



KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL  
CHRONICLE

JANUARY, 1952

# The Old Edwardians' Association

Telephones  
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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

<b>For Members residing within 25 miles of the Club</b>	
Building .. .. .	£4 4 0
But until the expiration of three years from the date of leaving School .. .. .	1 10 0
and then for the next 4 years .. .. .	3 3 0
Country Members .. .. .	1 0 0
All University Members .. .. .	0 10 0
Honorary Members not less than .. .. .	0 10 0

NOTE.—These amounts are reduced by half to Members joining after 1st July in any year, except in the case of University Members and 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 "King Edward's School Club" and sent to the Hon. Treasurer at the School.

## CONTENTS

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	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
EDITORIAL . . . . .	53	THE LIBRARY . . . . .	74
NOTES AND NEWS . . . . .	53	DEBATING SOCIETY . . . . .	74
SCHOOL DIARY . . . . .	53	JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY . . . . .	75
GOVERNORS' NEWS . . . . .	54	LITERARY SOCIETY . . . . .	75
STAFF NEWS . . . . .	54	MUSICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	75
PREFECTS . . . . .	55	MUSIC CIRCLE . . . . .	75
SCHOLARSHIPS . . . . .	55	SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY . . . . .	76
COLOURS . . . . .	56	CIVICS SOCIETY . . . . .	76
OLD EDWARDIANS' NEWS . . . . .	56	GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	76
SCHOOL NEWS . . . . .	56	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	77
IN THE SERVICE OF A CHANGING COMMUNITY . . . . .	58	ART SOCIETY . . . . .	77
LAUS QUINDECIMVIRUM . . . . .	58	MOUNTAINEERING SOCIETY . . . . .	78
PEDIFOLLICULARIUM . . . . .	58	CHRISTIAN UNION . . . . .	78
CAMBRIDGE LETTER . . . . .	59	THE CLOSED CIRCLE . . . . .	78
OXFORD LETTER . . . . .	59	NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY . . . . .	79
OLD EDWARDIAN LETTER . . . . .	60	MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY . . . . .	79
CRICKET RETROSPECT . . . . .	60	SCHOOL WEATHER STATION . . . . .	79
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	61	C.C.F.—ROYAL NAVAL SECTION . . . . .	79
RUGBY REPORT . . . . .	63	ARMY AND BASIC SECTION . . . . .	80
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	64	ARMY AND BASIC SECTION CAMP . . . . .	80
CHARACTERS OF THE XV . . . . .	66	AIR SECTION . . . . .	81
SWIMMING REPORT . . . . .	67	GENERAL SCOUT REPORT . . . . .	81
SWIMMING SPORTS . . . . .	67	ROVER CREW . . . . .	82
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	68	SENIOR TROOP . . . . .	82
P.T. REPORT . . . . .	68	FIRST CWMYOY CAMP . . . . .	83
SHOOTING REPORT . . . . .	69	VIKING TROOP CAMP . . . . .	83
FIVES REPORT . . . . .	69	MITRE TROOP CAMP . . . . .	83
TENNIS REPORT . . . . .	69	SECOND BETTWS-Y-COED CAMP . . . . .	84
CHESS REPORT . . . . .	70	THE JAMBOREE OF SIMPLICITY . . . . .	84
EVANS . . . . .	70	“THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR” . . . . .	85
GIFFORD . . . . .	70	“THE CREATION” . . . . .	86
GILSON . . . . .	71	SOUTH BANK VISIT . . . . .	86
HEATH . . . . .	72	JEAN LOUIS BARRAULT . . . . .	87
JEUNE . . . . .	72	ODE . . . . .	88
LEE . . . . .	72	LIQUIDATION . . . . .	88
LEVETT . . . . .	73	CANADA, 1951 . . . . .	88
VARDY . . . . .	73	OUR CONTEMPORARIES . . . . .	90



FIRST ELEVEN, 1951.

*Standing (left to right):* J. L. WILKINS (1951), R. BARRACLOUGH, J. D. GILES, O. S. WHEATLEY (1951),  
E. L. B. SAXON, C. M. EDWARDS.

*Seated:* J. HUTCHINGS (1951), F. B. REVILL (*Vice-Capt.*) (1950-51), P. A. GOUGH (*Capt.*) (1949-50-51),  
D. H. BENSON (*Hon. Sec.*) (1951), B. C. HOMER (1951).

# King Edward's School Chronicle

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## EDITORIAL

THE beginning of each year gives rise to varying emotions in those who are in any way connected with the School. Yet all, even the most recalcitrant of youths, attending such a school as ours must needs feel a certain excitement, and even perhaps awe, at the start of the quater-centenary year. Dare we think that the Masters, be they Old Edwardians or no, experience such a thrill? Dare we think that Old Edwardians, those now irretrievably scattered across the globe, and those who are still in contact with the School, do not scorn the Old School Tie—though they are no longer choked by it? We like to believe so.

Quite often in more leisurely periods, we are wont to conjure up pictures of our learned professors "as they used to be." Other images, perhaps more respectful, are apt to spring to mind, of honourable Pundits who disappear—after the manner of the heroes of the more refined detective stories and of the "Forsyte Saga"—into notable "lieux de réunion et d'asile." There, no doubt helped by beverages calculated to stimulate the mind and by varying concoctions of tobacco to settle the nerves, they ruminate on the School's past. The Rugby XV's and the Cricket XI's of those days—either unbeatable or unlucky, and certainly unequalled! They must acknowledge, we feel, albeit grudgingly, that brains are now more specialised and highly developed, even if no more conscientious.

These observations made, believe us, in no spirit of antagonism, naturally prompt meditations on the relative glories of the School, past and present. We are aware that the traditions which are the very vitals of the Foundation's constitution have been built up during four hundred years of difficulties overcome, of hurdles safely passed. History, when it is not "bunk"—which, it would seem, it very often is—represents the steady accumulation of human knowledge and skill, the value of which can only be judged after many years have swept past. Therefore let those people, whose name is legion and also, at School functions, "friends of the School," not look back at the past with sighs, reminiscent of romantic poets and demobilised sailors. We of to-day, will eventually prove to be as adequately matched against the difficulties of our age as our predecessors were to those of their ages.

We hope with all the earnestness we can summon that you, patient reader, will allow that these random reflections, prologue as they are to the CHRONICLE of our quater-centenary, are warranted by the impressive nature of the occasion. "Four hundred years," when said, slips off the tongue with facility and seems but a space for a great educational establishment. Let us not forget however, that though the exact date of Shakespeare's birth is still an excuse for the "savants" to bury their heads in the world of Elizabethan England, believing that, in doing so, they are hidden from the world of to-day, the Bard is of approximately the same vintage as the School. We are all, even your Chronicler, smothered now incognito in the cloak of plurality, soon to be doomed to a term of servitude fighting for peace (this most paradoxical of paradoxes would no doubt be incomprehensible to our forefathers). Our quixotic ardour, we are told, is soon to be extinguished. There is no philosopher's stone to transform, in later life, the dross of this troublous existence into unalloyed happiness. Yet let us not despair. Surely we have learnt enough in our years at this seat of wisdom! It would, remember, be no more than a three-legged stool of learning, experience and examination results, if it were not for our tradition. Surely we have been prepared to face life at the end of our course through this galactic collection of spheres of learning, each of us gradually whirling away from the central orbit to continue his activity on an independent axis!

## NOTES AND NEWS

### School Diary

ALTHOUGH this is essentially a retrospective diary, let us note first that this year the School celebrates its quater-centenary. Little is known, as we write, of the commemoration arrangements, but by January all will be revealed.

The Autumn term began on Thursday, September 13th, and ended on Thursday, December 13th, with Half-term on Saturday and Monday, November 3rd and 5th.

Founder's Day was celebrated on Friday, October 12th.

On Sunday, December 9th, Edgbaston Old Church was packed with members of the School, parents and friends, when the Carol Service was held. The School Choir performed

a number of carols, of both local and international origin, with reverence and beauty, while the congregation joined in when its turn came with end-of-term vigour. The Lessons were read, as usual, by members of the School and Staff.

The pillars and vaulted roof of Barry's reconstructed Upper Corridor from New Street, though still far from complete, saw a new generation of sons of the School gather on Wednesday, December 12th, for a short Carol Service. The mellifluous tones of the XXII Choir sang unaccompanied the message of the holy joy and hope of Bethlehem and the impressive lines of the surroundings flickering in candle-light, whilst the December gloom gathered outside, bore testimony to the 400 years during which King Edward's School has upheld the godly intentions of our pious Founder.

"The Government Inspector," by Gogol, was performed by members of the Staff in Big School on the evenings of Friday and Saturday, November 9th and 10th. We await anxiously the return of the film from the play, but fear that the efforts of Mr. Danny Kaye will suffer somewhat by comparison with the vigour and deception practised by the gentleman, who, in spite of his convincing orgy on the preceding night, appeared unperturbed on Saturday morning to elucidate the subtleties of the Romantics for his wondering pupils. A fuller report appears elsewhere in the CHRONICLE.

The Lord Mayor (Alderman R. C. Yates) and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham honoured us on Thursday, October 25th, with a visit, during which they saw King Edward's in School, on the parade ground, and in battle. They were met by a Guard-of-Honour drawn from all sections of the C.C.F. and commanded by the C.O. We trust that they found everything ship-shape and Bristol Road fashion, and we thank the Lord Mayor for the half-holiday granted at his request on Friday, November 2nd.

The General Committee of the School Club met on Friday, September 21st, to elect officers and committees for the year 1951-52. The long process of lobbying which precedes this annual meeting was unfortunately longer than usual, while some rather complicated negotiations were necessary as a result of the elections. All was settled in the manner so typically, so triumphantly, and usually so unsatisfactorily English, i.e. a compromise, and those finding themselves in office went their various mysterious ways.

A Joint Debate with K.E.H.S. was held in Big School on Friday, November 23rd, when P. J. Turner, supported by Miss Shona Burns, proposed that "The Education of the Masses is the Surest Road to Perdition." The motion was lost.

The Siviter-Smith Cup returned to the School on Saturday, November 24th, when

the XV continued this season's outstandingly triumphal march by defeating Bromsgrove School by 16 points to 3. The game was again marred by the weather, but even the dismal deluge could not disguise the superiority which was reflected in the score. A comparatively large number of spectators, particularly parents, friends, and Old Edwardians were mostly prevented from seeking the warmth of their cosy autumnal fires by the excitement of the game and the high standard of play. A number of Bromsgrove supporters were accorded rather a damp reception, for one aspect of which we must apologise though disclaiming responsibility, whilst bearing the full burden of the other.

Few of us wish to recall or record any more than that Field Day took place on Wednesday, November 21st. For as we write we feel again the sickening sensation of a vertical figure of eight performed high over the countryside somewhere in England. Uninitiated members of the Army Section would be well advised to confine their curiosity to the Bren gun.

Armistice Day, Sunday, November 11th, saw the Annual Church Parade of the C.C.F. at Edgbaston Old Church. The sermon was preached by the Chaplain General, and the lessons were read by Under-Officers J. M. S. Arnott and G. R. Green. The march past was led by the C.C.F. band and the salute taken by the Chaplain General. The recruits forming the Basic Section, although with little training behind them, acquitted themselves as regards both the turn-out and the marching like veterans, and were a credit to all concerned.

As we write, frantic last minute preparations are being made to ensure the success of the Prefects' Christmas Ball, which will take place in Big School, on Friday, December 28th. Dancing will be from 8-0 p.m. until 1-0 a.m., to the music of Vincent Ladbroke and his Orchestra. Numbers of Old Edwardians, it seems, will attend, and the evening should be both enjoyable and memorable, for the Prefects, with typical good-will as is appropriate to the season, have worked unstintingly to prevent a financial disaster.

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### The Governors

We profoundly regret the resignation of Clive D. A. Powell, Esq., J.P., O.E., from the Board of Governors. The vacancy has, as yet, not been filled.

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### Staff News

It is with regret that we say good-bye to Mr. Gess at the end of this term. Mr. Gess came to us in 1945 after serving during the war in a Ministry of Supply Royal Ordnance factory. Before the war he was on the staff of the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School,

Mansfield. The members of his Sixth Form set will greatly miss his patient and careful teaching. Mr. Gess has been Chairman of the Model Engineering Society and is also a Flying Officer in the Air Section of the C.C.F. He leaves us to become Senior Chemistry Master at Wesley College, Melbourne, and our best wishes go with him and Mrs. Gess in their new adventure.

Mr. Meerendonk leaves at the end of this term to become Senior Chemistry Master and Housemaster at Kingham School, Oxfordshire. He was educated at Colfe Grammar School, London, and Trinity College, Cambridge. From 1939 to 1945 he served as a Captain in the East Surrey Regiment and holds the T.D., with clasp. Mr. Meerendonk joined the Staff in January, 1948, as Senior Chemistry Master, having previously held a similar post at Alleyn's School, Dulwich. Although his stay with us has been regrettably short, the Chemistry Department has profited much from his wise and mature guidance. Always ready to encourage the pursuit of a new problem, his methods have stimulated many a sixth former to greater zeal.

As Stage Manager for the Dramatic Society, Mr. Meerendonk has been invaluable; he is an expert in constructing "props" from such unlikely material as disused tram cars. Also, it was a natural step for him to give freely of his time to the C.C.F., in which he commanded "A" Company. We wish him and Mrs. Meerendonk all success at Kingham School.

Also leaving us this term is Mr. R. Cook, who came to the School from Bristol Grammar School in 1948 as a Mathematics Master. He has been a very well-liked member of the Masters' Common Room and a most painstaking teacher. Mr. Cook has done much good work in coaching School Junior teams at both Rugby Football and Cricket. As Scoutmaster of New Troop he has been amiably efficient and in issuing dinner tickets infinitely patient. We wish him luck in his new appointment as Head of the Mathematics' Department at Dudley Grammar School.

After service in two wars and part-time military service in peace-time to a total of thirty years, Mr. A. Jackson, has resigned his commission and been granted by the War Office the honorary rank of Lt.-Col.

#### Prefects

We congratulate G. R. GREEN on his appointment as Captain of the School.

We congratulate J. DÉ C. LING on his appointment as Vice-Captain of the School.

We congratulate the following on their appointment as Prefects in September:

D. H. BENSON, P.T. Leader, C.S.M. in C.C.F. (*Lee*).

M. C. DODD, Editor of K.E.S. CHRONICLE, House Captain (*Gilson*).

J. L. EATON, A.S.M. in Scouts, House Captain (*Heath*).

D. B. HILL, Secretary of Rugby Football, Captain of Athletics, House Captain (*Gifford*).

B. C. HOMER (*Evans*).

P. H. R. MERCER, House Captain (*Vardy*).

R. B. W. PRICE, Captain of Swimming (*Vardy*).

N. SANKARAYYA (*Gilson*).

D. C. WARD, Secretary of Shooting, Secretary of Literary Society, C.S.M. in C.C.F. (*Levett*).

O. S. WHEATLEY, Secretary of Cricket (*Levett*).

T. H. WILDEN, Flight Sergeant in C.C.F. (*Lee*).

In December:

F. B. REVILL, Captain of Rugby Football (*Evans*).

#### Scholarships

We congratulate:

J. K. Jacques on being elected to an Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Queen's College, Oxford.

D. C. Ward on being elected to a Minor Scholarship in Classics at St. John's College, Cambridge.

T. W. Marshall on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Trinity College, Cambridge.

D. B. Hill, on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

D. C. Duckworth on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

W. R. Smith on being elected to an Exhibition in Natural Sciences at St. John's College, Cambridge.

R. F. Peierls on being elected to an Exhibition in Mathematics at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

M. C. Dodd on being elected to an Exhibition in Modern Languages at Christ's College, Cambridge.

A. D. S. Roberts on being elected to an Exhibition in Modern Languages at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

M. F. Pride on being elected to a Major Scholarship in Modern Languages at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

J. C. H. Cope on being elected to an Exhibition in English at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

We also congratulate the following on winning State Scholarships:

M. Bird, J. C. H. Cope, D. C. Duckworth, J. L. Eaton, G. R. Green, P. Harling, C. J. Hickman, D. B. Hill, M. A. Lynn, T. W. Marshall, R. H. Moore, M. F. Pride, A. D. S. Roberts, I. D. Thompson, D. C. Ward.

We congratulate the following on being elected to Worcestershire County Major Scholarships:

D. W. Hadley, R. W. Jones, D. E. Lloyd, B. S. Mather, M. R. Maxam.

We congratulate H. S. Briscoe on being elected to an Entrance Scholarship and G. K. Barker on being elected to a chemical Engineering Scholarship, both at Birmingham University.

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### Colours

We congratulate :

G. R. Green, D. B. Hill, J. L. Eaton, and T. H. Wilden on being re-awarded School Rugby Colours.

B. C. Homer, D. F. Lomax, N. C. Brown, K. S. Hudson, M. C. Jones, R. B. W. Price, A. F. Richards, J. D. Waterstreet, and J. L. Wilkins, on being awarded School Rugby Colours.

B. C. Homer on being awarded School Cricket Colours.

E. L. B. Saxon on being awarded School XXII Colours.

G. R. Green, B. C. Homer and N. C. Brown, on being awarded School Eton Fives Colours.

R. B. W. Price on being re-awarded, and G. R. Green on being awarded School Swimming Colours.

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### OLD EDWARDIAN NEWS

We congratulate :

SIR PETER F. B. BENNETT (Conservative) on being returned to Parliament for the Edgbaston division of Birmingham with an increased majority. He was educated at the School towards the end of the last century. A past president of the Federation of British Industries and the United Kingdom Chairman of the Anglo-American Council of Productivity, Sir Peter was during the war Director-General of Tanks and Transport, Ministry of Supply. He is also a Governor of Birmingham University.

SIR HAROLD WEBBE (Conservative) on being re-elected for the cities of London and Westminster. From the School he went to Queen's College, Cambridge. Sir Harold was Member of the London County Council (1925-1949) and is at present Deputy Lieutenant of the County of London and a director of several companies. He held appointments with the Ministry of Munitions in the first World War and has been a member of Parliament since 1939.

MR. ENOCH POWELL (Conservative) on being re-elected for the South-West Division of Wolverhampton. After leaving the School he went to Trinity College, Cambridge. Mr. Powell was professor of Greek at Sydney University (1937-1939), and has written several books. After leaving the army as a brigadier he joined the Conservative Party Secretariat and was joint head of the home affairs section.

MAJOR S. J. J. VAUGHTON, M.C., T.D., on his recent appointment to the post of assistant managing director of Higgs Motors, Ltd. He was educated at K.E.S., served with the Royal Tank Corp in the first World War and was with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment during the second World War. Major Vaughton has been with Higgs Motors, Ltd., for twenty-six years.

We regret to announce that the Rev. D. CAMPBELL MILLER, M.A., has resigned from the position of Headmaster of Newark Magnus Grammar School, which he has held for twenty-five years. Both at K.E.S. and at Downing College, Cambridge, he showed a great interest in music, and organised the School's Music Society. He served in the Infantry and later in the Royal Flying Corp during the 1914-1918 war and was demobilised with the rank of Major. The Rev. Cambell Miller was ordained Deacon in 1920 and Priest the following year. In Newark he has been prominently identified with Freemasonry and is a Past President of Newark Rotary Club.

We regret to announce the death in September of Mr. F. J. TREGILGOR, for seventy years a dealer in tea and coffee. Educated at K.E.S., and for many years closely associated with Birmingham Sunday Schools, Mr. Tregilgor was eighty-six at the time of his death.

We regret to announce the death in September, 1951, of Mr. A. F. LEE, chief electrical engineer of Austin Crompton Parkinson Electric Vehicles, Ltd., Hall Green. Mr. Lee was educated at K.E.S., and later represented in Brazil, Belliss and Morcom, Ltd., with whom he had been apprenticed. During the 1914-1918 war he served as a captain in the Tank Corps. He was sixty-four at the time of his death.

We regret to announce the death at Birmingham, in October, 1951, of SIR SIDNEY CLIFT. He was by profession a solicitor, but in 1914 started in the film industry and was a pioneer in colour films through Cinecolor (Great Britain), Ltd., of which he was chairman. In the first World War, Sir Sidney reached the rank of captain. In 1944-45 he was C.E.A. National President and was knighted in 1947 for his services to agriculture and war charities. He played an important part in Anglo-American relations with regard to the film industry. Sir Sidney was sixty-six.

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### School News

We congratulate P. A. Gardner, last year's School Captain, on being elected to the Dale Memorial Medal and to the Hammond Debating Trophy.

We congratulate C.S.M. J. Westbrooke on winning the Knight Memorial Medal for the Army Section of the C.C.F., and Flight-

Sergeant (now Under-Officer) J. M. S. Arnott on winning the Medal for the Air Force Section.

We congratulate M. N. Barker, Captain of Chess, on winning the British Boys' Chess Championship for the third successive year, and also on being runner-up in the Boys' Chess Championship of the World.

We congratulate G. R. Green, School Captain, on being selected to accompany a party of British schoolboys on the W. H. Rhodes Canada Educational Trust tour of the Dominion, and J. F. Wainwright, now an Old Edwardian serving His Majesty, on being selected to spend six arduous weeks in the uncharted wastes of Iceland with the British Public Schools Exploring Society.

We congratulate R. Heron, Old Edwardian, on being selected to play for Cambridge University against the South Africans on November 8th.

We received with mixed feelings the announcement that, owing to lack of support, the Joint Dance had been cancelled. But we hear from sources in which we have the highest confidence that the Sixth Form Dance organised by K.E.H.S. was a resounding success, and that our conscience of chivalry is placated somewhat.

Once again this year the Art Department has produced a School Christmas Card, although it is said that financially this venture proved so unsound that it is not likely to be repeated. We received the device adorning the face of the card with some apprehension until informed by a most reliable aesthete that artistically the reproduction of "The Magi of Autun" was superb. We posted our Christmas greetings with our minds at ease.

The influence of the Art Room and its denizens certainly seems to be spreading widely, for even those who regard the sole object of existence as making infernal stinks and bangs must have noticed during their hasty journey to the eastern wing the compelling exhibitions of oils, water-colours and etchings that have graced the hitherto depressingly barren walls of the School corridors. Some, we understand, have been the products of our own talent while a number have been on loan to the School through various Art Trusts and organisations. We were particularly attracted by the display of the work of the French impressionist schools and our regrettable ignorance was agreeably repaired by the brief but lucid explanations accompanying this exhibition. Perhaps we may be allowed humbly to adjure those responsible to continue the crusade.

But shortly, we hear, a rival and more permanent collection will appear on the walls of the lower corridor, for the Governors are graciously making it possible for all to see the numbers of photographs of School XV's and XI's which have been laboriously assembled by members of the School. For these we are

indebted to many donors, some known, some anonymous. But the collection is far from complete and we might take advantage of the opportunity to ask any Old Edwardians in possession of photographs which might help to fill the numerous gaps to assist us. It is hoped that this display will help the School to remember the all too easily forgotten heroes of the past and their achievements; it is to be hoped too, that a show of inelegant and hairy knees will not detract from the academic atmosphere of the School. Their admiration might well be confined to leisure hours.

Another more substantial addition to the School on which work, it is rumoured, will shortly be commenced is the reconstruction of the VI Form Common Room. It is to be added somewhere above the existing Classical corridor—but that is another storey. Let us pray that the Bacchanalian orgies of the future will not distract the more studiously minded from quiet contemplation of the Bacchanalian orgies of antiquity.

The regrettable lapse of Guy Fawkes was passed unnoticed in the School save by one over whose unfortunate exploits let us draw the proverbial veil.

A more universal interest was taken in the successes and failures of those attempting, so democratically, to grace the very buildings which Guy Fawkes planned so undemocratically to destroy. Regular bulletins posted throughout Friday, October 26th, and originating from that stronghold of democracy, the Prefects' Room, attracted a good deal of enthusiastic attention, but we regret that it was occasionally necessary to move on those minded to take forceful action over some difference of opinion.

We noted with interest about that time a sartorial demonstration of the political tendencies of the Army Section of the C.C.F. However that may be, the long-awaited arrival of new blue berets has certainly enhanced the appearance of those sufficiently senior or persuasive to procure them. Their uniforms, we believe, now compare almost favourably with those of marine or aeronautical interests with whom this term they have paraded.

Another veil, we feel, must envelop the praiseworthy attempts of some to run a coach for supporters of the School for the first match of this season at Solihull. The difference of points which this unfortunate loss of support made to the team would not appear to have affected greatly the result of the game.

The re-organisation of board-space in the Notice Hall which took place this term appears to have eased the problem of advertisement which faced various activities, and the addition of extra space just outside the Porter's Lodge has helped to make

Prayers more what it should be by eliminating Society Notices in Big School.

A more fundamental innovation this term has been the adoption of permanent names for Houses. Discussion about the merits and demerits of this move have been so protracted and universal that nothing need be added here.

Surrounded as we are at this moment by tattered Christmas decorations, exploded crackers, turkey skeletons, and lucky silver threepenny pieces it dawns upon our brain, numbed by the good things of Christmas and by the fatiguing task of compiling this column, that we might well have wished readers a Merry Christmas, were it not that the decorations are tattered, etc., and that we are looking forward already to not receiving another of those ghastly ties from Aunt Monica next Christmas. Nevertheless we feel it is not too late to hope that the New Year will be a happy and prosperous one.

#### In the Service of a Changing Community

With the generous sanction of the author, Mr. T. W. Hutton, we publish here extracts from his article on the School in the edition of the *Birmingham Post* for Saturday, October 13th, 1951. Our acknowledgments are due to the Editor of the *Birmingham Post* for his kind permission to reproduce the article. We regret that, owing to lack of space, we are unable to include the whole article.

"These are the 'Schools of King Edward the Sixth in Birmingham,' even though only one of them can claim to be King Edward's School, Birmingham. The buildings are successors to the old hall of the Guild of the Holy Cross, in what was the 'the toll road to Halesowen' and now is New Street, the School's home for its first 200 years. The pupils, in various degrees, are the beneficiaries of an endowment whose quater-centenary is to be celebrated next year. The Governors, though their constitution has changed more than once, are in true lineage from the twenty 'honest and discrete' inhabitants of Birmingham to whom the Founder, on their urgent representation, restored lands worth £21, a part of what had been taken earlier from the suppressed Guild of the Holy Cross

... A nineteenth-century educationist cited King Edward's School as an example of 'the good administration of an ancient foundation under timely change'...

"Its history parallels in many respects that of contemporary foundations—a century or so of historical obscurity; another century of useful but inconspicuous service to the nation; a great headmaster, when the alternative to expansion was decay; thereafter a Golden Age, followed by steady, if less brilliant, service.

"The man who made King Edward's was Francis Jeune. Between 1834 and 1838 he reorganised the discipline of the School...

"James Prince Lee, later Bishop of Manchester, a brilliant teacher, builded on Jeune's foundations. To this period belong Benson and Lightfoot and Westcott. His work was carried on, with hardly less success, by E. H. Gifford and Charles Evans...

"So began, in 1883, a second great period, the period of Vardy, best-loved of all Headmasters, and Cary Gilson. This was the time when the Grammar Schools played their true part in the School's history and in Birmingham's education...

"Four centuries after its Charter, as it did three centuries after its Charter, K.E.S. is serving the spirit of its Founder's purpose. Education as good as any in England, coupled with an inspiring tradition, is available to more Birmingham boys than ever before in the School's history... Is it optimistic to believe that the service the pupils will render to the School and to 'Church and Commonwealth' will be no less worthy than in the days of Jeune and Prince Lee, of Vardy and Gilson?"

#### LAUS QUINDECIMVIRUM PEDIFOLLICULARIUM

*Edwardi pueris canto bella, horrida bella!  
in campum lutei descendunt, agmine facto,  
bis septem iuvenes (neque ad hos non additur  
unus)*

*virgatis tunicis insignes cruceque nudo.  
incédunt cursu; metuunt hostes, et ad imos  
it fautorum animos gelido spes mixta timore.  
quis e turba humeros latos conspectus ubique  
exsultat comedens ignes, ruiturus in hostem?  
dux ille est noster; multa obiurgantia verba  
iratasque preces fundit, caeditque furentes  
in pugnam prodromos; fidi comitantur amici.  
post veniunt validi pueri qui terga tegentes  
excipiunt follem a prodromis, cursuque citato  
perrumpunt aciem et media inter castra feruntur  
hostium. at in tantis num, Musa, heroibus audes  
nomina sacra referre? velis, sed lingua recusat.  
ast age, ego paucis recitem certamina, quales  
quotque viros nostri pugna straverer cruenta.  
quis primus periiit quis pestremusve necatus?  
non si mi linguae mille, enumerare valerem  
strages et caedem tantam, tot corpora fusa,  
semianimes per humum horum artus qui ante  
ora parentum*

*folliculi causa exigui sic volnera quaerunt.  
aemula ad has pugnas natos magna oppida  
lectos  
(heu miseris) late circum misere; neque illos,  
florem ubisque decus, matresque patresque  
revisent.*

*vulneribus nos curatis sermone iucundo  
appositis mensis pugnae renovamus amorem,  
victorum, immemores, hilares curaque soluti.*

CLAVIS.

## The Cambridge Letter

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

DEAR SIR,

The festive season is upon us once again, and from our Island Home in the Fens we offer you our seasonal salutations. The Tudor Club's doings and misdoings are legion. On the brighter side are J. B. Morris (Trinity Hall), who got a First, and J. A. Nimmo (Christ's), who is seen at all the best places. R. Heron (St. Caths.), has the distinction of playing Rucker for the Varsity, though even he is not as sporty as I. R. McClelland (Sydney Sussex), who is also no faint-heart with the ladies.

Many of our fraternity are stricken with their annual attack of Fairbairnitis, which is, of course, a form of Duck's disease. C. R. Reese (St. John's), for example, rows in the Lady Margaret first boat. B. H. Judd (Peterhouse), coxes his college second boat, and has been heard from as far away as Newmarket where one who shall be nameless was indulging in his favourite vice.

G. Tayar (Jesus), is our 'enfant terrible' and knows everybody in Cambridge. He was the noisiest heckler at Election time and never stops talking. He even talks to J. M. B. Moss (Trinity), who is known to have lost his heart on several occasions. M. J. Apps (Pembroke), is also heartless, and has been seen walking with a monk in Petty Cury. Our treasurer, R. T. Harrison (Caius), was suspected of running away with our funds; this was later discovered to be a myth, as were our funds. R. N. Doubleday (Downing), on the other hand, is scrupulously honest, despite his cloth cap and legal bent. Also legal is T. B. Anderson (St. John's), who lives somewhere in the wilderness and mourns departed shades. Somewhat more obscure is the life of M. P. Hopkins (Trinity Hall), who dwells in Oriental gloom with A. I. Rees of the same college. Their multifarious visitors are greeted with subdued Arabian deprecations and blatant political imprecations. D. J. McK. Ford (St. John's), is tall, dark and musical, whereas P. J. Welbank (Trinity), is fond of mice.

R. A. Tomlinson (St. John's), made a promising maiden speech in the Union, and H. G. Brierly (Kings), is also thought to be living. But have they seen P. B. Bryan (Selwyn and Girton) or E. J. Andrews (Queen's)?

Of the remaining members, one or two are unmentionable; others, like K. S. Parsons (Magdalene), are licensed, and a few—G. W. Whitmarsh (Trinity), for instance—look ascetic and work. The libraries have absorbed H. B. Gottschalk (Peterhouse), while several others have fossilized. Our President, B. H. Laister (St. John's), and the

rest are as happy and as good-living souls as you could hope to meet.

God bless us one and all, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CANTABRIGIENSIS.

## Oxford Letter

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

DEAR SIR,

Oxford's a fine and private place and the Genista Club just another of its impossible loyalties. All of which is to say that in the fevered topsy-turvydom of Michaelmas term Edwardians have been as elusive as ever—a vile phrase, but one which, like tea at St. Hugh's, covers a multitude of sins. Collectively we have launched Leviathan, performed "Tis Pity . . .", welcomed the West German Chancellor, ignored the General Election, and attended the world premieres of Egon Wellesz's "Incognita" and Jack Hylton's "Bet Your Life." Oxford, indeed, is as vigorous and indolent as ever under the emily-coloured auspices of a new Vice-Chancellor, Sir Maurice Bowra, recently dignified by a knighthood and pictures in the *Isis*—"brilliant, bold, buccaneering . . ." The Warden of Wadham can most often be seen walking gently up the hill to Blackwell's in the company of the President of Genista, J. D. MOUNTFORD, the donnish figure on the left. The other presiding genius is still K. P. Tynan of Magdalen, whose unquiet spirit lingers over Oxford in the most extraordinary way. Last term he descended from the West End blanching with the triumph of his Grand Guignol productions (boy meets ghoul) to judge the Experimental Theatre Club's acting competition.

Another Old Edwardian, no less distinguished, has added to his unique reputation in the Union Society: the Rev. Canon CLAUDE JENKINS, D.D., New College, Senior Librarian of the Union, Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Canon of Christ Church, spoke with wit and wisdom at the Farewell Debate. Nothing delights Oxford more than to see its local boys making good.

Not all of us, however, are on the side of angels such as these, but there's no alternative than to chronicle for you our small beer. It may be at least fool the suckers, as the poet says, or something.

Genista Secretary P. A. GARDNER, after a quick look at Balliol hall, has retired to Cornwall for a prolonged convalescence. We wish him a speedy and permanent recovery, and await his return next October. By that time the unmistakable strains of S. MYERS' music for the pantomime "Cinderella" will have ceased their insistent reverberations in the garden quad, though we hear that plans are afoot for a lavish new musical: "North Atlantic."

We have heard surprisingly little of P. R. HARDWICK (Jesus), who dwells among the untrodden ways of Walton Street, or indeed of J. R. GRUNDON (Christ Church), save that he is just as militant and twice as military. At the same college, however, G. C. WEEKS is still at it, and takes care not to dull his palm with too much entertainment; th' apparel of proclaims D. A. COLLIS (Jesus).

The Junior Dean has proof that E. WATSON brings home the Magdalen bacon, but little more than a shrewd suspicion would indicate that M. J. DAVISON (New College) was responsible for decorating the Hertford Bridge of Sighs with the pithy legend "Beware of the Doge." J. R. CHARLESWORTH (Pembroke and the Morris Garages) has also managed to square the Senior Proctor, and BOB 1, resplendent as ever, is a familiar feature of the landscape. V. C. KEYTE (Jesus) relies on more primitive transport; we last encountered him padding briskly along the Banbury Road, in training for the Bulls' Handicap.

The latest news to reach us is that our acting Secretary from Christ Church has at last completed the final volume of his Sitwellian autobiography, "*Laughland in the Next Tomb*." Its theme: Modesty is a fine thing, but you can get on very well without it. On which note, Sir, we draw this rambling and scurrilous epistle to a timely close, pausing only to send you our very best wishes for a happy 400th birthday.

Sincerely,

OXONIENSIS.

### Old Edwardian's Letter

MY DEAR EDITOR,

Grateful as the Old Edwardians' Association is for your invitation to give some account of itself in the CHRONICLE, it cannot always fill your space worthily. We seem to have been passing through a rather dull period. Happily we had the usual good flow of recruits from among those leaving School in July and most of them seem to have found the Club rooms worth frequent visits. We still lose a good many after they have been members two or three years. Clearly, the Association's policy of a very low subscription for younger members cannot succeed if there are resignations when the scale begins to rise.

We are not yet out of our financial troubles—no club is; but the position is improving. The small but pleasant bar recently introduced has been a great success; the lunches are better than ever and far more attractively

served; and tea is still a very popular event. Like others, we find it hard to get much response to efforts at evening functions, however simple. The Cricket Cocktail Party was a success, but there has been little support for such events as House Suppers. Can it be that all Old Edwardians are now too highly domesticated to be good clubmen?

The Cricket Eleven had a good season; the Fifteen, so far, has been disappointing. They play good football without very much luck, and the paper record looks bad. Moseley have beaten us pretty decisively—twice. Those who watch regularly, however, still hope that there are better things to come.

Like the School, we feel the impending loss of Mr. Howarth as something of a disaster; but we are beginning to look hopefully for a chance to see our new Headmaster and, we hope, new President. The School report that the Houses are to have permanent names has comforted many who, reading School news or watching School activities, have long been reduced to indicating their old House by a mere crude colour. The choice of names seems good and perhaps may induce an interest in the character and achievements of some fine Headmasters now almost forgotten. It is pleasant, too, to see the name of Heath again in the House list. He was one of the original four in 1900; and nobody who knew anything of Levett will question his right to a House. Levett did much for many School ventures, but most of all for School games. By the way, we are almost afraid even to mention the War Memorial Swimming Bath, but the architect assures us that you really will be using it this summer. May Speech Day weather be as propitious as it was last year!

The London Old Edwardians still flourish. They had a most pleasant dinner last month, with Mr. Justice Finemore in the chair. Mountford represented the Genista Club, Oxford, and Laister the Tudor Club, Cambridge; Hutton the Association. The Headmaster found time to come up again and had his usual warm reception. "Among those present," proposing the School, was Lieutenant-General Bradfield. The Honorary Secretary, R. H. Keach, of Cedar Lodge, Uplands, Ashtead, Surrey, is always glad for Old Edwardians in London, however fresh from School, to get in touch with him. There is, we believe, no subscription.

All good wishes to you, Sir, and to the School. Congratulations on beating Bromsgrove so handsomely; condolences on a bit of bad luck against Denstone. O.E.

### CRICKET RETROSPECT

With the final record of: played 19, won 8, lost 4, drawn 7, the XI came through an uneventful season very creditably.

There was lacking an effective fast-bowling combination and, consequently, our opponents were allowed to settle down too easily. The leg-break bowlers, it must be confessed, did not

fulfil expectations, and larger scores against us were only prevented by the accurate bowling of J. Hutchings, who took 45 wickets, and O. S. Wheatley, who took 55. The fielding was always enthusiastic, often good, and sometimes verged on the brilliant.

As batsmen we were potentially strong and we ran up a series of steady scores, though amassing no colossal totals. Here the performance of the Captain, P. A. Gough, who scored some 600 runs with an average of 40, must be mentioned.

A successful season, yes, but with six members of the XI left, may we hope for better things to come?  
D. H. BENSON.

### 1ST XI AVERAGES

	BATTING				
	Innings.	Times Not Out.	Runs.	Highest Score.	Average.
J. Hutchings	8	7	48	15*	48
P. A. Gough	18	4	582	82*	41.6
F. B. Revill	17	4	388	72*	29.9
J. L. Wilkins	16	1	364	80	24.3
B. C. Homer	15	2	224	64	17.2
J. D. Giles	18	1	243	41	14.3
D. H. Benson	17	2	182	41*	12.1
A. Jasper	6	3	24	11*	8
O. S. Wheatley	12	2	74	21*	7.4
R. Barraclough	10	2	56	14	7
C. M. Edwards	7	3	25	17	6.25

Also batted : A. J. K. Dore, 0 ; G. P. Simpson, 16 and 1 ; P. H. R. Mercer, 1 and 11\* ; D. F. Lomax, 0, 8, 0, 5, and 0 ; G. A. Taplin, 4 ; E. L. B. Saxon, 6, 9, and 6.

	BOWLING				
	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
J. Hutchings	236.1	78	513	45	11.4
O. S. Wheatley	304.4	102	731	55	13.3
D. H. Benson	175.2	54	405	28	14.5
P. A. Gough	138.4	35	362	25	14.5
R. Barraclough	85	25	218	5	43.6
J. L. Wilkins	35	10	113	2	56.5

### SCHOOL v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Played at Manchester, July 4th. Match lost by 8 runs.

Manchester batted first on an uneven wicket, and Grant, by hard hitting, scored 40 out of the first 47. Then Wheatley, using his height, four slip fielders and two gullies to advantage, took control. When the School batted they got themselves out by undecisive shots. Hutchings and Edwards staged a last wicket stand, but we fell short by 8 runs.

Manchester : 105 (R. Grant, 40 ; O. S. Wheatley 6 for 33).

School : 97 (P. A. Gough, 23).

### SCHOOL v. WARWICK SCHOOL

Played at Warwick on July 7th. School lost by 7 wickets.

The School batted first on a hard wicket and, thanks to good scores by Giles and Gough and big hitting by Benson, declared just after tea. When Warwick batted Wilson dominated the scene and scored the winning boundary with ten minutes to go.

#### SCHOOL

Giles, J.D., b Wilson	41
F. B. Revill, c Mayo, b Smith	4
P. A. Gough, b Wilson	31
J. L. Wilkins, b Smith	9
Homer, B. C., c Mayo, b Wilson	7
D. H. Benson, c Mayo, b Wilson	29
O. S. Wheatley, c Wilson, b Smith	7
Saxon, c and b Wilson	6
J. Hutchings, not out	0
C. M. Edwards, run out	0
Barraclough, R., did not bat.	
Extras (byes 8, leg-byes 6)	14

#### WARWICK SCHOOL

D. Lee, b Benson	23
E. S. Langdale, c Revill, b Hutchings	2
R. Huband, run out	30
R. W. Wilson, not out	79
M. F. Smith, not out	5
Extras (byes 8, leg-byes 1, wides 1)	10

TOTAL (9 wickets, dec.) 148  
Wilson, 5 for 64 ; Smith, 3 for 44.

TOTAL (3 wickets) 149

**SCHOOL v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL**  
*Played at Eastern Road on July 14th. Match drawn.*

Batting first on a hard wicket, the XI lost three quick wickets, but Gough and Homer came together and put on 110 for the fourth wicket. The School declared at 211 for 9. Bedford opened well. Gale and Whiting making 87 before Gale was out. A rot then set in, and when stumps were drawn they were eighty runs behind with two wickets to fall.

SCHOOL		BEDFORD MODERN	
Giles, J. D., lbw, b Gale .....	15	R. A. Gale, c Barraclough, b Gough ..	50
F. B. Revill, b Tait .....	11	K. P. Whiting, c Giles, b Hutchings ..	30
P. A. Gough, not out .....	82	F. D. Holman, b Hutchings .....	4
J. L. Wilkins, b Gale .....	1	D. J. Kingston, c Giles, b Gough .....	2
Homer, B. C., lbw, b Kingston .....	64	G. V. Dear, c Wheatley, b Hutchings ..	6
D. H. Benson, lbw, b Kingston .....	4	F. J. Comerford, b Gough .....	0
Saxon, c Gale, b Comerford .....	9	G. Millman, run out .....	5
Barraclough, R., b Comerford .....	0	K. Tait, not out .....	11
O. S. Wheatley, c Kingston, b Gale .....	0	A. Norman, ht wicket, b Gough .....	0
Edwards, C. M., b Comerford .....	4	H. J. Dean, not out .....	12
J. Hutchings, not out .....	15		
Extras (leg-byes 5, no-balls 1) .....	6	Extras (byes 8, leg-byes 3) .....	11
<b>TOTAL (9 wickets, dec.) .....</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>TOTAL (8 wickets) .....</b>	<b>131</b>

Kingston, 2 for 37; Gale, 3 for 79; Comerford, 3 for 32.

**SCHOOL v. WYGGESTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL**  
*Played at Leicester, July 17th. Match won by six wickets.*

Wyggeston decided to bat first on a hard wicket, and made 186 in even time. Gough and Benson kept a length and Gough made one or two turn. When the School batted Revill and Gough were on form and the runs were made for the loss of four wickets in just under two hours.

Wyggeston: 184 (D. H. Benson 5 for 40, P. A. Gough 3 for 33).

School: 186 for 4 (F. B. Revill, 65; Gough, 46).

**SCHOOL v. ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, WORCESTER**  
*Played at Eastern Road, July 18th. School won by nine wickets.*

Worcester batted first on a damp wicket and were dismissed by Wheatley and Benson before lunch. When the School batted, Revill hit 37 in good time.

R.G.S., WORCESTER		SCHOOL	
T. H. E. Clark, c Edwards, b Wheatley .....	0	Giles, J. D., c Goode, b White .....	11
M. A. Norman, b Benson .....	0	F. B. Revill, not out .....	37
R. M. Goode, b Benson .....	6	P. A. Gough, not out .....	19
R. G. Woodcock, b Benson .....	1	J. L. Wilkins, B. C. Homer, D. H. Benson, Saxon, Barraclough, R., O. S. Wheatley, Edwards, C. M., and J. Hutchings, did not bat.	
C. C. Hawkins, c Homer, b Wheatley ..	9		
A. F. Hill, lbw, b Benson .....	6		
J. A. Benbow, c Edwards, b Wheatley ..	0		
K. D. Gray, b Wheatley .....	22		
B. White, c Revill, b Benson .....	1		
A. J. Bengier, not out .....	9		
E. C. Clarke, c Saxon, b Wheatley .....	4		
Extras (leg-byes 8) .....	8	Extras (bye 1) .....	1
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>TOTAL (1 wicket) .....</b>	<b>68</b>

O. S. Wheatley, 5 for 19; D. H. Benson, 5 for 39.

**SCHOOL v. AN OLD EDWARDIAN XI**  
*Played at Eastern Road on July 21st. Match drawn.*

The Old Boys batted first and scored at a run a minute until lunch. S. J. Sumner made fifty, and B. C. C. Tipper and H. L. Higgins gave a polished display. Tipper, especially, hitting the ball hard on the off. Wheatley and Benson bowled steadily, and the side were all out for 196. For the School, Wilkins, Revill and Gough played well and stumps were drawn with 170-8 on the board.

## O.E. XI

## SCHOOL

P. R. Langham, b Benson	2
J. M. Barson, b Wheatley	15
P. O. Kendrick, c Edwards, b Gough	22
S. O. Sumner, c Edwards, b Wheatley	57
I. R. McClelland, b Benson	1
D. R. Dudley, b Benson	1
B. C. C. Tipper, b Hutchings	36
H. L. Higgins, b Benson	24
R. J. Garratt, b Wheatley	8
A. R. Corley, lbw, b Wheatley	4
P. T. Richardson, not out	13
Extras (byes 10, leg-byes 2, wides 1)	13

TOTAL..... 196

Giles, J. D., b Richardson	9
F. B. Revill, b Dudley	39
P. A. Gough, b Richardson	24
J. L. Wilkins, lbw, b Kendrick	48
B. C. Homer, b Richardson	0
D. H. Benson, lbw, b McClelland	11
Barracough, R., not out	8
O. S. Wheatley, b McClelland	12
Edwards, C. M., not out	2
J. Hutchings, did not bat	
Extras (byes 3, leg-byes 3, wides 4, no-balls 1)	11

TOTAL (for 8 wickets)..... 170

O. S. Wheatley, 4 for 37; D. H. Benson, 4 for 83.

P. T. Richardson, 3 for 49; I. R. McClelland, 2 for 47; P. O. Kendrick, 2 for 14.

During the holiday, P. A. Gough captained the Warwickshire Public Schools team. F. B. Revill, D. H. Benson, B. C. Homer, O. S. Wheatley and J. L. Wilkins also played.

Catches made during the season totalled 73. B. C. Homer created a record by taking 17 catches. Giles and Edwards took 11 each; Gough 10; Hutchings 5; Benson 4; Revill, Barracough and Lomax 3; Wilkins and Mercer 2; Wheatley and Saxon 1.

Total of runs scored by opponents—2,486 for 166 wickets. Average—14.99.

Total of runs scored by the XI—2,378 for 126 wickets. Average—18.91.

D. H. BENSON.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL—GENERAL REPORT

With a core of five old colours to build around it was hoped to produce a team to uphold the reputation gained the previous season. When the numerous scrum halves (otherwise known as forwards) had learned to win the ball for the scrum-half and not to win the ball and be scrum half, we saw some of the solid, consistent scrummaging which had characterised the previous season's team. The covering of the back row has been particularly creditable, while the bunching up and handling of the pack as a whole has been instrumental in scoring several tries. However, they have still to learn that it is the quick heel after a loose rush which is most disconcerting to the opposition and which gives the best results.

The backs have been small but nippy and quick-witted. Because of the absence of a heavily-built three-quarter as a spear-head, unorthodox movements have been resorted to, with considerable success. The most prolific has been the inside pass to the wing. The fact that no try has yet been scored by the opposition as the result of a three-quarter movement, does not flatter, unnecessarily, the defence.

The Second XV is inexperienced but shows promise, as the season progresses, of becoming a breeding ground for next year's XV.

The Under Sixteen's have lost three players to the First XV and to this may be attributed their moderate success so far this season: four lost, three won. In attack the team has been promising but the defence leaves much to be desired. The forwards use their weight to advantage in the tight, but are very slow on the loose ball. They have been energetically captained by the hooker, B. C. Gane.

From the Under Fifteen's we hear that the season has been disappointing, losing five to two won. The team shows promise but lacks offensive spirit. Lack of speed and an inadequate defence necessitated changes early in the season. It is now beginning to settle down and take shape, and should improve.

Lack of experience and weight have been the cause of the Under Fourteen's losses but as both come in time we have no fears for future School teams.

To Mr. Parry go our appreciation and gratitude for his advice, leadership, and good humour, on and off the field, in coaching the XV. Our thanks go to Messrs Leeds, Osborne, Lutyens, Sacret, McGawley, Freeman, Hodges, and Cook, for coaching School teams, and to Messrs. Buttle and Moore for efficient organization of the Beginners' Rugger. We are sorry to hear that Mr. Cook is leaving us and we thank him for raising enthusiasm among the juniors to such an extent that two Under Fourteen teams can now be fielded.

We are grateful to all those masters who have refereed and supported, and remind them that they are not forgotten. Finally, we should like to thank the Headmaster for his advice, enthusiasm and support throughout the season.

F. B. REVILL,  
Captain of Rugby Football.

## RESULTS OF MATCHES

SCHOOL v. SOLIHULL. *Away. Won 37-0.*

*Played on Saturday, September 29th.*

SCHOOL v. NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL. *Home. Won 27-3.*

*Played on Tuesday, October 2nd.*

Many gaps were found in mid-field but tries were thrown away because of poor finishing. A fast moving forward rush, a quick heel and quick passing led to a try by Hill in the corner—a copy-book try. Nottingham equalised during a defensive lapse. In the second half, handling improved and tries were scored, after many good movements, by Richards (2), Hill (2), Wilkins, Revill and Benson. Three were converted.

SCHOOL v. RATCLIFFE COLLEGE. *Away. Won 14-0.*

*Played on Saturday, October 6th.*

SCHOOL v. R.G.S., WORCESTER. *Away. Won 9-3.*

*Played on Saturday, October 13th.*

It was a very wet day and the ball was heavy and greasy. The backs seemed paralysed by the thought that the ball could not be handled and not until late in the second half did a passing movement occur, which resulted in a try by Hudson. In the first few minutes Worcester scored a penalty goal and Green replied with a try direct from a line-out. Revill dropped a goal to complete the scoring.

SCHOOL v. DENSTONE COLLEGE. *Home. Lost 5-6.*

*Played on Saturday, October 20th.*

The team showed its best form of the season, so far, in this game and were unfortunate to lose in the last minute. It was a very mature game for schoolboys with few mistakes. Both sides tried to open up the game and the passing was fast and accurate. The School pressed hard for the first ten minutes and were rewarded with a try by Richards, who in a typical run beat several opponents before scoring under the posts. It was converted. The forwards began the second half with an irresistible burst of energy, but they soon tired and the School had to defend desperately. Denstone gained the ball monotonously but could not break through a defence in which Hill and Brown were outstanding. Over-eagerness, however, gave Denstone two penalties, from which they scored. The School were unfortunate to lose after giving such a display.

SCHOOL v. TRENT COLLEGE. *Away. Won 40-9.*

*Played on Saturday, October 27th.*

The School retained their previous weeks' good form and over-ran a weak Trent defence which had no answer to unorthodox movements. Tries were scored by Wilkins (3), Homer (3), Revill (2), and Eaton. Five were converted, and Green dropped a penalty goal.

SCHOOL v. WORKSOP. *Home. Won 20-3.*

*Played on Saturday, November 3rd.*

The ball was greasy but both sides tried to handle it, and while mistakes were many the results were worth while. Wilkins made the only score of the first half with a good twenty yard dash from the base of the scrum. In the second half there were many gaps in the middle which let in Revill to score two tries. Richards scored a good individual try and later another, after initial work by Benson, Homer and Hudson. Homer scored the other and two were converted. Worksop replied with a penalty goal.

SCHOOL v. WARWICK SCHOOL. *Away. Won 6-0.*

*Played on Saturday, November 10th.*

Conditions were very soft after heavy rain but it was not impossible to handle the ball. The School gave a spirited display with many good touches. Revill kicked a penalty goal to open the scoring and later broke through to begin one of the best movements of the season. The ball passed on to Homer, then to Jones, and finally to Green who galloped a good thirty yards to score. After the interval Warwick gained more of the ball but a tight defence, with Lomax and Benson outstanding, kept them out.

SCHOOL v. BEDFORD MODERN. *Away. Won 17-3.*

*Played on Wednesday, November 14th.*

SCHOOL v. BROMSGROVE SCHOOL. *Home. Won 16-3.*

*Played on Saturday, November 26th.*

The School gave what was probably their best performance of the season. The forwards paved the way by being alert and quick on to the ball; the backs looked full of thrust, life and ideas, and made full use of the ball won by the forwards.

Bromsgrove won the toss and put the School to play with the wind. Conditions were soft but not impossible in the first fifteen minutes and ten points were scored before rain prevented any further handling. Richards swerved outside his man and scored wide out.

It was converted. Brown dived over from a line-out; again it was converted. Torrential rain limited the School's further score before half-time to one try by Edmonds.

"Kick it hard and high," was Bromsgrove's plan and they had plenty of opportunity because they were winning the ball every time from the tight. Their kicks were supported by intense following-up but good covering and handling prevented them from scoring. Occasional foot-rushes, in which Green and Brown were prominent, looked very dangerous and led eventually to another try by Richards. Homer fastened on to a dropped pass and dribbled up the left wing, Richards kicked it past the full back and followed hard to score in the corner. Bromsgrove began to look belatedly dangerous and from a five yard scrum managed to shove over for a forward to score.

