, he became House Master of Heath's House (now Burgess'), and for a number of years was Chairman of the Junior Debating Society. The second Fives Court at New Street was given to the School by Mr. Heath, and one of the present Courts still bears his name. From 1921 to 1931 he was Chairman of the House Committee, and in 1924 he was elected Co-Honorary Secretary of the Old Edwardians' Association. After his retirement in 1931, he maintained close contact with O.E.s and with the School until his death.

A former pupil, now a member of the Staff, has written this appreciation for the CHRONICLE:

"The Archdeacon of Aston's tribute does justice to the width as well as the depth of Charles Heath's interests in King Edward's and all its sons. As one of his old pupils, I can testify to the grace of his personality in the classroom. To the questions 'Was he a good disciplinarian?' and 'Was he a good teacher?' I would answer, 'He didn't have to be a good disciplinarian at all: in his presence you merely wanted to get on with the work in hand. As a teacher he was outstandingly effective; but the process of teaching was with him not so much a matter of obvious instruction as of leading his pupils into the way of learning.' The secret of it all was not some pedagogic art which concealed art, but the influence of his own character.

"His remarkable service as a Classical teacher, a Housemaster, and a friend, will not easily be forgotten by those who were at School between 1900 and 1931. Truly he was a shining light, for the flame of his devotion burned steady and clear. And when present Edwardians give thanks in the words of the Founder's Prayer, let them remember him as not the least among their benefactors." F.J.W.

Canon J. C. Lucas

CANON J. C. LUCAS, Vicar of St. Augustine's, Edgbaston, since 1938, died suddenly at his home on April 27th. For the greater part of his life, he was associated with the Birmingham Diocese. In 1915 he was attached to the staff of Birmingham Cathedral, and in 1925, after a period as Vicar of Houghenden, he became Vicar of St. Paul's, Balsall Heath. He gave notable service at this time as Organizing Secretary of the Bishop's Appeal Fund. In 1934 he was appointed Canon of Birmingham Cathedral, and in 1946 he represented the diocese at the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury. Canon Lucas was aged fifty-nine at the time of his death.

Dr. L. Kirkby Thomas

DR. LEONARD KIRKBY THOMAS, of Wheelleys Road, Edgbaston, died on June 18th at the age of seventy-six. Son of the Emeritus Professor of Anatomy at Birmingham University, he passed through Queen's College and Mason College to obtain the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., in 1896. Dr. Kirkby Thomas served as a Civil Surgeon in the South African War, and later, when he settled in Edgbaston, he took up the speciality of anaesthetics. The Kirkby Chloroform Inhaler is one of the best known results of his study. From 1913 until 1938, Dr. Kirkby Thomas was anaesthetist at Queen's Hospital, as well as being the clinical lecturer in anaesthetics at Birmingham University.

H. T. Newman

WE regret to announce the death on 15th March in a flying accident at Gatow Airfield, Berlin, of H. T. Newman. Newman left School in 1942 for the R.A.F. and was taking part in the Berlin air-lift when the disaster occurred.

SPEECH DAY

DECEMBER 17th, 1948

ON December 17th, 1948, with all the solemnity and ceremonial that is traditionally its due, Speech Day brought the Autumn Term to an impressive and satisfying conclusion. This is surely the most important occasion in the year, for it is on Speech Day alone that the "Three Estates" of the School—the Governors, the Staff, and the boys—meet together to bear physical testimony to the abstract idea of our great Foundation.

Both spiritual and temporal authority was represented on the platform, for this Speech Day was graced by the presence of the Lord Bishop of Birmingham and of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. J. C. Burman). The Bailiff of the Foundation, Dr. Mary Winfield, presented the prizes.

The occasion was particularly memorable, however, for Mr. T. E. B. Howarth's first Head Master's Report—a Report whose significance was widely recognized in the Press. After welcoming the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Bailiff, and the Governors, the Head Master passed on to a brief review of the academic and athletic achievements of the past year. In the latter part of his address, he turned to some general educational considerations and said:

"I have some natural aversion to generalising about education, since my limited experience suggests that the essence of the matter, as well as the excitement of it, rests in the infinite particularity of the individual child. And after all, most of the valid generalisations are to be found in a very ancient, semi-official publication—*The Advancement of Learning* by Francis Bacon. Our educational administrators at ministerial and local level earn our wholehearted gratitude and esteem for their extraordinarily conscientious toilings on our behalf. But I would respectfully draw the attention of some few of them to two warnings in Bacon's pages which seem to me to have some pertinence to-day: 'For St. Paul assigneth two marks and badges of suspected and falsified science; the one, the novelty and strangeness of terms; the other, the strictness of positions which of necessity doth induce oppositions and so questions and altercations.'

"For the first—'the novelty and strangeness of terms'—we suffer in education, as in other spheres, from a good deal of unwholesome jargon and general 'targetology.' While it is no doubt right, for instance, that the marking of examination papers should not be done on lucky dip principles, we are now encouraged to think in terms of deciles, quartiles, medians, sampling and anchoring. And very anchoring the process is to the human spirit.

"For the other—'the strictness of positions which of necessity doth induce oppositions and so questions and altercations'—I would refer you to the new Secondary School Examination, and more particularly to the fixing of an age limit (initially 16 and subsequently 17) below which a certificate cannot be granted. This is a very strict position indeed, and threatens to place us in a dilemma far worse than the one from which we have been hoping to escape.

"There would seem to be two possible solutions to the difficulty: the first is the altogether radical idea that the Universities should leave it to the schools to assess the candidate's general fitness for a University career. Some such scheme might have certain advantages, including that of bringing the Universities into closer touch, but also certain disadvantages (pithily summarized by a University friend of mine the other day in the phrase 'that would be all right if you were not all such liars.')

A more moderate alternative, which commands support among many Head Masters, seems on the face of it to be quite unobjectionable. Let us assume that the Minister, for his occult reasons, adheres to the age limit, and that the Universities will continue to demand evidence of moderate attainment in a number of subjects, plus more specialized knowledge in the eventual degree subjects. Should it not then be permissible for a boy to get his non-specialist subjects out of the way at the ordinary level as soon as he is ready to do so, although he will be unable to obtain a full

certificate until he has passed the minimum age? Failing the adoption of one or other of these solutions, it is difficult to see how the boy of special ability can avoid being penalized at a most important stage in his education.

"Perhaps, in conclusion, you would wish to hear some of my particular prejudices about the purpose and content of education in this School. I am sure we are right to avoid the narrowly vocational approach. I feel there is no room in the Grammar School for instruction in typing, or shorthand, or commercial book-keeping, as one sometimes sees suggested in parents' letters. Yet much as I reverence his great achievements in the writing and teaching of History, I find it difficult to go all the way with Lord Acton's view that 'our studies ought to be all but purposeless; that they should be pursued with chastity like Mathematics.' We must surely often pause and measure the relevance of our work to the great underlying issues of our age. For this reason, I think a Grammar School to-day is not doing its full duty if its Sixth Formers leave without a sound grounding in the theory and practice of Christianity on the one hand, and of Russian Communism on the other, as has sometimes been the case in the past. Mr. Molotov has said that all roads lead to Moscow. If this be so, we must try and discover what is at the other end. But it seems to me that there is another road, and that it is our duty to map it out in accordance with the letter and spirit of the 1944 Act in necessarily undenominational but yet unequivocal language. Fashions change in education, and at times it may be that the School has emphasized learning somewhat to the exclusion of the other half of our Founder's and Benefactors' intent. There is no valid reason why 'Godliness and Good Learning' should be mutually exclusive. In all events, we do well to remind our youthful intellectuals occasionally that 'whereas knowledge bloweth up, charity buildeth up.'

SAINT JOAN



THE SCHOOL PLAY

AN occasional break in the Dramatic Society's tradition of Shakespeare productions is not to be frowned upon. For one thing it serves to show how sensible that tradition is. Further, when the Society chooses as good a play as Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan" (performed in Big School on January 27th, 28th, and 29th, 1949), the most hidebound traditionalist must falter in his protest.

"Saint Joan" must, of course, have had many more polished performances: but it can never have been played with more devoted concentration on its essential purpose—the telling of the truth. Whether a Victorian freethinker is the person best equipped to understand the mind of a fifteenth century Catholic may be doubted; but to the portrayal of what he conceives to be the true tragedy of Joan, Shaw brings the easy skill of an unsurpassed master of the theatre. So absorbed is he in the tragedy that there is in this play little of his usual impishness, apart from a few jibes at the astonishing bigotry of the English—jests pardonable in an Irishman who has for so many years lived away from his own fellow-countrymen.

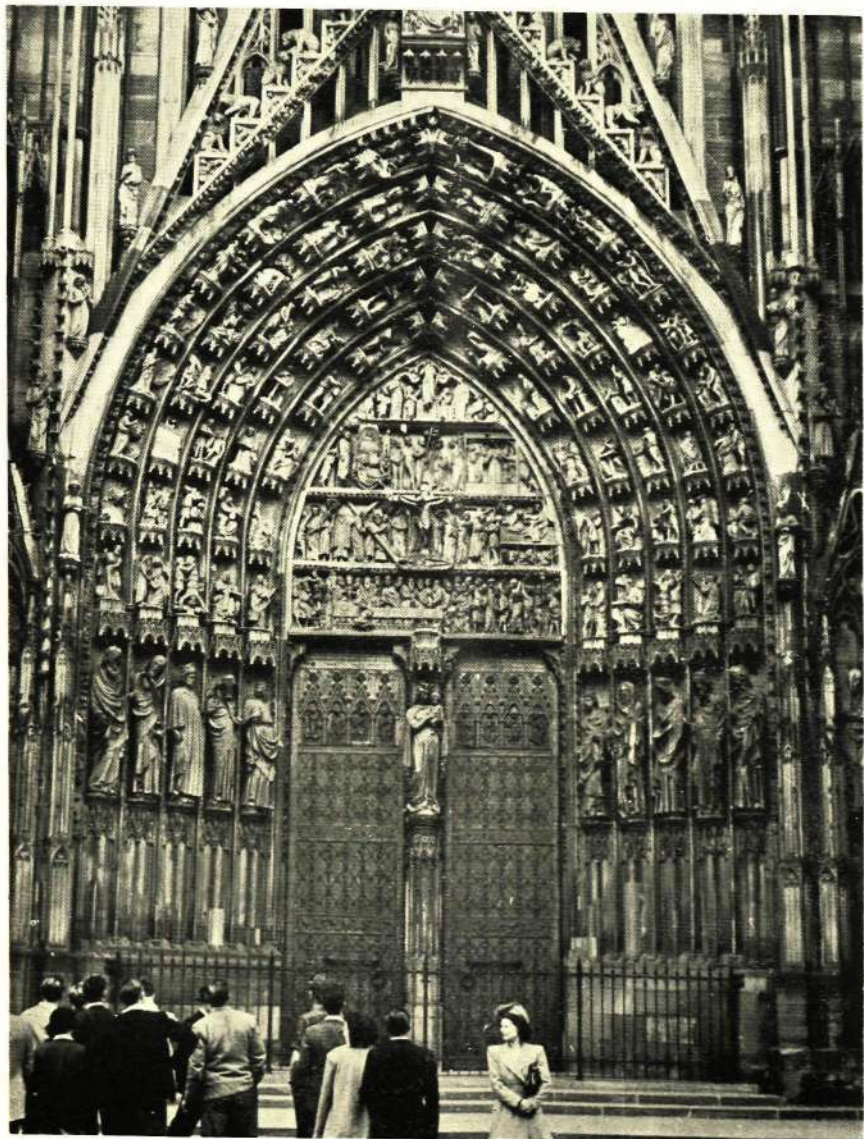
That this production of the play matched its author's high seriousness was due in great measure to G. F. B. LAUGHLAND's playing of Joan. It is a "star" part, and anyone silly enough to try picking out the Dramatic Society's "star" player would be bound to let his eye rest for at any rate a

moment on Laughland. But by such temptations this Joan was untainted. There was both grace and dignity in her speech, if not always in her movements. It was a performance the more creditable in that Laughland is no more obviously the Joan of this play than, say, Mr. Ernest Thesiger is a Sir Toby Belch or Miss Hermione Baddeley a Viola.

Of the remaining performances J. D. MOUNTFORD's Inquisitor was outstanding. Within its narrow limits this is an exacting part, and Mountford exactly suited it. Aided by Nature, and more fortunate in his make-up than most of the rest of the cast, he gave an impressive study of remorseless mercy. The same dignity and fine diction belonged also to R. C. PERKINS' Archbishop and R. N. DOUBLEDAY's Cauchon, though the second of these suffered from a prevalent fault—a tendency to seek emphasis by shouting.

The villainy of the Earl of Warwick, the villainy of being a mere man of this world, was outside D. L. RIDOUR's range, though he spoke his lines with understanding. M. A. HARPER did justice to the nobility of Dunois, but left him a little stiff and stolid. He was not alone in his failure to make natural use of his hands. M. VAN MENTS, however, played de Baudricourt with admirable ease of movement and no want of bombast.

John de Stogumber is a thoroughly difficult part for a young actor, with its tortured fanaticism and occasional lapses into something like farce; M. V. GOSNEY's playing of the part must be counted as a



STRASBOURG CATHEDRAL.
A School Party outside the West Door.

Photograph : R. M. Brown.

highly creditable failure—except in the Epilogue, where his quavering senility was really touching. M. A. WOODHOUSE's petulance as the Dauphin lapsed too often into incoherence, but it had the same vigour as A. J. GARDNER's La Hire and G. R. GREEN's La Trémouille, though both these—certainly La Trémouille—were coarser than need be. Of the remaining performances—all striving for the right note, if not all achieving it—Brother Martin Ladvenu (J. M. S. ARNOTT) was the most successful.

The eye was well served in this production, chiefly by striking and gorgeous costumes and by notably good settings for the opening scene and the Coronation (provided by the Arts and Crafts Society under Mr. J. B. HURN's direction. Incidentally, is it beyond the art and craft of these enthusiasts to knock together some stage furniture that will at any rate *look* sumptuous? The Tent Scene suffered badly from its mean chairs and table of obviously local origin). The Musical Society's Orchestra played DR. WILLIS GRANT's boldly evocative incidental music with startling resonance—a great contrast to the tenuous mewings of bygone years.

Mr. Shaw would no doubt be the first to congratulate the producer, MR. W. H. BABB, and his assistant, MR. F. A. MEERENDONK, on having chosen his own play of ideas in preference to Shakespeare's gorgeous but unprincipled eloquence. For our part, we can offer the producers our felicitations on having achieved a success with one of the very few post-Elizabethan plays which both merit and reward the efforts of a school Dramatic Society. F.J.W.

SAVERNE, 1949

SHORTLY after half-past midnight on Tuesday, April 12th, the London train pulled out of Snow Hill Station, and forty-six of us, tired but excited, were on our way to Saverne, Bas-Rhin. With Mr. and Mrs. Biggs we travelled to Paddington, and crossed London by private coach to Victoria, where we were joined by Mr. Leeds and two other boys.

At length, after a tiring thirty-hour journey, we arrived at Saverne at 7 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, April 13th, in glorious sunshine. There were few of whose pens could do justice to the wonderful scenery that greeted us as we walked to the Hotel National, where, after a wash and brush-up, we had breakfast. And so to bed.

The first afternoon was spent by most in bleary-eyed contemplation of Saverne's shops. Saverne, we found, is not used to English-speaking visitors, and it was probably with a view to warning the local shopkeepers to expect customers who would shout at them in the traditional style of the Englishman abroad, that our arrival was announced in

the Press. After dinner, a party went to the annual organ recital in the nearby Protestant church, where the pastor made a short speech of welcome, fortunately in English.

Thursday saw most of the party thoroughly recovered from the journey, and on this day many visited the Haut-Barr, an ancient ruined castle, or browsed among Saverne's shops.

We were all up early on Friday to crowd the two buses engaged to take us through the higher Vosges mountains, whose scenery was indescribably beautiful. After a picnic lunch, we again set off on a steady climb to the Schlucht Pass, from where we could see the Grand Ballon, the highest peak of the Vosges. We travelled over roads usually blocked by snow at that time of the year, and indeed, despite the remarkable heat, some of the snow remained. After a tour which lasted sixteen hours, we arrived back in Saverne at about 10.30 in the evening.

On the Saturday, a party of nine, led by Mr. Leeds, went on a day's walk of from fifteen to twenty miles, taking their lunch with them, whilst others employed themselves, perhaps less energetically, in and around Saverne.

A good number of the party went to the local Protestant church on Sunday morning, and paid a visit to the Jardins Botaniques de Saverne in the afternoon.

As arranged, we visited Strasbourg on Monday, where the singing of the School Song at the café where we had lunch caused a sensation. We toured Strasbourg by coach, and then inspected the Cathedral at closer range. Back in Saverne we had dinner, after which quite a large party went to a local dance.

Tuesday morning was devoted by most to shopping in Saverne, to packing, and to other preparations for the return journey. The afternoon was spent in taking a last look round Saverne and the neighbouring woods.

At half-past ten at night on Tuesday, April 19th, we said good-bye to Saverne; there was not one of us who would not have liked to have remained behind. After an uneventful journey, in which our encounter with the Customs brought us only one casualty, we arrived at New Street Station.

In the small hours of Thursday, April 21st, the party finally dispersed, each boy to his own home. Even if parents' pockets have suffered a little, even if there was some truth in Mr. Leeds' punning misquotation of the Latin *Facilis descensus (S)averni*, we can be sure that the members of the party gained immeasurably in knowledge, experience, and understanding of the French people.

In conclusion, I would like to thank, on behalf of the party, Mr. Biggs whose planning and organization ensured the smoothness of the trip (except perhaps for the Newhaven to Dieppe crossing), Mrs. Biggs, whose first aid

and medical services were fortunately required but rarely, and Mr. Leeds, to whom we are indebted, some of us for his timely loans, all of us for his invincible good-humour.

M.V.G.

OXFORD LETTER

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

SIR,

Although I have no exact statistics to prove my assertion, there can be no doubt that there are larger numbers of Old Edwardians in Oxford. Unfortunately, we are not a homogeneous body. O.E.s pass by each other in the street without the faintest sign of recognition. There are still some people here who remember days at New Street; for others, the opening of Big School is an ancient event. The Genista Club has declined during these last few months and its decline is symptomatic of a strong movement in Oxford. We are all individualists in this collectivist age.

It is a sad thought that among our number we have no "star," no candidate for the Idol page in *The Isis*—Oxford's most coveted honour. This has been a brilliant Trinity term and there can be only one explanation of the fact that so few Edwardians have been seen; they must all work very hard. We have, however, had one visit from our post-war celebrity—K. P. TYNAN (ex-Magdalen) performed at the Union during Eights week.

A. E. WIGMORE (B.N.C.) has been President of the Genista Club during the past year and is a stalwart supporter of his college. L. L. TURNER (Lincoln) possesses one of the most splendid beards in Oxford. His main concern at the moment is an old car which he tends with all the devotion and tenderness normally reserved for motherhood. It is known that A. N. MADDEN (Merton) is visited by his wife at week-ends; otherwise, he is unseen. J. J. PEARCE (Lincoln) has withdrawn from the public eye since the morning when he startled Oxford by appearing "blonde, six foot, and handsome," across the middle pages of a popular daily. It may be that he was upset by his totally unnecessary journey to see the proctors. During Eights week, stentorian barks were heard among the Merton Third Eight; close examination revealed that they were emanating from L. LEWIS (Merton), who has recently played Chess for the University. P. S. McLEAN (Wadham) is not among those Old Edwardians who are infrequently seen. He has a well recognized beat between the Radcliffe and the King's Arms; his company varies from day to day. I. M. RORR (Balliol) plays the trombone or some similarly monstrous instrument in a combination which claims to be the University Band. This Band enjoyed

an outstanding success at the lacrosse match with Cambridge, when it intrigued the spectators much more than did the game. J. F. MAIR (St. Peter's Hall) has not been seen since the night of his college dance. M. SHOCK (Balliol) and his wife live out at Ifley but often descend upon Oxford. J. H. POOLE (Lincoln) can now claim to have covered every square inch of every college field in Oxford. After long and exhausting enquiries it has been discovered that he is engaged. R. J. ROBERTS (Magdalen) appears to be well set for a commendatory paragraph in the *Tailor and Cutter* at some time during his career. The same cannot be said of R. D. HARRISON (New). B. A. WIGMORE (B.N.C.) has been forced into semi-retirement from social life by the imminence of Schools, but has managed to find time for frequent visits to the Parks whenever a game has taken an interesting turn. N. S. SUTHERLAND (Magdalen) cycles furiously down the Ifley Road. K. M. HUDSON (St. Catherine's) is never seen to do anything furiously but he does possess a remarkable friend whose hobby appears to be Old Edwardiana. He is always full of information about the O.E.s in Oxford. R. M. PENDROUS (St. John's) talks a great deal about Confucius, while D. J. BRICH (St. Peter's Hall) can always be seen at lectures.

Oxford is such a whirl of small talk and tall stories that there must be many scandalous items which have failed to reach my ears. Apologies are due, for instance, to all those gallant Edwardians who performed brave deeds on the last night of Eights week. But it may well be that they would prefer to remain anonymous.

With my best wishes to you, Sir, and to the School.

Yours sincerely,
OXONIENSIS.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

People are wont to ask where the flies go to in the winter-time. We should like to know where Cambridge Old Edwardians go to in the summer-time. A few of our members, it is true, have succeeded in attracting attention to themselves in various ways, but we can only conclude that the vast majority have been confined to their rooms, suffering from the general epidemic of Tripositis. This all too common disease, however, does not appear to have afflicted E. J. HOOP (St. John's), who is rumoured to have attended three lectures during the term—on days when rain prevented play at Fenner's. Another regular spectator at Fenner's is G. N. HACKETT (Jesus); he confesses, however, that he

prefers the upper stand at Edgbaston. We can give little credit to the story that "Professor" R. D. POYSER (Queen's) has foiled the Examination Board by conjuring himself out of existence. Some of our more hearty brethren, hoping, no doubt, that physical exercise will clear the fevered brain, have been seen rowing in College eights of widely differing standards. Among these may be mentioned G. DARBY and B. MCNEIL-WATSON (Sidney Sussex) and G. GARDINER (Christ's). D. W. MOORE (Christ's) is also a rowing man, but alternates this pleasant activity with feverish attempts to find himself lucrative employment. (Any offers?) G. A. KNOTT (St. Catherine's), on the other hand, prefers to wield a blade of a different kind, and is often to be seen at the nets. P. R. LANGHAM and C. F. FIGURES (Pembroke) have forsaken blades altogether and are now sporting a new beard and moustache respectively—the former for a portrayal of Satan in the College play, the latter for reasons best known to himself. M. N. MOLESWORTH (Sidney Sussex) recently rendered conspicuous service to the dramatic Muse by extinguishing a fire which broke out in the A.D.C. Theatre. The grateful Muse rewarded him with a free ticket to the A.D.C. May Week show. E. W. PARKES (St. John's) assures us that the outbreak of fire was not due to negligence on the part of the electricians. Our Society Correspondent reports that in the audience at the time were B. H. MCGOWAN (Jesus) and his wife, who had apparently found a baby-sitter for the occasion. D. J. REESE (St. Cath's) seems at last to be convinced of the futility of life (although it is not clear why); but D. K. MCGOWAN (St. Cath's), brushing aside examination worries, is still able to appreciate the attractions of the world around him. D. GROSS (St. John's), law-student and sun-worshipper, has been working hard, but finds punt-poleing a pleasant form of relaxation. Indeed, punting is a most popular entertainment; for even as we write we can see our old friend E. S. WATERSON (Pembroke) plying a most proficient pole. We are envious, Sir—the river calls. So permit us, in the name of all Cambridge Old Edwardians, to send you most hearty greetings and to bring this modest epistle to a close.

We remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
CANTABRIGIENSIS.

BIRMINGHAM LETTER

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.
DEAR SIR,

Here we are again, but not as completely immersed in felicity as might be possible under less persistently antagonistic circumstances. It is true that the sun shines

brightly, but the dreaded Gatling Gun of the examinations has shot many a gap in the Edwardian ranks during its murderous traverse.

But let us turn to less gloomy prospects. P. E. TIDSALL is as bluff and cheery as ever he was—that smiling face and mellifluous voice still work their own magic at Scout Jamborees and Rover Moots. His comrade-in-arms, J. ROYLANCE, rides a bicycle during the summer months, but in winter walks from the tram-stop. *Bon Voyage*. L. R. MANN has been seen with his Spiritual Mate, and C. D. SKINNER devours with avidity the motor-cycling journals and stock-breeding catalogues. From the bowels of the earth G. A. ALLCOTT and C. M. THOMAS have been heard singing lustily "Once a miner, forty-niner," now of course a deliciously appropriate song. J. H. NEWMAN, also in the Mining Department, mutters dreamily from the depths of a deck-chair, "They are all gone into the world of light and I alone sit lingering here." What of R. J. WHELDON? What, indeed? A. J. HUGGARD preserves an air of wise impartiality in the face of an ever-changing world, and J. A. MORGAN plays a flashing game of table-tennis in damp cellars and even smaller basements. M. R. DAVIES works in a department of his own at the Kardomah, while J. N. H. SKERRET is making himself an Electronic Brain.

At Edmund Street N. A. RILEY accrues immense erudition, surrounded by illegible Spanish documents and rare Provençal songs. In his search for the foreign and the exotic, he paid a visit to the Folies Bergère. S. SHORT also went.

In the Medical School a gallant battle is being waged against "Encephalitis Lethargica," or sleeping sickness, the outcome of which is uncertain. J. B. PEARSON, however, is reading *Paradise Lost*. C. C. G. RAWLL built the sets for a very successful production of the "The Mikado," and G. E. MORLEY constructed his own means of transport between attendance at Public Health Lectures. G. D. PARBROOK, with one eye on the past and another elsewhere, has been made Secretary of the Chess Club. M. H. OAKLAND has now developed a single-minded devotion to Physiology, and R. B. A. JOHNS has a certain interest in Physical Education. So much can be said of A. J. WAINWRIGHT that perhaps it is safer to say nothing, except that affairs are proceeding satisfactorily. L. J. LAWSON holds the burning brand of Sport firmly grasped in his right hand. A. J. BRAY, F. J. FLEMING and others carried out a daring attack with snowballs early in the year. This may be remembered by those who took part in the Five Mile Walk, but we hope that no grudge has been borne.

We remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
BIRMINGHAMIENSIS.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Notes toward the Definition of the School Club

THIS report bears no resemblance to the usual eulogistic summary of the year, which condenses into an easily assimilable form the facts and figures and the expert appraisals set forth in the CHRONICLE. For in it I intend to express some of the major problems at present facing the School Club, though I shall not venture to supply an answer.

The Club exists as a means of organizing the voluntary sports and other collective pursuits of the School. It has its own constitution, a model of benevolent democracy, whereby each activity is governed by an elected committee; its constituents are the members of the School, and the Club is subordinate to the School.

How successfully is this organization employed?

Games are organised (at present) on a purely voluntary basis. The specialist sports function quite well through the services of their enthusiasts: it is unfortunate that swimming must still be included in this category while the School awaits baths or a pool of its own. As for the team games, a little less than half of the boys in the School play rugby, and a little more than half play cricket—it can be assumed that it is the same half at work in both seasons. The School teams maintain themselves against a variety of opponents, but even the First teams are not always immune from the uncertainty of composition which is frequently the undoing of the lower teams. Bootless boys are pressed into service on a Saturday whose very presence on the fringes of a team is fatal to its success, but whose absence would reveal the true state of affairs more starkly than we would wish, even after reading the results of the Second XV for the last two years. The pressure from the outside that naturally produces a greater concentration within the teams is lacking: at present there are not enough players competing for entry—too many gentlemen demur. And support for the teams is outrageously non-existent, simply because, to use a pre-war term of stigmatization instead of the current expressive monosyllable, the leisured classes are predominant in the School.

The Societies, which are now more than a dozen in number, suffer similarly. Some are satisfactorily departmental, but others, of wider cultural pretensions, are often forced to sacrifice the best traditions of Western civilization to popular appeal. In other words, our accepted standards of intellectual activity as manifested in the attendance and performance at Societies are low. The Debating Society, that with the widest cultural scope and justly pre-eminent, cannot boast that it sets a high standard in

either respect. It is not to blame for this; it is only bowing to necessity and keeping itself formally alive—but it should, perhaps, spurn the false life imparted to it by frequent "Joint Debates." There is little attempt to train speakers in the way that they should go. But training is as requisite for debating as it is for rugby. The Colts' teams and the "Lower House" have a like office to perform, and only if such training is extended to the full will the "collective pursuits of the School" cease to be flat, stale and unprofitable. And here I must interrupt to say that I am not shutting my eyes to the successes of the past year, some brilliant, some obscure, to the exposition of which this report is usually devoted.

Generally speaking, then, the vast energies of the School are not successfully employed or purposefully directed. This would seem to be a harsh comment on the School Club, but it is not final.

The Club has a long history now during which its organization of the House Competition and of the annual commitments of the fixture list—and these things do not run themselves—has been efficient but not inspiring. This history the School Club's CHRONICLE has patiently recorded, and, at the same time, it has offered the School—as a good CHRONICLE should—an opportunity for public literary expression. The offer has never been accepted, and that is neither the CHRONICLE's fault nor the School Club's fault. The CHRONICLE has for years faithfully represented the literary talent of the School in its back pages. It is not responsible for the creative genius of the School, even if it is ashamed of it and of its failure to produce a "March literary edition."

This point with reference to the CHRONICLE may be expanded into a general truth governing the School Club. The Club is not fundamentally a body for initiation and inspiration but a medium for organization. Its officers are, first and foremost, executive officers bearing certain responsibilities. We have now arrived at the principle upon which the School Club is founded, a principle which ought not lightly to be abandoned; that the executive organization of the School's "out-of-school activities" should be in the hands of members of the School. In providing the machinery for this, the School Club is serving a valuable end.

It may be objected, of course, that such machinery is superfluous and that the same end could be achieved without a written constitution. It may be objected that, in any case, the constitution is a democratic farce; that, even considered as an organ of totalitarianism, it labours under an encumbrance of committees. These objections are meat for controversy. More serious is the possibility that the existence on paper of the School Club as an apparently self-contained

body, that can be visualized as distinct from the School, leads to a divided allegiance or a mental separation which, at its worst, can create a mutual disregard amounting to discord between the School Club and the School. There is a false conception of school life implicit in the very phrase used above, "out-of-school activities," which deprives the School and the School Club of their proper relationship and from which the School suffers seriously.

* * *

The School Club does exist, however, and if its existence is taken for granted rather than obtruded, it is none the less real. Its members number 680 out of 687 boys in the School. Each has paid his five shillings to enjoy all the privileges of the Club he cares to—and they are diverse and generous, more even than Rule 6 sets out. There is a strong case for an increase of the annual subscription, which, at its present rate, is a mere token. Let no-one think that the Club is financially independent or even financially secure. It cannot afford to keep up elegant appearances; it cannot afford to subsidize

the School teams as much as it would wish. The balance sheet appears elsewhere in the CHRONICLE, and it will be seen that the largest single item of income has been drawn from the "School stock," a by no means inexhaustible source. Our very solvency we owe to Mr. J. C. Roberts, and to his firm and far-sighted handling of a thankless task over the last eight difficult years.

I have protested at other times about the inadequacy of the School's records. Many records of the Club were burnt in the Fire, many were lost in the Exile; but even the recent years of supposed settlement and consolidation are very scantily covered where minute-books have gone astray, photographs have not been preserved—in the collecting of records there can be no harm and probably much good. Enough survive, however, to show the untiring work of Mr. R. C. Dunt since he became Chairman of the House Committee in 1935. In the Senior Classics Master and the Senior House Master, the identity of the School Club with the School is fittingly symbolised.

J. D. MOUNTFORD,

Captain of the School and General Secretary.

RUGBY FOOTBALL—RETROSPECT REPORT

THE season 1948-49 was a poor one for School Football. The XV was never really a settled combination, and during the Autumn Term seemed to lose enthusiasm. During 1949 there was, happily, some sign of a revival. The younger members of the Team continued to improve, but of course lacked that confidence that experience will bring. It seems rather a pity that, with so large a Sixth Form, the XV should have to be composed largely of members of the Lower Divisions. There's a moral somewhere.

Football throughout the School continued on its erratic path. We saw a fine House 1st XV final, when Dunt's small, fast backs defeated Burgess' rugged, unscientific defence. But the School as a whole cannot hope to improve the standard of Rugger if its members continue to play in the weird and wonderful garments which they at present choose to adopt. A typical House 3rd XV game resembles a Bohemian Bank Holiday—and the comparison is not solely a sartorial one.

It is extraordinarily stupid to write prospects for next season. With luck we should do quite well. There will be no lack of tried players from which to choose the two XV's, and competition for inclusion in the teams should be very keen.

The thanks of the Club must go to Mr. Parry, Mr. Sacret, and Mr. Osborne—they have borne the brunt of failure with extreme patience and optimism, and must know that the time which they have devoted to the School is appreciated by all. We offer our thanks also to the Housemasters, whose stentorian tones have oft times given new life to seemingly becorpsed games; to their ubiquitous assistants; to the Head Master for his cheerful interest in all aspects of School Football; to those of the Staff who supported the XV; and lastly to those few members of the School who were interested and brave enough to attend School matches.

In acknowledging the work done for School Football in the Autumn Term, no mention was made of Mr. Cook, a new member of the Staff, who has helped to coach the "Under 14" XV. The omission is no more: we thank him for his efforts.

P. HUTCHINGS,

Captain of Rugby Football.

RESULTS.

The following are the results of matches played since the publication of our December issue :

FIRST XV					
November 1948.	20—v.	Nottingham High School	Away	Lost	6-17
December	11—v.	Solihull School	Home	Lost	0-9
"	13—v.	K.E.G.S., Aston	Away	Lost	3-23
1949.					
January	29—v.	Wyggeston Grammar School	Home	Drawn	9-9
February	19—v.	Jesus College, Oxford	Away	Lost	3-29
SECOND XV					
November 1948.	27—v.	Sebright School I	Away	Lost	3-13
December	4—v.	K.E.G.S., Camp Hill I	Away	Lost	0-38
"	11—v.	Solihull School	Away	Lost	3-14
1949.					
January	29—v.	Q.M.G.S., Walsall I	Away	Lost	0-17
February	12—v.	K.E.S., Stratford	Away	Lost	3-19
"	19—v.	Leamington College	Home	Lost	3-6
"A" XV					
November 1948.	30—v.	Warwick School I	Home	Lost	6-17
"UNDER 16" XV					
December 1948.	13—v.	K.E.G.S., Aston	Away	Lost	8-9
February 1949.	19—v.	Yardley Grammar School	Home	Won	13-11
"UNDER 15" XV					
November 1948.	30—v.	Warwick School	Home	Lost	6-14
December	4—v.	K.E.G.S., Camp Hill	Home	Lost	6-18
"	11—v.	Solihull School	Home	Lost	3-9
1949.					
January	15—v.	Moseley Grammar School	Away	Won	
"	22—v.	King Charles, Kidderminster	Home	Lost	
"	29—v.	Wyggeston Grammar School	Home	Lost	0-45
February	17—v.	Moseley Grammar School	Home	Won	31-0
"UNDER 14" XV					
November 1948.	20—v.	Bishop Vesey's G.S.	Away	Won	12-3
"	27—v.	Warwick School	Home	Lost	8-10
December	4—v.	K.E.G.S., Camp Hill	Home	Lost	6-14
"	11—v.	Solihull School	Away	Won	17-3
1949.					
January	15—v.	Yardley Grammar School	Home	Won	5-3
"	22—v.	Moseley Grammar School	Home	Won	
"	29—v.	Q.M.G.S., Walsall	Away	Lost	
February	12—v.	Bishop Vesey's G.S.	Home	Won	15-0
"	15—v.	Moseley Grammar School	Away	Won	15-6
"UNDER 13" XV					
1949.					
February	15—v.	Hallfield School		Lost	0-18
"	24—v.	K.E.G.S., Camp Hill		Lost	3-12

CRICKET REPORT

THE School team has had a very good season so far, and there is no reason why the final results should not be very pleasing. Four matches have been won, five drawn, and one lost. Two of the drawn games, those against Warwickshire Club and Ground and against Denstone College, might have been won if the School batsmen had attacked the bowling a little more strongly—a thing which they are not wont to do. The batting, however, is strong, and only against Ellesmere College did it fail completely. Its only weak point is its lack of a solid opening pair, and the School's innings have hardly ever had a good start. The School is fortunate in possessing good fast, medium, and leg- and off-break slow bowlers, and the season's success is largely due to them. The fielding is very good on the ground but far too many catches have been dropped. Nevertheless, a very good first half to the season.

The 2nd XI started well, but after their first two matches have failed, as yet, to secure another win. This is due mainly to the fact that only occasionally does any of their batsmen obtain a large score.

The "Under 15" XI have not yet won a match. This is because they have no confidence in their own batting. Their bowling strength is better, however, but it cannot do much when the other side have only a small total to beat.

The "Under 14" XI have done well—won three, drawn one, and lost two. This team contains some good all-rounders whose ability augurs well for the future.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Guy who has coached and advised the 1st and 2nd XIs, and to Mr. Buttle and Mr. Sacret for their work in connection with the "Under 15" and "Under 14" XIs respectively. Our thanks are also due to those members of the Staff who, although they look after no specific School team, spend their time coaching the junior boys. Let us hope their work will be rewarded in years to come.

A word of thanks is also due to R. T. Popple who, for three seasons, has faithfully served the School team as Scorer.

A. J. HOMER,
Captain of Cricket.

RESULTS

SCHOOL v. A STAFF XI

Played at Eastern Road on Saturday, May 7th. Drawn.

For the first game of the season, this was a very encouraging match. The School gained its nearest approach to a victory over the Staff for many years.

SCHOOL

J. R. Charlesworth, b Burgess	8
Hobbs, B. C., c Leeds, b Guy	45
A. J. Homer, lbw, b Burgess	0
Gough, c Howarth, b Cook	11
McClelland, I. R., lbw, b Leeds	27
Vernon, not out	17
P. Hutchings, c Howarth, b Guy	2
Coleman, not out	4
Revill, Benson, and B. Lobb did not bat.	

Extras (byes 6; wides, 1) 7

TOTAL (6 wickets, dec.) 121
J. B. Guy, 2 for 21.

STAFF

W. Traynor, lbw, b Lobb	18
W. R. Buttle, b Hutchings	4
T. C. Burgess, b Lobb	4
J. B. Guy, c Gough, b Revill	16
W. T. Bennett, c Gough, b Revill	26
T. E. B. Howarth, lbw, b Lobb	8
A. J. Gess, b Revill	5
J. A. Nicholson, not out	9
O. M. Mathews, not out	1
A. E. Leeds and R. Cook did not bat.	

Extras (byes, 4; leg-byes, 4) 8

TOTAL (7 wickets) 99
B. Lobb, 3 for 25; Revill, 3 for 26.

SCHOOL v. RATCLIFFE COLLEGE

Played at Eastern Road on Saturday, May 14th. School won by 90 runs.

The School lost the toss and Ratcliffe elected to field. We opened steadily, and the first pair were not separated before 31 runs were on the board. A third-wicket partnership of 81 runs between Homer and Gough then put the School in a commanding position. At the score of 150 runs for 4 wickets, the School declared, leaving Ratcliffe just under two hours to bat. They started very shakily, and 2 wickets fell for only 4 runs. This continued throughout the innings. A. Baxter was the only batsman able to play the bowling with any confidence. At the score of 50 for 6, Revill was put on to bowl, and took 4 wickets for no runs in 10 balls. During this brief spell of bowling, Revill took a "hat-trick"—the first in the School since 1882. (See records).

SCHOOL

J. R. Charlesworth, c Gordon, b Carron	24
Hobbs, B. C., b Helstrip	11
A. J. Homer, c Fearn, b Bolger	39
Gough, b Helstrip	55
McClelland, I. R., not out	12
P. Hutchings, Vernon, Hiscox, Revill, B. Lobb, and Benson did not bat.	

Extras (byes, 9) 9

TOTAL (4 wickets, dec.) 150
Helstrip, 2 for 35.

RATCLIFFE

Thistlethwaite, b Hutchings	1
Mann, lbw, b Hutchings	0
Worrall, b Hutchings	13
Baxter, not out	19
Carron, b Hutchings	0
Keir, b Lobb	7
Fearn, st Charlesworth, b Gough	2
Black, b Revill	10
Helstrip, st Charlesworth, b Revill	3
Bolger, b Revill	0
Gordon, b Revill	0
Extras (byes, 3; leg-byes, 2)	5

TOTAL 60
Revill, 4 for 0; P. Hutchings, 4 for 12.

