



# KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CHRONICLE

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MARCH 1956

The aims of the CHRONICLE, as stated in the first of the present series, March, 1875 :

- (1) To bind together all sections within the School.
- (2) To strengthen the connection between our old and present members.
- (3) To Chronicle all events of interest to the School.

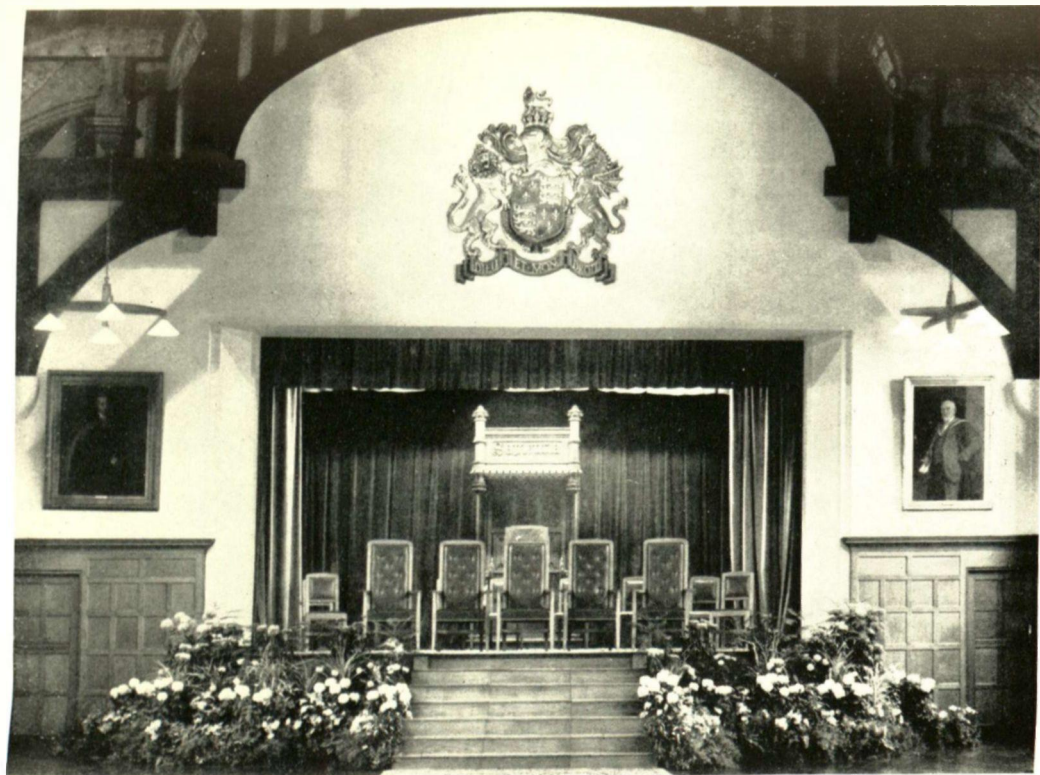
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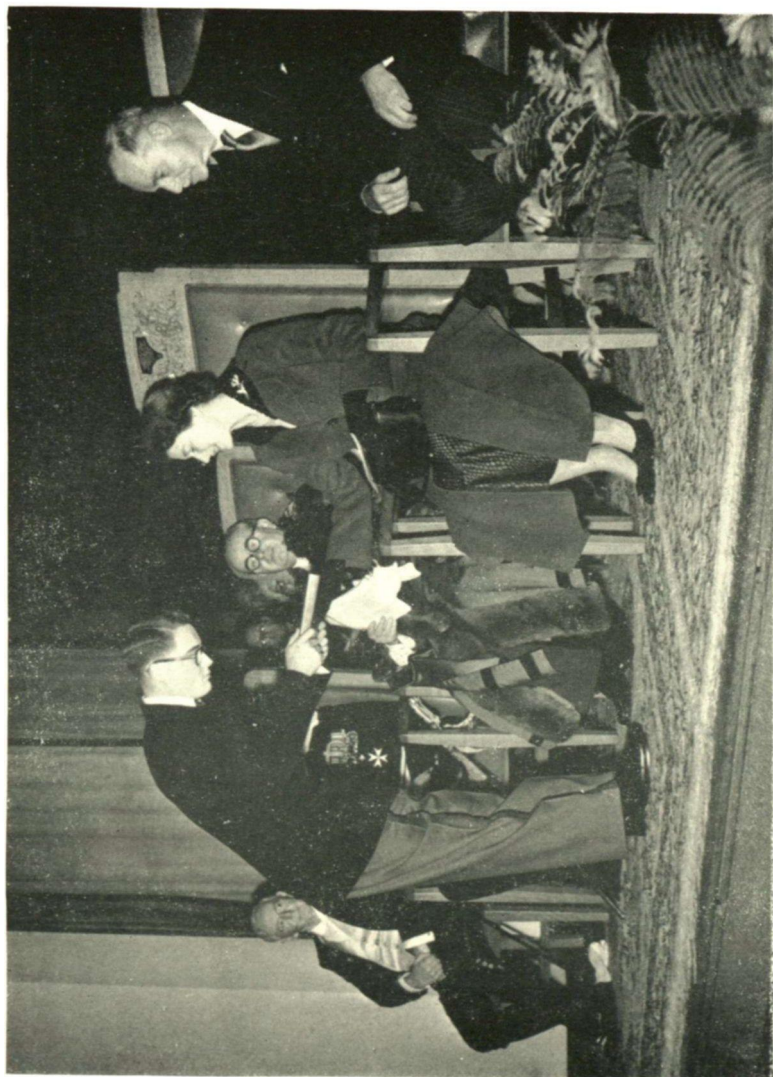