It would be difficult to single out a particular player or players as having been outstanding but Green led the pack with his usual dash and intelligence. The whole team played magnificently in a very creditable win over opponents who had been beaten only once before this season.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL RESULTS

### FIRST XV

Date.	Opponents.	Played.	Result.	Score :	
				For.	Against.
Sept. 29	Solihull	Away	Won	37	0
Oct. 2	Nottingham High School	Home	Won	27	3
" 6	Ratcliffe College	Away	Won	14	0
" 13	R.G.S., Worcester	Away	Won	9	3
" 20	Denstone College	Home	Lost	5	6
" 27	Trent College	Away	Won	40	9
Nov. 3	Worksop College	Home	Won	20	3
" 10	Warwick School	Away	Won	6	0
" 14	Bedford Modern School	Away	Won	17	3
" 24	Bromsgrove School	Home	Won	16	3
" 29	K.E.G.S., Five Ways	Away	Cancelled		

### SECOND XV

Date.	Opponents.	Played.	Result.	Score :	
				For.	Against.
Oct. 6	Moseley G.S.	Home	Lost	5	19
" 13	R.G.S., Worcester	Home	Lost	3	12
" 20	Sebright School	Home	Lost	3	28
" 27	Bromsgrove School	Away	Lost	0	3
Nov. 10	Warwick School	Home	Cancelled		
" 17	K.E.S., Stratford	Home	Won	6	3

### UNDER SIXTEEN XV

Date.	Opponents.	Played.	Result.	Score :	
				For.	Against.
Sept. 29	Solihull School	Away	Won	25	5
Oct. 2	Nottingham High School	Home	Lost	0	33
" 6	Ratcliffe College	Away	Lost	5	17
" 20	Denstone College	Away	Lost	3	33
" 27	Trent College	Away	Won	24	11
Nov. 3	Worksop College	Home	Won	8	5
" 17	Bromsgrove School	Home	Lost	6	9

### UNDER FIFTEEN XV

Date.	Opponents.	Played.	Result.	Score :	
				For.	Against.
Oct. 6	Moseley G.S.	Home	Lost	0	11
" 13	R.G.S., Worcester	Away	Won	6	3
" 20	Sebright School	Home	Lost	0	37
" 27	Bishop Vesey G.S.	Away	Lost	0	15
Nov. 10	Warwick School	Away	Lost	0	11
" 17	K.E.S., Stratford				

### UNDER FOURTEEN XV

Date.	Opponents.	Played.	Result.	Score :	
				For.	Against.
Oct. 6	Moseley G.S.	Away	Lost	5	11
" 13	R.G.S., Worcester	Home	Lost	3	9
" 27	Bishop Vesey G.S.	Away	Lost	0	9
Nov. 10	Warwick School	Home	Cancelled		
" 17	Camp Hill	Away	Lost	3	8

## CHARACTERS OF THE XV

F. B. REVILL (1949-50-51-52) (18yrs. 7mths.)  
(10 st. 2-lb.).

The most complete footballer the School has produced for many years. He thinks swiftly and effectively, is never hesitant, and uses the ball to advantage. He has a bewildering swerve and a crushing hand-off. He is master of the dummy, the feint and the kick ahead, which lend him penetration in attack. His lack of consistent speed is a handicap, but he can produce that short devastating burst which disorganises opposing defences. At times he has been faulted for holding the ball too long. His defence, once unsteady, has improved this term, for his tackle is more reliable, he drops on with more determination, while his covering is often brilliant. His handling has, perhaps, been less consistent than last season but is nevertheless sound. His touch and place kicking are always valuable assets and it is probable that this season he will repeat last year's outstanding performance of scoring one hundred points. His complete tactical knowledge is a match-winning factor and he has nursed a rather young line admirably. As Captain he has led the XV largely by example and much of this season's success can be attributed to him. He drinks tea, plays table tennis and buys innumerable pairs of laces

(Evans.)  
G.R.G.

G. R. GREEN (*Vice-Captain*) (1950-51-52)  
(18 years 10 months) (11 st.).

It is unfortunate that a change of rules made him change his style of hooking. The previous season he hooked consistently but this year he has been penalised often under the new rules. Fortunately for the team he has refused to succumb to these adverse circumstances and by perseverance has now mastered the new style. His handling and dribbling set an example to the pack and he insists that he can drop kick. His advice throughout the season has been invaluable.

(Evans.)

D. B. HILL (*Secretary*) (1950-51-52) (18 years 2 months) (9 st. 5-lb.).

Being the only three-quarter with experience, he bore the brunt of the attack and defence in the first matches. Fast, but slightly built, he has an eye for an opening, but a more liberal use of a dummy combined with his side step and swerve would create many more. He kicks and handles well while his tackling and falling on have saved many dangerous situations. Keep your eye on the ball is the golden rule of all ball games, which he must learn. As secretary he has worked hard and earned the right to grumble often (which he does).

(Captain of Gifford.)

J. L. EATON (1950-51-52) (18 years 5 months)  
(11 st. 12-lb.).

A strong front or second row forward who is accomplished in all the arts of forward play. He has a considerable knowledge of the game which he uses intelligently. Although his natural ability to handle or kick is not very developed he has by practice gained proficiency in these arts. His line-out play has been energetic while his tackling and dribbling can be relied on at all times.

(Captain of Heath.)

T. H. WILDEN (1950-51-52) (18 years 3 months) (12 st. 12-lb.).

Actual physical contact with the opposition gives him fire and energy and until he played in the front row his play was very mediocre. Heavily built and inclined to be clumsy, he is loth to part with the ball, once he has possession of it, and ponderously blunders on oblivious of all calls for a pass. He should realise that not being exactly nimble of foot the sooner he passes the ball the greater the chances of scoring a try. He tackles, dribbles, and kicks competently, while in the line-out he marks his man with tenacity.

(Captain of Prince-Lee.)

B. C. HOMER (1951-52) (17 years 11 months) (11 st. 10-lb.).

A player with the ability and ball sense to play in any position, he has played regularly at wing forward and once at centre. Off the field he is quiet, but on it he becomes very pugnacious, especially when anyone tries to take the ball from him. He tends sometimes to go for the ball and not the man and should remember that he leaves a gap if he misses the ball. Safe tackle and fall-on and a huge but inaccurate kick.

(Captain of Evans.)

M. C. JONES (1951-52) (17 years 11 months)  
(10 st. 7-lb.).

A small wing forward who makes up round the middle what he lacks in height. He possesses a devastating tackle which he uses unsparingly. Handling and kicking are arts unknown to him but he dribbles and falls-on well.

(Vardy.)

D. F. LOMAX (1951-52) (16 years 1 month)  
(10 st. 6-lb.).

A full back who, by assiduous practice, has speeded up his movements so that now the team has great confidence in him. He has safe hands, a kick with either foot, and a courageous fall-on and tackle. He is guilty, sometimes, of taking his eyes off a rolling ball and also of waiting for a high kick to bounce instead of running forward under it. However, these finer points will come with experience.

(Jeune.)

K. S. HUDSON (1951-52) (16 years 8 months)  
(11 st. 6-lb.).

Heavily built centre who lacked confidence at the beginning of the season, but improved in every game he played until he is now a constant menace to the opposition. He fitted smoothly into the line and formed a

fine understanding with Hill. No opening is too small for him to burst through and with his physique and experience should be very useful next year. He has a safe kick and tackle. (Evans.)

R. B. W. PRICE (1951-52) (16 years 8 months) (11 st. 2-lb.).

A tall well-built front row forward who is always up with the play and in the thick of the maul. He is very useful in the line-out and tackles, dribbles, and falls-on well, but we have yet to discover whether he can kick. (Captain of Vardy.)

A. F. RICHARDS (1951-52) (16 years 9 months) (10 st. 1-lb.).

Small but well-built wing who has been the spear-head of the attack. His very deceptive run and change of direction has

for increased velocity. As scrum-half he should concentrate more on serving his three-quarters than on breaking himself. He will learn to time his break better, with experience. He falls-on and tackles very well. (Heath.)

D. H. BENSON (1951-52) (17 years 1 month) (9 st. 10-lb.).

Slightly built but wiry wing who tries to run round his man every time. The best way for him to beat his man is to run parallel to the touch line and swerve round him. His defence has been sound although he suffers from occasional lapses in concentration. He handles and kicks well. (Prince-Lee.)

N. C. BROWN (1951-52) (16 years, 3 months) (10 st. 12-lb.).

Wright; 2, D. C. Trow; 3, P. J. Turner. Distance, 44-ft. 6½-in.

Wright; 2, B. J. Pierce; 3, R. B. W. Price and G. R. Green (equal).

1, B. J. Pierce; 2, J. D. Adams; 3, R. B. W. Price. Time, 30 secs.

1, B. J. Pierce; 2, J. D. Adams; 3, R. B. W. Price. Time, 69 secs.

1, J. D. Mathews; 2, P. Coombes; 3, J. Manley. Time, 89 secs.

1, J. D. Mathews; 2, J. B. Haskins; 3, P. G. Coombes. Time,

1, P. G. Coombes; 2, L. Wagstaff; 3, A. D. Edwards. Time,

1, J. H. Segall; 2, J. D. Mathews; 3, W. W. Davenall.

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1, J. H. Segall; 2, J. D. Mathews; 3, W. W. Davenall.

1, J. F. Wa

Dive (Open) : 1, C. J. Ro

50 yds. Free Style (U.16½)

100 yds. Free Style (U.16½)

100 yds. Free Style (U.15)

50 yds. Free Style (U.15)

36 secs.

50 yds. Back Stroke (U.1

42½ secs.

50 yds. Breast Stroke Har

Time, 43½ secs.

Dive (U.15) : 1, J. H. Seg

Plunge (U.15) : 1, R. K. 1

One Length (100-ft.) Und

24½ secs.

One Length (100-ft.) Und

Plunge (Open) : J. F. Wainwright ; 2, D. C. Trow ; 3, P. J. Turner. *Distance, 44-ft. 6½-in.*  
 Dive (Open) : 1, C. J. Rowley ; 2, B. J. Pierce ; 3, R. B. W. Price and G. R. Green (equal).  
 50 yds. Free Style (U.16½) : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, J. D. Adams ; 3, R. B. W. Price. *Time, 30 secs.*  
 100 yds. Free Style (U.16½) : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, J. D. Adams ; 3, R. B. W. Price. *Time, 69 secs.*  
 100 yds. Free Style (U.15) : 1, J. D. Mathews ; 2, P. Coombes ; 3, J. Manley. *Time, 89 secs.*  
 50 yds. Free Style (U.15) : 1, J. D. Mathews ; 2, J. B. Haskins ; 3, P. G. Coombes. *Time, 36 secs.*  
 50 yds. Back Stroke (U.15) : 1, P. G. Coombes ; 2, L. Wagstaff ; 3, A. D. Edwards. *Time, 42½ secs.*  
 50 yds. Breast Stroke Handicap (U.15) : 1, J. H. Segall ; 2, J. D. Mathews ; 3, W. W. Davenall. *Time, 43½ secs.*  
 Dive (U.15) : 1, J. H. Segall ; 2, J. D. Mathews ; 3, J. R. Richardson.  
 Plunge (U.15) : 1, R. K. Masters ; 2, P. Edwards ; 3, P. G. Coombes. *Distance, 44-ft. 4-in.*  
 One Length (100-ft.) Under 14 : 1, J. H. Segall ; 2, D. C. S. Davies ; 3, D. F. Soutter. *Time, 24½ secs.*  
 One Length (100-ft.) Under 13½ : 1, M. J. Rufus ; 2, J. Cole ; 3, A. J. McCormack. *Time, 22⅝ secs.*  
 One Length (100-ft.) Under 12½ : 1, P. G. Ayscough ; 2, A. D. R. Ogborn ; 3, R. L. Banks. *Time, 34 secs.*  
 House Relays :  
 First Team : 1, Dunts ; 2, Biggs ; 3, Coplands.  
 Second Team : 1, Williams ; 2, Leeds ; 3, Porters.  
 Third Team : 1, Coplands ; 2, Burgess's ; 3, Dunts.  
 Carr Cup (Senior Championship) : C. J. Rowley.  
 Governors' Cup (Junior Championship) : J. D. Mathews.  
 Allday Shield (Terminal Competition) : Coplands.  
 Jacot Cup (Sports) : Williams.  
 Solomon Cup (General Swimming) : Williams.  
 Relay : School v. Old Edwardians. 1, O.E. ; 2, School.  
 Previous to the Sports the Annual Half-mile swim was held at Edgbaston Reservoir on Saturday, June 23rd.  
 Results were :  
 Senior : 1, J. D. Adams ; 2, J. B. Hignett ; 3, R. B. W. Price. *Time, 17 mins. 32 secs.*  
 Junior : 1, J. D. Mathews ; 2, J. H. Segall ; 3, M. A. Gordon. *Time, 22 mins. 5 secs.*

#### RESULTS OF SCHOOL MATCHES, 1951

Harrow .....	Lost	9½—26½
Rugby .....	Lost	24—38
Shrewsbury .....	Won	45—14
Repton .....	Lost	22—27
Malvern .....	Lost	23—26
Wrekin .....	Won	43—24
Trent .....	Lost	22—30
Manchester G.S. ....	Lost	18½—41½
Solihull .....	Won	40—10
K.E. VII, Sheffield .....	Lost	15—47

#### JUNIOR TEAM

Trent .....	Lost	22—26
Wrekin .....	Won	22—18
Solihull .....	Won	22—18

#### P.T. REPORT

P.T. after the excitement of the Summer term lapses into its close season. Efforts are made each year to keep interest alive, particularly in the Lower School, by running a Handicap Competition. This year is no exception, indeed there will be two competitions, one restricted to the Junior School.

Interest is, happily, running high and it is ably fostered by Mr. Cadenhead and his capable colleagues, Messrs Cotter and McGawley. The latter we welcome from Loughborough College, where he took his diploma.

Fencing flourishes ; a feature of the term's activity was the visit of Mr. R. Crosnier, the National Fencing Coach, and

Mr. R. Anderson, the Sabre Champion, who gave an extraordinarily interesting demonstration.

The devotees of fisticuffs remain loyal to their art, in fact they have increased in number—many of the fifth form are taking vigorous steps to defend their person from boldly assault.

The introduction of the basket-ball cult has "met a long-felt want." Its disciples may be seen in the temple on Friday afternoons perfecting their esoteric rituals. It is hoped in future years to establish basket-ball on an Inter-House basis.

We congratulate J. R. Luckett on winning the Senior P.T. Competition and G. K. Caulton, the Junior Competition, both held last year. Mr. William's House won the team trophy.

D. H. BENSON (*P.T. Leader*).

### SHOOTING REPORT

#### ·303 RETROSPECT.

At the end of the Summer term, the shooting team spent July 11th and 12th at Bisleigh. The purpose of the visit was to shoot in the Ashburton Shield Competition on the 12th. The VIII's score of 496 was well above that of previous years. Despite this, however, we were placed only thirtieth, due to fierce competition, the winning score was 511, only fifteen more than ours. However, R. B. Somerset won a School's Hundred badge, and M. C. Jones and J. Westbrooke received monetary awards for their practice shooting in the Gale and Polden unlimited competition. N.S.R.A. SEASON.

At the beginning of this year the VIII was in the unfortunate position of having only three of last year's members left. Attempts to replace the other five have so far met with only intermittent success. Our opponents, on the other hand, appear to have strengthened teams, making the list of results appear disappointing. However, we are not yet perturbed, and await the "Country Life" season with eagerness. Our thanks are once again to be offered to Major L. K. J. Cooke, for his patience and forbearance in coaching us.

Results to date :

v. Worksop College. . . . .	728-W.O. Won
v. Elizabeth Col., Guernsey	728-763 Lost
v. Glenalmond . . . . .	730-749 Lost
v. Harrow . . . . .	730-735 Lost
v. Highgate School . . . . .	729-745 Lost
v. King's School, Worcester	720-740 Lost
v. Marlborough . . . . .	720-749 Lost
v. Uppingham . . . . .	720-772 Lost
v. Denstone . . . . .	732-W.O. Won
v. Wrekin College . . . . .	732-718 Won
v. Eton . . . . .	734-
v. Merchant Taylors' . . . . .	734-732 Won
v. Sebright School . . . . .	730-727 Won
v. Rugby . . . . .	730-
v. Sedbergh . . . . .	730-754 Lost

Won 5, Lost 8, unfinished, 2.

The team has so far been chosen from :

R. B. Somerset, Ward, D. C., Stewart, P. G., Willison, R. G., Nairn, S. A., Ashley, C., McCracken, J. W., Henley, J. G., Barnard, C. P. J., North, J. W., and P. Harling.

P. HARLING (*Captain of Shooting*).

At the time of going to press, the Inter-House Competition under N.S.R.A. rules is in progress. Full scores will be given in the next issue.

D. C. WARD (*Hon. Sec., Shooting*).

### ETON FIVES REPORT

THE climax of School Fives is the annual tour of London schools at Christmas. For the last few years each captain has given warning of the lowering standard of the School Five's team, and each year the School has shown itself to be improving on its previous year's performance. This year our prospects are good, although the team seems, on paper, to be the weakest for some time.

The standard of the School team itself is high, but in the School the standard is slowly falling. The interest of the senior and middle schools in Fives seems to be almost non-existent, but it is encouraging to see a comparatively large number of juniors practising, although talented players are few and far between.

Plans have been made to cover at least two of the six Fives courts, but when this will happen is not yet known. The covering of the courts would result in a definite raising of the standard of Fives in the School. At the moment the time of practising is strictly limited by the weather. It is this uncertainty which deters many from visiting the Fives courts during the dinner hour.

The House senior Fives competition has progressed steadily, half the matches being played this term and the remainder next term. The results so far show that Mr. Biggs's House is leading, having won all three of its matches.

Our thanks, as ever, go to Mr. E. V. Smith who distributes and collects the precious stocks of Fives equipment.

A. J. G. CAMPBELL  
(*Captain of Eton Fives*).

### TENNIS REPORT

TENNIS, this term, has been very much at a standstill, with only two rounds of the House Knock-out Competition having been played. In this event, Copland's are due to play Porter's in the semi-final, and Leeds' play the winner in the final, next term.

During the Summer holidays, the School team, consisting of Lancaster, Bancroft, MacBean and Barker, competed in the Public Schools' Tournament at Wimbledon.

Despite the fact that it was a rather unfortunate venture—we narrowly lost to Aldenham in the first round—all the team were awarded their School colours.

Next Summer term we hope to play more Inter-School matches than previously, and facilities are being arranged for coaching. Inside the School there will be held an Inter-House singles knock-out, and also two individual tournaments. Last term we were unfortunate in losing our Chairman, Mr. Burgess. However, Mr. Monckom has kindly consented to take his place, and with him in the chair, school tennis may well look forward to a bright and prosperous new year.

M. N. BARKER

(*School Tennis Captain*).

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### CHESS REPORT

CHESS in the school continues to flourish, with all the teams doing excellently in their own particular spheres. The first team has so far had a victorious season, having to its credit a victory over a strong Oxford University team, and is at present running first in the County Club Championship and the first division of the Birmingham Junior League.

In order to allow more boys to play inter-school chess, there have been two teams competing in the second division of the Junior league; the "A" team having up to date won all its matches, and the "B" team having, unfortunately, lost one, drawn one, and won the rest.

Individually, by far the best achievement was the winning of the Warwickshire Boys' Championship by J. B. Phipps. Phipps tied for first place in this event at Easter, but has recently won the play-off with the Midland Boy Champion. The County Junior team (20 boards), consists of at least twelve boys from the school, the first ten boards having seven school players.

Inside the school it has been found necessary to have four chess rooms. Messrs. Whalley, Leeds, Porter and Sacret kindly placing their form-rooms at our disposal, for which we are very grateful. All School and House matches have been played in Mr. Whalley's room and we are deeply indebted to him for extending to us this privilege.

Owing to numerous adjournments and adjudications, an account of the Inter-House competition is difficult to give, doubtless this will be clarified in the near future. Next term there will be an innovation in that there will probably be held an Inter-House lightning championship. The Pugh Chess Cups will be started fairly soon, and it is hoped that all participants will endeavour to complete the programme.

Finally I would like, on behalf of all the school chess players, to thank our chairman, Mr. Hurn, whose keen interest and support has done much to maintain the School's reputation as one of the leading chess schools in the country.

M. N. BARKER

(*School Chess Captain*).

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### HOUSE REPORTS

#### EVANS

"VANITY of vanities, saith the Preacher"—not that we wish to preach; but the pride of Mr. Dunt's House has come, for we triumphed yet again in the House Competition last year, and the fall of Evans is, it seems, following quickly after. For too long have most of us bathed in the reflected glory of one or two stalwarts who have brought the laurel leaves to this evergreen House. We are now beginning to pay the penalty, for on several occasions this term Mr. Dunt's House (a name once calculated to strike terror into the hearts of any potential challengers) has failed to put a 2nd XV into the field. What shame! Where is that unconquerable spirit of old? "Oftimes defeat is splendid." Might we not at least die fighting?

The First XV has fared badly in the League, whilst the Second XV has not won a match. Our Fives' ascendancy has been wrested from us. Only the Chess team has redeemed itself and its success is due to the few. Hope springs eternal and our hope rests in the Lower School. On the rugby field the Third XV has struggled to save our reputation from the mud. Their vigour, at least, might well be emulated by their elders.

Let us then make our New Year resolutions. In this quater-centenary year let us look back to our mighty ancestors, and unwind our bloody play. We stand or fall together. Let us strive side by side, the lesser with the greater. Let the strong men and the grinders go forward together. Let us strive to make the first year of Evans as inevitably successful as the last eight years of Mr. Dunt's House.

G. R. GREEN,

(*House Captain*).

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#### GIFFORD

AFTER the House's not inglorious start last year, we slowly faded out and any hopes that had been entertained of being Cock House were finally dispersed by our dismal failure at the Swimming Sports. Nevertheless, as a result of the earlier successes, principally in Rugger and Athletics, we managed to obtain third place in the Championship. These successes, it may be said, were due to the efforts of a few stalwarts, nobly supported by the remainder of the House.

This year, deprived of most of the "old lags" by the calls of Higher Education, His Majesty's Forces and Messrs. Cadbury's, the House is left in rather a precarious position. To attempt to make any forecasts in these circumstances would be distinctly unwise. If however, as last year, we all make some contribution, be it only to while away a few pleasant hours over a chess-board, we shall by no means disgrace ourselves.

The Rugger teams have now fortunately found their feet after an uncertain start. The First team having lost their first match, were strengthened by the return of A. R. Snead, after his brief stay in the School XV, and have since been unbeaten. The strength of the second team lies we know not where, as on paper they appear to have very little, but have lost only one match. The Junior team possess an admirable blend of skill and enthusiasm, and but for the untimely indisposition of a few, might well have done much better. The good football played by this team, together with the undoubted talent present among the new boys, augurs well for the future.

At the beginning of the term, rumour had it that the tennis players had won a match; the incredulous amongst us had only to wait for the next meeting of the House for this to be confirmed. Not even the news that it had been won by default was sufficient to quell the excitement on this historic occasion.

The Fives team lack experience and practice but they should improve; they have lost their first two matches. We await the result of the House Shooting Match with interest, and R. A. J. Woollen tells us that classification continues.

Chess, we gather, is progressing slowly. Of the two matches finished we have won one. R. H. Goodall's frequent appeals for games to be played off on the correct day seem to be of no avail. It can only be inferred that this is the wrong time of the year for mating.

If in these activities we sometimes fail to do as well as we should, it is not for want of encouragement and support from Mr. Kay, ably assisted by Mr. Bennett and Mr. Robertson. Our thanks are extended to all three of them.

D. B. HILL,  
*House Captain.*

### GILSON

SPURRED on by its praiseworthy performance during the past School year, when it came, despite the lack of talent, a very close second to Evans, the House is quietly confident of an even higher position this year. In no realm of sport can we be said to possess any outstanding players, unless it be in Eton Fives, but we still intend to prove the effectiveness of team spirit combined with moderate ability.

At Rugger, so far this season, we have achieved much, having no School team demands to weaken our strength. The House First XV has won five matches, one by something approaching a record score, and drawn one with one league match still to play. The Second team has had much spirit, little luck and consequently varying success, whilst the Third XV, from which the House always expects great things, has not lost any of its eleven matches, one member of the team, Buxton, scoring nearly 100 points in tries alone. These results are justified by the enthusiasm of the teams, the inescapable spirit of the House and the assured leadership and often superlative play of our captain, N. Sankarayya. Though faced with the knock-out round, when other Houses will be reinforced by members of the School team, we are, in spite of derisive laughs, sure of being a thorn in the side of any House we may meet, especially as regards the 2nd and 3rd teams.

Although Rugger is the most vital game of the early part of the School year, other activities all play their part in the struggle for the House Championship. Here as well results are encouraging and satisfying.

G. H. Herringshaw, the Captain of Chess, is astonished by the remarkable success of the House in this more intellectual sphere. Last year we achieved little and have since lost several players. Nevertheless we are now hovering in the higher regions of the Chess Championship, undaunted by previous failures, and the Captain promises us a good position.

The only news to have made its way from the Fives Courts is that we have had considerable success, winning all three matches played. This year the House has a very strong team, skilfully led by A. J. G. Campbell, the School Captain of Eton Fives.

Tennis, of necessity a summer sport, nevertheless braved the wintry weather of the past term—though exactly to what extent is not known. The House team is considerably weaker than last year and it is feared that, though keen, it will continue to register but moderate results.

P.T. and Athletics are events of the future, yet efforts to raise an effective P.T. team are being made and only the weather has been able to thwart attempts at a mass cross-country practice.

Towards the end of last term we learnt that under the revised system the House was to be named after Robert Cary Gilson. We all feel honoured at bearing this title and fully intend to prove that there is in the House a spirit worthy of such a great Headmaster. Our Housemaster, Mr. Biggs, always an enthusiastic leader, is now even more assured of the House's chances for the current year, as he had the good fortune to come into contact with Cary Gilson and can personally vouch

for his dominant, though unorthodox personality. The acquisition of such a name must surely be a good omen for the House.

M. C. DODD,  
*House Captain.*

## HEATH

As the quarter-centenary year begins, the House as a whole can view its position and prospects with satisfaction. The new name which the House now bears will give it a measure of continuity and tradition which have been lacking over the past five or six years during which we have had four successive Housemasters. C. H. Heath, the first Head of the House, who had a record of twenty-seven years of devoted service at K.E.S. and has only lately died, is still remembered with affection and gratitude by many of his pupils and we are honoured to bear his name.

The House was very glad to welcome Mr. Barlow as Mr. Burgess's successor in September, and Messrs. Trott and Whinnerah as Tutors. Their enthusiasm and encouragement have been a great inspiration to us and under their leadership we can expect a very successful year.

So far results have been very promising. In football the House team has won three out of five league matches and has its easiest fixtures to come. The second team, after a shaky start, has also been piling up points, and the Junior XV is, believe, invincible. True, they have lost one match, but that, they claim, was the exception that proves the rule. In the tournament competition this term, with three School colours, prospects are excellent.

Fives is recovering from its dark age, and our young team has won two out of three matches, including a very creditable win over Jeune. The remaining matches, the Captain tells us, are virtually won. Juniors are plentiful, and although assiduous practice is revealing much latent talent, prospects must still be vague.

Our position in chess is not so good. Results are hard to come by, but it is clear that as far as points go we are not very successful. Defaulting, however, a great source of worry last year, has been vastly reduced and D. N. Gallon, our already ageing captain is sometimes seen without his traditional worried look.

Classification is proceeding very satisfactorily, and numbers compare very favourably with other Houses. With three of the School VIII our outlook is rosy for the N.S.R.A. competition and the Spring term's "Country Life" matches.

The cross-country course is already well trodden by the feet of the "Heathens" and we should do well in this event. We have few likely point scorers as far as the Sports are

concerned, but team work should win us more than our share at standards.

Swimming and cricket are still far away, but we have every cause for optimism. In both sports we have lost practically none of last year's teams, and our position of 1951 should be improved on.

Only the fatalists would deny us a good chance of carrying off the Cock House cup this year, and those who have taken this trophy for so long as a matter of course, should look to their laurels.

And so to Christmas. We wish the traditional Good Cheer and look forward to a more than usually prosperous New Year.

J. L. EATON,  
*House Captain.*

## JEUNE

THE state of the House teams shows a remarkable similarity to the corresponding state a year ago.

With some matches still to be played, the House Rugby team has already won three of its matches, losing only one. A very creditable effort, when we are reminded of the unpromising prospects behind the scrum at the beginning of term. Our second team has produced some results which are hardly believable—especially their defeat by 37-35. Our thirds, however, make up for some lack of skill by their keenness.

In the realm of Eton Fives, with a team practically the same as last year's, we have won three matches and lost only one, and that by a narrow points margin. However, prospects for the three remaining matches, to be played next term, are not bright.

Chess has proved a little disappointing this term. Although losing only one of the members of last year's victorious team—which won all its matches—we have already lost a match.

However, we may console ourselves by realising that we have reached the final of the House Tennis Knock-out Competition. We cannot really attribute this, with one exception, to any great skill in the game.

Prospects for the Athletics season remain much the same as usual. There being no outstanding athletic talent in the House, we shall have to rely on everybody to pull his weight.

It is rumoured that Cross-Country running has already begun.

W. G. G. LINDLEY,  
*House Captain.*

## LEE

THIS is the last report of Mr. Williams' House. But it is not a moment for nostalgic unhappiness; we are sorry to lose the name of our House Master, but at the same time

we are glad to think that the new names, which are being given to the Houses, will become a permanent memorial to the great traditions of the School, and that our new name, Lee, commemorates James Prince Lee, probably the most distinguished of a distinguished line of nineteenth century Headmasters.

There is never a very clear picture of the situation in Inter-House activities to be obtained a week before the end of the Christmas term, but most of the individual results are known. We have come from the field of battle decidedly victorious with the First XV defeated on only one occasion, and the Second XV, never. Unfortunately the Third XV has yet to find its feet. With a strong First XV and three members of the House in the School First XV, we look forward confidently to the Knock-Out Competition in the Spring.

In the more obscure pastimes we have been well represented, and have lost only once on the Fives court, although this must be balanced by the single victory out of three matches on the tennis court. We have apparently checkmated more often than usual, although there is the customary lack of a Chess House order at this time of year.

With many promising younger members of the House, and a considerable number of good all-round sportsmen, we look forward cheerfully to the challenges which lie ahead, a confidence which is based largely on the continued experienced counsel of Mr. Williams, the expert coaching of Mr. Osborne, and the buoyant enthusiasm of Mr. Lutyens.

J. M. S. ARNOTT,  
*House Captain.*

### LEVETT

THE House began the year 1951-52 full of high hopes. We had several School Prefects, a solid nucleus of genuine academic talent and an unbounded amount of youthful enthusiasm for Rigger, Fives, and other sports. It is well known that the value of the House, as an institution in school life, depends entirely on the "esprit de corps" which grows among its members. Certainly this spirit was abundantly present last term and it is to our credit that the individual apathy towards House activities which was one of the greatest evils of former days has now almost disappeared. Moreover, we can safely say that in every match last term, whether in Rigger or Chess, Fives or Shooting, the House teams generally displayed a most worthy spirit and keenness.

However agreeable this general picture might appear, it requires certain qualifications. Although the House XV played very well on occasions, in spite of an obvious lack of innate talent and a large number of injuries, the second team was erratic; and part of the trouble with the Third team was the for-

wards' ineptitude for following up and the failure of all members to run hard with the ball. We should not be disheartened however. Among the new boys at least we have several youthful players with very definite talent.

We have been more successful at Fives this year than ever before, under the sound leadership of G. D. Clark; Chess however, is a closed book. All we know of the latter sport is that J. B. Phipps consoles us with his cheerful complacency as Captain and we have a whole host of players who frequently win matches and entertain themselves in House tournaments.

Lawn tennis has been difficult owing to the weather. We have a strong first pair although R. W. Ward has not as yet found a sound combination for the second. We have won several matches, although the final results will not be known until the Spring term. It is fortunate that we are not really discouraged by J. B. Hignett's air of melancholy indifference at the Swimming situation. However we are sure that there is a considerable number of boys in the House who could do quite well if only they were prepared to suffer the discomfort of a little cold water once or twice during the year.

Looking ahead we must realise that the New Year will be an uphill struggle. Above all else we must live up to the great name of the House. If we work and play hard, and take part in all School and House activities with keenness and enthusiasm, we will do great credit, not only to this name, but to ourselves as individuals. And finally, we must never forget the store which Mr. Porter and his assistants lay by our efforts, or the work they do behind the scenes on our behalf.

J. de C. LING,  
*House Captain.*

### VARDY

DESPITE the ignominy of our position at the end of last year, the House remains stolidly unconvinced of its loss of status, and there appears to be little immediate prospect of our improving to any great extent upon that deplorable record.

On the Rugby field the First team has, as yet, to win a match, although with the return of our School team players we confidently expect at least one victory in the knock-out competition. The Second team has fared better, having won its last three matches after a disappointing start to the season, whilst the Third team shows distinct promise for the future. The Fives team, battling in most cases against older and more experienced players, has failed upon every occasion, but much may eventually be expected of this youthful quartet. Chess, as usual, is in a lamentable state, and will remain so until our pseudo-intellectuals learn to think.

The annual story of failure told, we can at least look with benevolent eyes upon the Tennis team, whose enthusiasm has been rewarded with considerable success; it is, indeed, a pity that these virtues should be present only in such a limited sphere. For our flesh is weak and our spirit unwilling.

Several activities still remain enshrouded in mystery however, Swimming and Athletics in particular providing a bright vista. The swimmers who last year won the Allday Shield remain undepleted and we have several athletes, who, with keen support from their fellows, can be relied upon to excel themselves. In Shooting we unfortunately appear to lack able veterans and the results lie therefore somewhat in the lap of the gods.

It is difficult to foresee accurately with what fortunes the House will meet in the New Year, when we assume the illustrious name of Vardy for the first time. It is to be hoped that we bring further credit upon this name and live up to our glorious traditions by combining together, as one body, and making an onslaught upon the House Championship which will shake the other Houses to their very foundations. The Juniors possess undoubted ability, and with a little individual effort from our more lethargic Seniors we can achieve this goal; but if a patriotic spirit is lacking once again, several ugly blots will appear on our already clouded escutcheon. Two-thirds of the year remain in which our ambitions may at last be realized. We at least have time, let us see if we have the strength.

Finally, our thanks are due once again to Mr. Copland and Mr. Parry for the unfading interest and encouragement they have given to House activities during this difficult period. We can only hope that their efforts have not been in vain, and that they will meet with greater successes in the New Year.

P. H. R. MERCER,  
*House Captain.*

## THE LIBRARY

THE School Library has had a very successful term, in spite of its present handicap in having to combine its rôle as a library with that of a common room for the whole School.

The subscription and circulation statistics show that more books are issued now than ever before and the sub-librarians are to be highly commended for their hard work and enthusiasm.

The Science section has greatly benefited from a bequest of standard works on Physics and Chemistry by Dr. Baker, formerly Science Master at K.E.S. We are also profoundly grateful to all those others who presented books last term.

Finally, we thank Mr. Blount for his consistently energetic work and trust that through his guidance the School Library will progress from strength to strength.

J. DE C. LING,  
*School Librarian.*

## DEBATING SOCIETY

THIS term we have started to lay the foundations of a new dynasty. Of the bright lights of halcyon days—they who helped to raise the Society from its nadir of three or four years ago to the glorious zenith of last year—some pluck the bays of battle in strands as far remote as Carlisle (Cavalry) and Plymouth (Infantry), whilst others pursue the Scholar's Crown at Oxbridge and Redbrick Universities. Whether they serve His Majesty or the gods of learning, may they prosper!

Meanwhile, what of we that are left? We cannot:

“Sit on a cushion,  
and sew a fine seam,  
And feed upon strawberries,  
Sugar and cream.”

To use a most overworked metaphor: “All is grist to our mill.” We have searched in nooks and crannies and dragged from them the illiterate and the uneducated, who have, mercifully, proved to be not quite so illiterate and uneducated as was feared. Indeed, but for the galaxy of talent then available, we feel sure that many of our new speakers would have been making valuable contributions to last year's Debates. Furthermore, some of last year's less distinguished speakers have improved out of all recognition. For the benefit of statisticians, we record that, at this term's Debates, three out of ten Paper Speeches have been maiden speeches and eight out of ten, the first Paper Speeches of the people concerned.

Two Private Debates and one Joint Debate have been held this term. Opinions as to the merits and demerits of the Joint Debate are divided. We do, however, congratulate the Girls' School on the way that their speeches far outshone the efforts of our own Society. The standard of Debate at the two previous Private meetings was higher than we had dared to hope.

An expression of gratitude is due to our Chairman—the urbane, benign C. H. C. Blount, Esq.—who has continued to preside majestically over our *séances* this term. The dignity of the House is in safe keeping.

Finally, we extend a hearty invitation to all who may be seriously interested, to become regular members of the House. We bid you welcome.

K. J. WERRING and J. E. TREVIS,  
*Joint Hon. Secretaries.*

## JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

THIS term the Society has debated the "Dismal Failure" of the Festival of Britain, the result of the General Election, and the merits of the prefect system, which have all been well attended by members of the Removes, Shells and Upper Middles.

The Society is open to all members of the School Club below the divisions, and it provides an excellent chance for the less senior members of the School to express their varied points of view and ideas. It is a pity that more boys in the Fiftths do not avail themselves of the opportunity.

Under Mr. Dunt's encouraging chairmanship, the Society is steadily strengthening its position in the School.

The high quality of many of the speeches from members of the lower forms bodes well for the future.

J. W. McCracken,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## LITERARY SOCIETY

IN many ways, tradition continues to wear a snowy beard in our Society, though never let it be hinted that our fortunes are anything but flourishing. Our attendance remains constant, and our dignity remains. It is nevertheless pleasing to note that the ancient hierarchy of bearded historians, which so long haunted our circles to the awe and panic of lesser men, is being surely swept aside.

Can it be that the new home of our Poetry Readings has emboldened those to whom the remote and romantic Dressing Rooms (if such places ever existed) vainly simulated friendship, security, and welcome? Whatever may be the reason, we must record that new faces have appeared to hear "Wine, Woman and Song," described by many talented readers. At each meeting we now release two voices, instead of one, as of yore. The new status acquired by this group has provoked imitations from our linguistic friends, who have squatted in our ill-fated mausoleum.

The Literary Society has also had an encouraging term. Mr. G. T. Lloyd Evans, of the Extra-Mural Department of Birmingham University, gave a talk on modern American fiction; later in the term we watched Mr. A. J. Trott await a visit of divine poetical inspiration as he discoursed informally and capably on "The Imagination"; our third meeting concerned "Literary Values" and was addressed by Mr. G. C. Stuttard.

Such then is our satisfactory record. May we express the hope for continued prosperity under our tireless chairman Mr. Crow, congratulate our patrons, thank M. Bird for his amusing posters, and break off this report to start on next term's programme.

D. C. WARD,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## MUSICAL SOCIETY

MID-DAY concerts have been held every fortnight this term, and all except one have been "live" performances. For the first concert Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave" Overture and the Richard Strauss Horn Concerto were presented on gramophone records. A recital was given by Mr. J. A. Bolton (flute), and Mr. F. J. Williams (piano), and a pianoforte recital was given by D. A. Wright. The fourth concert introduced us to a soloist from outside the School, Mr. William Brown (tenor), who gave an extremely entertaining recital of Jacobean and modern songs. One is entitled to wonder why so many members of the School occupy themselves with such mundane tasks as rifle cleaning and physics prep., to mention but two of their diverse attractions, while concerts of a very high standard are being given in Big School.

The Junior Musical Society has held two meetings, at which music has been performed by members of the School. The performers have been B. J. Barlow (piano), H. G. Brindley (violin), R. M. Sweeney (treble), D. H. Birch (violin), P. M. Johnson (piano), and, last but definitely not least, R. W. Hadfield, whose demonstration of the idiosyncrasies of his French horn will long be remembered by all who witnessed it.

The School Choir is maintaining a creditable standard of singing. Two anthems have been sung in Prayers, and the Choir is now preparing for both the Carol Service to be held in Edgbaston Church, and for the Quater-centenary Commemoration Service to be held at St. Martin's Church on January 24th, 1952. The School Orchestra is also working very hard, in preparation for next term's celebrations.

We express our warmest thanks to Mr. W. D. Rees, who is accompanist for the School Choir, and to all other members of the Staff who give great help in the Orchestra, and of course to our Chairman, Dr. Willis Grant, who, with untiring energy, continues to effect improvement in the musical life of the School.

R. S. LOWRIE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## MUSIC CIRCLE

THE first meeting this term, consisted of an illustrated talk by Mr. Philip Cranmer, well-remembered by many as a previous Director of Music in the School. The talk, which was on the art of accompanying, was most interesting and diverting, for Mr. Cranmer imparted to us knowledge and also anecdotes which he had gleaned during his sojourn at the B.B.C. This was the first time that the first meeting of the year had been attended by a full Circle, for this year it was decided

that as there are only two meetings each term the new members should be elected beforehand and not, as hitherto, at the first meeting.

At our second meeting, Dr. Robert Friedmann delighted us with a pianoforte recital. He performed two works, Schubert's Impromptu in B Flat, Op. 142, No. 3, and Beethoven's Sonata in A Flat, Op. 110. The Schubert was beautifully and meticulously performed and the Beethoven was illustrious. As Dr. Willis Grant afterwards remarked, it was a real pleasure to watch the ease with which Dr. Friedmann played; he made it look so easy to play the piano well.

We were unfortunate inasmuch as the pianoforte recital which T. F. H. Oxley, who was Secretary of the Circle, was to have given last term did not take place owing to the C.C.F. inspection, and it is now too late for what promised to be a most enjoyable recital.

Next term we are hoping for a visit by Mr. John Lowe, the Head of Midland Region Music at the B.B.C., which should be interesting.

Let us conclude by conveying our thanks to Dr. Willis Grant, our Founder-Chairman, for his energetic work in arranging the programmes for the Circle. It is through his good offices that our meetings are always most enjoyable.

D. A. WRIGHT,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

So far this term the Society has held two meetings. The first was held on October 15th, when a lecture was delivered by the ubiquitous Mr. W. D. M. Lutyens on "The Conquest of Disease." Two well-known diseases were dealt with from different view-points.

The second lecture was given on November 14th by Mr. M. C. Johnson, who is reader in astrophysics at Birmingham University. His discourse was entitled "Eruptive or Exploding Stars," and dealt with the more unstable of the stellar bodies.

At the present time the Society is awaiting the third and last meeting of the term, which is to be held on November 30th, when Mr. F. A. Meerendonck will talk on "Some Aspects of the Rare Elements."

Having thus catered for the three main aspects of science, the Society feels fairly satisfied with itself, although there is still room for new members.

P. HARLING,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### CIVICS SOCIETY

THE Civics Society has a decided advantage over most of the other societies in the School, in that they are restricted by their specialised

requirements in their choice of speakers, whereas this Society, not being tied to any particular branch of study, can invite the most specialised speakers from every walk of life. Most of our visiting speakers for the year have agreed to come during the Spring and Summer terms, although one of them, Mr. Robert E. Loubert, from the American Consulate, addressed the Society this term. Mr. Loubert's radiant personality, coupled perhaps with his typically American appearance and yellow Studebaker, carried the day, in spite of his short-comings as an exponent of that nebulous subject "The American Way of Life."

At a very entertaining meeting, early in the term, five members of the Staff, under the chairmanship of Mr. Porter, aired their views on a variety of subjects ranging from their opinion of *Punch* to the Persian oil situation. At our last meeting of the term the School Captain described his visit to Canada in the Summer and showed a large number of excellent photographs taken on the trip.

This Society has made the Committee system work better than many others, but nevertheless we owe a great deal of our success to the unobtrusive, and yet continuous guidance and enthusiasm of our Chairman, Mr. Vaughan.

J. M. S. ARNOTT,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

WE are revitalised! Our speakers have addressed crowded rooms, our films have been received by packed benches, and our excursions are booked up weeks in advance. Our numbers have risen from the not so roaring forties to the seething eighties. Here no little credit is due to the enthusiastic, if occasionally impracticable, advertising schemes of that nebulous body, The Committee, and to the short-notice posters of McCracken.

On October 22nd, Mr. Zaman and Mr. Sen, Indian and Pakistani students at Birmingham University, addressed the Society on the subject of the problems facing their native lands. Discoursing at some length, the speakers aroused the keen interest of their audience, which avowed enthusiastically that it had heard nothing like it before. For variety, two films were shown on November 26th, giving a glimpse of life and times in extreme North America and in Java. Two visits are to be made to a Midland coal mine later in the term.

The Society's thanks are extended to our Chairman, Mr. Whalley, and to Mr. Benett, for their unflinching support and prudent guidance through a term of frenzied activity.

H. D. ATKINSON,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE Society began the year with the disadvantage of having but two members of last year's committee remaining and none of the officers, but this defect was of short duration for Mr. G. C. Sacret was soon welcomed as chairman in succession to Mr. Burgess, and an influx of youth has strengthened and enlivened the committee.

The Society is trying earnestly to refute the popular belief that the ancient history of early Mesopotamian and similar antediluvian civilisations should be its sole and peculiar interest. It is seeking the Horatian "modus" between the archaeology of other countries and that of Britain in general, and of the Midlands in particular. It is felt that local archaeology is of somewhat greater value and indeed of more interest, while it has the obvious advantage that members may study it at first hand.

To this end the term's meetings have been directed. On October 3rd, R. J. Hetherington, Esq., M.B., Ch.B., revisited the Society to lecture on "The Roman Camp at Metchley." Both the history and topography of this most local item of archaeological interest were dealt with at length. On October 24th, two members of the Society discoursed with the help of copious illustrations upon their respective visits to Woodchester Villa and Antonine's Wall. For the last meeting, on November 12th, it was decided to interest the Junior members of the School by showing a film of "Life in Roman Britain," and the experiment proved adequately successful.

On November 5th, the terminal outing was held, when five intrepid members braved the torrential rain to visit Maxstoke Castle and Priory. Their thanks are due to Mrs. Featherstone-Dylke for most kindly showing them round the Castle, and to the owner of the Priory ruins.

The Committee has affiliated the Society to the Birmingham Archaeological Society, and now has the privilege of sending eight members to the meetings of this learned organization. If anyone is interested in this he should contact the Secretary.

Thus, on the whole, the Society may congratulate itself on a most successful term. In conclusion, its thanks are due to Mr. Ballance for allowing us the use of the Biological Laboratory and of the epidiascope.

W. G. F. HETHERINGTON,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

## ART SOCIETY

THIS term the activities of those smooth, long-haired beings, who profess to understand the cabbala of Art, have been manifold. Time alone can reveal what bewitching

scenery will transport us into the romantic world of "Twelfth Night," but sounds of frenzied hammering and glimpses of white-robed priests have from time to time warned the School that potters and sculptors were in the throes of creation.

Activity of a type more easily appreciated by laymen has been shown in the fine poster-work produced under the surveillance of Mr. Hurn. M. E. Jacks, and J. W. McCracken, especially are to be congratulated on their excellent posters. Each good poster, besides drawing attention to the meeting of a Society, serves to compel recognition of the importance of Art in School life.

The exhibition of pictures on loan from the Arts Council also emphasizes the value of art as part of our cultural heritage. These exhibitions are made possible through the Julian Horner bequest, and they provide excellent opportunities for boys to examine paintings of widely differing styles and periods. This term there have been exhibitions of French nineteenth-century painters influenced by the French Revolution, Impressionist paintings, again mainly French, and lastly an exhibition of the work of contemporary painters. Mr. Hurn feels that these paintings are playing a valuable part in the life of the School, and is encouraged to see growing interest in them.

On the 6th October, Mr. Hurn conducted a party of boys round the Barber Institute. Another part of his "cold war" to bring art more to the notice of the School was the establishment of an Art Circle, consisting of a limited number of boys from the Sixth forms, which meets once a fortnight. One member acts as Chairman and guides the discussion. Two meetings have been held. At the first, general questions of art were discussed, stimulated by the reading of one of Picasso's letters, and at the second, a few paintings of Picasso provided the fuel for sharp differences of opinion and much controversy. The Art Circle seems likely to become an important institution.

On Wednesday, 17th October, a meeting of the Art Society was held, at which Mr. K. Garlick, a lecturer at the Barber Institute, spoke on "What is Modern Art," to a large audience. The talk proved to be most stimulating, and a lecture on the 19th November by Mr. Appleby, a practising architect, on "Developments in Twentieth Century Architecture" was equally interesting. A meeting fixed for the 3rd December had to be postponed owing to the difficulty of securing an expert to speak on the subject of "Scenic Design."

Both the Art Society and the School generally owe a large debt to Mr. Hurn, who is undertaking pioneer work in his attempts to increase the appreciation of Art. This is necessarily a slow process, but already his efforts have met with success, and one may

look forward confidently to a time when Art will play an even more important part in School life.

J. C. H. COPE,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### MOUNTAINEERING SOCIETY

In this, the second year of its existence, the Mountaineering Club has continued to receive enthusiastic support from members of the School.

This Autumn term, at our first meeting of the year, our Chairman, Mr. Lutyens, gave a very interesting talk on past and present expeditions to Mount Everest. He spoke at some length on how the expeditions are organized and also of the difficulties which beset them. Mr. Lutyens concluded his talk by summarising the merits and difficulties of the various proposed routes to the summit.

At Half term a short expedition to North Wales was organized but, unfortunately, the limited accommodation made it necessary to restrict the numbers of the party to six.

The party stayed at the Midland Association of Mountaineers' hut "Glan Dena," which is situated in the Ogwen Valley. Although the weather was rather wet the party enjoyed two days of good climbing.

Later this term, Mr. H. Restall has consented to come and give an illustrated lecture to a joint meeting of the Mountaineering Club and the Photographic Society.

Next term it is hoped that the distinguished mountaineer, Mr. R. L. G. Irving, will be persuaded to come and recount some of his personal alpine experiences, but this can only be arranged if a large meeting can be guaranteed.

During the Summer holidays it is hoped to take another expedition to either the Lake District or to Wales.

The good support experienced by the Club is in no small way due to our Chairman's enthusiasm and we wish to thank him for his efforts.

Our thanks are also due to the Midland Association of Mountaineers for allowing us to use their hut at such short notice.

A. A. SNEAD,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### CHRISTIAN UNION

At last we are able to record the courage of a few who have dared to cross the threshold of the formidable large Lecture Theatre, to find that we are not a coterie of pious hermits who assemble fortnightly to "call spirits from the vasty deep" or indulge in any other form of religious hocus-pocus.

On the whole, there is cause for satisfaction at the interest shown in our meetings during

the Autumn term. A group of Crusaders and several other newcomers have added to our numbers, though the apathy of a large majority of the Crusader hordes in the School remains a fact to be deplored.

A high standard has been maintained by our speakers, among whom were Mr. P. D. Naish, Mr. R. F. Trew, and Rev. R. E. Lewis. Two more meetings are to be held before the end of term: one a lunch-hour meeting when we shall be having Mr. B. A. Burbridge, Travelling Secretary of the Inter-School Christian Fellowship; and the second an after-school meeting at which Rev. Dr. Maldwyn Edwards will speak on the subject, "Modern Doubt and the Christian Answer." We plan to hold one such after-school meeting each term in future.

Owing to circumstances beyond our control, we have only been able to hold three Prayer Meetings and two Bible Studies. This will be remedied next term when we purpose continuing our already profitable study of the "Sermon on the Mount."

To those who have not yet ventured to penetrate the confines of our meeting-place, we promise a series of stimulating and interesting talks by learned and experienced speakers during the Spring term.

Finally, we should like to express our thanks to the Head Master for his interest in the Society; to Mr. Monkcom for the use of the large Lecture Theatre; and to G. W. Marshall for producing such fine posters.

A. R. G. DEASLEY,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### THE CLOSED CIRCLE

ONE feels that a genuine "intellectual Society" should be formed as a result of the quite spontaneous coming together of a group of people with common academic interests. Reading of the school days of such men as J. M. Keynes or Lytton Strachey we find that their lives in the period immediately before going up to the University were influenced to a large extent by such conceited but intellectually fervent cliques. There was strictly no formality and no question of electing anyone save the man who would be a definite asset to the Society.

By comparison it may be said that the only fault of the Closed Circle is that it is too much an institution for the recognition of those who have distinguished themselves in certain branches of School life, and too little a society which meets for the sole purpose of intellectual enjoyment.

However, we have little to complain of, apart from this slight artificiality. During the Autumn term two written papers and an informal talk were presented to the Circle. J. M. S. Arnott read a very thorough and interesting paper on "World Food Prob-

lems," and the Secretary provoked quite an intense literary discussion with a paper on "Modern Interpretations of Don Quixote." The term's programme was completed by a delightful talk from Dr. Mary Woodall of the City of Birmingham Art Gallery.

We have had a successful term, but it should be remembered that the high standard of the meetings has in no small way been due to the skilful chairmanship of Mr. Blount.

J. DE C. LING,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ONLY one indoor meeting of the Society has been held this term so far, the other three meetings being Field meetings.

At the first meeting of the term, two mediocre films "Some Birds of the Country-side," and "Bees," were shown. A mediocre film-show for the first meeting of the School year seems to be almost a tradition now!

A very successful Field meeting was held on Founder's Day when the Society visited the Lickey Hills and Bittel Reservoirs. A perfect autumn day, a large attendance and some expert assistants from the Sixth Form all helped to make this a most successful Field meeting.

A Field meeting arranged for Half term was unfortunately interfered with by the inclemency of the weather. However, a short Friday evening meeting in Edgbaston Park provided an opportunity for the younger members of the Society to see some interesting birds.

For the last meeting of the term we hope to hear a lecture on "Rodent Control," to be given by the Public Health Department's Chief Rodent Operator.

W. G. G. LINDLEY,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

THIS Society possesses a corporate "élan" which has fitted it to take an outstanding position in the life of the School. Enthusiastic yet not fanatical, erudite yet not pedantic, its members display a commendable maturity and realize that the welfare of the Society depends entirely on what work they may be prepared to do for it of their own volition.

There were three meetings fixed on the calendar for the Autumn term. The first was devoted to a talk in French, on the subject of life in the "lycée." The second meeting was to have been given up to a Spanish speaker, but as the latter was unfortunately unable to attend despite sustained negotiations it had to be cancelled. The last formal meeting of the term heard a fascinating talk, in English, by Professor Whitfield of Bir-

mingham University. Professor Whitfield spoke on general aspects of the study of Philology. In addition, Mr. Rees and Mr. Robertson were the readers at a French poetry séance held during a lunch hour, towards the end of term. There was an encouragingly large audience at this meeting and all present felt well satisfied with the wide variety of selections—from Villon to Baudelaire—which Mr. Rees and Mr. Robertson read so admirably.

Finally the Modern Language Society sends its salutations to the peoples of the world in the hope that the year 1952, a landmark in the history of the School, will be one of international co-operation and understanding in the outside world.

For the Society, we may say that whatever we may achieve depends in the last analysis on the patience and skill of Mr. Biggs. He is certainly an example of wisdom to the over-zealous and of energy to the indifferent.

J. DE C. LING,  
*Hon. Secretary.*

### THE SCHOOL WEATHER STATION

THE School weather station is now recognised as an official Climatological station and its readings are sent to the Meteorological Office every month. It is also an official Rainfall station and has its readings published in *British Rainfall*, a summary of rainfall distribution in the United Kingdom as recorded by over 5,000 observers.

The anemometer, which is fixed on the School roof, lost one of its cups during a stormy week in the Summer holidays. Repairs have been delayed owing to the shortage of ladders. It is hoped that the sunshine recorder will be finished in time for the Open Days next Summer, but progress has been held up by the cost of materials. It is interesting to note that during November we had three times our average rainfall thus bringing the year's total to a record of over 33-in.

It is hoped to be able to make reports of the Station's activities in future editions of the CHRONICLE.

P. K. HODGKISS.

### ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

THE attention of the R.N. Section this term has been focussed on examinations. There have been many candidates for the Proficiency Test, Parts I and II, and an A.B. examination was held in the last week of term. The signalling instruction for these tests has been very ably given by Mr. Macauley, who we are very glad to have amongst us.

A joint parade has been devised to bring together the whole of the C.C.F. every Thursday. This has been a reasonable success.

Field day this term was occupied in visiting H.M.S. *Flying Fox*, a R.N.V.R. training ship, at Bristol. This included a short trip up the dock in a marine assault craft.

The section has at last the prospect of gaining a boat. This is a cutter and is resting at Worcester. It is hoped that the tricky navigation to its home port will be undertaken early next year.