SCHOOL v. WARWICKSHIRE CLUB AND GROUND

Played at Eastern Road on Tuesday, May 17th. Drawn.

After a delayed start, Warwickshire Club and Ground, who won the toss, decided to bat.

On a spongy wicket, the Club and Ground batted steadily for a score of 112 for 6 wickets. After tea, it was necessary for the School to score at the rate of one run per minute. This was almost achieved, but we failed by only four runs to secure a victory.

CLUB AND GROUND		SCHOOL	
Wilson, c Hiscox, b Lobb	23	J. R. Charlesworth, lbw, b Morley	46
Daniels, c Homer, b Hutchings	6	Hobbs, B. C., c Foster, b Pinder	6
Lovering, b Lobb	19	A. J. Homer, b Lovering	6
Seymour, c Hough, b Hutchings	25	Gough, c Daniels, b Pinder	16
Catton, st Charlesworth, b Revill	21	McClelland, I. R., c Seymour, b Morley	6
Foster, c Vernon, b Hutchings	3	P. Hutchings, not out	22
Pinder, not out	5	B. Lobb, b Pinder	0
Cross, not out	9	Vernon, not out	1
McDowell, Lewin and Morley did not bat.		Hiscox, Revill and Benson did not bat.	
Extras (leg-bye, 1)	1	Extras (byes, 3; leg-byes, 3)	6
TOTAL (6 wickets, dec.)	112	TOTAL (6 wickets)	109
P. Hutchings, 3 for 36;		Pinder, 3 for 10.	

SCHOOL v. NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Played at Nottingham on Saturday, May 21st. Drawn.

Having won the toss, the Nottingham captain chose to field. The School, batting steadily, raised the score to 73 for 3 wickets before another three wickets fell for the addition of only 11 runs. A seventh-wicket stand placed the School in a better position, and the innings was finally declared closed at 119 for 9 wickets, thus leaving Nottingham ninety-five minutes in which to get the runs. They soon fell behind the clock, and, except for J. G. Hurst, did not attack the bowling at all. When stumps were drawn, the Nottingham team had scored only 72 runs.

SCHOOL		NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL	
J. R. Charlesworth, lbw, b Hurst	23	Sadler, c Vernon, b Hutchings	7
Hobbs, B. C., b Skellington	7	Stanley, c Hiscox, b Revill	13
A. J. Homer, c Hurst, b Skellington	32	Hardwick, c Vernon, b Hutchings	0
Gough, c and b Skellington	9	Hurst, b Hutchings	46
McClelland, I. R., c Stanley, b Skellington	0	Train, not out	3
P. Hutchings, c Whittaker, b Skellington	33	Flatt, b Hutchings	0
Vernon, lbw, b Skellington	1	Wheelhouse, not out	0
Hiscox, c and b Whittaker	7	Arnold, Robinson, Whittaker and	
Revill, b Wheelhouse	0	Skellington did not bat.	
Barracrough, not out	2		
B. Lobb, not out	3		
Extras (byes, 1; leg-byes, 1)	2	Extras (byes, 2; leg-byes, 1)	3
TOTAL (9 wickets, dec.)	119	TOTAL (5 wickets)	72
Skellington, 6 for 25.		P. Hutchings, 4 for 9.	

SCHOOL v. REPTON SCHOOL 2ND XI

Played at Eastern Road on Thursday, May 26th. School won by 7 wickets.

The opposition again won the toss and decided to bat. They were soon in difficulties, however, principally against the bowling of Lobb. With the exception of J. M. Cropper, they offered little resistance. With a total of 57 to beat and just under two hours in which to get the runs, the School batted slowly, until McClelland came in and quickly put the result beyond doubt.

REPTON SCHOOL 2ND XI

REPTON SCHOOL 2ND XI		SCHOOL	
Howling, c and b Hutchings	3	J. R. Charlesworth, lbw, b Bleasdale	21
Burberry, lbw, b Lobb	1	Vernon, b Lawson	0
Chaumeton, c Charlesworth, b Lobb	4	A. J. Homer, not out	11
Cropper, c McClelland, b Revill	14	Gough, c Burberry, b Lawson	2
Ostick, c Hutchings, b Lobb	2	McClelland, I. R., not out	28
Sands, b Lobb	2	P. Hutchings, Hobbs, B. C., Hiscox,	
Buckland, b Gough	10	Turner, Revill, and B. Lobb did not bat.	
Wilsey, b Revill	8		
Bleasdale, c McClelland, b Lobb	1		
Lawson, c McClelland, b Lobb	4		
Thompson, not out	0		
Extras (byes, 8)	8	Extras (leg-byes, 3)	3
TOTAL	57	TOTAL (3 wickets)	65
B. Lobb, 6 for 13; Revill, 2 for 9.		Lawson, 2 for 13.	

SCHOOL v. BROMSGROVE SCHOOL.

Played at Bromsgrove on Saturday, June 11th. School won by 57 runs.

The School batted first and started rather badly. With 28 runs for 3 wickets on the board, Gough and McClelland came together and raised the score to 73 runs for 3 wickets before McClelland was out. Of the remaining batsmen, only Revill and Vernon made any runs, so that the School were all out for 120. Bromsgrove started very poorly (4 wickets fell for only 13 runs) but were allowed to recover when a catch was dropped. When the fifth wicket fell at 46, however, the remaining batsmen were soon dismissed.

SCHOOL

BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

J. R. Charlesworth, lbw, b Sisson	14	Mitchell, c Hiscox, b Hutchings	4
Hobbs, B. C., b Tudor	2	Wood, lbw, b Lobb	2
A. J. Homer, lbw, b Link	3	Evans, b Lobb	0
Gough, lbw, b East	17	Tudor, lbw, b Lobb	0
McClelland, I. R., c Sisson, b Link	31	Faull, c Revill, b Lobb	29
P. Hutchings, c Wood, b Link	6	Bishton, b Lobb	7
Vernon, not out	26	Sisson, b Revill	10
Hiscox, b East	0	Hilton, b Revill	1
Turner, c and b East	1	Link, b Revill	0
Revill, lbw, b Link	12	East, b Revill	0
B. Lobb, st Evans, b East	0	Potter, not out	4
Extras (byes, 6; leg-byes, 2)	8	Extras (byes, 4; wides, 2)	6
TOTAL	120	TOTAL	63

East, 4 for 21; Link, 4 for 33.

Lobb, 5 for 15; Revill, 4 for 31.

SCHOOL v. DENSTONE COLLEGE

Played at Eastern Road on Tuesday, June 14th. Drawn.

Denstone, batting first, lost their first 5 wickets for 14 runs, but D. E. Cook and J. Oliver raised the score to 76 before the sixth wicket fell. None of the remaining batsmen offered much resistance, and Denstone were all out for 107 runs. The School, batting steadily, did so rather slowly. Although they had just over an hour-and-a-half in which to get the runs, the score was only 79 for 3 when stumps were drawn.

DENSTONE COLLEGE

SCHOOL

Dracup, c Charlesworth, b Lobb	1	J. R. Charlesworth, c Oliver, b Whitwam	7
Amps, c and b Lobb	3	Hobbs, B. C., c Yeaton, b Oliver	7
Cook, c McClelland, b Hutchings	50	A. J. Homer, not out	30
Yeaton, b Lobb	0	Gough, lbw, b Tobias	19
Hignell, b Hutchings	0	McClelland, I. R., not out	4
Lee, b Hutchings	0	Vernon, P. Hutchings, Revill, Hiscox, Benson, and B. Lobb did not bat.	
Oliver, lbw, b Hutchings	29		
Mather, c Charlesworth, b Hutchings	2		
Boulton, not out	3		
Whitwam, b Lobb	0		
Tobias, b Hutchings	0		
Extras (byes, 18; leg-byes, 1)	19	Extras (byes, 8; leg-byes, 4)	12
TOTAL	107	TOTAL (3 wickets)	79

P. Hutchings, 6 for 31; B. Lobb, 4 for 30.

SCHOOL v. ELLESMERE COLLEGE

Played at Eastern Road on Saturday, June 18th. School lost by 4 wickets.

The School, winning the toss, chose to bat on a hard wicket. Instead of scoring a large total against a mediocre attack, the School were all out in 77 minutes for 72 runs. Following this poor performance, the fielding was not at all good—five catches were dropped, and, as expected, the bowlers could not make much impression against batsmen who had four hours to make the necessary runs. The School lost by four wickets.

SCHOOL		ELLESMERE COLLEGE	
Hiscox, lbw, b Roberts, J.	4	Crossman, c Vernon, b Hutchings	1
Hobbs, B. C., c Pritchard, b Archer	2	Brown, c Coleman, b Lobb	7
A. J. Homer, c Archer, b Roberts J.	11	Pritchard, b Lobb	14
Gough, c Roberts, D., b Roberts, J.	7	Archer, c Hobbs, b Lobb	11
McClelland, I. R., lbw, b Archer	7	Viney, c and b Lobb	1
P. Hutchings, c Parsonage, b Archer ..	6	Roberts, D., b Benson	24
Vernon, c Pritchard, b Parsonage	2	Parsonage, st Coleman, b Benson	12
Revill, lbw, b Roberts, J.	9	Crane, not out	4
Benson, c Pritchard, b Archer	2	Wilson, Roberts, J. and Cole did not bat.	
Coleman, not out	8		
B. Lobb, b Archer	8		
Extras (byes, 5; no balls, 1)	6	Extras (byes, 2)	2
TOTAL	72	TOTAL (7 wickets)	76
Archer, 5 for 26; Roberts, J., 4 for 31.		B. Lobb, 4 for 30.	

SCHOOL v. MALVERN COLLEGE 2ND XI

Played at Eastern Road on Thursday, June 23rd. School won by 6 wickets.

The Malvern captain won the toss and chose to bat on an apparently good wicket. Against some unimpressive bowling, Malvern made a moderate start but suddenly their batting gave way and they were dismissed for 42. The School's fielding had improved since the last match. Against medium-paced bowling the School's batting recovered after a bad start, and we lost only four wickets in obtaining the runs. P.H.

MALVERN COLLEGE 2ND XI

SCHOOL		SCHOOL	
Fiddian-Green, b Hutchings	5	Hobbs, B. C., lbw, b Harris	8
Hobbs, b Lobb	8	Vernon, b Harris	0
Burton, b Hutchings	1	Revill, b Wetherall	17
Wetherall, b Lobb	0	Gough, st Burton, b Colthurst	26
Erskine, c Benson, b Hutchings	3	P. Hutchings, lbw, b Wetherall	0
Colthurst, b Lobb	0	Homer (B. C.), run out	16
Brentnell, c Hobbs, b Hutchings	1	Wilkins, b Pegley	3
Garner, b Lobb	0	Turner, not out	17
Pepper, b Hutchings	0	Dore, run out	4
Pegley, c Lobb, b Hutchings	11	Benson, run out	3
Harris, not out	4	B. Lobb, c Brentnell, b Pepper	2
Extras (byes, 3; leg-byes, 5; wides, 1) ..	9	Extras (byes, 5; no balls, 2)	7
TOTAL	42	TOTAL	103
P. Hutchings, 6 for 18; B. Lobb, 4 for 15.		Harris, 2 for 25.	

SCHOOL v. OLD EDWARDIANS

Played at Eastern Road on Saturday, June 25th. Drawn.

The Old Edwardians won the toss and decided to bat on a hard wicket. After an early setback, they batted steadily until the score stood at 82 for 3. Two quick wickets taken by Gough made the score 96 for 5, but the Old Boys regained the initiative with some hard hitting by Freeman and others, and the score rose quickly. The innings was finally declared closed at 217 for 9. This left the School three hours to get the runs. The School were soon in trouble, but with the score at 39 for 4, A. J. Homer and P. Hutchings came together and added 88 runs in a record fifth-wicket partnership. After Hutchings had been run out, two more wickets fell cheaply, and Homer and Benson played out the last thirty-five minutes.

OLD EDWARDIANS

SCHOOL		SCHOOL	
Alabaster, c Hiscox, b Lobb	1	Hiscox, b Figures	1
Figures, c and b Benson	49	Revill, lbw, b Pringle-Brown	4
Higgins, b Revill	12	A. J. Homer, not out	78
Tipper, b Gough	24	Gough, c Pardoe, b Sumner	8
Kendrick, b Gough	1	McClelland, I. R., b Sumner	0
Sumner, c McClelland, b Gough	35	P. Hutchings, run out	39
Pardoe, lbw, b Lobb	12	Vernon, lbw, b Sumner	1
Freeman, not out	60	Homer (B. C.), b Sumner	0
Pringle-Brown, b Benson	12	Benson, not out	2
Baker, S, c Coleman, b Benson	2	Coleman and B. Lobb did not bat.	
Baker, E. did not bat.			
Extras (byes, 4; leg-byes, 5)	9	Extras (byes, 13; leg-byes, 1; no balls, 3) ..	17
TOTAL (9 wickets, dec.)	217	TOTAL (7 wickets)	150
Gough, 3 for 33; Benson, 3 for 51.		Sumner, 4 for 21.	

SECOND ELEVEN

			<i>Runs for</i>	<i>Runs against</i>	<i>Result</i>
May	14—v.	Ratcliffe College	45	29	<i>Won</i>
	21—v.	Nottingham High School	92	82	<i>Won</i>
June	4—v.	Sebright 1st XI	42	43 for 5	<i>Lost</i>
	11—v.	Bromsgrove School	104 for 7 (dec.)	105 for 5	<i>Lost</i>
	14—v.	Denstone College	49	50 for 5	<i>Lost</i>
	18—v.	Ellesmere College	68	69 for 6	<i>Lost</i>

THIRD ELEVEN

June	16—v.	Harborne Collegiate	110 for 6	109	<i>Won</i>
------	-------	---------------------------	-----------	-----	------------

" UNDER 15 " ELEVEN

May	19—v.	Solihull School	52	53 for 6	<i>Lost</i>
	21—v.	Nottingham High School	50 for 9	105 for 6 (dec.)	<i>Drawn</i>
	25—v.	Denstone College	29 for 6	121 for 6 (dec.)	<i>Drawn</i>
	26—v.	Repton School	63	64 for 7	<i>Lost</i>
June	11—v.	Bromsgrove School	51	52 for 4	<i>Lost</i>
	18—v.	Ellesmere College	8	67	<i>Lost</i>
	23—v.	Malvern College	45	107	<i>Lost</i>

" UNDER 14 " ELEVEN

May	14—v.	Warwick School	103 for 4 (dec.)	28	<i>Won</i>
	21—v.	Nottingham High School	18	19 for 2	<i>Lost</i>
June	4—v.	Sebright School	78	104	<i>Lost</i>
	11—v.	Wolverhampton G.S.	55 for 4	54	<i>Won</i>
	16—v.	Q.M.G.S., Walsall	80 for 7	97 for 7 (dec.)	<i>Drawn</i>
	18—v.	K.E.G.S., Aston	40 for 3	39	<i>Won</i>

CHARACTERS OF THE XI

A. J. HOMER (1948-49) (*Captain*): If his leg-side strokes were as powerful and prolific as his off-side strokes, he would find it less difficult to score runs. As far as he goes (and he goes quite a long way) he is a good batsman, and has played many fine and valuable innings for the School this season. Against the Old Edwardians he was at his best, when his best was most needed; this innings will long be remembered. He is an adequate Captain, and more experience will give him the confidence to overcome his natural modesty. His bowling is a feature of the net practices. (*Captain of Dunt's*).

P.H.

J. R. CHARLESWORTH (1947-8-9): Captain of the XI until mid-June, he has recently had to give up Cricket in order to devote himself to his studies. During the first half of the season he opened the batting with success, and kept wicket. His captaincy was inspired and his authority unquestionable; under him the Eleven were pavilioned in splendour. This has been a good season for the Team, and Charlesworth was indeed responsible for its successful opening. (*Burgess's*).

P. HUTCHINGS (1948-49) (*Secretary*): A good fast bowler who, owing to his tendency to bring the ball into the batsman, must learn to bowl at or just outside the off-stump.

A patient batsman, he is capable of making a big score, but very rarely does so. A good fielder close to the wicket. (*Dunt's*).

B. LOBB (1948-49): A medium-pace bowler who has improved considerably this season, and who has well earned the success that his swing-bowling has had. He tries hard to get runs but gives up too soon. An excellent fielder at deep fine-leg. (*Dunt's*).

I. R. MCCLELLAND*: A hard-hitting batsman who gets his runs very quickly or is out very quickly. This is mainly because he hits out before he is settled. He fields conscientiously at short mid-on, and has misguided ideas about his bowling. (*Captain of Leeds's*).

B. C. HOBBS*: His batting this season has been very much below his former standard, largely because he uses a cross bat when playing back. Fields well close to the bat. Can be seen bowling in the nets.

(*Captain of Copland's*).

P. A. GOUGH*: One of the most stylish batsmen in the team. His batting has improved enormously, but he should not flash at balls outside the off-stump. His bowling has not fulfilled the promise it showed last season. A good outfielder with an accurate throw-in. (*Dunt's*).

F. B. REVILL†: An off-break bowler who started the season well, but who has not

maintained his standard and is inclined to bowl too many short balls. A stylish batsman who, with more concentration, will score a lot of runs. Fields well at cover-point.

(Dunt's).

P. VERNON†: With more experience, this batsman should score a lot of runs. He is rather too fond of playing back, which is useless on a fast wicket. He has an accurate throw-in to the bottom of the stumps.

(Copland's).

B. A. HISCOX†: His batting has not been as good as was expected, and although he has tried to fill the position of No. 1, he has not done so with much success. He has not yet been called upon to bowl. Fields well close to the bat.

(Dunt's).

D. H. BENSON†: A leg-break bowler who keeps a good length and is not afraid to "toss 'em up." When fielding he must watch the ball into his hands, and not through them. His batting shows promise.

(Burgess').

R. F. COLEMAN†: A good wicket-keeper who takes the ball equally well on either side; he has stopped some seemingly impossible bowling and some equally impossible throw-ins. Although not regarded as a batsman, he is quite capable of scoring runs.

The following have also played: A. E. H. Turner, B. C. Homer†, A. J. K. Dore and J. L. Wilkins.

*—denotes School Cricket Blazer.

†—denotes School 2nd XI Colours.

CRICKET RECORDS

THESE records have been compiled from past issues of the CHRONICLE and not from the score books. As a result, they may be inaccurate or incomplete. We should be very grateful if Old Edwardians inform the Captain of Cricket of any errors or omissions.

WICKET PARTNERSHIPS

- 1st—130, F. N. Bryan and W. K. Wyatt *v.* Old Edwardians at Eastern Road in 1929.
- 2nd—213, W. E. Sandbach and F. L. Bland *v.* Leamington C.C. at (not known) in 1927.
- 3rd—208, F. L. Bland and E. W. Elwood *v.* Olton C.C. at (not known) in 1927.
- 4th—67, E. Chance and E. W. C. Bradfield *v.* Dorridge C.C. at Eastern Road in 1897.
- 5th—88, A. J. Homer and P. Hutchings *v.* Old Edwardians at Eastern Road in 1949.
- 6th—117, J. W. C. Turner and F. C. Breeden *v.* Oratory School at Ravenshurst in 1906.
- 7th—58, F. G. Yardley and S. A. Eglington *v.* Denstone College at Denstone in 1906.
- 8th—45, J. G. Pardoe and P. A. Gough *v.* Solihull School at the County Ground, Edgbaston in 1948.
- A. J. Homer and P. Hutchings *v.* Old Edwardians at Eastern Road in 1948.
- 9th—79, D. R. Dudley and L. H. Caird *v.* Leamington C.C. at Leamington in 1925.
- 10th—57, H. G. Bache and S. A. Eglington *v.* Bromsgrove School at Bromsgrove in 1906.

GENERAL RECORDS

- Highest Score by School Team: 371 for 5 wickets *v.* Reading School at Reading in 1906.
- Lowest Score by School Team: 9—*v.* Warwick School at Warwick in 1898.
- Highest Score by Opponents: 307 for 4 wickets by Warwickshire Club and Ground at the County Ground in 1893.
- Lowest Score by Opponents: 4 by Warwick School at Eastern Road in 1887.
- Tied Matches: 80 *v.* Old Edwardians at Eastern Road in 1889.
- 78 *v.* Bromsgrove School at Bromsgrove in 1892.
- 96 *v.* Wyggeston School at Leicester in 1942.
- Highest Individual Score: 179 by H. G. Bache *v.* Reading School at Reading in 1906.
- Ten Wickets in a Match: 10 wickets for 52 runs by T. G. Freeman *v.* Ashfield C.C. in 1937.
- Hat Trick: D. P. Malins *v.* Suburban C.C. at Eastern Road in 1882.
- F. B. Revill *v.* Ratcliffe College at Eastern Road in 1949.

G. I. A. Taylor *v.* Repton School at Repton in 1940 (obtained after the match had been lost).

Bowlers who have taken more than 50 wickets in a season (since 1900)*:

	Year.	Overs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Runs.	Average.
L. Browett	1903	163.2	37	61	447	7.33
C. L. Breeden	1908	197.5	32	59	574	9.73
J. E. Mayell	1923	210.4	53	51	526	10.31
R. J. Pringle-Brown	1923	204.3	44	71	582	8.20
P. T. Richardson	1947	185	56	50	397	7.94

*Before 1900 it was much easier to obtain wickets, e.g., seven bowlers obtained more than 60 wickets in a season in the period 1881-98. It is worthy of note however, that in the seasons 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, J. Manton obtained 71, 61, 91, 57, and 107 wickets respectively.

Batsmen who have finished the season with averages greater than 40:

	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Innings.</i>	<i>Times Not Out.</i>	<i>Highest Score.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Average.</i>
H. G. Bache	1906	12	2	179	433	43.30
H. G. Bache	1907	13	5	78*	333	41.61
C. L. Breeden	1908	12	6	62*	319	53.17
H. L. Higgins	1911	11	3	85*	327	40.87
R. G. Seldon	1919	10	2	87*	385	48.12
R. Pascal	1922	12	4	100*	363	45.37
W. K. Wyatt	1928	16	3	121	639	49.15

*Denotes not out.

A general review of matches played :

<i>Opponents.</i>	<i>Played.</i>	<i>Won.</i>	<i>Drawn.</i>	<i>Tied.</i>	<i>Lost.</i>
Bromsgrove School	67	23	12	1	31
Denstone College	54	13	7	—	34
Warwick School	50	26	11	—	13
Warwickshire Club and Ground	40	2	14	—	24
Old Edwardians	40	21	5	1	13
*Oratory School	40	10	13	—	17
A University XI	25	5	8	—	12
Ratcliffe College	15	7	3	—	5
The Staff	14	7	4	—	3
*Jesus College, Oxford	14	2	5	—	7
Bedford Modern School	13	3	2	—	8
Wyggeston School	12	3	3	1	5
*Ashfield C.C.	11	3	4	—	4

*Denotes fixtures which have now lapsed.

SWIMMING REPORT

SCHOOL SWIMMING

As prophesied in the last edition of the CHRONICLE, the standard of Swimming has improved, and the House Relays have shown that there are many promising young swimmers in the School.

A record number of Standards has been obtained this year. This indicates an increase in the numbers of swimmers in the School, and reveals a most encouraging spirit of keenness.

The Swimming Team is having a slightly more successful season this year. Of the eight matches swum so far, we have won four and lost four. Our thanks for this improvement are due to Mr. Kay for his untiring organization, to Mr. Cotter for his general training of the Team, and to Mr. King for his valuable diving instruction.

Results of School Swimming Matches :

<i>v. Malvern College</i>	<i>Lost</i>	40-18
<i>v. Trent College</i>	<i>Won</i>	21-20
<i>v. Harrow School</i>	<i>Lost</i>	27-14
<i>v. Rugby School</i>	<i>Lost</i>	36-20
<i>v. Shrewsbury School</i>	<i>Won</i>	35-13
<i>v. Wrekin College</i>	<i>Won</i>	37-18
<i>v. Repton School</i>	<i>Lost</i>	45-10
<i>v. Solihull School</i>	<i>Won</i>	40-8

HOUSE SWIMMING

Two rounds of House Relays have been swum so far, and, especially in the Junior Relays, there has been a noticeable improvement in the standard. We are still hampered by the lack of training facilities, as we have to contend with the difficulty of having other swimmers in the Public Baths whilst the Relays are in progress. Despite this difficulty, the races were keenly contested, and on most occasions the teams attended in full strength.

The results of the Relays are as follow :

1ST ROUND :

House 1st Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Dunt's ; 3, Copland's.

House 2nd Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Burgess' ; 3, Copland's.

House 3rd Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Copland's ; 3, Burgess'.

2ND ROUND :

House 1st Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Dunt's ; 3, Copland's.
House 2nd Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Burgess' ; 3, Copland's.
House 3rd Relay : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Copland's ; 3, Dunt's.
A very successful season for Mr. Leeds' House.

A. J. IRELAND,
Captain of Swimming.

ATHLETICS REPORT

ONLY four School matches were played this year, as the fixtures with Denstone and Solihull were cancelled. The results have not been as good as we expected—two matches won, two lost. This may be attributed partly to the ravages of influenza, which made team-building very difficult. One match, in fact, was played with nine members of the regular team absent.

The junior teams have been uniformly unsuccessful, but many juniors have gained valuable competition experience, and some useful discoveries have been made.

I must thank Mr. King for his able chairmanship, sound advice and coaching, Mr. Hurrell for his help with the middle-distance running, and all those members of the Staff who defied the weather to judge races and Standards.

B. A. HISCOX,
Captain of Athletics.

RESULTS OF MATCHES

SCHOOL v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL

Held at Bedford on Saturday, March 19th.

100 yds. : 1, Bedford ; 2, Roberts, G. L. ; 3, Bedford. 10.8 secs.
220 yds. : 1, Bedford ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Chaudoir, P. J. 24.6 secs.
440 yds. : 1, B. A. Hiscox ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Heron, J. R. 57.8 secs.
880 yds. : 1, Bedford ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Chamberlain, L. T. 2 mins. 24.4 secs.
Mile : 1, Waldron, K. C. P. ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Bedford. 5 mins. 3.6 secs.
Hurdles : 1, Bedford ; 2, Lyall, G. T. ; 3, Heron, J. R. 18.0 secs.
High Jump : 1, Bedford ; 2, B. A. Hiscox ; 3, Rosenstein, H. 5-ft. 3-in.
Long Jump : 1, Bedford ; 2, Bedford ; 3, B. A. Hiscox. 18-ft. 10½-in.
Javelin : 1, Lobb, B. ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Bedford. 146-ft. 11-in.
Weight : 1, Bedford ; 2, Bedford ; 3, McClelland, I. R. 37-ft. 10-in.
Discus : 1, McClelland, I. R. ; 2, Bedford ; 3, Bedford. 110-ft. 1-in.
Relay (6×220) : 1, Bedford ; 2, K.E.S.

Result : Bedford Modern School, 71 points ; School, 36 points.

" Under 16 " Match : Bedford Modern School, 55 points ; School, 43 points.

SCHOOL v. TRENT COLLEGE

Held at Long Eaton on Tuesday, March 22nd.

100 yds. : 1, Roberts, G. L. ; 2, Hill, D. B. ; 3, Trent. 11.0 secs.
220 yds. : 1, Lancaster, A. J. ; 2, Trent ; 3, Trent. 26.0 secs.
440 yds. : 1, B. A. Hiscox ; 2, Trent ; 3, Bean, J. K. 56.6 secs.
880 yds. : 1, Trent ; 2, Trent ; 3, Keyte, V. C. 2 mins. 20.0 secs.
Mile : 1, Trent ; 2, Trent ; 3, Chamberlain, L. T. 5 mins. 10 secs.
Hurdles : 1, Lyall, G. T. ; 2, Trent ; 3, Trent. 17.8 secs.
High Jump : 1, Turner, A. E. H. ; 2, Trent ; 3, Trent. 4-ft. 11-in.
Long Jump : 1, B. A. Hiscox ; 2, Trent ; 3, Charlesworth, J. R. 18-ft. 10-in.
Javelin : 1, B. Lobb ; 2, I. R. McClelland ; 3, Trent. 153-ft. 8-in.
Weight : 1, I. R. McClelland ; 2, B. Lobb ; 3, Trent. 33-ft. 9-in.
Discus : 1, I. R. McClelland ; 2, Trent ; 3, Abrams, M. E. 97-ft. 5-in.
Relay (8×220) : 1, K.E.S. ; 2, Trent. 3 mins. 26.8 secs.

Result : School, 44 points ; Trent College, 28 points.

" Under 15 " Match : Trent College, 35 points ; School, 19 points.

SCHOOL v. WYGGESTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Held at Nottingham on Tuesday, May 10th.

100 yds.: 1, Wyggeston; 2, Wyggeston; 3, G. L. Roberts. 10.3 secs.
 220 yds.: 1, Wyggeston; 2, Wyggeston; 3, G. T. Lyall. 22.5 secs.
 440 yds.: 1, B. A. Hiscox; 2, Wyggeston; 3, Bean, J. K. 56.2 secs.
 880 yds.: 1, Wyggeston; 2, Wyggeston; 3, V. C. Keyte. 2 mins. 7 secs.
 Mile: 1, Wyggeston; 2, K.C.P. Waldron; 3, Wyggeston. 4 mins. 55 secs.
 Hurdles: 1, G. T. Lyall; 2, Wyggeston; 3, Wyggeston. 15.3 secs.
 High Jump: 1, J. R. Heron; 2, Wyggeston; 3, G. T. Lyall. 5-ft. 3-in.
 Long Jump: 1, Wyggeston; 2, Wyggeston; 3, Rosenstein, H. 18-ft. 7-in.
 Javelin: 1, A. E. H. Turner; 2, B. Lobb; 3, Wyggeston. 110-ft. 8-in.
 Weight: 1, I. R. McClelland; 2, Wyggeston; 3, Hutchings, P. 37-ft. 2½-in.
 Discus: 1, I. R. McClelland; 2, Wyggeston; 3, Giles, J. D. 100-ft. 9-in.
 Relay (660): 1, Wyggeston Grammar School; 2, K.E.S. 1 min. 12 secs.
 Result: Wyggeston Grammar School, 61 points; School, 50 points.
 "Under 15" Match: Wyggeston Grammar School, 35 points; School, 19 points.

SCHOOL v. NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Held at Eastern Road on Saturday, March 26th

We were lucky to win this match with a team gravely weakened by illness. After a close battle, the School won a hotly contested relay by five yards, and carried off a victory by four points. The "Under 15" Team lost by eighteen points.

Scores: Senior—School, 38 points; Nottingham High School, 34 points.

Junior—Nottingham High School, 27 points; School, 9 points.

The Athletics Team has been: G. L. Roberts, D. B. Hill, G. T. Lyall, Lancaster, A. J., Bean, J. K., V. C. Keyte, Abrams, M. E., K. C. P. Waldron, L. T. Chamberlain, Lawrenson, N. H., Bircumshaw, D. R. L., J. R. Heron, Rosenstein, H., B. Lobb, A. E. H. Turner, I. R. McClelland, Hutchings, P., Giles, J. D., P. J. Chaudoir, B. A. Hiscox.

THE ATHLETIC SPORTS

The Athletic Sports began on February 22nd with the advent of Standards. These continued until March 24th, when it was found that Mr. Leeds' House had won the John Urry Cup with 512 points. In all, 1,569 standards were gained.

The final Sports Week was attended by mediocre weather which broke completely on Saturday, April 2nd. In unfavourable conditions, the Sports were distinguished only by the brilliant running of D. B. Hill in the Intermediate class, and by the High Jumping of J. R. Heron. Punctually at 4.30 p.m. the prizes were presented by Dr. Mary Winfield. Mr. Dunt's House had won the Athletic Sports by a large margin, and robbed Mr. Leeds' House of the Mitton Shield by seven-tenths of a point.

B. A. Hiscox,
Captain of Athletics.

The results of the Sports were as follows:

OPEN EVENTS:

100 yds.: 1, G. T. Lyall; 2, Lancaster, Rosenstein (equal). 11.0 secs.
 220 yds.: 1, G. T. Lyall; 2, G. L. Roberts; 3, Lancaster. 25.4 secs.
 *440 yds.: 1, B. A. Hiscox; 2, J. R. Heron; 3, Bean. 57.0 secs.
 880 yds.: 1, B. A. Hiscox; 2, Latham; 3, Alexander. 2 mins. 21.4 secs.
 Mile: 1, Latham; 2, Lawrenson; 3, V. C. Keyte. 5 mins. 23.6 secs.
 Hurdles: 1, G. T. Lyall; 2, Bircumshaw; 3, Rosenstein. 19.0 secs.
 High Jump: 1, J. R. Heron; 2, G. T. Lyall; 3, A. E. H. Turner. 5-ft. 4-in.
 *Long Jump: 1, B. A. Hiscox; 2, Rosenstein; 3, Sandilands. 18-ft. 0-in.
 Javelin: 1, A. E. H. Turner; 2, B. Lobb; 3, I. R. McClelland. 142-ft. 7-in.
 *Weight: 1, I. R. McClelland; 2, Hutchings; 3, Ireland. 37-ft. 9½-in.
 Discus: 1, Giles; 2, I. R. McClelland; 3, Hodge. 99-ft. 0-in.
 Relay (4×110): 1, Leeds'; 2, Dunt's; 3, Copland's. Time not taken.
 Relay (4×220): 1, Copland's; 2, Burgess'; 3, Dunt's. 1 min. 45.0 secs.
 Five Mile Walk: 1, Latham; 2, Goode; 3, Lawrenson. Time not taken.

INTERMEDIATE EVENTS:

100 yds.: 1, D. B. Hill; 2, Weighell; 3, Foulds, P. G. 11.0 secs. *Record.*
 220 yds.: 1, D. B. Hill; 2, Weighell; 3, Austin. 26.2 secs.
 *440 yds.: 1, Thomas; 2, Elson; 3, Johnston. 62.0 secs.
 880 yds.: 1, Buxton; 2, Thomas; 3, Eaton. 2 mins. 25.8 secs.
 Hurdles: 1, D. B. Hill; 2, Weighell; 3, Eaton. 19.0 secs.

*High Jump : 1, Hill, D. J. ; 2, D. B. Hill ; 3, Austin. 4-ft. 11-in.
 Long Jump : 1, D. B. Hill ; 2, Austin ; 3, Weighell. 18-ft. 1-in.
 Javelin : 1, Revill ; 2, Austin ; 3, Benson. Distance not recorded.
 *Weight : 1, Revill ; 2, Wilden, Barradell (equal). 33-ft. 1½-in.
 Discus : 1, Homer, B. C. ; 2, Revill ; 3, Soutter. 88-ft. 1-in.
 Relay (4×110) : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Dunt's ; 3, Copland's. Time not taken.
 Relay (4×220) : 1, Copland's ; 2, Burgess' ; 3, Dunt's. 1 min. 51 secs.
 Five Mile Walk : 1, Soutter ; 2, Homer, B. C. ; 3, Barradell. Time not taken.

JUNIOR EVENTS :

100 yds. : 1, Roberts, C. J. ; 2, Hudson ; 3, Burton. 12.2 secs. *Record.*
 220 yds. : 1, Roberts, C. J. ; 2, Hudson ; 3, Burton. 27.8 secs. *Record.*
 High Jump : 1, Hudson ; 2, Lomax ; 3, Roberts. 4-ft. 2-in.
 Long Jump : 1, Hudson ; 2, Bradley ; 3, Burton. 14-ft. 9½-in.
 *Cricket Ball : 1, Roberts, C. J. ; 2, Wheatley, O. S. ; 3, Wilkins. 209-ft. 8-in. *Record.*
 Relay (4×110) : 1, Dunt's ; 2, Leeds' ; 3, Burgess'. Time not taken.

" UNDER 12½ " EVENTS :

100 yds. : 1, Davenall ; 2, Donaldson ; 3, Hall, Pickering (equal). 13.6 secs.
 220 yds. : 1, Donaldson ; 2, Davenall ; 3, Pickering. Time not taken.
 High Jump : 1, Sharpe ; 2, Adams ; 3, Donaldson. 4-ft. 3-in. *Record.*
 Long Jump : 1, Adams ; 2, Squire ; 3, Hammond. 13-ft. 5-in.
 *Cricket Ball : 1, Davenall ; 2, Adams ; 3, Gilson. 161-ft. 5-in.
 Relay (4×110) : 1, Burgess' ; 2, Leeds' ; 3, Copland's. Time not taken.
 Open Championship : 1, B. A. Hiscox, 36 points ; 2, G. T. Lyall, 33 points.
 Intermediate Championship : 1, D. B. Hill, 52 points (*Record*) ; 2, Thomas, D. M., 33 points.
 Junior Championship : 1, Roberts, C. J., 22 points ; 2, Hudson, K. S., 21 points.
 " Under 12½ " Championship : 1, Donaldson, A. W., 20 points ; 2, Adams, B. S., 18 points.
 Holdsworth Cup (Senior Relays) : Copland's.
 Tudor Club Trophy (Junior Relays) : Burgess', Dunt's, Leeds' (equal).
 Wiggins-Davies Cup for the Sports : Dunt's.
 John Urry Cup (Standards) : Leeds'.
 Mitton Shield (Athletics) : Dunt's.

*Events decided on Thursday, March 31st.

SHOOTING REPORT

ALTHOUGH our fears of the last report have not proved groundless, the season has been reasonably successful.

We write amid the gloom of a disappointingly unsuccessful visit to the S.C.R.A. meeting at Bisley. The team's position of twenty-second out of thirty-one would at first seem unworthy of the standard of Shooting which is maintained here, but it is necessary to bear in mind that the VIII was competing against the finest school teams in the country. It met the representatives of Eton, Winchester, Rugby and of schools and colleges which our other School teams never face. When these considerations are taken into account, therefore, the gloom fades to a light grey.

The earlier part of the year saw two miniature range competitions, as well as inter-school postal matches, the results of which are printed below. The N.S.R.A. competition was fired in the Winter Term, and the VIII was placed seventeenth out of sixty-six teams. The score was 741, four less than last year.

102 teams were entered in Class " A " of

the *Country Life* Competition. The School 1st VIII was placed twenty-fifth, and the 2nd VIII eighty-sixth, with scores of 761 and 645 respectively. For the 1st VIII, this is a higher position than last year, when we were placed thirty-third out of ninety-two. In this competition, the Team came fifteenth in the landscape target shooting, and was one of the thirty teams which obtained "possibles" on the snap shooting.

Prospects for next year are not brilliant, but those of the shooting fraternity who will remain at School next year include several experienced shots. With patient coaching, these should be able to mould the newcomers into a team at least as good as this year's. Those of us who are leaving feel confident that under the wise and safe guidance of Capt. Cooke, the Team will continue to flourish and improve, and thus maintain its position as one of the most successful school teams. Our most grateful thanks are extended to Capt. Cooke for all his splendid co-operation and coaching, and to the C.O. and the other Officers for all the time they spend for the welfare of School Shooting.

J. B. LUDLOW,
Captain of the VIII.

SHOOTING RESULTS

Results of *Country Life* Matches :

v. King's College, Taunton	609—541	Won
v. St. Paul's School	609—537	Won
v. Blundell's School	609—624	Lost
v. St. Peter's School, York	631—560	Won
v. Mill Hill School, London	630—533	Won
v. Denstone College	624—613	Won
v. King William's College, I.O.M.	624—W.O.	Won
v. Whitgift School, Croydon	624—613	Lost

Results of N.S.R.A. Matches :

v. Wellingborough School	704—737	Lost
v. Uppingham School	704—720	Lost
v. Marlborough College	721—756	Lost
v. Bromsgrove School	740—726	Won
v. Dean Close School	720—681	Won
v. Denstone College	751—724	Won
v. Solihull School	716—692	Won
v. Glasgow Academy	752—744	Won
v. Victoria College	749—W.O.	Won
v. King's School, Worcester	714—724	Lost
v. Eton College	728—750	Lost
v. Shrewsbury School	728—712	Won
v. Merchant Taylors' School	737—724	Won
v. Harrow School	737—750	Lost
v. Wolverhampton Gram. School	732—751	Lost
v. Highgate School	735—765	Lost
v. Royal Grammar School	709—686	Won
v. R.A.F. College, Cranwell	760—757	Won

CHESS REPORT

THE Junior International Tournament in November heralded the beginning of an era in which the School's reputation for Chess has greatly increased. In this event, the first of its kind ever organized, the use of Big School enabled one round to be held under conditions ideal for both players and spectators. J. Alexander finished within half a point of the two winners.

The outstanding success of the year was the winning of the British Boys' Championship by M. N. Barker. This is the third time since the competition started in 1923 that the School has produced the Champion. The introduction of the Warwickshire Senior Championship Tournament enabled most of the School Team to gain valuable experience against stiff opposition and gave them a chance to demonstrate their ability. M. N. Barker won his games against the two best players and was unlucky not to finish higher than fourth, whilst Macnab, E. Watson and Lloyd, K. W., also put up some very creditable performances.