SET FOR A QUEEN



9-0 a.m., THURSDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER, 1955

GEOFFREY G. HOARE, O.E.



THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN PRESENTS A HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

# King Edward's School Chronicle

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## EDITORIAL

"... mutability of mind in the English makes the ancient friends of our nation very backward to engage with us in such alliances as are necessary to our mutual defence and security."

The sentiment might almost be modern, but of course this is that staunch "Britisher" Joseph Addison, who took it upon himself, so conscientiously, to be the "nurse, the guide, the guardian of our hearts" in the days when the first Hanoverian came to colonise England. Addison relates with controlled and urbane relish, the anecdote of the Prince de Conde who :

"used to ask the English Ambassador upon the arrival of the mail 'who was Secretary of State in England by that post?' as a piece of raillery upon the fickleness of our politics."

We must note, though not, alas, with relish, that to-day the tables have been turned : it is France who is now the unstable element in European politics : England is in danger of being accused of an excessive conservatism, a conservatism, not of politics, but of thought.

Who are our accusers ?

In a gentle way, though a way which is nevertheless a token of the faults which the world finds with us, it is the French themselves. Pierre Daninos in his amusing book, *Major Thompson*, tells us how a Harley Street surgeon once opened the brain of an Englishman to find :

"one of Her Majesty's Battleships, then a waterproof, a royal crown . . . a bottle of whisky, a Bible, and a bit of the earth on which the sun never sets."

All this is told in a spirit of gentle raillery. No longer are we, it seems, a nation before whom to tremble. We must be patronized as if we were the Oldest Woman in Wigan, though we must not receive half so much publicity. Our notion of patriotic heroism (the Battleship) is found to be hopelessly out of date, but faintly amusing, since it is tempered by the caution which prompts the Englishman to put his mac on, on a wet day on his way to the scaffold. Royalty is dismissed and Imperialism laughed at, while the Frenchman cocks a cynical snoot at our languid Protestantism by setting a bottle of the Devil's Own firmly on top of the Family Bible.

It is an uncomfortable feeling, this sense of "being got at" (an expressive if a not very literary turn of phrase). Counter-accusation is a natural but hasty measure, the product of stumbling diplomacy, and invariably antagonises the original accuser without acquitting the victim of the crime with which he has been labelled. We must be patient. What *are* our sins ?