R. B. SOMERSET,  
*Petty Officer.*

## ARMY AND BASIC SECTION

PROBABLY the most important change in organization last term was concerned with the Thursday morning parades. The Royal Naval Army, R.A.F., and Basic Sections, now march on to the Square, side by side, every week, and not only does this present an unusually grandiose spectacle but it also has a unifying effect on the four sections. This is a worthy improvement on the former organization where the Naval Section would carry out some sort of ceremonial in one corner of the School grounds, the Army in another, and the R.A.F. in yet another.

But whatever changes may come with each set of Orders, with each term, and with each School year, the survival of the Corps tradition at K.E.S. must depend to a very large extent on the administrative labours of the officers in the Orderly Room. We are greatly indebted to them and particularly to two newcomers, Lieutenant Hodges and Lieutenant Robertson, who have already given valuable service in the organizing of training. Lieutenant Hodges has provided a particularly interesting tank course for cadets who have passed both sections of Certificate "A" and who await promotion to the rank of N.C.O.

We had to bid farewell to Captain Meerendonck last term, and in thanking him for all the work he carried out on behalf of the C.C.F. we wish him every success and happiness in the future.

Successful Field Days were held by the three Companies on Wednesday, 21st November. Amidst the traditional mud and slush the different companies carried out their respective training programmes with an encouraging degree of enthusiasm.

Church Parade was held on the first Sunday after Armistice Day and the Chaplain-General of the Cadet Force both preached the sermon and took the Salute at the March Past after the Service, which was held in Edgbaston Old Church.

Cadets are classifying at a steady rate on the indoor range, but it would appear that House Captains are too often harassed by boys who sign up for classification and then fail to appear. Although it must be admitted that such behaviour is rare, at no time is it

worthy of a member of an organization whose principal aims are to promote efficiency and a sense of responsibility.

Both the Band and the Signals Platoon had a very successful term and a great deal of credit is due to those who regularly give up their spare time to drumming and bugling or wireless operating as the case may be.

For the success we enjoyed in the Autumn term we are very largely indebted to Major Matthews and his officers, and we feel sure that under their sound leadership the Army and Basic Sections of the C.C.F. will continue to progress from strength to strength.

G. R. GREEN,  
*Under-Officer.*

## ARMY AND BASIC SECTION CAMP

ON July 23rd, a large party of enthusiastic cadets paraded at Snow Hill Station for the Annual Camp. This year the camp was held at Poulton Airfield, near Chester. The contingent arrived in pouring rain but was quickly moved under canvas. Stores were issued by the hard-working advance party before lunch.

For training, the contingent was divided into four platoons, two senior and two junior. Each platoon had two officer cadets from Eaton Hall as instructors. All the platoons started their training with camouflage and worked up to platoon-attack level. One afternoon we gathered to see a drill demonstration by other officer cadets and their sergeant majors. This demonstration had a remarkable effect on the drill of the Senior platoons.

An assault river crossing was part of the varied training and during this exercise many of the senior N.C.O.s and W.O.s were to be seen emerging from the waters of a tributary of the River Dee. All platoons were successful in the usual night operation against opponents from various other schools. L/cpl. Woolen with the Junior cadets won the tent competition; also an inter-unit map-reading competition was arranged for all Senior platoons and was won by a team led by Sgt. Ward.

Facilities for reaching the nearby town were better than last year and thus various provisions were brought from Chester. A visit to Eaton Hall provided cadets with an opportunity to see the seat of the Dukes of Westminster. Capt. Buttle organised rounders each evening and Mr. Cotter took cadets swimming. The camp N.A.A.F.I., which was near at hand, unfortunately lacked organisation. The usual camp sports were held, but the School team did not distinguish itself.

We were graced by a short visit from the Head Master, who inspected the lines.

As usual, a Church Parade was held under the direction of R.S.M. Moore, and the sermon

was in keeping with the best traditions of school camps.

The camp broke up on July 30th and the contingent left Poulton in driving rain. On the whole the camp had been admirably arranged, but it was generally felt that the contingent should have attended during the following week.

Our thanks are due to the officers of Western Command, officer cadets from Eaton Hall and especially to our own officers, R.S.M. Moore and C.S.M. Cotter, for this success.

M. D. STIRLING,  
*Company Sergeant Major.*

## AIR SECTION

QUIETLY, calmly, resolutely, unostentatiously unselfconsciously, with controlled but maintained enthusiasm, the sky-blue uniformed élite of the School's military men carry on their researches into the higher realms of aerodynamical thought. Thursday morning sees the Squadron marching away from the maelstrom of the communal parade-ground to secrete itself away in the unruffled quiet of the lecture rooms. Eyebrows are raised in pained expression as a noisy dun-coloured N.C.O. and his squad march loudly past the window; pitying eyes regard the camouflaged figures disappearing into the depths of Edgbaston Park.

But into those looks of pity does there not occasionally creep a flicker of longing? Do we not worship Bernouille to the exclusion of all others? Are we not so wrapt up in the magic of our necromantic meteorological symbols as to fail to see our true purpose? The object of the corps is surely primarily rather to acquaint the cadet with the essential attributes of a leader, and while it gives him an insight into the work of the service he wishes to join, equips him with sufficient experience of leadership to enable him to become eventually a fully competent officer of that service.

The general atmosphere of this report in the past has been one of smug contentment, immature back-slapping, and lofty disdain for the other services, but this time it has the boldness to suggest that all is not well. It is true that we maintain our high numbers, and our very high degree of proficiency in the certificate examinations, and we now have three Pilot's "A" licences in the records, which is a real achievement. But, at the same time, we must face up to the fact that only a tiny percentage of our former cadets, trained on a syllabus based entirely on the requirements of future pilots, do actually become pilots. Next term we are to be provided with a glider, which will give us more active training, and our N.C.O.s more responsibility.

But even with the present one-sided syllabus we still have sufficient spare time, credited as we are with a very low I.Q., for activities more conducive to the general grasping of a greater amount of discipline and leadership. We are handicapped in this matter by the fact that most of the cadets are in the Lower Divisions when they join, with the result that few of them can become N.C.O.s, but this difficulty can be side-stepped by minor alterations in the existing system.

This general military background will serve the cadet in the services better than the knowledge, say, that an aircraft stalls away from the earth at the top of a loop, a fact which he can learn at his Initial Flying Training School if he is going to be a pilot. If both can be learned so much the better, but we must be careful about precedence, and we hope that the next report will bring news of a rejuvenation of the Section.

Pilot Officer Gess is leaving us at Christmas. He has given us much valuable help in the last three years, and we wish him success and happiness in his new post. His departure will throw an even greater amount of work on the C.O. and Flying Officer Whalley, and we hope that they will be able to carry on as before with the quiet efficiency which marks the R.A.F.

J. M. S. ARNOTT,  
*Under-Officer.*

## SCOUT REPORT

THE Group flourishes. Since our last report appeared, we have been to the jamboree, climbed mountains, run sideshows, entertained the Lord Mayor and have even managed to find time to pass tests as well. Indeed training has been most encouraging. Four First Class badges were gained before last half-term and we have produced one King's Scout. The influx of new recruits has now settled down and all are invested. General badge work progresses as usual and the new system of Duty patrols has worked efficiently with the result that the G.Q.M. is no longer the frustrated down-trodden creature that he was, but is now lord of rows of gleaming store chests.

The end of the Summer term saw the annual County Rally in Handsworth Park taking place. Three sideshows were run at a considerable profit, though we were hardly adequately represented in the parade, at which General Sir Rob Lockhart took the salute. The West Division rally, however, held in Harborne on September 29th, was a triumph for the Group. We turned out in real force, though there may be some truth in the tale that most scouts went to see the magnificent "Skylon" which the Seniors had erected for the occasion, and which was subsequently featured in the local Press.

The reports of the Summer Camps are included elsewhere in the CHRONICLE. We may say here that everybody returned to School after the vacation looking healthier than ever, which we take as a sign of their success.

Three members of the Group went to the World Jamboree at Bad Ischl in Austria, held this Summer, and a report of this event is also included elsewhere. On their return to School they gave, at our first meeting, a lively talk on their experiences. At this meeting, too, a large number of our older members were received into the Senior troop, and we hear they are acquitting themselves well. The resulting vacancies in the Junior troops were filled at half-term by an equally large contingent of recruits, whose progress is also good.

Nobody knows precisely what happened to anyone else on Field Day. For details we must apply to any of the café proprietors in the Lickey Hills area who filled, and had their fill of, large bodies of hungry scouts on that stormy Wednesday. In conclusion, we have noted that the Scout Room floor and hence those smaller brethren who persist in rolling about all over it, have been noticeably cleaner. Has the purchase by a certain troop of a new broom perhaps had this effect, or have the cleaners at last taken pity on us? We can only guess, and say more cheerfully than ever, "The Group Flourishes."

J. L. EATON,  
A.S.M.

## THE ROVER CREW

WHILE the number of active Rovers in the Crew has not increased during the year, we continue to replace those of our members who become temporarily inactive due to the demands of H.M. Forces and the calls of the more remote higher places of learning. Since last January, five Squires have been invested, one of whom was the first to take advantage of the fact that membership of the Crew is open to Edwardians whether they have been members of the School Group or not; we hope he will not be the last. At the time of writing there are in all, nineteen of us, six of whom are "temporarily inactive." Two Squires are still serving with the School troops as acting A.S.M.s, and two other Rovers with an outside troop in the South Local Association of the City.

Mr. Hurn continues with us as Rover Scout Leader. W. A. K. Lester has been elected to the position of Mate, following the resignation of the former holder of that office.

Meetings are still held monthly, and, in spite of an understandable tendency for those held during the holiday periods to become opportunities for yarn-swopping by O.E.s, a definite programme of activity has

been carried out. Several Rovers have delved into rather diverse and peculiar subjects and have entertained and even edified their fellows with the results. The Crew was represented at the Birmingham Rover Conference in March, at the Midland Counties Rover Moot held in Leicestershire in May, and at the annual Handsworth Park Rally in July. K.E. Rovers also helped the Birmingham University Crew to run the camp organized for those troops in the West L.A. who were not able to arrange their own Summer camp this year.

Several members of the Crew spent the first week-end of November at Bridges Youth Hostel, on the West side of the Long Mynd. They appear to have had a very enjoyable time, in spite of the somewhat liquid nature of the last few hours. A certain amount of climbing took place on the Stiperstones, and it is reported that the usual activities associated with that particular weekend were also observed.

Before this appears in print the Crew will have held its Childrens' Christmas party—an event which happily appears to be establishing itself as annual—though for which particular under-privileged children it has not yet been decided; and at the ordinary December meeting we shall have had Mr. Denis Dudley, I.H.Q. Field Commissioner for the Central Midlands area, as our guest speaker.

As the most recently-formed section of 70th Birmingham, we are still in a sense the Group's infant, albeit a growing infant. While we do not claim any outstanding qualities of merit for the Crew, we confidently assert that we are more than justifying our existence. *Maxima debetur puero reverentia*

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

## SENIOR TROOP

THIS term has provided a successful opening to what should be a very successful year for the Senior Troop.

A wide range of activities has been carried out in divers localities. Thursday morning and Friday evening programmes have been varied and interesting. Theatre visits, musical entertainments and artistic and political ambitions have all played their part in this variety, while concerted pressure has resulted in a startling increase in the number of First Class tests passed—especially among the new members who were admitted to the troop in November.

Out-of-School activities have underlined our essential eccentricity. A small camp in the Black Mountains was efficiently dissolved by the rains of half-term, while the night preceding Founder's Day witnessed several groups of Seniors steadily advancing to a

"rendez-vous" on top of Clent Hill from various points of the compass some twelve or thirteen miles distant.

Of other activities be it noted that a structure resembling a Skylon was erected at the West Division Rally at Harborne.

We look forward to the West Division Senior Scout Competition for the De Renzi shield later this term and also to a camp in the Isle of Arran at Easter.

In conclusion, it must be said that these multifarious activities have only been made possible by the considerably increased *esprit de corps* among the members of the troop.

A. J. WELBANK,  
P.L. (S.).

### 1st CWMYOY CAMP, AUGUST, 1951

THE Summer camp of Park Vale Troop was held from July 27th to August 8th, 1951, in a valley in the Black Mountains, about seven miles from Abergavenny. The weather was generally fine though occasional rainy days occurred.

This year troop cooking on the Duty Patrol system was tried instead of Patrol cooking. This enabled a great number of trips away from camp to be made. Llanthony Abbey was visited by most of the troop and other expeditions went to Skimnd Fawr, the Sugar Loaf Mountain and Hay Beacon. Abergavenny was visited on market days and a small party also went to Grosmont Castle.

Training in camp was well in evidence, and a good number of tests were successfully taken, including two First Class journeys.

The end of the camp, which was entirely successful, was marked by a joint camp-fire with a troop from Somerset which arrived on August 7th for a fortnight's stay.

We are very grateful to the officers, Mr. Kay, and Mr. Robertson who assisted him for the first week, for making the camp the success it was.

D. H. JACKSON, P.L.

### VIKING TROOP SUMMER CAMP

THIS year Viking Troop, being attracted more by the mountains than by the sea, held a most successful camp at Bettws-y-coed, North Wales, from July 27th to August 5th.

The system of troop cooking was adopted so that the climbers should have the whole day for climbing. In spite of the inevitable rain, mist, fog and wind, the climbing that was done was a great success. Most scouts climbed the Glydders and Snowdon, whilst a few climbed Tryfan.

Mountaineering was not, however, the only occupation of the camp. Scouts were able to visit local beauty spots, such as the Fairy Glen and the Swallow Falls; many explored

some of the hills behind the camp and some half-dozen scouts went on First Class hikes. One night was devoted to night exercises, which were enjoyed by all those who took part.

Three camp fires were held and were very successful. We heartily thank Mr. Leeds for his amusing and original songs. We discovered that there are budding poets and songwriters in our troop. At our second camp fire R. L. Wishlade, who was about to leave, was presented with a book and a map of North Wales as tokens of our gratitude for all he has done for the troop.

The camp was able to bathe in the River Conway, which adjoined our site. A raft was constructed and from it some diving was attempted. Rumour has it that certain of our hardier brethren bathed regularly before breakfast.

One of the things we shall remember about the camp sports, which were held on the last afternoon, was the washing-up race. Never were so many eating utensils cleaned so quickly. Other races were knot-tying, relay, obstacle, chariot, and wheelbarrow. The sports were won very deservedly by the Wolves' Patrol.

Another feature of the sporting life of the camp was its improvised cricket which was played at all times. The Wolves won the Knock-out Competition and were then defeated by the officers under a system of rules invented by the latter.

The final results of the patrol competition were announced at the last camp fire, Buffalo Patrol, under T. H. Williets, being the victors.

Our thanks are due to our S.M., Mr. Sacret, to R. L. Wishlade and J. A. Phillips for their efficient organization, and to Mr. Leeds for his unfailing cheerfulness and good humour. We can only hope that next year's camp will be equally successful.

T. H. WILLIETS,  
Patrol Leader.

### MITRE TROOP CAMP

THE Mitre Troop camp was held near the tiny village of Cwmoy, some six miles north of Abergavenny.

The site was a good one, being in the Black Mountains well away from civilisation. The field in which we camped had a river running through it, which, though extremely cold, provided bathing for anyone who so desired.

The weather was not unkind and allowed us to make several walks, including the climbing of Sugar Loaf Hill and a visit to the ruins of Llanthony Abbey, situated farther up the valley.

A keenly contested inter-patrol competition was held. It included two night exercises, bridge-building and a mountain rescue, and was won by the Kestrel patrol.

The camp was fed very well throughout the ten days, partly due to the system adopted whereby patrols cooked their own breakfast and a duty patrol cooked the main meal, but mainly due to the Assistant Scout Master, R. A. Tomlinson, and to the Scout Master, Mr. Osborne.

P. A. JENNENS.

## SECOND BETTWS-Y-COED SCOUT CAMP, AUGUST, 1951

On Tuesday, August 7th, twenty scouts, with Mr. Cook and Mr. Whinnerah, left New Street Station on the 9-40 train for the camp site. This was at Cwm Lanerch, in a field sloping down to the river Conway; it was about one and a half miles from Bettws-y-Coed. There were three patrols, Bitterns, Starlings and Peewits.

We reached the site in the early afternoon after a good journey. During the ride from Llandudno Junction to Bettws-y-Coed we saw the buildings at Llanrwst where the Welsh National Eisteddfod was being held. Fortunately it was not raining when we arrived so we were able to pitch the tents in the dry.

At this camp we preferred troop to patrol cooking. The Duty Patrol of the day cooked for the whole camp and generally reached the high standard expected by our Quartermaster, I. D. Sandilands.

Troop cooking left the two patrols off duty free for expeditions. All the scouts climbed Snowdon and many had a day on the Glyders. We also made excursions to Swallow Falls and the hills overlooking the camp. A small party was shown round an old lead mine which had recently been re-opened. Most of them returned to camp loaded with samples.

On Saturday, August 11th, we held the inter-patrol sports. A steady drizzle persisted all day, but in spite of this the sports were a great success. The Bittern Patrol won by one point from the Starling Patrol.

We bathed nearly everyday in the river Conway which flows past the camp site. The two rafts which we built were very popular and provided much amusement, especially for the spectators.

Although we were near to the river, few scouts fell in, though one unhappy boy disturbed a wasp's nest on the bank, much to his discomfort.

The Patrol Competition, which was won by the Bittern Patrol, was very closely contested to the last.

The weather during the camp was very changeable and camp had to be struck in the rain, nevertheless we had several fine days, and we left on Friday, August 17th, after a very enjoyable stay.

A. C. PILLINGER.

## THE JAMBOREE OF SIMPLICITY 7th WORLD JAMBOREE

HIGH in the thickly wooded mountains and near the beautiful lakes of the Salzhammergut district of Austria, lay the Mecca of some 15,000 scouts, gathered together for the Seventh World Jamboree.

Eight members of this School were amongst the early arrivals in the first of the three contingents, in all 3,000 strong, from Great Britain.

After the channel crossing we travelled for twenty-eight hours on the continental train, and it was with great relief and much adverse comment, that we boarded the original "Emmett" variety of local train for the last few miles.

Hot sunshine and an Austrian brass band awoke us the following morning, and in a very short time we had settled into the camp routine.

On Friday, August 3rd, the Jamboree was officially opened. Then followed numerous opportunities for exploring the camp, spreading over three and a half acres, and a full appreciation of the great effort made by our Austrian hosts in the planning and organization of the camp. Each exploration, despite the different languages, brought many new friendships and exchanges. The camp emblem, a Jew's Harp, became more and more evident to both sight and sound, so that our visits to the crowded camp market place became a noisy and exciting business as the days went by.

Violent thunderstorms occurred almost daily during this period of extreme heat, the thunder reverberating around the mountains and lightning cutting across the sky in jagged streaks. These were the forerunners of the torrential rain, which turned the camp into a sea of mud for most of the second week, but these adverse conditions appeared to raise the spirit of the camp.

The religious services on the two Sundays were both moving and impressive, ceremonies being conducted for each and every creed, sometimes involving the use of three languages.

Arena displays and nightly camp fires, occupied a good deal of time, and for these the Birmingham Association gave, as its own special item, Sword and Morris dancing to its own "orchestra." Outstanding items which will remain long in the memory of those privileged to be there, were the Austrian singing, the Maori dances, and the Scottish Pipe Band. These were included in the great final camp fire, which was a fine presentation of traditional national character.

On Wednesday, August 8th, we assembled for a visit by Lord Rowallan, the Chief Scout, who shook hands with all the British Contingent on his way round the camp.

Of the limited time outside the camp we spent a most energetic day on a foot-slogging expedition to the ice caves some 5,000 feet up Mount Dachstein. At a later date we visited St. Wolfgang and sampled the bathing in the clear waters of the Wolfgangsee—being in turn sampled by the native leeches.

Blue skies returned on the last day of the Jamboree; a last round of visits and with our own special friends we joined in the mighty concord of scouts, assembled in the form of a Jew's harp for the final closing ceremony: "Auld Lang Syne," and an equally impressive march, with linked arms in lines of eight, back to our respective sites, and the camp was over.

The Jamboree was a great achievement of friendship and co-operation between the nations, and a greater achievement in this time of international unrest. It is when nations can thus meet on common ground that the foundations of peace will be laid.

G.H.H.

### "THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR"

WHEN it was first announced that the Staff intended to present a play the School might well have exclaimed with Malvolio: "My masters, are you mad or what are you?" This courageous enterprise, however, was carried through with success on November 9th and 10th and there can be no doubt that the audience was at once astonished and delighted.

The choice of play was commendable for it offered simple comedy based on mistaken identity, gave opportunities for character-acting without making too great demands, and included lines which were startlingly and singularly apposite. As we learn that Soviet Russia has already claimed Shakespeare as its own may we not boldly proclaim Gogol an Old Edwardian?

Hlestakov, the junior official, who is mistaken for the Government Inspector, was played by A. J. Trott. The part offers a wide range of moods, varying between boyish naivete, suave arrogance and unscrupulous roguery. To say that A. J. Trott was unable to capture all these moods is in no way to disparage his performance. He looked an impecunious dandy and his wooing, in turn, of the Mayor's wife and daughter was delightful. But at no time did he suggest a thorough scoundrel and the difficult drinking scene was unconvincing. The stagger was that of a wounded man, not one paralysed with drink and his speech was far too coherent for one in such a state.

R. G. Crow, as the Mayor, gave an impressive study of a man who has refined the art of bribe-taking to a degree of lofty respectability. One felt that his greasy palm would long be extended with impunity in the course

of his civic authority and his ingratiating tones with his presumed superior were most persuasive. His make-up was too pale for one whose position enabled him to live well and he tended to overwork the hand-clapping gesture. Moreover, the voice, which was so suited to the scenes in which the Mayor treated with Hlestakov, was not able to convey unbounded fury when the deception was revealed. (This latter scene as a whole did not succeed, for all too little re-action was produced by the letter which disclosed the outrageous swindle.) Nevertheless R. G. Crow gave us ample evidence of his feeling for the part and his mime was remarkably good.

Of the minor parts outstanding was W. Barlow's Yosif. This actor gave a delightful study of a man addicted through years of painful experience to a materialist philosophy and unscrupulous opportunism.

G. C. Sacret, as the School Superintendent, amused with his clumsy embarrassment and A. E. Leeds as the Judge, though resembling too much a "maitre d' hôtel," sustained the constantly puzzled expression of one who can't grasp the full significance of events. One felt that his performance in court would seriously rival that of Beachcomber's Mr. Justice Cocklecarrot.

The part of the Postmaster, who opens all intriguing mail and by chance discovers the misunderstanding, raised the old problem of how to play in English dialect a character who, in the original, probably spoke dialect. A Russian speaking broad Lancashire would seem preposterous and E. Williams' Postmaster, a fugitive from "Welsh Rarebit," was equally out of place. But this actor amply compensated for this defect with his expression of sanctimonious justification for his unbridled curiosity.

R. Osborne, as the Charity Commissioner, gave a lesson in contemplative resignation to events, and J. H. Hodges amused with his dim-witted servant. Bobchinsky and Dobchinsky are mere caricatures—empty-headed buffoons—and were played so by J. F. Benett and R. D. J. Robertson. But the make-up of both was grossly overdone, so that they would have appeared more at home in the sawdust ring than on the stage. L. K. J. Cooke, J. H. Hodges and F. A. Meerendonk presented us with three merchants as lubricious as anything seen outside Shepherd's in Cairo.

Of the ladies, Nora Hodges, as the Mayor's wife, gave a convincing picture of a romantically-minded matron open to any flattery yet prone to bullying her family. This bustling virago made us feel that many of the Mayor's sins were pardonable when weighed against the strain of his domestic life. Dorothy Rees, as her daughter, was charmingly sweet and simple and made Hlestakov's duplicity all the more repugnant.

The brief appearance of Marcia Osborne and Margaret Benett as vituperative wives, thirsting for the opportunity to be revenged on the Mayor, was most entertaining as they kept up their raucous demands for justice.

The two sets, designed by J. B. Hurn, were in keeping with the play's atmosphere of backwardness and mustiness. The faded wallpaper of the Mayor's house suggested at once a home where moral standards had faded with it. Lighting was adequate but once again (and this is no one's fault) the footlights brilliantly illuminated the whole of the proscenium, which gratefully reflected its pallor into the stalls. Grouping was generally good but in Act I characters were too static and in Act III, Scene II, a most awkward move round the front of the couch and a too unbroken circle gathered to hear the letter read were noticeable.

The Producer, R. G. Crow, is to be congratulated on realizing what must have been a most arduous and difficult task. Let us hope that the success of the venture is a satisfying reward for his pains and an assurance that an annual Staff play will now take its place in the dramatic life of the School.

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### " THE CREATION "

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A performance of Haydn's oratorio "The Creation" was given in Big School on Wednesday, July 18th, at 7-0 p.m., by the Musical Society Choir and an augmented orchestra before a large audience of approximately 450 people. The three soloists were Brenda Griffith (Soprano), Robert Ellis (Tenor) and Cuthbert Ford (Bass), characterizing the angles Gabriel, Uriel and Raphael, respectively. The "Continuo" was played by Mr. W. D. Rees.

This oratorio was composed in 1797-8, when Haydn was 65-66 years old. The libretto, adapted from the book of Genesis and Milton's "Paradise Lost," was originally intended for Handel, but was given to Haydn by Salomon and translated into German, with considerable alterations, by his friend Van Swieten. Haydn, therefore, set the German words to music and the version used in English editions is consequently a translation of a translation of an adaptation! The first public performance took place in the National Theatre at Vienna on March 19th, 1799, and in the following year it was given in London and at the Three Choirs Festival at Worcester.

The position of "The Creation" in the history of religious music is curious and unique. Haydn is chiefly concerned with writing descriptive music and some brilliant musical portraits of animals and reptiles are contained in this work. The flawless technique and invariable purity of style which this serene, cheerful music displays is as enthusias-

tically received to-day as it was in its first performance, and its popularity amongst English audiences is only exceeded by Handel's "Messiah" and equalled by Mendelssohn's "Elijah."

An immense improvement in the presentation of the concert was the closing of the doors at the entrance to Big School at 7-0 p.m. All late arrivals were subsequently conducted to their seats at the conclusion of the second Chorus—the first suitable break in the continuation of the story of the Creation. In this way there were no distracting influences at the beginning of the work—a most satisfactory state of affairs for both the audience and performers alike.

The orchestra, augmented to forty-five members, attained a very high standard and provided a pleasing accompaniment to both the Choir and the soloists. Notwithstanding the first-class performance of the strings throughout, the orchestra's most spectacular achievements were the terrifying and somewhat violent sounds which proceeded on occasions from the brass section and the soothing solos provided in turn by various members of the woodwind group.

On this occasion the Choir was seated in tiers on the stage, in order to facilitate the seating of the largest audience ever attending a Musical Society Concert. It was regrettable that we were unable to accommodate all who wished to attend and sympathise with their disappointment in missing such an excellent performance which was vigorously applauded at the conclusion, and, rather unexpectedly, at the end of the first part of the Oratorio, too.

Great praise is due to the eloquent singing of the three soloists who inspired a young but enthusiastic Choir to give a very promising account of themselves—thereby admirably revealing the excellent tuition they have received at the hands of their conductor.

We would like to thank all those who helped to make this concert such a success, including Mr. Rees, who accompanied the Choir throughout its many rehearsals. It was, however, a great triumph for our conductor, Dr. Willis Grant, who, with his dynamic personality, untiring enthusiasm and satisfaction with nothing but the best, realised his ambition in conducting a performance worthy of the highest traditions of K.E.S.

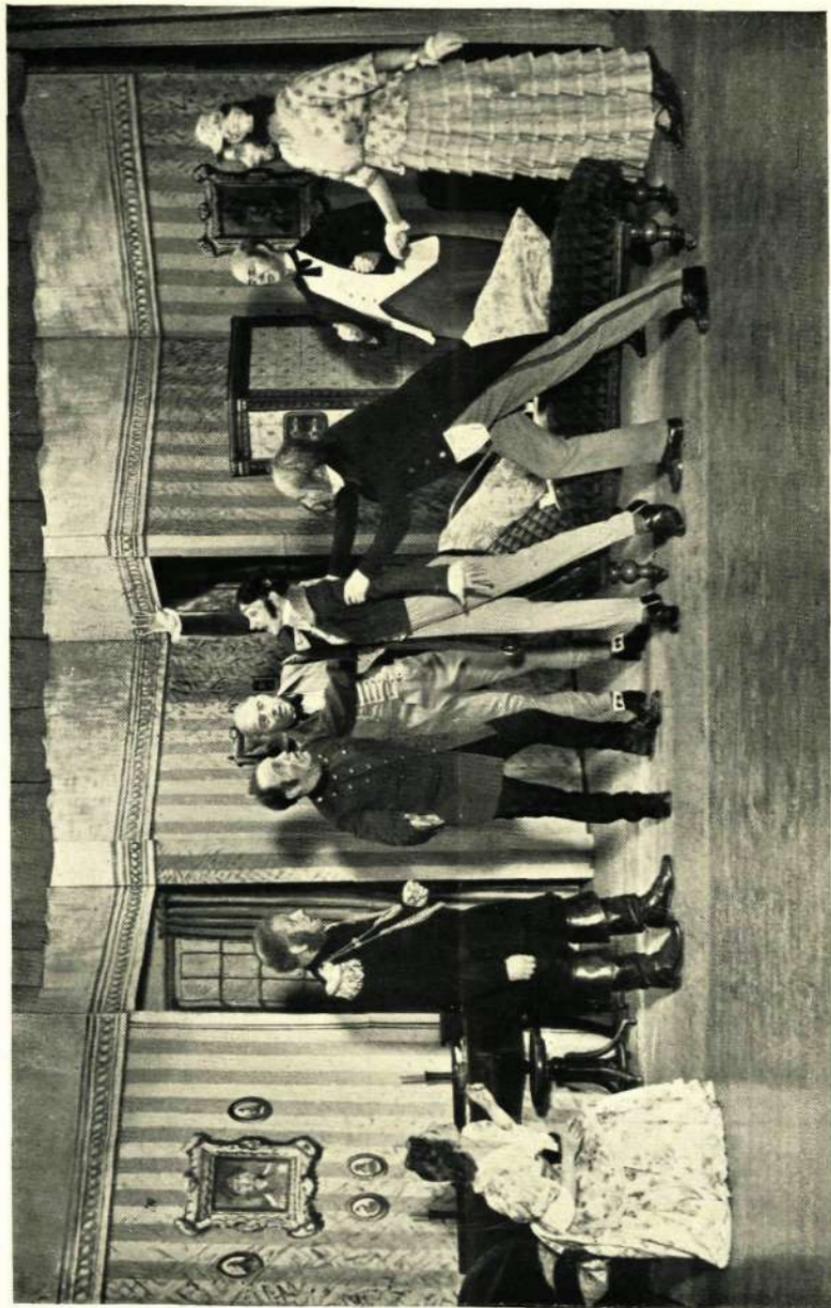
W.B.J.

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### SOUTH BANK VISIT

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ON Monday, 23rd July, a party of one hundred boys under the supervision of Mr. Hurn, Mr. Kay and Mr. Osborne, went to the South Bank Exhibition by coach. Arriving at the grounds at about half-past one, the party dispersed to look round the Exhibition. Studying the faces of people entering and leaving the grounds, one felt immediately



A SCENE FROM GOGOL'S "THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR."

PRODUCED BY THE STAFF IN NOVEMBER, 1951



that beneath the holiday spirit was an undercurrent of seriousness. This impression was confirmed by later experiences.

If one adopted the recommended "circulation" the section showing the Land of Britain was first examined. The evolution of Britain's structure was shown pictorially: after the earth had tossed restlessly for aeons Britain was formed as an island and in the process important mineral deposits were trapped in the rocks. The scenery and wild life of Britain were seen next, recordings of bird song and an exhibit describing the natural history of London being particularly effective.

British farming was naturally of great interest, and in view of demands for higher productivity it was especially pleasing to see the fruits of research into grain. Rural crafts were demonstrated and townspeople stared curiously at livestock, who returned the stares with the contempt they deserved. Those interested in the mechanical side of farming could see various types of tractors and other agricultural machinery. One recalled that England was traditionally a "green and pleasant land," remembered that Falstaff "babbled o' green fields," and felt very sentimental.

The model of a coal mine speedily altered one's mood. For some reason the machinery used in the pits looked brutal and dynamic. The working machines in the Power and Production section emphasised Britain's capacity for mass-production, but many people felt that the fine products of craftsmen in silverware, ceramics, and other fields, represented an equally valuable contribution to life.

As most British people are acutely conscious of Britain's naval traditions, there was naturally great interest in exhibits dealing with Sea and Ships. Marine engines, propellers, a ship-testing tank and a model dry-dock received attention, but the imagination was stirred more by information about the old sailing ships. Transport in general followed this section. Steam locomotives had an aggressive look compared with diesel-electric ones, whilst in the car section most interest lay in a sleek Jaguar XK120C, straight from its victory at Le Mans. Those interested in buses and lorries, flying, broadcasting and television could find much to occupy them here.

The Dome of Discovery was rather confusing in arrangement. The number of exhibits was large and one felt rather cramped. The theme of exploration and research was dominant here—exploration and map-making, research into pest-control, agriculture, commonwealth links, geology and archaeology, the atmosphere and the universe.

The people of Britain were dealt with in the second half of the Exhibition. One admired the courage of those hardy people who first

crossed to England in such boats as that of Sutton Hoo, which was shown. The evolution of the British people was described graphically, how they weathered invasions and developed a rational culture. Homes and Gardens were reviewed, where one could see the achievements and potentialities of modern design, and it was hoped that those vigorous, sensible designs would spread to more English homes in the future.

A pavilion dealing with sport naturally claimed much attention, where exhibits dealt with subjects as wide apart as sailing and cycling, soccer and rugby. Further pavilions could be examined if one had time: Television was dealt with fully and a model of the Crystal Palace was shown, and the Shot Tower was open, but proved rather disappointing.

The Royal Festival Hall stood out from the rest of the Exhibition. It was a pleasant building with clean, strong lines, and was the only permanent building there. The rest of the architecture, sculpture and design was to be judged in a different way. The Skylon and Dome of Discovery were pieces of fantasia. The sculpture was not "for all time," but was rather designed and executed in the Festival spirit. A host of interesting designs could be found all over the Exhibition, although they could not all be examined on account of the lack of time. All these features were factors in preventing the Exhibition from being a mere demonstration of machine culture.

The overall impression one gained was that the South Bank Exhibition was a great success. The advertisement was not glaring, there was no bloated nationalism, but Britain modestly took an understandable pride in her past achievements. The occasional sound of an American drawl or French accent brought home another quality of this Exhibition, the atmosphere was cosmopolitan. The effect of this gathering of nations in Britain's capital city was incalculable. The greater understanding, goodwill and interest aroused were very real factors though they could not be measured. The South Bank Exhibition gave to the British people and the world a never-to-be-forgotten picture of Britain's variety, resource and potentialities at a time when, perhaps, it was most needed.

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### JEAN-LOUIS BARRAULT

A SELECT party of three members of the School were privileged to visit the St. James' Theatre, London, to see a performance by the Renaud-Barrault Company of "Amphitryon" and the "Fourberies de Scapin" by Molière.

The first of these is based on the well-known legend in which Jupiter, disguised as Amphit-

tryon, descends to Earth with Mercury to woo Amphitryon's wife Alcimène while her husband is away at the wars. When the real Amphitryon returns, a lively succession of scenes ensues, in which identities are constantly mistaken. The honours in this play go to Madeleine Renaud, who manages to endure the trickery of Jupiter with charm and wit. Jean-Louis Barrault is a sprightly Mercury, revelling in deception and intrigue. Jean Desailly as Jupiter combines the roles of God and lover, while never forgetting his Olympian origins, and achieves his greatest heights when the time comes for him to leave the Earth.

The "Fourberies de Scapin" shows to how great an extent Molière combines the elements of native French farce and the Italian commedia dell'arte. This play stands or falls on the performance of Scapin, the rascally servant, and in this role, Jean-Louis Barrault does not disappoint. He is a master of all tones of voice, conspiratorial or truculent, and cringes, fawns, and threatens at will. His performance reveals a perfection of gesture, and a comic genius only to be seen on the traditional French stage. Although the other characters pale into insignificance beside Scapin, the supporting cast perform their unexact roles with polished accomplishment.

Thanks are due to the Headmaster for an enjoyable and instructive day, and to Mr. Babb, who led the party tirelessly and showed unflinching kindness. A.D.S.R.

How better to spend this  
Jolly week-end, this  
Festival of the  
Old man of the sea?  
Come Lyde, don't pine, dear,  
And bring out the wine, dear,  
Let's finish with learning  
And go on the spree!

Do you think that the daylight  
Will never away; Night  
Won't be kept waiting  
And neither will I.  
There's old Fino sherry  
So we can make merry,  
So down to the cellar  
(I'm dreadfully dry).

I'll sing an adept tune  
Of old Daddy Neptune,  
His seaweedy daughters  
With salt in their hair.  
And you with curved lyre to  
Latona aspire, who  
Bore the swift huntress  
Diana the fair.

And Venus, who smiles on  
Gleaming Greek isles, on  
Cnidos and Paphos,  
Swan-steeds at her call.  
So with boisterous singing,  
And harmony ringing,  
Let justice be done to  
The best night of all.

(Horace, Odes III 28)

J.L.E.

## LIQUIDATION

THE election for the presidency of the Lugorian National Assembly had just been completed, and by what might have been a mysterious twist of fate the Communist nominee had not been elected. The choice by the assembly representatives of a People's Democrat had aroused both the surprise and the hopes of an oppressed people.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Dniekov, stood on the cold, windswept tarmac of the airport beside an aeroplane of the State Airways, smiled from beneath a fur collar and a heavy moustache, and said to the horn-rimmed young man in front of him: "I trust, comrade, that the news of this latest example of Eastern democracy will not go unnoticed in the United States."

"You can be sure," answered Quintus T. Simons, diplomatic correspondent of the Baltimore Weekly Journal "that it will spread all over our paper," and with a wide smile and a copy of Dniekov's War Memoirs (in Russian) as a souvenir, he disappeared into the plane.

Dniekov shivered and hastily scrambled back into his sleek limousine. With a roar from the motor-cycle escort, he departed.

The next day Dniekov was reclining in his office armchair, reading the daily newspaper, when he motioned to his secretary.

"Look at this, comrade," he said. A headline ran thus: "National Tragedy at Splwvy." The newly elected People's Democrat President of the Assembly had been fatally injured in a collision with a vehicle of the State Police. The loss of a leader would be greatly felt.

"Yes," mused Dniekov, stroking his moustache, "most unfortunate, most unfortunate indeed." He smiled at his secretary.

"You will at once make arrangements for another election for the Presidency, comrade."  
M.F.P.

## ENGLISH BOYS AT LARGE IN THE BACKWOODS

*We are indebted to the Editor of the "Birmingham Post" for permission to publish this article, written by the School Captain, which appeared in that newspaper in September, 1951.*

As we stood at the top of the fire-ranger's watch-tower and looked out over a stretch of

the Temagami forest reservation in Ontario, we were awed by a view of rare majesty. As far as eye could see, stretched forest-clad slopes, green and secretly proud, studded with lakes and streams sparkling in the sunlight. This was Canada.

We had come under the auspices of the W. H. Rhodes Canada Educational Trust founded in 1938 to finance a series of ten tours by English schoolboys, designed in Mr. Rhodes's own words "to draw closer together the bonds of the Empire." Two tours were made before the war interrupted the series, which was renewed this year. Forty boys, sixteen from London and eight from Bradford, Glasgow and Birmingham, were selected by the headmasters of the schools to which places had been allotted. I was privileged to be one of two boys originally chosen to represent King Edward's School. There were two masters-in-charge, while Mr. Rhodes was accompanied by Dr. H. S. Mackintosh, Director of Education, Glasgow. During twelve hectic days the forty boys visited Montreal, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Ottawa and Quebec, and spent four days at a Canadian boys' camp in the lake region near North Bay, Ontario.

This was, for me, the feature of the tour, for we saw life as it is lived by many Canadians remote from the larger cities. At Camp Wanapitei, situated on the northern arm of Lake Temagami, with its one steamer a day bringing essential supplies, nothing seemed further from the bustle of Montreal or Toronto, so many miles away. Here we were in the Canadian "backwoods." The trees grew close and high, reaching for the sunlight, and the ground was thick with undergrowth. We spent our time modestly trying to master the first elements of handling the frail birch-bark canoes—staying the right way up. We were tutored by Indians from the Ojibway tribe, employed while the camp was open during the summer months as guides for the fishing and hunting parties. Game abounded in the woods, we were told, but during our short stay we saw nothing more than chipmunks, squirrels and snakes. One day one of our boys picked up a reptile in the woods and holding it by the tail, at arm's length exclaimed: "Is it poisonous?" It was a grass-snake. But we were impressed by a large black pelt, left to dry in the sun which was a souvenir of the excessive curiosity of a bear which had broken its way through a window into the kitchen of the camp. The stream up which we canoed was spanned by a beaver dam, of which little animal we had seen something at a beaver colony near Montreal. We were told that they are becoming comparatively rare.

While at camp we slept in log cabins, and learned the amazing self-sufficiency of those who live in the woods. Every necessity is fashioned from the plentiful timber. We saw

a demonstration of axemanship by one of the Indians, who accompanied a party of American boys who visited us from a camp further down the lake. There are many of these camps in the Temagami Forest Reserve, popular with boys of all ages during the summer vacation. After special training they leave base camp on "pushes" through the forest of varying duration according to age, ability and experience. Travelling by canoe, and carrying all their supplies, a party of about ten, led by a licensed guide, paddle their way up the winding streams and through the innumerable lakes, sometimes making portages of up to half a mile, entailing several journeys with canoe and equipment. These are carried easily and swiftly by the "tump-line" method originally used by the Indians. The large loads are supported by a leather strap passing over the upper forehead. Some parties, sleeping in "lean-to's" and cooking on open wood fires, travel as far as St. James' Bay, a round journey of some 700 miles, taking 30 days.

The Indians at Wanapitei were fascinating people who seemed to have inherited from their ancestor a great joy in the simple life of the woods. They bubbled over with infectious vitality and, one felt, possessed that inherent happiness in living that has eluded the suburban citizen. I shall not easily forget the night that one of them played the violin for a barn dance, nor the delight they took in watching us perform in (or out) of a canoe, or "racing" in a "regatta" we held.

We were sorry when we had to leave the camp with its great sign reading "Welcome Chief Menotehaiwahini and his tribe." (In 1939 Mr. Rhodes had been made an honorary chief of the Ojibway tribe and named "Man of great heart.") But there was much to see in the cities. The most striking was the amount of publicity and display space in shop windows given to all types of goods from the "Old Country," as Great Britain is affectionately called. Everywhere Scottish tweeds, English china, briar pipes and even sweets were on show; while the Canadians to whom we talked were full of admiration for the endurance of this country during the war, and her recovery since, and we were received with embarrassing cordiality and hospitality everywhere we went.

Goods we found, were roughly the same price in Canada, according to the present exchange rate, but as wages are comparatively higher, £12 to £15 as an average minimum, the cost of living was perhaps lower and the general standard some way above ours. We saw no one, for example, who was not smartly and fashionably dressed. But recently prices have begun to rise.

The Canadian lack of reserve is well seen in the cities, where no houses have walls, fences

## OUR CONTEMPORARIES

or even hedges around the garden. One by-law in some cities empowers the municipality to send an official gardener, and the bill, to any householder whose property is untidily kept, while another states that each garden must contain at least one tree. This, of course, helps to beautify the residential areas which, as they are mostly new, are well provided with green parks and open spaces and have avoided overcrowding. The almost universal use of hydro-electric power, besides being cheap, eliminates the smoke problem and also helps to keep the cities clean and attractive.

Many more impressions we gained before we sadly embarked for home. I personally shall not forget the persistent throb of "People's Credit Jewellers" which was the first song greeting us on commercial radio, nor the view of the lights of Montreal from the Mount at night, nor the inevitable "Cohes," nor the impressively-designated Chamber of Commerce at Temagami which resembled a small garden out-house, nor yet the vastness of the country and her resources. But I am sure the memory of the views from the fire tower will remain longest, as typifying a great, new, yet ancient country. Thank you, Mr. Rhodes.

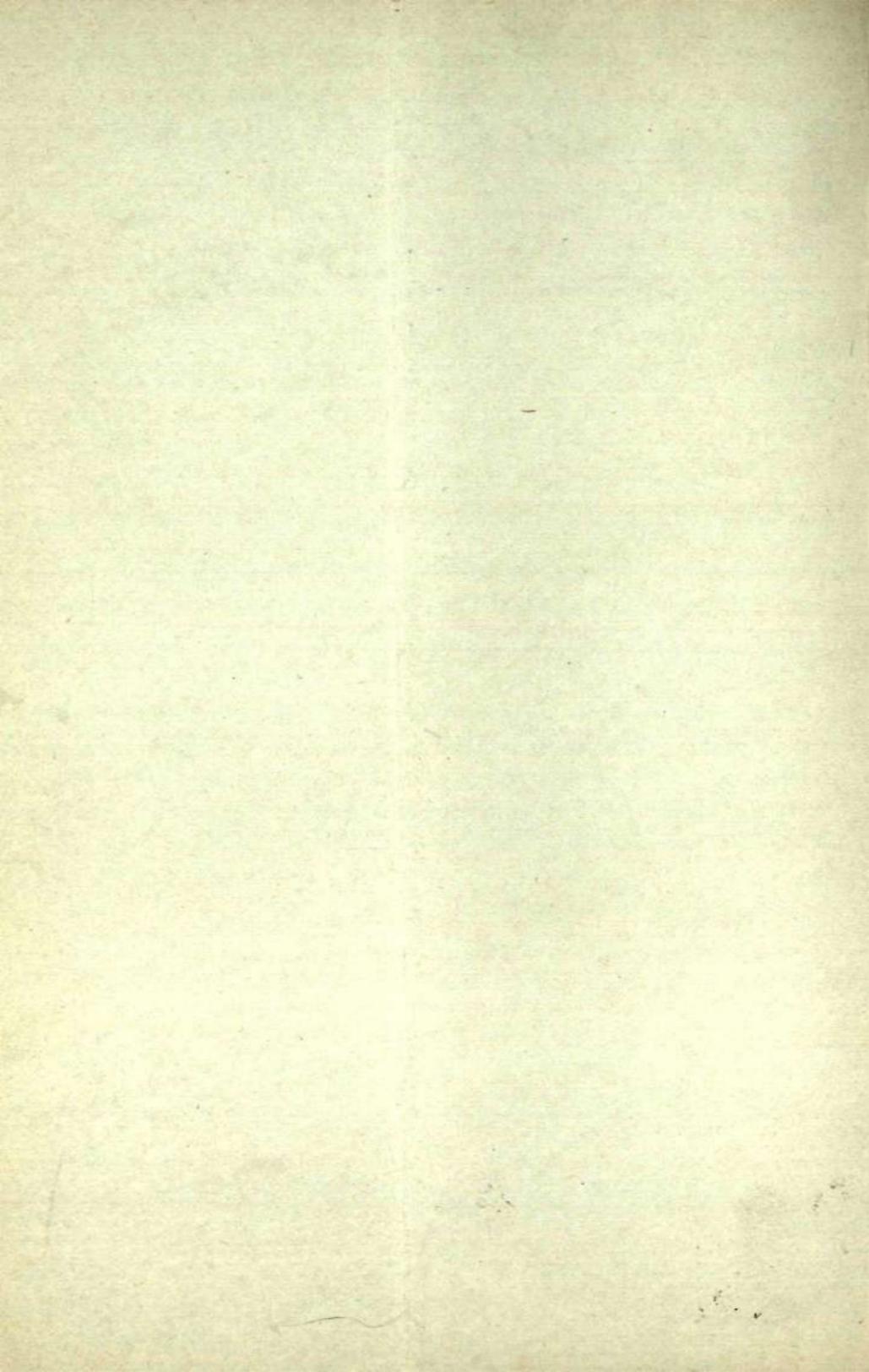
G.R.G.

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*The E.P.S.A. Journal, The Barrovian, The Blundellian, The Bromsgrovian, The City of London School Magazine, The Coventrian, Darlington Grammar School Magazine, The Denstonian, The Dixonian, The Edwardian, The Ellesmerian, The Five Ways Magazine, The Hammer, The Herefordian, King Edward VII School Magazine, 'Twixt Road and Rail, The Laxonian, The Leamingtonian, The Leys Fortnightly, The Limit, The Novocastrian, The Nuneaton Edwardian, The Ousel, The Phoenix, The Portcullis, The St. Edward's School Chronicle, Salliley Grammar School Magazine, The Shenstonian, The Skylark, Sotoniensis, The Staffordian, The Stourbridge Edwardian, The Tettenhallian, Ulula, Wolstanton County Grammar School Magazine, The Wolvernain, The Wulfrunian, The Wykehamist.*

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KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL  
CHRONICLE

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QUATERCENTENARY EDITION  
JULY 1952

AT THIS TIME OF CELEBRATION, THE SCHOOL SENDS  
ITS GREETINGS TO ALL THE OTHER GREAT SCHOOLS  
WHO THIS YEAR ARE LOOKING BACK ON FOUR  
HUNDRED YEARS OF THRIVING EXISTENCE. OUR  
HERITAGE IS RENOWNED AND WE WISH THEM WELL  
FOR THIS YEAR AND THE YEARS TO COME, UNITED  
WITH THEM AS WE ARE IN THE SERVICE OF GOD  
AND THE QUEEN.

# CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
EDITORIAL . . . . .	1	DRAMATIC SOCIETY . . . . .	32
NOTES AND NEWS :		MUSICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	32
SCHOOL DIARY . . . . .	1	MUSIC CIRCLE . . . . .	33
GOVERNORS' NEWS . . . . .	3	MUSIC COMPETITION FINALS . . . . .	33
MASTERS' NEWS . . . . .	3	CHRISTIAN UNION . . . . .	33
PREFECTS . . . . .	3	CLOSED CIRCLE . . . . .	34
SCHOLARSHIPS . . . . .	4	MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY . . . . .	34
COLOURS . . . . .	4	SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY . . . . .	34
OLD EDWARDIANS' NEWS . . . . .	4	GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	35
SCHOOL NEWS . . . . .	4	CIVICS SOCIETY . . . . .	35
REV. R. G. LUNT . . . . .	5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY . . . . .	35
MR. HOWARTH . . . . .	5	MOUNTAINEERING CLUB . . . . .	36
MR. W. HALL . . . . .	7	PHILATELIC SOCIETY . . . . .	36
MR. CROW . . . . .	7	RAILWAY AND MODEL ENGINEER- ING SOCIETY . . . . .	36
MR. REES . . . . .	7	SCHOOL WEATHER STATION . . . . .	37
MR. LUTYENS . . . . .	8	COMBINED CADET FORCE . . . . .	37
OBITUARY . . . . .	8	C.C.F. :	
JOSEPH BARBER LIGHTFOOT . . . . .	9	ROYAL NAVAL SECTION . . . . .	37
MR. T. W. HUTTON'S " HISTORY OF KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL." . . . .	10	ARMY AND BASIC SECTION . . . . .	38
" OUR SCHOOL "—1875 . . . . .	11	ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION . . . . .	38
" OUR SCHOOL "—1883 . . . . .	13	SCOUT REPORT . . . . .	39
CAMBRIDGE LETTER . . . . .	14	ROVER CREW . . . . .	40
OXFORD LETTER . . . . .	14	SENIOR SCOUTS . . . . .	40
" OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIANS' CLUB "—1885 . . . . .	15	SENIOR SCOUT CAMP . . . . .	41
RUGBY FOOTBALL RETROSPECT . . . . .	16	SCOUT CAMP, WOODCOTE, EASTER, 1952 . . . . .	41
CRICKET REPORT . . . . .	16	FRANCE, 1952 . . . . .	41
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	17	SWITZERLAND, 1952 . . . . .	42
CHARACTERS OF THE XI . . . . .	18	LAKE DISTRICT, 1952 . . . . .	42
ATHLETICS REPORT . . . . .	19	NORFOLK BROADS, 1952 . . . . .	43
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	19	" TWELFTH NIGHT." . . . .	43
ATHLETIC SPORTS . . . . .	20	JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAY . . . . .	45
SWIMMING REPORT . . . . .	21	" JUDAS MACCABAEUS " . . . . .	46
RESULTS OF MATCHES . . . . .	21	THE FOUNDING OF THE SCHOOL . . . . .	46
SHOOTING REPORT . . . . .	22	" THE SCHOOL TERCENTENARY " . . . . .	
HOUSE SHOOTING RESULTS . . . . .	22	—1875 . . . . .	47
P.T. REPORT . . . . .	23	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1880's . . . . .	48
LAWN TENNIS REPORT . . . . .	23	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1890's . . . . .	51
CHESS REPORT . . . . .	23	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1900's . . . . .	52
ETON FIVES REPORT . . . . .	24	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1910's . . . . .	53
FIVES CHARACTERS . . . . .	24	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1920's . . . . .	54
SQUASH RACKETS REPORT . . . . .	25	THE SCHOOL IN THE 1930's . . . . .	55
" THE RIME OF THE SPLENDID CRICKETER " . . . . .	25	SCHOOL GAMES IN THE 1890's . . . . .	56
THE HOUSES :		FURTHER GLIMPSES OF KING EDWARD'S IN THE XIXTH CENTURY . . . . .	57
EVANS . . . . .	26	SOME ASPECTS OF THE LAST CENTURY :	
GIFFORD . . . . .	26	I. ENGLISH EDUCATION . . . . .	59
GILSON . . . . .	27	II. BIOLOGY . . . . .	60
HEATH . . . . .	27	III. PAINTING . . . . .	61
JEUNE . . . . .	28	IV. MUSIC . . . . .	64
PRINCE LEE . . . . .	28	V. BRITISH POLITICS . . . . .	65
LEVETT . . . . .	29	OUR CONTEMPORARIES . . . . .	67
VARDY . . . . .	29	ODE . . . . .	67
THE LIBRARY . . . . .	30	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS . . . . .	68
DEBATING SOCIETY . . . . .	30	LIST OF HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL CLUB . . . . .	69
DEBATING CHARACTERS . . . . .	31		
JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY . . . . .	31		
LITERARY SOCIETY . . . . .	31		



THE SEAL OF THE FOUNDATION

# King Edward's School Chronicle

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## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Chairman: A. C. GOSLING, ESQ.

Editor: M. C. DODD.

Sub-Editors: G. R. GREEN, J. DE C. LING.

## EDITORIAL

HOWEVER important may be the few particular aspects of the past hundred years sketched elsewhere, they can of necessity be but isolated examples of the changes wrought by the events of the age. Outstanding amongst these are the two devastating World Wars inflicted by Man on himself—wars which have caused untold misery and which have gained so little materially and lost so much spiritually. We have retrogressed from the external solidity and security of the Victorian era to the present day, when even the exterior varnish of life is cracked and in every way unsafe.

The year 1851 with its Great Exhibition represents in many ways the peak of Victorian prosperity; the very fact that people in every corner of the country left their homes and, facing the comparative danger of travelling in those days, made the slow and lengthy journey to the Exhibition in London, that fact alone illustrates the unity of the age, perhaps unequalled in the history of the land.