The Annual Junior League Congress again provided an opportunity for more K.E.S. successes. The Warwickshire Boys' Championship was won by M. N. Barker, with R. T. Harrison second, and Macnab fifth.

The Warwickshire "Under 14" Championship was won by Lloyd, K. W., with Gallon and Goodall fourth equal. In the Major Junior Open Tournament, Phipps made the impressive score of $17\frac{1}{2}$ out of 18; J. Alexander won the Junior League Championship for the second time.

In the First Division of the Junior League, the School First Team, after winning the Championship easily last season, finished second to Solihull School. This result does not indicate a weaker team, but rather that as individuals, with a large number of matches to play, they attached insufficient importance to this Championship. This season, the School won the Second Division of the League—a proof that there is no lack of new talent.

We must record that for the first time the School played a Chess match by radio, when it beat Leeds Grammar School.

The results of matches are as follows :

DIVISION I

v. King's Norton G.S.	.. Won	5 — 1
v. George Dixon G.S.	.. Drawn	3 — 3
v. Moseley G.S.	.. Won	$4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$
v. Solihull School	.. Lost	2 — 4
v. Salfley G.S.	.. Won	$4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$
v. K.E.S., Camp Hill	.. Won	5 — 1
v. K.E.S., Five Ways	.. Won	5 — 1
v. Holly Lodge H.S.	.. Drawn	3 — 3

DIVISION II

v. Central G.S.	.. Won	5 — 1
v. Moseley G.S. II	.. Won	6 — 0
v. Greenmore College	.. Won	$3\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$
v. K.E.S., Aston II	.. Won	5 — 1
v. Salfley G.S. II	.. Lost	$2\frac{1}{2}$ — $3\frac{1}{2}$
v. K.E.S., Camp Hill	.. Won	6 — 0
v. Holly Lodge H.S. II	.. Won	6 — 0

OTHER MATCHES

v. Leeds Grammar School	.. Won	$2\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$
v. The Staff	.. Won	8 — 1
v. Fort Dunlop C.C.	.. Won	$3\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$
v. Birmingham University	.. Lost	1 — 5
v. City C.C.	.. Lost	$2\frac{1}{2}$ — $6\frac{1}{2}$
v. Worcs. College for the Blind	.. Won	$4\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$
v. South Birmingham C.C.	.. Lost	$3\frac{1}{2}$ — $4\frac{1}{2}$

The School has also entered a team of eight in the Junior Postal Chess League, but these games will continue until October 20th. Thanks must be given to Mr. King who has done so much work in the successful staging of matches.

J. ALEXANDER,
Captain of Chess.

ETON FIVES REPORT

A LACK of fixtures has prevented the Team from gaining more success and more experience—experience which would have been of value to the pairs which attempted the Public Schools' Competition. As a team, however, we are undefeated. We travelled

to Oakham for the first match and, playing for the first time in foreign courts (covered courts, moreover), we collected 135 points, allowing our opponents only seventeen. Wolverhampton Grammar School visited us and scored 56 points, while the School VI returned a total of 216. The Old Edwardians turned out a bright and sparkling VIII and forced the School to give of its best, which amounted to 243 points against 199. A little addition and subtraction will show that the School scored 594 points, while their opponents registered 272 points—a victorious margin of 322 points.

One must not exaggerate these pleasing figures, but the record is one that is distinctly worthy of the name of success. Only once was the team extended, and then it showed it could play as fast and accurate a game as any.

The attack was aggressive and sometimes so sudden and vicious that the opposition were literally caught bending. The defence was obstinate, but there were some shocking howlers perpetrated by players' left hands. Let all who would play well practise this sadly neglected limb and not wield it like a foreign body.

Some of the School Team devoted a few afternoons to the coaching of beginners. At the end of the course, some might well have been said to have begun: others learned surprisingly quickly and finished early. We feel, however, that some good was accomplished, even if miracles were not achieved. Fives is a game of practice and experience.

Both the Senior and Junior Competitions petered out rather vaguely, on account of illness and examinations. Perhaps next year a more favourable time will be chosen.

The House Cup was won by Mr. Burgess' House, whose 1st team was easily the best, while Mr. Leeds' House claimed the distinction of junior successes. Our thanks, and our sympathies, go out to Mr. Smith who has so capably handled the stocks of gloves and balls despite determined resistance. He fights a very lone battle in his room and, but for his efforts, the position would undoubtedly be chaotic.

I. R. McCLELLAND,

Captain of Eton Fives.

London Competition

Two pairs, J. R. Charlesworth and I. R. McClelland, C. M. J. Field and J. S. Williamson, did battle at Highgate School during the Easter holiday. The former pair won their first round against an Eton third pair, who were given +1 handicap, while J. R. C. and I. R. M. were weighed down to -5. Despite this, the pair won: 5-12; 12-5; 7-12; 12-6; 12-6. The battle against Eton first pair, the reigning champions, resulted in a sudden and unexpected knock-out for the Eton pair. An eye injury caused them to scratch at the beginning of the third game.

With equal handicaps, the scores were then 5-12; 7-12; 0-2, whereupon the School pair lost unexpectedly but deservedly to Charterhouse second pair in three straight games. The School's other pair had been spectators for the latter two rounds, as they had been removed in the first round by Aldenham. (Scores: 6-12; 11-13; 3-12). The School Team of the future should stand good chances in this competition if they can reach the standard of this year's Team, but to do so means hard practice and experience.

I.R.M.

Fives Characters

J. R. CHARLESWORTH (*Captain*) (1948-49). A fast, hard-hitting and enterprising player whose consistency both as Captain and as a player stabilized the Team. He hits accurately with either hand, though there is room for improvement in his left-hand smash.

(*Burgess'*).

I. R. McCLELLAND (*Secretary*) (1948-49): A zealous Secretary, whose powerful and accurate play has contributed much to the Team's success. Over-enthusiastic smashing cause some shots to go out of court, but his recent "cutting" has helped to counteract this fault.

(*Captain of Leeds'*).

C.M.J.F.

C. M. J. FIELD: A player who attacks with great accuracy and power, and who quickly turns defence into a vicious attack. His play is occasionally marred by patches of bad form. But he is ever a good partner, a rare asset.

(*Dunt's*).

J. S. WILLIAMSON: A small player whose speedy play upstep sometimes verges on the brilliant. He hesitates to hit the ball hard, though he can reveal a repertoire of whirlwind shots. He must practise his left hand and learn to bend.

(*Copland's*).

B. LOBB: A player of powerful shots with either hand, Lobb combines apparent slowness with good positioning and is no mean tactician. Unfortunately, he overdoes these "tricks" sometimes with fatal results. His unquenchable good humour, however, is an asset to any team.

(*Captain of Dunt's*).

A. E. H. TURNER: But for unfortunate lapses, this player would be very good. His smashes, delivered with either hand, can be quite deadly. Upstep he is sound, downstep he is more shaky. He leads the exacting life of Lobb's partner.

(*Captain of Burgess'*).

The Team has been: J. R. Charlesworth and I. R. McClelland; C. M. J. Field and J. S. Williamson; B. Lobb and A. E. H. Turner; J. F. Wainwright and C. F. Waring also played. During the Summer Term, J. R. Charlesworth resigned the Captaincy, which was assumed by I. R. McClelland, whilst C. M. J. Field took up the responsibilities of Secretary.

I.R.M.

P.T. REPORT

SINCE the lunch-hour has been lengthened, we have been able to use the Gymnasium from 12.30 to 1.45, as well as at 3.45. This innovation has been wildly welcomed by the Shells and Removes, who now attend in strength, and tie the knots in the ropes while awaiting lunch. House and School P.T. is also benefiting from the extra time available for practice.

A School team of thirty put on a brief display at the annual C.C.F. Gymkhana. Although practice-time had been reduced by inspections, the show was well received.

Practice is now going on for the House and Individual Competitions, which should be keenly contested.

We must thank Mr. King and Mr. Cotter for their constant help, and, of course, Mr. Moore, without whom the Gym would indeed be a barren place.

B. A. HISCOX,
P.T. Leader.

LAWN TENNIS REPORT

IN its first year of official recognition by the School Club, Lawn Tennis has been received very enthusiastically by the School, and the entries for the two singles tournaments ("Under 16" and "Over 16") were reassuringly large.

A round of House matches was played, in which a first and second team of two pairs each took part. We regret, however, that as we have but four courts at present, only a limited number of boys can play in House matches.

During the Summer Term, seven School matches were played, of which one was won, and six were lost. This may seem a very dismal record, but we should remember that the lost matches were played against clubs near Birmingham which sent players of much greater experience and rather peculiar styles. The School teams were largely experimental and much rearrangement in their composition had to be made. Next year we hope to arrange more matches with other schools, and, with only one member of the present team leaving, we expect to do rather better than we have done this season.

An official L.T.A. coach has been engaged by the School to train any members of the School Club during the Summer holidays at a charge of 2s. 6d. for half-an-hour.

The School has become affiliated to the Warwickshire L.T.A., which subsidizes the coach, and to the Public Schools L.T.A., which has enabled us to enter for the Public Schools tournament at Wimbledon in the first week of the Summer holidays. A film entitled "How to improve your play" was shown earlier in the year. About a hundred

boys attended, and saw G. P. Hughes demonstrate all the basic strokes.

Several gross of used tennis balls were purchased, and were sold almost immediately at prices ranging from 3d. to 1s.

We would like to thank the Head Master for the encouragement he has given us, and also Mr. Burgess for his continued interest and invaluable advice on match play.

G. C. WEEKS,
Captain of Tennis.

EIGHT HOUSES

At the beginning of the next School year, a new eight-House system will come into operation, and for this purpose four new Houses (under Mr. Biggs, Mr. Williams, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Nicholson) will come into existence. The division of the four present Houses will be as follows:

1. Mr. Biggs, assisted by Mr. Hurrell, will take half of Mr. Leeds' House and adopt Light Blue as House Colour.
2. Mr. Williams, assisted by Mr. Osborne, will take half of Mr. Burgess' House and adopt Pink as House Colour.
3. Mr. Porter, assisted by Mr. Cook, will take half of Mr. Copland's House and adopt Brown as House Colour.
4. Mr. Nicholson, assisted by Mr. Benett, will take half of Mr. Dunt's House and adopt Purple as House Colour.

Of the purpose and potentialities of the new system, the Head Master has written:

"Under present arrangements, each of the four Houses has approximately 170 members as the result of the increase in the size of the School over recent years. It follows from this that no House Master can possibly be expected to know well more than a comparatively small proportion of the boys in his House; and very much the same applies to the Captains and Secretaries of the various House activities. It is to be hoped that the smaller Houses will in these respects prove themselves to be more manageable units, and it may well happen that a number of senior boys, who at present have no posts of responsibility, will find in a small House more opportunities for service and leadership.

"It will be appreciated that the games organization will require some modification, but there is no reason to suppose that any loss of efficiency will result, and it is to be hoped that a keener House competitive spirit may emerge.

"The whole scheme is experimental and will be reviewed once it has been put fairly to the test."

As the four-House system draws towards its end, we feel that it is an appropriate moment to review the forty-five years of history of the four Houses.

We read in the *CHRONICLE* of February, 1904, that "An attempt is being made to infuse additional vigour into the School sports by the formation of four 'Houses' named after Messrs. Measures, Heath, Manton, and Reynolds. Every boy has been allotted to one of these Houses, and a spirit of competition is already springing up." The original colours were, as they are still to-day, Red, Yellow, Blue, and Green, and there were about 110 boys in each House.

In the Football Report for April of the same year, the Rugger Captain writes: "The House system has turned out to be a remarkable success; for although Measures' had a walk-over with all their teams, which was due to their keenness and dash and not to individual superiority, yet enthusiasm has been aroused and many promising players discovered."

In its July issue, 1904, the *CHRONICLE* very ambitiously set out in full the results of the House Cricket Competition, including the detailed scores of the first team matches.

By March, 1905, the House system had been "officially incorporated in the School Club by the General Committee and additional rules and statements appended to the Rules of the School Club."

From the beginning, the *CHRONICLE* has recorded the points in the House Competition. Before September, 1935, the Competition was organized on a terminal basis, and there was consequently a "Cock House" declared and recorded at the end of each term. Thus, in the course of forty-five years, there have been 108 "Cock Houses": the present Mr. Copland's House (Blue) has been "Cock House" 29 times; Mr. Leeds' House (Red), 28 times; Mr. Dunt's House (Green), 26 times; Mr. Burgess' House (Yellow), 25 times.

We are now in the third generation of House Masters, the first of which survives, since the recent death of Mr. Heath, in Mr. Manton alone. The successive House Masters since 1904 are as follows:

Blue: Mr. Manton (1904-11); Commander Langley (1911-33); Mr. Copland (1933-).

Green: Mr. Reynolds (1904-06); Mr. Richards (1906-32); Mr. Dunt (1932-).

Red: Mr. Measures (1904-19); Mr. Hammond (1919-33); Mr. Hewitt (1933-37); Mr. Leeds (1937-).

Yellow: Mr. Heath (1904-31); Mr. Smith (1931-35); Mr. Lean (1935-39); Mr. Swan (1939-40); Mr. Roberts (1940-46); Mr. Cooper (1946-47); Mr. Burgess (1947-).

With this scanty outline of the history of the old system, we send to all eight Houses alike our best wishes for their successful fortunes in the new.

ONCE more the School Year draws to a close, bringing with it the final pages of yet another chapter in the history of a great House, and the concluding report from the Secretary. Unfortunately we have not upheld our last year's boast of "nothing less than second" and the results this year are of a very mixed nature.

In Rugger we came fourth—though not an ignominious fourth, for the final in the knock-out competition against Dunt's has been universally recognized as one of the greatest house matches seen on the Eastern Road Ground for years. The only cup we obtained was the baby of the family, the Fourth Team Cup. Congratulations to the Juniors of the House.

For the fourth successive year, the gloved gladiators retain the Fives Trophy. Again congratulations to the Juniors, who did so well in their matches in this honourable sport. Without their successes we should have been unable to maintain our undefeated record, for the Second Team gained only second place.

Cricket we have again won—but only just. On this occasion we need to thank that inscrutable character, the Weather Man, for batting very well against Dunt's on all teams. With only one round of Cricket, the weather proved to be a decisive factor in the fight for the Shield. We shall hold the First Team Cup jointly with Mr. Dunt's House.

In the field of Athletics we were not entirely successful. The Wiggins-Davies Cup for the Sports could not have been further from our grasp, but in Standards, which reflect the true spirit of the House, we came a good second. In the whole Athletics Championship we came fourth. D. M. Thomas and B. S. Adams must be congratulated on being runners-up in the Intermediate and "Under 12½" Championships respectively.

In a more warlike and militaristic sphere we have done fairly well. In Shooting we were a very good first equal with Copland's and Dunt's, and our superior aggregate gave us the Cup. The Tunstall Cup we did not hold, but we were only one place away from it. In all C.C.F. activities, including the Gymkhana, we stood in third position. No comments.

The elusive Chess Cup remains elusive, and third place was the best that we could obtain. We came nowhere near winning the Allday Shield for the Swimming Relay, and it is with some misgiving that we look forward to July 23rd.

It was indeed unfortunate for the House that the Tennis Committee decided to allot no points for the first House Tennis Tournament, for we were decisive victors. Nevertheless, the House deserves all the credit, even if it receives none of the points.

Of the four School Prefects appointed since Christmas, the House has provided three; A. E. H. Turner, R. N. Doubleday, and J. R. Grundon must be congratulated on this honour.

Thus closes the last chapter in the first volume of our House's history. To Mr. Burgess, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Roberts, and to many Housemasters before them, to those boys who have served the House in past decades, allow me to offer my humble thanks for all that they have done. The support of all of us will rest with Yellow House in the future, and we wish every success to Mr. Burgess, his right-hand man Mr. Bennett, and their new assistant Mr. Osborne, in this new venture of eight houses.

J. R. CHARLESWORTH,
House Secretary.

MR. DUNT'S HOUSE REPORT

TAKING a comprehensive view of our activities this term, we can again report that the House has done well. Among our victories we can include the Rugger and Chess Championships, together with the Athletics Championship, which the House won in spite of its poor performance in Standards.

This tendency towards slackness amongst the rank and file of the House is evident also in Swimming, which, up to the present date, has not been going as well as we expected. In Fives we have taken a more lowly place, whilst Shooting remains the only activity in which Houses persistently tie for first place.

As prophesied by previous House Secretaries, the "Yellow Peril" has again been our closest rival. Unfortunately adverse weather conditions enabled Mr. Burgess' House to gain a narrow lead over us in Cricket.

Next year's prospects for the First Teams are promising, but the forthcoming division into eight houses may well affect our good record of the last few years. Should our fortunes decline, however, we may be sure that this will not be due to a lack of helpful and efficient organization on the part of Mr. Dunt and Mr. Buttle.

M. VAN MENTS,
House Secretary.

MR. LEEDS' HOUSE REPORT

It would be glorious to end as we began in 1904—Mr. Measures', Cock House; but we are ending not with a bang but a whimper. Such is our last report.

The long four-cornered contention ceases, geese are swans—and Swan's are now Burgess', our most dangerous rivals. Let them not think they disgrace the memory of their late father-founder, C. H. Heath, by

being the chief challengers of Leeds' for fourth place, while Reynolds', now Dunt's, and Copland's, né Manton's, fight out the first. For we are not hollow men or stuffed men. We have fired our ringing shot in the past forty-five years (and this year, too), and if we sink at last—well, better men have fared thus before us.

We add our "Vale" in the sense of "fare well" to Mr. Leeds, and trust that soon, like the tailor in the tale, he will be able to boast that he slew seven at a single blow.

J. D. MOUNTFORD,
House Secretary.

MR. COPLAND'S HOUSE REPORT

ALTHOUGH it has become mere custom in Mr. Copland's House to prophesy that the coming year holds distinct promise, the familiar words repeated as usual at the end of last year contained much truth indeed. At last there is new talent in the House and a certain amount of success in most activities has been achieved. Even more important, it is clear that in recent months a larger proportion of the House has been taking an active interest in our struggle for success.

In Rugger all the teams did well and the House gained second place in the Championship. Due praise must be given to the 2nd team, which came first, and to the 3rd and 4th teams, whose very creditable performances gave them both the second position. It was indeed unfortunate that before the end of the season we lost R. F. Griffiths, House Captain of Rugger and P.T. Leader, who inspired so much enthusiasm among the teams.

The Cricket teams fought hard but could gain only third place in the final Championship. The only notable success was the winning of the 5th team cup, although nowhere was there a lack of enthusiasm and active support.

The newly-instituted House Choir Competition brought fresh laurels for the House. Under the leadership of T. F. H. Oxley, the Choir had little difficulty in winning.

Another laudable achievement of the year was the winning of the C.C.F. Gymkhana; it is indicative of the keenness of the House that, for the first time for several years, no compulsion was used in obtaining "volunteers" for the less popular events.

The Shooting team came first equal on points with Dunt's and Burgess', and second on aggregate score. It did extremely well in winning the Tunstall Cup (303 Shooting) for the second consecutive year. In Athletics Standards we came bottom, but the "Under 12½" age-group gained a record number of points; in the Sports we came third. We were bottom in Chess and Fives,

but second in the Swimming relay competition.

Thus the House has had a fairly successful year—a just reward for the time and energy expended by Mr. Copland and his assistant Mr. Parry, and to no small extent a tribute to the efficiency of R. F. Griffiths, who, as Secretary, infused new vigour into the House.

D. L. RIDOUT,
House Secretary.

THE LIBRARY

It is very pleasing to be able to report a large rise in circulation this year. Many more boys, particularly from the Lower School, are availing themselves of the services offered by the Library. Approximately one hundred more tickets have been issued this year than were issued last year. We should like, however, to see the School taking still more advantage of the Library's facilities.

During the year the Modern Language and Fiction Sections have been substantially augmented. Notable in a long list of additions to all sections are: *Elizabeth and Essex* by Lytton Strachey, *Landmarks in French Literature* by the same author, and *Authority and the Individual* by Bertrand Russell.

Thanks are due to the Librarians who have worked so well at all times. We were unfortunate in losing the services of D. L. Ridout, who resigned from his post of Chief Librarian owing to pressure of work. His enthusiasm will be greatly missed by all who worked with him.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Copland for his untiring efforts and for his wise guidance. He works very hard for the Library, and we hope he will continue in his present capacity for many years to come.

R. N. DOUBLEDAY,
Librarian.

DEBATING SOCIETY

TEMPTING it would be to infuse this report with a familiar air of desperate and laboured cheerfulness; tempting to throw up our secretarial hands and cry, "Woe! Woe!" But we shall try to do neither. For at last the Society seems to have risen from that nadir to which it has so long been descending although it suffers still from fallen archness, a painful malady, all too apparent in the deplorable prevalence of *vis comica*, and not-so-comica.

In his Report (q.v.) the General Secretary of the School Club has cast a solicitous eye on our affairs. He writes disquietedly: "The Debating Society, that with the widest cultural scope and justly pre-eminent, cannot boast that it sets a high standard"

in respect of attendance or performance. Reluctantly we must admit that his criticism is justified. Attendances have undoubtedly improved, the standard of debate has improved, but we can scarcely claim to deserve pre-eminence as the Society "with the widest cultural scope."

The roots of the trouble lie without and within. At Westminster, we are told, the standard has fallen regrettably low, and even at the Oxford Union the art of oratory is declining. The blighting influence of the popular Press and the political demagogue has left its mark.

If didactic criticism is not too distasteful, it may be permissible, and even profitable, to remark that the failings of the Debating Society seem to be threefold: there is an alarming tendency to look at every question through politically-tinted spectacles and to produce patly the appropriate clichés and pamphlets; too many speeches betray a lack of adequate forethought and preparation; blatant and unfunny buffoonery is outrageously rife, and is sometimes allowed to swamp a speaker's train of argument. Wit, even at its most polished and most subtle, should be only the ornament of logic, only a passing divertimento.

Since the beginning of the Spring Term, the Society has held five meetings. In addition to an astonishingly vigorous and successful Impromptu Debate, it has held two other private debates on the motions that "The Church is redundant in the modern world" (defeated) and that "The British Monarchy is an obsolete institution" (defeated). The Spring Joint Debate, an embarrassing farce, was a misfortune from which the Society has scarcely recovered. The last meeting of the year was a debate *against* the Girls' School on the delightfully provocative motion that "Higher education is wasted on girls." It was defeated.

Elegant expressions of gratitude to Mr. Blount, our unfailingly good-humoured and astute Chairman, decorate the reports of the numerous Societies in which he finds time to interest himself. For his invaluable services, we thank him simply and sincerely.

A final word. Only with the devoted efforts of all its members can the Society become once again "justly pre-eminent." Pious regrets are all in vain. Amid the lamentations of a dozen Secretaries, the Debating Society rolls impotently on—as Thou or I.

G. F. B. LAUGHLAND,
Hon. Secretary.

Debating Characters

G. F. B. LAUGHLAND: Secretary, linguist, and literatureur. Despite the burden of office, he has not been deterred from enlivening meetings with carefully culled quotations, which he unearths variously from Ogden

Nash and the minor French poets. Although he says he spends little time in the preparation of his speeches, he is an orator in the grand manner when he wants to be, and just as effective when he doesn't. A bland smile and friendly manner remain unchanged through the most vituperative of philippics, and have witnessed the downfall of many less competent members. His supremacy is recognized in the well-merited award of the Hammond Debating Trophy. P.A.G.

P. A. GARDNER stands out as a consistent and refreshingly unashamed idealist in the Debating Society's ranks of slick, modern cynics. Scarcely a rhetorician in the fullest sense of the word, he possesses an ease of delivery, which gives his speeches the air of a delightful "causerie" rather than of a flamboyant tirade. He has a dry and subtle sense of humour, and the sound fabric of his reasoning is tastefully embroidered with erudite reference and inconsequential anecdote.

B. W. TANNER is the Society's undisputed Grand Old Man, but an unfortunate tendency to rest serenely on his laurels this year has deprived us of the discerning eloquence that we once enjoyed. We feel sure that a detectable lack of preparation in his speeches is not a symptom of senile decay.

Also mellowed by age is G. W. PETERS—perhaps not now so fiery as in former days, but still essentially *der Geist der stets verneint*. This inveterate champion of the working-man makes no bid for oratorical elegance, but relies on a vigorously colloquial style to present a lucid and well-reasoned argument. Where the integrity of his evidence is doubtful, his disarming *bonhomie* and evident intellectual honesty convince us of a plausible case.

D. L. RIDOUT favours a more formal style, and his speeches, meticulously prepared, sometimes suffer from lack of flexibility. With both feet planted solidly in the earth, he preaches an unusual philosophy of moderation and common-sense, and reveals a compendious knowledge of economics, French literature, and poultry-keeping. Cold and unadorned logic is the chief weapon in his armoury, though he can give way to a startling outburst of misogynous vituperation.

G. J. TAYAR's wise-guidance has led many debates onto the paths of entertaining irrelevancy this year. His speeches are always delivered with characteristic *elan*, but this breathless exuberance serves only to confuse his ideas and his listeners. With restraint and less insistence on trivialities, his undoubted fluency could make him a forceful speaker.

J. B. GOTTSCHALK never fails to give a forthright statement of opinion on any topic, but his speeches, while revealing an uncommon width of interest, are marred by

an unfortunate sense of humour, somewhat laboured and Tayarsome.

It would be unjust to accuse A. C. FOX of insincerity, though his ardent evangelical enthusiasms sometimes ring hollow with extravagance. Here is a wild-eyed speaker who is not afraid to use all the tricks at his disposal, and who frequently succeeds in carrying the House with him on a swelling tide of rhetoric that rarely descends to bombast.

M. VAN MENTS, who joined us late in the year, has lent stiff and sonorous dignity to our deliberations, which are latterly much the poorer for the absence of J. D. MOUNTFORD's quizzical and pithy comments. We are indeed sorry that he has despaired of us. Debates have been graced by speeches from P. HUTCHINGS, K. J. WERRING, L. H. J. HARPER and R. C. PERKINS, and the Society has enjoyed the regular support of V. N. BINGHAM, M. A. HARPER, and distinguished members of Classical V.

G.F.B.L.

LITERARY SOCIETY

It is the happy duty of the Secretary to state that the Jeremiad forebodings recorded in the last issue of the CHRONICLE have come to naught. "The priesthood of literary men" has religiously attended the meetings of our cult, and the Society's fortunes have steadily prospered over the past year.

The fare has included an anthology meeting, chiefly memorable for its unearthing of the genius of "the Corn Law Rhymer" (one Ebenezer Eliot), a play-reading, which ranged from Webster to Saroyan, and a presentation of original contributions by Society members. At a meeting organized jointly with the Dramatic Society, a record gathering heard Mr. W. H. Babb and G. F. B. Laughland elucidate and defend the School production of "Saint Joan." J. D. Mountford was well received when he presented a paper on "John Keats," and Mr. T. C. Burgess wound up the programme for the year with an interesting paper on "The Novels of Evelyn Waugh."

When viewing the phoenix-like metamorphosis of the Society, we are tempted to exclaim with Mr. Churchill, "There's life in the old dog yet." The success which the Society has enjoyed must be attributed to the enthusiasm of our Chairman, Mr. Osborne, who has presided over our varying fortunes with unflinching good-humour. Due homage must also be paid to the staunch body of erudite literateurs who have lent their support throughout the year.

P. A. GARDNER,
Hon. Secretary.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

WE write this report in the sultry heat of a July drought and during the accompanying doldrums of the Dramatic Society's year. Far back in last January we presented Bernard Shaw's modern classic, "Saint Joan." This was a temporary departure from the deep-rooted "Shakespearean tradition" but its success was widely regarded at least as a full justification for the experiment. A comprehensive review by Mr. F. J. Williams appears elsewhere in the CHRONICLE, together with an artist's impression of the play. If the metaphor be not too unfortunate, the "visible and human puppets, clanking about in plate armour" must thank the Society's Chairman and Producer, Mr. W. H. Babb, for pulling all the strings so dexterously.

For its next production, planned to take place in January, the Society has selected another historical theme, and this time the choice moves back (though not retrogressively)—back to Shakespeare, and back a brief decade to the reign of King Henry IV (Part I). After the heights and depths of tragedy in "Julius Cæsar," "Hamlet," and "Macbeth," after last year's modern play of ideas, "Henry IV" will give the Society a further opportunity to display its mettle and versatility, for with the regal pomp and the political intrigue of an English court of the fifteenth century, Shakespeare has mingled some of the most uproarious comedy that he ever wrote—comedy which is perhaps one of the severest tests of the amateur actor.

Although next January seems now so remote, the doldrums will soon be dispelled, for by the end of this term auditions will already have been held, and members of the School will have been invited to submit original designs for the settings. Meanwhile, the Society is taking determined steps to train young actors for future productions. A Middle and Lower School Play, to be performed entirely by junior members of the School, will be produced by Mr. R. G. Crow, whom we welcome to the Committee and whose wide and intimate knowledge of the theatre, both professional and amateur, will certainly prove invaluable to the Dramatic Society.

In the heat of July, the Society is awakening from its annual "summer hibernation" with ambitious plans for the future. To the visible and human puppets we wish the very best of good fortune, and, looking forward to the early weeks of 1950, echo the words of Hamlet:

"They are coming to the play; I must be idle.
Get you a place."

G. F. B. LAUGHLAND,
Hon. Secretary.

MUSICAL SOCIETY

"ACTIVE" would scarcely be an adequate adjective to apply to the Society. Throughout the year it produces a never-ending stream of concerts, recitals and other odd musical items. The reader will gather from the report of this term's evening concert that there is no lack of ambition in the Society and the competitions also reveal the number of capable musicians that the School can claim.

Recitals have been many and varied. On January 19th the Society was honoured by a visit from Arthur Cranmer and his son, Philip Cranmer, who performed the song-cycle "Maud." It was a great privilege for us to hear so famous a singer as Mr. Arthur Cranmer at a Society meeting, and it was with mutual pleasure that Mr. Philip Cranmer renewed his association with the School.

There have been two organ recitals this year, one by Dr. Willis Grant and one by A. J. Cooke, and we have also enjoyed a delightful recital of piano duets by Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Williams. We hope that the Society will be allowed the pleasure of a further such recital in the coming year.

A Junior Musical Society has come into being, and, on alternate Wednesday lunch-hours, hordes of Removes and Shells stampede the Music Room to listen to programmes presented by senior members of the Society. Most of the programmes are on records, but some "live" performances have also been given.

The Choir is now really taking its rightful place in the School, and on several occasions the notes of an anthem have set the atmosphere for morning prayers. We trust that these occasions will become more frequent.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to our Chairman, Dr. Grant, whose leadership and enthusiasm have brought the Society to the distinguished position it now holds. We do not doubt that he will keep the standards high. Those who are leaving offer their best wishes for the Society's continued success.

J. B. LUDLOW,
Hon. Secretary.

Music Competitions, 1949

THE competitions were held in Big School on Thursday, March 24th, and were adjudicated by Dr. Christopher Edmunds, Principal of the Birmingham School of Music. An audience of about 150 gathered to hear the competitors put through their paces, and showed the extent of their approval at the end of each item. The standard in each department was indisputably high, though it seemed surprising that there were not sufficient pianists over sixteen to justify a separate Open Piano Class.

The results were as follow :

Piano, under 12½ ..	J. Burrows ..	80
Piano, under 14 ..	G. T. Bruce ..	86
Piano, under 16 ..	T. F. H. Oxley ..	95
Organ Class ..	A. J. Cooke ..	92
Open Class ..	D. L. R. Bircumshaw (trombone) ..	94

House Choir Competition :

1, Copland's; 2, Dunt's; 3, Leeds'.

Much more interest should be taken in the House Choirs, and it is hoped that the new House system will result in every member of the Lower School feeling that his personal support will be essential for the good of the House.

Musical Society Concert

A REASONABLY large audience of boys, parents and friends gathered in Big School on Tuesday, May 31st, to hear a varied programme, which gave a very enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Musically, the most notable item was the first movement of Bach's Concerto in C for two pianos and strings, which was played by A. J. Cooke and T. F. H. Oxley, together with the string section of the Orchestra. These two soloists were obviously quite at their ease with the technical difficulties of the work, and both have a clear understanding of the interpretation of Bach. It was indeed a memorable performance.

For sheer enjoyment, however, the Sea Shanties, arranged for bass solo with Choir and Orchestra, reigned unsurpassed during the evening. R. T. Popple sang the solo part with an ease which sprang from a high standard of voice control, and his style and mood altered to suit admirably the spirit of each song.

The Trumpet Voluntary of Jeremiah Clarke has rarely, if ever, been heard in Big School with such an array of instruments. Two trumpets, three horns, trombone, organ, tympany, side-drum, cymbals and innumerable other implements all combined to send violent waves of sound down from the gallery. It was, nevertheless, the Trumpet Voluntary, and it finally convinced us that A. J. Homer must be able to play the solo part in any key on any trumpet.

It seems to be becoming a habit that at each School concert there should be a performance of a work composed by a member of the Society. For this occasion, T. F. H. Oxley had produced a short Allegretto and Gigue for flute, violin, 'cello and piano. It proved a tuneful and attractive work—which was all it set out to be. We can hope that this practice will be maintained, and that at least one piece of "home-made goods" will be available for each concert.

Other solo items were played by J. S. Williamson (piano) who gave an interesting

and poetic performance of the Nocturne in E Minor (Chopin), and J. B. Ludlow (violin) who, with the expert assistance of Mr. F. J. Williams (piano), played the Saint-Saëns Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso.

The Choir and Orchestra separately gave performances of high standard during the concert, and combined to open the programme with "Let us now praise famous men," and to close it with "Nothing is here for tears," both by Vaughan Williams.

The concert was arranged, conducted and directed by Dr. Willis Grant, to whom go our congratulations for a highly successful evening. To R. T. Popple, A. J. Cooke and others, especially K. F. Neeves, go our thanks for all their work behind the scenes. The success of the evening must be accounted their just reward. J.B.L.

MUSIC CIRCLE

Now that the disturbances of its inception have subsided, the Music Circle appears not only to be enjoying a successful life, but also to be fulfilling an urgent musical need. Conceived as an erudite and esoteric body, it has been true to its nature in the past year: Bach, Purcell, Alan Rawsthorne, and Aaron Copland have all been represented in the programmes, and members have listened with a concentration which proves the value of the Society. Dr. Willis Grant has suggested and explained the music, and has proved a more than adequate President.

At the beginning of the year, the number of members was reduced from thirty-five to thirty (the Circle being a closed Society), in order to include only the most enthusiastic listeners. Rather surprisingly, however, not even these have attended regularly; we may only hope that next term all meetings will enjoy complete circles, instead of varying arcs.

R. T. POPPLE,
Hon. Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

DURING the year, attendances at the Society's six meetings have steadily decreased. In the course of the Autumn Term, three meetings were held: Mr. G. L. Munday spoke on "The Electron in the Modern World," Mr. Chapman on "Silicones," and Professor P. B. Medawar, who has since been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, on "Plastic Surgery."

Three more meetings were held during the Spring Term. Mr. K. Macfadyen of Birmingham University spoke on "Science and Music" to an audience of sixty. At our next meeting, K. F. Neeves gave a very interesting lecture on "Rocks" to an audience of sixteen—a poor reward for much

hard work and research on the subject. For our final meeting, another Birmingham University lecturer, Professor J. F. D. Shrewsbury, spoke on "Bacterial Diseases that have made History." The aggregate attendances for all six meetings is estimated at two hundred and fifty, a drop of twenty on the total of the previous year, when only five meetings were held.

Besides these events, the Society visited Avery's works in January, and at the end of the Easter holidays, a number of members had the pleasure of being shown over a large steel-works at Brierley Hill.

The programme has been varied, although support for the Society has not been as strong as we would hope. We are grateful to Mr. Ballance for his services as Chairman, and to Mr. Armitage and his assistants for much valuable work on our behalf.

J. M. B. Moss,
Hon. Secretary.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SINCE the publication of our last report, the Society has held four meetings, and listened with special interest to lectures by Mr. Meerendonk on "Chemistry in Photography," and by Mr. Hall on "Two Photographic Novelties."

The dark room is now more frequently used, probably because of a recently introduced scheme for providing lessons for the younger members and for encouraging them to do their own developing and printing.

The more experienced members of the Society have taken many good photographs at important School events, and several members went to France with the School party at Easter. A large number of excellent pictures is now circulating in the School.

Mr. Hall has again acted as our Chairman, and we wish to thank him for his valuable advice and for the patience he has shown at our meetings.

As most of the present Committee will be leaving the School this Summer, the work of the Society will have to be carried on by younger members. Many have shown promise and with more practice should become very efficient. As to the future: will the quality of the work decline, the standard fall? The answer, we hope, will be in the negative.

H. E. STEIN,
Hon. Secretary.

CIVIC SOCIETY

THE Civic Society has had a year of varied meetings with varying attendances. The best attended and the most poorly attended

meetings were both addressed by members of the City Council. Fifty-two members heard (ex) Councillor A. L. Gibson speak on "Birmingham City Transport," but only eight came to listen to Councillor J. Wood speaking on "The Importance of the 1944 Education Act."

An interesting and well attended meeting was held when Mr. C. E. Garland, the Principal Probation Officer for Birmingham, spoke on "Juvenile Delinquency." He stressed the importance of congenial surroundings for the rising generation, and thought that eventually this grave problem could be solved.

Other activities during the year have included a discussion on "Gambling," and a highly successful visit to Hams Hall.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Blount for his unflinching interest in the Society's activities throughout the year, and to R. W. J. Chitham for his fine posters.

G. W. PETERS,
Hon. Secretary.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THE interest aroused by the activities of J. L. Hogg as the Society's Secretary during the Autumn Term caused the Committee to hope for a bright future: but in vain. Despite the initial interest shown by all Blocks in our epic film "The Marvels of the Amazon," support for the Society has declined.

This lack of enthusiasm can be attributed in some measure to other after-school interests during the Spring and Summer, but the Committee feels that the decline is largely due to the Society's failure to arrange more interesting speakers and visits. All attempts to remedy this have met with promises for the future, which, should they be fulfilled, will result in a frenzy of activity during the coming school year.

The visit to Sandwell Park Colliery proved to be the most interesting and most popular of the Society's outside activities. It is hoped that a Quiz held immediately before the examinations will prove to be entertaining if not educational.

J. LOVATT,
Hon. Secretary.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE Society hopes that someone may be vaguely interested to know that, besides being a member of the Council for British Archaeology, Midland Region, the Society is now somewhat indeterminately connected with the Public Schools Archaeological Alliance—although it is difficult to ascertain precisely what the connection is, or, for that matter, precisely what the Alliance is.

Included in, and in fact, comprising the Easter Term's activities were two lectures: one by R. A. Tomlinson on "Assyria," and the other by R. A. Adams, Esq. on "Two Ruined Roman Cities of North Africa." We have not found it practical as yet to widen the field of the Society's work to its pre-war dimensions, but we still hope that in the not-too-distant future members may indulge once more in excavating and visiting local antiquities. We thought of starting on the temporary buildings.

A. W. MEWETT,
Hon. Secretary.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

THE Society has had a very successful year, with attendances averaging between twenty-five and thirty—a record. Six full meetings and eight "swap" meetings have been held. As an experiment, the Society invited an outside speaker to give an address, and we were pleased when Mr. F. C. Clewlow, Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, accepted our invitation; the meeting, however, was a great disappointment and it was decided not to invite outside speakers in the future. For the other meetings, members of the Society gave able and well illustrated talks on a wide variety of subjects. The "swap" meetings, instituted last year in order to give members ample opportunity for the exchange of stamps, continue to be a great success.

The large following of the Society among junior members of the School promises well for the future. The sincere thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Hurn for his services as Chairman, and to R. W. J. Chitham for his help in advertising meetings.

J. B. GOTTSCHALK,
Hon. Secretary.

ART SOCIETY

THE Art Society has busied itself more with practical than with academic pursuits during the past two terms. The Secretary delivered a talk on the history and development of the cartoon in England, but apart from this, the Society has been essentially practical in all things. The scenery for "Saint Joan" was completed successfully, and any signs of wear and tear that it bore at the end of the last performance must be attributed to the stage-hands and not to the Society.

Mr. Hurn, our Chairman, gave a talk on "Painting out-of-doors," with a view to inspiring members to try their own hands at it. Rising nobly to the occasion, and greatly helped by Mr. Hurn's advice, the Society sallied forth on a sketching expedition a few

days later. It is hoped to organize several more such expeditions.

Several visits to the Art Gallery have been arranged, and we shall visit the exhibitions of "Industrial Design" and of the "Six Contemporary Artists."