The quotation from Addison shows us that whatever our success in purging ourselves of the sins of to-day, we shall, beyond a shadow of a

doubt, be accused of some equally, if not more heinous crime, on the morrow. Often it will be the exact opposite of our previous trespass. Thus the charge of mutability is exchanged for one of unprogressive thought. We are informed, sometimes politely, always firmly, that we are living in a past era. We are laughed at by our enemies and brusquely invited by our friends to snap out of it or get out of it.

What lesson is there in this for us? The sins of yesterday are not necessarily the sins of to-day, but they stand a very good chance of being the sins of tomorrow. Two hundred and fifty years ago Addison told us to go steady. To-day we are being tersely told to get a move on or else. We are being nudged out of the international scene by a big bustling brother on the right and a more ominous Big Brother on the left, while a sharp little French point-of-view jabs us surreptitiously through the chinks in our armour. But it is a characteristic of critics that they are often less in a position to criticize than their victims. France has found herself, for all her hardheadedness and for all her loveliness, unable to evolve a practicable political system, and the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. have their less endearing traits. (I do not find it congenial, for example, to have someone shout at me "See ya, kid!" when he means goodbye, nor move around Europe as if he not only won the last war but was quite prepared to win the one he was about to start as well). The American culture does not excite me, and the M.V.D. does not attract me.

No: we may be retrogressive; we may even be living in the past. But at least the past has taught us something:

*Quid est sapientia: semper idem velle atque idem nolle.*

"To be always of the same mind" is not to be hopelessly conservative; it is merely to retain one's identity in a world where opinions must be changed almost daily if one is to avoid the charge brought against us.

We are in a position to preserve what has been found good, and reject what has been found bad, in the past. Let us preserve our patriotic heroes, and our Royalty; let us retain our age-old prudence, and take our maces with us; let us read our Bibles, and, if we are that way minded, take an occasional nip from our bottle as well. Do not, however, let us deny that we have our stuffer characteristics. Let us at all costs preserve the heart, if not necessarily the roast beef and Yorkshire pud, of Olde England.

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### SCHOOL DIARY

The Michaelmas Term began on Thursday, September 15th and ended on Tuesday, December 20th. Half-term was taken from Friday, October 28th (transferred from Founder's Day) till November 1st.

The General Committee of the School Club met on September 21st to appoint officers and committees for the coming year. The Rowing Club was affiliated to the School Club.

Holy Communion was celebrated in the Chapel on the first Tuesday of the term and on four subsequent occasions. This year thirty-six members of the school are being prepared for Confirmation.



The main event of the term was the visit, on November 3rd, of Her Majesty the Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh. They were presented with an address by the Captain of the School and subsequently inspected an Exhibition representing the work of the school, before finally visiting the Memorial Chapel. The visit lasted over thirty minutes and is the first by a reigning monarch. In 1855 Prince Albert paid a brief visit to the New Street buildings, and in 1887 Queen Victoria halted outside the building to accept an address in Latin from the School Captain—but she did not enter the school.

Founder's Day Prizegiving was held at 11-15 a.m. on October 15th when the Rt. Revd. the Lord Bishop of Aston presented the prizes and spoke entertainingly at very short notice, on behalf of the Bailiff, who was ill.

The Old Edwardians Triennial Dinner was held in Big School on September 30th.

Field Day took place on October 21st and manoeuvres were carried out, once more, in heavy rain with a high wind blowing.

Weather conditions were more favourable on Guy Fawkes day when the XV retained the Siviter-Smith Cup by winning a hard-fought match at Eastern Road by nine points to six.

The C.C.F. Church Parade took place at Edgbaston Old Church on November 13th when Major-General Cox, D.S.O., Mid-Western Command, took the salute. The sermon was preached by the Padre of Eaton Hall O.C.T.U.