Since the recent, inexpressibly tragic death of His Majesty King George VI, many people have observed that it has been under the rule of Queens that England has enjoyed her most prosperous periods, and they have expressed the hope, which we earnestly reiterate, that she will achieve again at least some of the spirit of those eras under our new Queen. In the unbroken unity of Great Britain with the British Commonwealth lies one of the surest hopes for the future; in the fresh strength gained at the start of a new reign lies the possibility of realising that hope.

To-day every visible horizon is clouded by suspicion and distrust; science is striving bravely to keep in check the civilisation it has created; art is trying to keep aloof from the world and at the same time to suggest solutions for the problems of the present day as well as for those of all time. Selfishness or apathy may be the reasons for wars, inflations, industrial strikes and all the other materials of modern life. But the underlying cause of all the unrest and unhappiness present to-day

can be summed up in one of those abstract words, so needlessly scoffed at by many—Materialism—comprising the concentration on gain for oneself, on thought only for the present. The growth of spiritual and mental stature has been stunted, partly by the wars and partly by the accumulated effect of over-civilisation.

It is here that education can achieve so much, not only in the realm of book-learning but also in that of moral and spiritual upbringing. And in this school, home and Church are inextricably bound together. Education at school often defeats its own ends either by being of too short a duration or by being based solely on examinations. It is only when men can be taught early in life to think deeply and sincerely on the fundamental problems of life, when they can be made to realise their place in society that the problems besetting them can be faced and overcome. For it is not by the efforts of statesmen alone that peace, both outward and inward, is gained, but in the main by those of each individual striving to do his best, not for selfish ends but because he realises the dignity of Man in relation to the world and to creation. To the healthy mind in a healthy body advocated by the Ancients must be added a healthy spiritual life, a trust in the Divine, an acknowledgment of the inscrutable wonder of the Divinity.

In this way alone can the barriers between races and nations, between sects and political parties and between individual men and women be breached and finally shattered; in this way alone can a true solidarity, world-wide and deep-seated, as that of Victorian England never was, be brought into triumphant existence.

## NOTES AND NEWS

### School Diary

THE Quatercentenary Thanksgiving Service was held in January at St. Martin's Parish Church. Large numbers of Old Edwardians attended together with members of the School and representatives of the branch Grammar Schools. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough, the Rt. Rev. Spencer Leeson.

The dawning of the quatercentenary year was celebrated with the Prefects' Christmas Ball which took place in Big School on the

evening of December 28th from 8-0 p.m. till 1-0 a.m. The event was an outstanding success and among the guests the Prefects welcomed Masters, Old Edwardians and members of several Public Schools in the Midlands. Out of deference to the caterers we prefer not to state in writing the prolific attendance figures, but it was generally acclaimed as the best Prefects' Ball ever.

The Easter term Joint Debate was attended by a large house in the Hall of K.E.H.S. The motion that the Arts have given more to Civilisation than the Sciences was carried, being proposed by Miss Rosemary Bland and K. J. Werring and opposed by J. de C. Ling, who was seconded by Miss Ruth Williams.

On the evenings of 28th and 29th February and 1st March, the Dramatic Society gave a fine performance of "Twelfth Night" in Big School—book and lyrics by William Shakespeare, Music by Dr. Willis Grant.

The Service for Easter term was held on Sunday, March 30th, at Edgbaston Old Church. The Preacher was Professor M. V. C. Jeffreys, Professor of Education in Birmingham University.

The term ended on April 1st. After breaking up ceremony in Big School the Captain of the School presented Mr. T. E. B. Howarth, the retiring Head Master, with the twenty-two volumes of the Dictionary of National Biography as a parting gift from the School on his return to Winchester College to be Second Master. Mr. Howarth was deeply touched by the generosity of the School and left with us an inspiring message.

During the Easter holidays the School Seven and several supporters spent two very enjoyable days at Old Deer Park, Richmond, on the occasion of the Public Schools' Seven-a-Side Tournament. Ill luck caused the team to lose its match in the 2nd round and a fuller report appears elsewhere.

Field Day in the Spring term was held on Friday, 14th March, and in the Summer term on Friday, 18th July. The Spring Half-Term was from the 23rd till the 25th February. Many returned to School on the Tuesday to compete in the arduous Cross Country Race run this year in torrential rain. The senior event was won by J. M. Thompson of Prince Lee.

The Athletic Sports were postponed from the Easter term and finally took place on the afternoon of Saturday, 3rd May. An enjoyable afternoon was terminated by the presentation of the trophies by the Honourable Mr. Justice Finmore, Bailiff of the Foundation. The Open Championship was won by D. B. Hill, Captain of Athletics, of Gifford.

On the afternoon of the 17th May, the School XI beat the Masters' XI for the first time within living memory. The XI appear to have derived inspiration for the rest of the season from this great victory.

A special Holy Communion Service for members of the School was held at Edgbaston Old Church on the morning of the 20th May. A hearty breakfast was afterwards enjoyed in the School Dining Hall.

Members of Junior School performed Pocock's "The Miller and his Men" on the evenings of 22nd, 23rd and 24th May, with great gusto and much to the diversion of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Birmingham.

The 28th May saw the inspection of the C.C.F. by Field Marshal Sir William Slim, O.E., Chief of the Imperial General Staff. After inspecting an impressively smart parade taken by the School Captain in his capacity of Under-Officer, the Field Marshal, who was accompanied by Air-Vice-Marshal Guest, another Edwardian, spoke to the whole School and later took lunch with the Head Master, Second Master and Officers of the C.C.F.

The following day was also an important occasion, for in the evening the School Choir and Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Willis Grant, presented Handel's Oratorio, "Judas Mac-cabaeus." This was generally acclaimed a magnificent performance although some members of the audience are still wondering what the trumpeters were up to.

Summer Half-Term holiday was, as is customary, taken at Whitsuntide.

The 5th June was another great day in the history of the Quatercentenary Year. A large gathering of past and present Edwardians heard Sir Walford Turner open the Memorial Swimming Pool and the ceremony was followed by a Swimming match against Harrow in which the School were the victors.

Held in the murky waters of the Edgbaston Reservoir the Half-mile swim was won this year by J. E. Adams of Prince Lee. Taking place on the morning of the 14th June, the only feature to mar the pleasure of the occasion was the "Horlicks" which replaced the traditional coffee.

A great Old Edwardian, the Rt. Rev. L. H. Woolmer visited the School on the morning of 16th June. Now Bishop of Lahore, the Rev. Woolmer took part in Prayers in Chantry Court and afterwards gave an inspiring talk to senior members of the School.

Speech Day, the day of publication of this special edition of the CHRONICLE, is to be celebrated on the 19th July. After Senior Prize giving and speeches in the morning the afternoon will be taken up with a match, The XI v. The Old Edwardians, at the School Field. In the evening the Swimming Sports will be held in the Baths in Kent Street.

It is hoped that for all these important events there will be an especially large turnout of Old Edwardians, Parents and friends of the School.

## GOVERNORS' NEWS

THE Honourable Mr. Justice Finnemore has been elected as a co-optative School Governor in the place of Clive D. A. Powell, Esq., J.P., whose resignation was announced in the last CHRONICLE.

Councillor Eric Mole has been elected to replace Sir Donald as the representative of the teachers of the whole King Edward VI foundations.

## MASTERS' NEWS

IT is with regret that we say good-bye to Mr. T. E. B. Howarth, our Head Master since 1948.

We bid farewell also to Mr. W. Hall, Mr. R. G. Crow, Mr. W. D. Rees, and Mr. W. D. M. Lutyens, who are leaving us this term.

We welcome our new Head Master, the Rev. R. G. Lunt, who joined us this term.

We welcome the following Assistant Masters who have joined us since the last CHRONICLE: Messrs. Bolton, Kent, Woods and Skinner.

We congratulate Mr. J. B. Hurn on his appointment as Principal of Moseley Road Branch Art School. This is an Evening School appointment which Mr. Hurn will combine with that of Art Master at King Edward's.

The Governors, Head Masters and Masters of the Schools of the Foundation met in Big School at a dinner on Thursday, March 13th, given to celebrate the quatercentenary year.

On Saturday, March 22nd, the Masters gave a farewell party to Mr. and Mrs. T. E. B. Howarth in the Common Room.

The Head Master, the Masters, the School Captain and Vice-Captain were invited to a tea in the Dining Hall on Monday, March 31st, at which a portrait of Francis Jeune, former Head Master of the School and later Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, was presented by Sir Donald Finnemore to the School. The portrait had been reproduced on Sir Donald's instructions from the original now hanging in Pembroke College.

We congratulate:

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson on the birth of a daughter in September, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Hurrell on the birth of a son in July, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Benett on the birth of a daughter in April, 1952.

Mr. and Mrs. Cotter on the birth of a daughter in February, 1952.

## PREFECTS

THE following Prefects will be leaving at the end of Summer term, 1952:

G. R. GREEN (1944-1952); Captain of the School and General Secretary of the School

Club, 1951-52; Prefect, 1950-51-52; Vice-Captain of Rugby Football, 1951-52; School Rugby Football Colours, 1950-51-52; School Second XV Colours, 1948-49-50-51-52; Vice-Captain of Swimming, 1949-50; Secretary of Swimming, 1950-51; School Swimming Colours, 1950-51-52; Secretary of Eton Fives, 1951-52; School Eton Fives Colours, 1951-52; Sub-Editor of the CHRONICLE, 1951-52; Secretary of Literary Society, 1950-51; House Captain, 1951-52; House Captain of Football, 1950-51; House Captain of Tennis, 1949; Under-Officer, C.C.F., 1951-52; State Scholar, Brasenose College, Oxford (*Evans*).

J. DE C. LING (1944-52): Vice-Captain of the School, 1951-52; Prefect, 1951, 1951-52; School Librarian, 1950-51-52; School XXX Colours, 1951-52; House Captain, 1951-52; Secretary of Modern Language Society, 1949-50-51; Secretary of Closed Circle, 1951-52; Sub-Editor of the CHRONICLE, 1951-52; Clare College, Cambridge (*Levett*).

J. M. S. ARNOTT (1944-52): Prefect, 1950-51-52; School XXX Colours 1951-52; House Captain, 1951-52; Under-Officer, Royal Air Force Section, Senior N.C.O., C.C.F., 1950-51-52; Knight Memorial Medal, 1951; Secretary of Meteorological Section, 1949; Secretary of Geographical Society, 1950-51; Secretary of Civics Society, 1951-52; Peterhouse, Cambridge (*Prince Lee*).

A. J. K. DORE (1944-52): Prefect, 1950-51-52; Sub-Treasurer of School Club, 1951-52; School XXII Colours, 1948-49-50-51; House Captain of Cricket, 1951-52; Captain of School 2nd XV, 1951-52; A.S.M. in Scouts; School Rover Mate; University of Leeds (*Heath*).

W. G. G. LINDLEY (1944-52): Prefect, 1951, 1951-52; Recorder of School Club, 1951-52; House Captain, 1951-52; Secretary of Natural History Society, 1951-52; A.S.M. in Scouts (*Jeune*).

M. C. DODD (1944-52): Prefect, 1951-52; House Captain, 1951-52; Editor of the CHRONICLE, 1951-52; School Librarian, 1952; Exhibitioner of Christ's College, Cambridge (*Gilson*).

J. L. EATON (1944-52): Prefect, 1951-52; School XXX Colours, 1949-50-51-52; School Rugby Football Colours, 1950-51-52; House Captain, 1951-52; House Captain of Rugby Football, 1951-52; A.S.M. in Scouts; State Scholar, Wadham College, Oxford (*Heath*).

D. B. HILL (1944-52): Prefect, 1951-52; School Captain of Athletics, 1951-52; Secretary of Athletics, 1950; Open Athletics Champion, 1952; Secretary of Rugby Football, 1951-52; School Athletics Colours, 1949-50-51-52; School Rugby Football Colours, 1950-51-52; School XXX Colours, 1949-50-51-52; Secretary of Christian Union, 1950-51; House Captain, 1951-52; House Captain of Athletics, 1949 and 1952; House Captain of Rugby Football, 1951-52; House Captain of Fives, 1951-52; State

Scholar; Scholar of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge (*Gifford*).

N. SANKARAYYA (1945-52): Prefect, 1951-52; School XXX Colours, 1950-51-52; School XXII Colours, 1950-51-52; House Rugby Football Captain, 1950-51-52; House Cricket Captain, 1951-52; C.S.M. in Basic Section; Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge (*Gilson*).

D. C. WARD (1944-52): Prefect, 1951-52; Secretary of Shooting, 1951-52; House Shooting Captain, 1950-52; Secretary of Literary Society, 1951-52; Senior C.S.M., C.C.F., 1951-52; State Scholar; Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge (*Levett*).

T. H. WILDEN (1946-52): Prefect, 1951-52; School 1st XV Colours, 1950-51-52; School XXX Colours, 1949-50-51-52; Flt.-Sgt. Royal Air Force Section; House Captain of Rugby Football, 1951-52; House Captain of Fives, 1951-52 (*Prince Lee*).

F. B. REVILL (1944-52): Prefect, 1952; Captain of Football, 1951-52; School Rugby Football Colours, 1949-50-51-52; School XXX Colours, 1948-49-50-51-52; Vice-Captain of Cricket, 1951; Captain of Cricket, 1952; School Cricket Colours, 1950-51-52; School Cricket Blazer, 1950-51-52; School 2nd XI colours, 1949-50-51-52; School Eton Fives Colours, 1952; House Captain of Cricket, 1951; House Captain of Fives, 1951-52; Bache Memorial Cup, 1952 (*Evans*).

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### SCHOLARSHIPS

We congratulate:

D. A. WRIGHT on being elected to a Hubert Parry Organ Scholarship at Exeter College, Oxford.

R. H. MOORE on being awarded a Meyricke Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Jesus College, Oxford.

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### COLOURS

We congratulate:

O. S. WHEATLEY on being re-awarded School Cricket Colours.

R. BARRACLOUGH on being re-awarded School Cricket Blazer.

P. H. R. MERCER, E. L. B. SAXON and G. P. SIMPSON, on being re-awarded School XXII Colours.

A. C. SMITH, R. H. BAYLEY, and M. WILKINS on being awarded School XXII Colours.

A. E. FRANKLIN, B. C. HOMER, N. C. BROWN, P. F. BRADLEY and A. F. RICHARDS on being awarded School Athletics Colours.

F. B. REVILL on being awarded School Eton Fives Colours.

G. R. GREEN and C. H. LUCKETT on being re-awarded, and J. B. HIGNETT, B. J. PIERCE and J. D. ADAMS on being awarded School Swimming Colours.

R. TONGUE on being awarded School Lawn Tennis Colours.

R. J. EDMONDS, P. R. FOXALL, P. R. FISK, A. R. SNEAD, J. DE C. LING, J. M. S. ARNOTT, C. GILBRAITH, N. SANKARAYYA, A. J. K. DORE, R. B. SOMERSET, P. J. TURNER, P. R. JANNEY and B. W. KINGTON, on being awarded XXX Rugger Colours.

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### OLD EDWARDIAN NEWS

We congratulate:

PROFESSOR J. S. MITCHELL, M.B., B.Chir., M.A., Ph.D., O.E., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, Professor of Radio Therapeutics at Cambridge, on being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

SIR WALFORD TURNER, O.E., High Sheriff of Warwickshire and a prominent Birmingham business man on receiving a knighthood in the New Year Honours List. Sir Walford did us the honour of opening the Memorial Swimming Pool earlier this term.

MR. S. A. DAVIS, D.S.O., O.E., Midland Regional Controller of the Ministry of Supply, on receiving the award of C.B.E. in the Birthday Honours List.

MR. K. G. DAVIES, O.E., a former scholar at Pembroke College, Cambridge, on being elected to a Fellowship in Modern History at New College, Oxford.

DR. R. M. ACHESON, O.E., on being chosen as a member of the Oxford University Exploration Club which is going to North India this summer.

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### SCHOOL NEWS

DURING the Christmas and Easter terms ten members of the School were prepared for Confirmation, with the assistance of Canon Ronald Allen, vicar of Edgbaston. They were confirmed at St. George's Church on March 16th by Bishop Hughes.

The School finally achieved ninth position in the list of schools with scholarships or Exhibitions to Oxford and Cambridge in 1952 with thirteen awards; this equals the previous record number for the School.

We congratulate F. B. Revill on his election to the Bache Memorial Cup.

We congratulate C. F. Waring and D. B. H. Colley on passing into the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

We congratulate M. D. Cooper on passing into the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

We congratulate D. B. Hill and R. B. W. Price on being selected to go to Canada with the W. H. Rhodes' Canada Educational Trust party, and R. St. J. Glydon and P. J. Turner on being selected to visit Iceland with the Public Schools' Exploration Society.

Members of the Vith Form have, as usual, been involved in the remote intellectual pursuits which one associates with the second half of the Summer term. The C.E.W.C. conference has a large number of delegates and study of the Scandinavian countries should prove profitable. A King Edward's Grammar Schools' Conference will take place on July 17th and 18th; this, too, has a large following.

During the last weeks of term Sixth Formers have been diligently engaged in "Syndicates" run on the same lines as options. Each group has had some forty periods to study subjects outside its members' normal curriculum.

It is always the custom of this column to utter a few *mots célèbres* on contemporary manners and now that the Pool is in frequent use we should like it to be known that we think the current fashion in ladies' bathing caps is rather contemptible.

Among the sporting events of this year in which we are celebrating our 400th Anniversary, less significant perhaps than the Harrow match or the XI's match against Shrewsbury, we feel bound to mention the Squash Rackets fixture in which the School Captain's III defeated the Vice-Captain's III. This event was an outstanding social success and well worthy of this special year.

Also on the matter of fashion we learn that on the elegant ticket for the Prefects' Summer Dance, which takes place on the evening of 24th July, 1952, in Big School, the inscription "Dress Optional" has been superseded by "Blazers Preferable." We feel this to be a good sign and are sure that the assembled company on the 24th will bear a singularly elegant appearance.

It is now common knowledge that for the benefit of the School the builders are "going slow" on the Vith Form Common Room so that it will be ready to be opened just in time for the Quincentenary Celebrations in 2052. This has greatly disappointed certain of the grand old men of the School who had hoped to obtain a Poker Fixture against "The Athenaeum" during the coming season.

The Shrine is now quite complete and is a building of which the School can justly feel very proud indeed. The only feature more wonderful than the actual beauty of Barry's design is the skill with which the stone masons have assembled the mass of individual pieces of stone which lay unheeded for so long on the South Field.

Edwardians returned to School this term to find not only a new Head Master but also a new figure in the Porter's Lodge. Allard who comes to us in place of Kelly has already secured the affection of those boys who have come in contact with him and we trust that he and Mrs. Allard will settle down very comfortably in their new home at the top of the Drive. Educated in Birmingham he has

seen service in the Manchester City Police and with the Guards.

During G.C.E. Prayers have taken place outside in Chantry Court, except on Tuesdays and Thursdays when House Prayers have been held.

This term the School has adopted the practice of saying the Founder's Prayer together once a week, at Prayers on Saturday mornings.

Teas continue to be provided at the School Pavilion by Mrs. Hearne on the afternoons of House XI matches. We regret to hear that Mr. Hearne has been ill and wish him a speedy recovery.

Of the prefects leaving, we note that N. Sankarayya, D. C. Ward, M. C. Dodd, J. de C. Ling, J. M. S. Arnott and D. B. Hill, are going up to Cambridge; G. R. Green goes to Oxford.

Finally we have to announce the formation of a King Edward's School Archery Club. We send our best wishes to all those gentlemen who hope in the future to pass their leisure hours at the age-old sport of Bows and Arrows.

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### THE REV. R. G. LUNT

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At the beginning of this term we welcomed our new Head Master, the Rev. R. G. Lunt, who has come to us from the Headmastership of Liverpool College.

A son of the late Dr. Lunt, formerly Bishop of Ripon and then of Salisbury, Mr. Lunt was a King's Scholar of Eton and a Major Scholar of the Queen's College, Oxford, where he earned high academic distinction and became Captain of Boats.

During the second World War he served as an army chaplain in the Middle East, and was awarded the M.C. for gallantry in the Knightsbridge "Box." Later he took part in parachute attacks on Sicily and Italy, and became Senior Chaplain to the First Airborne Division, with which he served in Norway.

Mr. Lunt is married and has three children. We hope that he and his family may settle down very happily in Birmingham and that he may enjoy a long and successful period of office as our Head Master.

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### MR. T. E. B. HOWARTH

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At the end of last term we said a most reluctant "Good-bye" to Mr. Howarth, who left us to return to Winchester after eleven terms as Head Master of K.E.S.

Since he took office Mr. Howarth had gained, in an unusual degree, the respect and affection of boys, parents and Staff. All felt

the keenness of his desire that everyone and everything about the School should be quite first-class. His lively interest was a constant stimulus to the participants in every branch of school activity, from the members of school teams noting his regular attendance at matches and the C.C.F. his presence on Field Days, to the humble editor of a form magazine anxiously presenting the fruit of his labour.

Reforms which were merely "in the air" in 1948, but are now an accomplished fact, include the change to eight houses bearing permanent names, and the institution of compulsory games for the juniors. The methods of awarding prizes and leaving exhibitions have been revised; the regulations for admission to the School have been altered so that more boys are now admitted into the Shells and Middles, but none into the Removes. Add to these changes reorganisation of form curricula to meet the conditions imposed by the G.C.E., a new attention to the place of Divinity in the time-table, the inauguration of an end-of-term service in the Parish Church and of Confirmation classes, the plans for a Sixth-form common room, the Quatercentenary celebrations, and the reader may form some idea of the vigorous direction the School has enjoyed.

Much as we regret his departure we can but record our gratitude for all Mr. Howarth has done for the School, and express our hope that he may retain happy recollections of K.E.S.

Our very best wishes go with him and Mrs. Howarth to their new home.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire was put to Mr. Howarth in April, 1952, on his retirement from the position of Head Master to return to Winchester:

What will be the scope of your duties at Winchester?

"I shall be Second Master and Housemaster to the seventy scholars of William of Wykeham's foundation and will have a lot of teaching to do. I shall probably rejoin the C.C.F. and be observed heaving my middle-aged frame up the Hampshire downs. I shall have to work far into the night because like most of you I have forgotten nearly all my history. I shall learn the l.b.w. rule so that I can umpire cricket. I shall not bother to learn the rules of Soccer and while that is going on I shall indulge myself in memories of rugby at Eastern Road over a cup of tea and some muffins, if obtainable. They usually are in Cathedral cities."

What was the most urgent thing awaiting attention when you arrived at K.E.S.?

"The literal answer to this question was J. D. Mountford's moustache. But one or two things had to be done about religious instruction, discipline and physical fitness.

Also the extraordinary way in which the boys used to wear their caps in those days. That is, when they did wear them."

What, in your opinion, is the value of out-of-classroom activities?

"This depends very much on the activities. But I am in favour of the lawful ones."

Do you think that lunch at K.E.S. should take the important place that it does at most boarding schools?

"I have completely failed to solve this problem which is a complex one of acoustics, over-crowding and competing lunchtime activities. There are few things I dislike more than all the associations of the word 'canteen.'"

What do you think about the CHRONICLE?

"Good on fact, weak on fantasy. There is not enough poetry in the CHRONICLE."

What do you think of the School's reputation?

"High and deservedly so. It must become higher."

What do you think of the day school as a training ground for character?

"No snap answer is possible to this question. I would, however, observe that nothing effective in this respect can be achieved by a school for the class of pupil who regards it as an educational factory which he leaves the moment the siren hoots. Fortunately there are very few such people in K.E.S."

Are you in favour of the G.C.E. system of examinations?

"Yes, except for the age limit, which is just silly."

What form of punishment for boys is the most effective?

"The disapproval of their contemporaries. But in the last analysis there is some good sense about the subject to be found towards the end of the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Proverbs."

(a) What, would you say, is the true purpose of the C.C.F. in school life, and (b) Is it achieved at K.E.S.

(a) "Pre-military training."

(b) "Very much so."

In your opinion, is the prefect system effective?

"Yes, provided always it remains self-critical."

What is your view on the present system of comparatively early specialisation at the School?

"I think we are on the right lines but the situation needs constant attention and review."

Do you think a boy entering industry will benefit from an Oxford or Cambridge education?

"Yes."

Do you think a certain amount of education in Art and Music should be compulsory at school?

"Yes."

## MR. W. HALL

Mr. Hall, after eighteen years of energetic and devoted service to the School, left us at Easter to take up a senior appointment on the educational staff of the Colonial Service.

The earnest wish of all, and more particularly his colleagues on the Staff and the long succession of the Science Sixth Form boys, is that he and Mrs. Hall will find every satisfaction and happiness in their new sphere of activity at Nairobi.

K.E.S. has indeed been most fortunate in always having as head of the Science side distinguished men of high attainments, men greatly admired by the School. One recalls such names as Dr. Baker and Commander Langley, both of beloved memory to so many—surely the richest of all the schoolmaster's rewards.

It has been my privilege to work with and for both these men and I can justly ascribe to Mr. Hall that he strove to preserve with marked success the high established traditions. Especially was this so in his great natural gift of teaching. Few, if any, had such distinguished academic success with their pupils. In his last year at K.E.S. no less than seven Open Scholarships and Exhibitions in Natural Science at Oxford and Cambridge were awarded. This is testimony indeed. Moreover, under his administration the Science side grew rapidly in numbers necessitating greater organization and an increasing Science staff. He met all these and contingent demands with renewed energy and devotion.

But Mr. Hall's great service to the School was not by any means confined to the Science administration and teaching, for it was he who, along with three of his colleagues, established in 1937 the Scout Group at School. Then, when war came, he took the harder course and remained at his post. Only those who knew Mr. Hall intimately can appreciate the cost. The war found the nation in dire need of scientists, such as he, for instant and intensive research. Mr. England, and Comdr. Langley, jointly in their wisdom constrained him to stay. Two younger Science Masters had already gone on National Service. Restless to do something, Mr. Hall was quick on the mark when opportunity came. By him and through him the K.E.S. Air Training Section was set in being and he became its first Commanding Officer. Under his able administration and technical skill the A.T.C. flourished, and only when the war was an event of the past did he relinquish his command. Returning to Birmingham in 1940, after a memorable year at Repton, it was Mr. Hall who took on, by Mr. England's request, the responsibility and organization of the School Fire Watching duties. This he achieved with effortless ease.

Perhaps the most outstanding of his gifts was a firm and resolute disposition and great

tenacity of purpose. He was ever firm but yet friendly with the boys who worked for him with a quiet absorption that was striking to anyone entering his classroom—a true reflection of his own quiet way of teaching—and amazingly successful.

And so it was that on his pending departure many were the callers at K.E.S. to seek him out, many were the telephone calls to his own home, all with one accord expressing sorrow at his departure.

## MR. R. G. CROW

THIS term we bid farewell to yet another member of the staff in the person of Mr. Crow.

Mr. Crow has been with us for four years and, in that relatively short time, he can be said to have revitalised completely the teaching of English in the School. Boys will long remember the patience, sympathy and understanding which he brought to the teaching of his subject, just as, no doubt, occupants of nearby classrooms will remember the galvanic effect of a passage of Shakespeare thundered suddenly along the passage as Mr. Crow made our national poet live again in the classroom.

One of the most familiar landmarks in the School was the figure of Mr. Crow standing in the Masters' corridor, with one or more boys, engaged in unknitting some dramatic problem in measured, urbane tones while shoals of other boys, less initiated, eddied wonderingly around and continued on their inconspicuous way.

We hope it will seem no injustice to Mr. Crow to say that his classroom teaching had almost second place beside the tremendous efforts he made in the School drama. Those countless hours spent after school in the production of senior, junior and staff plays, those unceasing journeys to Stratford with enthusiastic parties of boys! The mind of the layman reels at the mere thought of the number of plays Mr. Crow must have seen in his lifetime, but Edwardians at least should be grateful for the rich storehouse of experience they provided for the inspiration of his own productions.

Mr. Crow leaves us to take up the position of Head Master at Saltash County Grammar School, a mixed school near Plymouth, in Cornwall. Our best wishes for the future go with him and Mrs. Crow and of one thing we can be certain: the drama at Saltash Grammar School and in the surrounding district will receive fresh drive and impetus from the appearance of Mr. Crow in that area.

## MR. W. D. REES

At the end of this term Mr. Rees will be leaving us to take up an appointment as Head of the Modern Language department

at Repton School. We know he will enjoy it, and that Repton will benefit greatly by his presence, but we are unshamed of our sorrow at his departure.

Mr. Rees received his early education at Bedwellty Grammar School and then, as befits a Celt, went up to Jesus College, Oxford. He was an exhibitioner of his college, obtained University Travelling Scholarships in both French and German and, in 1938, saw his labours rewarded with a First. He then accepted a position at a boarding school in Germany, but with the outbreak of the war he joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers and served as a Captain in India and Burma, where he was wounded and gained a mention in despatches.

In 1945 he returned to Oxford for a short while and then went to Bedford School. It was from Bedford that he came to K.E.S. in 1948. As a modern language master, a musician and a company commander in the C.C.F. he has played a large part in school life during the last four years, and his varied talents will find much scope in his new appointment. He and Mrs. Rees carry with them all the best of our good wishes, and we hope they will not lose touch with us.

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#### MR. W. D. M. LUTYENS

THIS Summer we shall be losing one of the younger members of the Common Room in Mr. Lutyens.

He came to us in September, 1950, direct from Magdalene College, Cambridge. Here he had taken both the Chemistry and History Tripos and this unusual combination of subjects he has taught during the time he has been with us.

He has thrown himself with boyish enthusiasm into the general life of the School, taking a prominent part in field games, mountaineering and musical activities. Those boys who are interested in mountaineering will miss particularly his keen leadership.

He goes to take up a post at Winchester College where he was educated.

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#### OBITUARY

#### THE PASSING OF H.M. KING GEORGE VI

FIFTEEN years ago, or a little more, with dramatic suddenness high hopes had failed and the crisis broke which brought his late Majesty, King George VI, to the Throne. This year, with equal suddenness and at some unknown moment of the night, the life of the King passed away from the sight of men.

The symbols of sovereignty, the Imperial State Crown, the King's Orb and the King's Royal Sceptre, were laid aside by the death of one who "felt the fate and fortunes of the whole nation and of his realm were centred not only in his office but in his soul." As such we esteemed his kingship. So great a loss naturally and rightly expressed itself in universal and spontaneous mourning, expressed itself in many a memorable scene. One recalls Tennyson's "The Passing of Arthur"—so fitted to this occasion—its vision of "Three Queens with crowns of gold" mourning the King.

George VI brought to the Throne something of greater value than genius itself could bestow, a perfect understanding of his position as sovereign and the onerous duties that inevitably bore down upon the Throne. The supreme splendour of his character was in accord with this vision, his kingship the supreme fulfilment. As such we esteemed his greatness.

And so it was that the bewildering anxiety which marked his accession gave place to an ever increasing trust and confidence in the Throne. Equally, from the Throne there shone out an ever increasing beacon of faith, courage, and confidence, to a troubled world.

But this triumph finally claimed his life, for the courage which faces both danger and suffering can never retreat—his high sense of duty and devoted service remain triumphant.

Surely most appropriate to a sailor king is the vision called up in the immortal verse:

"Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar  
When I put out to sea."

H.W.B.

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#### MR. C. H. RICHARDS

GENERATIONS of Old Edwardians will mourn the passing of C. H. Richards, senior mathematics master at K.E.S. for thirteen years until his retirement in 1933. He died on Good Friday, within a few days of his 80th birthday. He had been a master here for thirty-one years.

Educated at the City of London School, he won a Sadlers' Scholarship to Queen's College, Cambridge. In those days the scholarship carried with it the Freedom of the City of London if the degree won was of sufficient merit. This honour was granted to Mr. Richards who was thirteenth Wrangler in 1894, besides taking honours in the Natural Sciences Tripos the following year. He also found time to row in his college boat.

He was for five years a master at Louth Grammar School, and then for a short time taught at the Perse School, Cambridge,

before joining the mathematical staff at King Edward's under the famous Rawdon Levett, to whom he bore a marked physical resemblance. After less than a year, Levett's health forced him to resign, his place being taken by Dr. Davison, the joint author with Mr. Richards of a widely used geometry book. Richards became one of the four original Headmasters in 1907.

"Black Dick"—as he was known to all—was a gifted teacher, a most kindly humour lurking beneath his somewhat frightening moustache. In my last four years as a boy at K.E.S. I went to few masters except Richards. He was so full of enthusiasm for his subject that he could not help communicating it to others. He made our mathematics a joy; he was at his best in pure mathematics—analytical conics in particular.

I do not remember ever hearing the word "examination" mentioned in his top set, A1 (the old name for the mathematical sixth). Yet his pupils' scholarship successes were extraordinary, averaging two a year for twelve years. In the Christmas of 1929, five of my contemporaries won open mathematical scholarships to Cambridge. Richards' active work in mathematics persisted long after he left K.E.S. During the war, he did a year's full-time teaching in Blackpool, and afterwards taught at Sherborne.

Many Old Boys were privileged to spend holidays with Mr. Richards and his family after his retirement—notably at their charming house in Martock, Somerset. They were expert picnickers, no detail ever being forgotten. His widow and three daughters (two of them Headmistresses before their marriages) can be assured of the School's sympathy in the loss of a great King Edward's master, loved by all who knew him.

N. J. F. C.

### J. R. THOMPSON

WE deeply regret to announce the untimely death of Richard Thompson. News of the fatal accident which occurred during the Easter holidays whilst with a School party in the Bernese Oberland came as a sad shock to his many friends in the School.

Thompson was in Heath, which House he loyally supported in several activities. Though a quiet and retiring boy he had wide interests and took a full part in School life. He was form representative of Lower Division B.

A conscientious and God-fearing boy with a fine personality he was one whom we can ill afford to lose.

A memorial service attended by many members of the School was held at Maney Church, Sutton Coldfield, on April 15th.

THE ten years of Prince Lee's Headmastership are recognised by all as the greatest period in the School's four-hundred years of history. Several of his pupils became the finest scholars in the country and amongst the most distinguished was Joseph Barber Lightfoot.

Lightfoot was born in Liverpool in 1828 and until he reached the age of thirteen was educated by tutors at home. In 1843 the family had to move to Birmingham, and he was sent to King Edward's School where he came under the influence of Dr. Prince Lee's intellectual and religious fervour. His chief friend at school was Edward White Benson, destined to become Archbishop of Canterbury, and this intimacy lasted through life. It is significant in view of Lightfoot's later studies that, as Benson later put it, "There was one book to which Lee gave the crown of his teaching, there was one set of lessons which seemed to make even his others colourless—the lessons on the Greek New Testament." "I have sometimes thought," Lightfoot wrote many years later, "that if I were allowed to have one hour only of my past life again I would choose a Butler lesson under Lee."

In October, 1847 he went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, as a pensioner, and a year later became a private pupil of B. F. Westcott and read classics with him for the rest of his undergraduateship. Westcott was another of Prince Lee's pupils and had come up from King Edward's three years earlier. As an undergraduate Lightfoot appears to have matured slowly, but he graduated senior classic and thirtieth wrangler, and was first of the two Chancellor's medallists. He was in 1852 elected a Fellow of the College, and spent the following years in the customary routine for a young resident fellow who had taken high honours.

In 1857 he was appointed one of the three tutors at Trinity and he threw himself with zeal into his work. Thereafter his rise to prominence was rapid. Three years later he was an unsuccessful candidate for the newly established Hulsean Professorship of Divinity, but his chance came the next year when his rival took up another appointment. The value of his professorial lectures was soon realised and before long no lecture room was large enough and the Hall of Trinity had to be used. In the same year the Prince Consort made Lightfoot one of his chaplains and in 1862 he was appointed chaplain to the Queen. He was Whitehall preacher in 1866.

When Jeremie resigned the Regius Professorship of Divinity in 1870 Lightfoot used all his influence to persuade Westcott to become a candidate and refused to stand himself. Thus Westcott was appointed to a position which, as he said, belonged by right to Lightfoot. When, however, five years later

Dr. Selwyn's death left the Lady Margaret Professorship of Divinity vacant, Lightfoot took his place. Until 1879 the friends worked together and succeeded in arousing strong interests among the undergraduates in the highest subjects. In 1871 he accepted a canonry at St. Paul's and whenever it was his turn to preach, large congregations filled the Cathedral. He was also one of the original members of the New Testament Company of Revisers, which was working at this time, and there is reason to believe that the general character of the revision was in no small measure due to his efforts.

In 1867 he had declined Lord Derby's offer of the Bishopric of Lichfield, as he had no desire to exchange his position at Cambridge for any other. When, however, early in 1879, Lord Beaconsfield proposed to him that he should succeed Dr. Baring at Durham, his many friends, whose counsels he sought, persuaded him that as Bishop of Durham he could do much more for the Church and the nation. So in April of that year he was consecrated by the Archbishop of York in Westminster Abbey.

He devoted himself to every side of his new and unaccustomed work, and although his powers of administration had not previously been tested he was remarkably successful. He was able to make Bishop Auckland a centre of learning for his clergy.

After nine years in this position, during which period he made tremendous contributions to the church and to his own particular sphere of scholarship, he began to feel the strain of the practical work of his see. In 1888 he took part in the Lambeth Pan-Anglican Conference, but, as he said, the work "broke him down hopelessly." A medical examination revealed a critical condition of his heart and he was forced to spend the winter in Bournemouth. He recovered sufficiently to return to Auckland where he undertook the September ordinations. After several more public engagements he became seriously ill again and had to return to Bournemouth, where he died soon after, on 21st December, 1889. It is worthy of note that his successor at the see of Durham was his old friend, and another Old Edwardian, Westcott.

Lightfoot's chief contributions to scholarship are in the fields of biblical criticism and early post-biblical Christian literature. He wrote commentaries on the epistles to the Galatians (1865), Philippians (1868) and Colossians (1875) which marked a new line of thought in New Testament interpretation in England. He was able often to recover the meaning of passages which had for long been hidden under a heap of contradictory explanations and founded a school of thought in which sobriety and commonsense were added to the industry and ingenuity of earlier commentators. After his consecration as

Bishop of Durham he did a great deal of work on his editions of the Apostolic Fathers and in 1885 published an edition of the Epistles of Ignatius and Polycarp. His defence of the authenticity of the Epistles of Ignatius was an important contribution to that controversy. Until a few days before his death he was working on a second edition of Clement of Rome which was published later.

His worth as a scholar may be judged from this tribute paid by Adolf Harnack, an eminent foreign critic and theologian, not personally known to him—"His editions and commentaries as well as his critical dissertations have an imperishable value, and even where it is impossible to agree with his results, his grounds are never to be neglected. The respect for his opponent which distinguished him . . . has brought him the highest respect of all parties . . . There never has been an apologist who has less of an advocate than Lightfoot . . . Not only measured by the standard of the official theology of the English Church was he an independent free scholar, but he was this likewise in the absolute sense of the words. He has never defended a tradition for the tradition's sake."

D.B.H.

## "THE HISTORY OF KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL"

By T. W. HUTTON

Reviewed by

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE FINNEMORE

"ONE of these days you ought to write something worth reading." Such was the promise (in the carefully qualified manner beloved of schoolmasters) given many years ago to the essay of a boy at K.E.S. by his form master. Neither the Rev. C. H. Heath (the master) nor Mr. T. W. Hutton (the boy) dreamed at that time that the writing worthy to be read would include a history of King Edward's School. But so it is, and in July is to be published Mr. Hutton's "History of the School." It is appropriate that the Quatercentenary should be the occasion of its appearance, and every Edwardian should seek by all means to possess and treasure a copy. Many special events mark this special year and help to impress upon all members of the School the greatness of the tradition which they inherit. They will learn also the trust and responsibility passed on to them to add fresh laurels to the record and name of King Edward's. This book should inspire them to the task.

The four centuries of our history have been wonderful years in the history of England: the brilliance of the Elizabethan age, the stern conflicts of the Stuart and Commonwealth period, the polished but often cynical eighteenth century, the material progress of the Victorian era, and the first half of the

present century—through all these years the School has carried on its task and has sent out into the world thousands of boys to serve their day and generation. But the story began much earlier than 1552. It was at the end of the 13th century that four Birmingham men gave the funds to found the Guild of the Holy Cross and it was the funds of this Guild (suppressed by Henry VIII) which endowed the School when Edward VI granted the charter and restored to the town the Guild property. It has been maintained by some that K.E.S. is among all Edwardian schools the only one really founded in the reign of Edward VI; that, while the others had already been schools before, K.E.S., Birmingham, began its career as a school with the charter of 1552. However that may be, do not forget the beneficence of the four men of Richard's reign (Coleshill, Sheldon, Goldsmith, and Atte Stowe) and pay them honour in 1952. Perhaps one day we shall see in the School some worthy memorial to these men to whose generosity we owe our founding.

You will read in this History of those who made the School and made it great. For more than a century at least K.E.S. has stood in the small class of the finest schools of our land. It has had great Head Masters and devoted assistant masters, and has produced men who have played their part and won high distinction in the fields of learning and scholarship, theology and the Church, science and literature, law and government, the Services and business. Perhaps its greatest days began in the reigns of Francis Jeune and Prince Lee who ruled the School from 1834 to 1848. Prince Lee is regarded as one of the greatest Head Masters of all time and his scholars included Archbishop Benson and the two famous Bishops of Durham, Lightfoot and Westcott. The latter two were among the five Senior Classics who went to Cambridge from the School in a space of seven years—a truly astonishing record. Some praise Dr. Jeune almost as high, for he found the School at a low ebb and left it one of the best schools in England, though he was there for only four years. He was a man of outstanding personality and a stern disciplinarian. He believed in the rod and the penalty for lateness was one stroke for every minute late. There was an O.E. still alive in the lifetime of some of us who remembered being fourteen minutes late and finding out that the H.M. meant just what he said. Prince Lee won in a rare measure the affection of his boys and Archbishop Benson's regard for him was akin to worship. They were followed by other great Head Masters in Gifford, Evans, Vardy, and Cary Gilson.

Nor has the School been less fortunate in distinguished members of the Staff. Rawdon Levett has given his name to a House as has Charles Heath. They were both devoted whole-heartedly to the School and gave to it

their best, and another of the same stamp was Rann Kennedy. Levett with Charles Davison (a world-famous seismologist) were among those who established the School's name in mathematics—culminating in the last two Senior Wranglers. Happy is the School which can call so much devotion and loyalty from its masters as K.E.S. has and still does. The School owes to them a great debt indeed.

You will be able to read in this book of some of the many distinguished Old Edwardians whom the School is glad to honour; of H. F. Cary, most famous of English translators of Dante, of Francis Galton the scientist, of Burne-Jones the artist, of R. W. Dixon the poet, of C. F. Andrews, saint of India, and of many another. And you will prize more highly your high calling as an Edwardian.

In 1952 you are fortunate in having your School in the midst of fields with something of the country about you. For nearly 400 years the School stood in New Street, in the centre of the City traffic. No one can find any drawing of the original building, but Mr. Hutton gives us pictures of the second and of the third: Sir Charles Barry's noble School which stood for nearly 100 years until shortly before the war. The beauty of this School you can judge when you visit the Shrine. And this Shrine may fitly represent for you the heart and spirit of the school. In it will be placed the tablets with the names of the Old Edwardians who in two world wars gave their lives. It is a Shrine of service and sacrifice, a Shrine of inspiration and loyalty, the Shrine of the spirit of King Edward's School.

### “OUR SCHOOL”

(Reprinted from the CHRONICLE of 1875)

As it may fairly be assumed that all who take in our School paper feel a lively interest in our School itself, it is probable that a history of our foundation from the earliest times will be interesting to our readers. On the 25th of October, in the year of our Lord 1383, being the sixth year of the reign of King Richard II, Thomas de Sheldon, John Coleshull, John Goldsmith, and William atte Stowe having obtained license from the Crown, granted lands to the value of twenty marks per annum, and lying in the parishes of Birmingham and Edgbaston, “for the maintenance of two chaplains to celebrate divine service daily to the honour of God, our Blessed Lady His mother, the Holy Cross, St. Thomas the Martyr, and St. Katherine, in the church of St. Martin, in Birmingham.” This pious work won so much approval in the town that the inhabitants obtained leave to found a religious guild which they endowed with more land, so that when Henry VIII confiscated their property the annual income was £31 2s. 10d. It is not our intention to criticise the conduct of this monarch, and so

without enquiring to what purposes he applied these revenues, we pass on to the time of King Edward the Sixth. This young king's conscience was not so easy as his father's, and it is to his honesty that England is indebted for so many of those schools in which ours takes its place in the first rank. But still he only applied the revenues of the religious guild to found a school, and so we should ever cherish the memory of the four whose names are given above, and of the divers inhabitants of Birmingham who gave eighteen messuages (houses and their grounds), three tofts (decayed messuages), six acres of land, and 40s. rent, "for the love of God and their fellow-men." The first two governors were Richard Smallbrook and William Symons, and the first head master whose name is known was one Nathaniel Brookesby, who in 1684 received a house in New-street, with a stable, wood-house, wash-house, court-yard, garden, poultry-yard, coal-house and pump, with an annual salary of £68 15s. The ushers who received £20 per annum were liable to dismissal if they married.

There is one decree with what would now seem a ludicrous proviso, namely, that fifty boys were to learn English reading, "if so many shall be."

This was the beginning of the English school, at least we believe so. There was also provision for a master to teach boys "to write and cast account," accomplishments sorely lacking amongst the present race of scholars.

The first event of any interest in our school history was that favourite amusement of our ancestors in their boyhood, a barring-out. This time-honoured custom of our English schools has only died out in the last fifty years, and was often a recognised school tradition, but in this town it went so far, that the governors very wisely put it down with a firm hand.

It is related quaintly and graphically in the school records, which we cannot do better than to copy verbatim. "On the 26th of November, 1667, the boys, with the aid of certain townsmen, gained possession of the school and 'barred out' the master until nine o'clock at night on the 27th, when they returned to their homes; but at eight of the clock at night on the 28th they returned, certain unruly person of the townsmen (in visards and with pistols and other arms) combining with them, and did make a second assault to enter the school, and then and there did not only threaten to kill their master, being got into the school, but for the space of neare two howers made such attempts by casting in stones and bricks as well as breaking the walls and wenscote of the said school, as might endanger his life." Truly there is the spice of the genuine Birmingham rough about these bloodthirsty youths which we must commend to the notice of our

magistrates as throwing some light on the present state of things in our police-courts.

Towards the close of the reign of Charles II some of the governors yielded up the charter of the school to that needy monarch, thus placing the school revenues in the hands of a king mean enough to take a pension from the French, and unscrupulous enough to devour, if possible, all the endowments in the land. A few years later, when applying to James II for a new charter, they mention their blundering policy in the following terms: "Our late sovereign of blessed memory, not long before his translation from an earthly to a heavenly crown, was pleased to command a surrender of our charter into his royal hands, which immediately was done with a cheerful and ready obedience."

But meanwhile the opposition party had not been idle. All the cumbrous machinery of the law courts was set in motion, and after many years their laudable efforts were crowned with success. Not only did they undo the mischievous and illegal work of their colleagues, but they made the bailiff pay £105 for the debts which he and his over-loyal party had contracted. In the year 1681, the original school building which stood on the site of the ancient Guild Hall, or, perhaps, being only of wood and plaster was identical with it, had to be pulled down to give place to a far more imposing edifice in the Elizabethan style. I must note here that there is a curious discrepancy with regard to the date of the erection of this building; one authority gives it as 1681, another as 1707; perhaps someone will in our next number say which is right. There are very few schools of our standing in the country which have not several traditions and customs still faithfully kept and observed; we, unfortunately, have none, for we can scarcely look on our speech-day in this light, as every little boarding-school and "select academy" has its recitations and speech-days now-a-days; however it may be interesting to know that the origin of our speech-day was an ancient custom abolished in the year 1700, namely, of orations delivered by the scholars every 5th of November, at the Market Cross, which was situate in the Bull Ring on the spot where Nelson's monument now stands. There is nothing of interest in the history of the school during the 18th Century, but when we come to the year 1816 a new scheme was passed, one of whose regulations ran as follows: "That all the masters" (and all the boys, of course) "should attend in the school every day in the week (Sundays excepted) at seven in the morning in summer and half-past seven in winter, and continue there till nine; and they should attend again at ten and continue till twelve." How devoutly thankful we should all be that we did not live sixty years ago, when such barbarously early hours were the fashion.

## "OUR SCHOOL"

(Reprinted from the CHRONICLE of 1883)

THERE is no one among us who, upon his entrance into the School, has not had his attention directed to the boards upon the walls of the great schoolroom which announce our distinctions to the chance observer in such chaste and subdued tints. At such an age the appeal mostly fails to inspire any adequate spirit of emulation, haply because the words of the inscriptions are scarcely intelligible, or fall on callous ears. By the time that our growing intelligence is matured to grasp their meaning, familiarity hath bred contempt, and we are again in danger of spending our youth in a School which has fostered many eminent men without a thought upon their achievements. Within the past few weeks a fresh interest has been awakened by the appointment of an old boy to the Archbishopric of Canterbury. At the same time much mention has been made of the Bishop of Durham, and when the name of Lightfoot is heard that of Westcott is bound to come out with the same breath, as naturally as Scott follows Liddell, or Brodribb Church. Beyond the Browne's Medals and Porson Prizes which we are tired of reading about on the walls, what have these and others like them done that they should have won such household names? The younger members of this school may well care to learn by what works they are known, and what was the history of the School when this race of scholars was produced.

This golden age may be said to commence with the appointment of Dr. Prince Lee to the Headmastership in 1838. Dr. Lee had been a Master at Rugby, under Dr. Arnold, and soon trained up around him a first class which had not its equal in all England. The first fruits of his splendid teaching were seen in 1845, when, of the three Birmingham boys in the Classical Tripos, H. A. Holden and F. Rendall were bracketed equal as Senior Classics, and T. Cox was placed fifth in the First Class. Of these three scholars, Dr. Holden, who, we regret to hear, is about to resign his post as Head Master of Ipswich School, has since made a name which will last as long as Classical literature is studied in this country. Among his principal works are his well-known "*Foliorum Silvula*" and "*Foliorum Centuriae*," used wherever Latin and Greek composition are taught. Apart from their value as materials for translation, we know of few more interesting volumes of selections from English writers. Perhaps their fault is that they draw the attention away too readily. We need only mention Dr. Holden's commentary on Cicero's "*De Officiis*," a specimen of sound scholarship which will not be superseded for a long time. His careful edition of "*Aristophanes*" will always be as popular as it is useful. These,

and some minor works edited for the Syndics of the Cambridge Pitt Press, place Mr. Holden in the highest rank of English scholars.

The School did not wait long for another Senior Classic. In 1847 Canon Evans, our late Head Master, occupied that position. In the next year the honour again fell to our School in the person of Canon Westcott. He is perhaps best known to the inhabitants of the great schoolroom, from the fact that his honours gained at Cambridge were so numerous that he is obliged to have a whole board to himself. Not content with the Battie Scholarship and five medals, Canon Westcott must needs take the highest double first we have ever had, being placed twenty-fourth Wrangler. He was not only one of the Westminster revisers, but, in conjunction with Dr. Hort, has published another critical recension of the New Testament. He is one of the prime authorities in Europe on theological scholarship, and has most successfully popularised it in his well-known books on Church antiquities and the history of the Bible. Three years later his great compeer, the present Bishop of Durham, was Senior Classic and thirtieth Wrangler. Dr. Lightfoot is still remembered as an old Trinity Tutor; but it is by his theological works that he has won the highest renown . . . Dr. Lightfoot's learning also embraces History, especially that of the Christian Church. It is for this latter subject that he founded the Lightfoot University Scholarship. At Cambridge he has held the Divinity Professorships on the Hulsean and on the Lady Margaret foundations, and was of course a distinguished member of the Revision Committee.

It was in the next year that the future Archbishop of Canterbury took his degree. He was placed eighth in the First Class of the Classical Tripos . . . Dr. Benson also took a Second Class in the Mathematical Tripos. After all that has been lately written in the papers on the subject, it would be unnecessary for us to trace again Dr. Benson's career from Cambridge to Rugby, from Rugby to Wellington College, from Wellington to Truro, and from Truro to Canterbury. We cannot be too proud that this last honour has fallen upon a man whom the unanimous voice of England marked out as one of the fittest for the post, and through him has shed fresh lustre upon our own School . . . The Duke of Wellington said to one of his regiments at Waterloo, "What will they say to this in England?" Dr. Benson's chief pleasure has been, not in his own distinction, but in the honour it would convey to his School and native town. We should have high hopes for the future of the school if every boy who comes here would determine to do all within his power to prove himself a worthy member of it, and strive for every success with this thought—What will they say to this in Birmingham?

## CAMBRIDGE LETTER

DEAR SIR,

May we begin by congratulating the School on its Quatercentenary and expressing our high hopes for its future under the new Head Master.

Cambridge in May Week is festive and thronged. Even the most recluse of souls has been stirred into some sort of life by the prevailing atmosphere of *joie de vivre*. May Week fare is bewildering in its profusion and variety. Posters tempt one to cricket at Fenner's and Eights on the Cam, Restoration Comedy and Footlights Revue, College dinners and Bump suppers. The stately Backs are made gay by the summer dresses of May Ball partners, and the river takes its inexorable toll of inexperienced punters. Examinations have left us with the feeling that the spirit may be weak, but that the flesh is still willing. In this flurry of activity the gentlemen of Tudor are managing to keep their heads and sometimes play the game.

This term we bid the inevitable adieux to the more aged of our fraternity. M. J. Apps (Pembroke) treacherously forsakes us for that Other Place, in the hopes of converting a large number of heathens. T. B. Anderson (St. John's) wanders through the streets absorbed in a weighty tome labelled "Swahili Grammar for Beginners." The Colonial Office threatens to summon him to higher service. E. J. Andrews (Queen's) has been seen once. Our Treasurer, R. T. Harrison (Caius) claims to have disproved Euclid and has no time for Pythagoras. R. Heron (St. Catharine's), a tweedier denizen, cuts sprightly capers on the Varsity Athletics field, and J. M. B. Moss (Trinity) gained anonymous notoriety through the personal column of an undergraduate newspaper. He has also expended considerable efforts in unsuccessful attempts to reform the Union Society. J. B. Morris (Trinity Hall) exudes the mustiness of 18th century manuscripts, and walks with the detached air of a future Don. C. R. Reese (St. John's) persists in rowing. P. J. Welbank (Trinity) hikes with the Y.H.A. and is the proud possessor of the baggiest pair of trousers in Cambridge, while G. W. Whitmarsh, also of Trinity, is a man of distinction.

The connection between D. R. L. Bircumshaw (Caius) and Tudor is slight, though he has often been seen scuttling along King's Parade clutching various musical instruments in his aesthetic arms. D. J. McK. Ford (St. John's) plays Bach and has chicken-pox now and again.

H. B. Gottschalk (Peterhouse) breakfasts in Lyons in glum silence. M. P. Hopkins, and his inseparable confidant, A. I. Rees, both of Trinity Hall, are suspected of Black Magic and exhale a wholesome Anglo-Saxon aroma.