Attendance from the Lower School has been good, and bodes well for the future.

G. T. LYALL,
Hon. Secretary.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

THE Spring Term was devoted to a series of talks on "The Position of Christianity in the Modern World." This comprehensive title enabled the Society to hear talks on a wide variety of subjects, while yet maintaining some cohesion of thought. The speakers included Rev. T. Lloyd, Midland Area Secretary of the China Inland Mission, and the usual liberal selection of Crusader Leaders. At a meeting early in the term, Mr. Quintin Carr introduced a film on boys' camps, which proved most interesting to a disappointingly small audience.

At the end of the term, the Society held a well-attended Brains Trust, under the excellent chairmanship of the Head Master, for whose helpful participation we are indeed grateful. Mr. A. G. B. Owen, Mr. H. C. Cooksey, Rev. H. R. Carter, and Rev. Maldwyn Edwards answered numerous questions on subjects which ranged from spiritualism to missionary work.

After a short spell of activity, the Society lapsed, with the coming of the Summer Term, into its usual Summer somnolence.

J. R. GRUNDON,
Hon. Secretary.

THE CLOSED CIRCLE

FOR the first time in the history of the Society there has been a succession of papers on the same general theme. Late in the Christmas term, R. F. Griffiths read a paper on "Science and Religion," to which the Secretary replied with an attack on "The Theory of Evolution," which provoked J. R. Heron and C. M. J. Field to retaliate jointly in its defence. After this series of enthusiastic but inconclusive discussions, the subject was tacitly dropped. It had, however, the advantage of forcing the scientific coterie of the Society into unwonted activity. This happy trend was continued when R. T. Harrison read a paper on "Mathematics."

So far this term two meetings have been held, at which papers were read by J. D. Mountford on "Papers," and by P. A. Gardner on "The Development of British Parliament."

Once again our thanks are due to Mr. Blount, our Chairman and the erudite leader of our discussions. Fresh evidence of his wide interests continue to astound the Society at every meeting.

J. R. GRUNDON,
Hon. Secretary.

RAILWAY AND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

For the first time the Society can report uninterrupted progress. After its numerous flights from one workshop to another, it has finally settled under the Physics Laboratory, and its room and materials are prepared for the beginning of construction next term. The walls have been distempered, and the bench with its equipment is in use.

Meetings last term were devoted to illustrated lectures and to the showing of a film-strip on "Passenger Trains." Outdoor meetings have been planned for this term, and will take place at the convenience of British Railways.

A good number of outings was arranged during the Spring. Parties of members visited Crewe, Derby and Nottingham, and smaller outings were arranged on half-days.

Much of the credit for our progress and success must be attributed to Mr. A. J. Gess and Mr. J. B. Hurn, to whom we are extremely grateful. Sincere thanks must also be extended to the Head Master, who showed extraordinary kindness in negotiating for a new workshop. We thank also Mr. F. T. King for incidental assistances during the year.

R. T. POPPLE,
Hon. Secretary.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

THERE is still strong support for the Society from all parts of the School, and there have been large attendances at most of our meetings. During the Spring and Summer Terms, five indoor meetings were held, of which three were devoted to Ornithology, one to Botany, and one to Entomology. There were four field meetings: two of these took place in the Winter, one during the Spring migration, and one in the Summer. A total of ninety-two species of birds was observed, and although this number is not particularly large, it covers a wide range of the birds to be seen in the Midlands.

There seems to be no reason why the Society should not flourish for some years to come, especially as it enjoys at present so much enthusiasm from the Lower School.

M. J. ROGERS,
Hon. Secretary.

LA SOCIÉTÉ DES LANGUES VIVANTES

LE charme de la nouveauté une fois passé, on a fait de très grands efforts pour ne pas laisser refroidir l'enthousiasme des membres de la société. Ils se sont réunis cinq fois pendant les deux trimestres qui viennent de passer et un soir seulement le nombre des assistants a diminué sensiblement.

En janvier M. René Thibault a bien amusé la société en racontant sur un ton assez plaisant sa dernière visite à Paris. Le mois suivant M. Louis Cantons a prononcé un discours érudit intitulé "Unité et diversités françaises," et à la troisième séance du trimestre M. Léon Bisdorff a fait voir aux membres de la société le pour et le contre dans la lutte entre la France et l'Allemagne pour l'administration de l'Alsace-Lorraine.

Au commencement du trimestre d'été M.G. Rousselin, le premier membre de la société à faire une conférence, a raconté ses expériences en France pendant la guerre; les questions, plus nombreuses que d'habitude, qui ont suivi ce discours, ont indiqué une absence totale de formalité oiseuse. Enfin au mois de juin, les membres de la société se sont réunis pour faire la lecture des "Précieuses ridicules" de Molière, et tous ceux qui y ont assisté se sont bien amusés.

L'année prochaine on voudrait inaugurer des séances en allemand ou en espagnol dans l'espoir qu'une assistance nombreuse y prendra part. Sans aucun doute la société fait beaucoup pour augmenter l'intérêt que l'on prend à l'étude des langues vivantes.

D. L. RIDOUT,
Secrétaire.

JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

FOUR meetings of the Society were held during the Spring Term, under the able chairmanship of Mr. Dunt. Debates were diverse, and included discussion on the respective merits of trams and buses, on blood sports, on belief in ghosts, and on nationalisation. Three motions were defeated.

The meetings were well attended, especially by younger members of the Society, who are giving great support. There were some excellent speeches, both by the main speakers and from the floor of the House.

M. Bird has kept the Society well informed of coming meetings with some original and effective posters.

R. W. J. CHITHAM,
Hon. Secretary.

A FILM SOCIETY?

THE recent proposal that a Film Society should be formed in the School has been received with considerable enthusiasm.

The purpose of such a Society would be to show continental films of high quality as well as some of the more praiseworthy productions which have emerged over the past fifteen years from both the British and American studios. Arrangements can be made for the use of the School's sound projector, and facilities to cater for a membership of at least one hundred and twenty senior boys are available. Although, of course, each member would have to pay a small subscription to defray the cost of renting the programme, there is little doubt that this amount would compare favourably with the one demanded at the box-office of any suburban cinema. This, together with a substantial grant from the School Club (which a large membership might lead us to expect), would enable the Society to show what artistic heights the Cinema is capable of attaining.

About six films a year would be shown, but performances would not be held in the Summer Term, so that, if the plans mature, the Society should begin to function next year. In addition to films, lectures on different aspects of the industry might be arranged.

Finally, a few more words about the kind of film to be shown at these meetings. A typical programme for one year might consist, for instance, of "Monsieur Vincent" and "La Kermesse Héroïque" from France, "Vivere in Pace" from Italy, "Citizen Kane," and "Mutiny on the Bounty" from America, and "Henry V" from Great Britain.

If members of the School want a Society, the aims of which are to maintain a high standard in the choice of films and to show only classics of the screen, let them announce at once their intention of joining. J.D.C.

C.C.F.: NAVAL SECTION

UNDER the command of Sub-Lieut. Benett (R.N.V.R.), the long-awaited Naval Section was finally launched at the beginning of the Easter Term, and for the purpose of training, its sixteen members were divided into a port and a starboard watch.

Major Leeds very generously gave us the J.T.C. lecture room—now known as the Seamanship Room—but L/S Young (in charge of Stores) is finding difficulty in accommodating all the equipment and uniforms. The first two or three weeks were spent in fitting, issuing, and adjusting the uniforms and checking the equipment. The remainder of the term was taken up with elementary training in Seamanship, whilst some Boatwork was carried out on Field Day.

For a week during the Easter holidays, a very successful course was held aboard the

sloop H.M.S. *Modeste* at Portsmouth. Sleeping in hammocks was new to all, and for most meant the loss of the first night's sleep. The programme was as varied as it was interesting, and consisted of such subjects as the Duties of a Quartermaster, Boatpulling, and Sailing. (The unfortunate absence of wind during this last activity, however, caused us to drift on an eight-knot tide and we had to pull back to the ship). We also paid a visit to H.M.S. *Victory*, to H.M.S. *Duke of York*, and to Whale Island, the famous gunnery and disciplinary school. In addition to the actual instruction, we saw something of the life of the ordinary seaman.

Of the cadets from the Army and Basic Sections who passed Certificate "A," Part 1 in March, twenty transferred to the Naval Section. They were welcomed on the day of the Gymkhana by King Neptune, and one "volunteer" was washed, shaved, and thrown into the water-tank.

After the Annual Inspection and March Past, Lt.-Commander Rich, a Staff Officer of the Admiral Commanding Reserves, visited the unit while it was training. The new recruits were excellently turned-out, even though they had had their uniforms for only one week. The first Promotion Examination is to be held on July 21st.

The whole Section is going to Portsmouth for Field Day and it is hoped to spend the day at sea. Alternatively we are to visit the M.T.B. base H.M.S. *Hornet*, or the submarine depot H.M.S. *Dolphin*.

Unfortunately, owing to lack of accommodation, it seems likely that the Summer Camp will have to be cancelled.

By now the Naval Section has found its sea legs, but the main difficulty is to find a reservoir where permission for sailing will be granted when a boat has been obtained. At present we can only have a limited number of members, but as organization and facilities improve, it is hoped to expand the unit.

J. R. RAWSTHORNE,
Senior Leading-Seaman.

C.C.F.: ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS

OUR first year as a part of the Combined Cadet Force has been packed with events. This re-organization is the second in seven years: in 1942 the Officers' Training Corps became the Junior Training Corps, and now in 1949 the J.T.C. has become part of a new organization, the C.C.F., which includes all three cadet services. The Army Section has the responsibility of providing N.C.O.s to train the recruits for Certificate "A," Part I, after which cadets may choose to join the Naval, Army, or Air Sections as best suits their taste. All the activities (e.g., General

Inspection, Gymkhana, Recruiting Day, Motor Cycling) which were once exclusive to the O.T.C. or J.T.C. are now open to all members of the C.C.F.

We have done well in examinations this year. Of the 125 cadets entered for Certificate "A" Individual (Part I) and Section Leading (Part II), 125 passed. This is the first time since before 1939 that we have achieved such a high standard, and we hope to do the same in future years.

Weather has played an important part in parades this year. Whilst we have had good weather for the more important parades, it rather damped an attempt at night operations last term.

On March 17th we paraded together for the first time as part of the C.C.F., and the Contingent was inspected by the Lord Mayor, Alderman J. C. Burman. A fortnight later Field Day dawned bright but cool. The Army and Basic Sections, later joined by the Naval and Air Sections but without the Signals Platoon (who were stranded on the Lickneys), had a magnificent tea in the Dining Hall and afterwards attended the annual concert in Big School at which the Head Master was present. The items included a memorable performance of "Twelfth Street Rag" by a band comprising members from all parts of the C.C.F.

Soon after the beginning of this term, the Gymkhana was held. The Bailiff of the Foundation presented the prizes at the end of an entertaining afternoon, which included a spectacular motor-cycling demonstration and a very fine handball match, in which the C.C.F. team drew (2—2) with the Old Edwardians.

On 9th June, before the rest of the School and a very small gathering of parents, the Annual Inspection was carried out by Lt.-Gen. Sir Frank Simpson, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. in C. Western Command (to which the Contingent has lately been transferred from Northern Command). It was a perfect day. For the first time, all three units were inspected together; the senior cadet W.O. took the parade, which was held on the new playing fields. It was an impressive parade and after the March Past down the Main Drive the General inspected the training.

At the end of the morning, the General addressed the C.C.F. in Big School and stressed the importance to the National Serviceman of C.C.F. experience and qualifications. In the afternoon, the General watched demonstrations of Shooting, Signals, and Motor-Cycling.

We had one week to prepare for another strenuous day, when on 16th June the Middles and Removes were shown most of the diverse activities of the C.C.F. This Recruiting Day was well attended and apparently enjoyed by all concerned. We

have already recruited over seventy cadets, and we hope that more will join.

The Signals Platoon, comprising the majority of the senior N.C.O.s in the Corps, has discovered that many of its members will be leaving at the end of the term; C.S.M. Jones and Staff Sgt. Booth, therefore, have been training signallers from the Army and Basic Sections in the administrative and technical details of Signals. This has been on an individual rather than on a unit basis, owing to the demands of other School activities. Cadets Blake, Jarman, Peierls and Wood have attended courses at York, and a demonstration of Signals Tactics by Western Command Signals was attended by the whole Platoon. Many contacts have been made by wireless with schools in all parts of the British Isles. At the end of the Spring Term, a Chess match against Leeds Grammar School was played and won over a wireless link. We are indebted to the Head Master for permission to erect aerials on the School grounds.

The Mechanics Section has been an attraction to all three units, including most of the senior N.C.O.s, and its parades have been attended rather more regularly than in previous years. Nearly everyone was taught both elementary and rough riding by Sgt. Nicholas and Cpl. Stein—we hope for more practice in this at Camp.

On the afternoon of the Inspection, the General was very impressed by the demonstration of riding and by the Technical Training H.Q. Recruiting Day was just as successful, and about a hundred potential recruits from the Removes and Middles were given rides on the parade ground.

Despite the loss of its solo bugler and solo drummer at Easter, the Band, conducted by the Drum-Major, Cpl. Latham, has completed a successful term, and has been fortunate enough to enrol some ready-trained buglers and drummers. It played a full part in the Gymkhana and in the General Inspection, when it was congratulated by the Inspecting Officer on its performance and turn-out.

The Silver Bugle was won by Cdt. Yetman (Air Section), and the Drum Sticks by Cpl. J. R. Heron (Army Section). The Band now includes a large proportion of the younger cadets. Provided these stay, the prospects for the Band are very bright.

As Orderly Sergeant, Sgt. Hall has kept the Training Stores bright and busy, and the administrators of the Stores and Armoury have continued to maintain the H.Q. as the place it should be.

As usual the Corps owes a great debt of gratitude to its Officers. Major Leeds has carried conscientiously the immense burden of C.O. of the Corps and of the C.C.F.; Capt. Cooke has again devoted much of his energy to classification and to the administration of the Army and Basic Sections; Capt.

Meerendonk has played a great part in training for Certificate "A" (Part II), whilst Lt. Buttle has again been in charge of recruits and Officer i/c Signals Platoon; Mr. Moore, as always, has played an indispensable role in all spheres of training, and especially with the prospective Naval recruits. Regrettably we bid farewell to Lt. Barlow who has served the unit as Treasurer and trained many cadets for Certificate "A" (Part I). In his place, we are pleased to welcome Lt. W. D. Rees, whose former experience will prove invaluable to the Corps.

P.H.O'B. COOPER,
Regimental Sergeant-Major.

C.C.F. : AIR SECTION

WE have now completed our first year as the Air Section of the K.E.S. Combined Cadet Force. This re-organization has brought all three contingents of the C.C.F. under the command of Major Leeds, whilst Flt.-Lt. Mathews has remained as our own C.O. The change has not caused any alteration to our training syllabus, but has served to encourage closer co-operation between the three units.

Training has been carried out successfully during the year. In November and February, twenty-eight cadets took the Proficiency Examination, and twenty of these passed. Fifteen proficient cadets also took Part "A" (Law and Administration) of the Advanced Training Examination. Twelve were successful, and a number of these, exempted from the rest of the examination by their Higher School Certificates in Physics and Mathematics, are now entitled to wear the Advanced Badge. This is believed to be the first time that we have had any Advanced Cadets in the Contingent.

A successful Field Day was held last term at the training station, H.M.S. *Gamecock*. A varied and interesting programme was provided and most efficiently carried out. Some of the work of one of the lesser-known branches of the Service, the Fleet Air Arm, was fully explained, and cadets spent a most enjoyable and beneficial day.

This year a Public Schools' Camp was held at Cranwell just before Easter, and was attended by two officers and thirteen cadets. The programme for the week was most varied and interesting. The Camp Officials' main object seemed to be to get us into the air as often as possible, and, to our great enjoyment, they succeeded in doing so. Cadets flew in a Lancaster, a Halifax and an Anson. This was indeed one of the finest camps held for a long time.

The Annual Inspection took place this year on Thursday, June 2nd, when the Inspecting Officer was Lt.-Gen. Sir Frank

Simpson. The Inspection and March Past was an impressive sight, as the three combined contingents were taking part for the first time. Normal training continued afterwards, and was inspected by Wing Commander Lesage who commented on the unit's fine turn-out and training.

The year has been very successful in every way, and our thanks must go to Flt.-Lt. Mathews for his continued zeal as C.O., and also to F.O.s Traynor and Whalley, and P.O. Gess for their hard work as instructors.

A. J. IRELAND,
W.O. II.

SCOUT REPORT

THE material progress of all troops, in the shape of badges gained, continues very satisfactorily. There are now in the Group one King's Scout, one Bushman's Thong, two Scout Cords, ten First Class Badges, and forty-seven Second Class Badges; all members of the Group are invested scouts. The indications are that the latter half of this term and the summer camps will see another considerable increase in the number of badges.

The second "Operation 70th" was produced at the end of the Autumn Term and two performances were given. It is estimated that about six hundred people saw the show. During Field Day last term, the three scout troops held independent activities on the Lickeys and in Sutton Park, whilst the Seniors operated in the Coleshill district. Three "evening meetings" were held last term—one by the Seniors and two by Park Vale Troop. The new "hut" for the Senior Troop is expected to be ready for occupation by September. Scout H.Q. has been replastered and will be re-decorated after the examinations. Shooting for the "Over 15s" continues as usual. The Group has recently been presented with ten volumes of *The Scout* by L. E. R. Hall, and we wish to thank him for his kind gift: he may be assured that they will be put to very good use.

Camping this season has begun well: the Seniors' camp in Snowdonia is reported elsewhere in the CHRONICLE. Twenty-four scouts from the other three troops camped for two or more nights at Wythall during the Easter holidays. Camping is taking place nearly every weekend this term at the Wythall site.

The results of the two Divisional Competitions in which 70th has competed so far this year have been for us rather unfortunate. In the Senior Competition we entered four teams and came third, fourth, and equal fifth, and in the Junior Camping Competition third and fourth. We have high hopes, however, of redeeming our lost fortunes in the Divisional Sports on June 18th.

The two high-lights of this term so far have been the Royal Visit to the B.I.F., when the Group provided more than thirty scouts to line the route of the drive to the Council House, and the visit of Lord Rowallan, Chief Scout of the British Empire, to the University Scout and Guide Club, when 70th provided a Guard of Honour. A few members of the Group were able to meet him personally.

The Group is providing a P.T. display team for the Handsworth Park Rally on July 2nd and is also running two sideshows on the same occasion.

There will be two summer camps for the combined Mitre, Park Vale and Vikings Troops this year. A camp of twenty-four will be held near Bettys-y-Coed, North Wales, and one of thirty-four near Peel, Isle of Man.

J. W. MILLS,
A.S.M.

SENIOR SCOUT CAMP REPORT

THE Senior Scout Camp was held this year during the Easter holidays, from Monday, April 4th to Thursday, 14th, at Dol-Gam, between Bettws-y-Coed and Capel-Curig, North Wales.

It was raining at Bettws when the ten Seniors who travelled by train met the two who cycled. A lorry was found to convey the equipment from the waiting-room of Bettws station to the camp site. As the field originally chosen had been occupied by the Forestry Commission, the tents had to be pitched in a field nearer the road. A drainage system, afterwards called the "Afon Arthur" has to be dug, as this field was waterlogged in places. Mr. Hurrell and the other officers arrived on Wednesday, and set about repairing the marquee, which had been torn in a high wind.

On Thursday two patrols walked up Carnedd Llewelyn, the second highest mountain in Wales, and were caught in a snowstorm at the top. The next day, two patrols climbed past the Devil's Kitchen and walked over the Glyders. Other expeditions went up Tryfan and Snowdon. The Snowdon party were soaking wet when they returned to camp, and it was a long time before they had recovered sufficiently to want their dinner. The Seniors were also able to practise rock-climbing on an out-crop above the camp.

The whole camp attended church at Bettws on Palm Sunday, and afterwards were allowed free time. Two Seniors cycled to Bangor on Monday, despite a stiff wind up the Nant Ffrancon. After a somewhat shaky start, meals were of a high standard. In spite of the rather unfavourable weather and the resulting restriction of activities, in spite of the scare when one Senior became separated from the main party in a mist on Snowdon, in spite of

some enquiries by the local police about damage at the Swallow Falls (for which we were not responsible), the camp was one of the best ever held and one that will remain

Photographically lined

On the tablet of my mind

When a yesterday has faded from its page.

R. A. TOMLINSON,
P.L.(S.).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Revill Controversy

During a 1st XI match against Ratcliffe College on 14th May, and "before a crowd of some eight or nine spectators," F. B. Revill took four wickets for no runs in ten balls, and scored a Hat Trick. This notable feat was recorded in the "Birmingham Post," where it was claimed that this was the first Hat Trick to be scored by a School 1st XI bowler since 1882. From G. A. Stark, Captain of the School (1941-2), Captain of Cricket (1942), and Editor of the "Chronicle" (1940), we have received the following letter:

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.
SIR,

In the *Birmingham Post* of 16th May, 1949, it was stated under the result of the School's match against Ratcliffe College that Revill's Hat Trick was the first for the School for more than fifty years. I have no wish to detract from the excellence of this performance, but I cannot allow the published statement to go unchallenged.

I was myself playing for the School in 1940 and took part in a match against Repton School at Repton in July of that year. In the course of this match, G. I. A. Taylor, bowling slow leg-breaks, took five wickets in seven consecutive balls, including the Hat Trick. I have in my possession now a cutting from the Repton School magazine recording the feat. Taylor is, incidentally, at present a member of the Committee of the Old Edwardians' Cricket Club, and five other members of the School XI of 1940 are now playing for the Old Edwardians.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. STARK.

In reply the Captain of Cricket wrote:

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.
DEAR SIR,

I am astonished—nay, astounded—by the fact that your correspondent G. A. Stark should wait the long period of eight years before recognizing publicly a feat as eminent as a Hat Trick.

I apologize to G. I. A. Taylor and would like to add my belated congratulations for his wonderful achievement at Repton, but I do



Photograph: J. R. Edwards.

SUMMIT OF GLYDDE FACH, N. WALES.
Senior Scout Easter Camp.

not feel personally responsible for any embarrassment that my press announcement may have caused him. In compiling the records only one week prior to Revill's Hat Trick, the only source of information open to me was the back numbers of this excellent publication, the K.E.S. CHRONICLE. These were scrutinized very carefully and have since been re-read—no mention of Taylor's Hat Trick is made in them. The responsibility, therefore, rests with the Editor of the CHRONICLE and the Captain of Cricket at the time.

Once more my sincere apologies to G. I. A. Taylor.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. CHARLESWORTH.

Asked by our reporter if he had any comment to make on this correspondence, F. B. Revill replied: "No."

School Matches

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

As a regular attender myself, I am writing to you to deplore the lack of spectators at School matches. What is the cause of this lamentable situation? Has the schoolboy of to-day no interest in his School team? The obvious fact that he has none is due, I think, to the number of other outside interests which claim his attention. In the Summer he goes, doubtless, to the County Ground to watch cricket of a higher technical standard than that of his School team, but this surely cannot provide such a satisfying afternoon's sport. Similarly in the Winter it is the call of Association Football which draws him away to leave the 1st XV to play before a dozen or so spectators. These, of course, are not the only counter-attractions. There are many others, which, unfortunately, seem to the young to be more attractive than watching a School match.

The remedy is that new boys should be taught that it is their duty to support the School teams, and until this is done, the situation will remain as it is.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. HOMER.

Modern Language Society

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

To my considerable dismay, the report of the Modern Language Society appeared in French in the last issue of the CHRONICLE.

Whilst appreciating that the Editor desires to enhance the tone of the CHRONICLE by devices such as this, I would point out two considerations which he appears to have overlooked. Firstly, the reports which appear

in the CHRONICLE are addressed primarily to members of the School who are not members of the Societies whose reports they read (or do not read). Secondly, I feel it will seem somewhat strange if a talk in German or Spanish is reported in French in an English magazine.

I trust, therefore, Sir, that you will give these two points careful consideration when publishing the next issue of the CHRONICLE.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
R. N. DOUBLEDAY.

We feel that if a passage of simple French is unintelligible to so large a number of our readers, then the existence of a Modern Language Society is scarcely justified. We regret, however, that the last report should have dismayed our correspondent, and we will gladly supply him with a translation.—Editor.

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

CARISSIME EDITOR,

Quamquam apud Sanctum Hieronymum quam Ciceronem magis familiaris sum, de disputa reporta societii linguarum vivarum hanc epistulam in lingua latina scribere audeo. Cur ad ultimum extremum illud non facias? Reporta Societii Scientiarum in formulis quasi mathematicis scribatur, aut Societii Chessici in stultissimis symbolis ut QB3 etceteris scribi coepa sit. Et ego, carissime editor, epistulas innumerabiles non in lingua latina sed in linguis Hindustanorum vel Esperantorum.

Servus tui fidelissimus,

BRITANNUS BRITANNORUM.

"I am incipiebo, sedere facebo"

In dog-Latin he quoth . . ."

—RUPERT BROOKE.

The End of the Year

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

SIR,

I see with surprise that yet another "Foundation Conference" is to burn itself out in the third week of July. Far be it from me to hazard criticism of the Conference in your columns. My motive in writing is merely to bring to your notice a perpetual delusion we have all succumbed to. Wearing the blinkers with which "external examinations" stultify our faculties throughout the months of May and June, we picture the last two weeks of the Summer Term as blank. We abhor the tranquillity of such a vacuum, we cram the space as full as we can. The end of the year is a strenuous winding-up time, but we strain it to breaking-point. And then, when on the last day we are just about capable of climax, we find that the School is already seeping away to "Corps

Camps." Under what conceivable dispensation to boys truncate the term in this manner?

The whole pernicious process, Sir, is robbing the end of the School Year of the distinction, dignity and delight it deserves to command.

Your obedient servant,
QUINTILIS.

Records in the "Chronicle"

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

"Since brevity is the soul of wit, and tediousness the limbs and outward flourishes, I will be brief." Inspired by these words of Polonius, I venture to pose a question concerning the present form of the CHRONICLE. Why in the name of Hades (or indeed of any other infernal place which will escape the lynx-eyed vigilance of your blue pencil) need the records of routine School activities occupy so great a space in this magazine?

Let us throw overboard the conservatism which reduces the CHRONICLE to the status of a mere recorder. Let us force the statistician of future years to unearth the sere and withered scorebooks lying in the School Pavilion before he can compile his records. Let the Editor ruthlessly précis the tedious reports of long-winded secretaries. Only then will the CHRONICLE be both read and enjoyed.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
P. A. GARDNER.

The Library

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.
SIR,

Can it be the result of deliberate policy that the School Library contains a copy of the Communist Manifesto but not a copy of Common Prayer? And our pious Founder was King Edward VI!

The Library, I suggest, resembles a spacious and well-rifled tomb, and the efficiency of its staff should not preclude enquiry into its condition.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. D. MOUNTFORD.

IN DEFENCE OF SCIENCE

ON glancing through an earlier edition of the CHRONICLE the other day, I was horrified to notice a long paragraph entitled "Lapses in the Laboratory." This vindictive composition delighted in heaping ridicule upon the heads of the School's hard-working scientists. Let

those who jeer at science beware. Little do they realize what lies in store for those who disparage it.

In the past, great men of science have made many discoveries which could have been of great benefit to mankind. But unfortunately the world was unprepared, and the results of their work were prostituted to base purposes. Those who spent their younger days among the works of Greece, learning of their ghastly grottos and bloody battles, thought of these inventions merely as an answer to their prayers for means of spreading wider destruction. These students of the Classics were so absorbed in their studies of past Armageddons that they longed only for weapons with which to surpass the carnage of their forefathers, and overlooked completely the peaceful benefits which these inventions could have bestowed. The result to-day is only too sadly apparent.

Those who study literature and the arts do little realize how much they owe to the scientist. The students of literature owe much to the invention of printing, artists rely on modern scientific paints produced by the chemist, whilst the debts owed by the theatre are too numerous to detail.

So, you long-haired Classicist, next time your nose is offended by some smell other than that of your dusty tome telling of ancient Latin lusts, remember what I have said before you pick up your derisive pen to hurl invective at those who seek merely to aid humanity to lead a better and fuller life.

J.B.G.

THE GATE

ONE of the most important factors in the war was that of supply, and it was more of a problem for us than for the enemy because our supply lines were longer than his. One of our most important routes to the Western Desert was the Suez Canal, and at the very moment when the result of the war depended on our successes in the desert, there was a serious spy scare. The authorities cordoned off great areas, searched everyone—and closed the canal.

While it was still closed, I was despatched with an expedition into Persia and Syria to find an overland supply route from India. But we found no route, we caught fever and cholera, and, in any case, we were recalled when the canal was at last re-opened.

One interesting incident remains, however. There was a pass, only a short and narrow gap in a range of jagged mountains. Long ago a fall of rock had blocked it completely; it might have provided a route, and that was why we looked at it. But it wasn't. It gave us shelter from the winds, though, so we camped there for a few days. I never saw

such a scene of desolation. The floor of the pass was flat and covered with dead and dusty bushes. Great rocks were strewn around as from the basket of some giant sower. The walls of the mountainside were split, and leaned drunkenly—jagged, scarred, and unclimbable. The whole place was dead and barren, dead completely and utterly. Only the sky moved. Tatters of cloud like some ragged banner curled dismally across the wide horizon.

On the second day of our camp, we found a cave on a ledge some way up the mountain wall. In it were living two old people, the two oldest people I had ever seen, a man and a woman—both as old as the mountains themselves.

We asked our native guide why there were living there, apparently subsisting on rats and beetles, or whatever passes for rats and beetles in that deserted graveyard. After a long conversation in a strange tongue, the guide said that they were waiting for the pass to open once again. So we remarked politely

that we had that sort of person in civilized countries, too; and we left them to it.

Before we moved on, however, one of our number who had done some mountaineering scrambled up one side as high as he could in an attempt to see over the top of the rock fall. He told us that all he could see was a vast forest of thick, green and luxuriant trees—which seemed very strange for so arid a part of the world.

And that was all we found out. There was no route through the mountains, so we moved on, and a week later we were told that the whole scheme was cancelled because the canal was open again. We returned, and eventually I reached home.

Now this little incident isn't very strange. Not in itself. Except for one thing. I happened to ask the guide the name of the pass, and he told me in his native language. I remembered what he said, and a short time ago I asked a linguist friend of mine what it meant. He looked at me queerly and replied: "The Gate to the Garden." G.T.L.

ANONYMOUS VERSES

A tale untold, a song unsung,
 But for the lyres of a thousand minstrels, declaiming
 Beauty, grace, a face divine, a touch celestial,
 Two pools so deep that all the speech since Babel
 Is echoed in one brief glance.
 But should Man write on things beyond his ken?
 Were pen and paper (material objects both)
 Destined to write of visions pure and spiritual
 Although translated in the flesh? The Muse
 Declines assistance in this task, so Cupid
 Leaps to fill the space vacated, and inspires
 The smitten mortal to speak in plain and prosy language
 Where words could ne'er fulfil their task.
 One word suffices to supersede the rambling verse
 Of a thousand stricken Romeos. A word in use
 Since Satan shot his fatal shaft in Eden,
 Or Venus thrust her passion on the young Adonis—
 Days obscured by myth and Grecian legend.
Verbum in Saecula, ignoring the outward changes
 Of a world in constant state of flux,
 And springing to the lip of peasant and of king
 Who Beauty see in all her golden state.
 One word—a word ethereal
 Profanely uttered in a universe of matter.

" Colloque Sentimental "

Translated from the French of Paul Verlaine.

Across the lonely parkland, chill and vast,
Two silhouettes but now have glided past.

Their lips were languid and their eyes were dead,
And scarcely could be heard the words they said.

Within the lonely parkland, chill and vast,
Two phantoms paused to conjure up the past.

" Do you recall our bygone ecstasy ? "

" Why should you wish it to come back to me ? "

" Still beats your heart to hear my very name,
My face still haunts your dreams ? " " No more the same."

" How fair those days, so quickly to elapse,
That joined our lips in bliss untold." " Perhaps."

" How blue the sky was then, our hope how high."
" Hope has fled, vanquished, to the blackened sky."

Through the wild oats of folly's yesteryear
They wandered thus. The night alone could hear.

Sonnet : The Snow

Promiscuously straying to the ground,
Unheard, unnoticed in the dead of night,
Each smoothly blending in the coat of white
To which the world awakens, softly bound
In cold and lustrous beauty, every sound
Of footstep deadened, an illuming light
Reflected everywhere : so from the height
Descend the snowflakes, mound on gathering mound.

They melt or freeze ; some stay a little while
To light on Nature's every frozen limb
And fill the barren earth with purity ;
Yet quickly all are fled, and every pile
Is vanished. So with Man, for e'en to him
Comes weakness, Death, and then obscurity.

Poem

With death, my wish is not to lie
In rows amongst the numbered dead,
A regiment of corpses, boxed
In coffins, shrouded foot to head.
This is not death : it is a play
On life, as if the dead were still
Alive upon the earth, subjects
To this world's regimented mill.

No, rather would I know in death
A freedom never known in life,
A wild spot for my closing days,
An end without a mourning knell,
Unnoticed by this world of strife,
And lie forgotten where I fell.

Aversion from the Greek

I'm not a Milesian hylozoist,
And Thales cuts no ice with me :
Of all the things we could be, the lowest,
I feel, is mere humidity.

For Thales said everything was water,
And watched without the least surprise
(The story's post-classical) while his daughter
Dissolved in tears before his eyes.

I might say the same of Anaximander,
The same of Anaximenes ;
Of all philosophers, it's no slander
To say the foolishness were these.

The one traced everything to the infinite,
The other everything to air :
They said that nothing had a nymph in it,
They said that nothing wasn't there.

No, now I confess I've anticipated :
The problems of the verb " to be,"
Of " being " and " not-being " (hyphenated),
Didn't exist for these first three.

The fourth was a man called Heraclitus,
Who with a quick glance at the ocean
Declared—and here he foreshadowed St. Vitus—
That all was in continuous motion.

" Everything flows " was the motto he'd chosen,
" You can't step in the same stream twice,"
For it's always flowing—unless it's frozen,
But he, like Thales, cuts no ice.

Pythagoras next and the Eleatics,
Founded for those who shared his views
On eating beans, on pure mathematics,
On squares, on the hypotenuse.

He mustered at Croton a mystical college
Of men who knew, from what *he* said,
Of the transmigration of souls—which knowledge
Must have quite maddened them when dead.

But you're bored, and you wish me to discontinue
Baiting the ancients ; all the same,
I strongly suspect that it isn't in you
To beat the ancients at their game.

A Poet Transported

Soldiers, farmers, mothers, fathers, children,
Engineers, schoolteachers, thieves, statesmen ;
The gleaming rails have seen them all pass by.
—Yet do they ever stop and wonder why ?
How many thousands, rushing on their way,
Swiss, Spaniard, Arab, Chinese and Malay,
Have ever thought of them who went before
On those harsh rails, oblivious of the roar
That woke the sleepers in the moonlit hours ?
Whence come, these phantoms, speeding on like ours,
In boat expresses or in midnight mails ?
Did they not read the message of the rails ?
Did they not pause and wonder, find like us,
That it is really just as easy to go by bus ?

"OEDIPUS TYRANNUS"

THE inmates of the First Class Room enjoyed a pleasant respite from the daily round of toil when they visited the Cambridge Arts Theatre earlier in the year to hear a performance in English of Sophocles' "Oedipus Tyrannus," produced by the translator, Mr. J. T. Sheppard.

It may be said of the play that although the translation was a fine one, the performance left us with a sense of frustration. Surely this Oedipus was not the man Sophocles wished to portray. In this production it seemed as if Mr. Sheppard had attempted to portray an Oedipus who would appeal to an English audience; he created a man (I quote from the programme) "scrupulous in every point of honour . . . endowed with the moral courage which demands the truth at any cost . . ." and whom we should pity for being the victim of fortune. It is here that the poet's conception and the producer's views diverge: to the Greeks, this Theban king was paying the proper penalty for his misdeeds—for they judged a crime by the mere fact of its perpetration, and not, as we do, by the criminal's awareness of his wrongdoing. Oedipus unwittingly killed his father and married his mother: "Very well," would say your average Englishman, "he has done wrong, but you cannot damn a man to eternal perdition for something committed in total ignorance." The Greeks of Sophocles' day, however, would not understand this at all; their attitude was that if a man had sinned, he must pay the full penalty for his sin. This emphasis on a just punishment makes the tragedy of Oedipus' fall all the greater, but this production did not do full justice to it.

Another point which could have received more attention was the King's conscious flaunting of his own greatness: "I am Oedipus, called great among men." This is perhaps the point of the priest's pains to explain that he is not addressing the equal of the gods, but the first of men. The Cambridge Oedipus (George Rylands) showed no sign of being too big for his boots.

The action was rather stylised, and somewhat awkward and clumsy; this criticism applied especially to the gestures, which often seemed to move by clockwork in a series of jerks.

The play was performed not in Greek (as was the enjoyable "Frogs" of Aristophanes, presented two years ago), but in an English blank-verse translation. To master the medium of language is, of course, one of the main obstacles to the presentation of Greek tragedy before a modern audience. Blank verse can, perhaps, express the freedom and movement of the Greek iambic line, better than can the rhymed translation which Dr. Gilbert Murray favours. The metre of

our own greatest tragedy gives the nearest approximation to that of the Greeks.

It was also pleasing to hear the choruses sung, for one cannot be too often reminded that the Greek tragic lyric was meant to be sung. The opinion that the chorus is only a nuisance on the stage arises largely because too many people forget that the actual words are only a third part of the chorus. The Greek poet had also to be musician and choreographer.

The words of the cast came over with complete audibility, but all the time one had the impression that the play was being read rather than acted. Creon played the part and maintained his dignity well throughout; Joyce Carey as Jocasta was not at ease in her part and failed to convey the right tragic atmosphere, and her magnificent silent exit (when she realizes the full horror of the truth) was over-dramatised. At the beginning of the play, Oedipus seemed unnatural, and tended to over-act, but he improved considerably in the second half, and was excellent in the dramatic climax of his blinding. The Corinthian messenger struck completely the right note and added a refreshing touch of humour to the performance. Indeed, the acting of all the minor characters, who had obviously given careful study to their parts, was very creditable.

Throughout the whole performance, there was a tendency to lay more emphasis on the interpretation of the thought than on the acting, and thus most of us (though not all) missed the full emotional effect—that purging or "catharsis" which, according to Aristotle, is the true purpose of tragedy.

B.H.J.
J.W.M.

BOOKS AND PICTURES

Winston Churchill: "Their Finest Hour."

IN our last issue, we published a review of the first volume of Winston Churchill's war memoirs, *The Second World War*. We print below a notice by the same reviewer of the second volume of this great work:

In the eagerly-awaited second volume of his war memoirs the pen of Mr. Churchill reaches even greater heights than the public has yet come to expect from him. This book opens with his early days as Premier and ends on the first prophetic note of triumph, the Desert Victory. It thus embraces the runaway conquest of Western Europe, the brief and ignominious struggle for France, the miraculous evacuation of our armies from the beaches of Dunkirk, and the eight months when we stood alone at bay, with only the narrow Channel waters separating us from the armed might of Hitler—months when mine and submarine

came perilously near to starving our island into submission, months when the Luftwaffe tried and failed to break the might of our air force and the morale of our population, months when the genius and courage of the British people were symbolically embodied in the person of one man, Winston Churchill.

Never since the days of Pitt has a statesman so dominated the political scene. Holding in his person the offices of Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury, Minister of Defence, and Leader of the Commons, and possessing powers of oratory that have never been surpassed in the English tongue, the figure of Mr. Churchill casts its shadow over every major event that occurs during this period. Throughout the pages of his book, this personality is felt not only as the author but as the motive force behind the action he narrates. Mr. Churchill frankly admits that his position as leader was congenial to him: "In my long political experience I had held many of the great offices of State, but I readily admit that the post which had now fallen to me was the one I liked best. Power for the sake of lording over fellow-creatures or adding to personal pomp is rightly judged base. But power in a national crisis, when a man believes he knows what orders should be given, is a blessing."

His observations on the collapse of Belgium and France are still of political concern. In view of the recent Belgian elections, it is interesting to note Mr. Churchill's misgivings about King Leopold's war record. "At the last moment when Belgium was already invaded, King Leopold called upon us to come to his aid, and even at the last minute we came. He and his brave, efficient army guarded our left flank and thus kept open our only line of retreat to the sea. Suddenly, without prior consultation, and with the least possible notice, without the advice of Ministers and upon his own personal act, he sent a plenipotentiary to the German High Command, surrendered his army, and exposed our whole flank and means of retreat."