In commemoration of the Queen's Visit, six trees were planted in the Prefects' Grove on December 13th. In a steady downpour the Lord Mayor, the Bailiff and Mr. F. H. Viney first planted an oak tree each. From the school, M. Wilkins, G. O. Millar and C. W. Long were accorded the honour of planting fir trees. (The School Captain was unfortunately in hospital.) The ceremony was finally completed by the singing of the School Song.

On odd Saturdays during the term the Sixth Form have heard about the Colombo Plan, have been addressed by the Professor of Economics at Birmingham University, followed, whimsically enough, by a staunch Trade Unionist, and have learnt more of the now unknown subject of "Social Work" from Brother Ronald.

The Prefects' Christmas Ball, however, was the social event of the year. It was held on January 2nd and was pronounced by many to be the most outstanding Ball for years.

The Lent Term began on Tuesday, January 17th and is to end on March 22nd. The short term of the year has been further shortened this time by the three days' holiday graciously granted by Her Majesty the Queen.

The first Communion of the Calendar Year was celebrated on Tuesday, January 31st.

The Foundation Service was held in St. Martin's on January 26th. The Rev. H. A. Hamilton was the preacher.

The Dramatic Society, returning to the Bard, presented "Coriolanus" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of February.

## GOVERNORS' NEWS

Councillor C. Sweet, a member of the City Council, and Mr. R. Y. Logan, a Worcestershire County Councillor, joined the board of governors this winter, to replace Mr. W. H. Wiggins-Davies and Professor J. Oliver Thompson, who have both retired.

To Mr. Siward James, whose wife died on the 23rd of December, we extend our deepest sympathy.

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## OLD EDWARDIAN NEWS

Mr. S. D. Sargent, formerly Director of Postal Services, and Director of Personnel for the Post Office, was last year appointed Deputy Director-General of the Post Office and took up his new post in October.

In September, 1955, Mr. Norman Carr was appointed a County Court Judge. After leaving school he went up to Queen's College, Cambridge and was called to the Bar in 1922. He has held the chairmanship of many Tribunals including the Military Service (Hardships) Tribunal. He has been appointed to Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to P. B. Jackson, who left school in 1947, on his England cap, and on his very creditable performances against Wales and Ireland. The "Rugger Characters" in THE CHRONICLE for December, 1946, has this to say of him :

"A fast and extremely elusive wing-three-quarter who would be all the more valuable if he combined better. He often holds on too long and thus wastes chances. His tackling is very good but his kicking is sometimes uncertain."

It is interesting to conjecture, who would have predicted an England cap for him on such recommendation.

We note with pleasure that at the Freshmen's Athletic Sports on November 12th, 1955, J. D. Waterstreet won the Javelin Event for Cambridge with a throw of 182-ft. 7-ins., a record for this meeting. He is also Army Javelin Champion.

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## COMMON ROOM

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Buttle on the birth of a son, Jeremy William, on September 28th, 1955, and Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, on the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth, on November 18th, 1955.

We send our sympathy to Mr. Osborne in his sudden illness, and wish him a full recovery.

We have welcomed Mr. Ackstine, who is teaching Modern Languages in place of Mr. Pettyfer, who has taken a post at Birmingham University.

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## PREFECTS' ROOM

R. K. WILSON has been appointed Captain of the School.

M. WILKINS has been appointed Vice-Captain of the School.

The following gentlemen have been appointed Prefects :

J. N. BROMLEY (*Gifford*).

J. COLE (*Heath*).

A. N. B. DAVIES : Captain of Athletics ; House Captain (*Levett*).  
 R. W. N. DAVIS : Vice-Captain of Rugby Football (*Vardy*).  
 F. K. HAMMOND : Secretary Scientific Society ; House Captain (*Jeune*).  
 J. G. HENLY : Captain of Shooting ; C.S.M. in C.C.F. ; House Captain (*Cary Gilson*).  
 N. G. M'GOWAN : School Recorder ; Head of the House (*Prince Lee*).  
 J. MULFORD : Captain of Cricket ; House Captain (*Evans*).  
 J. S. PENDRY : Secretary Art Society (*Vardy*).  
 K. H. T. SCHIEMANN : Secretary Debating Society ; House Captain (*Gifford*).  
 P. W. TROWN : Secretary Pugh Society ; P.T. Leader ; House Captain ; A.S.M. in Scouts (*Gifford*).  
 P. C. N. VAUGON : Drum-Major in C.C.F. (*Prince Lee*).  
 R. D. WILDBORE : (*Jeune*).  
 M. I. WILLIAMS : Secretary S.C.M. ; Scrivener in Shakespeare Society ; C.S.M. in C.C.F. ; Captain of the House (*Vardy*).