The nose of B. H. Judd (Peterhouse) grows longer every day as he contemplates a career

in politics. The President, B. H. Laister (St. John's) has established himself as a Screen Idol by appearing in an undergraduate film production as a consumptive pawnbroker. He reads Freud in an attempt to integrate his personality, and offers gratuitous psycho-analytical advice to his friends. H. G. Brierly (King's) suffers from an *ennui éternel* and P. N. Brooks (Trinity) has not yet emerged from oblivion. The Secretary, R. N. Doubleday (Downing) rids himself of troublesome inhibitions by excessive indulgence in punting, party-going, and politics. His constant refusal to meet his creditors has earned him the title of "der Geist, der stets verneint."

M. R. Jackson (Selwyn) does not allow his earnest study of Theology to interfere with his pursuit of discreet pleasure. B. S. Mather (Trinity) is well-known as a fashionable photographer and smokes an unlicensed pipe. I. R. McClelland (Sydney Sussex) no longer plays cricket in his rooms, but has had the misfortune to overwork. B. K. Munton (Pembroke) is still alive, to the best of our knowledge. J. A. Nimmo (Christ's) is the focal point of countless, exotic rumours, and was lately heard at a moonlight punting party. G. J. Tayar (Jesus) is ubiquitous, and patronises an expensive crammer. The approach of R. A. Tomlinson (St. John's) is heralded by his spectacles and inoffensive gesticulation. Others, such as K. S. Parsons (Magdalene) and G. A. Knott (St. Catharine's) come and go.

To conclude, Sir, may we stress that any reference to persons living or dead is purely intentional.

Your obedient servant,  
CANTAB.

## OXFORD LETTER

SIR,

You won't believe what goes on in Oxford, so what's the good of my telling you? Seeing, *n'est-ce-pas*, is believing: and Oxford, like Sundays and ornamental undies, must be observed, if any purpose (you will recall the rhyme) is to be served. But *parler de Clerihews, c'est parler en Clerihews*: and we will regale you *ex tempore, id est*, out of time. For now, if ever, is the moment, as the French say, "de parler de beaucoup de choses, des bateaux, des souliers et de la cire à cacheter . . ."

G. C. "Ceiling" Weeks

Squashes and squirrels, never squeaks:  
Too bad if he becomes a House  
Mouse.

As to the roof of Christ Church, its fabric was in no way endangered by a stupendous production of "St. Joan," in the open air, which filled the House to overflowing.

G. F. B. Laughland produced " St. Joan"  
Single-handed, all alone :  
And now will someone please produce  
Bruce.

Single-handed, yes (and—hearted, Lock-  
hearted in fact)—but he did have an able  
right-hand man.

If J. R. Grundon  
Goes to London,  
His friends will find him a Job  
Managing the Globe.

Any more from Christ Church? Yes, the  
dapper organist :

F. H. Oxley  
Stepped out of Locksley ;  
Sixty years after, with a grin,  
He stepped back in.

One foot on the pedals all the time. We can  
move on a little now.

Some talk of Alexander J.  
Will help to pass the time of day ;  
But J. B. Gottschalk, his talk might  
Not only day consume but night.

Now we're at Pembroke :

J. R. L. M. H. Charlesworth (Bob)  
Is a man no-one's likely to rob :  
Jealous thieves want something bigger  
On their plate than a single figure.

The rest of us cycle. Some even take more  
arduous exercise, at Teddy Hall for instance :

A. E. H. athletic Turner  
Burns like a burning bunsen-burner :  
His physical powers aren't in doubt,  
And he never appears to go out.

At least to our knowledge. Perhaps we should  
consult a scientist. But . . .

It must be years since A. Y. Drummond  
Last was seen or heard of, summoned  
On grave charges : now unbailed  
His shadow flitteth sliding-scaled.

Again we have shifted college, and we have  
freshman to acknowledge :

*O Mons Ballioli*, seldomer seen of us  
Than Don Collis (a hill) *non sine Myribus* :  
For though we seem to double you  
We pass them in revue.

Then there's Alistair Sutherland  
Who persistently terms his fatherland  
motherland :

Who would have thought of such a com-  
plex  
Sex ?

Here we are, speaking of men who leave  
Oxford this year, without so much as an  
elegiac tear. Think on Lincoln :

David-little-greyfriar-Sells  
Has a habit of picking up passing-bells,  
Bells on the brain—he'll be greatly missed,  
Our celebrated cerebral campanologist.

It is said this : the many unmentioned  
going down. Ought we to list them? But  
what of the many up or coming? Are we to  
prolong this inconsequential farrago of bogus  
biographies and attenuated parochial wit  
until we include them all and their assonances?  
No, we will cast round (with apologies to the

unmentioned, and for the unmentionable), for  
a lyrical note to end on.

What of Wadham, recently anthologised in  
comic and curious verse ?

There's Joseph Pardoe  
Rhymes with fardeau :  
He won't burden our song  
Long.

And Smart-Alec Masterman Veitch,  
Who in a forlorn attempt to teach  
The Senators wisdom,  
Quizzed 'em.

At last our lyric muse is localised—highly—  
at Worcester :

Ken Pearce, Ken Pearce, lend us your new  
car,

(Haul along, not for long, out to the Bear),  
For we wanted to go from Wellington  
Square,

Not too far with Br—c—L—ghl—nd,  
J—hn M—ntf—rd, Sh—l— G—rn—,  
S—ll— C—nn—ng, H—mb—r H—wk, no,  
The '31 Standard and all, yes,  
Auntie Grancobley and all !

We are, Sir, your obedient servant,

OXONIENSIS.

#### " OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE OLD EDWARDIANS' CLUB "

(Reprinted from the CHRONICLE of 1885)

THE first General Meeting of this Club was  
held at the Holborn Restaurant, on Wednes-  
day evening, January 14th. The Rev.  
Canon Westcott presided ; and among those  
present were the Revs. Canon Dixon (Vice-  
Chairman), J. M. Guest, T. M. Middlemore-  
Whithard ; Messrs. R. Levett (the guest of  
the Club), J. P. Postgate, W. N. Shaw, C. A.  
Vince, W. B. Allcock, S. F. Stevenson, etc.  
Letters and telegrams were received and read  
from the Revs. Dr. Hatch, E. W. Bowling,  
Dr. Lovell, Mr. A. W. W. Dale, and others  
who were unexpectedly prevented from com-  
ing to the Meeting, from the Rev. A. R.  
Vardy, who much regretted that he could not  
accept the invitation of the Club to dinner,  
and from the Rev. Canon Evans. The at-  
tendance though not large was representative,  
and there is every probability of much more  
numerous gatherings in future years. One  
pleasant episode in a very pleasant evening  
deserves a word of mention before we pass  
to a report of the speeches made. A telegram  
congratulating the Club on its first meeting  
was received during dinner from the Sec-  
retaries of the Birmingham Old Edwardians'  
Club, and suitably replied to ; this inter-  
change of courtesies serving well to mark  
that the division between the two Clubs is  
only topographical.

The sacred duty of commemoration having  
been solemnly celebrated in the words  
" *In piam memoriam fundatoris nostri*," and  
the loyal toast of " The Queen " duly

honoured by old members of a royal foundation, the President proposed "The Club."

Mr. J. P. Postgate, in proposing the next toast, "The School," said how eventful a page in the history of everyone was his life at school; none was more interesting, none tinged with a more hallowed romance; in thinking of his own school life there came back reminiscences of the stately building, its imposing corridors, the two schools, the old porter with his "Now, boys!" that proclaimed the end of another school-day, and the old woman who knitted and sold oranges outside—he could only hope they were all well and prospering. Referring to the boards in the great school, whereon the names of distinguished pupils were emblazoned in purple and gold, he alluded to the special prominence of that inscribed with the name of Brooke Foss Westcott, who alone, by reason of his numerous distinctions, had a board all to himself. Saying that little of what he himself had learnt at school had had to be unlearned, he paid a tribute to the great power possessed by his own Head Master, Canon Evans, of carrying the boys away with him into the actual life of the times and the thought of the author they were reading.

Mr. Levett, after thanking those present for the warmth with which they had received the toast, expressed his great affection for the school where he had been for fifteen years a master, where he had formed some of his

dearest friendships, whose successes he had watched and rejoiced in, and expressed, too, his regret at the enforced absence of Mr. Vardy from the meeting. He would imitate the boy whose favourite line in English poetry was "Few and short were the prayers we said." The chief changes in the school had been changes in discipline; instead of crowded rooms, resounding with war cries, and cries, too, of the wounded, that recalled the Battle of Prague, it had been found possible, under the quiet influence of the present Head Master, to dispense with corporal punishment, and to substitute, to a great extent separate class-rooms, for the one large room of years ago. Quiet allegiance had taken the place of the throbbing storm of battle. Again there were changes in the range of studies, literature and modern science occupying a more prominent place than of old. Then there was the Gymnasium, from which much good was expected, and the Cricket and Football Clubs were flourishing and their organisation greatly improved. "We look," he said, "to the past to inspire us, we feed on the memories of the place, we try as far as possible to take for our watchwords those given us by the Archbishop of Canterbury: enthusiasm with reverence; purity with simplicity."

(After the Rev. Canon Dixon had proposed "The President" and the president had replied, the meeting soon terminated.)

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## RUGBY FOOTBALL RETROSPECT

After the inspired Christmas term injuries and lack of combined practice caused a severe fall in the standard of football. House matches are good exercise for those not in School teams, but to expect the Fifteen to play in House matches on Tuesday and Thursday and still maintain a high standard of rugby on Saturday, is too much.

In the Spring term we very narrowly defeated K.E.G.S., Aston and Five Ways, while we were soundly defeated by Cardiff.

At the Public Schools Seven-a-Side Tournament at Richmond, injuries led to a weakened team being defeated in the Second Round by Blundells.

Once again we express our admiration of Mr. Parry and our gratitude to him for modelling a XV worthy of the School.

The School XV was chosen from: F. B. Revill\*, G. R. Green\*, D. B. Hill\*, M. C. Jones\*, N. C. Brown\*, D. F. Lomax\*, R. B. W. Price\*, J. L. Wilkins\*, K. S. Hudson\*, T. H. Wilden\*, J. L. Eaton\*, B. C. Homer\*, R. J. Edmonds†, D. H. Benson\*, A. F. Richards\*, A. R. Sneath†.

The 2nd XV was chosen from: N. Sankarayya†, P. R. Foxall†, A. E. Franklin†, J. M. S. Arnott†, D. J. Tipton†, C. Gilbraith†, P. R. Janney†, B. W. Kington†, J. de C. Ling†, A. J. K. Dore (Capt.)†, P. J. Turner†, P. R. Fisk†, R. B. Somerset†, Dodd, M. C., MacNab, A., and Herringshaw, G. H.

\*—First XV Colours.

†—XXX Colours.

F. B. REVILL,  
*Captain of Football.*

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## CRICKET REPORT

The team this year possess many batsman but too few match bowlers. Down to number nine they are capable of fifty but only two or three are capable of five wickets. With only a limited number of bowlers far more importance is attached to fielding and it has been a welcome and heartening sight to see the few chances taken. Prospects are bright for the season, for as already seen, the team is capable of scoring at the rate of two runs per minute and there is excellent fielding to back up the few good bowlers.

The Second Eleven is living up to its last year's reputation and is winning matches. The junior teams have not made a very successful start to the season but their prospects are very good.

Our thanks go to Messrs. Guy and Cockle for their advice and coaching of the First Eleven, to Messrs. Leeds, Freeman, Woods, and Buttle for coaching junior teams, and to the Head Master for his unfailing support and interest in cricket affairs.

F. B. REVILL,  
*Captain of Cricket.*

### RESULTS OF MATCHES

#### SCHOOL v. OLD EDWARDIAN C.C.

*Played at Eastern Road on May 10th. Old Edwardians won by 55 runs.*

Old Edwardians	107	(T. G. Freeman 43, P. R. Langham 31. O. S. Wheatley 4 for 34, D. H. Benson 4 for 35).
School	52	(J. A. M. Harrod 6 for 20, T. G. Freeman 2 for 3).

#### SCHOOL v. THE MASTERS.

*Played at Eastern Road on May 17th. School won by 12 runs.*

School	93	(A. J. Trott 4 for 28).
The Masters	81	(J. B. Guy 32, F. B. Revill 5 for 22).

#### SCHOOL v. REPTON

*Played at Repton on May 22nd. School won by 8 wickets.*

Repton	69	(Benson 4 for 21, Wheatley 4 for 26).
School	70	for 2 wickets (F. B. Revill 34, Homer 28 n.o.).

#### SCHOOL v. WYGGESTON

*Played at Eastern Road on May 24th. School won by 167 runs.*

School won the toss and batted. After the early loss of Wheatley, Revill and Homer gave the School a sound start. 160 runs were scored in the two hours before lunch. Benson scored fifty in forty-one minutes after the interval and the School declared at 232 for 8. Simpson being not out with a faultless 38. Wyggeston were soon out on a dusty wicket.

#### SCHOOL

Wheatley, run out	8
F. B. Revill, c Oates b Kempson	73
Homer, b Middleton	33
Wilkins, J., b Oates	2
Simpson, not out	38
Benson, b Beresford	50
Bayley, lbw Johnson	1
Wilkins, M., run out	6
Smith, lbw Middleton	5
Extras	16

#### WYGGESTON

Hytch, c Smith, b Benson	0
Johnson, c Revill, b Wheatley	8
Beresford, b Revill	13
Rawson, b Benson	9
Harding, b Revill	9
Mann, b Wilkins, M.	0
Oates, c Revill, b Bayley	11
Middleton, c and b Bayley	7
Green, b Benson	0
Kempson, not out	0
Lewis, b Benson	0
Extras	8

TOTAL (8 wickets, dec.) ..... 232  
Saxon and Barraclough did not bat.

TOTAL ..... 65  
Benson, 4 for 24; Revill, 2 for 3; Bayley, 2 for 4.

#### SCHOOL v. WARWICKSHIRE CLUB AND GROUND.

*Played at County Ground, May 29th. Match Drawn.*

Warwick. C. and G.	166	for 4 dec. (Lovering 74 not out, Scholes 64 not out).
School	91	for 3 (Wheatley 32, Wilkins 32 not out).

#### SCHOOL v. DENSTONE

*Played at Denstone, May 31st. Match Drawn.*

Denstone	228	(Short 56, Illingworth 61).
School	136	for 6 (F. B. Revill 42, Homer 32).

## CHARACTERS OF THE XI

F. B. REVILL (1950-51-52) (*Captain*).

He is perhaps the best all-round cricketer the School has produced for many years, combining practical ability with theoretical knowledge. Though happier batting on slow wickets he makes runs freely in any circumstances. Bowls slow off-breaks, and since he is not afraid to give the ball plenty of air, has taken many good wickets. He is at home at any position on the field. As captain he has deservedly earned the confidence of the team.

(*Evans.*)

D.H.B.

D. H. BENSON (1951-52) (*Vice-Captain*).

He has been used primarily as a bowler this season. Opening with very accurate in-swing and changing to leg cutters with the old ball, his pace off the pitch combined with length and accuracy have made him a dangerous and deceptive bowler. His batting can be very powerful, and if he would learn to control his natural tendency to hit everything, he would make many more high scores. His running between the wickets could well be emulated by the younger generation, while his fielding is above reproach.

(*Prince Lee.*)

O. S. WHEATLEY (1951-52) (*Secretary*).

He has all the essentials of the fast bowler; good physique, a late swing and a bad temper. Bowling very much quicker than last season he is tending to lose accuracy in the bid for speed. However his late out-swings and off-breaks will continue to make him our most dangerous bowler. He also opens the innings and on no occasion has he looked uncomfortable against fast bowling but he is still inclined to swish at any slow bowler, good or bad. We are sure that he does not wish it to be known that he is secretary.

(*Levett.*)

B. C. HOMER (1951-52).

Probably the most forcing batsman on the side. He does not hit indiscriminately but carefully chooses his ball and puts it safely away. However, the same lackadaisicalness shows in his batting as is seen in his whole attitude towards cricket, and too often has it cost him his valuable wicket. His enormous reach and safe hands make him a capable fielder close to the bat.

(*Evans.*)

J. L. WILKINS (1951-52).

So far this season we have not seen the forceful batting that characterised his last season's play. However, he will find his form with hard practice. Very heavily built he hits the ball hard all round the wicket but particularly on the leg side. A knee injury has robbed us of his services as a fast bowler. His fielding has been very alert and keen perhaps because the lanches are smaller.

(*Heath.*)

R. BARRACLOUGH.

The most unfortunate member of the team. In any ordinary side he would be opening bowler but with two very good new ball bowlers in the team, he is only rarely called upon to perform. His batting, though slow, is very sound and his experience has won several games at a vital time. His fielding and throwing are excellent.

(*Prince Lee.*)

G. P. SIMPSON.

One of the School's brightest cricket prospects. Although he is a predominantly right-hand batsman he plays well within his capabilities during a match and is never out trying ambitious shots. A brilliant fielder in any position. He must learn that he has the ability to bowl.

(*Vardy.*)

E. L. B. SAXON.

Brighter cricket is a game unknown to him. One gains the impression of three day matches from watching. He has the build and strength to score freely but does not as yet possess the confidence to hit the ball past a fielder. Has been known to bowl between innings in the nets. He fields reasonably well close to the bat.

(*Levett.*)

A. C. SMITH.

Although of very slight build he has proved himself a very useful wicket-keeper. At the moment he lacks confidence, and tends to poach first slips catches, but he is very young and with a few years' experience should be very good indeed. Batting is not his strong point but he can defend tenaciously when the occasion demands.

(*Evans.*)

R. H. BAYLEY.

A discovery of recent years, he should prove very useful this season. He bats with confidence and although he does not hit the ball hard, possesses all the strokes and places the ball accurately. He bowls slow off-breaks and can be dangerous with any assistance from the pitch. A useful fielder close to the bat.

(*Evans.*)

P. H. R. MERCER.

Left-hand opening batsman introduced late in the season. A very slow scorer, mainly because he does not lift his bat until the ball has left the bowler's hand, but he has been very useful in seeing the shine off the ball. His fielding is sound and slow.

(*Vardy.*)

The XI has been chosen from :

\*F. B. Revill, \*D. H. Benson, \*O. S. Wheatley, †R. Barraclough, †E. L. B. Saxon, \*B. C. Homer, †G. P. Simpson, †A. C. Smith, \*J. L. Wilkins, †R. H. Bayley, †P. H. R. Mercer, †M. Wilkins.

The 2nd XI has been chosen from :

†N. Sankaraya, †A. Jasper, †D. F. Lomax, Stokes, Sutton, Manders, Brindley, Ward, D. C., †Tipton, D. J., Lewis, Campbell, Herringshaw.

\*—1st XI Colours. †—XXII Colours.

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL  
PREFECTS, JULY, 1952.



*Standing (left to right): F. B. REVILL, R. B. W. PRICE, J. L. EATON, B. C. HOMER, D. C. WARD, O. S. WHEATLEY, P. H. R. MERCER, T. H. WILDEN, N. SANKARAYYA, D. H. BENSON, D. B. HILL.*  
*Seated (left to right): W. G. G. LINDLEY, J. M. S. ARNOTT, G. R. GREEN (School Captain), Rev. R. G. LUNT, M.C., M.A. (Head Master), J. DE C. LING (Vice-Captain), A. J. K. DORE, M. C. DODD.*



FIRST FIFTEEN, 1951-52

*Standing, l. to R.*—M. C. JONES (1951-52), N. C. BROWN (1951-52), D. F. LOMAX (1951-52), R. B. W. PRICE (1951-52), R. J. EDMONDS, J. L. WILKINS (1951-52), A. R. SNEAD,  
*Seated l. to R.*—K. S. HUDSON (1951-52), T. H. WILDEN (1950-51-52), G. R. GREEN (*Vice-Captain*) (1950-51-52), F. B. REVILL (*Captain*) (1949-50-51-52), D. B. HILL (*Hon. Sec.*) (1950-51-52), J. L. FAYON (1950-51-52), B. C. HOMER (1950-51-52).  
*Seated on ground.*—D. H. BENSON (1951-52), A. P. RICHARDS (1951-52).

## ATHLETICS REPORT

Once again it is the duty of this report to chronicle the activities of that band of eccentrics known as the Athletics team.

Robbed last year of any inter-school competition by the weather and with training hampered this year by the same cause, the ability of the team remained a mystery until after the first match. Then it was apparent that the "faithful few" would be distinguished only in their mediocrity.

The poor showing of the team is, to a certain extent, a reflection of the widespread apathy which exists towards Athletics in the senior school. Until some of the enthusiasm present in the lower forms finds its way into the Sixth, the School cannot hope to produce many athletes.

Fortunately that is not the whole story, since the Junior team won both its matches convincingly, showing an admirable blend of talent and enthusiasm. With such promising material for Messrs. McGawley and Cadenhead to work on the outlook for the future is considerably brighter.

We extend our thanks to all members of the Staff, and to Mr. Cadenhead in particular, for their help in the organisation of the standards, the matches and the Sports.

D. B. HILL, *Captain of Athletics.*

### RESULTS OF MATCHES

#### SCHOOL v. TRENT COLLEGE and NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

*Held at Eastern Road on 15th March.*

In dull weather the afternoon's competition was distinguished by some fine performances in the sprints from Booth of Nottingham, who, we were not surprised to hear, later won two events in the Public Schools meeting at the White City.

100 yards : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Trent ; 3, Hill ; 4, Nottingham. 10.4 secs.  
220 yards : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Hill ; 3, Nottingham ; 4, Burton. 23 secs.  
440 yards : 1, Trent ; 2, Trent ; 3, Burton ; 4, Nottingham. 55.6 secs.  
880 yards : 1, Trent ; 2, Trent ; 3, Brown ; 4, Nottingham. 2 mins. 11 secs.  
Mile : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Trent ; 3, Nottingham ; 4, Brown. 4 mins. 52.4 secs.  
High Jump : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Nottingham ; 3, Trent ; 4, Franklin. 5-ft. 4½-in.  
Long Jump : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Hill ; 3, Nottingham ; 4, Bradley. 20-ft. 3-in.  
Hurdles : 1, Nottingham ; 2, Trent ; 3, Gilbraith ; 4, Nottingham. 19.3 secs.  
Discus : 1, Trent ; 2, Homer ; 3, Trent ; 4, Nottingham. 124-ft. 3-in.  
Weight : 1, Trent ; 2, Trent ; 3, Homer ; 4, Nottingham. 40-ft. 3-in.  
Javelin : 1, Glydon ; 2, Trent ; 3, Nottingham ; 4, Trent. 135-ft. 8-in.  
Relay (4 × 110 yds.) : 1, Nottingham ; 2, School ; 3, Trent. 46.6 secs.

Result : N.H.S., 47 points ; Trent College, 42 pts. ; School, 30 points.

JUNIOR MATCH : School, 49½ points ; N.H.S., 41 points ; Trent College, 18½ points.

#### SCHOOL v. WARWICK SCHOOL and R.G.S. WORCESTER.

*Held at Worcester on May 22nd.*

The School athletes seemed unable to reproduce even their usual form on a bright but windy afternoon. The notable exception to this was in the relay which the School won by a good twenty yards in fast time.

100 yards : 1, Warwick ; 2, Worcester ; 3, Warwick ; 4, Hill. 10.6 secs.  
440 yards : 1, Warwick ; 2, Worcester ; 3, Worcester ; 4, Benson. 55.6 secs.  
880 yards : 1, Worcester ; 2, Brown ; 3, Warwick ; 4, Worcester. 2 mins. 13 secs.  
Mile Team Race : 1, Warwick and Worcester (equal) ; 3, School. 4 mins. 56.2 secs.  
High Jump : 1, Worcester ; 2, Worcester ; 3, Bradley ; 4, Franklin. 4-ft 11-in.  
Long Jump : 1, Bradley ; 2, Warwick ; 3, Warwick ; 4, Hill. 17-ft. 8½-in.  
Hurdles : 1, Warwick ; 2, Worcester ; 3, Warwick ; 4, Hill. 15.6 secs.  
Discus : 1, Homer ; 2, Warwick ; 3, Worcester ; 4, Wheatley. 102-ft. 6-in.  
Weight : 1, Warwick ; 2, Warwick ; 3, Homer ; 4, Worcester. 33-ft 3-in.  
Javelin : 1, Wheatley ; 2, Worcester ; 3, Warwick ; 4, Worcester. 123-ft. 2-in.  
Relay (4 × 220) : 1, K.E.S. ; 2, Warwick ; 3, Worcester. 1 min. 38 secs.

Result : Warwick School, 47 points ; R.G.S. Worcester, 44 points ; School, 39 points.

JUNIOR MATCH : School, 49 points ; Warwick School, 37 points ; R.G.S. Worcester, 20 points.

The Athletics team has been selected from : A. E. Franklin, B. C. Homer, N. C. Brown, P. F. Bradley, A. F. Richards, M. R. Hall, T. W., Benson, D. H., Burton, P. W., Wheatley, O. S., Wilden, T. H., Glydon, R. St. J., Thompson, J. M., Herringshaw, G. H., Gilbraith, C.

## ATHLETIC SPORTS

The Sports were held on Saturday, May 3rd, having been postponed from March 29th because of Arctic weather conditions. One wonders how often this sort of arrangement will have to be made before it is generally realised that March is not a suitable time of the year for the enjoyment of Athletics, by competitors or spectators.

On a very wet track the performances were not very good, but the competitions for both individual and inter-house honours were very closely contested. Heath had previously won the John Urry Cup for standards by the narrowest of margins from Jeune, and maintained their superiority throughout the afternoon to win the Mitton Shield. Only one record was broken—the Intermediate High Jump which B. S. Adams won at 5-ft. 2-in.

The afternoon was terminated by a very rainswept presentation of the awards by the Bailiff, the Hon. Mr. Justice Finnemore. We thank him especially, and all others who braved the elements to contribute to a successful and very well organised afternoon.

D. B. HILL, *Captain of Athletics.*

## ATHLETIC SPORTS RESULTS

### OPEN EVENTS :

- 100 yards : 1, A. F. Richards ; 2, D. B. Hill ; 3, Benson. 11 secs.  
220 yards : 1, D. B. Hill ; 2, Benson ; 3, P. F. Bradley. 23·8 secs.  
\*440 yards : 1, D. B. Hill ; 2, N. C. Brown ; 3, Burton. 56 secs.  
880 yards : 1, N. C. Brown ; 2, Ling ; 3, Marshall. 2 mins. 15·6 secs.  
Mile : 1, N. C. Brown ; 2, Marshall ; 3, Edwards. 5 mins. 10 secs.  
High Jump : 1, P. F. Bradley ; 2, A. E. Franklin ; 3, Waterstreet. 4-ft. 11½-in.  
\*Long Jump : 1, D. B. Hill ; 2, P. F. Bradley ; 3, A. E. Franklin. 18-ft. 10-in.  
Hurdles : 1, D. B. Hill ; 2, Herringshaw ; 3, A. E. Franklin. 19·4 secs.  
Discus : 1, B. C. Homer ; 2, Wheatley ; 3, A. E. Franklin. 109-ft. 11-in.  
\*Weight : 1, Waterstreet ; 2, N. C. Brown ; 3, Wheatley. 32-ft. 10-in.  
Javelin : 1, Wheatley ; 2, Manders ; 3, Waterstreet. 112-ft. 4-in.  
†Cross Country Run : 1, Thompson ; 2, Edwards ; 3, N. C. Brown ; 20 mins. 45·4 secs.  
Relay (4 × 110) : 1, Evans ; 2, Gifford ; 3, Lee ; 4, Jeune.

### INTERMEDIATE EVENTS :

- 100 yards : 1, Mountford ; 2, Tipton ; 3, Pilling. 12 secs.  
220 yards : 1, Wilson ; 2, Simpson ; 3, Mountford. 25·8 secs.  
\*440 yards : 1, Jackson ; 2, Wilson ; 3, Simpson. 57·8 secs.  
880 yards : 1, Jackson ; 2, Wilson ; 3, Holland. 2 mins. 17·8 secs.  
\*High Jump : 1, Adams ; 2, Trow ; 3, Drew. 5-ft. 2-in. *Record.*  
Long Jump : 1, Saxon ; 2, Davenall ; 3, Simpson. 16-ft. 10-in.  
Hurdles : 1, Holland ; 2, Tipton ; 3, Pilling. 19·2 secs.  
\*Discus : 1, Bramley ; 2, Adams ; 3, Wilkins. 77-ft. 6½-in.  
Weight : 1, Pilling ; 2, Nairn ; 3, Bramley. 39-ft. 6-in.  
Javelin : 1, Adams ; 2, Bramley. 100-ft. 0-in.  
†Cross Country Run : 1, Holland ; 2, Jackson ; 3, Coombes. 14 mins. 27·4 secs.  
Relay (4 × 110) : 1, Vardy ; 2, Gilson ; 3, Levett ; 4, Heath.

### JUNIOR EVENTS :

- 100 yards : 1, Bromley ; 2, Caulton ; 3, Russell. 12·8 secs.  
220 yards : 1, Bromley ; 2, Caulton ; 3, Hill, A. E. 28·6 secs.  
High Jump : 1, Midgley ; 2, Rufus ; 3, Spencer. 4-ft. 2¾-in.  
Long Jump : 1, Robinson ; 2, Caulton ; 3, Ogborn. 13-ft. 7-in.  
\*Throwing the Cricket Ball : 1, Davies ; 2, Whitley ; 3, Bromley. 194-ft. 8-in.  
Relay (4 × 110) : 1, Heath ; 2, Gifford ; 3, Lee ; 4, Evans.

### UNDER 12½ EVENTS :

- 100 yards : 1, Lindley ; 2, Cashmore ; 3, Davies. 13·4 secs.  
220 yards : 1, Lindley ; 2, Davies ; 3, Henman. 30·2 secs.  
High Jump : 1, McCarty ; 2, Whitley ; 3, James. 3-ft. 8-in.  
Long Jump : 1, Davies ; 2, Lindley ; 3, Johnson. 12-ft. 8-in.  
\*Throwing the Cricket Ball : 1, Whitley ; 2, Clayton ; 3, Stephens. 142-ft. 1-in.  
Relay (4 × 110) : 1, Jeune ; 2, Evans ; 3, Heath ; 4, Vardy.

Open Championship : D. B. Hill.  
Intermediate Championship : Adams  
Junior Championship : Caulton  
Under 12½ Championship : Lindley.

Holdsworth Cup (Open Relay) : Evans.  
Robert Moseley Cup (Intermediate Relay) : Vardy.  
Tudor Cup (Junior Relays) : Heath.  
Richards Cup (Inter-House Cross Country Run) : Vardy.  
John Urry Cup (Standards) : Heath.  
Wiggins Davies Cup (Athletic Sports) : Heath.  
Mittion Shield (Athletic Championship) : Heath.

\*—Decided on Thursday, March 27th.

†—Decided on Tuesday, March 4th.

## SWIMMING REPORT

This year School swimming thrives as never before.

The Memorial Swimming Pool, rapidly nearing completion, is now in use. After a short ceremony on June 5th it was declared open by Sir Walford Turner, High Sheriff of Warwickshire. I should like, on behalf of the School, to thank the Old Edwardians to whom we are so grateful. Swimming in the bath has already become established as an integral part of the School's sporting activity.

It is to be hoped that the standard of swimming will improve still more in the future. The swimming team has yet to lose a match and seems likely to have a fine season. Last year, after losing the two fastest members of the team, prospects did not appear bright. Since then, however, much training has been done and the times recorded are the best for many years.

The strength of the team is due to the excellent performances of our second strings. Thus the team, although possessing only six swimmers, should win most of its matches. Especial mention must be made of J. D. Adams and J. B. Hignett, both of whom have unofficially beaten the School 100 yards free style record.

Next year, however, most of the team will have left, so we must look to the juniors for future talent. Amongst them are many promising swimmers who, if they train hard, should easily maintain the excellent record of the team this year.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Cadenhead who has fostered a great interest in swimming throughout the School. The team's successes are largely attributable to his keenness and support.

R. B. W. PRICE,  
*Captain of Swimming.*

The team has consisted of the following : R. B. W. Price (*Captain*) ; J. B. Hignett (*Vice-Capt.*) ; C. H. Luckett (*Hon. Secretary*) ; G. R. Green ; B. J. Pierce ; J. D. Adams.

## RESULTS OF SCHOOL MATCHES

SCHOOL v. BROMSGROVE SCHOOL. *Won.* 46-21 points.

This, our first match with Bromsgrove for many years, was swum at Tiverton Road Baths on Thursday, May 29th.

RESULTS :

100 yards Breast Stroke : 1, R. B. W. Price ; 2, Bromsgrove ; 3, G. R. Green. 79 secs. (*equal record*).

100 yards Free Style : 1, J. D. Adams ; 2, J. B. Hignett ; 3, Bromsgrove. 67½ secs.

50 yards Back Stroke : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, R. B. W. Price ; 3, Bromsgrove. 34½ secs.

200 yards Free Style : 1, J. D. Adams ; 2, Bromsgrove ; 3, J. B. Hignett. 2 min. 37½ secs.

50 yards Breast Stroke : 1, Bromsgrove ; 2, R. B. W. Price ; 3, Bromsgrove. 38 secs.

50 yards Free Style : 1, Bromsgrove ; 2, C. H. Luckett ; 3, B. J. Pierce. 29 secs.

Dive : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, Bromsgrove ; 3, R. B. W. Price.

Relay (4 × 50 yards) : 1, School ; 2, Bromsgrove. 2 min. 2½ secs.

SCHOOL v. HARROW SCHOOL. *Won.* 28½-23½.

The match was swum on Thursday, June 5th, in the new Memorial Swimming Pool after the opening ceremony by Sir Walford Turner. It was the first time we have ever entertained Harrow to a home fixture and the first time we have beaten them since 1946.

G. R. Green and C. H. Luckett were re-awarded their School Swimming Colours, and J. B. Hignett, B. J. Pierce and J. D. Adams were awarded their School Swimming Colours after this notable occasion.

**RESULTS :**

100 yards Free Style : 1, J. D. Adams ; 2, J. B. Hignett ; 3, Harrow. 67.4 secs.  
 100 yards Breast Stroke : 1, R. B. W. Price ; 2, G. R. Green ; 3, Harrow. 80.4 secs.  
 50 yards Free Style : 1, C. H. Lockett ; 2, Harrow ; 3 (equal), Harrow and J. D. Adams. 30.4sec.  
 50 yards Back Stroke : 1, Harrow ; 2, Harrow ; 3, B. J. Pierce. 34.6 secs.  
 Dive : 1, Harrow ; 2, B. J. Pierce ; 3, Harrow.  
 Medley Relay (3×100-ft.) : 1, School ; 2, Harrow. 65 secs.  
 Relay (4×100-ft.) : 1, Harrow ; 2, School. 76.2 secs.

SCHOOL v. SHREWSBURY SCHOOL. Won. 35-29.

This match was swum at Shrewsbury on Tuesday, June 10th.

**RESULTS :**

Two lengths Free Style : 1, Shrewsbury ; 2, C. H. Lockett ; 3, Shrewsbury. 25.8 secs.  
 Four lengths Breast Stroke : 1, R. B. W. Price ; 2, G. R. Green ; 3, Shrewsbury. 73.2 secs.  
 Four lengths Free Style : 1, J. D. Adams ; 2, J. B. Hignett ; 3, Shrewsbury. 62.5 secs.  
 Two lengths Back Stroke : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, Shrewsbury ; 3, R. B. W. Price. 32.3 secs.  
 Eight lengths Free Style : 1, Shrewsbury ; 2, J. D. Adams ; 3, J. B. Hignett. 2 min. 20 secs.  
 Dive : 1, B. J. Pierce ; 2, Shrewsbury ; 3, G. R. Green.  
 Medley Relay : 1, Shrewsbury ; 2, School.  
 Relay (4×4 lengths) : 1, Shrewsbury ; 2, School.

**SHOOTING REPORT****" COUNTRY LIFE " SEASON.**

During this season, the VIII continued the improvement begun at the end of the previous term but later fell away badly. Thus the list of results starts off fairly well, but the final appearance is still not as good as it should be, since we lost just over half our matches. However, in the inter-schools "Country Life" Competition, whilst not being outstanding, we did improve on last year's admittedly poor performance by nineteen places, to finish forty-fourth out of seventy-nine competing teams. Once again, as in previous years our grouping let us down, our position in that section being far below the final one. Our landscape shooting was, however, far above that indicated by the eventual result. After this competition R. B. Somerset was re-awarded and P. G. Stewart and R. A. J. Woollen awarded their School Shooting Colours.

**" ASHBURTON " .303 SEASON.**

After approximately half this season has gone we find the VIII and Cadet Pair settling down fairly well, as is shown by the list of results. Our scores are up to those at the same time last year and, in fact, reached a record score for the School at Bisley. On May 29th we competed in the Midland Rifle Associations Ashburton Shield Trial Match at Kingsbury, finishing 11th of twenty schools, compared with tenth of eighteen last year, our score being thirteen points higher. Our scores at the longer range were once again far better than those at 200 yards, on which we hope to improve.

Our thanks are, as always, due to Major L. K. J. Cooke for his apparently limitless patience with us, and to Sergeant-Major Moore for holding invaluable practices on the

University range. With their aid we hope to acquit ourselves well at Bisley, where we compete against the cream of school shooting, provided other activities do not rob us of any more promising shots.

**RESULTS OF MATCHES**

N.S.R.A.			
<i>v. Eton</i>	.. ..	734-730	Won
<i>v. Rugby</i>	.. ..	730-744	Won
<i>v. Wellingborough</i>	.. ..	735-744	Lost
<i>v. Repton</i>	.. ..	713-744	Lost
<i>v. University College School</i>		713-698	Won
" COUNTRY LIFE "			
<i>v. Wellingborough</i>	.. ..	618-642	Won
<i>v. Bromsgrove</i>	.. ..	604-577	Won
<i>v. Worksop College</i>	.. ..	600-616	Lost
<i>v. Bedford Modern School</i>	.. ..	612-590	Won
<i>v. Glasgow Academy</i>	.. ..	616-642	Lost
<i>v. Sebright</i>	.. ..	612-577	Won
<i>v. St. Peter's, York</i>	.. ..	609-627	Lost
<i>v. Felsted</i>	.. ..	611-615	Lost
<i>v. Elizabeth College, Guernsey</i>		611-635	Lost
<i>v. Glenalmond</i>	.. ..	613-608	Won
<i>v. St. Paul's</i>	.. ..	611-625	Lost
ASHBURTON (to date).			
<i>v. Wellingborough VIII</i>	.. ..	474-461	Won
" Cadet Pair	.. ..	114-100	Won
<i>v. Glasgow Academy VIII</i>	.. ..	484-490	Lost
" Cadet Pair	.. ..	113-105	Won

P. HARLING (Capt. of Shooting).

**RESULTS OF HOUSE SHOOTING MATCHES, 1951-52.**

The usual three rounds of House Matches (N.S.R.A., Country Life, .303) have been shot during the year, and the following results recorded. It should be noted that Heath were first in both .22 competitions, but since they finished seventh in the Tunstall Cup, they are actually second *in toto* to Levett by the narrowest possible margin. Points are scaled so that the top house receives 25.

	Country			
	N.S.R.A.	Life	303	Pts.
Maximum	600	540	140	25
Levett	494	378	125	25
Heath	504	404	115	24.3
Gilson	470	375	123	18.6
Gifford	503	349	120	17.1
Lee	494	340	121	14.4
Jeune	463	322	116	1.6
Evans	463	314	117	0.8
Vardy	445	357	109	0

Highest individual scores :

N.S.R.A. : S. A. Nairn, 95 ex. 100.

Country Life : R. B. Somerset, 78 ex 90.

Tunstall Cup : R. H. Moore, 34 ex 35.

D. C. WARD (*Hon. Sec., Shooting*).

### P.T. REPORT

THE standard of P.T. in the School is probably at a higher level now than it has been for several years. This happy state of affairs is due to the good offices of Messrs. Cadenhead, Cotter, and McGawley, who have spent many laborious hours in the gymnasium instructing, correcting and improving. Now the only incentive to School P.T. is the competitions at the end of the Summer term. If a School display, such as was included in the gymkhana were to be an annual event, it is quite certain that to-day's high standard would be far exceeded.

Those activities associated with the gymnasium—basket-ball, boxing, and fencing—are now established on a firm footing and are, indeed, flourishing. Let not this fortunate situation be abused by indifference and apathy. We must continue to practise, to persevere, to perfect, and to join with that famous Stratford Edwardian in urging our physical illiterates to :

"Patch up thine old body for heaven."

D. H. BENSON (*P.T. Leader*).

### LAWN TENNIS REPORT

THIS year, the number of School fixtures has been increased to ten, giving the team experience against a greater diversity of players. The VI has met with mixed luck, winning two matches, and losing four, to date.

In M. N. Barker and R. Tongue we have an excellent first pair with a very creditable record. They have not always received the support they deserve from second and third pairs, who have sometimes failed at a critical stage in a match.

The School, has as usual, entered two pairs for the Public Schools' Championship at Wimbledon, in August.

The final positions in the inter-house doubles elimination competition, completed earlier this term were ; 1. Jeune ; 2. Vardy ; 3. Levett ; 4. Gifford ; 5. Heath ; 6. Gilson ;

7. Prince Lee ; 8. Evans. This term's inter-house league will be reported in the next CHRONICLE as it is not yet completed.

Much interest has been displayed in the Open Singles Cup contest, now in the quarter-final stages. Progress has been somewhat slow owing to a crowded fixture-list.

This contest has revealed several young players of undoubted promise. These, and members of the School team have received coaching in stroke-production and doubles-play from Mr. Moss and Mr. Pannell, official L.T.A. coaches.

Finally, the team offers sincere thanks to Mrs. Hearne for the heroic way in which she has several times come to our aid in providing teas at very short notice.

J. K. JACQUES, (*Hon. Sec., Tennis*).

### CHESS REPORT

THE 1st team—who retained all but one of last year's team—won the first division of the Birmingham Junior League, finished second in the County Club Championship, and, together with several members of the second teams, formed the majority of the Warwickshire Junior team. Throughout the season they lost but two matches—to Birmingham University 1st team, 3½-4½, and to Erdington Chess Club, the winners of the County Club Championship, 2½-3½—and won sixteen. There were two second teams competing in the second division of the Junior League ; the "A" team finishing top with ten wins out of ten, and the "B" team finishing quite a close fourth. A junior team—consisting of Rems. and Shells—played two matches against Five Ways Grammar School, and won them both.

The House chess championship was again won by Jeune after a close finish with Levett. No team succeeded in winning all its games. A trophy, generously donated by Mr. Hurn for the House lightning championship, was won by Jeune after a close play-off with Heath. It is hoped that this event will be given official recognition in the near future. The senior Pugh Chess Cup was worthily won by D. E. Lloyd, who beat M. N. Barker in the semi-final and D. J. Young in the final. The Junior Pugh Chess Cup was won by J. C. Silk, who created a surprise in beating K. W. Lloyd and D. N. Gallon in successive rounds. Outside the School, D. E. Lloyd won the Midland Boys Championship, and J. B. Phipps and D. E. Lloyd finished sixth and eighth in the British Boys Championship respectively.

Our thanks are again due to Mr. Whalley for the use of his room, and Mr. Hurn, our chairman, for his continued advice and assistance. With the School team remaining practically unchanged next year, the School's chess prospects indeed look bright.

M. N. BARKER (*School Chess Captain*).

## ETON FIVES REPORT

SINCE the last publication of the CHRONICLE the School team has played a number of games, and has had one of the best seasons in recent years. During the year the team has twice visited London and on both occasions met with considerable success. The following results and reports tell of the team's achievements.

*v. Genista Club.* Won. This was a strong O.E. team from Oxford University, which provided the School with stiff opposition. The first games were won easily by the School but as the O.E.s gained confidence and skill with practice, both pairs faltered, the first pair losing one game but winning the set, and the second pair losing a set.

*v. Shrewsbury.* Lost. During the Easter term the School sent three pairs to Shrewsbury. The first pair won their set 3-0, but the second and third pairs lost theirs 3-0. Although we lost the match, it was a creditable performance, because it is the first time in many years that any pair has won a set at Shrewsbury.

### THE LONDON TOUR

*v. Westminster.* Won. The courts here were completely enclosed, with a back wall disconcertingly near the step, which affected our downstep play. Nevertheless the first pair won both their sets, the second pair winning one and losing the other.

*v. Aidenham.* Lost. Both pairs lost by 3 games to 1, after a very close battle. The first pair actually won on points aggregate.

*v. City of London.* Won. Having memories of previous years we were confident that we would win this game. Our confidence was fully justified, neither pair conceding a game. For the London Tour the pairs were G. R. Green and A. J. G. Campbell, and B. C. Homer and N. C. Brown.

A score of two games won and one lost, shows that the standard of the School Fives team has not fallen, for a similar score has been recorded for the last four years.

The team was weakened by the loss, through injury, of one of its regular members, making its performance even more creditable.

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS' HANDICAP COMPETITION

During the Easter holidays the School sent two pairs to the competition, and it was a fitting climax to a very successful year. The first pair was F. B. Revill and A. J. G. Campbell (handicap -3) and the second G. R. Green and Hill (D. B.) (handicap -1).

In the first round the first pair was drawn against St. Olave's (handicap -2) and the second against a Harrow pair (handicap -2). The first pair won easily in three straight games, but the second pair lost narrowly, possibly due to their very large handicap.

In the second round the first pair again won in three straight games, against Repton (handicap -3).

In the third round, Shrewsbury were our opponents, and having defeated them in the previous term we were confident. We won by 3 games to 1, after a hard game.

In the semi-final we were to meet an Eton pair (handicap +2). The handicaps meant that we had to start 5 points behind in each game. Despite this we thought we could win, and were determined to do so. Each game started at -3, +2.

The first game we quickly lost -2, -12. The second game was even, considering the handicap, although we lost 7-12. Success in the third game was vital if we were to win, and we played very hard to overcome our handicap. We won this game 14-11. Gaining confidence we won the fourth game 12-7. The fifth and final game started and we quickly deleted our handicap. The standard of play was not so high as in the previous games, as both teams were slower in their movements. The score reached 8-8, when the Eton players scored three points to make it game-ball (11-8). They were held at this while we scored three, and the score was 11-11. It was decided to play three more points, game-ball at 2. We scored two points and were within one point of victory, and yet we could not score it. Eton then scored two points and the score rested at 13-13. The score remained at this for some time, and Eton finally scored the vital winning point. In all, two hours of continuous Fives had been played.

In the final this Eton pair lost very narrowly to another Eton pair.

In the School itself, the House Senior Fives matches have been played and the Junior competition is in progress.

During the Easter term a much larger number of boys were down at the Fives Courts than for some time, and, at last, a number of talented juniors are to be seen.

Enthusiasm for Fives is now increasing after a period of depression, and the juniors playing now will stand the School in good stead in years to come.

Our thanks, as ever, must go to the Second Master, who maintains a lively interest in Fives in the School, and distributes the meagre stocks of equipment.

A. J. G. CAMPBELL (*Captain of Eton Fives*).

### FIVES CHARACTERS

A. J. G. CAMPBELL (*Captain*). A very sound player who has performed more steadily this year. He is too easily cowed by blustering opponents and is not yet sufficiently mature to avoid being unsettled by skilled gamesmanship. He hits the ball very hard, with

both hands, although sometimes too high. He has often surprised opponents with a smash from down-step and finds the pep consistently. Although he plays principally an attacking game, he retrieves well, for his positioning is sound. Lightly built and therefore quick about the court, his experience often enables him to use it to catch opponents wrong-footed. His captaincy has been, perhaps, insufficiently dictatorial.  
G. R. G. *(Captain of Gilson.)*

G. R. GREEN *(Secretary)*. A player who makes up for what he lacks in skill by energetic leaping about in the court. His left hand is indifferent, but his right is generally safe and accurate. Unfortunately his numerous duties in the School allow him only a limited time for practice. He has carried out his duties as secretary efficiently.  
*(Evans.)*

F. B. REVILL. A player who has a wide range of shots and is sound in all departments of the game. His shots, from both hands, are accurate and safe up and down step. He has that keen sense of anticipation which is so necessary for good Fives.  
*(Captain of Evans.)*

B. C. HOMER. His long reach enables him to take advantage of any loose balls up-step, and his slamming into the box is accurate. He hits the ball extremely hard, and all too often this is his undoing as the ball goes out of court.  
*(Evans.)*

N. C. BROWN. A newcomer to the team, he improves rapidly with practice. His right hand is accurate and safe but his left is sometimes erratic, although it is improving with practice. He has a vicious take.

A. J. G. CAMPBELL *(Captain of Heath Fives.)*

## SQUASH RACKETS REPORT

EARLIER this year, Squash Rackets was affiliated to the School Club. Several matches have been played and although as yet we have only one victory to our credit the School shows prospects of better results next season. There are quite a number of keen players in the School and although we still only have one court, a Squash ladder has been started. But if in future years we are to have a reasonable team we must soon begin to find some talented boys in the middle school.

During the Christmas holidays three members of the School team went to London for the Evans Cup. P. G. Stewart reached the last four of the senior tournament and A. W. Harris the last eight of the junior tournament, both being eliminated by the eventual winner of both events, Broomfield of Haileybury.

## RESULTS OF SCHOOL MATCHES

v. Sutton Squash Club (A)	..	Won	5-0
v. Solihull (A)	..	Lost	2-3
v. The Masters (H)	..	Lost	2-3
v. Wrekin College (A)	..	Lost	1-4
v. Solihull (A)	..	Lost	2-3

TEAM APPEARANCES.—A. W. Harris, 5; P. G. Stewart, 5; E. D. Hateley, 5; N. C. Brown, 3; C. J. Roberts, 3; F. B. Revill, 2; G. R. Green, 1.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Cadenhead for all his help throughout the year.

A. W. HARRIS *(No. 1 String)*.

## THE RIME OF THE SPLENDID CRICKETER

*(With apologies to Samuel Taylor Coleridge)*

*(A splendid cricketer bowleth at three gallants bidden to a batting crease and he detaineth but one)*

There was a splendid cricketer,  
He bowleth two in three;  
"By thy umpire's coat and lofted hand  
Why bowlest thou at me?"

The pavilion gates were opened wide,  
Out came the next man in.  
The batsman's steady; the fielders  
ready,  
But two more runs to win.

The umpire lifts his weathered hand,  
"Six more balls," quoth he;  
"Howzat?" "Not Out, for't did not hit  
His bat, but hit his knee."

*(The batsman is spellbound by the spin of the experienced bowler, and is constrained to obey the umpire.)*

He held it with a heavenward cry,  
The batsman out, stood quiet,  
He listened like a hawk-caught mouse,  
Both caught and bowled by Wyatt.

The batsman sat down in a daze,  
He hardly felt the ball,  
He heard the crowd: "Retired hurt  
With two more men to fall."  
Pritchard came in, there was a din,  
But Yarnold did him drop,  
Tom left it late, and when it came  
Mistimed a slow long hop.

*(The cricketer bowls and the ball speeds pavilion ward with a helpful slope and fair speed till it reaches the Line.)*

The ball came up upon the off,  
Up from a spot it came,  
He cut it neat and through their feet  
For four, which won the game.

J.C.S.

## THE HOUSES

### EVANS

A LARGE United States aircraft carrier steamed into a Mediterranean port where the only other vessel at anchor was a small British light cruiser. As a greeting the American monster signalled "How's the world's second largest navy?" The reply flashed "How's the world's second best?"

Surely no thinly-drawn moral is necessary to excuse the quotation of this priceless little story, utterly irrelevant though it may be? Therefore *stet*.

In spite of the extravagant claims of some other House, Evans has on display a greater number of House cups and trophies than are to be seen in any other cupboard. Let the unbeliever assure himself by inspection. Moreover we have in our possession the three most coveted awards, those for the Cock House Championship, Rugby Football Knock-out, and Cricket Knock-out; but never has so much been owed by so many to so few!

In the Spring when all became green again so did the Rugger Cup.

The manner in which we won the Final for the third successive year deserves to become legendary, to be handed down in awesome whispers as an Homeric odyssey of the heroes who defeated Heath. Playing with fourteen men throughout the game they matched the superior numbers, weight, experience and skill of their opponents with magnificent, unyielding determination. The spirit of our fathers lived again as they fought. The pack especially, playing one man short, showed a ferocity that abashed the Heathen giants, for it refused to admit any inferiority. Although it is not customary for personal names to be introduced into the reports of this House, the inspiration and example of B. C. Homer, our Captain of Football, must claim special mention. He roused his pack to superhuman efforts and led the side to a well-merited victory by 8 points to 3. Thus our great rugger tradition and prestige was upheld. Alas, tell it not abroad that the other sides were somewhat less successful.

For the rest, our activities have been peculiarly undistinguished (peculiar, that is, for us). Running is not our race and swimming is out of our element, our tennis lacks guts, our fives the iron hand; our chess has met with chequered success. We bat and bowl, the first a little, the latter much.

But particular mention must be made of our superb win in the Senior Relay after an extremely close and thrilling race; of our lamentably significant bottom in Standards; of our Cricket Fourth team, for success due to persistence and practice; of our Junior Fives players, who promise well; of the distinction of counting the Captain, both of Football and Cricket, amongst our number;

of our consequent optimism for the Cricket Knock-out once again; of our several antique, wooden-featured chess-men whose intellectual activity and success is only matched by our two Cambridge open award winners.

The Championship Cup will not be ours much longer. Gaze on it you youngsters: Yours is the responsibility to ensure its return to its adopted home, where it has rested for so long. But each and every one of you must contribute your might, that our treasury may again be overflowing with silver. This year the laurels will become an unnatural colour; but memory of that Rugger Final lives, and prompts the comment "Good Evans!"

G. R. GREEN (*House Captain*).

### GIFFORD

Burdened with more than our fair share of those whose athletic prowess is definitely not their strong point, we can point to several academic successes, but few in fields of sport. Time and time again we have had to rely on the same few able-bodied men in the House.

In Football we finished seventh after the three teams had won only four matches between them in the knock-out competition. Although we could not muster a strong fifteen, the seven we put in the field for the Seven-a-Side competition proved a very strong combination, and we gained much satisfaction from winning this newly-instituted event, despite the fact that no points are awarded for it. The victory was marked by the appearance among the House trophies of a suitably inscribed shaving mug. Needless to say the donor remained anonymous.

The Senior Fives team won one match and lost two others by only one point, but the Juniors should improve our position. The Chess team finished last, a position which is not a true reflection of their ability, but a result of slackness.

We failed to maintain the form in shooting we showed earlier on when we were second in the N.S.R.A. competition, only one point behind Heath. After finishing fifth in the "Country Life" and fourth in the Tunstall Cup, we were only fourth in the final placings, and thus relinquish two more of our rapidly diminishing number of trophies.

The seventh position we occupied at the end of the Athletics standards competition revealed the lack of any widespread ability in the House. In fact the number of standards gained was so small that despite a splendid effort by a few individuals placing us second in the Sports, our final position in the Athletic Championship was only sixth.

The Tennis players, who for the last few years have been a standing joke in the House, have enjoyed boundless success this year and, after attaining fourth place in the Winter

competition and a similar place in the Knock-out, they have high hopes of doing even better this term.

Four Cricket XI's are fielded with varying success this term and swimming teams have put in an appearance at the baths in the hope, which has so far proved vain, that one of the other Houses will have to scratch.