With the exception of Reynaud and de Gaulle, each of the principal actors on the French political stage is dealt with critically. The Commander-in-Chief, General Weygand, was early obsessed with defeatism. "As an ardently religious Catholic, he saw in the ruin which had overwhelmed his country the chastisement of God for its abandonment of the Christian faith." And behind Weygand loomed "the illustrious Marshal Pétain, the centre of the band of defeatist ministers whom Reynaud so imprudently brought into the French Government." Worse still, there was always "the sinister figure of Laval," paving the way for an Anglo-French alliance with the German victors.

The traditional British friendship with Italy was rudely shattered when Mussolini

stabbed France so treacherously in the back. All the frenzied diplomacy of the British and American embassies could not avert this move. "The rush for spoils had begun. But Mussolini was not the only hungry animal seeking prey. To join the Jackal came the Bear." Stalin, ever the opportunist, traded on his non-aggression pact with Ribbentrop to secure Latvia, Estonia, and the northern provinces of Rumania for the Hammer and Sickle. "This was almost exactly a year from the date when the German Armed Forces, taking the Soviet Government by complete surprise, fell upon Russia in cataracts of fire and steel. No recollection of their former conduct ever prevented the Soviet Government and its Communist agents all over the world from screaming for a Second Front, in which Britain, whom they had consigned to ruin and servitude, was to play a leading part."

In his fascinating manner, Mr. Churchill unravels the personal role which he played in these events. The evacuation from Dunkirk, the genesis of Mulberry Harbour, the formation of the Home Guard, and many of the air raid precautions and evacuation measures were ideas original to him. It may well be said of him, as of Villiers:

"A man so various that he seemed to be
Not one, but all mankind's epitome."

For, like all great leaders, Mr. Churchill displays an astonishing capacity for detail over a broad range of subjects. Within a short period, he concerns himself with such minutiae as the calibre of anti-tank rounds, the measures taken to ensure that Anderson shelters are damp-proof, and the progress of "radar" experiments.

At the conclusion of one of the disastrous French Councils of War, Mr. Churchill was much impressed by the bearing of General de Gaulle. "Greeting him, I said in a low tone in French, *L'homme du destin*." No praise could more accurately assess the character of the British Premier himself during these unhappy but glorious months.

Comes the hour, comes the man. Perhaps, England can count herself fortunate in finding in her hour of crisis a man who not only turned defeat into victory, but later enriched the literature of the world by writing this immortal history in his native tongue.

P.A.G.

The Vienna and Munich Art Treasures

SATURDAY, June 18th, was indeed a triumphant day for Mr. Hurn's Art Option, for they were privileged to visit the two world-famous exhibitions of Central European art, now being held in London: the Wittelsbach collection from the Alte Pinakothek in Munich at the National Gallery, and the Hapsburg collection from the Künsth-

torisches Museum at Vienna in the Tate Gallery.

Having passed the barriers of the National Gallery under the financial cover of their school caps, the party, lead by Mr. Hurn, was confronted by a hundred and forty masterpieces of the Wittelsbach collection stretched out before them in all their glory, an unlooked for and fitting ending to a year's study of the great European masters. How marvellous was Dirk Bouts' "Resurrection" with its naïve figures set in what must be one of the most perfect of all early landscapes. Then, on to the unexpectedly small sacred works by Giotto, the perfect and sweet colour-harmonies of Fra Angelico, and the vivid hues of Dürer's "Baumgärtner" altarpiece. Then there were the breathtaking portraits by Titian, including the world-famous impression of Charles V, or, in contrast, the amusing compositions by Brouwer who sought his inspiration in village inns and took delight in painting scenes of drunkenness and brawling.

Even though most of the major works of Peter Breughel, painted on frail wooden panels, were not there, it was easy to perceive in the "Land of Cockaigne" and in the "Storm at Sea" why he is so well-loved and acclaimed as one of the greatest Flemish masters.

Passing on to the Rubens room, we found masterpieces ranging from the passionate violence of the "Battle of the Amazons"—a wild mêlée of rearing horses and fierce warriors—to the proud and very personal painting of his beautiful second wife, Helene Fourment, and her child. What a contrast here to Bernard Strigel's portrait of a yellow-breeched "Sleeping Soldier." Then came the Rembrandts, and it was here that we realized how great and sincere was this Dutch master.

By now, most of the party was showing a marked preference for viewing the remaining Munich pictures from the well-placed oaken seats. From this satisfying position, one could almost hear Murillo's urchins as they ate their melon and pastry.

Leaving the National Gallery, we threaded our way through the hot and crowded London streets to the well-nigh inaccessible Tate Gallery to see the cream of the Hapsburg art treasures. There were gathered here not only paintings, but priceless tapestries, manuscripts, sculptures, goldsmiths' work, and armour. Of the painters, there was a room devoted entirely to Rubens, and also some delightful portraits by Velazquez of Spanish Infantas, as well as Dürer's "Martyrdom of the Ten Thousand Christians." We had only too little time to examine the almost unbelievably beautiful carvings and tapestries, and to study the most wonderful of all the treasures of the Golden Fleece. Before the party left, however, we paid a second visit to the Vermeer painting, his famous "Artist in his Studio," a veritable symphony of softly diffused peacock-blues, dove-greys and yellows, a perfect work that formed a fitting climax to the occasion. J.D.M.

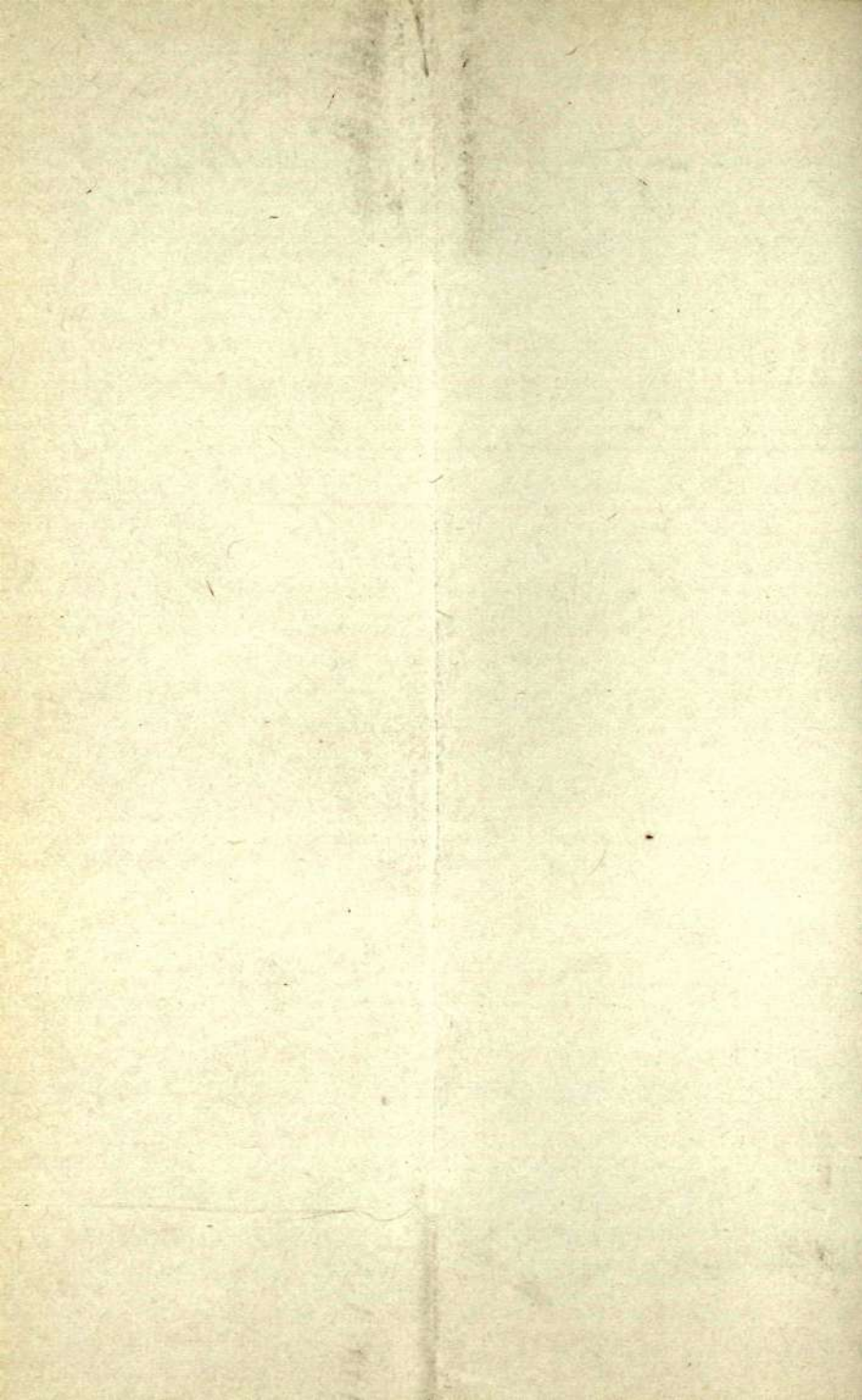
OUR CONTEMPORARIES

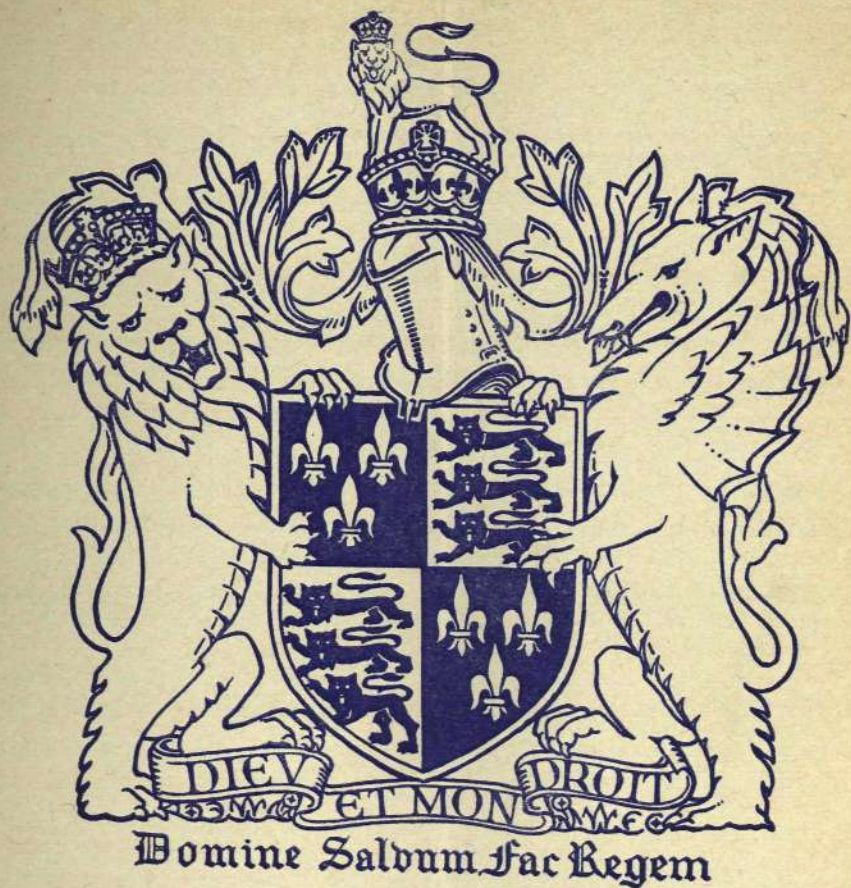
The Arch, The Barrovian, The Bath Edwardian, The Birchfield Chronicle, The Birkenian, The Bloxhamist, The Blundellian, The Bromsgrovian, The City of London School Magazine, The College Times, The Coventrian, The Darlington Grammar School Magazine, The Denstonian, The Dixonian, The Dog Watch, The Ellesmerian, The Herefordian, The Holt School Magazine, The Laxtonian, The Leamingtonian, The Leys Fortnightly, The Limit, The Log, The Novocastrian, The Nuneaton Edwardian, The Ousel, The Phoenix, The Portcullis, The Saltley Grammar School Magazine, The Shenstonian, The Skylark, Sotonensis, The Staffordian, The St. Edward's School Chronicle, The Stourbridge Edwardian, The Utula, The Unicorn, The Wellington School Magazine, The Wolstanton County Grammar School Magazine, The Worcesterian, The Wulfrunian.

King Edward's School Club

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR APRIL 1st, 1948, to MARCH 31st, 1949.

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Governors' Grant	200	0 0	Football	120	5 8½
Levett Trust	10	10 0	Cricket	212	7 11
Heath Testimonial Fund	10	17 0	Athletics	24	10 5½
Mayo Trust	13	14 9	Swimming	34	17 2
Old Boys' Permanent Contributory Fund..	7	7 10	Fives	53	11 5
Solomon Memorial Trust	2	0 0	Tennis	10	3 10
Honorary Members' Subscriptions	61	16 0	Chess.....	10	7 4½
Boys' Subscriptions	170	0 0	Shooting	1	0 3
Grant from School Stock	210	0 0	CHRONICLE	149	11 3
	£686	5 7	Printing and Stationery	53	7 11
			Postage and Telephone	7	0 5
			Civic Society	0	5 0
			Musical Society	1	5 0
			Literary Society	1	4 0
			Geographical Society	1	4 5
			Anglo-French Society	1	10 0
			Student Christian Movement	1	0 0
			Ground Upkeep	4	0 0
(Signed) J. C. ROBERTS, <i>Hon. Treasurer.</i>					
Examined and found correct,					
D. ALEXANDER } <i>Hon.</i>					
F. ST. J. HETHERINGTON } <i>Auditors.</i>					
Receipts for year ending March 31st, 1949 ..	£686	5 7			
Balance brought forward April 1st, 1948	4	18 8			
TOTAL	£691	4 3			
Expenditure for year ending March 31st, 1949	687	12 1½			
Balance carried forward April 1st, 1949	£3	12 1½		£687	12 1½





KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CHRONICLE

DECEMBER, 1949

The Old Edwardians' Association

Telephone
MID. 5209.

67a, NEW STREET,

Telegrams
EDWARDIAN, BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM, 1.

O.E. MEMBERSHIP

The Old Edwardians' Association exists primarily to maintain touch between the School and Old Boys and contacts between Old Boys of different periods.

This purpose is served mainly through Honorary Membership, which carries with it the right to wear Old Edwardians' colours and to receive twice a year the *Old Edwardians' Gazette*, with news of the School and of Old Edwardians.

The Association exists in the second place—a function whose importance has increased now the School is no longer in New Street—to provide a centre for Old Edwardians. The aim of the Association is that Old Boys living in Birmingham or passing through Birmingham may be able to meet friends in the Club Rooms—which provide all the amenities of the Ordinary Social Club.

To attain this end there **must** be a large Membership, apart from Honorary Membership, a membership of Old Boys using the Club Rooms. To secure this, the cost of full membership is carefully graduated.

The following is a list of the grades of Membership with the subscriptions :

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

For Members residing within 25 miles of the Club Building	£3 3 0
But until the expiration of three years from the date of leaving School	1 1 0
and then for the next 7 years	2 2 0
Country Members	0 10 6
Members at a Residential University	0 10 6
Honorary Members	0 5 0

NOTE.—These amounts are reduced by half to Members joining after 1st July in any year, except in the case of Honorary Members, whose subscriptions are payable in full at any time.

N. J. F. CRAIG,

K. B. TAYLOR,

Joint Hon. Secs.

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CLUB

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE SCHOOL CLUB (which includes a subscription to the *SCHOOL CHRONICLE*) is open to all Old Edwardians and to parents of boys in the School, and friends of the School, at a subscription of not less than five shillings per annum. It affords to Old Boys a means of keeping in touch with the School and at the same time of giving support to the School Club. Subscriptions should be made payable to "K.E. High School Club," and sent to the Hon. Treasurer at the School.



*Standing (left to right) : F. B. REVILL, P. A. GOUGH, P. VERNON, B. C. HOBBS, B. A. HISCOX,
D. H. BENSON.*

*Seated (left to right) : I. R. MCCLELLAND, J. R. CHARLESWORTH, A. J. HOMER (Captain),
P. HUTCHINGS (Hon. Sec.), B. LOBB..*

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
EDITORIAL	51	LITERARY SOCIETY	75
NOTES AND NEWS	51	DRAMATIC SOCIETY	75
OBITUARY	55	MUSICAL SOCIETY	75
PUBLIC SCHOOLS LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP	56	MUSIC CIRCLE	75
EXPEDITIONS (a) NORWAY	56	SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY	76
(b) SCOTLAND	58	PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY	76
(c) OUTWARD BOUND	59	CIVIC SOCIETY	76
OXFORD LETTER	59	GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY	76
CAMBRIDGE LETTER	60	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY	77
BIRMINGHAM LETTER	61	PHILATELIC SOCIETY	77
CRICKET RETROSPECT	61	ART SOCIETY	77
RUGBY FOOTBALL REPORT, RESULTS, CHARACTERS	64	THE CHRISTIAN UNION	77
RUGBY FOOTBALL RECORDS	68	THE CLOSED CIRCLE	77
SWIMMING RETROSPECT, SWIM- MING SPORTS	68	RAILWAY AND MODEL EN- GINEERING SOCIETY	78
SHOOTING REPORT AND RESULTS	69	NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY	78
CHESS REPORTS, RESULTS AND CHARACTERS.	69	MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY	78
FIVES REPORTS, CHARACTERS	70	JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY	79
P.T. REPORT	71	C.C.F. : NAVAL SECTION AND CAMP REPORT	79
MR. BURGESS' HOUSE REPORT	71	C.C.F. : ARMY AND BASIC SEC- TION AND CAMP REPORT	79
MR. DUNT'S HOUSE REPORT	71	C.C.F. : AIR SECTION	81
MR. LEEDS' HOUSE REPORT	72	SCOUT REPORT	81
MR. COPLAND'S HOUSE REPORT	72	SENIOR SCOUT CAMP REPORT	82
MR. WILLIAMS' HOUSE REPORT	72	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	82
MR. NICHOLSON'S HOUSE REPORT	73	" THE INFLUENCE OF GREECE ON ENGLISH POETRY.	83
MR. BIGGS' HOUSE REPORT	73	POETRY SECTION	84
MR. PORTER'S HOUSE REPORT	73	" I DISCOVERED ENGLAND "	85
LIBRARY	74		
DEBATING SOCIETY	74		

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a story of growth and change. It begins with the first people who lived on this land, and continues through the years of exploration, settlement, and the struggle for independence. The story is one of a people who have built a great nation, and who are still building it today.

The first people who lived on this land were the Indians. They were here long before the Europeans came. They lived in small groups, and they were very skilled at hunting and farming. They were also very brave, and they fought many wars with each other.

The Europeans came to this land in the 15th century. They were looking for new places to settle, and they found a land that was full of opportunity. They brought with them new ideas and new ways of life, and they began to build a new society.

The Europeans and the Indians lived together for many years. They learned from each other, and they grew to love each other. But in the 17th century, the Europeans began to push the Indians off their land. They wanted more land for their farms and their cities, and they were willing to fight for it.

The Indians fought back. They were brave and skilled warriors, and they won many battles. But the Europeans had more guns and more soldiers, and they eventually won the war. The Indians were forced to move to small, remote areas, and they lost much of their culture and way of life.

The Europeans continued to grow their nation. They built cities and towns, and they became more powerful. They fought many wars with each other, and they won. They became the most powerful nation in the world.

In the 18th century, the Europeans began to fight for their freedom. They wanted to be free to live as they saw fit, and they were willing to fight for it. They won the war, and they became an independent nation.

The new nation was full of opportunity. People came from all over the world to live here, and they built a great nation. They fought many wars, and they won. They became the most powerful nation in the world.

The story of the United States is a story of growth and change. It is a story of a people who have built a great nation, and who are still building it today.

King Edward's School Chronicle

Vol. LXIV.—New Series.

December, 1949

No. 314.

EDITORIAL

THE world is in a state of flux. We repeat this platitude, not in the spirit of having made any fresh discovery, but rather as a weary analysis of that great bubble of discontent which has billowed upon the smoke generated in war—smoke which has risen firmly but gently on its chosen course, an upward course, claimed by some Utopian idealists to be ethereal, but one calculated to drag us into the abyss of chaos should the bubble be pricked on its ascent.

The molten mass of the social and economic structures has been rendered to white-heat by the fires of political demagoguery—fires that are stoked by the coke of class hatred and the anthracite of anarchy, those twin fuels shovelled with all the energy that professional politicians can command, exhausted as they are by the consuming lust of personal ambition. It is not for us to denounce international conferences in the scathing terms of G. K. Chesterton, but if we may pursue our involved metaphor still further, it would seem that more light and less heat are in demand. Everywhere are the symptoms, for the disease is universal.

Secrete in the heremetical sanctum of the School, we may view these Olympian upheavals with a tranquil equanimity. True, dull rumblings cause us to prick up our ears, but they are little more than echoes. A motion on Communism is thrashed out in the quiet alcoves of the Library, another regulation is added to the "Orders" of the Combined Cadet Force. "C'est tout." The surface of School life remains as a mill pond; only outside does one sense the tension of the tightly stretched drum-skin, reverberating to the blows of a narcotic musician.

In short, we are content to ignore the effervescent cauldron of world politics and instead pursue the godly learning for which the Foundation was established. But we have sufficient conceit to question whether the architects of World Peace can equally well afford to ignore institutions such as ours. That perfect harmony of mellowed tradition and judicious progress; that outlook of detached resignation which reflects the confidence of a body in the health of all its members; these are the ingredients of another *Pax Romana*, these are the blue-prints for which the architects are searching. On our humble plane we claim to possess them.

NOTES AND NEWS

School Diary

THE Summer Term ended on Wednesday, 27th July. The last week of the term, and indeed of the year, was crowded out by the sixth Foundation Conference and by preparations for the C.C.F. Annual Camps which began variously on Sunday, 24th July, and Tuesday, 26th July.

The Autumn Term began on Thursday, 15th September, and will end on Thursday, 15th December. The Half-Term holiday was taken on Saturday and Monday, 5th and 7th November. Founder's Day was celebrated as usual on Wednesday, 12th October.

The Swimming Sports were held at Woodcock Street Baths on the evening of Saturday, 23rd July, and were won jointly by Mr. Dunt's House and Mr. Copland's House. The trophies were presented by Mrs. T. E. B. Howarth.

The eight new Houses were formally inaugurated at the first House Meeting of the term on Monday, 19th September.

On Friday, 23rd September, the General Committee of the School Club met to elect its Officers and Committees for the year. At this meeting, the Modern Language Society and the Railway and Model Engineering Society were affiliated to the Club.

Speech Day was held in Big School on Wednesday, 5th October. After the Head Master's Report, the Bailiff of the Foundation, Mr. A. P. Morley, presented the prizes and addressed the School. We were honoured on this occasion by the distinguished presence of the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Alderman Hubert Humphreys, who also spoke.

On Friday, 14th October, the School was visited by Professor M. L. E. Oliphant, F.R.S., Poynting Professor and Director of the Department of Physics in the University of Birmingham, who lectured to the Scientific Society.

On Wednesday, 26th October, the School attended a piano recital, given in Big School by Eileen and Joan Lovell. The programme, drawn from the music of three centuries, included works by Farnaby, Couperin, Bach, Mozart, Barkla, Bax and Milhaud.

A Joint Debate with K.E.G.H.S. was held on Monday, 31st October in the Hall, K.E.G.H.S. The motion, "That the aim of life is to enjoy oneself. All else is mockery," was proposed by Miss Margaret Lamsden.

opposed by A. C. Fox, and was defeated by ninety-eight votes to sixty-five.

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery was prevented from paying his proposed visit to the School on Thursday, 10th November. In a letter of apology to the Head Master, he wrote: "I definitely give you a firm guarantee to come next year, 1950, without fail. Please explain to the boys how this has happened and say that I shall look forward to seeing them next year."

The Bromsgrove match was played at Eastern Road on the bright and chilly afternoon of Saturday, 12th November. For three days previously, the School had been subjected to an intense campaign of colourful propaganda and exhortation, and some 400 supporters crowded the touch line to cheer the team to victory. A score of fourteen points to three restored the Siviter-Smith Cup to the School.

The Annual Church Parade was held on Sunday, 13th November, and the service took place at Edgbaston Old Church, where the Head Master gave the Address. After the service, the three contingents of the C.C.F. marched past, and the salute was taken by Colonel P. Docker, donor of the Docker Cup.

On Tuesday, 22nd November, and on the three following days, the School underwent a thorough inspection by His Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. We understand that such inspections are very rare, and that the next one is unlikely to occur before 1974.

The C.C.F. and the Scouts held their Field Day on Monday, 28th November.

The Musical Society Concert will be given in Big School on Tuesday, 13th December, at 7-30 p.m. The programme will include the Overture to the "Magic Flute" (Mozart), the Piano Concerto in E flat (Mozart), a Trumpet Sonata in C (Purcell), and a selection of Christmas Carols.

A Joint Dance with K.E.G.H.S. will be held in Big School at 7-30 p.m. on Wednesday, 14th December.

The Annual Prefects Ball will take place in Big School on Wednesday, 28th December. Allan Ayres and his Band will provide music for dancing from 8-0 p.m. until 1-0 a.m.

The School Play will be presented in Big School on the evenings of January 26th, 27th and 28th, 1950. With "King Henry IV (Part 2)," which they previously performed so successfully in 1924, the Dramatic Society returns to its Shakespearean tradition and ventures once again into the difficult "genre" of comedy.

The Governors and Staff

The Bailiff of the Foundation for this year is Mr. A. P. Morley, J.P., O.E., who was himself at New Street from 1912 to 1917.

Professor P. B. Medawar, F.R.S., Mason Professor of Zoology in the University of Birmingham, has been appointed a Governor

of the School by the Hebdomadal Council of Oxford University.

In our July issue we were guilty of a grave omission. Since he arrived in January to take Mr. Sheldon's place as Senior English Master, Mr. R. G. Crow came rapidly to take so full a part in the diverse activities of the School, that by the end of the year we could no longer regard him as a new member of the Staff. Mr. Crow took his B.A. at London University, and came to us from Sattley Grammar School.

We welcome to the Staff this term Mr. J. P. Vaughan, M.A. (Cantab.), who, since the end of his war service, has held the post of Personnel Manager in a large industrial firm.

We also welcome to the Staff, M. L. H. de Ridder, who joins the Modern Language Department as a temporary French *assistant*. M. de Ridder is a native of Beauvais, and was educated at the Sorbonne.

Mr. D. F. Cockle, who played for Wiltshire and for the R.A.F., has joined the Staff as a Cricket Professional, and has become a civilian instructor to the Air Section of the C.C.F.

We are pleased to welcome back Mr. O. M. Mathews after his recent illness.

We regret that Mr. W. T. Bennett, who joined the Staff in 1946, is leaving at the end of this term. We congratulate Mr. Bennett on his appointment as Senior Chemistry Master at Royal School, Dungannon.

We congratulate Dr. Willis Grant on his marriage with Miss Grace Winifred Baker, on Saturday, 30th July.

We congratulate Mr. A. Hurrell on his marriage with Miss June Buckley, on Saturday, 6th August, in Edinburgh.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. N. J. F. Craig on the birth of a second son on September 21st, 1949.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Vaughan on the birth of a son on Friday, 18th November.

At the beginning of the year there were a number of changes in the command of the C.C.F. Flt.-Lt. O. M. Mathews transferred from the Air Section, and, with the rank of Major, took command of the Army and Basic Sections. F/O W. Traynor, with the rank of Flt.-Lt., succeeded him as Officer Commanding the Air Section. The three contingents of the C.C.F. remain under the general command of Major A. E. Leeds.

We congratulate the Rev. Ernest Price, a member of the war-time Staff, on completing fifty years in the ministry of the Baptist Church. Mr. Price returned to the School on Friday, 11th November to lecture to the Geographical Society.

Since the lamented departure of Miss Rae Tipping in July, the CHRONICLE has noted a succession of temporary Assistant Secretaries, amongst whom we were glad to welcome back Mrs. W. H. Babb.

School News

We are grateful to Mrs. George Cartland for presenting to the School the King's Sword, won by her son, Captain G. Trevor Cartland, at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, in 1912. Captain Cartland, who joined the Rifle Brigade, was killed on active service on July 1st, 1916. The Sword now occupies a prominent place in the Prefects' Room.

We congratulate :

B. Lobb on being elected to the Bache Memorial Cup.

J. D. Mountford on being elected to the Dale Memorial Medal.

G. F. B. Laughland on being elected to the Hammond Debating Trophy.

We congratulate Regimental Sergeant-Major P. H. O'B. Cooper on winning the Knight Memorial Medal for the Army Section of the C.C.F., and Warrant Officer II A. J. Ireland on winning the Medal for the Royal Air Force Section.

We congratulate A. J. Homer (Captain of Cricket), P. A. Gough (Vice-Captain and Secretary) and B. Lobb on being selected to play for the Warwickshire Public Schools XI.

We congratulate I. R. McClelland (Captain of Rugby Football) and J. F. Wainwright on being selected to play for the Greater Birmingham Schools XV against the North Staffordshire Schools XV.

We congratulate M. S. McLean on winning the Individual P.T. Championship for the second time, and on his recovery from a recent accident.

We congratulate J. Lovatt and J. R. Rawsthorne on being chosen to take part in the British Schools Exploring Society's expedition to Northern Norway, and on their safe return. A full report of the expedition appears elsewhere in the CHRONICLE.

This term marks the beginning of the octagonal House Competition. In order to meet some of its complexities and to give each House a deeper sense of its own unity, short House Meetings have been held every Tuesday at 9-45 a.m. First period on Tuesday now begins at 10-0 a.m., and the morning's time-table has been adjusted so that, as on Thursdays, school ends at 12-55 p.m.

Compulsory School Uniform for all but members of the Sixth Form was introduced this term. The uniform consists simply of a school tie, blazer, and grey flannel trousers. Caps are also worn.

With the annual influx of new boys, the School is larger than ever this year. We number 704. For the purpose of future identification, all "sherrings" were photographed on the day of the Admission Ceremony. It is also proposed to photograph that historic group who took the last of the

General School Certificate Examinations of London University.

Members of the Removes and Shells have been vigorously engaged in compulsory Rugger since the beginning of term. Despite their murderous surface, the new pitches in front of the School have been used for these junior games. The first official House Third XV match was played on Thursday, 10th November.

For the past eighteen months the CHRONICLE has followed with interest the progress of the reconstruction of the New Street Upper Corridor, which is to form part of the War Memorial to those Old Edwardians who were killed in the Second World War. Work will soon begin on the roof of this building, which we hope will be near completion when we publish our July issue.

We have long noticed the coils of electric cable which emerge, vermiform, from the lawns flanking the Main Drive, and have looked forward to the day when the classical elegance of wrought-iron lamp-standards would decorate this avenue. We observe that lamp-standards have indeed sprung from the turf. Theirs is the classicism of cast concrete.

We are delighted to read that the Birmingham Education Committee proposes to build a permanent Teachers' Training College on a site adjoining Springfield House, Knowle. We are disappointed to read that the new building will take at least four years to complete.

Chairs have been installed in Big School for use at Assembly. We can only regret that tubular steel adds little to the dignity of Prayers, or indeed, of the building, but until the School is provided with its own Chapel (an essential feature of English education) we must accept this improvement as a working compromise (an essential feature of English diplomacy).

Oak pews, strictly functional, have now been fitted in that Temple of Science, the Large Lecture Room.

New ventilating plant has also been installed in the Science School. The martlet haunts the Temple once again.

In celebration of the Bromsgrove Match, and in order to encourage a greater attendance at other School fixtures, a sandwich lunch was provided in the Dining Hall on Saturday, 12th November and on subsequent Saturdays.

The School continues proudly to withstand the influence of the modern brand of democracy. Waiters are now provided at lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

After lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays an enthusiastic group of scantily-clad cross-country runners can be observed pacing a perilous course between the School and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. A longer cross-country run is to be held towards the end of term.

An historic event will take place on Wednesday, 14th December, when the first Jazz Concert to be sponsored by the Musical Society will be given in Big School by the "Canal Street Four." This group owes its name to the "Canal Street Blues," for some time the only item in their repertoire.

Old Edwardian News

Mr. T. W. Hutton, a Governor of the School and an Old Edwardian, is to retire from the editorship of the *Birmingham Post* at the end of the year. Mr. Hutton was at K.E.S. from 1904 to 1907, and after leaving School he took Second Class Honours at Merton College, Oxford, and served on the *Birmingham Gazette*, the *Manchester Daily Despatch* and the *Liverpool Courier*. He joined the *Birmingham Post* as leader writer and assistant editor in 1913, and became Editor in 1945. He has been invited by the Governors to write the official history of the School—a work on which he is already engaged.

We congratulate R. M. Acheson (1936-41) on being elected to a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Chicago.

We congratulate R. Heron (St. Catherine's College) on being selected to represent Cambridge University in the 4×440 relay race against Oxford University at Fenner's on Thursday, 1st December.

We congratulate J. E. K. Croydon, who left School in 1947, on winning the Searle Prize for Mechanical Sciences at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

The Old Edwardians' Triennial Dinner, which has not been held since before the war, is to be revived this year and will take place at the School on Saturday, 17th December.

Scholarships

We congratulate:

H. G. Brierley, C. M. J. Field, A. C. Fox, J. R. Grundon, J. R. Heron, W. M. Huse, B. H. Judd, A. W. Mewett, J. A. Nimmo, G. C. Nottley, P. R. Purser, R. K. Rowley, P. J. Sperring and E. Watson on being awarded State Scholarships.

H. G. Brierley, C. M. J. Field, A. C. Fox, J. B. Gopsill, J. R. Heron, B. J. Hill, W. M. Huse, J. W. P. Jarrams, B. H. Judd, R. F. S. Limbrey, A. W. Mewett, J. A. Nimmo, G. C. Nottley, P. R. Purser, R. K. Rowley, J. T. Shelton, M. J. Tollett, M. Van Ments, E. Watson and P. T. Westlake on being awarded Honorary City of Birmingham Major Scholarships.

M. E. Abrams and J. B. Chambers on being awarded Honorary City of Birmingham Exhibitions.

B. C. Hodge, J. F. Perret and H. Rossenstein on being awarded City of Birmingham Exhibitions.

J. B. Gopsill, B. J. Hill, J. W. P. Jarrams, B. W. Tanner, M. J. Tollett and P. T. Westlake on being awarded Entrance Scholarships to the University of Birmingham.

M. E. Abrams on being awarded the Sands Cox Scholarship to the University of Birmingham.

J. T. Shelton on being awarded a Chemical Engineering Scholarship to the University of Birmingham.

Prefects

In addition to those whose notices of leaving we published in our July issue, the following Prefect left at the end of last term:

B. C. HOBBS (1942-49); Prefect, 1948-49; School Cricket Blazer, 1948-49; School 2nd XI Colours, 1948-49; House Captain of Cricket, 1949. (*Mr. Copland's House*).

At the beginning of term, G. F. B. LAUGHLAND was appointed Captain of the School, and the following were appointed Prefects:

M. J. DAVISON. (*Mr. Copland's House*)

P. A. GARDNER: Editor of K.E.S. CHRONICLE; Secretary of Debating Society. (*Mr. Williams' House*).

M. V. GOSNEY: Secretary of Dramatic Society. (*Mr. Dunt's House*).

M. R. JACKSON: C.S.M. in C.C.F. (*Mr. Leeds' House*).

G. T. LYALL: Secretary of Mr. Porter's House: Secretary of Art Society. (*Mr. Porter's House*).

R. T. POPPLE: Secretary of Railway and Model Engineering Society. (*Mr. Dunt's House*).

P. R. PURSER: C.S.M. in C.C.F. (*Mr. Leeds' House*).

At Half-Term, M. VAN MENTS was appointed Vice-Captain of the School.

The following Prefects will be leaving at the end of Term:

A. E. H. TURNER (1941-49): Prefect, 1949; Second XV Colours, 1947-48-49-50; Athletics Colours, 1949; House Rugger Captain, 1948-49-50; House Fives Captain, 1948-49-50. (*Mr. Burgess' House*).

J. R. GRUNDON (1942-49): Prefect, 1949; Secretary of Mr. Burgess' House, 1949; House Cricket Captain, 1949; Secretary of Closed Circle, 1948-49; Secretary of Christian Union, 1947-48-49; State Scholar, Christ Church, Oxford. (*Mr. Burgess' House*).

R. T. POPPLE (1941-49): Prefect, 1949; Secretary of Railway and Model Engineering Society, 1945-46-47 and 1948-49; Secretary of Music Circle, 1948-49. (*Mr. Dunt's House*).

Colours

We congratulate:

J. A. Harvey, A. J. Homer, B. Baker and J. Hutchings on being re-awarded School Rugger Colours, and G. T. Lyall, G. A. Taplin, C. J. F. Latham, J. D. Giles and F. B. Revill on being awarded School Rugger Colours.

J. D. Giles, G. T. Lyall, F. B. Revill, C. J. F. Latham, G. A. Taplin, G. R. Green and A. E. H. Turner on being re-awarded 2nd XV Colours, and J. F. Wainwright, D. P. Locker, R. M. Brown, G. L. Roberts, J. A. Veitch, G. J. Lawrence and J. K. Bean on being awarded 2nd XV Colours.

P. A. Gough and I. R. McClelland on being awarded School Cricket Colours.

P. Vernon on being awarded his School Cricket Blazer.

A. J. Potter on being re-awarded School Shooting Colours, and J. Westbrooke on being awarded School Shooting Colours.

OBITUARY

Dr. Richard Wassell

DR. RICHARD WASSELL, music-master at the School from 1914 to 1918 and one of the best-known figures in the musical life of Birmingham, died on the 17th July. Born at Tipton in 1881, Dr. Wassell became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists at the age of twenty-three, and after holding appointments as organist in four churches, he accepted a similar post at Birmingham Parish Church. He was organist and choir-master there for twenty-two years, until six years ago, when he became organist of the Solihull Parish Church. In 1939, the Archbishop of Canterbury conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Music in recognition of his work for church music in Birmingham.

K. W. Grant, O.B.E.

WE regret to announce the death on August 7th of Mr. Kenneth W. Grant, Principal Regional Officer, Northern Region, Ministry of Health. Mr. Grant was at School from 1907 to 1917, and later went up as a Scholar to Trinity College, Cambridge. He was fifty-five at the time of his death, and was killed while attempting an ascent in the Oisans mountains near Grenoble.

M. L. Lancaster, J.P.

MR. MARTIN LEWIS LANCASTER, J.P., O.E., died in hospital on August 14th at the age of eighty. Mr. Lancaster, who was a partner in a firm of printers, was Lord Mayor of Birmingham in 1929, and had been an Alderman of the City for twenty-five years.

G. H. Ingall, J.P.

THE death occurred on September 15th of Mr. George Heber Ingall, J.P., O.E., a magistrate and a prominent member of the Congregational Church in Birmingham. He was eighty-six. Mr. Ingall, who took an active part in social and temperance reform, was for seventy years associated with a firm of coffin-makers and had been president of the Coffin Furniture Manufacturers' Association and of the Soft Goods and Cerement Association. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the City in 1914.

Bernard Oughtred, Esq.

MR. BERNARD OUGHTRED, who was a member of the School XV in 1897, died at Barrow-in-Furness in November. After leaving Birmingham, he played for Hartlepool Rovers and Hull, and obtained his England "cap" in the match against Scotland in the season 1901-2, and against Ireland and Wales, 1902-3. At the time of his death he was seventy years of age.

Dr. Francis Swayne.

WE announce the death at the age of eighty-five of Dr. Francis G. Swayne, O.E., who was a member of the Old Edwardians' XV when the club won the Midland Counties Cup in 1890. The only three surviving members of that team are Dr. F. A. L. Burges, Mr. J. Furneaux Jordan, and Canon T. A. Wallis.

J. H. Reynolds, M.Sc., F.R.A.S.

WE regret to announce the sudden death on November 22nd of Mr. J. H. Reynolds, a former President of the Royal Astronomical Society, and an Old Edwardian who has been described as the most distinguished amateur astronomer in the country. Mr. Reynolds, who was at School during the headmastership of Rev. A. R. Vardy, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1899, and in 1900 was a member of a British expedition to Algiers to observe the eclipse. He took part in a similar mission to Assouan, Egypt, and was associated with the inauguration of astronomical research work in that country. Mr. Reynolds was appointed a council member of the R.A.S. in 1920, and in 1929 was elected Treasurer. He held this office for six years and relinquished it on his election as President in 1935. He was also a member of the Société Astronomique de France.