At the end of the Summer Term, the Chief Master entertained last year's Prefects to dinner in the Cartland Room. All present spent a most enjoyable evening.

## THE CARTLAND CLUB

As any gentleman of the Club will tell you, up until the present we have had a quiet year. Most of our time has been spent in proving that membership of the Club is not incompatible with hard work : but we have not been too busy to take care of the second of the club's aims—civilized conversation. There was never much danger of our neglecting this. Equally important, perhaps, has been the process by which even the most blatant scientists and the most absolute of classicists have come to live together in peace ; or relative peace.

We have a great deal to live up to, however. Our predecessors of five years ago would have gasped at the luxurious surroundings which we are beginning to take for granted. We certainly live a very comfortable life upstairs in the Club : *Avete ogni speranza, voi ch'entrate* !—as Dante might have put it.

Generations of tea-drinkers will be indebted to Mr. C. J. O. Garrard for his handsome gift of a kettle to add to the Club's amenities.

C.W.L.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The following elections have been made :

*Oxford* :

P. W. Trown to an Open Harrison Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Oriel College.

G. O. Millar to an Open Exhibition in English at Christ Church.

D. Andrews to an Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Merton College.

C. W. Long to a Deakin Scholarship in Classics at Balliol College.

### *Cambridge :*

J. A. Lawrence to a Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences at Clare College.

P. W. Cutts to a Music Scholarship at Clare College.

K. H. T. Schiemann to a Minor Scholarship in History at Pembroke College.

P. K. Hawes to an Open Exhibition in Classics at St. John's College.

M. R. Bird to an Open Exhibition in Mathematics at Clare College.

M. I. Williams to a Barcroft Exhibition in Classics at Sidney Sussex.

T. C. Brooke to a Rustat Exhibition in Modern Languages at Jesus College.

## COLOURS

### We congratulate :

R. W. N. Davis, G. G. Kemp, M. Wilkins and J. S. Pendry on the re-award of their School Rugby Football Colours.

D. F. Soutter, L. R. Holloway, J. N. Bromley, M. G. Varley, G. O. Millar, G. K. Caulton, G. R. Bellamy and M. W. Goode on the award of their School Rugby Football Colours.

F. K. Hammond and P. G. Robinson on the re-award of their School XXX Colours.

A. D. Edwards on the re-award of his School Swimming Colours.

A. E. Hodgetts, J. R. Richardson, P. Davies and A. C. Young on the award of their School Swimming Colours.

P. Broadhurst on the award of his School Shooting Colours.

A. N. B. Davies, N. J. Whitley and A. Hughes on the award of their School Eton Fives Colours.

P. K. Hawes and D. J. Hobbs on the award of their School Chess Colours.

## CHAPEL NOTES

Last term was probably the most eventful in the history of the Chapel.

We now have an addition to the pattern of services : Mattins at 8-45 every Wednesday morning. The response to this has so far proved small.

The first weeks of the term saw the installation of a permanent electric heater, which is effective but far from noiseless. This made it necessary to turn round all the furniture in the Chapel. For those interested in the niceties of orientation, the "East" end is now twenty degrees east of South.

The highlight of the term came on November 3rd, when Her Majesty the Queen paid a visit to the Chapel at the end of her tour of the School. Here Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh heard the Chapel Choir, under Dr. Willis Grant's direction, sing the motet, "O Lord, make Thy servant, Elizabeth," by William Byrd. We understand that Her Majesty afterwards expressed her thanks for the fine singing, and that the Duke took great interest in the architecture of the Chapel.