It is never deemed a good policy to give prospects in these reports, but there can be little doubt as to what is in store for us during the next few years. For two or three years we are in for a poor time, but if the Juniors, amongst whom there is no lack of talent, receive encouragement and adequate coaching they will prove an asset in the future. Whatever the House's fortunes are, however, we may be sure of the unfailing support, and guidance, of Mr. Kay and his two assistants, Mr. Robertson and Mr. Bennett.

D. B. HILL (*House Captain*).

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### GILSON

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WHATEVER may be the final position of the House this year, it is certain that it will have maintained its reputation and shown itself worthy of the name of Gilson.

The Rugby Knock-out brought out the best in every team. The first XV, though without the captain, N. Sankarayya, lost in the first round to Evans, the winners of the final, only after a very close, hard match; of the remaining matches one was won, and one lost. The second and third teams both lost their finals narrowly. In the overall Rugby result, the first team gained second place, the second team were second equal, and the third team were rewarded for their keenness and efficiency with first place. Yet, in spite of these fine results achieved by fine teams, the House was only placed third.

After a disappointing start in Athletic Standards, the House soon got into its stride and finished third, due mainly to the efforts of the Intermediate members and to some good results among the more senior ones. As was expected the House had but few finalists in the Sports; these, however, acquitted themselves most competently and gained fifth place. The final Athletics position of third shows once more the enthusiasm of the whole House, led this time by A. E. Franklin, Athletics Captain.

The Senior Fives team has won all its matches and it only remains for the Juniors, who are fortunate in being coached by A. J. G. Campbell, School and House Captain of Eton Fives, to emulate this splendid example.

The Chess teams have exceeded even the expectations of their diplomatic captain, G. H. Herringshaw, in attaining, for us, the unheard of position of fourth; this result, together with the equally unexpected posi-

tions of third in the Shooting Classification and second in the Tunstall Cup, has served as a tonic to bring us up to the Championship mark.

Of the four sets of Cricket League matches played to date we have won a pleasing number, the first XI doing especially well. This is, as was hoped, as only a few players, notably N. Sankarayya, our captain, and A. J. G. Campbell, our Vice-Captain, have been taken from us by School teams.

Tennis is the only black spot on our horizon, for the House has, as yet, won none of its matches and is unlikely to better this performance.

With P.T., in which prospects are bright, and the remainder of the cricket, tennis and fives still to be decided, the House is, as near as one can tell, lying second to Heath and, given satisfactory results in these activities, the ultimate object may yet be reached. This, however, is not so important as the fact that the House, brilliantly average, has proved itself to be united, enthusiastic, and proud, yet critical of itself.

The House, graced by the name of Gilson, has started what it is hoped will be an illustrious career with an excellent year of comradeship and success under the guidance of our thoughtful House Master, Mr. Biggs, and of our Tutors, Mr. Hurrell and Mr. Vaughan.

M. C. DODD (*House Captain*).

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### HEATH

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A REPORT covering the greater part of two terms must of necessity leave much unsaid, especially now that the multiplicity of activities and fixtures in the House competition gives us little time to sit back and take stock of our overall position. Moreover, as there is a great deal of the term still to go, it is even more difficult to assess results with any great accuracy, so the reader must be content with estimates and generalisations.

Much, however, is over and done with, and looking back we have every reason for satisfaction so far. We won the Rothe cup, albeit by a narrow margin, and might well have carried off the Knock-out cup and the "sevens," but for an injury to our vice-captain. Tudor cup, Holdsworth cup, Wiggins-Davies cup and the Mitton shield are all ours, and prove our worth athletically, both as individuals and as an all-round House. These are the highlights of our achievements.

But they are not our only successes. Our sharpshooters won the N.S.R.A. competition and the "Country Life" event by handsome margins, yet a relapse in the Tunstall cup competition brought a mere second place in the Shooting Championship. Our fives has been good, and the team has run very close

those supposedly invincible teams, Gilson and Evans. The Junior IV has carried all before it, and contains abundant talent for future years.

The Tennis IV finished sixth in the Winter tournament, and still plays occasionally, we believe. The Chess results are lost in the murk of time and obscurity, and are probably better left there. We have three swimming teams, most of whom can swim. We also have a P.T. leader.

And so to cricket. The demands of School teams, shooting practices and examinations, have left the XI with about two of its original members, and the standard of cricket played has consequently suffered. The XI has won one game so far, and we cannot tell what to expect in the others; we can only hope that the return of the stalwarts will give the team some life, and that the Knock-out tournament will provide some cricket both rewarding and attractive.

What then of our prospects? We are tired of clichés, though we are often reduced to using them, and are rather weary of repeating such trite phrases as "bodes well for the future," "wealth of talent," "The House flourishes;" nevertheless we are confident of our chances of success, and have set our covetous eyes on a certain large Cup in a certain glass case.

But we are not here to preach: Be it our task, and a very pleasant one, merely to report successes won, to hope for more to come and to give to Mr. Barlow and his colleagues our most sincere thanks for their help and encouragement. Those of us who are leaving may be excused for putting on record here our very best wishes to all "Heathens" for the future, and a prosperous new School year.

J. L. EATON (*House Captain*).

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## JEUNE

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MIDWAY through the Easter term we found ourselves placed sixth in the House Rugby Football Championship. This result, on analysis is by no means as bad as it appears. In fact the House may look forward to a bright Rugger future.

The case is similar for Eton Fives, and an experienced Senior team will improve on this year's quite respectable results. Our Junior team have not yet met with success—confidence and a little more pep are all that are lacking.

The House entered a good field for the Cross Country race. As a team we ran well, gaining third place in both the Senior and Junior races. Congratulations, moreover, are due to J. C. Edwards who ran extremely well in the Senior race, arriving home second.

Once again we did very well with our Athletic Standards. Having won the John

Urry cup for Standards for the last four years, it is a little disappointing to lose it by one standard the fifth year. In the Athletic Sports two of the House relay team reached the finals—the under twelve-and-a-half team gaining a first place. We also hold the under twelve-and-a-half Individual Championship. Again the House Chess Championship is ours.

At the beginning of the Winter term a House Tennis doubles knock-out competition was started. In the final, which was played off the first day of this term, we beat Vardy after an interesting if not skilful match.

For the last few years swimming has not been our "pièce de resistance"—this year is no exception. The situation, however, improves as the weeks go by.

Our fourth cricket XI, with the season already half over, have failed to register a win. The other three teams have acquitted themselves very well, so far, in the league competition. What the Knock-out has in store for us remains to be seen.

A P.T. competition is to be held at the end of this term. We go into serious training in the near future!

Finally, our thanks are due to our House Master, Mr. Leeds, and to our two House Tutors, Messrs. Sacret and McGawley for their untiring enthusiasm, and invaluable advice, which they have given us throughout the year.

W. G. G. LINDLEY (*House Captain*).

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## PRINCE LEE

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WE have nothing startling to say in the first report of Prince Lee except that our showcase contains more Cups than that of any other House. We neither are, nor have any immediate prospects of being, at either the top or the bottom of the House Championship; indeed our journey through the year has been marked by a singularly monotonous procession of fifth places. Occasionally we have forgotten our apparent policy of *laissez-faire* and done better, and these determined attempts to reform, with several brilliant individual performances, have lifted us out of the rut on to a very minor ridge, hence the Cups. But too many members of the House are still content to applaud the prowess of others, without making any real attempt to be the blushing heroes themselves.

Our chief success was coming second in the Rugby Football Competition. With the exception of the very juniors (who *must* learn at least to imitate the action of the tiger if not the rugged Russian bear or arm'd rhinoceros), the whole Rugger season was satisfactory, both the senior teams securing their respective championships. On the cricket field we have been fighting hard, in a gentlemanly sort of way, and our greatest

opponent up to now has been the tea interval. We expect to finish in our usual middle position. Our swimmers continue to keep their heads above water, and as some of them are really very good we expect to attain a high position in the final results. We have every confidence in our P.T. team to win the P.T. Competition again. The other activities come under the heading of "monotonous procession."

Several individual achievements are worthy of note. B. S. Adams set up a new School record for the Intermediate High Jump and became Intermediate Athletics Champion; G. K. Caulton became Junior Athletics Champion; J. M. Thomson won the Cross Country run, and J. D. L. Adams won the Half-mile Swim for the second time.

But we would not wish this report to be entirely a sporting catalogue. We have succeeded to a considerable extent in fostering that feeling so difficult to produce in a day-school of what can only be termed a House Spirit, and the House has come to mean something more in itself to us now than simply a division for sporting purposes. We feel that the Sixth-formers who leave us at the end of this term will go away as former members of the School and Prince Lee, and not of the first alone. This notable improvement is due largely to the guidance of Mr. Williams and his assistant, Mr. Osborne, whose keen interest has done much to encourage the House. We offer our gratitude and best wishes to Mr. Lutyens, who leaves us to go to Winchester, and welcome Mr. Bolton, who joins us as a House Tutor.

The spirit of Prince Lee gazes benignly down at us from his portrait in Big School, and witnesses the foundation of a tradition bearing his name, the quality of which will be measured ultimately not by mere transitory possession of silver trophies, but by the kind of men which it has sent forth into the world. Let us be sure that the tradition is worthy of the name it bears.

J. M. S. ARNOTT (*House Captain*).

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### LEVETT

"Man can climb to the highest summits; but he cannot dwell there long."—*Candida*.  
In the first years of the House's foundation we won great honours through the efforts of a talented few. With the departure of these few heroes who were prepared to play half-a-dozen games for the sake of the House we have been forced to rely on the efforts of a greater number of boys who are perhaps a little less Herculean in their talents. Those who have the interests of Levett House at heart, however, should realize that success on any sporting field means constant practice, training and a general enthusiasm on the part of the weaker links in the chain. For

although there is no lack of general keenness, few of the juniors have much of that fortunate talent which will bring easy success without effort in the future.

Of statistics and results; our greatest success so far has been in Shooting, for which we won the Tunstall Cup. This feat is a typical example of what can be done by practice and really efficient organisation, and considerable credit is due to the team's captain. The Rugger Knock-Out was scarcely more successful than the League and in all we were just generally outplayed. Athletics was a success in as much as most members of the House did their best, but it was not inevitable that we should have come last in the Sports. Swimming has been a pleasant surprise. Despite the pessimistic forecast of the captain, the Senior Relay team swam very well and merited second place. We have some keen juniors too, but next year there must be more of an all-out effort to win standards—the more so now that the Pool is available to swimmers every day.

At Eton Fives we have won but one match in the Senior competition and one in the Junior. However, there is good reason for optimism as all the best players will be at School next year. Tennis results, like the tennis players, have been very erratic, but in view of absences and the leaving of two of the team during the year the record to date, of two matches lost and one won, is by no means a disgrace. In the winter competition we came third. P.T. shows signs of reviving, whereas Chess, in which we came second, remains our strong point.

Cricket has, so far, been played in a fine spirit and although we are in the throes of a bad patch at the time of going to press, with four members of the XXII back with us, our chances of winning the Knock-Out are good.

Levett has not had an outstanding year. In some of the minor sports we have done well but in other fields we have not been so successful. Certainly our Housemaster, Mr. Porter, and the Tutors, Mr. Cadenhead and Mr. Freeman, are all assets to the welfare of the House which we should never underrate and, during the past year, they have always worked to obtain the best results possible. It is unlikely that in the next year or so we will achieve anything really brilliant, but let everyone who is staying on next year remember the words of a great Old Edwardian when addressing members of the School: "A man is only a failure when he gives up trying; otherwise to fail is not possible."

J. DE C. LING (*House Captain*).

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### VARDY

"AWAKE, arise, or be for ever fallen!" This was the call to the House at Christmas. "And still the wonder grew"—the House

awoke, the House arose. From the pessimism and near despair of the Christmas term, the House became confident and transformed.

In no sphere was this better seen than Rugby football. A new spirit, a new vitality, infected the First team, something indeed which had not been seen in our Rugby XV's for some years—confidence and self-assurance. Our final position of second in the Knock-Out reflects great credit on the enthusiasm and example of our captain, R. B. W. Price, who led the team with characteristic vigour and was responsible in great part for this revival of our determination and fighting spirit.

Athletics saw this success continued. At the beginning of the season, by sheer weight of numbers, we won the Cross Country Championship, whilst only four members of the House failed to turn up for Standards on at least one occasion. Unexpectedly we were third in the Sports and our final Athletics position was a good fourth. Mention must be made of the Intermediates, who were really outstanding, securing well over half of our total number of Standards. When, in two or three years time, these Intermediates become Senior members of the House, the consequences are, we hope, inevitable. In Tennis we have been defeated only once and that in the final of the Knock-Out competition. The Fives team won a match, whilst this term's Junior team is, as yet, unbeaten. Chess saw a rise from the bottom position to sixth and in the "Country Life" shooting competition we came fourth. In the Tunstall Cup however, we had difficulty in raising an adequate team, with the conflicting demands of cricket and swimming, and fell to the bottom.

Our swimmers have already secured twice as many standards as their nearest rivals and we are confident of retaining the Allday Shield. In the first round of relays our performances were very creditable, although prospects for the Swimming Sports cannot hope to rise above second place.

Cricket is pursuing its unremarkable and pedestrian course, and results so far have been promising but unlucky. With the return of our School team players for the Knock-Out competition, however, we should be able to field four quite formidable teams.

The general tone of this report may perhaps be considered unduly optimistic when compared with the actual results achieved, which are probably little more than good. But when faced with the appalling record of the past few years, they can only be considered remarkable. Much must be credited to the keenness and enthusiasm of all the House officials concerned, whilst Mr. Copland and Mr. Parry, whose patience has for so long been met with such scant success, must be especially thanked for the encouragement and exhortation they have given the House during this long and difficult period. Let us now enter together a new era of

success and prosperity and recover the true blue glories of past days! Long may this new House spirit flourish!

P. H. R. MERCER (*House Captain*).

## THE LIBRARY

With a nucleus of experienced Sub-librarians and several new recruits the Library staff is now at the peak of its efficiency.

Although this year there are just under a hundred fewer ticket-holders in the School than last year, each one has on the average one more ticket and the circulation is showing a consistent increase, as, to the disgrace of the whole School, is the stealing of books.

Among those who have recently presented books to the Library we would like to thank Mrs. Cohen, who has passed on to us many of her late husband's books.

The re-introduction this term of the half-day issuing of books has had but little support as yet; but the effecting of an improved method of reserving books and the re-arranging of the at present chaotic subject index have done much towards the smoother running of the Library.

However, as we all well know, if it were not for Mr. Blount, whose unobtrusively guiding hand is ever ready to help us, nothing would come of our efforts.

M. C. DODD  
(*School Librarian*).

## DEBATING SOCIETY

In looking through the CHRONICLES of past years, we find that there has been a tendency either to bemoan our sad condition or to turn the Debating Society into a Mutual Admiration Society. We shall do neither. We merely record that the Society is in as satisfactory position as befits the Senior Society at King Edward's. Attendances have been good, and the standard of debate has improved—we have lost to more famous debating chambers those who tried so very hard to be funny, and we do not regret their departure.

The majority of debates this year have been on political motions, on which many members from the floor of the House have been unable to speak because of lack of time. It was pleasant to hold an open-air debate on the Terrace, when the Society revealed its sense of humour in a debate of a somewhat lighter nature than the previous ones.

We have thought hard and long to find some new compliment to pay to our Chairman. We cannot find one. Therefore we thank him, simply and sincerely.

Thus we look forward to another year—our eighty-first—not with undue optimism, but without despair.

K. J. WERRING,  
J. E. TREVIS,  
*Joint Hon. Secretaries.*

## DEBATING CHARACTERS

K. J. WERRING: On his own grounds he is probably the most forthright speaker the Society possesses. His speeches are always well prepared—with more than a sprinkling of facts—and delivered in his own inimitable manner. As Secretary he has put in a great deal of work, which is always conscientiously and well done. J.E.T.

J. E. TREVIS: Pompous and profound, large and languorous, his arguments—revealed in a demure, well-modulated Oxford accent—lend weight to any cause. To win his approval, an argument must be either “very jolly” or “very proper.” He bears himself irreproachably “*comme il faut*.” K.J.W.

G. R. GREEN: Has made a belated but very welcome return to our ranks. He is still the same old jolly good chap, and still possesses his lucidity. We note with regret the disappearance of his telescope and sword.

J. DE C. LING: Has not only read excellent essays to the Society this year on important occasions: he has also, on lesser occasions condescended to discard the voluminous notes which had hitherto appeared destined to remain his shroud. Dignity and sense are always present in his arguments and he has the confidence born of experience.

P. J. TURNER: A speaker who never fails to amuse us with his joviality. The Society's most decent chap.

P. S. TREVIS: His speeches—like his clothes—are elegant and decorous. He has a subtle but keen sense of humour and is ever ready to join swords with his brother.

J. M. S. ARNOTT: Has—in the style of the best traditions of Victorian melodrama—often lectured the Society on Foreign History. Despite his usual heavy sanctimony, however, he is a master in the art of delighting with airy flippancy.

M. A. LYNN: His favourite proposition is “that while the Greeks had the brains, the Romans had the drains.” He quotes the French and the Americans respectively, as the modern exemplars of this theory in an analogous world situation. Though he has not spoken very often this year, his pronouncements have always been most (*New Statesman*)-like.

J. L. EATON: A distinguished member of the Classical VI who has constantly graced the Society with his presence this year, and who, when he has spoken, has impressed us with his ideas and common-sense.

N. SANKARAYYA: A comparative newcomer to the Society's ranks, who has impressed us by his clearness and intellectual honesty. He relies on a vigorous style, which together with his disarming bonhomie convince us of a plausible case.

W. G. F. HETHERINGTON: We would like to hear him.

A. D. S. ROBERTS, R. W. JONES, J. A. A. STOCKWIN, M. BIRD, R. F. PEIERLS, and M. F. PRIDE have graced the Society with their speeches on frequent occasions, while many distinguished members of the School, have, at various times, filled our ranks.

## JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

In spite of the usual difficulties the Society held interesting debates on two motions: “That this House deplores the present system of zebra crossings” and “That this House would welcome sponsored radio”—the former being won, and the latter lost. The abolition of the partition of Ireland was not debated, owing to lack of interest and not through fear of the honorary secretary, as rumoured. Otherwise a fair percentage of our potential public has been lured into attendance.

Too many boys in the Junior School still do not appreciate the entertainment and educational value of debating.

Thanks are due from the Society to Mr. Dunt, our chairman, for his assistance throughout the term.

J. W. McCracken  
(Hon. Secretary).

## LITERARY SOCIETY

“SUMMER ends now; now, barbarous in beauty, the stooks rise  
Around; up above, what wind-walks! what lovely behaviour  
Of silk-sack clouds! Has wilder, wilful-wavier  
Meal-drift molded ever and melted across skies?”

I must confess, I honestly don't know. I don't even know if these lines are sprung on the right springs. Not that I mind that very much, for like many of our circle, I prefer listening to poetry than reading it, particularly if it happens to be Monday lunch-hour. Many of our following have heard sporting declamations by their pastors with the interests their instructors have deserved to command; a small number has used this diversion as a pretext to miss taking second lunch, and either reason for attendance is commendable. We even had a fifth-former at one of our séances. Séances, my readers, is the jargon for that “Poetry Reading, 1-0 p.m.” caption you see on the top left of your calendar.

Alas we, or rather I, have already fallen into the emily-coloured pluralistic abyss of the secretary's report. As certainly as the quatercentenary comes round every four-hundred years, the over-worked organisers of the School's cultural delight pause to go into print for the benefit of their readers. Yes, gentlemen, the overworked organisers is the

Secretary, and we come from the Literary Society.

Do you want a blood transfusion from the sun, with the approval of G. R. Green? Do you want to hire a non-existent immoral book from Mr. Crow, or a real one from Mr. Bolton? Do you want to Sleep with Prisoners and Christopher Fry? You do? Then we are your man.

Believing as we do that cricket satisfies a desire for aesthetic satisfaction in a way that chess does not, we have been in partial hibernation this term. Did someone mention examinations? Never mind, for on July 9th, 1952, to commemorate the eighty-fifth month of our secession from the Debating Society, we hope to welcome Mr. D. J. Enright to our meeting. Unfortunately, this date coincides with Mr. Crow's last appearance as chairman; we cannot possibly record our debt to him, but thank him for having always shown as much vigour and personal interest in us amateurs as in his own English department. We wish him well. And so, as our year draws to a close, we conclude by posing the obvious question—have you found the anagram in Hopkins' third line?

D. C. WARD  
(Hon. Secretary).

### DRAMATIC SOCIETY

SINCE the last report was published the Dramatic Society has made a very good name for itself. We have produced two full-length plays in three months.

Despite a postponement of the performances, "Twelfth Night," which Mr. Babb produced, was a roaring, towering—and successful—play. A very strong cast was headed by G. H. Herringshaw (Orsino), K. Schiemann (Olivia) and C. Homer (Viola), who provided the love interest; whilst P. F. Bradley (Malvolio), P. J. Turner (Sir Toby Belch), B. E. Fryer (Sir Andrew Aguecheek) and R. Whiteman (Maria) contrived efficiently to keep us amused in the complicated sub-plot.

Then, in May, members of the Junior School, who were "rendered worthy of Public Attention" by Mr. Crow and Mr. Trott, presented us with the memorable "The Miller and His Men." This, it is believed, was the first performance of this brave melodrama for more than a century.

A fine time was had by all—audience included. "Master" Vaugon, as the villain Grindoff, "Master" Unitt, who played the dashing hero, Lothair, and "Master" Honeybone, a born comedian, are to be congratulated on their excellent performances.

Although this is virtually our "off-season," attention will soon be focused on the choice of next year's School Play.

R. M. WILKINSON  
(Hon. Secretary).

### MUSICAL SOCIETY

A SUCCESSION of recitals and concerts, culminating in a performance of "Judas Maccabaeus," has made this a profitable year of music-making.

Our lunch-hour concerts have been well attended and of very high standard. Recitals in the Spring term included a performance of Beethoven's Sonata in C, Op. 2, No. 3, by D. A. Wright, and a programme of piano duets and solos by G. H. Brindley and J. B. Aston. One of the greatest successes of the term was a recital by Mr. Lutyens and Mr. Crow (of Gilbert and Sullivan fame), with a record attendance of eighty-five. Mr. Lutyens performance of Debussy's "La Cathédrale Engloutie" and a Bach prelude, made us wonder why he had remained in hiding for so long. Mr. Crow captured the spirit of Schubert extremely well in "Songs from the Winterreise," with Mr. Williams as a very able accompanist.

Early in the year the Quatercentenary Service was held in St. Martin's Church. The School choir added greatly to the dignity of this historic occasion. Stanford's "Te Deum," and "Praise ye the Lord" by Christopher Tye, were sung. Christopher Tye is reputed to have been music-master to King Edward the Sixth.

A concert was given for members of the Birmingham Organists' Association in Big School on the evening of March 10th, 1952. The programme consisted of solos by members of the School and Staff, and included three anthems sung by the School XXII Choir. Two of the anthems, "Pater Noster" and "Ave Maria," were by Igor Stravinski.

Recitals on a great diversity of musical instruments have been given by the Junior Musical Society, including one highly successful concert given entirely by members of the Removes and Shells. R. M. Sweeney combines the role of accompanist with that of general manager.

The layman can be forgiven for imagining a lull in musical activity at the beginning of this term. We hasten to assure him, however, that, far from being lulled into somnolence by the tropical weather, we were in fact very wide awake and, indeed, working feverishly. If the choir seemed more sleepy-eyed than usual it was attributable to the fact that we rehearsed before the world had arisen to its duties, the result being that the "pleasing, dreadful call" was heard only by the cleaners. The combined efforts of choir and orchestra led to the production of Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus" in Big School on May 29th, 1952, before a packed audience.

In conclusion, we express our gratitude to our chairman and director of music, Dr. Willis Grant. Without his hard work and leadership, a performance of "Judas" would have been impossible.

R. S. LOWRIE (Hon. Secretary).

## MUSIC CIRCLE

In order to conform with our ideal of having only the best artists at our meetings, last term we were visited first by Mr. Norman Jones, the eminent 'cellist, and then by Mr. John Lowe, the Head of Midland Region Music at the B.B.C.

Mr. Jones gave us a recital of unaccompanied works by Bach, displaying his superb technique and refreshing accuracy of intonation.

At the next meeting Mr. Lowe told us all about the musical ideals of the B.B.C., and the difficulties which beset the organisers of the programmes. Not only, he said, must the B.B.C. be idealistic, but they must also be practical, and "keep their feet on the ground." After his talk he invited questions, and, as it looked as though he would be questioned all night, the chairman suggested that we might adjourn the meeting until some not-too-distant date when Mr. Lowe might revisit us.

This term, we again paid a visit to Birmingham Cathedral, where Dr. Willis Grant demonstrated the four-manual Nicholson organ, concluding with a performance of S. S. Wesley's "Choral Song and Fugue."

Lastly Mr. W. D. Rees gave a pianoforte recital of modern music.

Next term there will be several vacancies in the Circle (our numbers are restricted to thirty), and we take this opportunity of inviting any boy in "A" block who is interested to consult the Secretary.

Finally, let us sincerely thank our chairman Dr. Willis Grant, for his good work in the Circle in obtaining such first-rate performers and lecturers for our enjoyment and education.

D. A. WRIGHT  
(Hon. Secretary).

## MUSIC COMPETITIONS (Instrumental) 1952

On Thursday, 20th March, a small but appreciative audience gathered in Big School to hear the finals of the School Music Competitions. It is always our policy to secure the services of someone of note in the musical world as adjudicator, and this year we were very fortunate, and indeed honoured, to have Mr. Robert Irving, Director of Music of Sadler's Wells Ballet Company.

The number of entries from the lower half of the School exceeded all expectations, and necessitated altering the age limits of the first three pianoforte classes. As before, the finalists were split into seven classes, and we congratulate the winners of these:

Pianoforte, under 12½: E. G. Barlow (Heath).

Instrumental, under 15: P. J. Connop (Violin) (Heath).

Pianoforte, under 14: J. M. H. Spencer (Gilson).

Organ, Open: D. A. Wright (*Jeune*).  
Pianoforte, under 16: P. W. Cutts (*Heath*).  
Instrumental, Open: R. W. Ward (Oboe) (*Levelt*).  
Pianoforte, Open: G. H. Brindley (*Prince Lee*).

The adjudicator remarked on the high standard of all the playing, and our only regret was that there were not more people present to enjoy it. It is much more nerve-racking to play before a small audience, than before a large one, as the more experienced competitors know only too well, and we sincerely hope that more support will be given in the future, by both School and parents, to what is in fact a most worthwhile concert, which even the non-musical person can readily enjoy.

To those who were not successful this time, we would say, do not be discouraged, and do enter again next year. It may be your turn to win next year.  
J.B.A.

## CHRISTIAN UNION

"Great-Heart is dead, say they?"

Nor dead, nor sleeping! He lives on!

Thus with the Christian Union. Our Meeting in an extremity of the Science School in no way signifies that we are either remote or moribund.

Audiences during the Spring term increased steadily, and those who attended were not disappointed with the vital talks on the meaning, object and value of Christianity. Numbered among our speakers were Mr. Quintier Carr, M.B.E., General Secretary of the Inter-School Christian Fellowship, and the Vicar of Elmdon, together with two Crusader leaders.

Unforeseen alterations in the Summer term calendar have already forced us to cancel a visit of the Rector of Birmingham, while last minute cancellations by visiting speakers have also caused some disruption of our programme. What with this and the usual examinations, our activities will necessarily be of a limited nature.

The future does not depress us. Indeed, in comparison with several other School societies we have much room for optimism. Satisfaction however, breeds indolence, and it would be untrue to say that the perennial complaint of Christian Union secretaries against the appalling apathy of Crusaders in the School is no longer requisite.

Once more our thanks are due to Mr. Monkcom for the use of the large lecture Room and to G. W. Marshall for producing our posters. A line from the poem of Oxenham's with which we commenced, expresses our hope and aim for the future: "And the Light shall burn the brighter."

A. R. G. DEASLEY  
(Hon. Secretary).

## CLOSED CIRCLE

THE greatest shock this year was to find ourselves described in the *Public Schools' Year Book* as "The Discussion Group." Apart from a lack of consideration for our vanity this title gives a false impression. For this Society is, first and foremost, closed and, as a former secretary said, is based on the principle of privilege rather than of patronage. This ensures both a genuine corporate spirit and a regular attendance. And secondly the Closed Circle has an informality which puts its members at ease in practising the delivery of papers on academic subjects of any description. Criticism of certain points only comes after the paper, and actual discussion is but a secondary part of the proceedings.

Last term we heard a brilliantly entertaining talk from Mr. T. E. B. Howarth in which he described some of his experiences during the war. A. J. K. Dore presented a first rate paper on "What is Evolution?" and at the other meeting Professor Duncan-Jones described the study of philosophy.

The Summer term had three meetings. The first heard G. R. Green speaking on his experiences in Malta early in the war and, informal in the extreme though this meeting was, the speaker conveyed the full drama of the island's evacuation in 1940. At the second meeting, R. F. Peierls read a fascinating paper which he called "Mathematics: A General Survey." This paper was followed by a long and abstruse discussion which almost convinced some members of the futility of reality. The final séance of the School year was addressed by Mr. T. W. Hutton, who spoke on the history of the School.

In wishing the Circle a long and profitable life our thanks are due to Mr. Blount, whose geniality as chairman will long be remembered by those members who are leaving.

J. DE C. LING  
(Hon. Secretary).

## MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

DESPITE the inevitable confusions that a small and exclusive Society such as this must always experience following the unfortunate but unavoidable resignations of two most efficient secretaries the Society may well look back on the past six months with a certain satisfaction, if not pride.

Outwardly unspectacular and unassuming we have quietly achieved that object for which the Society was originally founded, namely, the introduction of the language and culture of France, Germany and Spain into the intellectual life of the School. Our only

regret lies in the very maturity and experience of our members who are, in most cases, purely specialist linguists. It is indeed a pity that so many others are attracted only by our English séances—when will they realise that we are not merely barbaric innovators? Perhaps the reason for this disinclination to seek after earthly knowledge is to be found in the fundamental faults in the English character or public school education.

The French programme for this term was represented by a talk by M. Thalvert, *Délégué Culturel* to the French Consulate, on "Le Relèvement de la France." Thanks to the persuasive genius of our chairman, who finally mastered the elusive intricacies of the Spanish character, the long awaited Spanish talk was delivered by Señor Lora, whilst the formal programme for the term was completed by Herr Nusch of Basel University, who spoke in German on "Das Erziehungssystem in der Schweiz." Finally, a short play-reading was included, at which members of the Society read "La Scintillante" by Jules Romains to an unexpectedly large and receptive gathering.

This term sees in the departure of so many of our "vieux routiers" the end of an era for the Society. Yet, whatever fortunes we may meet in the coming year, we must always be thankful that we have in Mr. Biggs the perfect chairman, who guides and advises with ever patient wisdom.

P. H. R. MERCER  
(Hon. Secretary).

## SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

IN the Spring term the Society held three well-attended meetings. The first made a welcome change in that two members of the Society stopped listening and started talking on the varied subject of "Sound Recording." These were R. F. Peierls and O. N. Serck, who provided an entertaining and well-illustrated lecture.

Later in the term we welcomed Mr. E. W. Swainson from I.C.I. who gave a lecture on "Metals of the Future," outlining the possible uses in the near future of hitherto almost unknown metals. Some of these are stronger and lighter than those in use at present and, once the production difficulties have been overcome, will be more widely used.

The final lecture was given by a new member of the Staff, Mr. S. D. Woods, on "Colloid Chemistry." This took the form of a series of entertaining and well-performed experiments in this fascinating branch of chemistry.

At the present time the Society is in temporary retirement, but we hope to bring it back into service before the end of the term.

P. HARLING  
(Hon. Secretary).

## GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

THIS being the Summer term there has been comparatively little activity in the Society, although our external visits have been well attended.

Earlier in the term the Society organised two interesting excursions to the Jubilee coal mine at West Bromwich, where, on each occasion, twenty boys were initiated into the intricacies of the miner's life. The mine is not a very deep one, but it is a long journey underground to the face, which was inspected by the party, to the great amusement of sandwich-eating miners. Having returned once more to the surface, the members of the party went *en masse* to the showers, where they removed some of the accumulated dust, and changed back into their usual clothing. These two expeditions were very successful, and, in view of the high demand for inclusion in the parties, it has been decided to arrange one more visit this term.

So far we have held only one indoor meeting, and this was, unfortunately, very sparsely attended, although the two films shown—on prospecting for oil and the actual production and refinement of the fuel—were probably the finest ever displayed by the Society. It is with disappointment that we record the apathy of the upper School with regard to the Society's internal activities; we trust that in the future, members of senior forms will lend more vigorous support to these meetings which are both interesting and educational.

The Society's thanks are extended to Mr. Whalley and Mr. Bennett for their unflinching enthusiasm during a difficult term.

M. D. ATKINSON  
(Hon. Secretary).

## CIVICS SOCIETY

THE Society has enjoyed what we venture to suggest as its usual successful year. Most of the credit for this must go to our chairman, Mr. Vaughan, but everybody connected with the Society has pulled his weight, and we have achieved the deserved results.

At the last meeting of the Spring term Mr. Howarth remarked that the Society was building up a well-deserved reputation for attracting very distinguished speakers to its meetings. He was introducing the Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Birmingham, who gave a talk on the impact of certain important archaeological discoveries on Christianity. As usual the questions following the talk constituted an important part of the meeting, and his Lordship gave some provocative answers to the questions which were put to him.

Through the co-operation of the Birmingham branch of the United Nations Association

we were able to arrange for Dr. Drzewieski, a former vice-president of Unesco, to come and tell us something about the work of that organisation. He spoke with feeling of the terrible plight of the younger generation throughout much of the world at the end of the war, and the considerable, but hindered, progress which had been made since then.

Shortly after Dr. Drzewieski's visit we managed to catch Mr. Vaughan Reynolds, editor of *The Birmingham Post*, between two of the conferences which make up his day. He gave us an absorbing and humorous description of the running of a large newspaper, illustrating his talk with exhibits from the printing-house, many of which he distributed among the audience at the end of the meeting.

Perhaps this seems a fairly diverse programme for a Society such as this, but our speaker for the Summer term comes very accurately within the definition of "Civics." Alderman Burman, former Lord Mayor of the City, has consented to come in July and give a talk to us.

To wind up the year we are arranging one of the most ambitious visits attempted by a Society, which will take place in the last week of the term.

J. M. S. ARNOTT  
(Hon. Secretary).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE meetings of the past two terms have all dealt with local archaeology, partly because the Committee has been unable to find proficient speakers on foreign archaeology. On January 25th, a discussion on policy was followed by an account from the secretary of the previous term's visit to Maxstoke.

For the next two meetings the Society was honoured by the visits of two distinguished archaeologists, each of whom spoke on excavations which he had personally conducted in the Midlands. On February 29th, Philip B. Chatwin, Esq., F.S.A., O.E., President of the Birmingham Archaeological Society, gave a copiously illustrated lecture on "Weoley Castle." This was a most fitting subject for the Society as it approaches its year of majority, for it was chiefly for the purpose of assisting in the Castle excavations that the present Society was formed in 1932; moreover it is interesting to note that Mr. Chatwin was first secretary of the original school Archaeological Society in the 1890's.

The other meeting was on March 24th, when A. H. Oswald, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., Keeper of the Department of Archaeology at the City Museum gave an account of his recent excavations on the site of the Bishop's Palace at Alvechurch, and showed some examples of "finds." His invitation for assistance was warmly received, with the

result that between the 21st and 30th of April, seven members dug or "scratched" in the moat and the foundations of an unknown building, nails in profusion, "teg" and—*mirabile dictu*—some good specimens of glazed tile were found.

On Whit Tuesday, June 3rd, the Terminal outing was held when five members went to Wall, near Lichfield, and inspected the museum and Baths of Letocetum, which is a most interesting Roman site, and in reasonably good order. Afterwards, Lichfield Cathedral was visited, and thus a fine archaeological day was completed.

Thus, the Society may claim to have made the Quatercentenary year a memorable one, and the climax is to be a talk by a well-known Birmingham historian on "The Guild of the Holy Cross," which, as the youngest member of the School knows, was the institution from which the School evolved. So shall the Society have played its humble part in the celebrations.

W. G. F. HETHERINGTON  
*(Hon. Secretary).*

### MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

ALTHOUGH we began the year in a most encouraging manner the enthusiasm of some members of the club seems to have waned during the last two terms and the attendances at afternoon meetings has gradually decreased.

Outside school however, the older members of the club have carried out a full programme during the year.

Several members of the club visited the Isle of Arran with the Senior Scout Troop, whilst some of the younger members were initiated to the hills by Messrs. Benett and Whalley at Langdale during the Easter holidays.

It was hoped that a small party led by our president would again be able to visit North Wales during the half-term break but, owing to difficulty in obtaining accommodation, this had to be cancelled. Three members of the club enjoyed a week's stay at "Glan Dena" in the Ogwen Valley, during which time they carried out a very full programme of rock climbing and hill walking and enjoyed glorious weather.

Since Christmas there have been three indoor meetings. At the first of these Mr. C. Machin, who is hut warden of the M.A.M. and an instructor at the Derbyshire Climbing School, gave a very interesting talk on climbing in the Dolomites, illustrating his talk with some excellent coloured slides.

Later, in the Easter term, Mr. G. T. Warwick, a lecturer in Geography at Birmingham University, gave an illustrated talk on Caving.

At our first meeting this term the club received a very good talk from Mr. N. Willson on the Summer Meet of the Midland Association of Mountaineers, which was held in Norway. As some members of the club are intending to visit Norway this Summer the talk was especially welcome.

As yet the club is still not affiliated to the School club, although this was proposed at the last meeting. Due to lack of time the application was deferred to the next meeting.

At the end of this term our president will be leaving us and we should like to thank him for his help and guidance during the last two years.

The club also wishes to thank Mr. Benett for allowing us to use his room for the indoor meetings.

A. R. SNEAD  
*(Hon. Secretary).*

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY

THE Society has acquired a group of keen philatelists from the Lower School, who promise well for the future. There is, however, a sad lack of seniors regularly attending meetings.

L. B. C. Lewis gave us a lecture entitled "An Introduction to Stamp Collecting," during the Winter term. In the course of the Spring term, Mr. R. A. V. Tayar exhibited some of his stamps and we held a quiz, won jointly by Sibley, Willcocks and Ogborn, none of whom are in "A" Block. Various "swap" meetings were held, mostly well attended.

Mere words cannot express our gratitude for the constant and enthusiastic support of our chairman, Mr. Hurn, and for the use of his Art room. We would also like to thank J. W. McCracken and others for their fine posters.

C. G. TAYAR  
*(Hon. Secretary).*

### RAILWAY AND MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY

THE Society has now emerged from the state of suspended animation in which it lay for nearly two years. This term, at the only meeting so far held, Mr. W. A. Camwell presented three interesting films showing scenes on branch lines in the British Isles.

In the Spring term two visits were made, one to the Motive Power Depot and Repair Shops at Crewe, the other to four Motive Power Depots in Manchester. Formerly such visits were well supported by the Middle and Junior School, and it is hoped that this will again be the case in the future.

It has not yet been possible for work on the model railway, which was suspended together

with the Society's other activities, to be recommenced. Some members may find time to undertake this important work again, once they have transferred all their facts, figures and formulae from heads to examination papers.

We are very pleased to welcome as our chairman (in succession to Mr. Gess), Mr. Freeman, whom we thank for his interest in the Society. Thanks are also due to M. E. Jacks for his magnificent and highly successful poster.

D. J. YOUNG  
(Hon. Secretary).

### SCHOOL WEATHER STATION

SINCE our last report in these pages the weather station has continued to expand its activities. We have now seven regular observers and hope to repeat last year's record of uninterrupted observations for the whole year.

Thunderstorm reports are now sent regularly to the Thunderstorm Census Organisation, our observers having reported storms as far apart as Devon and the Isle of Arran.

Early in the term we were visited by Mr. Toms, of the Meteorological Office, who suggested several slight improvements; we are grateful for his help and hope to put his recommendations into practice. We hope for more instruments, including a glass minimum thermometer and a wind vane. We look forward to the day when the anemometer is fixed above the new Cartland room.

P. K. HODGKISS.

### COMBINED CADET FORCE

THE Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, O.E., inspected the C.C.F. and took the Salute at the March Past on Wednesday, May 28th. Thus is recorded perhaps the greatest event in the history of the C.C.F. Indeed it is believed that never before has any C.I.G.S. inspected a Cadet Force during his term of office.

Owing to wet weather, rehearsals for this event were fewer than might have been considered necessary, but when, on a fine but cool morning, the Field Marshal arrived (not by helicopter as rumour expected), the whole C.C.F. acquitted itself excellently. We are, as ever, largely indebted to R.S.M. Moore for a fine display, which impressed not only the C.I.G.S. but also the numerous other Old Edwardians and spectators who were present on this great Quatercentenary occasion. The well-informed amongst them reported that the C.C.F. had never looked more worthy of King Edward's.

Speaking to the whole School, but to the C.C.F. in particular, after the Inspection,

Field Marshal Slim emphasized the importance in life of two things—Service, and Adventure. He deplored modern self-interest and assured us that the only true satisfaction was to be found in overcoming difficulties and successfully serving others. He asked all Cadets to consider seriously entering the Services, for, he said, it is supremely important to have first rate regular Technical Officers from such a School as this, in Britain's Forces. We, at King Edward's have, he said, three great advantages, because we are young, we are English, and we are Edwardians; thus we are well-fitted for a life of leadership and service.

On leaving the School, Field Marshal Slim asked that the C.C.F. be congratulated on its fine display, and that it be made widely known that he believed every Cadet to be a more valuable member of the community than a non-combatant. All Englishmen should be prepared to defend their homes, their country, and their Queen.

That the Force is achieving valuable and worthwhile results, apart from Inspection brilliance, is amply verified by our representation in all three Service Schools. D. A. Percy, J. A. T. Morant, and M. D. Cooper are at Dartmouth; C. F. Waring and D. B. H. Colley are at Sandhurst; C. J. Phillips and L. G. Hall are at Cranwell. Let us hope that they are the first of the many.

Our numbers are well up to establishment strength, and each cadet, all unawares, is receiving a course of character training as well as a useful knowledge of military, naval, and aeronautical fundamentals; moreover, the acquisition of much new equipment has enabled us to develop many interesting advanced branches which entail a high degree of technical skill.

It is not necessary to point out that the officers bear a great responsibility for the success of the Force, nor that during his all too short stay with us, Lieutenant Rees has done much; for these things are obvious. The loss of the latter is a blow to the Army Section, but we thank him sincerely, and wish him good fortune.

We welcome Lieutenant Vaughan, who has joined us this term, and Pilot Officer Freeman. May their service be long and happy.

G. R. GREEN  
(Under-Officer).

### ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

EVERYTHING remains ship-shape in the Senior Section. Three years have now passed since the first Edwardians were seen in naval blue and we note that since that date the Section has increased almost fourfold. The whole credit for this must inevitably lie with Lieutenant Bennett, whose patience and enthusiasm have been rewarded with well-

deserved success. We are very pleased that the more onerous duties of supervising the Section's signalling have been undertaken with such willingness by Mr. McGawley, who has approached the task with characteristic vigour.

Training has continued during the year and the routine Proficiency Examinations were taken in February. Results were encouraging and as a consequence of this and of our increased numbers, several promotions have been made.

We congratulate L./Sea. M. D. Cooper on having gained an entrance to the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, but regret his departure and the wealth of valuable practical knowledge he takes away with him.

Field Day in the Spring term was held at the Naval Air Station, H.M.S. *Gamecock*, where the Section spent an interesting day looking over the hangars and control-rooms, and was fortunate enough to have some flying. This term's Field Day will take the form of a cruise from Portland and, for the junior members of the Section, sailing on Powell's Pool.

As usual on the Inspection, courage mounted with occasion and the Section may well be proud of its performance on that day.

During Easter a party from the Section spent an enjoyable and eventful week on the Broads; a full report of this appears elsewhere.

Owing to our present unwieldy size, the Summer camp is to be divided, one half of the Section going aboard *H.M.S. Implacable*, and the other aboard *H.M.S. Vanguard*, when training of an essentially practical nature will be carried out.

Finally, we are reminded that our cutter is still lying remote at Worcester by the ill news from British Waterways that her beam is too wide to be navigated home by canal. The long and intricate task of transporting it by land must therefore be undertaken.

P. H. R. MERCER  
(Petty Officer).

## ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS

WE have had a successful year. Training has been well up to our high standards as is proved by the seventy-five cadets who passed Certificate "A" Part I and the twenty-five who gained Part II. The demands of this examination has recently become more testing but these figures show that this development has been satisfactorily met. However, the quality of the Army and Basic Sections must not be measured only in terms of examination successes. We have continued to nourish the capacity for individual leadership which is one of the aims of the School itself, and it is this function which justifies our existence. In this way we serve not only the School, but

the City whose citizens we will become, and the nation, too.

Advanced and Technical training has also flourished. Many Cadets have devoted much spare time to signalling and engineering, which has resulted in a number of skilled and efficient signallers and engineers. The former have at last obtained much needed equipment bringing them nearly up to establishment. They are, we understand, at present engaged in a line laying scheme connecting several points in the School grounds by telephone, while there has been some operating on the Public Schools net. On Field Day last term efficient communication was provided for the Basic Section. In the examination at the beginning of the Spring term fourteen cadets classified and two passed as instructors.

The engineers last term were trained in the elementary principles of pioneering—knots and lashings, derrick construction and the use of pneumatic drills. They spent Field Day at Rowley Regis driving various vehicles including a Galleon, a steam roller, a Scammell truck and a Land Rover. This term they have passed on to watermanship, learning how to dress and cart an anchor, and have been introduced to folding craft.

The range has, of course, been in full and successful use, and the Band performs creditably in spite of little practice. Field Days have, as usual, been exhausting, profitable and enjoyable.

We are sorry to have to say good-bye to Lieutenant Rees at the end of this term but thank him for his devotion to duty, and wish him well in his new post. We welcome Lieutenant Vaughan who has already proved himself a valuable asset, and we are confident that he and the Army Section will get on well together. We congratulate Sergeant D. B. H. Colley on his entry into Sandhurst.

Camp this year will be at Castlemartin in Pembrokeshire, where we hope that a large number of cadets will take full advantage of the many opportunities of a period of intensive training. We are sure that they will have fun!

Overshadowing all regular training this term, of course, was the Inspection of the C.C.F. by the C.I.G.S. The undoubted excellence of our performance was largely due to a whole-hearted effort by one and all. Sergeant-Major Moore, and who better to judge, asserts that this was the best show he has ever seen in the School. We are confident that Field Marshal Slim was impressed, too!

G. R. GREEN  
(Under-Officer).

## ROYAL AIR FORCE SECTION

WHATEVER may have been the recreations of the members of the School four hundred years ago, we can be reasonably sure that

flying was not one of them. Their more fortunate successors, however, are now making use of their aeronautic opportunities to an extent unequalled by any other school which is known to us. The nation's first line of defence, which has moved in that time from the Naval Section's small fast manoeuvrable galleon to our small fast manoeuvrable fighter, is being well equipped with the Drakes and Raleigh's of to-morrow. Our good wishes go out to our two former cadets, C. J. Phillips and L. G. Hall, who have just gone up to the R.A.F. College at Cranwell, and we hope that many others will follow in their slipstream.

Statistics show that we maintain our strength at ninety-three cadets, that we have a record seventeen Advanced Certificates, and that we secured a further twenty-three Proficiency certificates in the recent examinations, in which Leading Cadet Manders obtained the highest mark in the whole country.

But this record, impressive as it is, does not convey our best news. You may remember that in our last report a suggestion was made that our time was too much pre-occupied in study of the theoretical aspects of flying, and that we had little opportunity for the practical application of our theory. During this term, however, the situation has been radically altered by the delivery of two items of equipment.

The arrival of the Link Trainer left its mark on the South Terrace for several weeks, and is still a source of speculation amongst the laity. No doubt, prompted by the Trainer's tiny wings and tail-plane, added by some humorous designer, they frequently ask "But does it fly?" The other innovation is the long awaited glider which will be flown on the South Field. The fact that it has not yet been authorised for flying does not deter us from furiously assembling it and taking it to pieces again every Thursday morning. Most people refuse to believe that it will be flown by an elastic band.

This equipment adds immeasurably to the interest and knowledge which the Section offers, and provides a considerable filip and valuable addition to the theoretical instruction. Once the elementary instruction has been mastered there is now increasing opportunity of approaching even nearer to the real thing. Besides gliding courses, which have provided us with nine "B" Certificates, we have been able to nominate a further five cadets for Flying Scholarships. We already have two pilots in the Section, and a third has almost finished his course. Added to this, four cadets are being given ten hours dual flying with the University Air Squadron and three with the Reserve Flying School at Castle Bromwich, which should take them up to solo flying standard.

An enjoyable week was spent by two officers

and twenty-three cadets at Cranwell at Easter, and this summer the camp will be at Group H.Q., R.A.F. Hawarden, which a record number of two officers and forty-five cadets is attending.

The Section was commended for its turnout and drill at the inspection by Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, in May. After the march-past the Field-Marshal and Air-Vice-Marshal Guest, A.O.C. Transport Command, also an Old Edwardian, watched some instruction in progress including training on the newly installed Link.

A record such as this obviously reflects on the officers who produce it, and we are fortunate in having as our officers, Flt. Lieut. Traynor and Flying Officer Whalley, with Pilot Officer Freeman, who has just joined us, to look after the exacting instruction and the mountain of administrative work which the Section requires. But they have the satisfaction of knowing that their work has not been unfruitful. Through their toil we have achieved great things. *Per ardua ad astra.*

J. M. S. ARNOTT,  
*Under Officer.*

### SCOUT REPORT 70th Birmingham (K.E.S.) Scout Group

"In the Spring a young man's fancy . . ."  
What precisely Boy Scouts do in the Spring time we don't really know. Nothing extraordinary has taken place this year, and your scribe is rather wondering what to write next.

But life is not all notable events, and if our activities have been unexceptional they are by no means indicative of dormancy. Thursday morning programmes have proceeded along the normal lines, with little to disturb us, and steady training mixed up with a little fun and games has been the rule. True, the C.C.F. inspection did disturb our tranquility a little, but even the stretcher party provided by the Group was rewarded by only one body and had little work to do.

Outside school, however, activities have been growing in number and variety, despite the vagaries of the English weather; a very successful P.L.'s training camp was held during the Easter holidays at Woodcote, and another of a similar nature at Whitsuntide, at which latter time also, one troop took a small party over the Clee Hills and another went camping by the Severn. The inter-troop camping competition, held soon after half-term was won by Vikings with Park Vale a very close second. Troop camps have also taken place at regular intervals, for the training of recruits for summer camps.

The West Division sports were held on June 7th, and we sent in a large entry, but gained little success.

These were normal events, which aroused little comment; nevertheless they are a sign

of the industry and enthusiasm which permeates the group, and there is certainly no absence of the true Scouting spirit.

Here we may perhaps take an opportunity to record our appreciation at the Head Master's interest in us and to welcome him as a Scout himself to K.E.S. Here, too, may we express our thanks, late though it may be, for all that Mr. Cook did for us during his stay as Scoutmaster of "New" troop, and welcome in his stead Mr. Whinnerah, who we hope will be happy with us.

Finally, as a sort of personal honours list, may we thank Mr. Davies for the use of his lorry, all those who have bravely sold Handsworth Rally tickets, the G.Q.M. for looking after us so efficiently, and the little boy who remembered to put plenty of salt in my porridge. Well played everybody!

J. L. EATON, A.S.M.

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### ROVER CREW

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It must be admitted, by even its staunchest members, that the K.E.S. Rover Crew leads, at best, a hand to mouth existence. Again, it must be admitted, by even its severest critics, that it thrives upon it. For a certain lack of cohesion in our endeavours we can offer two excuses; firstly, that our members are considerably dispersed, residing at points as far apart as Southern Spain and the Firth of Forth; and secondly that many of us are acting as Scouters to Troops both in and out of School, and we feel, rightly or wrongly, that our commitments to these should come before our commitments to the Crew.

However, despite these shortcomings, we have since our last report engaged in a variety of activities. We have been hiking in Shropshire and caving in Staffordshire, several of us have been climbing in North Wales by courtesy of the Snowden Group, and some assisted the Birmingham University Crew in organising the De Renzy Shield Competition for Senior Scouts. In addition we have held our regular monthly meetings, during which Ian Sandilands, John Edwards and Ken Dore have discoursed on subjects ranging from Hindu mystics via Darkest Africa to cock-fighting in Deritend. Thus we can look back on six months, in which, if we have not done a great deal, what we have done has been worth while.

We had known for some time that our Rover Scout Leader, Mr. Hurn, would be leaving us as soon as a successor could be found for him. He has had a great deal of work to contend with of late, and felt that he was unable to do the Crew justice. We are very sorry indeed to lose him, for he was a tower of strength in the Crew's formative stages, and indeed after it had become established;

we are very grateful for his efforts on our behalf. In saying good-bye to Mr. Hurn, we should like to extend a very warm welcome to Mr. Ian Buse, O.E., his successor; may his association with us be a long and happy one.

In conclusion we must thank the G.S.M., Mr. Hurrell, for his help and interest, at all times so generously displayed; to the Senior Troop for allowing us to use their headquarters for our meetings; and to Kay Lester, our Mate, who has done more than anyone to hold the Crew together.

A. J. K. DORE,

Secretary, 70th B'ham (K.E.S.) Rover Crew.

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### SENIOR SCOUTS

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As is usual in the Spring term, our main activities were indoors, in the form of talks, discussions and theatre visits. At the beginning of the term we paid a visit to the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre to see "Trial by Jury" and the "Pirates of Penzance," to which one or two old Scouts of the School were invited. Later the troop visited the Town Hall to hear the C.B.S.O.

Mr. Cyril Nield, Assistant County Commissioner for Senior Scouts, gave an inspiring talk at our "Scout's Own" and this was followed by an animated discussion. Other outside speakers included Chief Inspector Love of the Criminal Investigation Department who spoke on the City Police Force, and Mr. Hurn who talked to us on mosaics. The former talk was followed up later in the term by a visit to the Birmingham Assizes.

Over half-term, a hike and two nights' camp was held in the country west of Bridgnorth by a dozen members of the troop. The only disadvantage of this enjoyable camp was seven degrees of frost on the first night.

Field day was spent surveying a small area of the Clent Hills. Although our first maps were not very successful, it has been decided to try some more map-making this term.

In preparation for the camp at Arran, senior members gave talks on the principles and elementary rules of mountain craft. These were, for the most part, adapted from the "yarns" of the Rector of Llanberis, Scoutmaster of the Snowden group, to whom the climbers owe all their basic training.

This term our programmes have naturally been of an outdoor nature, and have included a week-end with tents, and a pioneer camp without them. The latter was held in the Severn Valley on the night before Field day, while at the former the troop was very pleased to welcome the Head Master, who gave the "Scout's Own" on the Sunday.

The Oratory Fathers have very kindly given us permission to use part of their grounds, at Rednal, for such activities as tree felling and shelter making, and we have spent two evenings there this term.

The success of the year is due to the never-failing keenness of Mr. Hurrell, ably backed up by the Senior P.L., A. J. Welbank, and we look forward to the Summer vacation, when many of the Troop will be camping and hiking in all parts of the British Isles and France, while others will be assisting in the running of junior camps.