Mr. Reynolds gave great service to the Birmingham and Midland Institute, notably as a member of the Lecture Committee and in the School of Music. He was a musician of some accomplishment, and for several years was organist of the New Church, Wretham Road, Handsworth. He was a life governor of the University of Birmingham.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1949

THIS year for the first time, the School entered for the Public Schools Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon. Twenty-six schools were competing, each represented by two pairs. Doubles were played, but if no decision could be reached in the doubles, the issue was to be determined by one singles match.

We set off from Birmingham, on the last Monday of the Summer Term, and early on the Tuesday morning, although we were not pue on the courts till after lunch, we were usiffing the Wimbledon air. After lunch we were called upon to play our first round match against Tonbridge. To our surprise the School first pair, Weeks and Hurdman, struck form at once, and won the first set, 6-1, but then somewhat astonished by this very easy victory and attacked by a fit of nerves, they lost the second set, 2-6, and only just scrambled home 7-5 in the third. Meanwhile, the second pair, Shewring and Bancroft, had gone on court against a Tonbridge pair of six-footers, who lobbed the ball in the air and waited for us to make mistakes. Against the unorthodox tactics our pair could at first make little headway and as they were rather overawed by the occasion they lost 2-6, 6-4, 0-6. The School second pair lost to the first Tonbridge pair 4-6, 3-6, so that the onus of saving the match fell on Weeks and Hurdman who, although they lost the first set 2-6 recovered sufficiently to win the next two sets 6-0, 6-4, thus equalising the match.

A singles match was necessary to decide the issue one way or the other and Weeks was chosen for the School against a Tonbridge player. Although the players were evenly matched, Weeks won the first set 7-5, and the second at 6-4—a well deserved win.

Wednesday saw the School playing Taunton. While Weeks and Hurdman were engaged with Taunton's first pair, Shewring and Bancroft won their first two sets 6-3, 6-2. They played rather erratically and allowed Taunton to creep up to five all. However, victory was achieved at 9-7 which proved fortunate, for the School's first pair had lost 6-8, 9-11. The afternoon saw a reversal of this state of affairs, the first pair winning comfortably 6-1, 6-2, while the second pair lost 3-6, 3-6.

Once again a decision had to be reached by a singles match and once again Weeks proved equal to the occasion. In no way deterred by the very high temperature Weeks played to a previously conceived plan, varying his length with the result that the Taunton player soon tired and the School won 6-3, 6-1.

This victory put the School in the last eight and the next opponents were Stowe School, who had been beaten by Eton the previous year in the final. Shewring and

Bancroft were the first to go on the court against Stowe's second pair. This game proved to be anything but the defeat we had expected, Shewring and Bancroft playing excellently, and winning the first set 6-2; the Stowe pair took the next four games, but the School pair pulled even and went away to a match point. A double fault by Shewring was followed fortunately by a service ace which gave us a second chance which Bancroft was quick to seize. A beautiful smash down the backhand tramline gave us the match.

Weeks and Hurdman had not the same success, unfortunately. The very highly experienced Stowe first pair had defeated them 6-4, 6-0. The second round of the march saw Shewring and Bancroft lose to the Stowe first pair 3-6, 2-6. All now depended on the School first team defeating the Stowe second pair, so enabling Weeks to play another singles match. Stowe got away to a quick lead of 5-2 but the School beat them back to five all. Stowe once more went into the lead however and took the set 7-5. They had little difficulty in winning the second set 6-2 and all our hopes had been shattered. It was some consolation though to see that Stowe went through to the final and were once again only narrowly beaten by Eton.

The School team did very creditably at Wimbledon and although there were very obvious weaknesses in the play of all four members we have every hope that the experience of Championship play will have done them an immeasurable amount of good. As we shall have the same four players at our disposal next year there is every reason for confidence.

NORTHERN NORWAY, 1949

THE third post-war Expedition of the British Schools Exploring Society, consisting of eight leaders (most of whom were Regular Army Officers), two Medical Officers and sixty-seven boys, left Newcastle for Bergen on August 3rd. The North Sea was not kind—it rarely is, and most of these explorers spent seventeen out of the twenty-two hours sailing 'tween decks. The landing at Bergen was made in typical weather, a most depressing drizzle, which made us understand why this proud and beautiful city should choose, of all things, an umbrella for its local emblem. The party spent a pleasant three days wandering in and around Bergen, through narrow alleys, between overhanging wooden houses and along broad avenues flanked by fine modern ferro-concrete stores and blocks of flats.

On the fourth day we caught the "Nordstjernen," a large coastal steamer, which meandered through the fjords carrying everything from coffins to chickens and us

as deck cargo. Travelling in this way enabled us to see many of the beauties of the Norwegian coast—the dark towering mountains, which at times descended sheer into the cold, green sea. In the distance beyond, were the snow-capped ranges and glaciers of the interior.

Arriving at Bodo on the 10th August, we travelled by bus, boat and train to the "Golden Valley" of Sulitjelma. Here, where once was to be found the most beautiful lake scenery in Norway, is an area of complete devastation, caused by the fumes and waste products from the smelters of Europe's largest copper mine.

The Expedition spent the night in the local village hall, and the next morning travelled sixteen kms. by bus to the head of a dirt road. It was from here we commenced the arduous task of portaging stores—which was made more difficult by our being, as yet, unaccustomed to the country. All day we stumbled through bogs, birch-scrub and across a precarious rope suspension bridge which bucked and swayed with every step. The stores were then transported across a lake to the Base Camp five kms. away.

We arrived in time for our first "hoosh,"—and what a "hoosh." It is certain that after the first hesitant mouthful, everyone wondered how on earth he would last for five weeks on this. But one did, and one thrived upon it.

After a settling-in period, the Expedition got down to serious business.

We were divided into six "fires" of twelve boys and one or two leaders each. The "fires" were specialist groups of surveyors, wirelessmen, ornithologists and numerous other "ologists." Each was an individual unit doing its own cooking, using these rations—twelve 1-oz. Spratts specially prepared biscuits, 2-oz. margarine, 4-oz. cheese, 2-oz. sugar, 2-oz. sultanas and a bar of chocolate per man, per day, together with an allowance of oatmeal, tea, salt, pemmican and dehydrated onion, carrot, peas and lentils, making, in all, 30-oz. per day. These were supplemented at intervals by more luxurious and often more appetising Base Camp rations.

The Base Camp was situated upon a terrace twenty-five feet directly above the river and close to its junction with a lake. The valley sides were fairly steep and clad with birch and willow scrub to a height of about 1,900-ft. Above this point, the land was bare and bleak, and often a freezing wind blew across the tops, cutting through one's protective clothing. The surrounding country was much the same, boggy and almost impenetrable below the tree line and uncomfortably bleak above that well defined boundary.

The weather was not good. It rained every day for the first three weeks, and was rarely fine for twenty-four hours in succession

after that. Temperatures during the day were not very high, except upon isolated occasions; the removal of one's pullover was not encouraged, and any attempt to bathe was dubbed martyrdom in the cause of hygiene. Temperatures at night did reach 10°F. below freezing and a number of doughty explorers UNdressed when aroused in the early hours of the morning by the cry of "Grub Up."

The Surveyors had an initial setback when they discovered that they were cut off from the proposed Base line by an unfordable river. This meant that we had to find a new position for the line, mark, measure and fix it—a long job, demanding great accuracy. (The unfordable river was later crossed regularly by Plane-tableing parties, although they did get very wet in the process. This affords an example of the change in our attitude—what was impossible at first became the accepted thing as work progressed.)

Trigonometrical points soon crowned all the surrounding heights; they were 8-ft. high tripods of birch poles, some of which had been carried over 2,000 yards from the nearest clump of trees.

Soon groups of two or three surveyors were to be seen dotted all over an area within 8-10 km. radius of Base. A Survey Sub-Base Camp was set up, containing a whole fire, whilst many camped out in their own individual teams. My particular team of three was self-sufficient for eight days, camping on an island formed by a large river which was not marked on the existing map. Great efforts were made by these units; one marched 8 km., surveyed 7-sq. km. and returned in the same day. Another unit ranged over the Swedish border and completed an area of 13 sq. km. in one day. This is quite a feat when one considers that owing to the dissected nature of the country, one had to walk over most of the area to be surveyed. Eventually we all returned to Base Camp, putting our bits together to form an accurate map of an area of 200-sq. km. to a scale of 1 : 50,000 and a Vertical Interval of 20 metres.

After four weeks of hard but enjoyable work, the Surveyors went out for a three-day march into Sweden, during which they climbed Arj-Saulo, a snow-capped and generally cloud-capped peak, 1,716m. high—the first Englishmen to climb it, an achievement which fittingly crowned the efforts of a very successful survey.

The work of the ornithologists was primarily to make a survey as far as possible of the distribution of all the species of birds to be seen in the area, and not merely a record of any rare bird that may be discovered. A representative from each specialist branch, botanist, geologist, zoologist, etc., was included in each march, so that as large an

area of the country as possible was covered by all branches.

The first march started in somewhat unpleasant weather, a steady rain and biting wind prevailing most of the day. We spent the first night in Sweden at about 2,500-ft., where the only fuel available was dripping wet willow scrub. Needless to say, we had no "hoosh" that night, and only luke-warm porridge in the morning. At the time, we thought this a great hardship, but learnt by experience that the evening "hoosh," after a strenuous day, is ample reward for a few extra pounds of dry wood carried on one's back.

For the rest of the march, the weather was fine during the day-time, although it rained and snowed at night, and in fact, we woke up one morning to find the Arj Saulo range covered with a fresh carpet of snow. We spent a most enjoyable four days reconnoitring the country around Mavasjaure (Jaure-lake) south-east of Base Camp, and planning a possible route for the long march, the climax of the whole expedition.

Our next march was considerably more eventful, starting in even worse weather than the last. After a night on the shores of Dorrov, south-east of Base, we set off in a blizzard, passing to the north of Nord Saulo, the highest mountain in the district, and skirting a lake which had numerous snowfields running into it. That night, after we had turned in, a great wind arose, breaking one of our tent poles, so that I had to go out and chop down a tree to replace it, before we could resume our night's rest. The next five days were fine and warm. We were again in Sweden, marching along the south shore of Peskejaure. The scenery here was magnificent—ranges of rugged snow-capped mountains frequently lost in mist, birch-clad slopes, precipitous cliffs falling into crystal clear lakes with only the sound of the wind and the occasional call of a Redshank, or guttural croak of a diver. On the return journey our leader went up to his knees in a bog and had to be pulled out.

The final march was most enjoyable, although unspectacular, except for one party spending a night at 3,800-ft. I think most people were sorry when it was over, as we felt we had started on our way home.

The scientific results obtained were excellent.

This carefree life, so detached from the cares of civilization, had to come to an end. Regretfully, and in slow easy stages, we packed up and moved back to the road. We spent the 14th and 15th of September, in Sulitjelma, steaming the dirt out in Turkish baths and getting accustomed to normal food.

On our return journey down the coast in the coal-burning *Kong Harold*, we steamed into a thick fog, and the ship ran aground. The shoal provided excellent fishing. This

delay prolonged our stay in Bergen by a further two days, so that it was not until September 24th, with mixed feelings of happiness and regret we sailed into Newcastle.

Another expedition is over, but there are many more to come. To anyone who has the slightest chance of being included, all we can say is, fight hard to go—you'll never regret it.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank the Governors of the School and the Foyle Trust for their very generous financial assistance which enabled us to go on the Expedition.

J.R.R.
J.L.

SCOTLAND, 1949

DURING the three weeks from the 5th to the 23rd August, a party of ten boys from the Fifth forms headed by Mr. and Mrs. Benett, made a cycling tour of the Scottish Highlands, spending the nights at Youth Hostels. We caught the train from New Street to Glasgow on the 4th and spent the first night at the Youth Hostel. During the three weeks we cycled to Skye via Fort William, back along the great Glen to Inverness, and south to Perth and Edinburgh, covering 600 miles in all.

We must have seemed a strange party as we cycled along with our heavy kit fastened on in various ways; each member could be recognised by the shape of his luggage, and on a wet day by the colour of his cape. The weather, however, was reasonably fine, and we experienced few totally wet days. The average daily distance of about 35 miles was easy enough on the main roads, but off the beaten track the long climbs and bad surface slowed us considerably.

Meals were not usually provided at the hostels, and because of the remoteness of some, parcels of tinned food had been forwarded. As there were large crowds around the coal stoves, we were glad to have Franklin with us, the primus expert.

A week after setting out we climbed Ben Nevis, "Britain's highest"—4406ft, and we had reached 3168ft. on the previous day at Glencoe. Intense cold and thick wet mist were two difficulties that faced us when climbing Ben Nevis. After three hours of stumbling up a path which wound up the mountain for seven miles, and whose surface deteriorated as we climbed, we eventually reached the summit. While we were on the way up, the clouds had parted, giving us a superb view of the neighbouring lochs. Although it was August we found snow near the summit.

Everywhere we were impressed by the grand scenery: lonely Rannoch Moor, the contrasting scenery on Skye, the woods of

the central Highlands, and the rounded, heatherclad mountains in the East. Six days were spent on Skye, first in the north which we reached by steamer, and three among the Cuillins—renowned for rock climbing. Our return to the mainland was less orthodox. We went part of the way in a small motorboat, on which our cycles leaned over at a dangerous angle because of the rough sea, and even the Naval section were not immune from sea-sickness.

When we reached the towns of Inverness, Perth and Edinburgh, we were glad to break away from the monotony of tinned fish by having our meals in more comfortable and pleasant surroundings. Everywhere we were impressed by the friendliness of the natives.

On our return we were all agreed that it had been a most successful tour.

I.C.S. and W.P.S.

OUTWARD BOUND

"To serve, to strive, and not to yield" is the motto of the Outward Bound Sea School at Aberdovey. This school was founded in 1941, by Laurence Holt, of the Blue Funnel Line, and Kurt Hahn of Gordonstoun.

"To give boys the opportunity of training through the sea as a means of discovering for themselves their own capacity to face the hazards of searching occasions." These are its aims.

Each course lasts one month. When I arrived at the 87th course, I was issued with a uniform and told to join Jigger Watch, one of the nine watches, each consisting of thirteen cadets who come from many countries and all classes. After a medical test and an interview, the officers provisionally selected the watch captains and vice-captains, whom we later confirmed.

Our day began at 6-30 a.m. with skipping, running, and a swim in the sea. In the winter a cold shower takes the place of a swim. An outstanding example of the toughness expected was the occasion when the cadets had to wait for the pipes to be thawed out before they could have their showers.

One period every day was spent in athletics, and in these each cadet was set a standard according to his age, for swimming, sprinting, long distance running, walking, high and long jump, throwing the javelin and weight. During the course we were placed on our honour not to smoke or drink.

The other three of the four 1½-hour periods were spent on boatwork in the Dovey estuary, which meant marching to the wharf (over a mile each way) three times a day. Half the day would be spent in practical seamanship in one of the school cutters or twenty-foot dinghies. Every time a particular officer took out a boat he suc-

ceeded in either smashing it, or becoming stuck on a sandbank, which caused much amusement. Lifeboat drill No. 7 consisted of lowering a ship's lifeboat in under sixty seconds. Knots and splices, together with lectures until 9-30 p.m. finished off the day.

On Sundays, there was church parade in the morning, and in the afternoon, a twelve mile hike over the hills at the back of the school. We envied those who were picked for coastguard duty on Sunday afternoons because they were excused the hike. The local coastguard station was manned from 6-0 a.m.—9-0 p.m. daily in two-hour watches by the cadets.

The high-light of the sea training was a three-day voyage in the Irish sea, in either the *Varibaldi*, an eighty ton ketch, built in 1912 as a Dutch onion boat, or on the *Warspite*, a forty-five ton schooner, built in 1911 as a millionaire's yacht. It was exceptionally hard to haul up the sails and at the same time to be seasick, but it had to be done.

A thirty-five mile hike over Cader Idris and other peaks was the climax of the course. This meant hiking and scrambling for twelve hours over peaks rising to 2,000 feet. Part of the time we had to rely solely on compass bearings and unfortunately both of our compasses were broken, but somehow we arrived back safely. The record for the thirty-five miles was nine hours.

Another party ran the last two miles home while one cadet did the latter part in his stockinged feet, because of blisters.

While I was there, many cadets gained as much as fourteen pounds in weight, and three-quarters of an inch in height, although the course was so tough that everyone snatched every minute's rest that they could get.

I am sometimes asked if I would go again, and my answer is always "Yes."

N.T.W.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oxford Letter

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

Oxford's cold at this time of year, and it's a bold Edwardian who leaves his tea and toast to pad from one draughty cloister to the next. However, you asked for a letter, and a letter you shall have. The forty odd O.E.s, in Oxford are engaged in small but eccentric activities. P. R. HARDWICK (Jesus), recently out of China by river gun-boat, is righteously suppressing the opium traffic in his college. P. A. JONES (Jesus) has tea-parties with his scout. D. J. G. SELLS (Lincoln) is off-hand; the Vice-Chancellor saw him the other day and said "Were I not Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, I should wish to

be Sells." There are two O.E.'s at Keble, A. J. COOKE, the only beautiful thing about Keble Chapel, and S. J. BLOOD, who went to a British Restaurant and stuck in the door. C. R. PENDLETON (Christ Church) sees history through green bottle-glass spectacles. Of S. MYERS (Balliol) we hear that he has written music for the O.U.D.S. pantomime, the E.T.C. Cabaret and the New Revue. A. T. TOLLEY, (The Queen's), talent-scout for Oxford's high-lifers, tells him with emotion "By Gad, you're in." A. SUTHERLAND (Balliol), came here this term, stumbled on a dreaming spire, and said, "What's this—Oxford?" J. RODWAY (Wadham), collects dog-numbers at the Cowley track. M. D. LONGSTAFFE (Wadham) also ran. This year's magnum opus is going to be D. J. BIRCH's three-volume thesis "Cricket pitches I have rolled." J. J. PEARCE (Lincoln) bestrides our petty world like a Colossus. J. J. PEARCE (195, Ifley Road), is rigging the Women's Boat Race for the second year in succession. Others on the river are K. PEARCE (Worcester), "the cox on the rox," while R. M. PENDROUS (St. John's), sculls quietly round the bend. R. J. ROBERTS (Magdalen) once thought that a tuft-hunter had wings. R. D. HARRISON, the Archimedes of New College is confused; once he oiled his beard and shaved off his bicycle. M. SHOCK (Balliol) lives in discreet retirement with his wife, and J. H. POOLE (Lincoln) is a good chap (ring Oxford 2357). Interviewed by the Women's Hour mobile recording unit about his schools, B. A. WIGMORE (B.N.C.) said "It doesn't bother me."

We must apologise for any omissions, also for those "whose secret filth good manners biddeth not to be told," and end with the pious hope that the Cambridge letter will at least be funny.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
OXONIENSIS.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.
SIR,

Once again it is time for us to lay down our tomes for a moment and to send you greetings and news of the activities of Old Edwardians at Cambridge. At the beginning of this term we were glad to welcome some twelve freshmen into the Tudor Club and they appear by now to have settled down to enjoy the full and varied life which the University offers. R. HERON (St. Cath's.) has already made a name for himself in the world of athletics and recently ran for the combined Oxford and Cambridge team against the A.A.A. J. M. B. MOSS (Trinity) seems to find Cambridge a thoroughly fascinating place; we hope that

his room will survive the Tudor Club Christmas party—after all, we may wish to borrow it again some time. G. W. WHITMARSH (Trinity) started the term badly by breaking his leg, an unfortunate fate which was shared by G. A. KNOTT (St. Cath's.). The latter, however, is said to have been given an excellent room in College since he could not climb his original staircase with his leg in plaster. It's an ill wind . . .

E. J. HOOD (St. John's) is another man who has an impressive set of rooms. He does however, vacate them occasionally between 6-0 p.m. and 10-0 p.m. G. W. GARDINER (Christ's) is reading law this year instead of classics, presumably because it enables him to devote more time to rowing, while M. J. APPS (Pembroke) is another rowing man, who finds that writing witty minutes of Tudor Club meetings leaves him very little time to read history. J. B. BOOTH (Gonville and Caius) is also keen on taking exercise and if you see a fiendish glint appear in his eye it probably means that he is about to challenge you to a game of squash. G. N. HACKETT (Jesus) and G. DARBY (Sidney Sussex) have joined the Comedy Theatre Group, but so far it appears that most of their activities go on behind the scenes. If completing *The Times* crossword puzzle is any qualification for a lawyer it would seem that D. GROSS (St. John's) has a most distinguished career before him, but C. F. FIGURES (Pembroke), who is President of the Tudor Club this year, is working very hard; at least he has sufficient influence with the writer of this letter to have persuaded him to say so. R. D. POYSER (Queen's) has now developed an interest in Judo and we hope that he will use his newly acquired knowledge of the art to defend the Club funds if necessary. J. E. K. CROYDEN (Selwyn) thinks that the proximity of his college to Newnham is a masterpiece of planning. D. K. MCGOWAN (St. Cath's.) has recently got married; he is rarely seen these days. Perhaps these two facts are in some way connected. E. W. PARKES (St. John's) might well be married, too, for all we see of him, and R. A. VOGT and P. BERWICK (Jesus) are veritable recluses.

It is with regret that we confess that there are some few freshmen of whom, as yet, we know nothing scandalous whatsoever. We can only hope that by next term they will somehow have achieved notoriety—perhaps by hanging unorthodox decorations from King's College Chapel roof or by going to lectures in a dressing gown—and will thus obtain an honourable mention in these exclusive columns. Until that happy day, Sir, we must say "Farewell," but not before expressing our sincere wish that 1950 will prove a most happy and successful year for the School.

Yours, etc.
CANTABRIGIENSIS.

BIRMINGHAM LETTER

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

Long ago, autumn's last leaf made its fluttering descent; yet this letter, inscribed in the shadow of Birmingham's "dreaming spire" remained unwritten and a host of Old Edwardians heroes were still honoured because they were unsung. Now, the flood of gossip can be retained no longer; the time has arrived for publication, the sun has entered the sign of Aries and all the omens have been propitious.

A. MEADE-BRIGGS, newly arrived at the University, has satisfied a childhood interest in the animal kingdom; surrounded by lions couchant, unicorns, tigers, the gentle mole, the unassuming frog, he pursues the study of Zoology with unremitting zeal. J. R. HERON, benevolently reflective, has often been seen gazing into a cup of coffee in the Medical School canteen and R. K. ROWLEY is as cheerful as circumstances permit. J. W. P. JARRAMS was wont to declare that he often heard "Time's winged chariot" at his back, but after dissecting the scapula he dismissed this belief as being without foundation.

Among the older inhabitants, the inhuman laughter of R. B. A. JOHNS has startled many a drowsy lecturer, while A. J. WAINWRIGHT adds to the general merriment by skilfully throwing paper darts. J. L. LAWSON has many comments to make on life, but wisely refrains from making them. M. H. OAKLAND is so engrossed in the chemistry of life that he has little time for anything else and rarely speaks except to plead desperately for tobacco. It is reported of J. B. PEARSON that

he has perused the complete works of Voltaire in bed.—a notable achievement. C. C. G. RAWLL has acted the part of second gravedigger and a pall bearer in excerpts from "Hamlet." He was a sturdy digger and carried the pall with considerable verve.

MORELY lent his anatomy notes to an UNKNOWN old Edwardian, who unfortunately forgot to return them. This occurred several years ago and the notes and their prime owner are still parted. Let justice at last be done. P. E. TIDSALL, the life and soul of any winter garden party, is as spry and active as a man of twice his age, and rejoices in it.

Chess is a game in which the school has some representation. G. D. PARBROOKE, the genial secretary of the Chess Club, has beamed refulgently over many a stormy board, and C. J. HOPKINS and J. H. N. SKERRET are the captains of the two fourth division teams. J. A. ALLSOP, in spirit far away in the Sierra Nevada or the orange groves outside Seville, plays in the first University team.

M. E. ABRAMS was rash enough to go sailing on Edgbaston Reservoir in a dense fog, but surprisingly enough returned safely. In the mining department, one evening G. A. ALLCOTT swallowed a pint of watery liquid, marketed as "Beer" in four and a half seconds, thus becoming champion. C. M. THOMAS gave him every encouragement and J. H. FLEMING lent him moral dignity.

On that dignified but triumphant note we must close, but as once did the Venerable Bede, wish everyone "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

We remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
BIRMINGHAMIENSIS.

CRICKET—RETROSPECT REPORT

P. A. GOUGH, A. J. HOMER and B. LOBB are to be congratulated on their selection for the Warwickshire Public Schools XI. P. A. Gough was selected three times (61, 0 and did not bat), B. Lobb was selected twice (1 not out and 12-4-2-4-39; did not bat and 16-8-0-17), and A. J. Homer was selected twice (1 and did not bat).

Team.	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Abandoned.
1st XI	16	8	6	1	1
2nd XI	9	3	1	5	—
3rd XI	2	1	—	1	—
"UNDER 15" XI ..	12	1	2	8	1
"UNDER 14" XI ..	10	6	1	3	—

The School XI has enjoyed one of its most successful seasons for many years, as the figures above show. Not for a long time has the XI been able to say at the close of the season that it has lost but one match of all those played. That last season was a good one for the School XI is shown in various ways: eight people returned averages greater than 10; the three main bowlers returned averages of less than 10; and in the department of records two new wicket partnership records were set up, a "hat-trick" was performed, and A. J. Homer was the first batsman to return an average of over 40 since 1935. Surprisingly, however, only on three occasions was an individual score of over fifty obtained. On the whole the ground fielding was good, although one or two players showed a tendency to use their feet when they might just as well have used their hands. A number of dropped catches should have been held, this being particularly true of the one match which was lost.

Of the other three principal School teams, only the "Under 14" XI enjoyed any measure of success, and they are to be congratulated on their achievements. The "Under 15" XI experienced a very lean season, due in the main to the lack of confidence in their batting, and the 2nd XI might have fared better had one or two of its members played with a little less sang-froid.

The standard of cricket in the School has shown a definite upward trend over the last few years and it is to be hoped that the present standard will be maintained—if not bettered—in the future.

A. J. HOMER,

Captain of Cricket, 1949.

RESULTS

SCHOOL v. WYGGESTON SCHOOL.

Played at Leicester on Tuesday, July 19th. School won by 71 runs.

The School, losing the toss, found themselves batting on a damp wicket, but, nevertheless, after Charlesworth had unfortunately run himself out, the School batsmen settled down to score steadily. When the score stood at 150 for 7 the innings was declared, leaving us two hours in which to dismiss the Wyggeston batsmen. After the opening pair were out, R. H. Densham was the only batsman to offer any resistance, so that after he had been dismissed, the remaining wickets were easily taken and the game was won with twelve minutes to spare.

SCHOOL.

WYGGESTON SCHOOL

J. R. Charlesworth, run out	0	Sutherland, b Revill	17
Revill, c Densham, b Slack	23	Hodgson, lbw, b Revill	8
A. J. Homer, lbw, b Sutherland	44	Densham, c Charlesworth, b Hutchings	23
Gough, P. A., b Sutherland	11	Slack, b Lobb	0
I. R. McClelland, lbw, b Slack	14	Chappell, b Lobb	7
P. Hutchings, run out	13	Nicholls, b Hutchings	1
Hobbs, B. C., not out	26	Belasco, run out	1
Vernon, b Phillips	2	Dixon, b Benson	0
Hiscox, not out	8	Smith, c Hobbs, b Hutchings	8
Benson and B. Lobb did not bat.		Reynolds, run out	4
		Phillips, not out	4
Extras (byes, 6; wides, 3)	9	Extras (byes, 1; leg-byes, 4; no balls, 1)	6
TOTAL (7 wickets, dec.)	150	TOTAL	79
Sutherland, 2 for 35.		P, Hutchings, 3 for 20; B. Lobb, 2 for 22.	

SCHOOL v. SOLIHULL SCHOOL.

Played at Eastern Road on Wednesday, July 20th. Drawn.

Solihull, winning the toss, chose to bat on a hard wicket. After the early loss of their first wicket they settled down and raised the score to 104 for 4 when Hutchings wrenched his knee while fielding a ball and was unable to bowl again. Two wickets taken by Homer made the score 115 for 6 but a recovery among Solihull's later batsmen made the final score 169. This left the School 135 minutes in which to get the runs if they were to win. After the usual poor opening stand Hobbs and Homer pushed the score along by good running between the wickets, but this good start was nullified by the middle batsmen who tried to get the runs by hitting out and so the score became 79 for 6. Vernon then joined Homer and in the last forty-five minutes added 69 runs in a record seventh-wicket partnership, again by good running between the wickets. The School were 21 runs behind when stumps were drawn.

SOLIHULL SCHOOL

SCHOOL

Bannister, c Vernon, b Hutchings	3	Hobbs, B. C., b Thomas	26
Smith, run out	39	Hiscox, c Richards, b Owen	0
Balls, c McClelland, b Hutchings	31	A. J. Homer, not out	73
Thomas, c Hutchings, b Homer	32	I. R. McClelland, b Thomas	0
Downman, c Coleman, b Lobb	9	Gough, P. A., b Bannister	8
Lewis, b Homer	0	P. Hutchings, st Richards, b Owen	1
Richards, b Homer	8	Revill, b Owen	7
Longmore, run out	19	Vernon, not out	28
Morgan, b Lobb	20	Benson, Coleman and B. Lobb did not bat.	
Humphreys, b Revill	0		
Owen, not out	1		
Extras (byes, 5; leg-byes, 2)	7	Extras (byes, 3; leg-byes, 1; wides, 1)	5
TOTAL	169	TOTAL (6 wickets)	148
A. J. Homer, 3 for 24; P. Hutchings, 2 for 27.		Owen, 3 for 45.	

SCHOOL v. COMBINED K.E. GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

Played at Eastern Road on Saturday, July 23rd. School won by 5 wickets.

On one of the few occasions on which we won the toss, the School chose to field. After Barraclough had taken his first wicket in School cricket with this fourth ball, the next wicket did not fall until the score was 27, when five wickets fell for the addition of only 21 runs. A stand of 30 between Hanson and Beanland made the score 78 for 8, but the remaining batsmen were soon dismissed and the final total was 90. Benson and Lobb opened the School's innings but after Benson was out at 13, Homer joined Lobb and they put on 54 for the second wicket before Lobb was bowled. Three wickets then fell for the addition of only 4 runs, but Charlesworth and Hobbs passed the opponents' total without further mishap.

COMBINED K.E.G.S.

Williams, b Barraclough	1
Hanson, c Hobbs, b Revill	31
Apps, b Revill	6
Spalding, run out	0
Rembges, b Lobb	0
Dilloway, run out	8
Fellows, lbw, b Revill	0
Tonks, b Benson	4
Beanland, b Lobb	15
Webster, run out	7
Southwick, not out	2
Faultless, b Lobb	2
Extras (byes, 11; leg-byes, 3)	14

SCHOOL.

Benson, b Faultless	7
B. Lobb, b Southwick	25
A. J. Homer, lbw, b Williams	32
Gough, P. A., lbw, b Williams	0
I. R. McClelland, c Dilloway, b Southwick	0
Barraclough, lbw, b Southwick	3
J. R. Charlesworth, not out	10
Hobbs, B. C., not out	5
Revill, Vernon, P. Hutchings and Homer (B. C.) did not bat.	
Extras (byes, 12; leg-byes, 1)	13

TOTAL 90

TOTAL (6 wickets) 95

B. Lobb, 3 for 28; Revill, 3 for 21.

Southwick, 3 for 15.

FIRST ELEVEN

		<i>Runs for</i>	<i>Runs against</i>	<i>Result</i>
July	2—v. Bedford Modern School	125 for 3	110	<i>Won</i>
"	9—v. Warwick School	76 for 4	73	<i>Won</i>
"	16—v. R.G.S., Worcester	31 for 2	72	<i>Abandoned</i>

SECOND ELEVEN

July 2—v. Bedford Modern School	119 for 7 (dec.)	101 for 7	Drawn
„ 9—v. Warwick School	106 for 6	105	Won
„ 13—v. St. Phillip's G.S. 1st XI	61	105 for 4 (dec.)	Lost

THIRD ELEVEN

July 5—v. Harborne Collegiate	35	76	Lost
-------------------------------------	----	----	------

“UNDER 15” ELEVEN

June 30—v. Warwick School	49	76	Lost
July 2—v. Bedford Modern School	61	62 for 7	Lost
„ 9—v. Warwick School	36	37 for 4	Lost
„ 16—v. R.G.S., Worcester	10 for 1	—	Abandoned
„ 19—v. Wyggeston School	39 for 4	38	Won

“UNDER 14” ELEVEN

July 2—v. Bedford Modern School	72	55	Won
„ 9—v. St. Philip's G.S.	50	99	Lost
„ 12—v. Moseley G.S.	71 for 3	70	Won
„ 14—v. Stanley House School	96	25	Won

1st XI AVERAGES

BATTING.

	<i>No. of Innings.</i>	<i>Times Not Out.</i>	<i>Highest Score.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Average</i>
A. J. Homer	16	6	78*	422	42.20
P. A. Gough	16	2	55	258	18.43
J. R. Charlesworth	11	2	46	165	18.33
I. R. McClelland	14	4	31	171	17.10
P. Hutchings	10	2	39	128	16.00
B. C. Hobbs	12	2	45	150	15.00
P. Vernon	11	4	28*	86	12.29
F. B. Revill	10	1	24*	108	12.00
B. Lobb	6	1	25	38	7.60
B. A. Hiscox	7	1	9	29	4.83
D. H. Benson	4	1	7	14	4.67

Also batted: R. F. Coleman, 4* and 8*; A. E. H. Turner, 1 and 17*; B. C. Homer, 16 and 0; R. Barraclough, 2* and 3; A. J. K. Dore, 4; J. L. Wilkins, 3.

Team batting average: 16.77.

*Not out.

	BOWLING.				
	Overs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Runs.	Average.
P. Hutchings	156.2	44	44	311	7.59
B. Lobb	231.2	80	45	404	8.98
F. B. Revill	120.5	30	30	275	9.17
D. H. Benson	71.1	23	9	146	16.22
P. A. Gough	48	6	7	164	23.43

Also bowled: A. J. Homer, 12-1-3-36; R. Barraclough, 6-1-1-15; I. R. McClelland, 8-2-0-20.

Team bowling average: 10.08 runs per wicket.

School's full total: 1,745 runs for 97 wickets; average: 17.99 runs per wicket.

Opponents' full total: 1,498 runs for 145 wickets; average: 10.33 runs per wicket.

Stumpings: Charlesworth, 3 (10 matches); Coleman, 1 (5 matches).

Catches: McClelland, 9; Vernon, 8; Hiscox, 5; Charlesworth, Hobbs and Hutchings, 4 each; Benson, Coleman, Gough and Lobb, 3 each; Homer (A. J.) and Revill, 2 each; Homer (B. C.), 1. Total 51.

RECORDS

The following corrections have to be made to the record wicket partnerships which were published in the last issue of the CHRONICLE:

4th—177, A. T. Cond and W. K. Brown *v.* Warwick School at Warwick in 1904.

7th—69, A. J. Homer and P. Vernon *v.* Solihull School at Eastern Road in 1949.

8th—72, L. G. Clayton and H. G. Vaughton *v.* Trent College at Trent in 1916.

PROSPECTS

WITH the five remaining members of last season's XI it is hoped to build another strong team next season. Although there will be no shortage of slow bowlers, there is, however, a vacancy for a good fast bowler, but as is always the case, one is sure to materialize. As the School once again has its own cricket coach there is no reason why the batting of next season's XI should not be as good as that of last season's; thus, when considered as a whole, the prospects for next season are very good indeed.

A. J. HOMER,

Captain of Cricket, 1950.

RUGBY FOOTBALL REPORT

FOUR times this season has the XV lost, three times has it won, fifty points have been scored against it, thirty-six for. These stark figures may mean much to the statisticians, to us but little. We are not satisfied (as, indeed, no team should be), yet we feel that the rugger we have produced has been good; good to play and good to see. Gone we hope are the days of rough-tough unintelligent brawls, to give way to a faster and more open type of rugger. The pack has played magnificently, supported by a back division which is competent, if not always brilliant. The halves have had some rough passages. Our attack is penetrating and our defence steady. The back row, which threatened to be our weakest point, has improved with each match, though still a trifle slow. The wings, if somewhat eccentric, are ever potential scorers. And most important of all, confidence and the will to win has returned, and with these two qualities that team spirit which is so hard to attain.

The "Band of Forgotten Men" have been remembered this year and are responding fairly well. Of course, the Second team is always a trifle fluid in its composition owing to the demands of the XV, but despite this, some good football has been played. A good First team depends greatly on its reserve strength, and this year the Second team has not been found wanting. If the team is able to catch the enthusiasm and spirit of Mr. Leeds, they will do well.

THE "UNDER 16" XV

The "Under 16" XV has not enjoyed the success of last season's team. Let it be said though, that they too have improved, as did the corresponding "Under 15" team of last season. Hill is a capable back and captain. Gilinsky's tackling might well be emulated by several of his seniors. In the pack, Wilden plays hard and with success, and in Homer the team have a good wing-forward. Under Mr. Osborne's guidance they may yet do well.

The "Under 15" and "Under 14" teams exist and pursue their useful function, that of training them to be future members of the XV.

The Staff have produced a prodigious battery of coaches, whose help and guidance have been invaluable. Mr. Parry has worked untiringly on the First XV. It is, without doubt, largely due to his enthusiasm and encouragement that the team has regained its confidence. Mr. Leeds has undertaken the Second XV—though not too literally we hope! Mr. Osborne, with that happy knack of his, has produced a sound "Under 16" XV out of what seemed chaos. Messrs. Hurrell, Cooke and Sacret have each given valuable support to the remaining junior teams. Such efficiency breeds good fifteens of tomorrow. A whole host of the staff have organized and run the junior compulsory games under Mr. Sacret. We are truly indebted to them.

Sergeant-Major Moore is still the first thought of the injured. His methods, too, are memorable, but extraordinarily effective—as most of the XV can verify. We would thank him exceedingly. Our touch-judges, A. J. Gardner (1st XV) and V. J. Bingham (2nd XV) have performed their duty with efficiency and smartness.

RESULTS OF MATCHES

SCHOOL v. R.G.S., WORCESTER. *Away. Lost 3-9.*

SCHOOL v. OAKHAM SCHOOL. *Away. Won 11-6.*

Played on Saturday, October 22nd.

The School settled down to a series of raids on the Oakham line, which, owing to some shaky passing in the backs, failed to achieve their object. Lyall and Roberts both had their moments, gaining much ground, but the Oakham defence remained firm until Taplin rather simply seized a loose ball in the line-out and placed it over for a try. The kick failed. Shortly after this, Hutchings sold an impudent dummy and crossed between the posts. Again the kick failed. After half-time came a colossal Oakham revival. McClelland knocked on into the arms of his opposite number who ran fifty yards to score, chased by Roberts who pulled a muscle in the process, and was a passenger for the rest of the game. Oakham again scored after inter-forward passing, though neither kick was successful. J. A. Harvey pulled his pack together and they forced their way up to the Oakham "twenty-five," where from a line-out Harvey went over for a try which McClelland converted. K.E.S. remained on the attack for the remainder of the game.

All the Old Colours were re-awarded, including the 2nd XV Colours.

1st XV: J. A. Harvey, A. J. Homer, B. Baker, J. Hutchings.

2nd XV: J. D. Giles, G. T. Lyall, F. B. Revill, J. Latham, G. A. Taplin and G. R. Green.

SCHOOL v. RATCLIFFE COLLEGE. *Away. Lost 3-6.*

Played on Saturday, October 29th.

The pack, perhaps tired or perhaps resting on their laurels of the previous week, lacked fire and determination. What chances the forwards gave the backs were spoilt by erratic handling. The first half was scrappy, with honours going to Ratcliffe who scored a try due to poor marking. Revill kicked a good goal to even the score. The second half was less chaotic but still K.E.S. lacked thrust. Ratcliffe scored a further try to complete the scoring. On form the School might well have reversed the decision.

SCHOOL v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL. *Away. Lost 0-10.*

Played on Wednesday, November 3rd.

This game, contested before a crowd of over five hundred Bedford boys, was first and foremost an epic struggle between two good packs. The School pack won the honours, if any were to be won. Latham showed how good a hooker he can be and Harvey played his usual storming game. Turner, a newcomer at fly-half, did well to mark an extremely competent opposite number, though he failed frequently to get his line going. Homer's passes were no doubt responsible for much of this; as usual, he produced his mixture of good, bad and indifferent passes and some brilliant solo runs. The School backs made more use than heretofore of their opponents' mistakes, though they have still much to learn in this respect. Twice the Bedford fly-half broke the line resulting in the only two scores of the match; both tries were converted by excellent kicking. The XV still lacks that finish which a supporting crowd might well nurture. Harvey and Wainwright were outstanding in the pack, well supported by their colleagues, and Giles, if slightly slow, was sound at back.