It was announced at the end of the term that Mrs. T. C. Kemp, widow of the late dramatic critic of *The Birmingham Post*, had offered the School a memorial to her husband, an Old Edwardian ; and it had been decided that this would take the form of a new altar with the necessary furnishings. The gift made by "T.C.K.'s" family is to be added to by subscriptions from any who knew and admired him. An appeal has already been made in *The Birmingham Post*. Gifts should be sent to the Chief Master at the School.

No spectacular progress has been made with Chapel benches, but we are grateful to the small group who helped to carry on this work during the Christmas holidays.

We acknowledge with gratitude the following gifts : an anonymous donation to provide a bell, to be mounted outside the Chapel ; a donation from Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Birch to provide an alms-dish ; a pair of cruets from Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Pettitt ; a white burse and veil from J. L. G. Lever, M. Parslew and R. G. Roe.

Collections at the five celebrations of Holy Communion last term amounted to £9 12s. 8d.

T.C.B.

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### GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL

Blessed at its Foundation by King Edward's bounty, the School continues to incur debts of great gratitude to more recent Benefactors ; and the year 1955 saw a very rich harvest of generosity to the School.

First of all Sir Richard Howard-Vyse has established a Fund, partly for the benefit of those who leave School to make their career in the Armed Services, and partly to promote adventurous enterprise in the rising generation. To Sir Richard himself we hope to have the opportunity of voicing our thanks personally on a visit to the School in the summer, but his Fund being now established, we would set on record our gratitude for a most generous and imaginative gift.

Secondly the family and friends of T. C. Kemp, O.E., late Dramatic Critic of *The Birmingham Post*, have signified their desire to erect a permanent Memorial to a loyal churchman in the Memorial Chapel. This gift we have accepted with great gratitude, and it is very inspiring to be receiving from far and wide tributes to T.C.K. and generous contributions towards the erection in Chapel of a permanent Altar.

Thirdly, Mr. G. A. Ratcliff, who did us so much kindness in making the film of the Royal Visit, has now decided to provide us in the large Lecture Room with the equipment of a modern small cinema. The work will be undertaken during 1956, so that this Room may become later in the year The Ratcliff Theatre.

To Dr. Walshman Ward, O.E., we are grateful for the painting by his mother of the old Upper Corridor in New Street, which he gave us in time for display for the Royal Visit, and which now hangs in the Library.

To the parents who have responded to the Swimming Bath Heating Appeal we would say thank you on the occasion of hearing the news that the Fund has been raised. It is good to see work already in progress on the installation of the Heating Plant.

To Old Edwardians, some of them very old, we would say thank you for a number of interesting relics of the past which were given in connection with the Royal Visit. Particular interest has been shown in L. Holland's photographs from the end of last century, and in Medals which were struck at various Commemorations.

Parents who, upon their boys leaving school, give a leaving present do much year by year to enrich the opportunities here. We are specially grateful to have been enabled to obtain for the Library a number of important books too costly to be purchased out of the Library Fund.

To all of these the School owes great gratitude. It is inspiring to know that people thus believe in K.E.S., and it encourages the present generation to be worth believing in.

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### SCHOOL NOTES

We congratulate K. H. T. Schiemann and R. M. Sweeney on retaining the Charles Massey Debating Trophy for the school, in an inter-school competition last term.

We further congratulate M. A. Whitley on gaining entrance to Dartmouth Naval College, and G. D. Andrews on his entrance to Cranwell where he has already settled down well.

D. G. Todd has won fame by being the first to score the hundred on a five-bull target in the N.S.R.A. competition. We heartily congratulate him and wish him as much success with the Army Medical Board as a member of last year's Eight who was excused National Service on the grounds of bad eyesight. (He also, incidentally, managed to persuade the learned medical men that he had a stiff toe joint, a rare foot disease and was deaf. He was all right when he left school.)