D. F. LOMAX, P.L. (S.)

### SENIOR SCOUT TROOP ANNUAL CAMP

THE Senior Troop held their annual camp in Glen Rosa on the Isle of Arran during the Easter holidays. A few Scouts arrived on the Island the morning after the School broke up and the remainder of the camp had joined them within three days. Good work was done by the early arrivals, who, helped by an obliging farmer and his horse, enabled the camp to make a good start on the first whole day.

Many days were devoted to the fulfilment of mountaineering aspirations, and nail-marks were left on all the major peaks in the northern half of the Island, many of which provided very fine climbs. It was largely for the hills that Arran was chosen for the camp and on those hills the Troop got wet and got dry, froze and sweltered, struggled for progress and rested in peace and contentment as mountaineers of all ages have done. In these days of climbing probably lies the chief reason why the camp was so much enjoyed by all.

Of other activities: certain enterprising individuals spent two or three days exploring the more distant parts of the Island with tent and rucksack and Nature blessed them with their due reward. Swimming, surprisingly enough, was a popular pastime, especially after a hard day's climbing, for the camp was sited just above a pool in Glen Rosa which was particularly attractive in sunshine. Some excellent (though microscopic) photographs of red deer were taken by those who tried their hand at stalking these majestic creatures; two bridges were built across Rosa Burn (a would-be suicide made one and a half crossings of the first to be erected). Finally, lucrative custom was provided for a bicycle-hiring establishment in Brodick—while motor coach trips round the Island received little support from the camp.

A majority of the Troop attended the local Church of Scotland (or should I say Kirk?) on both Sundays during the camp, and greatly appreciated the Easter-tide services.

The thanks of the campers are due to all who helped make the camp a success and especially to a certain motor-bicycle which did valiant work in maintaining communications between the camp and Brodick.

A. J. WELBANK, P.L. (S.)

### SCOUT CAMP, WOODCOTE, EASTER, 1952

THE camp was held from April 22nd to 29th at Woodcote, about four miles from Bromsgrove. Although primarily intended as a training camp for patrol leaders it included many seconds and thirds.

All scouts went for a two-day hike in parties of two or three, the distance covered ranging from twenty to thirty miles. The camp sports were a great success as everyone had a chance to compete. The treasure hunt which was organised was so keenly contested that it developed into a cross-country run.

During the camp we received visits from the Head Master, our own D.C. and the local D.C., as well as from many parents and friends. On Sunday we were invited to a Divisional church parade at Bromsgrove Parish Church.

Camp fires were held on Sunday and Monday at which a good time was enjoyed by all, and a high standard was reached in all activities.

The Patrol competition, after being keenly contested, was deservedly won by Drake Patrol under P.L. M. G. Varley.

Many thanks are due to our officers W. G. G. Lindley and J. L. Eaton for their enthusiastic and efficient organisation.

Camp was struck without incident and everyone was sorry to leave after a most successful and enjoyable week's holiday.

D. G. S. DAVIES, P.L.

### FRANCE, 1952

THIS year's visit to France was considerably more ambitious in its scope than any other previously undertaken. Not only were we to reside in a sumptuous hotel midst snow-capped Massif mountains, but we were also to be boarded out on individual hosts in the verdant fertile plains of Gascony. This extravagant scheme was eminently successful in all its aspects.

Forty-three boys set out from their homes on the night of the 16th April to meet, *media nocte*, behind the Hall of Memory. Thence we travelled on an overcrowded coach to Newhaven, and embarked for the distant coast of France, arriving at Dieppe by mid-afternoon. Pressing south via Paris, Montauban, Agen, and an informal reception at Nerac, we reached Condom in the morning of the 18th April. Here we were received with great joy by the populace and having been divided into small groups, were dispatched with our respective hosts to all corners of the region. Officially received on the Saturday afternoon we practised in the evening for our forthcoming game of Rugby Football. Regarding this event, the less said the better, though certain members of the XV were afforded the consolation of being billed throughout the town as English Internationals. A dance was

held that night (Sunday) in the cloisters of the Cathedral which was attended by a select few, the remainder of the party enjoying itself in various ways in other parts of the town.

The following morning saw a somewhat subdued group leave Condom by coach for the mountain region of Le Mont-Dore.

Our hotel, though obviously constructed to house twenty-five guests, managed to accommodate us in reasonable comfort. During the next few days everyone entertained himself in his peculiar way, some frequenting casinos, and some scaling dangerous heights, others merely practising their French on the waitresses. With great regret we departed on the 25th April, arriving by a devious route in Birmingham *à minute*, behind the Hall of Memory, on the 27th.

The party's sincere thanks are extended to Mr. Biggs for his brilliant organisation of the trip, and to Mrs. Biggs and Mr. Leeds for their enthusiastic co-operation.

D.A.

### SWITZERLAND, 1952

DURING the Easter vacation, Mr. Barlow led a party, which was unhappily marred by a fatal accident to one of its members, on a visit to the Bernese Oberland. We left for Basle by air on Easter Monday and completed the journey to Aeschi, a small village in the mountains above the Thunersee, by rail.

After spending the first day in exploring the surrounding countryside, we went on the next day by steamer to Thun, a sizeable town at the head of the lake. This was the first of several highly enjoyable steamer excursions on which we were able to admire fully the magnificent scenery, such as the splendour of the Giessbach falls on the nearby Brienersee.

The days which were not occupied with excursions were spent walking with our ever-helpful guide, Mr. Stettler, who also gave interesting lantern lectures on Swiss life and culture.

After six nights at Aeschi, the party moved to Wilderswil which adjoins Interlaken, the chief tourist centre of the Oberland. On the way, we ascended the snow-capped Niederhorn by funicular railway and chair-lift. Wilderswil proved an ideal centre for visiting Lauterbrunnen and the ski-centre of Mürren from where we obtained a fine view of the Jungfrau, one of the highest mountains in Europe.

On the return journey to England, nine hours were spent in Bern, the Swiss capital. After visiting the famous bear-pit and being conducted around the Swiss Parliament buildings, the party split up to explore the city further. After an evening meal, we left for Basle from where we had a long overnight journey to Calais, which was so very

different from the speed and comfort of air-travel, and it was a travel-weary party that arrived back at Snow Hill Station on the evening of April 23rd.

The thanks of all must go to Mr. Barlow for his painstaking planning and organisation and for his fervent desire to make our holiday enjoyable and to Messrs. Drew and Roberts for their unflinching helpfulness. We would also like to extend our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. C. Thompson in their tragic loss.

J.K.H. and J.C.

### LAKE DISTRICT, 1952

On Saturday, April 19th, a party of twenty-one boys, mainly from the Divisions, left New Street station for a week's mountaineering in the Lake District. As previously, Messrs. Benett and Mathews led the party together with Mr. and Mrs. Rees, whom we were pleased to welcome in place of Mr. Whalley, who was unfortunately prevented from coming.

The object of the expedition was primarily to train boys in the fundamentals of mountaineering, but those interested in sketching, photography and geology found plenty of scope for their activities.

On the first evening we all went for a short climb to Kettle Crag, about a thousand feet above the centre. For the rest of the week the party was divided into three sections, the "A", "B", and "C" parties led by Mr. Benett, Mr. Mathews and Mr. and Mrs. Rees, respectively, so that each boy should be able to go on an expedition suited to his strength.

On Sunday, which duly turned out to be a fine day, all parties climbed the Langdale Pikes and various other surrounding peaks. Mr. Benett was overjoyed to find a dead sheep in Dungeon Ghyll, to re-inforce his warnings about drinking from mountain streams.

A start was made for Scafell the next day, and lunch was taken at Esk Hause, but low cloud forced a change of plans. Mr. Mathews took the "B" party up Great Gable, while the rest set off for Bow Fell, where the clouds obligingly lifted for a few minutes to give a superb view. The "A" party then went on along Crinkle Crag.

Heavy rain fell during the night and continued during Tuesday morning, preventing a start till after lunch, but during the afternoon an ascent was made of the Pike of Blisco.

Wednesday, the "rest day" was spent in many diverse ways, ranging from painting to boating, while several boys travelled as far as Keswick.

Thus refreshed, everybody was ready for the climb to Scafell Pike (3,210 ft.), the highest point in England. The weather favoured us, and we were rewarded by a

magnificent panorama of the whole of the Lake District, and the coast from Barrow to the Solway, with the Isle of Man just visible in the hazy distance.

Coniston Old Man was optimistically declared as our last day's objective, but low cloud reduced us to a pleasant leisurely stroll round Tilberthwaite Fells leaving everyone comparatively fresh for the evening which was taken up by square dancing.

But there comes an end to every good thing, and so, on Saturday, we regretfully said good-bye to the staff of the centre and set off for the return to Birmingham.

A very enjoyable and successful week had been spent, for which many thanks are due to Mr. Benett in respect of his organisation, leadership, and humane treatment of blisters.

J.W.N., J.S.P.

### NORFOLK BROADS, 1952

FOR the third year in succession a party of ten members of the Royal Naval Section, under the experienced guidance of Mr. Benett and Mr. Skinner, thoroughly enjoyed a week's sailing on the Norfolk Broads.

We set sail on a fine evening in Zephyr I and II with high hopes for the future weather only to be greatly disappointed when a constant drizzle set in. At dusk both boats were far from Horning, their first "port of call." Zephyr II continued in the dark while Zephyr I decided to moor at the first suitable place, which turned out to be a rather unstable tree at the water's edge.

Next morning a high wind provided excellent sailing and Zephyr I arrived at Horning, forcing a passage through the conglomeration of yachts with extraordinary velocity and good fortune. The day ended at Thurne Dyke and the following morning a strong "soldier's wind" gave the inexperienced members of the crews a chance to learn the mysteries of sailing a dinghy.

The crews then met with their first test of seamanship, that of getting under way from a lee shore. After watering at Potter Heigham we quanted sedately through the two bridges and entered Horsey Mere in late afternoon. The rest of the evening was spent in exciting sailing on the broad, before mooring for the night at Horsey Staithe. Before leaving for Hickling next day, both crews walked to the sea through the salt-marshes and sand dunes, which prevent the sea from inundating the Broadlands. To the calls of invisible bitterns we returned through Meadow Dyke and slowly made our way to Hickling in cold and wet weather, counting eighty-seven swans at rest in a corner of the broad. Next morning, after our ornithologist had returned from his five-thirty observation of the local birds, a fair wind took us back to Potter Heigham where two-press-men awaited our arrival to

share the adventures and misfortunes of the next two days.

After a pleasant afternoon's sail, we tied up at Acle Bridge where it was discovered, almost disastrously, that a fifteen-foot quant pole cannot be used in twenty feet of water. Next morning the two boats were reefed before going up river to Ranworth where Zephyr I managed to gain entrance to the broad, while Zephyr II was chased up a tree, to the detriment of her mainsail, by a badly navigated boat.

As usual, Ranworth Church, the Cathedral of the Broads was visited while Zephyr II went to Ludham Bridge to repair her mainsail, the other boat following later. Before leaving, one dinghy lost its mast when encountering the superstructure of the bridge.

The final day provided us with glorious weather and equally glorious sailing on Wroxham Broad, before we returned to the boatyard where the boats were duly handed over to the owners.

We sincerely thank Mr. Benett and Mr. Skinner for the efficient organisation and extremely successful holiday, which terminated far too soon for everybody. We now look forward once again to our return to the Broads next year.

J.A.P.F., B.C.G.

### "TWELFTH NIGHT"

As its name implies, "Twelfth Night" is a comedy which exalts irresponsibility and if the play is to appear coherent some flavour of this should distil into production. It must be felt that Orsino, Olivia and Viola are essentially a part of the comic effect as Sir Andrew and Sir Toby. Their feelings are excessive and it is therefore natural that they should issue in an action which is, on the face of it, absurd. Excess of any sort—but particularly excessive solemnity—is abnormal and therefore a most fruitful source of comedy. Indeed, Olivia's determination to renounce the world for seven years is not such a very far cry from the explicitly ludicrous decision of the King of Navarre at the beginning of "Love's Labour's Lost" to avoid the company of the ladies for three years. The arrival of the Princess of France soon alters all that, and in "Twelfth Night" Viola, as Cesario, equally soon knocks the posturing saintliness out of Olivia and brings her back to normality. Like all good comedy, the play is based upon a point of view that is sane and sober, but if this point of view is to be adequately presented the gyrations of the characters, before the final stability is reached must be "full fantastical." And so in spite of the "sad cypress" and the "fair cruel maid" the atmosphere of the play is as frothy as whipped cream, and it is only when this

atmosphere is captured on the stage that the play appears for what it is—a masterpiece of romantic comedy. Even professional companies all too often give us suet pudding instead of soufflé.

The School production was a mixture of both. The scenes of broad comedy which centre on Sir Toby Belch, Sir Andrew Aguecheek and Feste were rapid and full of vitality; the knights were in admirable fooling and ginger was hot in the mouth. But the whirligig of time brought its revenges and the courtiers appeared to have eaten too many cakes without having drunk so much as a reckless lemon squash. The scenes of intrigue which revolved round Orsino, Viola and Olivia tended to be slow and static. They lacked variety of vocal colour and inflection; Viola, Sebastian and Olivia, all sounded too much alike. There was, moreover, little hint that Orsino is no less a target for Shakespeare's satire than Aguecheek, that he is as humorous a character as anyone in Ben Jonson, a fact which the carefully exaggerated quality of his language leaves in little doubt.

The best performance was that of Beverley Fryer as Aguecheek, and on reflection it seems that he was born to play this part. Voice, gesture and bearing, conspired to express vivacity, and his delicious squeal of "O, an I thought he were a Puritan" will live long in the memory. So, too, will his fear of duelling; he was religious in't and the shaking of his thighs bore witness to it. Probably the best moment in the production was when, anticipating Malvolio's glance, he froze into a grotesque mimicry of a nearby Cupid. The suddenness of this piece of business was brilliantly effective. Paul Bradley's Malvolio was very good in spite of occasional lapses into inaudibility, particularly in the scene with Sir Topas. He produced a vocal tone which suggested excellently the aggressive righteousness of the *parvenu* and he commanded a range of gesture which varied from the supercilious to the grotesquely amorous. Feste, played by Roger Wilkinson, moved with complete confidence and although his performance was not obtrusive he was quite obviously the most technically accomplished actor on the set. His part was a difficult one and one rarely sees an actor who succeeds in catching all its *nuances*. Wilkinson seemed to lack whimsy and lightness of touch, but he commanded a fine variety of tone and managed to convey the delight in verbal intricacies which was so essential to the professional jester's success. Peter Turner rumbled his way through Sir Toby with energy and enthusiasm. He looked the part and obviously enjoyed playing it; this he did with gusto and success. As Maria, Roger Whiteman acted with *elan* and could never be accused of lifelessness. Indeed, he erred in the opposite direction and often gestured and spoke with such extraordinary speed that

he resembled a marionette. But his performance had the vigour and more especially the fussy high spirits which the character demanded. The performance of Gordon Herringshaw as Orsino was good, indeed. The starry-eyed Ferdinand of last year has blossomed into the rather more preposterously love-sick Orsino with great success. He tackled a part, about which any actor must have misgivings, with rare determination, and, although one would have liked the absurdity of the character to be slightly more emphasised, he sighed out his soul in such melodious accents that the ear was ravished by the sound of it.

Scenes in Shakespearean comedy where girls dress up as men are always something of a problem and one feels that a school production, where the girl's parts are taken by boys, has the peculiar advantage of reproducing the same conditions as those for which Shakespeare wrote. But alas! we have been conditioned to a realistic drama, and far from experiencing the boisterous enjoyment which an Elizabethan audience got from seeing a boy playing a girl dressed up as a boy, we find it rather difficult to submit to the double illusion, the piquancy which Shakespeare never fails to exploit. The position was complicated by the fact that Viola's voice had broken and, in the case of Olivia, it was the gait rather than voice which made the illusion more difficult. But neither Christopher Homer nor Konrad Schiemann were completely responsible for these shortcomings. It was probably their inexperience which was to blame for a monotony of delivery and awkwardness of gesture. The result was that their lines were unpointed and their movements lacked decision and suitability. The same lack of colour applied to Julian Lever's Sebastian. The timbre of his voice (perhaps more suitable for a girl's part) made him a strange choice for the part of the impulsive and straightforward Sebastian. Indeed, one feels that casting difficulties were at the root of most of their troubles. What these characters lacked in vitality was partly compensated by the sterling energy of John Evans, who dealt very efficiently with the part of Antonio, and the rather too perpetual jollity of Roger Pickering as Fabian.

Mr. Hurn's sets were, as usual, efficient and not too obtrusive, but they were not always easy to see and here, one feels, is a partial explanation of why the production, as a whole, lacked gaiety and *joie de vivre*. A play as iridescent as "Twelfth Night" needs to be bathed in light and the attempt to achieve a drab realism destroys its very spirit. Brightness is an essential part of its impact on the audience; so too, is continuity, and it is a pity to break this, and hence slow down the action, by adhering to the bogus divisions into localised scenes which are the product of four centuries of editing.

Many people worked hard to give us this production and the invisible army of stagehands, electricians, set-builders and painters worked harder than most. The smoothness of the production bore witness to their manifold and great labours and it would be criminally unjust not to salute them, but in any production the main burden falls upon the producer; and Messrs. Babb and Vaughan tackled their big task, bedevilled by unpredictable complications, with thoroughness and resolution.

## THE JUNIOR PLAY :

### "The Miller and His Men"

THERE appeared early this term on one of the School notice-boards a Bill, inviting the Ladies and Gentlemen of Birmingham to a performance on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th days of May, of a Concert of Music, with, between the items, a Presentation (gratis) of Mr. Isaac Pocock's Grand Romantic Melo-Drame of the Miller and his Men, as first performed with unbounded applause in 1813 at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden. Among sundry carrots dangled by a calculating publicity agent before the nose of the public donkey there figured the promise of Magnificent Scenery arrang'd by Mr. Hurn and his aides, of Music put together and compos'd by Doctor Grant, of Machinery, Startling Mechanical effects and Grand Electrical Illuminations directed by Mr. Bolton and, for conclusion, "a Serious Moral EPILOGUE Spoken by A CHILD not above TWELVE Years of Age." The whole of which announcement was set out in such an engaging array of mixed type and eccentric spelling as to tempt the most philistine donkey that ever was.—Not that the name of Pocock was likely of itself to have drawn a single spectator. Unnoticed by Chambers, unknown to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, Pocock was nevertheless, one gathers, a popular man in his day—and no wonder, with titles like: "Zembuca; or, The Net-maker and his Wife"; "Tuckitomba; or, The Obi Sorceress," and "The Doom Kiss."

Be that as it may, the Ladies and Gentlemen of Birmingham came, as did, after some initial reluctance, large numbers of the School, and, if their noisy enthusiasm was any guide, found the entertainment much to their liking.

Now as to the Concert, Doctor Grant's music, original and other, was excellently chosen. Very senior members of the audience were commonly heard to remark that it all took them back beyond the turn of the century, while the less senior recognised in the gentility of the drawing-room pieces played on the Forte Piano by Master Bent and Master Spencer and in the saccharine sentimentality of "The Hazel Dell" and

"Are the little ones praying for me?" the idiom of a vanished society. Yet it must be said that, for whatever reason, the performance of the vocal items fell unwarrantably short of their possibilities.

The play itself was of the traditional melodramatic sort. That is to say that the plot assumed a splendidly naïve division of its characters into good and bad, with a corresponding certainty of present triumph for the former and present destruction for the latter. No Aristotelian nonsense here about good-bad or bad-good heroes. And it was, in fact precisely the assumption of this conventional moral framework with its stage counterpart of conventional characters and situations and its whole-hearted acceptance by the producers, Mr. Crow and Mr. Trott, that made this play a good choice for a cast of Juniors—it did not demand a subtlety beyond their years—and gave the performance a unity that had a good deal to do with its success. For a rollicking success the performance as a whole certainly was. And if the audience sometimes booed its hatred of the villain and cheered its approval of the hero with more gusto than discrimination, it was better so and entirely in keeping with the spirit of the production.

Such a situation demanded vigorous, full-blooded acting, which it did not always get. There were those who acted and those who walked on. Master Vaugon played the dastardly Miller with a proper degree of villainy, his threatenings and his cooings carrying equal conviction. Master Unitt as the hero looked dashing enough, but was not always successful in eliminating self and was in consequence sometimes dull. Master Sweeney as the Count had a fine presence, which was marred only by the monotony of his diction. So, too, Master Chinery's Kelmar, the heroine's father. A martyr to lumbago and old age, he was made to seem too much a puppet. Master Honeybone, on the other hand, as the Count's servant, suffered from no such inhibitions. His self-possession and timing were alike remarkable. His opposite numbers, Master Morley and Master Davis, succeeded admirably in portraying as nasty a pair of robbers as ever disgraced the inside of a cavern. Their leering faces never failed to stir the audience to a paroxysm of hissed protest. Of the ladies, Master Stubbs, as the heroine, was not altogether happily cast, though he succeeded in looking quite charming. Ravina, on the other hand, a beauty of the darker sort, acted with spirit and when the occasion arose, showed a remarkably quick appreciation of the elementary principles of bomb detonation. The Moral Epilogue was spoken by Master Locker with an unsullied simplicity that refused to be upset by the close proximity of a most noisome smoke cannister.

The magnificent scenery of Mr. Hurn was well designed to speed the plot. Particularly

effective were the opening scene and the beginning of the Finale, though the draw-bridge later seemed too puny a thing. Not completely successful was the gauze curtain, on which was portrayed the Forest and behind which one saw—and heard—shadowy figures trundling houses and furniture into place ready for ensuing scenes.

As to the Mechanical effects and Grand Electrical Illuminations—this was a heaven-sent opportunity, which Mr. Bolton, his stage-gang and masters Phillips and Fuery seized greedily, to the extent of providing thunder, gun-shots, fuses, bombs and the glorious final EXPLOSION calculated to exterminate all the evil in this melodramatic world, that out of the smoke of the ruin there might appear that righteous little Lord Fauntleroy, to point the moral, which the whole of the surviving "good" characters would then proceed to endorse to the strains of "Rule Britannia." These noises-off, as also the scene-shifting in general, were in the main excellently organised. The electrician's gallery, efficient in its own time, was apt to be not quiet in touch at some beginnings of scenes. Sometimes, too, the electricians' best efforts were not taken advantage of by the actors. In spite of this, the lighting, not forgetting the two effective spotlights suspended immediately in front of the stage, was well managed to interpret the producers' intentions.

And so, all being over, there seemed ample reason for offering congratulations to the producers and the rest who, without a great deal of outstanding histrionic talent, had fully justified their modest hope, so far to have succeeded in their endeavours "as to have every reason to expect that the whole will prove an Agreeable and Rational Evening's ENTERTAINMENT."—An entertainment, moreover, which one hopes that Mr. Crow, whose last production at the School this was, will like to look back upon with pleasure.

### "JUDAS MACCABAEUS"

In July last year, the Musical Society showed us the measure of its stature by giving a notably successful performance of Haydn's "The Creation." This term on May 29th it delighted a large audience with Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus," a more exacting, if not a more satisfying work. "Judas," as the programme note informed us, was composed in compliment to William, Duke of Cumberland, after Culloden, in 1746. It was a curious historical sense which drew a parallel between William the Butcher, and Judas the Hammer, or which saw Charles Edward Stuart as another Antiochus Epiphanes. But why quarrel with a patriotism which, however shallow, gave us "Arm, arm, ye brave," "Fall'n is the foe," and "O lovely peace?"

The most memorable performance of the evening came from the School chorus, over eighty strong, who sang throughout with astonishing verve and precision. Its finest achievement was perhaps "Fall'n is the foe," but even the four-square blatancy of the final "Hallelujah, amen, amen" was stirring.

Naturally the orchestra, heavily reinforced but without the chorus's long series of rehearsals together, was sometimes more elastic than precise. But in general it gave good and never too obtrusive support to both chorus and soloists, except when the trumpets sounded an alarm which set the teeth on edge—a call dreadful but not pleasing.

Mr. Sidney Smith (bass) sang Simon with complete mastery of the Handelian style. His diction and resonance were alike impressive. Miss Marjorie Kerr (soprano) and Miss Anne Williams (contralto) combined in duet with great expressiveness and mutual understanding, though greater rhythmic vigour and breadth of style would have been welcome from Miss Kerr and from Mr. Andrew Purcell (tenor) who sang Judas.

The conductor (and only begetter of the whole enterprise), as the programme did not inform us, was Dr. Willis Grant, whose energy and mesmeric power were responsible both for the vitality of the final performance, and for the innumerable short rehearsals that went on during the early part of the term, not only after School but before School and during the lunch-hour—and no doubt in the corridors between periods. The time and enthusiasm he spent were rewarded by a splendid achievement.

F. J. W.

### THE FOUNDING OF THE SCHOOL

The endowment of King Edward's School, Birmingham, was a restoration of a portion of the confiscated property of a guild which had been founded by Birmingham people some one hundred and fifty years before. The Guild of the Holy Cross at Birmingham was perhaps an outcome of the same movement as the Guild of the Holy Cross at Stratford-upon-Avon, though it seems that the Birmingham Guild never attained the dimensions of the Trinity Guild of Coventry, with one hundred pounds a year or of the Guild of the Holy Cross at Stratford with over fifty pounds a year. The Chantry Certificate of Henry VIII gave its total revenue as thirty-two pounds, two shillings and ten pence gross, and twenty-seven pounds, five shillings and five pence halfpenny, net. The Chantry Certificate of Edward VI gave the income of thirty-two pounds, twelve shillings and five pence gross and adds "Yt is verey mete and necessarye that there be a Free Schoole erectt theare to bring uppe the youthe, being boathe in the same town and nigh thereaboutes."

As Lord Lisle and Dudley, John Dudley,

Earl of Warwick, was Lord of the Manor of Birmingham and interested in various rents of the Guild property. He busied himself to obtain some of the lost privileges of the Guild and on 1st April, 1551, Rychard Saseugle Chancellor of the Court of Augmentations issued a warrant, similar to that granted for Sherborne, to Birmingham.

The Kinges maiesties pleasure is that a Free Scol [e be erected in] Brymyncham, in the Countie of Warrwyck, with landes to the y [erely valewe] of . . . by his Highnes to the mayntenance thereof. And that the . . . Inhabytauntes of the Towne, Parishe and Lordship of Brymyncham . . . perpetuall succession as Gouvernors . . . wherfore there must be a bill thereof devised according [to a particular] made of the landes above rehersed . . . with such other necessary and reasonable [articles as in] the late boke made for Errection of the Scole of Shirborne.

The warrant was enforced by a minute: "Mr. Duke, I pray you drawe a boke into certen persons to be [namyd] to you" and then the record becomes illegible. The rent to the lord king was twenty shillings.

A schedule of the land to be granted was drawn up, which comprised only two thirds of the lands of the Guild—twenty-three pounds, one shilling out of a total value of thirty-one pounds. The net income was twenty pounds and the holdings granted were "in Dalende, Chapell Strete, Englishe Markett, Newe Strete, Highe Strete, Molle Strete, Egelaston Strete, Mercers Strete, Bulringe, Well Strete, Parke Strete and Forennseca." One of the properties in New Street was "a house or hall called the Towne Halle, alias the Guilde Halle, with a garden there worth five shillings a year." This was, after the charter, converted into the School.

The Charter was sealed on 2nd January, 1552 and was made:

"At the humble petition, as well of the inhabitant of the town, parish and manor of Brymyncham . . . as of very many other our subjects of the whole country neighbouring thereunto, for a grammar school in Brymyncham . . . for the institution and instruction of boys and youths." The King therefore granted that "for the future there be and shall be a Grammar School in Brymyncham, which shall be called "the free Grammar School of King Edward the Sixth" for the education, institution and instruction of boys and youths in grammar, for ever to continue . . . and the said school of one master or pedagogue and one sub-pedagogue or usher we erect, create, ordain and found by these patents."

Twenty of "the more discreet and more trusty of the inhabitants of the town and parish of Brymyncham or the manor of Brymyncham to the same town adjoining" were appointed Governors of the School, the "first and present" governors being headed

by William Symons, gentleman, Richard Smallbroke, the bailiff, and John Shylton. They took the property over from the Crown as from Michaelmas, 1551.

There was no explanation in the Charter, as for instance at Eton in 1440, of the term "free grammar school," but the significance of the term was well known. The masters looked to the endowment alone for their pay. The division of income was to be settled by the governors, who received power to appoint master and usher with the "advice of the bishop of the diocese there for the time being" and to make fit and wholesome statutes and ordinances concerning and touching the order, government and direction of the pedagogue and sub-pedagogue, and scholars of the aforesaid school, and of the stipend and salary of the said pedagogue and sub-pedagogue, and otherwise touching and concerning the said school, and the order, government, preservation and dispositions of the rents and revenues."

Of all the schools in the country which bear his name, King Edward's School, Birmingham, is the only school which was a new creation. In our quatercentenary year all Edwardians would unhesitatingly assent  
*Floreat, florebis.* J.E.T.

#### THE SCHOOL TERCENTENARY

(Reprinted from the CHRONICLE of 1875)

At the close of the interesting article on "Our School" (q.v.) a hope was expressed that some contributors would supplement it by any information concerning the history of the School which might seem to be interesting.

Some account of the celebration of the Tercentenary, an event occupying an important place in the history of the School, might therefore not be unacceptable to our readers.

I am afraid, however, that many of the present members of the School have never heard of such a thing as the Tercentenary, and for their enlightenment, before entering into the details of its celebration, I will explain why it was held.

On the 2nd day of January, 1552 (a date curiously enough omitted in the above-mentioned paper), a Charter was granted by King Edward VI to the towns-folk of Birmingham, by which the Guild of the Holy Cross became King Edward's School. Since that time Birmingham has arisen from a village of 700 houses to what we see it now, and the revenue of the School from £21 per annum to more nearly as many thousands.

The Tercentenary then was intended to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the foundation of the School by King Edward's Charter, and therefore should have been held on January 2nd, 1852, but that date was found inconvenient for very obvious reasons, and

the event finally took place on April 16th in the same year.

All the boys, to the number of 1,500, assembled early at the Grammar School in New Street, the entrance of which was decorated with laurel and bay so that it was evident to the passers-by that some unusual event was about to take place.

They were here joined by a large assembly of masters, old pupils, noblemen, governors, etc., and at a quarter to ten a procession was formed to march to St. Martin's Church amidst the pealing of bells from St. Martin's and St. Philip's towers.

The sermon at St. Martin's was preached by Rev. Dr. Jeune, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, formerly Head Master of the School, and subsequently Bishop of Peterborough; touching allusion was made in it to the death of Henry Keary, one of the most distinguished members of the School.

In the afternoon the great event of the day comes off. A meeting was held in the Classical School to deliver commemorative addresses and to distribute the prizes then recently founded by the Bishop of Manchester, Mr. W. Chance, and others.

Probably a more brilliant company never gathered within our walls, many noblemen and University dons, the Bishops of Manchester and Worcester, the M.P.s for the borough and district were present, and the proceedings were in every way worthy of the event.

I wish it were possible to give even an abridgement of the speeches made on this occasion, but space will not allow it, and I must be contented with little more than the names of the speakers.

The opening address was by Dr. Gifford, the Head Master, who gave a long account of the progress of education from the times preceding the Reformation to the present day. He was followed by Mr. Whateley, who spoke of the history of the School, a subject with which we are now well acquainted.

After this, Bishop Lee, a name ever honoured by members of this School, gave away the prize he had founded, for a critical essay on a passage in the New Testament, delivering at the same time an able speech on his motive for choosing the Greek Testament as the subject of the prize; he also alluded in a feeling manner to his connection with the School.

Mr. W. Chance then gave away the prize of his own founding, and two other special prizes connected with the commemoration were given away respectively by Rev. F. Rendell and Rev. H. A. Holden, both old pupils and also senior classics, and after speeches by Mr. Spooner, M.P., the bailiff, and the Bishop of Worcester, the meeting broke up.

The festivities of the day were closed by a dinner given at the School by the governors

to the same distinguished company. The principal toast of the evening was "The pious memory of King Edward VI," which was drunk by the whole company standing.

This was a great day in the annals of our School, and therefore it is hoped that this notice, however scanty, may not be out of place.

## THE SCHOOL IN THE 1880's

We reproduce here two of the ten articles written by Joseph Manton, Esq., M.A., an old boy and master of the School, which appeared recently in the *Birmingham Weekly Post*. We are indebted to Mr. Manton and to the Editor of the *Birmingham Weekly Post* for their kind permission to reprint these articles, and regret that we have not space enough to introduce them all. In the series, Mr. Manton describes several masters of the School during the 1880's, including the Rev. J. Hunter Smith of "uncertain temper and a very sharp tongue," and Rawdon Levett, the Chief Mathematics Master and the founder of the School Club, together with such people as Willoughby the "portly and dignified porter." He comments on some of the brilliant scholars and sportsmen produced by the School during that period and gives colourful pictures of football in long trousers and with "post-whistle struggles" followed by a wash in the Bournbrook, and of cricket played under such conditions that sixes only came "when a lofty drive meant a 'lost ball' in the long grass" but with the prospect of "lunch at the Gun Barrels."

The two articles here included describe the influence of Vardy on the School and sundry School manners and customs.

It has been said that the staff changed little in the 'eighties and some reasons have been suggested for this stability. But there was perhaps another weightier reason: the Head Master. I never met anyone who knew Vardy and did not respect him.

Vardy had found a school largely governed by old-fashioned and severe methods: he had transformed it into one in which his mere presence secured order and obedience. He seldom raised his voice; his rebukes were solemn, never hasty or exaggerated; he was always punctual, never in a hurry, always deliberate, never flurried.

To quote Levett who had known earlier conditions: "Instead of crowded rooms surrounding with war cries, and cries, too, of the wounded that recalled the Battle of Prague, it had been found possible, under the quiet influence of the present Head Master, to dispense with corporal punishment and to substitute to a great extent separate classrooms for the one large room of years ago."

Corporal punishment was not absent altogether in Vardy's time but it was confined

as a rule to a few forms and was very rare except with one or two masters. Vardy himself never employed it.

When we assembled in the Big Schoolroom at the beginning of the term to listen to a short address from the Head Master there was always perfect silence. If a boy seemed to fidget in his seat at the other end of the room, it was quite enough for Vardy to call him by name to the front where there was more room. This alone seemed to some of us a serious rebuke which we should have feared to incur.

As a teacher, Vardy was methodical and sound, a blessing to those to whom steady progress was more than brilliant digressions. Yet the lessons were never dull. I have heard the classical work of his forms in those days compared unfavourably with the advantages provided in some schools of to-day. Yet the list of his distinguished pupils is not a short one and the criticism left me unconvinced.

Vardy's real strength lay, I believe, in his righteousness. H. E. Herd, who as secretary to the Governors, had experience of his relations with them, said to me once: "If Vardy thought a course was right he would not give in till it was pursued."

He was a short thick-set man, generally wearing heavy boots and planting his feet firmly. He wore an ordinary turn-down collar and a white bow tie and never a clerical hat. When I first knew him he had black side-whiskers. As far as I know he was neither High Church nor Low Church; there was no religious difficulty at K.E.S.

He had no time to visit the playing fields except on Sports Days, when he was always present, but he was generous towards the games. Though we had three half-holidays a week, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, we were allowed to play some of our matches on Wednesdays. On special occasions, too, such as a visit of a famous team to the County Ground, the First Eleven were sometimes allowed exeat to see the match.

It was thus owing to Vardy that I once saw W. G. Grace play. He was then past his prime, unless his remarkable revival in 1895 when he made a thousand runs in May, should be considered as his prime. When I saw him he made only nineteen, but I saw him bowl. He bowled chiefly on that day for catches on the leg side or for l.b.w. He placed his field very carefully with a deep leg on the boundary and, sure enough, after a few balls the batsman made a big hit to leg and the ball sailed straight into the deep fielder's hands—and he dropped it. I thought then and I think now that I should not have liked to be the man to upset one of W.G.'s favourite stratagems; he was not sparing of words and did not suffer butterfingers gladly.

I did not expect Vardy ever to speak to me otherwise than as a Head Master to a pupil but on one occasion some years after I had

left school, when he happened to be spending a holiday in the Jura Mountains and I was not far away, he invited me to spend a day with him.

It was then that, to my great surprise, he to some extent opened his heart. He said that his work was arduous. "Mr. Levett and Mr. Hunter Smith," he said, "go home at five o'clock; their work is finished then, mine is not." This was not long before his last illness and he was already feeling the strain. He was only fifty-eight when he died.

If Vardy had a serious fault it was that in sparing others he took too great a burden upon himself. He had no secretary to help him with his correspondence; he frequently took the Saturday detention class himself—work which might well have been shared among the many masters. He had a very full teaching time-table and corrected many compositions himself. Then there were the many calls upon him for advice and help in educational matters generally in the town.

Hunter spoke of Vardy's "sunny serenity," and was very pleased with the phrase, but it never seemed to me to fit exactly and I thought that, like some other sayings of Hunter's it had attracted him by its form rather than by its exact truth. Vardy was certainly serene but with a serenity not always sunny. He had a pleasant smile but his eyes never sparkled with delight and he was extremely reserved.

Vardy never failed to be present at old boys' dinners, which then were held every year. On one occasion, when replying to the toast of "The School," after old boys had expressed their gratitude for the benefits they had received from it, he quoted Wordsworth's lines:

I've heard of hearts unkind, kind deed  
With coldness still returning;  
Alas! the gratitude of men  
Hath oftener left me mourning.

This was characteristic of Vardy.

One of the saddest of a schoolmaster's thoughts, as he considers the pupils in his school, is the realisation that for some of them there can be but a meagre and obscure future. He sees a boy poorly endowed physically, mentally slow, backward and with little natural vigour, yet with much goodwill and striving sometimes rather downheartedly to keep his end up. . . .

Besides the sports and speechday the only other event at the School that assumed, as far as I remember, the nature of a social occasion was when Queen Victoria visited Birmingham. We were all told to assemble early at school to avoid the crowds, bringing our lunch with us, and the time before the procession was due to arrive was enlivened by a concert in the Big Schoolroom.

It was something quite out of the ordinary for us to take part in such a function with the

masters. A full account of the day, March 23rd, 1887, may be found in the CHRONICLE of May, 1887. One or two details remain in the memory. When we assembled and stood on the forms placed in the area between the railings and the school we all cheered every incident that took place in the street. I remember particularly a man who passed carrying a box of fish on his head; he came in for a tremendous cheer.

The Royal carriage stopped at the School and the Captain of the School, H. D. Nicol, stepped forward and presented the address to the Queen. The Latin of the address came in for criticism, of course, but there are always to be found critics, especially of such learned compositions. Scholars delight in attacking one another's productions.

Of the entertainment in the Big Schoolroom what impressed me most was Brewerton's singing and Guy Lewis's recitation. Lewis was quite unaffected by the fact that he did not know the words and had to refer repeatedly to the book; he was as self-possessed as ever. But the fact that he was occupying the Head Master's desk for the occasion was to some of us a cause of wonder that the ordinary formalities could have been so far relaxed.

It was, I think, Hunter Smith who told us once that one critic of the School had said that it was characterised by a cheerful seriousness. On the whole, I believe that the tone of the School in my time was good. Promotion depended on solid work. The leading boys were not of the type devoted only to athletics and neglectful of intellectual pursuits and there were very few "bloods."

Every now and then a boy, who had been no great shakes at School left and provided himself with a frock-coat and a top-hat in which we, to our delight, saw him promenading on the other side of New Street on Saturday mornings. In these days there was little traffic and the side of New Street opposite the School was on Saturday mornings quite a fashionable promenade.

There was no uniformity in dress at the School; we looked a nondescript lot, but few were troubled about this. There was no official school cap but some boys wore a silver badge which was sold by an enterprising tradesman but had no official sanction. This badge was worn on caps of varying patterns, on straw hats and bowlers. Most of the older boys wore bowlers with perhaps an exchange for a straw hat in summer. The soft felt hat had not then come into fashion and was rarely seen and then only on the head of an artist or actor.

There was supposed to be a school tie, dark blue and light blue, but it was seldom seen. There were occasional protests against this extreme and sometimes startling individuality and a letter to the CHRONICLE described one boy's tie as a Bulgarian

atrocious. The author did not sign his real name but it must have been Hunter Smith.

The caps we wore were of various patterns, some round black pork-pie caps, some caps with a small peak, and there were also cloth helmets which a few boys favoured. Overcoats were sometimes worn with an additional cape like a policeman's and macintoshes, when they were seen, were of the ancient shiny variety. Brown leather boots did not come in for general wear in Birmingham till about 1890. I can still remember when and where I first saw a pair worn in the street.

We had no prefect system, though the School Captain was an important person. There were committees for cricket and football but the teams were chosen by the captains. This naturally gave them considerable authority but on the whole the influence of the older boys depended little on their official positions.

Owing to the comparatively small competition for places in the School cricket eleven it was my good fortune to be chosen at rather an early age. Big boys are not always good companions for small boys but I learned little harm from the big boys of those days, whose influence in general was for good.

As a very unsophisticated junior I was often astonished or even alarmed at the liberties they took on railway journeys in disregarding regulations and officials. But this was only the natural reaction of an excessively law-abiding junior. No master journeyed with us on our out-matches; we were quite independent of any out-of-school supervision and masters did not very often visit the school field.

One sometimes hears the remark made on public occasions that those who are good at their work are good at games as well. It is sometimes true but not very often. Two international football players were among the steadiest and most accurate pupils it has ever been my good fortune to teach. But there have been few to equal the record of A. W. Ibbotson, who was a member of the School Fifteen, and the School Eleven, was also in the School Swimming Team, played full-back for the Old Boys in cup-ties and was Senior Wrangler.

In my own schooldays there were few boys in the first teams who won open scholarships at the universities. A. W. Charles was Football Captain, a running Blue for Cambridge and Seventh Wrangler. Guy Lewis was Captain of the School, Cricket Captain and in the fifteen. A. E. Measures was in the cricket and football teams. C. F. Andrews was in the First Eleven but played no football and was only a moderate cricketer. In a conversation about homework he told me once that he tried to do four hours each evening.

But the bulk of the teams did not aspire to open scholarships. If the field is two or three miles from one's home and walking is the

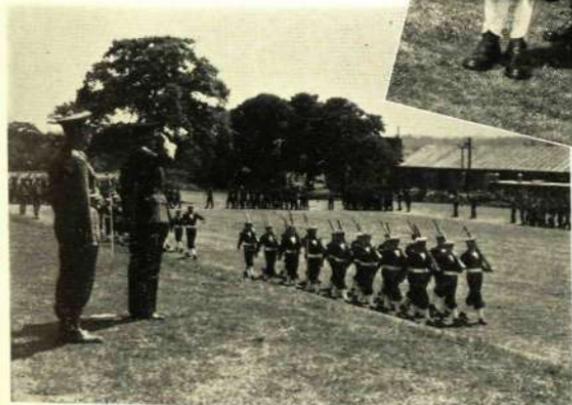
INSPECTING THE ARMY SECTION



MEETING R.S.M. MOORE



A JOKE WITH PETTY OFFICER SOMERSET



THE MARCH PAST.

THE INSPECTION OF THE C.C.F. BY THE CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL GENERAL STAFF,  
FIELD MARSHAL SIR WILLIAM SLIM (OLD EDWARDIAN).

[With acknowledgments to the "Birmingham Post."]

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY  
PRESENT "TWELFTH NIGHT."



THE MUSICAL SOCIETY  
PERFORM  
"JUDAS MACCABAEUS."

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAY  
"THE MILLER AND HIS MEN."



only way to get there and if one practises on Tuesdays and Thursdays and plays in matches on Saturdays and occasionally on Wednesdays the time left for homework is rather limited and there is the additional factor of fatigue after a long game and a long walk.

Most of those who achieve high academic honours have had to learn at some period of their lives to scorn delights and live laborious days. Even the great Benjamin Hall Kennedy wrote to his old Head Master telling him that he had avoided the Cambridge Union lest it might distract him from his work, and the most distinguished King Edward's scholar of recent times was known as the Hermit of Trinity.

### THE SCHOOL IN THE 1890's

By SIR RICHARD HOPKINS, P.C., G.C.B.

RECENTLY I was told by a knowledgeable person in Birmingham that there never was a school in New Street. But for once Birmingham was in error. The School as I knew it was a building of character and dignity rather than of convenience; but it was well populated and it served and we were proud of it. Its site distributed fairly evenly the labour of reaching it in those pre-motor days. Hemmed in by the road and the station it could provide few open air amenities but it was not entirely without them.

The playground was not large, nor was it lacking in solidity for any who elected to fall on it, but it was considerably frequented during breaks. The one Fives court (Winchester type) which seemed almost to overhang the station roof—for the station was on a lower level, was a resort only for the discerning few; but the gym, which was large and well-equipped, being compulsory, spent a crowded life. There may have been those who disliked gym: for all I know they may have been in a majority, but none of my time could have disliked the gym instruction. Maybe the memory of Hubbard is chiefly treasured to-day only by the older generation of Old Edwardians. But he was a man of fine character and as a gymnast has defied the years. I recall a School gym display in the late 'nineties, given in the Town Hall (as it then was called), at which Hubbard, already well advanced in years did a double somersault from a flying trapeze on to two rough mats laid on the solid floor, and made a perfect landing. Seldom has the City Hall rung with such applause.

I mention one other adjacent adjunct. Still in the amenity area, between the Fives court and the Gym, stood the Science Laboratories. Certainly by this description of their situation I belittle them. But surely it speaks volumes for the classicality of the then classical side that I cannot describe them for I never saw them, save externally.

Eastern Road held the playing fields. It was much further away from New Street than it is to-day. The fields were none too large nor was the equipment of the best; no one would impute luxury to the pavilion. These were not the days of the motor-mower but a horse which had seen better days fed luxuriously in summer on the fringes of the ground the rest of which he mowed.

As one a good deal addicted to team games it always seemed to me a pity that there was not greater space and a greater clientèle. But those of us who came, strove valiantly and not without success. I suspect that the away games with Denstone and Bromsgrove were the climax of their respective years. The one away match against Manchester that I recall was not undiluted fun. An early start from New Street by the old London and North-Western at 6-0 a.m. (or was it a little later?) one summer morn did not seem to be conducive to a good sight of the ball a little before noon upon a boiling day. Otherwise the batsman fourth in the order of batting could hardly have been expected to survive the third ball of the day. But the worst of all did not occur nor were we disgraced, if we were not flattered, by the outcome of the game.

Thus there were games to be had for the asking and if for the most part we learnt them by imitation and the light of nature, neither imitation nor nature is necessarily too hard a teacher.

But, pre-eminently, we were a working school. I used to feel, and I still do feel, that, as compared with our contemporaries in most other schools, we were singularly fortunate in our Head Master and the whole body of the teaching staff. Vardy, impressive at all times and never more so than when reading prayers morning and evening from *Sapientia* in Big School, must rank high among the line of Head Masters of a long and fine tradition. Nor do I see how a note of this kind can omit mentions of Levett, the chief mathematical master, greatly beloved of those who adhered to his esoteric art, or of Hunter Smith, that lovable, affectionate, irascible cleric whose varied character would need a chapter to describe and who knew just how to evoke all that was best in heart and mind of those who had ears to hear. But others of my contemporaries will wonder why, of all the assistant masters, I name but two, for again and again I have been impressed in after life by the loyalty and affection by school friends of mine for those individual masters who had them in their particular charge. However, this note is circumscribed in length and cannot develop into a catalogue of names.

If, for the worker, the school year was something of a grind, it led to its climax and that climax was Speech Day, always in my time at the end of the summer term. The

long, narrow, Big School then took on a different guise. A platform was erected at the end opposite to Sapientia, this platform serving also as a stage. On the appointed afternoon the rest of the floor was well filled by parents of the fortunate with the fortunate, if I remember rightly, seated behind. The gallery was a mass of those on whom at the moment fortune had no favour to bestow. No organ began or ended the proceedings for no organ was then there. At the outset we heard both the Bailiff and the Head Master, and in due course a profusion of prizes, well bound in calf with the School crest embossed at its largest size found their destination in the hands of countless recipients small and large: and in passing I wonder how many of these books of the nineties lie upon some half-forgotten shelf still asking not merely to be opened but to be read.

These other rituals might seem almost enough for a July afternoon. But in my day there was a good deal more to come. First there was the scene from a Shakespeare play, then comes the extract from the French and/or the Latin play. (But have I written "and/or"?; how a master of my time would have winced at the use of so compendious a phrase as that ugly newcomer to the purlieus of our tongue.) A moment ago I said I would recall no further names, but here an exception is admissible. Those of us who were called upon to perform in the plays had a most competent and assiduous coach in Brewerton. Yet before I record how far, according to my memory, the players justified their coaching, perhaps this note had better hasten to its close.

So then, in the nineties, we worked and we played, and as we did so we took in the finest traditions of nearly three hundred and fifty years. To-day the three fifty is four hundred. Good traditions grow the greater with age. Let them continue ever more firmly to mould Edwardian lives.

### THE SCHOOL IN THE 1900's

By T. W. HUTTON, Esq.

EVERYBODY is apt to believe his own period at school the true Golden Age: proximity to great figures and great events magnifies them in recollection. Prejudice apart, though, the decade 1900-1910 may challenge comparison with any ten years in the School's history.

Admittedly, it was a time ripe for greatness. The world was at ease, since even in 1910 the war-cloud that was to darken 1914 skies was no bigger than a man's hand. The nation was prosperous; and certainly the Governors of King Edward's had no fear of financial difficulties to come. In schools and universities life was leisurely, little-regimented, stimulative of thought. Our ancient Foundation itself had come to terms with a growing,

self-conscious City; and the Act of 1900 gave the School every reason to believe that the system established in the 'eighties was permanent, as permanent as Barry's splendid building itself.

To this world of opportunity, successor to Vardy, best-loved of all our Head Masters, came Cary Gilson—a man, young, dynamic, adventurous, with more than a little of the Elizabethan in his make-up. Vardy had spent himself for the Foundation as a whole; and as a consequence there was, perhaps, some little danger that King Edward's might content itself as the apex of Birmingham's educational pyramid and forget what it had been under Jeune and Prince Lee, a great school in its own right. That danger Gilson foresaw; and all his policy, all his influence, was devoted to showing that the two things were not incompatible. Though the Branch Schools were never neglected, the New Street School claimed his first attention. Boys were inspired to realise its greatness—a greatness, Gilson taught, not less than that of the Haileybury that had bred him and the Harrow he had served. Academic standards were high, games were played more generally and better than before, the whole spirit of the School was that of its Head Master— aspiring, ambitious, almost arrogant.

The period, too, was fortunate in its assistant masters. Rawdon Levett was soon to go, but Charles Davison and C. H. Richards were to carry on his work. To Hunter Smith, that wayward piece of brilliance, was to succeed R. W. Reynolds. T. J. Baker was to do for Science what Levett had done for Mathematics. C. H. Heath and A. S. Langley were about to adopt the School. Joe Manton (*O.E.*), had come back as staunch and as sane as ever. A host of others, men of character and personality, were to give their lives to the School, content if they left it just a little bit better than they found it.

From the ten years there came a long list of academic honours. The previous decade had produced a Second Wrangler (Aldis) and a Third Wrangler (Harold Smith). Now there were to be two Senior Wranglers—Ibbotson, later a distinguished member of the I.C.S., and Daniell—and either would have admitted there was a third and better mathematician in the School, A. H. S. White. Two Brackenbury Scholarships in History were won in successive years, and one of the two scholars was to be a literary critic of repute. If there was no Classic like Linwood or Rann Kennedy or (later) J. E. Powell, the general standard was very high and one School Captain (P. M. G. Rhodes) gave the School what few schools possess, a National Anthem done into distinguished Greek, worthy to be sung at School Dinners. The ten years produced, too, a Judge of the King's Bench. Of this period were two boys later to be Editors of *The Birmingham Post* and one writer (H. V.

Morton), whose work was to bring him fame. Nor must we forget the greatest military figure ever sent out from a school not much given to soldiering, Field-Marshal Sir William Slim.

Games, it has been said, were better played and more generally played. One reason was the building of what was then a much-admired pavilion; the other, more important, was the inspired idea of A. E. Measures to set up Houses. Fifty years on, the pavilion is still in use. Fifty years on, all the School has done to the Houses is to double their numbers and so more than double the value of each. Last but not least, the decade saw the formation of an Officers' Training Corps, mainly through the efforts of Gilson and Sir John Barnsley—a more than worthy successor, this, to the Cadet Corps that had been born and died in the days of Evans. There could be no better illustration of the change in the spirit of the School.

From the playing fields in the ten years went out two England Rugby internationals—H. C. Harrison, later a Major-General, and E. W. Assinder. Harold Bache won a Soccer Blue and could have had a Cricket Blue but for the claims of work. Instead he took Hockey and Lawn Tennis Blues. J. W. C. Turner played county cricket regularly for several years. More than the achievement of individuals, however, was the steady stream of good players sent out to club cricket and football, football especially. The old Midland Counties side, as often as not, had half-a-dozen or more Old Edwardians in it; and the O.E. First Fifteen, by the end of 1910, was as strong as any Old Boy side in the country.

Of one claim to eminence, let us admit, this decade was robbed: not so very many of its sons lived to add in middle age to the School's reputation. Too many were "inheritors of unfulfilled renown." Of ten School captains of the period two were killed in action, D. W. Arnot and W. L. Vince, and the names of a goodly company have the bronze tablets in the Shrine as their sole Honours Board.

### THE SCHOOL IN THE 1910's

By G. A. SHELDON, ESQ., M.A.

By 1910, I was in my third year as a Foundation Scholar and my first as a member of what eventually was called the Classical Division. It was then the Classical Second, and I was destined nominally to remain in it until my schooldays ended—for, after passing the old London Matriculation Examination from Modern III.a (roughly—a non-classical Fifth), I became something of a free-lance, with an increasing predilection for English literature and a succession of "special time-tables." The upper and middle forms of the School were divided simply into Classical

and Modern "sides," and though the Block system, with its separate classification of Mathematical Sets, already existed, little provision was made for those who hankered after new-fangled disciplines. Even the historians had to content themselves with a few modern history periods in lieu of Greek and Latin verses—but at least one Oxford college offered a History Scholarship for which all the history papers were optional.

If the field was narrower than it is to-day, it was perhaps more intensively tilled, and there were certainly fewer distractions. Interference with the normal daily routine was sternly discouraged, and no nonsense about limitation of homework was entertained. The morning started with Prayers at 9.5, followed by three periods of an hour each, with an "interval" between 11.15 and 11.30. Most boys and masters went home to lunch—a Birmingham habit which it took two world wars to break. The few who stayed in town lived at a distance—as far afield as Wolverhampton, Kidderminster, Leamington and Alvechurch. (Oddly enough, the further away a boy lived, the more likely he was to turn up regularly at the grounds in Eastern Road and the baths in Woodcock Street.) On whole schooldays, the afternoon from 2.45 to 4.45 was divided into two periods, separated by a brief interval, and then came Prayers at 4.50. In November and December, the afternoon periods were shortened and school ended at 4.30, so that those who wanted to do so could get home before dark.