SCHOOL v. WORKSOP. *Home. Lost 0-13.*

Played on Saturday, November 5th.

SCHOOL v. BROMSGROVE. *Home. Won 14-3.*

Played on Saturday, November 12th.

For the first time the School turned out to support its team. The effect was instantaneous. The pack and the backs gave Bromsgrove no room to work in and slung the ball about themselves. The pack, although outweighed in the tight, was superior in the loose, and manfully stuck to its task. The backs marked their men well with Harvey backing up well all the time. The tackling might have been more robust, yet was competent. Revill, who played

very well throughout, made an opening and passed inside where the ball changed hands several times before going to Lyall, who ran hard to score half-way out. The kick failed in the teeth of an opposing wind. Bromsgrove, not using the slope or wind as well as they might have done, pressed and finally scored from a scrum in our line. Their kick failed. Revill at this stage had been playing well, and McClelland had kicked well into the wind. The second half was more lively. The School attacked whenever it could and drove the Bromsgrove backs into panic kicking, which was invariably unsuccessful. A penalty kick from the half-way line by McClelland inspired both crowd and team to greater efforts. Homer picked up a loose ball at an incredible speed and flashed over for a brilliant try. Revill narrowly failed with his kick. After more pressure Roberts came inside, passed to Harvey, who cut across and passed to Lyall who again dived over. Revill's kick was perfect. That completed the scoring. K.E.S. won because of a colossal drive and enthusiasm backed up by good attacking and elusive football. The pack played magnificently. Homer was luckily on form and his tactical play engineered many good movements. Harvey and Revill were outstanding in a team which played as a team more than ever before. It can well be noted that Giles had cause to tackle on only one occasion.

J. D. Giles, G. T. Lyall, F. B. Revill, C. F. J. Latham and G. A. Taplin were awarded School Colours after the match.

A. E. H. Turner was re-awarded School 2nd XV Colours.

G. L. Roberts, D. P. Locker, J. F. Wainwright, R. M. Brown and J. K. Bean were awarded School 2nd XV Colours.

SCHOOL v. NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL. *Home. Won 5-3.*

Played on Tuesday, November 15th.

C. J. Lawrence was awarded School 2nd XV Colours.

SECOND XV

October	8—v. Stratford G.S. 1st XV	Home	Cancelled
"	15—v. R.G.S., Worcester II.	Home	Lost 0—11
"	22—v. Sebright 1st XV	Home	Lost 3—6
"	29—v. Tettehall College 1st XV	Home	Won 15—11
November	19—v. Bromsgrove School II	Away	Lost 3—16

" UNDER 16 " XV

October	8—v. Denstone	Away	Cancelled
"	15—v. Aston	Away	Lost 6—8
"	29—v. Ratcliffe	Away	Drawn 3—3
November	1—v. Rugby (Under 16 "A")	Home	Lost 3—20
"	5—v. Worksoy	Home	Drawn 3—3
"	15—v. Nottingham H.S.	Home	Lost 3—6
"	19—v. Bromsgrove	Home	Lost 3—5

" UNDER 15 " XV

October	15—v. R.G.S., Worcester	Away	Lost 0—20
"	22—v. Sebright	Home	Lost 0—23
November	3—v. Bromsgrove	Away	Lost 6—14
"	19—v. George Dixon's	Home	Won 9—0

CHARACTERS OF THE XV

I. R. McCLELLAND (*Captain*) (1947-48-49-50): A well-built improved centre who runs hard when he sees an opening, using his weight and hand-off effectively, though he must learn to run all out when he receives the ball. He finds a good touch with either foot and has a good long-range place-kick. His defence is settling down but his passing, if adequate, is inclined to be erratic. He has proved an efficient and popular Captain, who has moulded the players into a happy and confident team. (*Captain of Leeds*).

J.A.H.

J. A. HARVEY (*Vice-Captain*) (1948-49-50): An exceptional forward whose attack is

vigorous and intelligent and whose defence verges on the brilliant. He runs extremely hard and his passing is reliable. He possesses a powerful tackle which he uses unsparingly and his falling-on is excellent. His example has inspired a pack which he leads with great ability. Though more at home as lock, he has filled the open wing position with distinction. (*Captain of Copland's*).

A. J. HOMER (1947-48-49-50): A scrum-half who makes up for some erratic play with occasional brilliant bursts when his exceptional speed off the mark has often baffled both teams. His defence is negligible at present, but his kicking is good. He is a quiet Secretary whom we believe to be efficient. (*Captain of Dunt's*).

J. HUTCHINGS (1948-49-50) : A nice little footballer whose play has been weakened by his lack of inches and ounces. Unfortunately it has been deemed expedient to play him in the Second XV, but we are sure that this will not damp the enthusiasm of a grand player and sportsman.

(*Captain of Nicholson's*).

B. BAKER (1948-49-50) : This tall, tough forward can play really well when he concentrates. He has considerable speed but gets flurried when in possession. He must jump more in the line-out and concentrate for the whole game.

(*Captain of Biggs*'s).

C. F. J. LATHAM (1949-50) : Latham has this season proved himself to be the clever hooker which we have long known him to be. He is tenacious and rarely allows a clean heel from our opponents. He plays with vigour, and though he has assiduously practised his kicking and passing, these can still further be improved.

(*Leeds*'s).

J. D. GILES (1949-50) : Giles is developing into a competent full-back, though at times he is incredibly slow and half-hearted in his tackling. But his handling and tackling have saved many awkward situations. His falling-on and tackling can be very good, but often aren't.

(*Leeds*'s).

G. A. TAPLIN (1949-50) : A plucky blind-side wing forward who plays with great energy and determination. His tackling and falling are extremely good, making him a bulwark in defence. His dribbling and breakaways are always useful but he must develop more speed.

(*Dunt*'s).

G. T. LYALL (1949-50) : An immense stride, a good swerve, an unkind hand-off, a pugnacious tackle, an unreliable kick and plenty of determination form this winger's armoury. Left out on his wing he tends to dream, but is generally found in the right place at critical moments.

(*Captain of Porter*'s).

F. B. REVILL (1949-50) : A neat all-round three-quarter who has a defence complex. He is a good tactician and though not very fast, marks his man with tenacity. He keeps his head in defence and attack—a rare asset. His place-kicking at short range is extremely accurate.

(*Dunt*'s).

G. L. ROBERTS.† A very unorthodox wing three whose running is incredibly fast considering his action. He has bored his way frequently through many defences. His kicking is poor. He has passed twice this season—both times successfully.

(*Biggs*'s).

J. F. WAINWRIGHT.† A powerfully built forward whose vigorous play in the loose and line-out has led to many successful rushes. He passes well and has a hefty, if slightly inaccurate, kick.

(*Williams*'s).

R. M. BROWN.† Baker's partner in the second row plays, if not ostentatiously, at

least with vigour and intelligence. He jumps well and can be seen falling on. He has a huge kick which he finds difficult to control.

(*Williams*'s).

D. P. LOCKER.† Locker makes up for his inexperience by indefatigable play. Taken from the Abyss of comparatively unintelligent rugby, he has learnt both quickly and well. Whether he can kick is not known, but he can be relied upon to catch a ball.

(*Nicholson*'s).

J. K. BEAN.† A lofty new-comer who uses his height well in the line-out and sagaciously exerts his weight at lock. His breakaways are very useful, as are his competent handling and kicking.

(*Porter*'s).

A. E. H. TURNER.* A player of no little promise who seems to lack confidence. He has adapted himself fairly well at stand-off half, if his lapses in handling and passing we obscure. He must watch the ball more. His defence has improved and his kicking has been quite clever.

(*Captain of Burgess*'s).

G. R. GREEN.† A tough but slightly slow wing-forward who is a clever warrior. He lacks the finish so vital to a wing-forward, but he will gain it with experience.

(*Dunt*'s).

P. A. GARDNER (*Captain of Second XV*) : An intelligent forward with a deadly tackle. His work in the loose varies but he marks his man unrelentingly. His ability to lead a pack and Captain the team are unquestionable.

(*Captain of Williams*'s).

G. J. LAWRENCE.† A three-quarter with a powerful and delightfully smooth run and a deadly tackle. His positioning will come with experience though he shows himself no novice.

(*Biggs*'s).

J. A. VEITCH. Another fast-moving, hard-running centre who must learn to run straight. His tackling and covering can be very good indeed. His handling, kicking and passing could be improved.

(*Leeds*'s).

The School team has been : J. D. Giles ; G. L. Roberts, I. R. McClelland, F. B. Revill ; G. T. Lyall, A. E. H. Turner, A. J. Homer, D. P. Locker, C. F. J. Latham, J. F. Wainwright, R. M. Brown, B. Baker, J. K. Bean, J. A. Harvey.

The School 2nd XV has been : Westwood, Hiscox, Veitch,† Hurdman, Lawrence,† J. Hutchings, Gough, Eaton, Keeley, Waldren, Jones, Tayar, Green,† Haslam and Gardner (*Captain*).

Hiscox, G. R. Green, J. Hutchings, Eaton, Gardner have played in the 1st XV on occasions.

Lancaster, Chaudoir and Dore (whom we hope will recover soon from his accident) have played in the Second XV.

† Indicates Second XV Colours awarded.

* Indicates Second XV Colours re-awarded.

The "Under 16" team has been : Shortt, Weighell, Gilinsky, Hill (*Captain*), Sankarya, Hudson, Snead, Hignett, Turner, Wilden, Rowley, Homer, Jones and Allsop.

RUGBY FOOTBALL RECORDS, 1880-1949

	<i>Played.</i>	<i>Won.</i>	<i>Drawn.</i>	<i>Lost.</i>
Bromsgrove School	119	49	5	65
An Old Edwardians XV	80	34	7	39
Denstone College	56	17	3	36
*A Birmingham University XV	36	10	1	25
Oakham School	31	22	1	8
Bedford Modern School	28	12	4	12
Warwick School	24	19	—	5
Jesus College, Oxford	23	2	2	19
*Moseley 2nd XV	23	4	2	17
*Tettenhall School	18	13	2	3
*Trent College	14	7	2	5
Mount St. Mary's	13	4	—	9

**These fixtures have since lapsed.*

Highest Scores :

Away Matches : Beat K.E.S., Stratford, 77—0 in 1903-4.
 Lost to an Old Edwardians XV 0—67 in 1905-6.
 Home Matches : Beat Tettenhall 74—0 in 1901-2.
 Lost to the Corsairs 16—42 in 1931-2.

SWIMMING—RETROSPECT REPORT

LAST season saw a considerable improvement over the previous season's performance. Ten matches were swum, of which the School won five and lost the same number.

The prospects this year are favourable, as only two of last year's team have left. It is early as yet to prophesy the results of the new games system for the Lower School, but there seems to be no lack of enthusiasm among our younger swimmers.

Training facilities are still restricted, but the standard of swimming has improved rapidly and we can look forward to a successful season. Our thanks are due to Mr. Kay as also to Messrs. Cotter and King for their unceasing work on behalf of School Swimming.

J. R. LUCKETT,
Captain of Swimming.

SWIMMING SPORTS

THE Annual Swimming Sports were held at Woodcock Street Baths on Saturday, July 23rd, 1949. The results were as follow :

50 yards Free Style (Open) : 1, J. R. Luckett ; 2, A. J. Ireland and Luckett (C. H.) (dead heat). 29½ secs.

50 yards Free Style (Under 15) : 1, Foulds ; 2, Price ; 3, Pierce. 34½ secs.

One Lenth (Under 12½) : 1, Gordon ; 2, Homer ; 3, Schiemann. 27½ secs.

50 yards Back Stroke (Open) : 1, J. R. Luckett ; 2, Green ; 3, J. B. Janney. 37 secs.

50 yards Breast Stroke Handicap (Under 15) : 1, Price ; 2, Blythe and Foxall (dead heat). 38½ secs.

One Length (Under 13½) : 1, Pierce ; 2, Adams ; 3, Hodges. 22½ secs.

100 yards Free Style (Under 15) : 1, Price ; 2, Foulds ; 3, Wheatley, O. S. 83½ secs.

100 yards Free Style (Open) : 1, J. R. Luckett ; 2, Hignett ; 3, Ireland. 70½ secs.

House Relay Race (Under 15) : 1, Leeds ; 2, Coplands ; 3, Dunt's. 2 mins. 53½ secs.

100 yards Breast Stroke (Open) : 1, Price ; 2, Rogers ; 3, J. R. Luckett. 85½ secs.

50 yards Back Stroke (Under 15) : 1, Pierce ; 2, Price ; 3, Wheatley. 42½ secs.

House Relay Race (Second Team) : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Burgess' ; 3, Dunt's. 3 mins. 58½ secs.

One Length (Under 14) : 1, Pierce ; 2, Stockwin ; 3, Adams. 23 secs.

House Relay Race (First Teams) : 1, Leeds' ; 2, Dunt's ; 3, Copland's. 4 mins. 55 secs.

Senior Dive : 1, Wheatley ; 2, Hone ; 3, Green.

Junior Plunge : 1, Foxall ; 2, Blythe ; 3, Wheatley. Distance, 40-ft. 11-in.

School v. Old Edwardians : 1, Old Edwardians ; 2, K.E.S.

Allday Shield for House Terminal Competition : 1, Leeds', 50 ; 2, Coplands', 31.1 ; 3, Dunt's, 23.5 ; 4, Burgess', 21.1.

Jacot Cup for Champion House at Sports : 1, Dunt's and Copland's, 25 pts. ; 3, Leeds', 19.5 pts. ; 4, Burgess, 9 pts.

Solomon Cup—House Swimming Championship : 1, Leeds, 75 pts. ; 2, Copland's, 60.4 pts. ; 3, Dunt's, 52.2 pts. ; 4, Burgess, 32.4 pts.

Carr Cup (Senior Championship) : J. R. Luckett.

Governors' Cup (Junior Championship) : Price, R. B. W.

SHOOTING REPORT

THE cheerful prophets of last season opined that the outlook for this season was gloomy. Although in some respects this prophecy has proved true, the few old hands who have stayed on provide the nucleus of the VIII, and an amount of new talent has been discovered which surprises us with rapidly improving averages.

The VIII has so far been selected from the following: A. J. Potter, J. Westbrooke, M. C. Jones, R. N. Doubleday, P. R. Purser, G. D. Clarke, P. G. Stewart, J. Knight, M. J. Rogers, J. W. Young, P. Harling and G. C. B. Nicholas (*Captain*).

Retrospect

As all the results of the '303 shooting were not available in time for the last issue of the CHRONICLE, a full list is contained in this article:

'303 SHOOTING:

v. St. Paul's School	..	441—456	Lost
v. Denstone College	..	441—489	Lost
Midland Ashburton	..	458	Placed
		6th out of 22	
Cadet Pair	..	115	
v. Bromsgrove School	..	464—457	Won
Cadet Pairs	..	115—106	Won
v. Christ's Hospital	..	464—462	Won
Cadet Pairs	..	110—99	Won
v. Harrow School	..	464—472	Lost
v. Glasgow Academy	..	473—465	Won
Cadet Pairs	..	112—117	Lost
v. Uppingham School	..	473—489	Lost
Cadet Pairs	..	112—120	Lost

At first glance this list of results would appear very unimpressive. On analysis it emerges that the VIII won 43 per cent. of their matches (won 3, lost 4) and the Cadet Pair 33 per cent. (won 2, lost 4).

In the Midland Ashburton the VIII shot very well to be placed sixth out of a total of twenty-two. In this event Schools and Colleges from all over the country were competing.

At Bisley the Cadet Pair were equal second at 200 yards, but could not maintain this form at 500 yards, when they finished up fifteenth. The VIII encountered no little difficulty with one of the rifles, and finished in twenty-second place out of the twenty-nine competing. These positions seem unworthy of the standard of shooting which is maintained here, but it is necessary to bear in mind that the VIII was competing against the finest school teams in Great Britain. It met the representatives of such Schools as Eton and Winchester, against whom our School teams do not usually shoot. These Schools were from places as far apart as the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and from the extremities of Scotland, and when these considerations are taken into account, our results show up in a slightly better light.

Our most grateful thanks are extended to Capt. Cooke for his splendid co-operation and coaching, as well as to the C.O. and his fellow officers who devote so much time to the welfare of School Shooting.

C. G. B. NICHOLAS,
Captain of the VIII.

CHESS REPORT

THE position of Chess in School is comparable to a game in which one player has pushed his pawns too far forward and is finding it difficult to maintain them there. There are neither the facilities for the hundred or more active players to play when they want to, nor any immediate prospect of achieving them. The present concentrated programme of House Matches has already developed into a disorganized rabble, but with the full co-operation of the players themselves, this state of affairs will soon subside.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of players worthy of consideration for School Teams, and consequently the First Team has been withdrawn from the Junior League to enable the Second Team to play in the First Division for the Grammar Schools Championship. In addition to this, a Third Team is competing in the Second Division. The First Team confirmed its strength by holding a strong Oxford University "A" Team to a draw after losing two games by default. The Warwickshire Chess Association has introduced the County Club Championship, a competition open to all clubs in Warwickshire. There have been ten entries this season, including that of the School; this will provide nine strong opponents for the First Team.

The matches played to date are as follow:

Oct.

4— I v. Erdington C.C. A. Lost 4—10

12— I v. Oxford U. "A" A. Dr'n 3—3

21— II v. Bishop Vesey

G.S. I .. A. Won 4½—1½

21— III v. Central G.S. I A. Won 4—2

Nov.

2—"A" v. Bedford Mod. S. A. Won 6—0

4— II K.E.G.S., Five

Ways, I .. H. Won 5—1

11— III v. Saltley G.S. II H. Won 3½—2½

This is a very encouraging start for all the teams.

Last season the School entered a team of eight in the Junior Postal League. The results are not yet complete, but there is a good chance of the School gaining first place. In October, Mr. C. H. O'D. Alexander, himself a former School Chess Captain, played simultaneously against teams representing the various Birmingham Schools. Both the School teams, Lloyd (D. E.) and (K. W.); Barker (G. K.) and J. Alexander,

obtained draws, a feat only equalled by one other team. Eleven of the Schools' players are called upon regularly to play for the Junior County Team (20 boards) on Saturday afternoons and E. Watson has been appointed Captain.

Chess may now be ranked as one of the most important of the School's activities, but, as yet, there are few outward signs of its ascendancy. Nevertheless, with the continued assistance of our energetic Chairman, Mr. King, we may now look forward to a Chess Room of greater distinction to encourage our latent talent. For it is only after the confusion of the middle-game that the king comes to the forefront and opens the way for his pawns to march on until they become crowned as powerful queens in that final moment of ecstatic glory.

J. ALEXANDER,
Captain of Chess.

Chess Characters

J. ALEXANDER (*Captain*): A very strong player who is both gifted in attack and tenacious in defence; he is rightly regarded as one of the leading players of his age in the country. His presence always strengthens the morale of the team and he works hard amongst our juniors.

E.W.

E. WATSON: Has unpretentiously acquired a deep understanding of the strategy of the game. He would do well to improve the tactical side of his play which, although good, leaves many fields for further exploration. An able secretary.

(*Nicholson's*).

M. N. BARKER: Is a highly talented player in all departments of the game. His chief assets are a rare combinative ability and a spirited resourcefulness when in an inferior position. Even now he is rated highly in the County and with more experience will gain even higher distinction. Junior Champion of Warwickshire. British Boy Champion.

(*Leeds*).

MACNAB: Has a sound knowledge of positional play which has brought him many fine wins against redoubtable opponents.

(*Leeds*).

LOYD (D. E.): Is a strong player whose chief virtue is a consistent accuracy which relentlessly punishes any opponent who should dare to make a mistake.

(*Dunt's*).

PHIPPS: Practices regularly and consequently has obtained an extensive knowledge of the game. His play is apt to become lifeless at times.

(*Porter's*).

LOYD (K. W.): An enterprising and imaginative player who is only prevented from attaining great achievement by a temporary lack of experience. Under 14 Champion of Warwickshire.

(*Dunt's*).

GALLON: A young player who has already shown his ability to play on equal terms with very strong opponents.

(*Burgess*).

BARKER (G. K.): A very useful member of the team, who by dint of his careful and intelligent play has gained many valuable points.

(*Leeds*).

GOODALL: Has by his intense keenness made rapid progress. This has already been reflected in some recent successes.

(*Nicholson's*).

This is the team in which we put our trust for a successful season in the Warwickshire Championship.

J. ALEXANDER,
Captain of Chess.

ETON FIVES REPORT

THE inexorable grinding of the press precludes us from reporting more than optimism, proof for which we hope will be amply provided but a few days hence at Oakham. Further opportunities there will no doubt be, should the Secretary's multitudinous correspondence be required. The team is young and capable, as far as can be seen in cold-blooded practice and a worthy successor to last year's unbeaten team.

The new House system has forced all Captains to leave no stone unturned in their search for players. Some of the finds might well crawl back to their former haunts unless they are willing to put some energy into the game. Not a few though appear to have been hiding their light under bushels rather than stones.

Outside official games, play proceeds along fairly sober lines with the seniors, whilst the juniors have combined the practices of eating, reading and in some cases apparently sleeping to add variety to their game. But each class doubtless derives its own peculiar amusement from the game. Some are keen enough not to be deterred by the wildest of weather.

Of the compelled juniors, one might well question if some are vertebrate, but under Mr. Smith's patient guidance perhaps they will blossom forth into good players.

The equipment is in a better state of affairs than heretofore. Few, when so desiring, are refused the means of play. A new type of yellow glove has appeared which offends the eye but protects the hand. All such is in the hands of Mr. E. V. Smith, whose halo brightens almost visibly as his martyred existence continues. His quiet but immensely efficient steering of our more prosaic activities earns our admiration and gratitude.

I. R. McCLELLAND,
Captain of Eton Fives.

Fives Characters

I. R. McCLELLAND (*Captain*) (1948-49-50): A player whose superiority in the Fives Court is always outstanding and one who well deserves the Captaincy of the team. His strength and build enable him to play a forceful game and his few mistakes are greatly outweighed by his resourcefulness and tactical ability. (*Leeds*).
J.S.W.

J. S. WILLIAMSON (*Secretary*): Match play reveals Williamson at his best. Then he can produce astounding power and accuracy. He positions himself with the ease of an expert and is quick with his hands and feet—sometimes too much so. No more efficient or hard-working Secretary could be found. (*Captain of Copland's*).

A. E. H. TURNER: Turner, when required, can vie with the best. His one bad fault is slow positioning. He has a shrewd eye for a tactical advantage and seizes quickly upon his opponents' mistakes. His play could be more forceful. (*Captain of Burgess's*).

C. F. WARING: A comparative youth whose play is already mature. He is exceptionally tenacious "up-step" though slightly slow down. His attack is rather stereotyped and he could afford to be generally more bold, though at present he is thoroughly reliable. (*Dunt's*).

J. F. WAINWRIGHT: Powerful and solid strokes flow from this player who can be amazingly nimble for his build. He smashes well with either hand and while not brilliant, his play is uniformly consistent. (*Williams's*).

T. H. KEELEY: A newcomer whose play sparkles with vitality. Practice should produce an excellent player here. He finds "pep" consistently, but in company with the rest of the team he should learn to use the whole court with either hand.

(*Captain of Biggs's*).
The team will be selected from the following: J. S. Williamson, A. E. H. Turner, C. F. Waring, J. F. Wainwright, J. D. Sandilands, A. T. C. Campbell and I. R. McClelland.

P.T. REPORT

P.T. continues.

B. A. HISCOX,
P. Leader.

MR. BURGESS' HOUSE REPORT (Yellow)

THE House appears to have settled down swiftly after the departure of half its members. A wieldy body has emerged, which already begins to benefit from the influence of weekly perorations by House officials.

We were pleased to welcome back on: more A. E. H. Turner who retains his posts of Captain of Rugby and of Fives. We also congratulate D. N. Gallon on his appointment as Captain of Chess. His extreme youthfulness augurs well for the future. In the sphere of Rugby we have been unfortunate to lose for some time the services of A. J. K. Dore, who is at present recovering from a severe road accident. We extend to him our sympathy and best wishes.

The House 1st XV is now playing well, while the 2nd XV, although obtaining poor results, has been rather unlucky. The Juniors appear to thrive on compulsory Rugby, and are developing well under the tutelage of A. J. Lancaster.

The introduction of smaller Houses is having its desired effect, for more boys are taking an active part in games. It is to be hoped that this trend will continue.

J. R. GRUNDON,
House Secretary.

MR. DUNT'S HOUSE REPORT (Green)

UPON seeing which half of the old House was to remain Dunt's, one's first reaction was to be rather pessimistic and say, "How can we do well at such-and-such a thing when old so-and-so has been put into Nicholsons?" Now that we have had time to assess the strength of the various Houses we can, I think, say that all-round we are still one of the strongest Houses.

Although it was feared that we might not have enough Rugger players of a decent standard in the House to fill the teams, this fear has proved to be groundless. The standard of the people who have taken up Rugger again, or started to play the game for the first time, has been such that together with the people who have played for the House before, it has been possible to build two teams both of which, so far, have won three out of four matches.

We should have, without doubt, been top of Chess again had the House not been divided, but as was only right, the Chess players had to be split up and as far as can be ascertained, we are not doing as well as in previous years.

One of the activities which can boast of 100 per cent. success is that of Fives, the three matches played having all been won. That more have not been played has been largely due to the weather. Those matches not played this term will be played next term and there is no reason why we should not win every match.

Tennis, the points for which are now counted in the House Championship Competition, is another activity in which we have

had 100 per cent. success—the one match played being won. As with Fives, the weather has interfered with the House Tennis programme so that a number of matches will have to be played next term.

For the future, we must wait and see. Athletics may be the House's weak point. Swimming and Shooting cannot at the moment be judged, while Cricket is doubtful. There is, however, no reason why, if every member of the House takes part in at least one activity, we should not be Cock House next year.

A. J. HOMER,
House Secretary.

MR. LEEDS' HOUSE REPORT (Red)

THE grinning skull of the pristine House lies almost forgotten, its teeth scattered and sawn. From thence have arisen two bands eager for prey not only between themselves, but with the other six bands of similar genesis. We, the one, though scarcely as capable as the legendary tailor, have laid out a plan of campaign for a similar target. Comparisons are always odious, yet they do strive to show us that to succeed we must summon up more blood and stiffen the flagging sinews. The ruddy complexion of the House will not be emphasized by its record at Rugger, for in that sphere each and every one has played his part exceedingly well, though hampered by a lack of inches and ounces. A little more "pep" could be included in our Fives; here again our cause prospers. At Tennis, a sport shrouded in obscurity, we gain our principal advantage; at Chess, we progress without any untoward checks. We have yet to shoot, but I am informed we can do so when the occasion so demands. In all, our positions are average if not spectacular. The remainder of the competition still confronts us, but at our head we have our tried and proven Housemaster and his aide-de-camp, fountains of encouragement and fiery scourges of slackness. We must not shrink nor look behind, but rather take for our motto: *Palma non sine pulvere.*

I. R. MCCLELLAND,
House Secretary.

MR. COPLAND'S HOUSE REPORT (Blue)

THE advent of the eight house system has been nothing short of disastrous to the House. For the House appears to be sinking to a new low level, from which only a large slice of luck, combined with not a little effort, can extract us.

Despite the hard work put in by Mr. Copland and his henchman, Mr. Parry, the House teams have done singularly and uniformly badly. Handicapped by a lack of talent and a large amount of downright slackness, the House Rugger teams have done far from well. If the House can reproduce some of the zeal displayed against Leeds, however, when two full teams were turned out, there may yet be some hope left in the realms of Rugger.

The Fives team has as yet failed to win a match, although J. S. Williamson promises a profound alteration in this state of affairs. The Chess team has performed little better, but as often happens, under such circumstances, hope comes from the quarter whence it is least expected. J. G. Haslam informs us that the Tennis team has actually gained some points, although he has not yet calculated how many.

It has been in the past the custom of the Secretaries of Mr. Copland's House to prophesy a rosy future. This year even that luxury has been dispensed with. At Rugger, Fives, Chess and Tennis we are doing badly; the prospects for the future are grim; only in Shooting is there any possibility of success. Unless all the members of the House, including the Science VI, make a supreme effort in the next few months, we shall without a doubt when the marks for the House Competition are being added up in July, find ourselves in the unenviable position of supporting seven houses instead of the customary three.

G. W. PETERS,
House Secretary.

MR. WILLIAMS' HOUSE REPORT (Pink)

WILLIAMS' House was launched together with three other new Houses, at the beginning of this Term, Mr. Williams being assisted as House Master by Mr. Osborne. At first it appeared that we might be swamped in the launching process, for our teams met with little or no success, but we now seem to be making progress, although it is but slow.

Since winning their first match, the House First XV have not had a single victory. This is not, however, for want of effort in the team, and we look forward to better times in the near future.

The Second XV on the other hand, has done very well against far heavier opponents, and we must congratulate them on their successes.

In Tennis, the House has played two matches and lost them both. The weather has been against us, but even so, prospects are not good in this sphere of activities.

The House Fives team is holding its own reasonably well, and although we cannot

hope to gain first place, there is every reason to hope for a place in the first three.

So much for sport. In the less physically active realm, Shooting and Chess remain. The Shooting team is due to shoot a match at the end of term, in a knock-out competition, and our chances of success are fair.

The Chess team has maintained a constant standard throughout the term—unfortunately! Had they on occasions been able to rise above this standard, we might not be occupying the ignoble eighth position to-day. However, the House expects . . .

The House has been divided for tutoring purposes into two parts. Part of the House has Mr. Williams as House Tutor, and the other half, Mr. Osborne. This arrangement enables every boy to be followed more closely through his School career. This is an experiment, which, it is hoped, will prove its worth in a few years time.

R. N. DOUBLEDAY,
House Secretary.

MR. NICHOLSON'S HOUSE REPORT (Purple)

THE House has started off its career with a loud bang. The shower of victories that has fallen upon us is an indication that its members intend to co-operate in the manner that their House Master has exhorted.

The House First XV, despite the dearth of outstanding players, is a nicely balanced team, and their solidarity has won for us all four of the matches played to date; thereby proving that skill may often overcome brute force. In particular we celebrate our victory over our "other half." The second team shows promise but is lacking in enthusiasm.

The House seems to have carried with it the Chess tradition of Mr. Dunt's House, and only an increase in vitality in the teams is needed for us to ensure our position. At the start of the term Tennis prospects were doubtful, but after some experiments, however, the team has settled down well in its first few matches in the face of bad weather and cancellations. By compensating in keenness that which it lacks in skill, the team has scored a reasonable number of points.

The Fives team has played only one match, which they won, and it is perhaps a little early to predict their future. We are told that P.T. continues.

The energy and enthusiasm of our House Master and Mr. Benett have been the great driving forces in this first term of the House's existence. If the House continues in the style in which it has begun, we may look forward to the day when the new House will graduate to the position of Cock House.

M. VAN MENTS,
House Secretary.

MR. BIGGS' HOUSE REPORT (Light Blue)

AFTER only a term in the keenly competitive jungle of an octagonal House Competition, we can look back with some satisfaction upon the achievements of this first half of the Rugger season. No longer can we be regarded merely as a junior offshoot of Mr. Leeds' House (though indeed we still bear the colours of the Junior University) for our Rugger teams have established firmly on the field of play their independence and their superiority. The House could scarcely have wished for a more auspicious birth.

The final outcome of the term's matches is still undecided, but at the time of going to press, none of the three Rugger teams has lost a single match, more formidable opposition than we have yet encountered, however, is still expected from Mr. Leeds' House and from Mr. Dunt's House. The House Captain of Rugger, whom we congratulate on the re-award of School Rugger Colours, calls for better attendances on the teams and on the touch-line. The House has done well, but it must not negligently pull its punches in next term's knock-out competition. We congratulate G. L. Roberts (Learners' Captain) on being awarded School 2nd XV Colours, and T. H. Keeley, D. C. Soutter, N. Sankarayya and P. G. Foulds on being awarded House Rugger Colours.

Our success is not confined to Rugger alone. In Fives, again, we have not lost a single match. With two matches still to play, the prospects are good. In Chess, our career has been more chequered: we have won three matches out of five. The Chess Captain reports a lack of outstanding talent; other Houses, it appears, are in a similar position. The Shooting and Swimming teams are training hard for triumphs yet to come. We should do well in next year's P.T. Competition, and we must congratulate M. S. McLean, House P.T. Leader, on winning the Individual P.T. Championship for the second time.

Prospects? We can only follow Asquith's terse advice. The House has shown itself abundantly rich in "muddled oafs." We can only hope that the "flannelled fools" will guide its fortunes surely and successfully in the Summer of 1950.

G. F. B. LAUGHLAND,
House Secretary.

MR. PORTER'S HOUSE REPORT (Brown)

OUR first term as a House has met with success in some departments, and failure in others. We realize that we are not an exceptionally strong House, but enthusiasm

has been good, despite regrettable lapses in turning up at matches.

In Rugby we have our strong points, but our weak ones have proved our undoing. We have to date lost four matches—none of them overwhelmingly—and won one. The Second team has had a similar record. The Third team has played, and won, one match.

Tennis has proved our strongest point so far, all the games having been won.

We are lying third in the House Championships at Chess, which is commendable, and bottom in Fives, which is reprehensible, though hardly surprising. Shooting prospects are good, we have swimmers, athletes and even a cricketer or two.

Prospects for the next two terms are good so long as the "team spirit" and enthusiasm noticeable so far do not relapse into the general attitude of unconcern that we know so well from past years.

G. T. LYALL,
House Secretary.

THE LIBRARY

THERE is considerable cause for satisfaction this Term, although we are far from being complacent. The signs are, that the issue of books this term will exceed considerably that of the corresponding term last year. This is a healthy sign, and to cope with the extra work involved in catering for a larger membership, the Library staff has been increased. With two exceptions, all last year's Temporary Librarians were appointed Librarians at the beginning of this term.

We are extremely grateful to Mrs. C. H. Heath for presenting us with a further large collection of her late husband's books. Thanks to this gift, the history Section has been greatly enlarged, and is now probably better off than any other Section in the Library. Almost every other Section has benefitted in some measure from this presentation.

In addition, the Library has purchased many other books, covering a wide range of subjects.

Unfortunately, there is a general tendency to be untidy, but it is to be hoped that this is but a passing phase.

In conclusion, it is interesting to contrast this report with an extract from the *CHRONICLE* of March, 1872, in which the Editor, commenting on the gloomy prospects of a number of School institutions, has this to say of the Library: "The King Edward's School Library lingers on, supported by the efforts of a small section of the School."

R. N. DOUBLEDAY,
School Librarian.

DEBATING SOCIETY

THE Society encountered some heavy waters of criticism in the last issue of the *CHRONICLE*. Didactically, relentlessly, and above all with the telling weight of truth to garnish their ponderous pronouncements, the School Captain and the retiring Secretary pointed an accusing finger at our shortcomings. We were grilled upon a trident of accusations. Speeches betrayed a perceptible lack of preparation; they were tainted by a political demagoguery heterodoxical to all good debating; the wit flaunted in them too often emerged as "blatant and unfunny buffoonery."

This term it was soon evident that if our members had lost the embarrassed rosy hues provoked by these articles, at least they had not been written in vain. The heat had been turned on only to thaw us out of the rigor mortis which had been settling in. The bellows have fanned the smouldering embers of debating talent into a flickering flame. The ancients have performed the impossible; they have set about reforming themselves with an energy which they were not thought to possess. But if the dormant chrysalis has metamorphosed into the winged state it has yet to learn the art of rhetorical flight. We breathe a fervent prayer to St. John Chrysostom that it may be borne aloft during the coming year.

These statements may well be dismissed as the extravaganza of an untried and over-optimistic Secretary. Indeed, little evidence may be quoted in their support. As yet but two meetings have been held, one of which was a joint debate whose "false life" the Society has not yet seen fit to spurn. At this debate the Epicureans of both schools suffered defeat. The motion "That this House believes that the object of one's life is to enjoy oneself," was lost. Perhaps the spectre of the Temperance Society was abroad, or it may be that A. C. Fox and Miss Brenda Meads excelled themselves for the opposition. We do not know, and therefore withhold judgment. As a contrast to the philosophical tone of this debate our internal meeting haggled over more parochial issues. It emerged that the House did not think that "Birmingham is an abomination." City planning authorities please note, and the more delectable of the City restaurants prepare for increased patronage from the School with the ringed cap.

Throughout these stormy scenes Mr. Blount epitomizes sanity and order while presiding over a Society so often deficient in these qualities in the past.

P. A. GARDNER,
Hon. Secretary.

LITERARY SOCIETY

THE Literary Society has suffered that loss in manpower which is inevitable at the close of the School Year. In addition it has lost its Chairman, Mr. R. M. Osborne. Mr. Osborne deserves our very real thanks for the work he has put into the Society over the past two years; particularly has he retained the atmosphere of informality which has done so much towards making the Society's place in the School unique. We hope that we will enjoy his continued support.

But this is not an obituary column. We are not concerned here with the past, but with the present and the future. In regard to the present, the Society has every reason to congratulate itself on a most successful term. This success is due in no small part to the enthusiastic guidance we have received from Mr. R. G. Crow, as also to the high literary merit of the papers presented this term at the three meetings. A general criticism meeting was followed by a paper on Francis Thompson, submitted by the retiring Secretary, P. A. Gardner, and to round off our programme the Head Master honoured—and swelled—our ranks with a paper entitled, "Art, Belief, and Unbelief."

A further attraction this term has been the inauguration of fortnightly poetry reading meetings held in the lunch-hour. The poets read to date have ranged from Rupert Brooke to D. H. Lawrence.

Both the principal and the lunch-hour meetings have received uniformly encouraging support from the School this term. If numerical attendance be the sole criterion of the success of a Society we may view the future with smug, but justifiable, confidence.

D. R. LLEWELLYN,
Hon. Secretary.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

THE Dramatic Society, having slumbered during the Summer, has re-awakened to great activity this term, rehearsing for this year's School Play—"Henry IV" (Part I). Each day after School, bricks and mortar resound with speeches from the play, punctuated with the staccato hammerings of the scenery constructors back-stage. The play will be presented in Big School on Thursday, 26th; Friday, 27th; and Saturday, 28th of January, 1950. In true Falstaffian manner we toast to its success.

M. V. GOSNEY,
Hon. Secretary.

MUSICAL SOCIETY

OUR Mid-day Concerts continue to flourish. So far this term we have had two Record Recitals and two "live" Concerts. Records presented have included the Grieg Piano Concerto and a whole programme of orchestral works by Richard Strauss. An organ recital has been given by Dr. Willis Grant; and we have just reached the culmination of this term's Mid-day Concerts in a Composite Recital by members of the School. This included a Sonata for Trumpet and Organ by Purcell (A. J. Homer, T. F. H. Oxley); a Mozart Sonata for Piano Duet (A. D. Kirkby, G. T. Bruce); one of Vaughan Williams' "Songs of Travel" (R. T. Popple); movements from Debussy's Petite Suite for Piano Duet (T. F. H. Oxley, D. A. Wright); and a Recorder Solo (B. S. Adams). At the end of term a Jazz Concert will be given by members of the School.

Our Junior Society has had two meetings, both well-attended; at the first, records were presented; at the second, in addition to records, Piano Solos and a Piano Duet added variety.

The School Choir and Orchestra are rehearsing enthusiastically for the School Concert at the end of this term. This promises to reach great heights: all is under the capable guidance of our Chairman, Dr. Willis Grant, to whom we must express our continued gratitude.

T. F. H. OXLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

MUSIC CIRCLE

THE Circle advances. A large influx of new members has had the effect of stimulating our meetings and awakening us from our summer slumbers.

Two meetings have been held so far this term; the first consisted of a Concert on records, the principal work being the Walton Viola Concerto. The works were introduced and explained by our Chairman, Dr. Willis Grant, in the educative and lucid way we have grown to expect. At the second meeting Dr. Christopher Edmunds, Principal of the Birmingham School of Music, played records of Bantock's Hebridean Symphony, and talked about the life and work of that unjustly neglected composer. At our last meeting this term visiting artists will give a performance of Schubert's Song-Cycle, "The Shepherd on the Rock."

We must not close without expressing thanks to Dr. Grant for arranging all the details which make our meetings so successful.

T. F. H. OXLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

SCIENCE marches rapidly on, and the Society has commenced another year in distinguished style.

Prof. Oliphant, in mid-October, addressed a hotch-potch of scientists, linguists, classicists and unmentionables on the topic, "Why Smash Atoms?" Those who study the humanities, having at last caught up with Dalton by way of Lucretius, were shocked to learn that the Professor had been both creating matter and transmuting the elements. The second meeting attracted a rather smaller number. Dr. A. C. Waite, an O.E., spoke in entertaining style on "Safety Glass." He began with a story of a school friend who, having reached the roof of New Street Station via a window of the Old School, fell through the glass; from that day Dr. Waite appears to have devoted himself to the cause of making stronger glass. His success was amply demonstrated by a corpulent member of the Society who jumped upon a bridge of frail-looking glass. The lecturer made a piece of safety glass before our eyes and continued with many demonstrations which were adequately summed up by a youthful Scientist as "smashing." Our thanks go to Mr. Ballance, our Chairman, to G. T. Lyall for his excellent posters, and to Mr. Armitage and his assistants for all the work they do on our behalf.

E. WATSON,
Hon. Secretary.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Now that materials are once again in plentiful supply the Society has had a most active term. At the meetings attendance has been good and it has been interesting to see a large percentage of members other than those from the Science block.

Perhaps never before has the dark room seen such use, whilst thanks to our more industrious friends, an enlarger has been built and—we think—successfully demonstrated, at our last meeting.

Members' cameras have covered most of the School events and have been as far afield as Doncaster. It was during this trip that the Secretary caused much amusement to the passengers of the train by dangling an immense reflex camera out of the window in an attempt to snap the engine in front without first having purchased an insurance ticket.

Our thanks are due to our Chairman—Mr. Hall—for his invaluable help and assistance.

J. D. MILLS,
Hon. Secretary.

CIVIC SOCIETY

THE Society has had an exceptionally successful term. Three meetings have been held, commencing with a discussion on devaluation, which was introduced by P. A. Gardner and Mr. J. F. Bennett. Lectures have been given on "Birmingham—When we Build Again," by Alderman J. C. Burman, and on "The Cogs of the Party Machine," by Mr. R. Hughes-Rowland, of the Young Unionist Association. When we were honoured by the visit of Alderman Burman the Head Master consented to take the Chair. With attendances averaging over fifty, the term has been one of unqualified success, and the future looks rosy.

Jubilation, however, is out of place, for the Society has suffered a great loss. Mr. Blount, after occupying the Chair for over three years, has resigned. We thank him for his many services and wish our new Chairman, Mr. Vaughan, a successful tenure of office.

J. B. GOTTSCHALK,
Hon. Secretary.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THE frenzy of activity prophesied by the former Secretary has not, unfortunately, materialized. The Society still lacks the support of the Junior Forms who will provide its backbone in years to come. The attendances for the two meetings held so far this term have been numbered in the meagre (and not even roaring) forties, instead of the hundreds as of old.

The fare has been excellent, including a feast of the most interesting human aspect of Geography. In the first meeting a group of ten boys from "A" and "B" Blocks gave their various impressions derived from a tour of the Scottish Highlands. The second meeting took the form of a talk on "Life in Jamaica," given by a former master of King Edward's, the Rev. E. Price. This series of talks has to be completed by the third and final meeting of this term, when a teacher from the Gold Coast will reveal native life in the "White Man's Grave."

The outside activities of the Society this term have been restricted to a single visit, shortly to take place, when we will be going round the works of Chance Bros., Glass Manufacturers, of Smethwick.

The planning of future meetings is progressing and already "a thrilling saga of the Antarctic" has been booked for future presentation at great personal expense of time on the part of the speakers.

Finally the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Whalley, our Chairman, as also to Mr. Bennett for their unflinching assistance.

L. L. WATSON,
Hon. Secretary.

THIS term the Society has been dogged by ill-luck in the guise of postponed meetings, but nevertheless, V. J. Biggs, Esq. gave a well-received talk on "Palestine." Two further meetings are scheduled to take place in the near future; let us hope, therefore, that Fate will smile kindly upon us.

It is regrettable, however, that most members of the School, especially our younger brethren, appear both unconscious of the (very) existence of the Society and totally indifferent to the ecstasies of Archæological research. We must emphasize that Archæology, as interpreted by the Society, concerns not only excavation and Egyptian mummies, but also subjects such as heraldry, which would perhaps be more fittingly styled antiquarian. May we, then, dare to assume that the next meeting will be graced by the presence of enthusiastic youngsters, who will surely delight in the witticisms and *joie de vivre* of our Chairman, T. C. Burgess, Esq.?

T. H. KEELEY,
Hon. Secretary.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

It is quite apparent after attending a meeting of the Philatelic Society, that stamp collectors must not be excluded from that great mass of humanity which only gazes on the materialistic side of life. Even more apparent is a lack of support from amongst the senior members of the School. The former fault is closely connected with this generation's habit of taking as much as possible and giving but little in return. One of the objects of having a Society is to broaden one's outlook and thereby rectify this fault. This can only be achieved by appealing to senior boys who take an interest in stamps to come to our meetings and to pass on advice to junior philatelists in the form of illustrated lectures, quizzes, or brains' trusts. By estimation, one boy in three collects stamps at one time or another; if we state that our average attendance is thirty, no further comment is required.

E. M. Jubb spoke at the first meeting on "Stamps—their financial and educational values." The vast amount of knowledge possessed by several members of the Society was brought to light during a Philatelic Brains' Trust, when ideas were advanced on specialising and the future of Philately as a hobby.

The Society, with valuable assistance from Mr. Hurn, as Chairman, has great aspirations for the future, but it remains to be seen whether these aspirations will achieve maturity.

E. M. JUBB,
Hon. Secretary.

THE Society progresses. This term we have held three meetings and elected ourselves to the noble position of having minutes read at these assemblies. These meetings began with D. D. A. Bantock talking on "Ships in Art"; then an interesting and well-attended talk by the Chairman, Mr. Hurn, on "Modern Art," and finally a lecture on "Lincoln Cathedral" delivered by R. T. Popple.

The scenery being constructed for this year's play is on a truly magnificent scale, and is of a strength calculated to withstand even the wandering feet of the stage hands. Posters for the other societies have also been a feature of the Society's work and these have been of a pleasingly high standard. For the future, an exhibition of work by the Secretary will be given before the close of the term, and we hope to pursue the theme of "Modern Art" into a full-scale discussion.

G. T. LYALL,
Hon. Secretary.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

FRIDAY lunch-hour meetings have recommenced this term after the somnolence of the Summer term. Attendance has been generally good, although the Lower School cannot participate because of second lunch. It is felt that more members of the Upper Middles and Fiftis should attend, if the Society is to avoid extinction in the near future.

Visiting Crusader leaders have included Mr. M. Mathie of Harborne and Mr. R. Trew of Moseley, whose address, "Faith is Reasonable," was found most stimulating. During the remainder of term we look forward to visits from Rev. J. W. Roxburgh and M. T. Apps.

Weekly prayer meetings, which we feel warrant more support, have continued to be held before School on Friday mornings. Members of the committee have made steady progress with their study of the First Epistle to the Thessalonians. With its nucleus of keen Sixth-Formers, the Society looks forward to another term of steady progress and increased influence in the School.

We should like to thank Mr. Hurn for allowing us to use the Art Room this term, and D. D. A. Bantock for his excellent poster work.

J. G. HASLAM,
Hon. Secretary.

THE CLOSED CIRCLE

THE Closed Circle alone among School Societies appears to remain blissfully insouciant of attendance figures. But the standard of papers is as high as ever.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

For the last meeting of the Summer term, on July 25th, the Society heard an address by Peter Slade, Esq., Director of Drama to the Birmingham Education Department. Discussion of his interesting propositions was, unfortunately, cut short by his early departure.

Two meetings have so far taken place this term. At the first G. W. Peters read a paper entitled "World Population." In the ensuing discussion, the Society reached the conclusion that the outlook for humanity was disconcerting. At the second meeting, R. T. Popple introduced the subject of "Music and the Mind." This gave rise to a highly abstruse discussion.

At the third and last meeting of the term, the guest speaker will be Dennis Morris, Esq., the Director of Midland Regional programmes.

Once again our thanks are due to our Chairman, Mr. Blount, who continues to combine with unerring success the artistic and scientific elements of the Society.

J. R. GRUNDON,
Hon. Secretary.

RAILWAY AND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

THE Society has, undoubtedly, enjoyed a prosperous term. Although unprofitable in the financial sense the term has produced an increase in activity and prestige, especially amongst the new boys.

At the first meeting the Western Region Lecturer addressed the Society on Signalling, and at the second, a large audience assembled to see two films on railway subjects.

In addition to the usual visits to the engine sheds, parties from the Society have also visited the locomotive building works at Doncaster, and the Carriage and Wagon Repair Works at Bromsgrove, where the younger boys were most impressed by the workmen boiling tea and making toast on the bars of red-hot iron. A great deal of enthusiasm and energy is ready to be released in the Society's workshop as soon as supports can be obtained for the trestles on which the model railways will be built. A pleasing feature is the real ability in model-making that seems to exist in the Lower School this year.

Thanks must be given to Mr. J. B. Hurn and Mr. A. J. Gess for support on which we can confidently rely in the future, and to many others who have given assistance in divers ways throughout the term.

R. T. POPPLE,
Hon. Secretary.

THE term's activities have been successful. By Christmas, three indoor meetings and two field meetings will have been held. The first meeting at School, a talk by Mr. G. W. Raynor on his visit to the Isle of Man, was somewhat marred by a disappointing attendance. Interest, however, was high. W. G. G. Lindley, a member of the Society, gave a talk on Stockholm Island, where he spent a week in the Summer of 1949. The half-term field meeting at Bellfields Reservoir was largely spoilt by bad weather, but seven members braved the elements and ornithologically it proved a great success. The principal attraction was the ninth record for England of the Greenland race of White-fronted Goose, as well as a record of the Water-Pipit almost in Summer plumage. This latter is an exceedingly rare occurrence.

However, independent field work amongst members is lamentably lacking, but every effort is made to improve the observation of those members keen enough to practise. It must be emphasized that field work is always the most important aspect of the study of nature.

Interest in the Society's activities is on the increase, and prospects for the future are as yet very promising.

M. J. ROGERS,
Hon. Secretary.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

THE Modern Language Society was affiliated to the School Club at the beginning of this Term, and has held three meetings since, all of them highly successful. At the first meeting, Monsieur Ridder, Mr. Biggs' new assistant, spoke on "L'Enseignement en France." The meeting was well attended, and it was evident that Monsieur Ridder's topic had aroused considerable interest.

A novel event was the second meeting of the Term, when Dr. Conrad Braun of Breslau University gave a very interesting lecture on "Die Jugendbewegung in Deutschland." This was the first departure the Society has yet made from the French Language, and although the attendance was necessarily smaller, it proved to be well worth while; it is hoped to arrange further meetings in the German Language.

For the last meeting of Term, the Society obtained two excellent French films which were shown to an audience far greater than we have ever had before. The films showed an exceptionally high standard of photography, but the sound-tracks, unfortunately, left something to be desired. Nevertheless, this proved to be the most popular meeting

we have yet held, and was the first occasion on which we have shown films.

The Society looks forward to ever-increasing attendance, and hopes in the near future to arrange a Spanish meeting. Experience to date has more than justified the formation of this very new Society, and our thanks go to Mr. Biggs, Mr. Barlow and Mr. Rees for taking the chair at meetings this Term.

R. N. DOUBLEDAY,
Hon. Secretary.

JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society's enthusiasm has this year, or for the first three debates of the year, not dwindled, but as always we have to report the prominence of the younger members of the Society at our meetings. This we attribute to the prevalence of debating abilities in early years, or perhaps to the fact that the older members of the school, owing to enthusiastic pursuit of scholastic occupations, are unable to attend the Society's meetings; we are, however, hoping for a larger attendance of these veterans next term. We disdain to convey the impression that we are sinking into a slough of despond, so we will not enumerate the disabilities of the Society but will proceed to a more pleasing note.

Of the debates held this term, one, on the motion that "The Brabazon does not justify its existence," was defeated; two, with the motions, "The youth of to-day has too much freedom" and "Communism is a menace to civilization," were carried.

Anticipation of the result of the last debate of this term is forbidden, but at least we can, and will, say that we are looking forward to a large meeting to debate the motion that "The eight house system has been a success."

At all the meetings hitherto held we have had the honour of entertaining the School Captain, and hope to enjoy his presence at the remainder of this year's debates.

A duty regularly performed in Society reports is that of expressing appreciation to the chairman. We, however, do not regard as a duty, but as a pleasure the expression of sincere gratitude we give to Mr. Dunt, to whose invaluable guidance the Society owes its success.

R. P. MOSELEY,
Hon. Secretary.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

PROGRESS! This is the keynote of the Naval Section, admittedly it is slow, but nevertheless, very sure. Training has now become more practical although it must appear to the remainder of the School "All my eye and Betty Martin." On the practical side we

wish to thank Bishop Vesey's School for their kindness in allowing us to use their boats on Powells Pool, Sutton Coldfield on Thursday afternoons.

Our numbers are thirty-seven, which includes four new leading hands (W. K. Bache, P. K. Harber, B. S. Mather, J. A. Broadhurst). These, together with some of the senior ratings, have recently taken the examination for Leading Seaman and are anxiously awaiting results.

We were unfortunate in the Summer to have our Annual Camp cancelled by Their Lordships of the Admiralty but an alternative has been arranged for the beginning of January either at Portsmouth or on the Clyde.

The Naval Section resplendent in white belts and gaiters participated in the Combined Cadet Forces Church Parade on November 13th and created quite an impression, although it was marred by a small incident, fortunately noticed only by "the few."

J. W. YOUNG,
Sen. L/Sea.

C.C.F.: ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS

At the beginning of this Term, the Corps saw more changes than are customary, even at the outset of a new School year. Major Leeds resigned his position as Commanding Officer of the Army and Basic Sections of the C.C.F. at the end of last Term. We were very sorry to say good-bye to him, for during his two years in command, he did much and worked hard for the Corps, and was a very popular Commanding Officer. We are glad, however, that he retains his position as Commander of the K.E.S. C.C.F., and is still to be seen working hard in the Orderly Room.

We welcome in his place, Major Mathews who comes to us from the Air Section. He was, unfortunately, prevented from taking over his duties with us until late in the Term because of illness, but has now happily recovered.

We were also very pleased to learn of the promotion of Lt. Buttle to the rank of Captain. He remains in Command of "C" Company.

As was reported in last Term's CHRONICLE, Lt. Barlow resigned from the Contingent at the end of the Term, and his place has been taken by Lt. Rees, who has assumed Command of "B" Company.

In addition, all last year's Cadet C.S.M.s left the School at the end of last Term, and their places have been taken by Sergeants-Major Doubleday, Purser, and Jackson, who were appointed to "A," "B," and "C" Companies respectively.

Recruitment this year has been very encouraging. Well above the average

number of recruits joined at the beginning of this Term and the quality of these newcomers to the Basic Section augurs well for the future.

In spite of these changes, the Unit soon settled down to the task of preparing for Field Marshal Montgomery's visit on November 10th. Mr. Moore started a lunch-time Parade on Mondays for the Guard of Honour, which was made up of nearly all the N.C.O.s and one or two Cadets. On Speech Day, however, the Head Master announced, much to the disappointment of the Corps, that Field Marshal Montgomery would be unable to come. He had promised, however, to visit the School sometime during 1950. Mr. Moore decided, nonetheless, to continue the lunch-time Parades for the N.C.O.s, and these Parades have now become an integral part of the Corps' activities.

The Annual Church Parade was held on Sunday, November 13th, when the Army and Basic Sections, together with the rest of the C.C.F. marched to Edgbaston Church. After the Service, at which the Head Master gave the Address, Lt. Colonel Docker took the salute at a March Past. The whole Parade was very successful, and the Band, under Drum-Major Latham, is to be congratulated on an extremely creditable performance.

To judge from the discordant medley of sounds which are emitted at all times of the day from behind the closed door of the Training Stores, the Signallers' H.Q., Signals seem to be flourishing this Term under the wise guidance of Captain Buttle and Corporal Banner.

The Parade Ground is a busy, and also a dangerous place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, for then it is that Technical Training Parades are held. Sergeant Potter, of the Army Section is in charge of these attempts, some successful, some not so successful, to master the art of riding a motor-cycle, but it is encouraging to see the interest taken in this branch of the C.C.F.'s activities, by members of all three Sections of the C.C.F.

Classification is going well, and to date nearly all "A" Company has classified, and a good number from "B" Company have also shot. The proportion of First-Class shots is slightly greater this Term than in preceding years.

The band, under Drum-Major Latham, has enjoyed a very successful Term, the buglers being led inspiringly by Cadet Yetman, and the drummers by L/Cpl. Brewin. This success is mainly due to the Band recruits having practised hard, both with the drumsticks and the bugles, to become efficient. The Band is becoming increasingly popular and already there is a long waiting list for next September. The progress of the Band

can be seen from the Commanding Officer's comment to its members after the Church Parade: "One of the best yet."

Altogether this is an encouraging report; the Army and Basic Sections really seem to be making progress in every sphere and the prospects for the future appear to be very bright.

R. N. DOUBLEDAY,
Senior C.S.M.

ARMY AND BASIC SECTION CAMP

For the third time, Camp was held at Gandale, and K.E.S. provided ninety-six Cadets. The contingent arrived in the middle of the afternoon on July 28th to find the camp admirably organized by the advance party, who spoke enthusiastically of good weather, plentiful food and an excellent camp site. Unfortunately the plentiful food did not materialize, and for several days N.C.O.s and Cadets were creeping around from the Mess-tent, having broken their fast on a sausage and a small piece of dry bread.

It was unfortunate that the necessity of defending Hong-Kong, and the transportation of meat in London, deprived the camp of two demonstration platoons; a third platoon was rapidly improvised but not unnaturally laboured under difficulties. The displays given by various branches of the forces were extremely varied, and considerable emphasis was given to the relationship between air and land power, culminating in an attack on a somewhat distant target by a Meteor. There was a long march to and from this display, and the Contingent began to show signs of marching properly. The Signals gave a demonstration with theatrical accompaniments worthy of a University Carnival.

In Athletic events the Contingent was dogged by its usual ill-luck, but in guard-mounting and in the march-past some independent and unbiased observers declared that we were quite good—or so we are informed from an indirect source.

On the final night an attack from Hymers was repulsed; one of the enemy, it is rumoured, was left unconscious on the field of battle. The following morning, after being awakened at a very early hour, equipment was returned to the camp Quartermaster and the Contingent returned to Birmingham, when it was dismissed on New Street Station soon after mid-day.

Next year, since we have been transferred to Western Command, we shall probably venture abroad to some different venue for our Camp. Nevertheless, Gandale has proved to be a good site, and our thanks are due to all the Officers and retiring W.O.s who have made this camp a success.

AIR SECTION

BESIDE the memorable figures "1914-1918," the sculptor has added to the cenotaph's inscriptions "1939-1945," and even now with grim foreboding, hovers, awaiting his next commission. This uncertain future and other causes have plunged British Youth into a maelstrom of military training. The usual wail of criticism has arisen from the cynics whose political, pacific and private ideals have prejudiced their perception. "Rome was not built in a day nor an airman in five hundred and forty-eight" they cry. Indeed, the truth is to be lamented, but, nevertheless, a constructive outlook should override these destructive discriminations. The eighteen months are not spent in building castles in the air but in grounding the man in the fundamentals of discipline and airmanship. In the C.C.F. we, too, would lay claim to such ideals, though naturally in a much lesser degree. For the very nature of our external activities and the brevity of our parades renders much of our work abortive. Yet the drill meted out by the N.C.O.s infuses a certain co-ordination of mind and limb which, when there is a concerted effort, affords a fairly well-disciplined spectacle, to which the new style of uniform at least lends tone. Each cadet attends lectures according to his class; if a recruit, he is drilled and instructed how to recognize an aircraft above, when on the "deck," and on the ground below him when airborne. He should not by now be entirely unversed in signalling or its procedure. The more advanced do likewise though in a manner becoming their experience and knowledge. Some learn how, why, where and when an aircraft may fly; they work at the arduous task of plotting, though fully cognizant that such methods are antiquated compared with radar and such-like. Others, a more esoteric society, are initiated into the secrets of wireless and its uses.

Consistent with our practice, a successful camp was held at Hellavington, the report of which is in the hands of Sgt. Laughland who was present. Also during the Summer vacations some cadets seized the opportunity of risking their own necks and valuable R.A.F. machines in a gliding course at Castle Bromwich. Each cadet gained his "A" certificate which apparently grants him protection at the hands of foreign police.

The Annual Church Parade did not straggle to an inglorious end, owing to the efforts of the flight who maintained a steady discipline, despite an inaudible band and the syncopated rhythms of those before.

Let these lines stand as tributes to our officers; for without their vigorous efforts the gremlins of disorder might well take control.

Such training as this has not made us airmen, yet by gaining erudition in one more sphere of life, we make steady, if not flying progress along the road of true education.

I. R. McCLELLAND,
Flt.-Sgt.

SCOUT GROUP

General

As we had hoped, we won the trophy for the Divisional Sports in the "over 15" section last June. This term two teams are entered for the De Renzi Shield competition to be held on November 26th.

In July last, the Group formed a Rover Crew, which at present consists of five rovers and two rover squires; three members have already left School. The aims of the crew are to provide opportunities for older members of the Group to continue active scouting after they reach the age of eighteen and to encourage them to take out warrants as officers in the movement when circumstances permit them to do so.

The new hut is now being used regularly by the Seniors who have departed from the customary time-table in that troop meetings are now held on Thursday mornings and Friday evenings alternately.

Reorganization has taken place within the Scout troops since our last report with the object of reducing the size of each troop. There are now four—Mitre, Park Vale, Vikings and the "New" troop under Sgt.-Masters Osborne, Kay, Sacret and Cook, respectively, and each consists of four patrols. With the Seniors' strength constant at twenty-four, the total strength of the Group is now 133.

Activities this term have been many and various. The remarkable Autumn weather at the beginning of the term provided welcome opportunities for outdoor work. First-class training and testing has been well to the fore, yet we still feel that there is room for more enthusiasm about this matter; it is not yet the normal thing for the majority of Scouts to gain the badge before their fifteenth, as it should be. Work for the Second Class badge is well up to standard. So far two troops have held evening meetings, and both proved successful. Patrol activity out of School seems to be on the increase; this is a very encouraging sign.

Field Day activities will be held independently by all the troops.

It is with deep regret that we record the loss of our G.S.M., who is leaving the School. Mr. Bennett has held this office since 1946 and his wise and friendly counsels will be sadly missed. We offer him our thanks and wish him every happiness for the future.

J. W. MILLS,
A.S.M.

Summer Camp, St. John's, Isle of Man.

Thirty-four members of the Group attended a camp held from 28th July to 8th August this year at a site about three-quarters of a mile from Peel.

The practice of sending an advance party again vindicated itself, for the troop equipment arrived a day late owing to a "mis-understanding" between British Railways and the I.O.M. Steam Packet Co.

The crossing from Liverpool to Douglas was made in perfect weather on the outward journey, but coming home the swell was sufficient to cause several cases of seasickness.

We returned to the patrol system with a vengeance in the camp programme, and nearly all activities, both in and out of camp, were carried out individually by the various patrols: cooking was quite up to standard. Scouting activities during the camp covered the majority of the subjects contained in the general proficiency badge, and several tests were passed. First-aid and map work were especially prominent, and bathing parades were held regularly.

The weather was by no means excellent, but with one notable exception, none of the storms we suffered were of long duration. A feature of the camp was the more or less constant high wind from the West, but until Sunday night the only damage was two split ridge poles (repaired through the good services of our friend the blacksmith) and a very groggy store tent. The night of August 7th will ever be remembered by certain members of the group, for several reasons, but suffice it to record here that the officers' tent collapsed at 2-30 a.m.

All campers were able to see a large part of the island during patrol days out of camp, and amongst other places, Douglas, Ramsey, Laxey, Castletown and Port Erin were visited; all of us climbed up Snaefell during our stay. One great source of amusement was the island railway, a branch of which ran about 250 yards from the site.

Three camp fires were held, each of which went off very well: at one of them the troop entertained several of the local notables who had helped us during camp (and thus became the front page news in the local newspaper), and another was held jointly with a troop from Rotherham. There was a Church Parade on both of the Sundays during camp.

The patrol competition was won by the Cobra patrol under P/L Bowen, and they are to be congratulated on a very good showing, but it must be said that the final result was in doubt until the last day.

A happy camp, and one that fulfilled its purpose; little more need be said.

J. W. MILLS,
A.S.M.

Summer Camp, Bettws-y-Coed

A small camp, in the charge of Sgt.-Masters Kay and Sacret, was held at Cwm Lanerch, Bettws-y-Coed, for those scouts who are attracted more by mountains than seaside. Despite the inevitable North Wales rain, the camp was a great success in its mountaineering aspect. With few exceptions, all scouts climbed Moel Siabod, the Glyders, and Snowdon. The conditions for climbing were by no means ideal: one party was frozen on the Glyders by mist and a very strong wind, which almost blew the smaller scouts away. On the other hand it was the need to catch the bus home that brought another party from the Snowdon summit to Pen-y-Pass in only sixty minutes.

Besides mountaineering, scouts were able to visit local "beauty spots," such as the Swallow Falls or the Fairy Glen. The outlying districts were visited by those on test hikes, who would like to express their appreciation of Welsh hospitality. It greatly assisted them in their tests. The camp was able to bathe in the River Conway, which bordered the site. Diving was attempted from a raft, which was last seen firmly wedged under the bridge at Llanwrst, four miles downstream.

The gale of Sunday, August 7th, at one stage threatened to blow down the store tent, which, till it was finally secured, was nobly supported by Mr. Sacret. Cooking was always of a high standard, and an extensive programme of testing completed a good camp.

R. A. TOMLINSON,
P.L.(S.).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Bromsgrove Match

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

On Saturday, November 12th, the School 1st XV played Bromsgrove School, winning by fourteen points to three.

It is generally admitted that a factor which contributed greatly to this success was the presence on the touchline of four hundred enthusiastic supporters. Now Sir, it took the concentrated efforts of all the members of the Prefects' Room to convince the four hundred supporters that it was their duty to support their School's 1st XV.

While commending the gallant efforts and enthusiasm displayed by our august body of Prefects on this occasion, I cannot help but feel that it shows a deplorable state of affairs in the School which makes this kind of thing necessary. For the numbers of supporters to be seen at a home fixture of the 1st XV can

be numbered on the fingers of both hands. Out of a School numbering 700 boys, only ten consider it necessary to give their 1st team any regular support. It is my contention, Sir, and I say this in all sincerity, that so long as this atmosphere of "laissez-faire" and attitude of "I couldn't care less" is allowed to continue unchecked in the School, whatever standard is achieved by our teams, King Edward's stands no chance whatever of attaining its rightful position in the athletic world.

I am, Sir,
Yours, etc.,
D. R. LLEWELLYN.

Sixth Form Common-Room

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

SIR,

In a previous issue of this excellent magazine, our former Headmaster, Mr. C. R. Morris, confessed that had he remained he would have attempted to remedy the lack of a suitable common-room for members of the Sixth Form. The armed forces have spacious headquarters, there are several centres for musical activity, even the Railway and Model Engineering Society possess a sanctum in some remote corner of the School. Yet the Sixth Form, comprising the intellectual and sporting élite of the School, has no such abode, and consequently, squanders away its lunch-hours in soul stirring games of shove-ha'penny, segregated into a multiplicity of component form rooms. It would be better if the Sixth Form, far from the madding crowd of neophyte N.C.O.s and squealing members of the Lower School, could relax in a comfortable room, discussing at its leisure jazz, rugby football and Jean Paul Sartre.

I remain, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
G. J. TAYAR.

Christian Union

To the Editor, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,

To my dismay the total gathering at the meetings of the Christian Union, which assemblies each Friday lunch-time, numbers only ten. Are most of the remaining members of K.E.S. agnostic, atheist or pagan? I think it is deplorable that a school which was founded for a general and Christian education should have such a small band of eager and hard-working Christians who are prepared to stand for Christ. Where are the many Crusaders in the School? No excuse is faultless—Christ comes before material matters.

Therefore the members of the Christian Union and I look forward to a great response, and to well-attended meetings in the Spring Term.

I remain,
Yours hopefully,
L. L. WATSON.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY REPORT

Al Scribiston, K.E.S. CHRONICLE.

KARA SINJORO,

Post mi legis libron numeron tricent dek tri CHRONICLE, mi skribas leteron en lingvon bonan tiu vi povas koni. Kia estas libro tieu ne legis en lingvon Esperanton sed en lingvon francon kaj aliajn lingvojn malbonajn?

Mi korespondos baldau alian leteron al vian libron interesan sed ne ridu al Esperanton. Esperanto estas la tre "lingvo nova."

Via amiko kaj servanto,
JEKS LERTA.

We respectfully ask our cosmopolitan correspondent to turn to the report in question. Although not written in Esperanto, we trust that the compromise between his modern "language" and la langue française will not fail to please.

Editor.

THE INFLUENCE OF GREECE ON ENGLISH POETRY

"The civilization of modern times," said Newman, "remains what it was of old; it is the lineal descendant, or rather the continuation of the civilization which began in Palestine and Greece." To Palestine we owe our religion; to Greece our philosophy, our literature and our art. There has been a constant stream of Greek ideas from classical times, passing through the Roman Empire and the Middle Ages into the modern world. It can fairly be said, without forgetting the contribution of Judaea, that the mind of Europe has lived upon the heritage of Greece.

Ancient Greek literature has left its mark upon much of the best in English Poetry. In the seventeenth century, the metaphysical poets, John Donne in particular, were influenced by the Platonic doctrine of love, as Spencer had been in the previous century. But it was in John Milton that was seen the culmination of the classical Renaissance in England. He was a classical scholar, and could write in all the great forms of Greek poetry: the epic (in "Paradise Lost"), the tragic (in "Samson Agonistes"), the pastoral (in "Lycidas") and the lyrical (in the poem

"At a solemn Music"). He was the first Englishman who realized the poetic value of Greek tragedy—he had made a special study of Euripides—and the first who succeeded in transmitting into English the special qualities of Greek, as distinct from Latin, poetry. He was, with the possible exception of Shelley, penetrated more than any other English poet by the literature of Greece.

The seventeenth century was a great one in the history of Greek influence on English poetry, which affected, besides Donne and Milton, Jonson, Dryden, and many other poets. In contrast the eighteenth century was more Latin in temper: it preferred Horace to Euripides or Plato; and although there was no dearth of classical learning, it moved far away from a true understanding of the Greeks.

It was with Shelley and Wordsworth that a true Greek influence returned to English poetry. Shelley recaptured the Platonic tradition of the seventeenth century, and in his "Prometheus Unbound," was influenced by both Aeschylus and Plato. Wordsworth drew on Plato in his famous "Ode on the Intimations of Immortality" and in his later sonnets. These are only two of the many nineteenth century poets—among them such as Keats, Browning and Tennyson—who were influenced by Greek art and ideas.

This Greek tradition has long been part of our civilization. It has never been a tyranny for the English poets as it has been for German poetry. Wordsworth was as English as any poet who has ever lived; if he was influenced by Greek ideas it is because they were part of the English tradition he knew. The history of the best poetry written in Western Europe is a continuous stream, modified by Christianity, from Greece to the present day. Of the material splendour of the Greek world, little remains, but their artistic influence can be seen in all great works of European literature.

ON LINCOLN CATHEDRAL

Immutable, noble, crowning its hilltop,
A house of God, a house of prayer.
"The West Front was built by the Normans,
The first stones laid in 1081.
Look for the small grotesque on the pillar
In the North-East corner of the Angel Choir.
Notice the odd-shaped pillar in the Chapter-
House
Each side carved by a different creator—
The organ was placed on the Choir-screen
later."

So says the guide-book,
So says the verger,
So say the tourists,
So say the Clergy,
"There's character in the very stones."

God is the Character of the Cathedral,
God the Omnipotent, God the Creator,
God, source of life and of all inspiration,
Why is this house a study for architects?
Worship Him. Praise Him. Give Him His due.
Honor et laus et gloria Domino!

R.T.P.

"WHEN THE SAINTS . . ."

When the clocks of Time have ceased to chime
And the planets all stand dumb,
Then the Saints will wait about the gate
For the Great Lord God to come.

"March" says de Lawd,
And dey'll all march.

Then Gabriel will blow his horn
And the world will cease to spin;
The banners of night are slashed and torn
When the Saints go marching in.

Swing out, O trumpets, ride the beat,
Tramping of a myriad feet;
Lord a-marching at your head—
Green leaves spring on trees long dead.
Down,

Down,
down the road;

The road of toil and pain;
Let it be strewn with flowers, because
The Lord is coming back again.

G.T.L.

REFLECTIONS ON A RAILWAY STATION

"What is this life if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?"
To stare indeed? To stare at what?
A building smoke-inured, a chimney-pot,
An oily grease-stained bus, a limousine
Or vacant humans, products of the same
machine?

Or perhaps at life, at busy passers-by,
Brought in this world to reproduce and then
to die?

Or children, fed to the grave from the very
cradle,

On orange-juice, free milk, by the State's own
ladle?

With succulent vitamin pills all thrown in,
And powdered milk provided in a tin.
Or bureaucrats, ham-strung with ruddy tape,
Churning out glib forms in triplicate?

Or artisans in dark blue boiler-suits.
Scurrying to the sound of blatant siren hoots ;
Robbed of a privileged class to hate,
By their favourite product, the Welfare State?

*No, better quicken still the pace,
With sightless eyes in expressionless face,
Wrapt up entire in the modern machine,
Than ponder the present, and what-might-have-been.*

P.A.G.

PENSEE

In a moment of time I beheld Faith,
Rare rock of life, and pillared strength
Reaching infinity and saving the present
From Disillusion and the Chaos of know-Not.

And a bolt was shot into my soul :
If this Faith was in vain,
And supplication mockery,
The prayer as nothing and Futility
A dismal chasm yawning to the fore ?
Primæval ages' depths
Sought to solve insolubility,
Groping to find a Meaning in a planet with no key.

Nor can a pulsating machine
Answer the universal riddle,
Nor legions of the wise discern
A spark of meaning in the eternal Mystery.
Yet Granite stands time's ravage with bold face

And softer stones and shales decay.
So Faith's granitic,
And outlives the marked gloom,
Not Wilderness—the sombre grey, the lost—
But a firm rock resilient
Outstanding in a foaming sea.

M. W. W. A.

I DISCOVERED ENGLAND

(Well—me and Bebop)

ME—I discovered England. Nobody else.
Well—maybe my boys as well. We lands at
London airport late one afternoon. It's
supposed to be the Summer Season in England,
but it's raining. There's a Jackson there to meet us.

"Mr. Scattyboo Jones?" he says.

"Sure," I says "meet the band."

"Hiya, Jackson," says George.

"I'm not Jackson," says the Jackson.
I comfort him.

"All guys is Jackson," I assure him.

We pack our instruments into a taxi and
drive off to our hotel. The Jackson promises
to collect us later and take us down to the
club. We find it's stopped raining so we go
and look around the city.

"Sort of small, ain't it," says George.

That's what it looks like to me.

"No skyscrapers," says Pete.

He's right, as well.

"It was badly bombed in the war," I says.
It's the only explanation I can think of.

We take a look around. It seems civilized,
only a bit backward. Then it starts to rain
again. It takes us half-an-hour to find our
hotel. By this time we're soaked. We change.

"Get a geography book," says Pete, "I'm
going to look this place up."

We get a book and look up London. The
rainfall is down as 29.6 inches per year.

"We'll get the '6 tomorrow," says George.

* * * *

When we get down to the club it's closed
for us to rehearse. We set up the instruments,
and in comes the Boss-Jackson. He's a small
sort of Jackson.

"Well, well, well," says he.

I says nothing.

"So this is the band," says he.

"Obvious," I thinks, I still say nothing.

"Well, well, well," says he, "Don't let me
interrupt you. Carry right on."

"Thank you," says I.

"Aren't you going to take off your hats?"
says he.

"Listen, Jackson," I says, "we always
rehearse with our hats on."

"I'm not Jackson," says he, so I have to
explain all over again. He looks at George
and I'm afraid he's going to ask him to tuck
his shirt in. But he doesn't. Finally I see
we're ready and I stomps off.

When we've finished the Boss-Jackson
walks about all perplexed. I see he's working
up courage to ask us if that was us playing or
just tuning. Finally he decides it was too
long for tuning, so he says:

"Well, well, well. And what's that called?"

"Be-Oo-Da-Goop," I tells him, because it
was. But does he believe me? Oh no. He just
stares and starts muttering under his breath.

Pete gives a great snort, and says: "These
Jacksons ain't even civilized."

"Let's civilize 'em then," I says, and I
stomps off for "Doo-da-de-bebop" This is
one on which I sing. I sings the usual words.
You know them:

"Heyboobleybe-bop, Oop-oop Doo-da-de-
bebop. Shoo-Da da bop bebop goop debabbely
bop

But does that Jackson understand them?
No—not a word. He just goes on staring and
muttering. Then another Jackson, one with
a monocle, who's standing behind one of the
tables says: "Native American Folk-music,
eh? How frightfully intriguing'."

It's all I can do to prevent Pete going down
and sloshing the Jackson with his sax.
Finally the Boss-Jackson says, "Don't you
chaps play from music?"

The artist in me asserts itself.

"Look, Jackson," I say, "we're artists. True creative artists. Our music is spontaneous and it comes straight from the heart; it is deeply sincere." Also most of the boys can't read music, but why tell him that?

"Oh," he says, "I see."

Then he has an idea.

"Can't you play anything but bebop?"

This time I nearly slosh him.

"Couldn't you play something soft?" he asks, "like 'When you return to me'?"

Me—I'm an artist. A true artist.

"Would you ask Mozart to play that sort of stuff?" I asks, "Think of our artistic integrity. Besides our salaries would have to go up if we were to play anything besides bop."

"I see," he says, "I can see you're a true artist."

"Thank you," I say, "can we go on practising?"

"Of course," says the Boss-Jackson.

So we play a few more bops. While we're sitting around talking them over the monocled Jackson comes up to the stand and says:

"I find your music fearfully fascinatin'."

"Thank you," says I, all polite.

The Boss-Jackson is talking business with secondary Jacksons. Finally he comes over to us and says:

"Well Mr. Jones," he says, "I'm afraid the public wouldn't appreciate your music."

We says nothing. I've given up wondering if this country is civilized—I'm wondering if it's explored yet.

"Well," continues the Boss-Jackson, "I have the interests of the public at heart. I'll pay your fare back to the U.S."

Maybe that's a good idea. So we pack up our instruments and start walking out. Then the monocled Jackson comes across to us and says:

"I say, you chaps. Could you come and give a recital at my house, to-morrow, do you think? I shall pay you, of course."

"What the heck," I think. We can't catch a plane back until to-morrow night anyway. So why not?

"My card," says the Jackson, "do be there by two o'clock."

"Sure," I says. I look at the card. It says: "The Hon. Nigel Blessington." and an address in the classy part of London.

"And keep your hats on," adds the Jackson

* * * *

The next afternoon it's raining. But this time we're prepared. We turn up at the house, with instruments. It's a big place, about the size of a New York street-block.

A butler Jackson lets us in and we set up our instruments in the drawing-room around a big grand piano. Then the audience comes in. There's Lord Jacksons and Earl Jacksons and Duke Jacksons and lots of classy society dames.

The Hon. Nigel comes up and says to the Jacksons:

"I'd like you to hear a little recital of American native music by Scattyboo Jones and his band." Then he turns to me and says, "Play," and grins.

"Turn on the heat, boys," I whispers and sets the beat for "Beep, Beep, Beep,"

When we've finished, the Jacksons are all talking excitedly.

"How astonishing," says one, "what amazin' use of three-part polyphony and free rubato."

"It is just like the flower of expression," says another, "breaking through the overlying topsoil of civilization."

One dame with glasses comes up to us and says:

"Your music is wonderful. I am fascinated by the way you suit your dress to the abstractions of your music. Could I do a painting of you?"

The Hon. Nigel slips up again and winks at me across the piano.

"Don't fly home just yet," he says, "I think you're a success."

* * * *

I told you I found England. It just wanted exploring and civilizing, and most of it was explored anyway. You really ought to hear us—we're giving a recital at the Albert Hall next week.

With our hats on!

G.T.L.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The Wulfrunian, Sotonensis, The Stourbridge Edwardian, The Leamingtonian, The Birbonian, The Edwardian Nuneaton, The Laxtonian, The Leys Forthightly, The Bath Edwardian, King Edward VII School Magazine, Johannesburg, The Portcullis, The Wolvernian, The Ousel, St. Edward's School Chronicle, The Coventrian, The Ellesmerian, The Herefordian, The Novocastrian, Upper Canada College Times, The Barrovian, The Shenstonian, The Blundellian, Wellington School Magazine, The Bromsgrovian, The Bloxhamist, The Denstonian, The Wolstanton County Grammar Magazine.