As a fact, many stayed for the meetings of school societies which, though few in comparison with to-day's multiplicity, were at least as keenly supported. Even the Scripture Union, which met at the preposterous hour of 12.30 on a Saturday morning, had its faithful adherents. (One of its secretaries, Rugger captain and son of a distinguished minister, used to increase the attendance by rounding up waverers in highly unscriptural language before turning to welcome whatever reverend visitor had come to give the address.) It fell to me, with qualifications which seem pitiful when I think of my accomplished successors, to "run" the Musical Society and, helped by a little group of enthusiasts, labour to arouse an interest in the sort of programme now taken almost for granted. I also accompanied the scratch choir which performed on Speech Day, and "held together" at the piano the small orchestra supporting (or hindering) the Greek comedy which always concluded that long but exhilarating ceremony.

It was held on the last afternoon of the summer term, in a Big School packed to suffocation. In the summer term, too, came the Athletic Sports, the chief social function of the year, complete with marquees, caterers and the Police Band, which had to be silenced while the races were being run. Indifferent

health made me an unprofitable member of my House (though I was very proud of being awarded my house colours for swimming), but I was twice at the end of the rope in the tug-of-war: once, the ground was so waterlogged that the sixteen of us fell flat on our backs as soon as we started to pull. A number of visitors used to attend the cross-country race, which started from the Head Master's house in Marston Green—then a village.

I have avoided mentioning names, as they would convey little to the present generation of Edwardians, but I must acknowledge my debt to the two men who influenced me most—Cary Gilson himself, and R. W. Reynolds, affectionately known to everybody as "Dicky." It was in later years when (after swearing that I would never return either to Birmingham or to school work), I accepted his invitation to come to New Street once more as senior English master and his personal secretary, that I began to understand Gilson's real stature as a man and a Head Master, but even as a boy I dimly apprehended it. "Dicky's" impact—if that word is not too rude for his gentle, ironic suasion—was more immediate, and anything I achieved at Cambridge or elsewhere owed much to his teaching, his encouragement and, above all, his personality. He was not, in the modern standardised sense of the term, an efficient schoolmaster; but he was a great gentleman, a brilliant scholar and an admirable coach who fascinated those lucky enough to assemble at fourth period on Tuesdays and Thursdays round his fire in the Fourth Form room in which the already legendary Hunter Smith had once reigned. He would keep us enthralled, trains and lunch forgotten, for ten or twenty minutes after the 12-30 bell while he pursued to its logical end a line of thought suggested by a discussion in which he treated our naivest arguments with grave courtesy.

All the staff were remarkable for their sturdy idiosyncrasies. They went their individual ways with considerable but unabused freedom, used the methods of teaching and discipline which happened to suit them (methods sometimes accepted with imperfect sympathy by their pupils), and lived unharassed by bureaucratic meddling or official form-filing. On the whole, they were elderly, and most of them were still at the School in 1915. Then, despised by recruiting sergeants, I was recalled by Gilson from the wilderness of preparatory usherdom into which I had drifted to be a "temporary" master until I belatedly went up to Cambridge in 1919. Some men had left for active service or war-time jobs, but no chaotic dislocation took place as it did during 1939 to 1945 and, of course, there was no evacuation. Only one lady appeared in the Common Room and normal work was not seriously disturbed except for some encroachment by the O.T.C.

Many senior boys helped on farms in or near the city—often being excused attendance for the purpose—and, for a time, the School assembled only for mornings extended to 1-0 p.m.—an experiment which worked surprisingly well.

I myself ruled over the XIIth and XIIIth—the two lowest forms—in the gallery of Big School—not an ideal classroom for a junior master, who was an obvious target for any blithe spirit at large in the noble room below, and whose voice had to travel to its distant end before re-echoing to his back-benchers. The experience, however, was useful, and so was the necessity of taking my forms in almost all their subjects. For young boys, the fashionable craze for specialist teaching involves loss as well as gain, and I fancy I taught best the subjects about which I knew least; I could more easily grasp my pupils' difficulties, and I had to prepare my lessons carefully...

Here a suspicion that I am becoming *laudator temporis acti* warns me that I have written enough. G.A.S.

## THE SCHOOL IN THE 1920's

THREE facts which would interest, and perhaps alarm, you if you could go back thirty years, would be that we had no dining hall of any kind; we started school at 9-5 a.m., having two-and-a-quarter hours' break for lunch on whole days, and afternoon school was from 2-45—4-45. You would notice other differences. Big School was occupied at all times by boys who were not in their form-rooms—there was, in fact, nowhere else to go. It contained many lockers (desks joined together) and long forms, but most of us would sit by the radiators at the sides of the room. Behind the radiators were many packets of decayed sandwiches. A large number of boys went home to lunch—we had plenty of time.

I should think 15 per cent. of us had exeats for catching trains home. The owners left school early in either morning or afternoon, some boys missing nearly a quarter of an hour's work at the end of the last period each day.

Prayers were read at the end of the day as well as at the beginning. One of the most irksome duties of the junior prefects was to catch people cutting evening prayers. After prayers in the morning, there was usually a short queue of boys to see the Head Master who remained in "Sapientia." If you were delayed in his queue, you would receive (when you had finished) a small piece of paper with the exact time stamped on it by a special clock-stamp he always used. This excused your lateness at first period.

The whole school was dominated by the personality of its great head, Cary Gilson.

You rarely saw him (except on his way to prayers) unless you were in the Classical Sixth (then Upper and Lower Sixth "A"). He lived in the fastness of his library, the entrance to its corridor dark and forbidding.

Almost equally awe-inspiring was the Masters' Common Room, leading off the Upper Corridor, now re-erected as the Shrine. No boy ever saw inside it. No boy would have dreamt of knocking on its door. We were more civilized in those days. The masters used their own staircase—and what a beautiful one it was!—to Upper Corridor. Half-way up was a door. No one used it except the Head Master. It led to an always mysterious part of the School, formerly the Head Master's house.

In 1921 the School Musical and Dramatic Society presented the first of its many plays, "Twelfth Night." We gave an extra performance in the Midland Institute. Mr. Hammond was the producer; my memory of him is undimmed. The School Orchestra (unaugmented) always played the incidental music. School "concerts" were more or less rags held in one of the form-rooms. To perform a Handel oratorio was beyond our wildest dreams.

An unforgettable figure was the head porter, Ford. Every morning at break a long line of boys would wait in his office to buy chocolate at his tuck shop in the corner. I can smell those boxes of Fry's milk bars now.

Of course the School was a noisy place in those days. The hooting of trains from the station across the playground was as nothing to the squeak of Midland "Red" buses and other unacademic noises from New Street. But the accent was on work, not buildings. The School library was a poky little affair where you only collected your book; there was nowhere to sit and read. Yet in the Sixth there was a reverence for work—yes, and for books themselves, books that belonged to us—which is not here to-day when books are bought for us by the School, and when we no longer have to buy them to make a little library of our own.

The School produced some outstanding Cambridge scholars during the decade—F. H. Sandbach at the beginning, H. D. Ursell in the middle, J. E. Powell at the end, all Fellows of Trinity. C. H. O' D. Alexander, afterwards chess champion of Great Britain, was in Mr. Richards' top maths. set.

Football and cricket were not so popular when you had to take a tram out to Eastern Road for every game. But there were countless "society meetings," as there are to-day, after School in the evenings. Although we stayed late, we loved the building and never hurried to leave it. We were proud of our School.

Summer has come again, and I am put in mind of those long hot afternoons in the "twenties" when many of us took examina-

tions in the Governors' Room, its entrance just inside the main school door. You might be there working all through a July day; but the end came at last, and what could be more pleasant than an ice across the way at Kunzle's in the arcade? N.J.F.C.

## THE SCHOOL IN THE 1930's

WHEN Cary Gilson retired in 1929 most of us who had any connections with K.E.S. felt that we had come to the end of one great age in the School's history, and had we known how much tumult lay ahead of us we might well have been filled with alarm. The early thirties were peaceful enough, even so. Mr. England was full of respect for the Gilsonian tradition of Classical scholarship, but he was keenly aware of the importance of the sciences and modern studies as well, and did much to foster the growth of these subjects. Members of Gilson's own U.V.I.A (Classical VI) no doubt regretted their loss of prestige, but U.V.I.B (Science and Maths.) and U.V.I.C (Languages and History) certainly welcomed the change.

It was fairly generally accepted that sooner or later a move from the old site in New Street would be inevitable, and the new Head Master undoubtedly felt that the greatest single contribution which he could make to the School was the momentous transfer.

Supporters and opponents of the project were very vocal for a period, but finally the New Street site was sold and the present one acquired. The conditions of the sale required us to give the purchaser of the old site almost immediate possession, and in the latter part of 1935 the "huts" were built in Bristol Road, the idea being that we should be comfortably housed therein while the new permanent buildings were being erected on the rising ground behind them. Although we were convinced that the transfer was for the ultimate good of K.E.S., I think most Edwardians of my generation experienced a feeling not far from desolation as Christmas, 1935, approached and we realised that the next term would see Barry's noble building in the hands of the demolition contractors. Thus it was that we assembled for the January term of 1936 in the "huts." They certainly deserved a more dignified name, for they were extremely comfortable, and some fine pieces of furniture from New Street gave the interior a certain distinction. We realised that we were in a transitional period, we were determined that the traditions of K.E.S. should not perish with the old building, and our morale was high. Imagine then our feelings on that May morning of the same year when we arrived at School to find that the

temporary buildings, after having served us for only one term, had been all but totally destroyed by fire during the night.

Head Master, Staff and Prefects held a meeting that morning in the one building that K.E.S. possessed—the pavilion at Eastern Road. The New Street building was already partly demolished, and the temporary buildings were a heap of charred timbers. I often think that the pavilion deserves our kindest thoughts, if only because it was from there that the material assets and the whole complex organisation of K.E.S. were built anew. The most astonishing thing about the whole tragedy, however, was the resilience of spirit which the entire School displayed. It was a striking proof, if we needed one, that the greatness of K.E.S. lies not in material things, the University came generously to our aid and loaned us its Great Hall, and there we spent the Summer term. Forms gathered in groups around masters posted at intervals on the floor and in the galleries of the Great Hall, and there we taught and learned. The noise was appalling, the interruptions unending and the enthusiasm tremendous. Our examination results suffered not a whit.

By September, 1936, we were back in the restored temporary buildings, in which brick partition walls and an ingenious sprinkler system had been installed to insure against a second disaster. Here the life that K.E.S. knows to-day began to take shape. The present arrangement of school hours and the institution of school buses and school lunches belonged, of course, to the days of our move from New Street, but it was only in the comparative peace of our second residence in the temporary buildings that we came to accept them as normal features of everyday life. The foundation stone of the permanent building had been laid, the Fives Courts and Rifle Range were completed and in use, and not far from them lay a mighty heap of numbered blocks of masonry—the former Upper Corridor, waiting to be re-erected to serve as a link with the beautiful building loved by Edwardians of other days. The tumult seemed to be over.

It was not. One morning in September, 1939, a string of special buses drew up in Bristol Road to take us to New Street Station on our melancholy journey into evacuation at Repton. There we survived, dispersed, depleted and at times somewhat dismayed, until the end of the Summer term of 1940. The war was changing the pattern of life all over the country, but K.E.S. felt that, if it was to live at all, it must be on its native soil. The temporary buildings had already been requisitioned for military purposes. We re-opened therefore, in September, 1940, in the half-finished permanent buildings on our present site.

V.J.B.

## SCHOOL GAMES IN THE 1890's

By E. L. B. RAVENHILL, ESQ.

THE year, 1890, found games at King Edward's School at a standard of achievement which has not since been surpassed; A. W. Charles had created two records at the Athletic Sports which stand to this day, and had gone up to Cambridge to win his Athletics Blue. Francis Swayne had been awarded his Rugby Football Blue and three Old Edwardians had been chosen for International Trials, while the O.E. Rugger XV had won the Midland Counties Cup, brushing aside the challenges of such teams as Leicester, Coventry and Moseley. Two members of that fine side were still boys on the School XV. At cricket Ludford Docker had gone to Australia with the England side and J. E. Hill was showing the high promise as a batsman which was to come to fulfilment when he made the first century which was ever made for Warwickshire in first class cricket. Moreover the Captain of the XV and of the XI was J. Manton, the greatest "all-rounder" the School has produced.

With all this high promise for the future there was not wanting those who gave warning of future difficulties. School games were not organised in such a way as to encourage the junior boys to develop such keenness and promise as they might possess and the effort of getting to and from the playing fields called for considerable determination and staying power. One small boy, on his first half-holiday at the School, walked three miles from his house to the School Field, played a little Rugger and then walked three miles home again. He was to do this on many occasions afterwards.

It will be borne in mind that the School in the '90's was two miles from the Playing Fields. The transport system of the City was not reliable, frequently giving the traveller opportunities to reflect on the philosophy that it is better to travel hopefully than to arrive.

On half-holidays boys would have to go home for lunch and then make their way as best they could to take part in a game of Rugger or Cricket. Even the bicycle, at this stage of its development, was regarded as more of a public menace than as a means of transport. There were then no motor-cars and no motor omnibuses and boys from Moseley and Handsworth frequently had to walk. Even the lucky ones from Edgbaston had their walk shortened by only half-a-mile by a ride on an infrequent and unreliable tram. The washing arrangements in the shed which was used as a pavilion consisted of four basins which sometimes, but not always, were fed with running water (cold). There was no hot water and no heating appliance of any kind. It is small wonder, then, that the keenness of the juniors boy evaporated

or that more and more difficulty was experienced in producing teams worthy of the School.

In spite of many discouragements, successive captains of games struggled manfully to keep the flag flying and by 1895-96 there were signs of an approaching improvement. For one thing bicycles were more popular and more reasonable in price and the transport system of the city was slowly improving. In 1896-97 two very fine players were playing together, outside the scrum, on the School XV, R. G. Bisseker and Bernard Oughtred. Bisseker was captain of the XI and of the XV and was extremely good at both games, while Oughtred was to go on to win his International cap and to captain England. In 1897-98 an upward movement was started the momentum of which has never been lost, and the influence of three remarkable boys must be held largely responsible. R. V. L. Hopkins was Captain of the School, E. W. C. Bradfield, Captain of Cricket, and V. Siviter Smith, Captain of Football. Hopkins threw his genius into every part of the life of the School. A notable scholar, a brilliant speaker at the Debating Society meetings, a member of the Cricket XI and of the Football XV, he won the half-mile race at the Sports and was Captain of Fives and the best Fives player for a generation.

"The boy is the father of the man" and Sir Richard Hopkins, P.C., G.C.B., has lived to influence decisions on high policy of many British Governments and to find himself part of the history of the Civil Service.

Ernest Bradfield as Captain of Cricket was a first rate organiser who set himself to build up a system which would help the junior boys to develop their abilities and encourage them to play. All he could do was necessarily tentative and experimental but he built on firm foundations. Himself a fine cricketer, he insisted on keen and good fielding as part of a cricketer's equipment. He was also a very good centre-three-quarter and Vice-Captain of the XV. Lieut-General Sir Ernest Bradfield is still with us and enjoying his honoured retirement.

To Valentine Smith must go the credit for the very great improvement in School Rugby for which he laid the foundations. He was captain for two seasons—he established a system of junior leagues whereby the younger boys were sure of a game and certain of adequate coaching. He was to have his reward after he left the School, when he watched the outstanding victories of the 1901-02 School XV, all of them boys who had been trained and encouraged under his captaincy. The success of this team aroused so much enthusiasm throughout the School that it was made easier to launch the House system which now plays such an important part in the life of the School. He was afterwards to Captain one of the greatest of Old Edwardian sides,

which contained two internationals and eight County Caps. He would have been delighted to have seen the fine School XV which now has the Siviter Smith Cup in its keeping.

It has been impossible to mention the names of those masters at the School who worked so hard to keep School games going. Two must not escape a grateful memory: J. Manton and C. H. Heath. The boys of the 1890's were passing into the world; these two were to remain with the living School to direct and inspire the vintage years from the dawn of the century to the first World War—the opening period of the great reign of Cary Gilson, and to earn the gratitude of all who profited so much from their kindly help and advice. The School was fortunate in its masters then. It is very fortunate to-day.

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#### FURTHER GLIMPSES OF KING EDWARD'S IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

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THE passing of the years has witnessed a transition in status by which the School has ceased to be an insignificant provincial grammar school and has become one of the great Public Schools of the country, with a fine tradition of classical scholarship and Christian learning. But this article is meant merely to touch upon certain details of domestic affairs at King Edward's during the last century and is not in any way a historical survey.

In the Winter of 1835 there came to the School a young boy by the name of Francis Galton, who in later life was to achieve fame as a great scientist. Galton's diary is one of the few sources from which one may see the details of everyday life at King Edward's in the middle of the last century. The boy lived at the house of the Head Master, Dr. Francis Jeune, at Edgbaston, as was the practice of the few boarders that there were at the time.

A month after his arrival in Birmingham young Galton wrote to his father:

"I am very happy here and we have everything almost that we could wish. We do an immense deal of work but nevertheless I should like to fence more as we have quite three-quarters of an hour to ourselves after fencing for an hour on half-days. All this week there have been only two boys caned and none flogged they are in such capital order, but the rules are pretty strict (sic.) and the doctor does not allow us to make a mistake in our grammar."

In his diary of the next year, 1836, it may be seen that Galton's affection for the School has diminished somewhat; for January 25th is called "black Monday"—the day of his return to School. The diary continues.

Tuesday, 26th January: "The Doctor flogged a chap. The Doctor's father was buried."

Friday, January 29th: "Got 50 lines of Virgil for going down to School without the usher's permission."

Saturday, 30th January: "A bit of a row at School—got 30 lines from Gedge (his form master) for throwing chewed paper at the fellows' heads."

Wednesday, 10th February: "The Doctor came upstairs after we had gone to bed and caught us making a row—gave the chaps he caught tremendous impositions."

The diary for the month of March indicates the same round of severity:

Tuesday, 15th March: "One boy was expelled and another flogged."

Thursday, 17th March: "Dukes was expelled."

Saturday, 19th March: "Took a walk to Edgbaston Park. Usher bought a swing for us to put up for which we had to cut away some shrubs; we expect a row."

Galton goes on to give graphic descriptions of the pitched battles in New Street and the Bull Ring between the scholars and the town boys, which apparently took place quite regularly.

With the departure of Dr. Jeune, to become Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, and afterwards Lord Bishop of Peterborough, and the succession of Dr. Prince Lee to the Headmastership in 1838, the rigorous discipline gave way somewhat to even more intense Classical Scholarship. On the Classical Sixth Form bench in the old Big School there sat under Lee's tuition three future bishops, Benson, Lighfoot and Westcott. Dr. Prince Lee himself became the first bishop of Manchester in 1848. He was succeeded by the Ven. E. H. Gifford who was Head Master until 1862, when he became Archdeacon of London. All this time one must imagine the scene as it was in the New Street Big School; six forms would be working under their different masters at the same time with the first form (now Classical VI) grouped around the Head Master at the top of the room. Although the combined monotonous of six voices must have been distracting by to-day's standards one wonders what our predecessors would have thought of the glorified cubicles with yellow black-boards and sliding windows of to-day. Later on Art lessons used to be held in the Gallery over Sapiaentia. It was in Gifford's time, on 16th April, 1852, that the School celebrated its tercentenary. There was a grand procession to, and a service in, St. Martin's Church. In the procession two Beadles took the lead, next came the Mistresses, Masters and pupils of the Branch Elementary Schools, the two Writing Masters, then followed the Classical School with a large number of old pupils, masters and officers of other schools.

From 1862-72 the Rev. Charles Evans, an Edwardian, and former pupil of Prince Lee, was Head Master, but he retired on becoming Rector of Solihull. He was followed by another great Head Master, the Rev. A. R. Vardy, who had been senior classical master of the City of London School. Vardy was a man who felt very strongly for the welfare of the Masters and pupils of King Edward's. Typical of his attitude was his decision in 1873 to relinquish £400 of his salary in order that the amount might be doubled by the Governors and added to the salaries of his assistants. On his appointment Vardy was given the control of the branch schools of the foundation as well as being Head Master of King Edward's. At that time there were in all about 1,500 pupils but on his death in 1900 the number had increased to 2,712.

The death of Vardy came at the very end of the century and the nation as a whole viewed the next with a good deal of anxiety. For the School the end of the XIXth Century heralded the beginning of a new epoch and the succession of Robert Cary Gilson to the Headmastership. He had a no less distinguished record than any of his predecessors, and the prospects for continuing of the great classical tradition of the School could not have been better.

On the less academic side, too, King Edward's was flourishing. In a chronicle of that time the Editor observes:

"We have to announce the abolition of the Cycling Club, a course of action which was decided upon owing to the very small number of fellows who attended the runs. We cannot say that we deeply regret this, for we do not consider cycling at all an important branch of School life. The other sections of the School Club and the Natural History Society are flourishing as usual. The Football season, will, we hope, be above the average of recent years. The Chess Club is just starting its Grand Annual Tournament under altered rules which should make its course less protracted. The Fives season does not promise great things as many of last year's best players have left."

There may well be a certain degree of modesty in the reference to the standard of Football for, only a few years previously, W. P. Nichol, who according to the roll in the School Pavilion was Captain for the season 1889-90, played for the Midland Counties XV while still at School. This team drew its players from such clubs as Moseley, Rugby, Leicester, Burton and the Old Edwardians.

Of the privilege of being an Edwardian, a contributor to the *Birmingham Magazine* at the turn of the century says this:

"Connection with King Edward's School—attendance in those stately buildings—does not cause severance from home life, but stimulates the union of two great ideals;

that of a noble patriotism with the love of domestic life. Whatever the advantages may be elsewhere those given here combine the force and strength which are the endowments of a great Public School with the grace which is the gift of an English home."

J. DE C. L.

## SOME ASPECTS OF THE LAST CENTURY

### English Education

THERE are still alive to-day nearly a quarter of a million people who had passed the school age when compulsory education was introduced in 1876. Thus recent is the constitution of anything like a national educational system in England. As early as 1696 schools had been compulsory in every Scottish village, while school attendance had been obligatory in Prussia since 1816 and in Sweden since 1842.

Statesmen, confronted by the problems of new town life, unemployment and congestion, saw that what was needed to keep the masses in order was the discipline both of work and religion, the ability "to read and write and repeat the Church catechism" and "to be taught useful handicrafts so that they may be inured to labour." From outside clamoured the clarion-calls of the American Declaration of Independence and the French Revolution, one of whose prime movers was education. The efforts of the Charity Schools, the Dame Schools (whose unofficial motto was: "It's little they pays us, and it's little we teaches them") and such impressively titled philanthropic ventures as the "National Society for Promoting the Education of the Children of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church" were of but little avail in a century whose twin motivating powers were "democracy and steam." Both these ideals were incompatible with ignorance, and at least a minimum standard of education amongst the masses was necessary—particularly when in 1867 the vote was granted to more people than ever before.

Many of the ruling powers however failed to realize that to be able to "read and reckon" was a veritable necessity; to them enlightenment was a dangerous thing, an undermining of social discipline. So it was that the first English Education Act of 1870, which was inevitable in spite of any opposition, only defined the scope of education within the limits of the three R's. It was an expression of grudging materialism.

What was needed was an ample system of secondary education, allowing men to understand the scientific principles of the age and their relation with social evolution as a whole.

Some men, such as William Lovett, saw it as a way in which the masses could work for their own salvation, but in general, development was slow. For half a century, after the

1870 Act, the children of England had to be content with an elementary education that ended before the age of fourteen; it was only in 1918 that the school leaving age was raised even to this level.

Meanwhile the conditions in the schools that the youth of the country had been blessed with, were nothing for England to be proud of. The teaching methods were narrowly moral, confined to reading, writing and arithmetic, discipline was repressive, and, with even larger classes than nowadays, there was an even greater tendency towards mass-production in adolescents. School buildings, now recognised as an essentially pleasant part of school life, were execrable; either village schools of one bare, draughty room, or sombre town buildings surrounded by factories and railways, both ill-lit through narrow Gothic windows. The rates of pay for teachers (until the institution of the Burnham Scale in 1922) were certainly no incentive to enter the profession.

1902 saw the beginnings of a system of secondary education. County and Municipal schools were built, in lay-outs of higher quality than before, and the curriculum was framed with a view to University entrance, particularly after 1914, when the School Certificate examination took the place of various specialist bodies. The proportion of free places in the secondary schools gradually increased with the years, and in 1939 46 per cent. of their pupils paid no fees. The really significant feature, however, was that 13 per cent. out of the total child population took advantage of the secondary education system. The comparative figure in the U.S.A. was 73 per cent.

In the meantime measures had been taken to widen the scope of the education of the great majority. In 1918 the school leaving age was raised to fourteen, while a series of investigations by a committee, the results of which were known as "The Hadow Reports" broadened the curriculum to practical things and living interests as well as the old literary tendency. "A humane or liberal education," it was suggested, "is not one given through books alone, but one which brings the children into contact with the larger interests of mankind." Unfortunately the second World War brought back disorganization to a system that had already known enough of it and that was approaching something a good deal better.

The 1944 Education Act formulated a plan that is likely to be the basis of our educational system for some time to come. It gave more power to fewer local authorities, and divided its system into three parts: primary education, secondary education, and further education.

In the first grade, emphasis lay on forming good habits, stimulating an interest in such arts as painting, music and dancing as well as

in the older business of learning to read and write, and on creating an atmosphere of friendliness between pupils and teachers. Later efforts were directed to preparation for the secondary education to come, and it was seen that virtually every child had the particular type of secondary education suited to it, whether in the County Colleges or the Commercial schools of the town, in the Secondary Modern schools or the Technical colleges. With all this go modern, airy buildings as far as possible, health measures, free milk and school dinners.

The gap between elementary schools and grammar schools and the Public Schools is thought by many to be too wide. The Fleming Committee suggested that an increased number of places in them should be allotted to "public elementary school" pupils, but there remain various bones of contention: the question of whether there should be fees or not, and how big they should be, questions of the curriculum, and the suggestion that the system of university entrance is too highly competitive and specialized. The institution of the new G.C.E. makes it possible for a boy to gain a certificate in woodwork, but is no nearer a remedy for over specialization.

At the very moment £10 million further have been granted towards education costs; no longer is enlightenment a danger and an evil; in the contrary it is the first essential of a civilized and democratic society.

M.F.P.

### Biology

"SCIENCE," a famous modern physicist has said, "can only be created by correct thinking."

All the Greek scientists advocated this method and it has proved to be a very sound approach to any investigation. In the past century "correct thinking" has been no less observed; indeed it has been enhanced by experimental verification. Greek and Roman scientists were accustomed to formulating hypotheses and many of these were believed to be true up to the 17th century though we now regard them as ludicrous; they had this long life because there was no definite proof one way or the other. During the last hundred years we have seen greater importance attached to experimental verification; and it is generally accepted by scientists that a theory is more clearly understood once it has been reduced to precise facts. Experimental verification in biology differs from the other sciences in that the scientist is dealing not with numbers that can be verified exactly but with a theory which cannot be undeniably proved since biologists are still baffled by the basis of the subject, namely, life. Far from being entirely divorced from physics and chemistry biological phenomena

can be explained to a certain extent both physically and chemically.

In the last one hundred years biology has seen a great revolution in the study of man; for Charles Darwin in his work "The Origin of Species" attempts to explain man's place in nature. He suggested that man had originated from a mere protoplasmic mass and had evolved through æons of time into the highly organised creature that he is. Prior to this theory there were numerous ideas put forward regarding the origin of man, for example, Cuvier's "Theory of Catastrophism" or Van Helment's "Theory of Spontaneous Generation"; some of these ideas were disproved and some were retained for the want of a better explanation. Darwin's theory met with a criticism similar to that of Copernicus when he stated that the earth was not the centre of the universe. The thinkers of that day were not prepared to admit that they were related, somewhat distantly, to apes and monkeys.

The ideas of the theory were felt sharply in philosophical circles for many were converted to atheism since in view of the evolutionary process they could no longer believe in God; many notable biologists, including Haeckel, Huxley and Keith, were thus converted. Keith looked upon evolution more as a religion than a biological phenomenon; for, of it he said:

"Belief in evolution is a basal doctrine in the rationalist liturgy."

Evolution one must realise is a hypothesis, for no definite proof of this process has been given. Many evidences that suggest an evolutionary process have been alleged by such scientists as Weismann, Haeckel and Keith; but they are no more than evidences. It will be a long time before evolution is finally proved or disproved, for this is a process that is spread, not over decades or centuries, but over millions of years and the biologist, to say the least, finds it difficult to delve into the past ages for information.

The achievements of biology along other lines are no less spectacular and are of supreme importance.

In the eighteen-fifties at Brünn monastery Gregor Mendel worked on the inheritance of characteristics in the garden pea (*Pisum sativum*). In 1865 he published his results but for some reason his work was not appreciated and his results were re-discovered independently by De Vries, Tschermak and Cerrens in 1900. The results showed that characteristics were inherited in a definite numerical ratio: if a tall plant is crossed with a dwarf then the resulting progeny are in the ratio of three tall to one dwarf. These discoveries were the bases of genetics. During the last forty years biologists have discovered that each cell nucleus contains a fixed number of chromosomes, characteristic to the species, and in these chromosomes are the genes which

control the characteristics of the organism. This knowledge has been put to a practical use, for breeders now breed healthier livestock and farmers can now grow crops resistant to disease and which give a good yield.

Medicine has advanced tremendously and one has only to compare the mortality rates of the present day and a hundred years ago to realise the immense strides that have been made. The operative word in medicine is "Prevention"; for scientists realise (even at the risk of their livelihood) that this is more effective and more humane than merely resorting to cure. Pasteur and Lister made the world aware of the presence of germs and bacteria as disease vectors; as a result the hygienic conditions were generally raised in most countries. Of course, the discoveries of these two had more far reaching results. Pasteur first used inoculation as a preventive measure against disease. Lister led the world in antiseptic surgery and reduced deaths, as a result of infection following the operation, from eighty per cent. to the present day figure of two per cent. Biochemists of a more recent period have discovered wonderful drugs that are capable of curing many bacteriological diseases.

There are many aspects of biology that have not been investigated by a physico-chemical method and some scientists believe that they can never be investigated in such a way since they are of a non-materialistic nature. The most obvious example is the mind. Those who have studied the brain have to a certain extent explained the mode of functioning of the nervous system but they have failed so far to account for, in a scientific way, thoughts and personality. The failing of many "over-specialised" biologists is that they are so occupied with a particular aspect that they fail to regard the organism as a whole. J. C. Smuts said of this:

"A whole which is more than the sum of its parts has something internal, some inwardness of structure and function, some specific inner relations, some internality of character or nature which constitutes that more."

Scientists are becoming more and more careful when dealing with the mind for they realise how abysmally ignorant they are of this unique quality of consciousness that man possesses. An awareness or consciousness of the environment is possessed by most higher animals: this awareness is hard to define but it is closely connected with the mind. Such views have made scientists believe that living matter is certainly more than highly elaborated inorganic matter; Henri Bergsen called this unknown factor an *elan vital*. It is indeed a vital spring about which we know little or nothing.

The biologist has advanced and has gained knowledge; and this gain will help him to guide his own evolution in the future. The biologist will find new facts and make

new discoveries; he will always be moving forward. He will always be striving for his ultimate aim which is the revelation of the "Nature of Life."

N.S.

### Painting

WE are living in the century of the common man despite the fact that no one appears to know who or what he is. This elusive individual is busy enforcing his opinion and value on all aspects of modern civilization; and one aspect which he views with much distaste and disgust is "modern art." The reason for this attitude is that he cannot understand it, and therefore he assumes that no one can understand it, and that the whole thing is a pretence, an affectation. Why do artists paint young ladies with two faces and square, blue toes? Are they seriously trying to produce a creative work of art, or are they merely fooling a fashionable affected public? Taking into consideration three points, it surely becomes clear that some of them, at least, are serious in their attempts. Firstly, after the Impressionist technique had been invented, the ideal of the representation of nature and natural things had been reached, and no further steps could be taken in this direction. Art could obviously not stand still; thus a reaction against merely reproducing nature took place, and artists sought, and indeed still seek, some plastic symbol which is more significant of reality than any reproduction. "In painting one must search rather for suggestion than for description, as in music." Secondly, all kinds of art must, in some way or other, reflect the age in which they were created, and the complexities of modern art perhaps reflect the complexities of modern civilization. Lastly, both public and private patronage of artists has ceased. Thus the artist is now free from the demands of private persons, and of society, and can express his individual thoughts and ideas in whatever method he pleases. These considerations may explain why modern art is so difficult to understand, and also why there are so many different types of painting being carried out in the same period. Yet if we trace the history of art from 1850 to the present day, art will be seen to develop from the art of the old masters, and not constitute a complete break.

In the 1850's painting was still generally representational and in England the Pre-Raphaelite school were working. Their object in painting was didactic first and artistic second; they wished "to make art a handmaid in the cause of justice and truth." Although they practised a childlike submission to nature in that every object which they painted was copied perfectly, being correct in every detail, they did not copy a natural scene, but used pictorial design. Their

excessive discipline in realism, unknown, incidentally, to the Italian primitives from whom they took their name, hampered their artistic purpose, for they tried, usually unsuccessfully, to translate spiritual vision into scientific terms. The main exponents of this school were Holman Hunt, humourless, naïve, but a tower of integrity and of faith, Millais, whose "Blind Girl" is probably the most famous Pre-Raphaelite picture, and, for a while, D. G. Rossetti. This last painter also introduced the Mediaeval Revival, a spiritual escape from the materially hideous civilization, which produced the pictures of insipid sweetness and weakness by Burne-Jones.

However, in the past 100 years, most of the creative influence in painting has come from France. While Holman Hunt was meticulously recording awakening consciences, Impressionism was becoming popular with French painters. Whereas the realism of the Pre-Raphaelites had been to reproduce every object painted carefully, the Impressionists were realistic in that they painted nature as it appeared at the moment they were working, and did not design or alter nature in order to obtain a pictorial pattern. They suppressed their subjective emotions and recorded fleeting effects of light and atmosphere. In order to do this they painted out of doors and applied their pigment to the canvas immediately, without using any monochrome under drawing. To them "the most important person in any picture is light," and they dispensed with rhythmic design formal composition in order to portray objectively the effect of light. Working in the open air and using fresh colour and rapid brushwork their paintings seemed sketchy and unfinished. Monet, Pissarro and Sisley were the leaders of this movement, which also influenced Renoir, Manet and Degas, although they were too deeply grounded in the art of the old masters to aim merely at recording optical sensations.

Some of the more serious French painters soon realised the emptiness of Impressionism, which attached so much importance to the accidental and ephemeral. It was the intention of Cézanne, "to make out of Impressionism something as solid and enduring as the art of museum." He tried to create an essential reality, rather than a reproduction, by painting the permanent characteristics of nature and revealing the structure latent in natural objects. He rediscovered the fact that the basic shapes of natural objects are the cylinder, sphere and cone, and, still retaining the natural quality of his subjects, he built up an intricate organization of forms, relating all planes to one another in perspective, light and colour. Such a task needed a remarkably patient artist, and Cézanne worked painstakingly at his pictures, spending days getting the relationships of two forms in space, just right. Although not a cubist

himself, Cézanne was the cause of cubism in others. Beginning by analysing their figures and subjects into simple geometric elements without a complete loss of the representational content, Picasso and Braque sought to free plane relationship from any representational content whatsoever. Their first step towards this object was to show several views of the same object on the same painting, views known to the mind but not seen by the eye, and freeing painting still further from "the tyranny of visual facts," created new, original forms, either from their imagination, or using subjects which are emotionally neutral, as starting points. There are two main types of abstract painting: that which exploits the third dimension and ignores colour; and that which concentrates on colour and surface texture, and is two dimensional. Ben Nicholson, the only consistent British abstract painter, generally uses the second method, and his pre-occupation with problems of proportion, distribution, colour and texture, produce not only interesting designs and patterns, but also creative works of art with a strong spiritual and intellectual power.

Seurat was another painter who tried to make Impressionism less ephemeral, by arranging his scenes in a deliberate design, stripping them of all that was superficial, although he was less concerned with solidity and third dimension than Cézanne. He developed the Pointillist method of painting which involves the application of paint in regular dots of pure colour, and he obtained wonderful effects of suspended movement by means of this scientific approach. Gauguin and Van Gogh, however, had a far profounder influence on European art than had Seurat. Gauguin thought that the painter's principle aim was decoration, and, ignoring representational values, sought a decorative effect by using large, flat areas of bright colours. Henri Matisse was influenced by Gauguin's theory of art, and declared that painting was "the art of arranging in a decorative manner various elements with which the painter was to express his sentiments." Simplicity, organization and expression—these were the maxims of both Gauguin and Matisse, the main difference between the two painters being that Gauguin's was a primitive simplicity and Matisse's a sophisticated one. A group of painters gathered round Matisse, known as the "Fauves" or "wild men," because of their extravagant methods of painting and their bold and startling effects, for their desire to express direct and spontaneous feeling often resulted in their work appearing sketchy and unfinished. Most of the Fauves were influenced by Gauguin, but others, notably Vlaminck and Derain, gained inspiration from the work of Van Gogh. This painter subordinated representation to rhythm and design, and was mainly concerned

in conveying intensity of expression and emotion. This he did by his exciting, vigorous handling of pigment, giving an effect of intensity and exuberance by the juxtaposition of vivid colours.

Van Gogh was also a great influence to the German "Brüda" school, which derived its origins, however, from a Scandinavian, Edward Munch. He concentrated on the portrayal of dramatic values, as the titles of his pictures suggest—"The Sick Child," "The Dead Mother," etc., and was more concerned with the problems of human life than with problems of colour and tones. Using bold, vigorous and vital brush strokes he achieved the emotional unity so essential to his pictures. Realism and human problems have always interested Northern artists, and they were the bases of "Die Neue Sachlichkeit" a German post-1914-18 war movement. This was really a social protest intensified by the war, which introduced resignation and cynicism into the paintings. Max Beckmann, Otto Dix and George Grosz were the leaders of this group.

Two other movements greatly influenced by social and political factors were the Futurists and the Dada. The Futurist movement, led by Marinetti and Severini was the artistic mouthpiece of Italian Fascism, and as such it glorified war and mechanism, and wholly rejected the past. As it was primarily a political movement it was artistically short-lived. The members of the Dada group were nihilist and anarchic in their sympathies, they were actively opposed to all order and restraint in life and art, and called for the destruction of all recognized values. This attitude was probably the result of disillusion, despair and disgust caused by the war. Unlike the Fauves, who were wild only in their method of painting, both these two groups were wild and aggressive in making the public notice their work, and their method of holding exhibitions were certainly untainted by inhibitions.

It is significant in modern art that the same generation can produce cubist abstraction, the extreme of classicism, and surrealism, the extreme of romanticism. The founder of surrealism was really Sigmund Freud, for the object of this movement is to convey on canvas dream states and the world of the unconscious mind. They replace observation by intuition, analysis by synthesis and reality by symbolism. Yet they deny that the symbol is a thing apart, and identify it with the thing symbolised. As Bretan says "I demand that he who still refuses, for instance to see a horse galloping on a tomato should be looked upon as a cretin." Because the objective and subjective became one, the juxtaposition of objects apparently unrelated occur. A simile made by a surrealist painter seems to reflect their painting accurately—"as beautiful as the chance

meeting of a sewing machine and an umbrella on a dissecting table."

The first trend towards surrealism was begun by Chagall, in whose paintings the possible mix with the impossible, figures float in the air, and all the usual trappings of surrealism are present, although his technical approach is more delicate than is that of most of his school. Other major painters of the movement were Chirico, whose imagery recalls the decay of Classical civilization; Dali whose weird combinations of objects are painted with meticulous care, Miro, whose objects are generally not naturalistic but imaginary and abstract, Max Ernst, and Picasso. A painter much influenced by surrealism although not a member of the movement was Paul Klee, who painted the images in his mind and not a reproduction of eye experience, and created by means of child-like drawing and personal symbolism an intellectual fairyland.

As is usual with English artists, most of our country's important painters belonged to no school or movement formed on the continent, but pursued their own individual methods and vision. But before considering a few of them, one French individual painter must be mentioned. Le Douanier Rousseau was a genuine primitive painter, unpolluted by the teachings of any art school, and he produced portraits and groups, suburban scenes and imaginative landscapes of peculiar charm. Returning to the English painters, most of them were interested in the continental movements, and absorbed the influence of one or more of the foreign schools into their personal idiom. Wyndham Lewis was influenced by Cubism and Futurism in his Vorticist movement, which exalted the mechanical and violent. William Roberts was a member of this group for a while, but he applied his individual stylization and formal method to common events and Cockney illustration, making effective use of his genius for humorous characterization. Matthew Smith practised a kind of polite Fauvism, delighting in wild, bold brush strokes and rich, violent colours. Although the work of Augustus John has vitality, technical skill, and a sharp understanding of human character, it lacks the co-ordinating power, so important to works of art. The wars brought into prominence many British artists, the most important being Paul Nash, who succeeded in wresting beauty out of horror, and conveyed in his war pictures of No Man's Land a sense that war was wounding the spiritual being of the unwise. Wadsworth's compelling pictures of sea-shore life, show a surrealist influence in their juxtaposition of normally unrelated objects. Graham Sutherland's landscapes attempt to convey the first sensational, emotional impact they make on the poet's consciousness but his "Crucifixion," while portraying human

agony most effectively, seems to lack the necessary spiritual feeling. A true English primitive, unconnected with all European painting, is Stanley Spencer, who gains an intensity of vision in his religious painting from intense concentration.

There is, however, one outstanding figure in European art of the twentieth century, who is a personification of all that modern art is trying to achieve. Picasso has painted in nearly every possible style, from representationalism to cubism and surrealism, and is for ever experimenting and trying to find a new and original art form. Ever since representationalism was carried to the most extreme limits possible, artists have been searching after a plastic symbol of reality. Some, perhaps most, of what we now term modern art, will not be of any lasting importance, but this does not mean that all the experiments were not worth making. For it is the artist's purpose to create, not to copy, and all the different artistic movements are attempts to keep art alive in order that it may make a significant contribution to modern civilization. Some artists have been more successful than others, but a satisfactory and lasting new art form has not yet been achieved, and the constant experiment and changing in artistic fashions will continue until it has.

C. J. H.

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### Music

ABOUT a hundred years ago, music in England was not at such a high level as other aspects of English life, musical activity in other countries being much more interesting with such composers as Verdi in Italy, Berlioz in France, and Schumann, Wagner, and Brahms in Germany.

Germany was undoubtedly in the lead a century ago, the primary musician being Schumann, who has been called the "very centre and personification of the Romantic movement." We see him at his best in his songs; with some definite text in view he could write more fluently and reveal his lyrical genius better than he could when writing for the orchestra, for instance. Nevertheless, his pianoforte compositions are on a different plane altogether from those of his Hungarian contemporary, Liszt, who, in his piano music, usually hid much of the musical meaning with mere display of technical brilliance.

Richard Wagner was the leading opera-writer of the time. His genius was very considerable in this direction, for he had a full understanding of stagecraft, could quite fluently write effective verse for the stage, and possessed also a sense of musical colour so important in opera. His theory of music-drama was that its three aspects, "gesture, poetry and sound," should be equal in importance, none predominating, but all

intensifying each other. In practice this is not always possible, especially in tragedy, and so it is not surprising that Wagner's masterpiece should be a comedy—"Die Meistersinger."

Wagner's great contemporary, Brahms, was as different as he possibly could be from the music-dramatist. His greatest compositions include chamber music, several works for choir and orchestra such as the "Requiem" and the "Schicksalslied," and concertos and symphonies, in which compositions the influences of Bach, Beethoven, and the Romantic school are apparent.

We will pass over such composers as Hugo Wolf, Dvorak, and Grieg, important though they be, to see how French music was progressing at this time. French art has usually kept itself as free as possible from external influence, and until about 1870 music had done so. Then, however, the influence of other nationalities became evident, although the most eminent French composer of the time, Saint-Saëns, was unaffected. The greatest influence in France was that of César Franck, Flemish by birth, who raised the standard of French music very considerably.

Russian music was gaining strength with composers like Moussorgsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Borodin, and of course the cosmopolitan Tchaikovsky. There is some controversy as to the value of Tchaikovsky's music; by some he is upheld as being very great, by others his music is thought to be, although pleasing, very insubstantial and shallow, and these maintain that when his music is a little older it will fade into the ranks of his Russian contemporaries.

English music at this time can be viewed in a more favourable light than hitherto, for the black hour had now passed. After the golden age of English music, namely the age of the Tudors and Purcell, there was a lamentable decline, in spite of efforts made by such musicians as the two Wesleys in the early nineteenth century. The first English composer to raise the standard appreciably was Sullivan, whose comic operas have never been surpassed. However, his more serious music was unimpressive, and it was left to Hubert Parry and Stanford to improve matters (possibly the greatest gift of the latter to us being that many of our modern musicians were pupils of his). Edward Elgar then came to the fore, enriching the music of Britain with what Sir George Dyson calls "his frank emotion, opulent scoring, spacious architecture, and wealth of decoration." Delius and Gustav Holst were also composing at this time.

Germany's chief representative was Richard Strauss, and Italy's Puccini, whose operas have been more universally accepted than anyone's except those of Mozart, Wagner, and Verdi, while in France one of the greatest

pianoforte-writers of all time was composing—Debussy, whose delicate musical colouring is rather reminiscent of that of Delius and of the Finnish Sibelius.

Finally, we come to the period of "ultra-modern" music, much of which has been subjected to many unpleasant remarks. One well-known musical observer has said that few critics would risk their reputations by attempting to decide whether the actual notes are correct or not. Of course, by no means all modern composers show these revolutionary trends, but the public nowadays has a strong bias in general against modern music, such composers as Vaughan Williams and Benjamin Britten being classified with Stravinsky and Béla Bartok, simply because they are not always understood. There is a lamentable apathy towards "this modern stuff," the popular cry being for Handel or Tchaikovsky.

Britain is now, musically, one of the leading countries in the world, we can proudly say, for we have a host of first-rate composers—an improvement indeed, on our condition a hundred years ago. May it ever be so!

D.A.W.

### British Politics

I WRITE NOW with a portrait of Gladstone gazing down upon me from its oaken frame. The gnarled face, the wispy, white hair, the piercing, shining eyes, the prominent cheekbones, the tight, thin lips—such are the features of the Grand Old Man as he sits attired in a spotted cravat and a grey jacket, in the buttonhole of which reposes a sprig of heather. He gazes from an age of propriety, orthodoxy and gross insular complacency. Yet, though in many ways symbolic of this age, which has now perished, crashing in flames as did the Crystal Palace, Gladstone also helped to inaugurate a new era. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, and entering Parliament like all the best men—through a rotten borough—this rising hope of the "stern, unbending Tories" was in 1852, though now of more moderate views, still attached to the Victorian country-house tradition. "Society"—from whose ranks the governing classes were exclusively drawn (with a very few exceptions such as Cobden and Bright) until after the Second Reform Act of 1867—"Society" was destined to be governed and its standards jealously guarded by a few peeresses until the twilight of the century. It is significant, however, that it was only his education that had lifted Gladstone from the ranks of the merchants and manufacturers, and that the political career that he chose was more normally that of scions of noble houses. In his later years, however, Gladstone inaugurated a new era with such graceless but effective innovations as his Midlothian Campaign, for which major

departure from constitutional practice there existed only the doubtful precedent of Peel's Tamworth Manifesto. Gladstone's life-long rival Disraeli sneered at this "Pilgrimage of Passion," but it was he who foreshadowed the rule of "caucuses" in Britain with the establishment of the Central Office. Whereas Disraeli always remained delightedly pre-occupied with mixing amongst the nobility, Gladstone became gradually more friendly with Bright and the Radicals. His policy of Home Rule for Ireland heralded a fundamental change in the geography of British politics; his conciliatory attitude towards the U.S.A. over the issue of the "ALABAMA" dispute heralded a change in the official attitude to the New World. Though politely detested by his Queen, whom it is said he addressed as if she were a public meeting, Gladstone remained typically Victorian in his outlook on life. A noble Lord was moved to remark that he had no objection to Gladstone always having the ace of trumps up his sleeve but he did object to his (Gladstone's) insistence that God had put it there. Mercifully for his peace of mind Gladstone passed away before the very foundations of the Victorian way of life were shattered by the emergence, phoenix-like, of the characteristics of a new age, aeroplanes and fast motor transport, the irresistible floodwaters of cheap journalism and the emancipation of women. The breaking down thus of the hitherto immense barriers of time and space, and the fact that, as E.M. Forster suggests, "Society" has become synonymous with the state, have been the cause of many revolutionary changes, none probably as great as that in the backcloth before which political battles are fought.

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The year 1852 witnessed the death of the Duke of Wellington, the victor of Waterloo and the protagonist of opposition to the Great Reform Bill. There were men alive in this year who could remember the first news of the French Revolution reaching England. Like the year in which we now live, 1852 followed a year in which the nation had put itself on show. The unfortunate Europeans, having failed to master the supposedly English secret of combining liberty with order (for three years previously, most of Europe had been in the throes of revolutions), were invited as a consolation to come and admire the peace, progress and prosperity of Britain. What progress has taken place in the political sphere in the last hundred years? How does 1952 compare with 1852, and what event, what trends, what fundamental changes in the raw materials, the structure and the atmosphere of British politics have occurred in the last ten decades?

The Crown alone remains in the Victorian mould. The Prince Consort it was who

realised that the Crown should be above party in order to preserve the essential dignity of its station, and who persuaded the Queen to attempt a position of impartiality which has been emulated by her successors. However, on occasions of constitutional crisis when the normal functions of appointing, being consulted, encouraging and warning become more than formalities, the Monarch has had to dive into the political maelstrom. Such occasions are only when there is no one obvious candidate for the position of Prime Minister, or when any major change in the Constitution is contemplated. Events worthy of mention in this connection are the crisis of 1910-11 when there was a head-on clash between Lords and Commons following the Lords unprecedented step of rejecting the Budget introduced by Lloyd-George, and the choice of a Commoner in preference to a Peer to lead a Conservative administration in 1924. The 1910 crisis was the last occasion on which a serious threat of large-scale ennoblement has been used in the certain knowledge that the Lords would pass almost anything rather than see the threat translated into reality.

The last hundred years have seen changes in the nominal status of the Monarchy. From 1877-1947 the Sovereigns of Great Britain were also Emperors of India, and in 1930 the Statute of Westminster made them titular rulers of five politically independent Dominions. The only other occasion on which the Monarchy has figured prominently in the political scene was in 1936 when it was shown that a King who (probably in more spheres than one) held contrary views to those of his ministers could be forced to abdicate. In Queen Victoria's time a violent disapproval on her part of her new ministers' views could lead to an exactly opposite result and did once lead to her engineering Palmerston's dismissal. However, whilst the Crown has meanwhile been secluded in its ivory tower for the rest of the century, performing most important social functions, the turmoil in the dust of the arena has been truly alarming.

The Liberal Party has been replaced by the Labour Party; *laissez-faire* has gradually disappeared and State control eventually imposed in its place; the rights of the individual have been subordinated to the Felicific Calculus; and the sort of electioneering inaugurated by the Midlothian Campaign has been adapted to caucus-controlled parties, modern communications and an electorate radically altered both in quantity and quality. All these are aspects of the same evolutionary phase. A fundamental change of a different sort is, however, embodied in the secession of Eire from the United Kingdom.

Socialism, a political creed of a different order altogether from those of the old Liberal and Tory controversies, made little

progress until after the Reform Bill of 1918, since when appeal to emotions and prejudices carefully planned on a vast scale by caucus-controlled parties has swept from the field a Liberal Party composed of individualists who believed in rational argument and intellectual appeal alone. Whether the emancipation of women has anything to do with this growth of emotionalism is a moot point. Certain it is that the suffragette movement with its Edwardian campaigns (typified by hunger-strikes, disturbances caused by chaining women to iron railings at Westminster, leaflet raids in the House of Commons itself, corrosive chemicals poured into letter-boxes, and a martyrdom beneath the hoofs of the Royal Ascot winner) was more colourful than reasonable.

Other great examples of "direct action" in the last century are the Sinn Fein outrages and the General Strike of 1926. The respectable elements of Trade Unionism, which has been, especially since the reversal of the Taff Vale decision, the means of support without which Socialism could not have progressed so rapidly, no longer condone the action of 1926. Indeed, the charge of "class-war" brought against British Socialists is often due to the fact that those who have made this charge recall days when the lower classes were represented, by no means effectively, by one or other of the two political parties composed of the upper and middle classes. Nowadays, incidentally, it is the middle classes who are not accurately represented. At all events whether this class-war exists or not, since the First World War the tone of politics has been much more moderate and less acrimonious. Even if silk-hats now grace the dignity of the Chamber only in Ascot week, the sword-lines have never been so little needed, even in the last Parliament, with the Government's uniquely small majority and with financial proposals assuredly incomprehensible to Gladstone (whose life-long ambition it was to abolish the income-tax, which in his time never rose above 7d. in the £). No revolution was necessary in 1945 before the Labour Government began to create State Socialism. Our progress from jingoistic Imperialism to peace-seeking membership of U.N.O. is indeed reflected in the atmosphere of our domestic politics.

Finally, despite the apparent accuracy of many of William Morris's forecasts in "News from Nowhere," his forecast that 1952 is the year destined to witness the glorious revolution (following precipitately upon the failure of State Socialism) will probably be proved false; we shall continue to be staidly governed—though not with alarming efficiency—by the best club in London; pen and ink will triumph over iron and blood in domestic affairs; and that most vital part of our Constitution—the unwritten part—will

be preserved, as long as this country remains a limited monarchy. Not only does the British Monarchy command world-wide respect (as has recently been tragically testified at the death of His Majesty King George VI), but to-day the words of Shakespeare, written as they were in the reign of the first Elizabeth, carry as much weight as ever :

“ There’s such divinity doth hedge a King  
That treason can but peep to what it  
would.”

K.J.W.

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*The E.P.S.A. Journal, The Barrovian, The Blundellian, The Bromsgrovian, The City of London School Magazine, The College Times, The Coventrian, Darlaston Grammar School Magazine, The Denstonian, The Dixonian, The Eastwood Gazette, The Edwardian, The Ellesmerian, The Five Ways Magazine, The*

*Hammer, The Herefordian, King Edward VII School Magazine, Twixt Road and Rail, The Laxtonian, The Leamingtonian, The Leys Fortnightly, The Limit, The Novocastrian, The Nuncaton Edwardian, The Old Edwardians' Gazette, The Ousel, The Phoenix, The Portcullis, The Radleian, The St. Edward's School Chronicle, Sallvey Grammar School Magazine, The Shenstonian, The Skylark, Sotoniensis, The Staffordian, The Stourbridge Edwardian, The Tettenhallian, Ulula, Wolstanton County Grammar School Magazine, The Wolvernian, The Wulfrunian, The Wykehamist.*

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#### ODE

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A king humanitarian  
This School might never have become  
A quartercentenarian.



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## 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 .. .. .	£4 4 0
But until the expiration of three years from the date of leaving School .. .. .	1 10 0
and then for the next 4 years .. .. .	3 3 0
Country Members .. .. .	1 0 0
All University Members .. .. .	0 10 0
Honorary Members not less than .. .. .	0 10 0

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

N. J. F. CRAIG,

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*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 "King Edward's School Club" and sent to the Hon. Treasurer at the School.