During the summer holidays, J. D. L. Adams and P. N. Garrard travelled with the British Schools' Exploring Society to Newfoundland, J. G. Evans and J. B. Huskins found the W. H. Rhodes Educational Trust Tour of Canada somewhat easier going, and N. J. Whitley lived in a tent at the World Scout Jamboree in Toronto. They all had unforgettable experiences, so they say.

H. R. H. Gibbons attended the Christmas Holiday Lectures of the Council for Education in World Citizenship at which the Foreign Secretary and the Rt. Hon. Earl Attlee were speakers.

We welcome to the Ground Staff Mr. T. L. Brierley, who has come to replace Mr. Hearn on his retirement. Mr. Brierley brings with him years of experience as a cricketer himself. He has toured England with the Canadian XI and has played county cricket for Glamorgan and Lancashire. Already he has detected and removed the remains of what appears to have been an old Roman Washhouse beneath the troubled surface of the cricket square.

Part of the success of the Prefects' Christmas Ball—we apologize for harping on it—was undoubtedly due to the superb decorations which transformed Big School on the night of January 2nd. We are proud to reveal that they were the work of an Old Edwardian, Mr. George Ross, who was also in charge of the floral decoration of Big School on November 3rd.

We commiserate with all those injured on the field this season, and especially with one who contrives to catch everything, even rugger balls, on the end of his little finger. He is now unable to drink his tea properly.

One school activity which seems to receive little or no publicity, is the series of trips to Stratford every season to see the Bard. They are very worthwhile : the plays, believe it, you infant Euclids, are very enjoyable ; the comedies, especially, are vastly entertaining ; we have a nice big bus ; it is very cheap ; and what is more, Mr. Trott takes us, and brings us back.

A not unimportant athletic engagement occurred towards the end of the summer term when a Grand Cricket Game was contrived between a team of Gentlemen and a team of Players. The Players disported themselves with facility ; the Gentlemen with Good Breeding ; and the honours were admirably divided between them. We hope this pleasant custom will not be allowed to fall into desuetude.

Immediately before Christmas a party of sweet voices went carol-singing in the suburbs of the city and entertained several houses in aid of the Musicians' Benevolent Association. Another less benevolent party made its presence felt at the end of term when, considerably to their own surprise, we suspect, as well as to the surprise of others, they staged a minor sort of Glyndebourne in a certain corridor. At the end, we were all very happy.

The Card this year shocked the sensitive deeply. It got, we rather thought, right away from the Post-Impressionist trends we have noted of late and, utterly forsaking all painterly qualities, ruthlessly tied itself—and deliberately, we thought—to the simpler, linear appeal of a Goya. And how right of it, too.

Our fashion expert notes somewhat negatively, for the benefit of the Edwardian *beau monde*, that this year, flowers are out. Whether they will be in later in the year depends, we presume, on when they will be out.

It may be a stray relic of the Colombo Plan, or we may have won it in a U.S. Air Force Christmas Raffle. Anyway it has arrived. In pillar-box red with sundry strange devices on the side, it answers to the name of Butch. It will *not*, unfortunately, play long-playing records, nor do the washing. But it is very good at not working after one puts sixpence in.

To judge by the amount of brickwork which has been going up on the lower slopes of Park Vale, we shall soon be a built-up area. And we notice with apprehension that our sisters have crept nearer to us by the width of a tennis court, while a little heap of stones at the end of Upper Corridor marks the last mortal remains of the Archaeological Society, who have apparently been digging that crazy paving.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### OLD EDWARDIAN LETTER

*To the Editor of the CHRONICLE.*

SIR,

It is my pleasant duty first, Sir, to offer the School most hearty congratulations not only on having, but also on making the very most of,

the first Royal Visit in the history of King Edward's. Old Boys understood, though naturally they regretted, that this was *your* show, to which very few of us could be invited. From the few, though, came enthusiastic reports. From School Captain down you acquitted yourselves admirably and well deserved the Lord Mayor's tribute, paid a little later, that you had given a magnificent start to her Majesty's "progress" in Birmingham. We were very proud of you.

We ourselves have no event to record of comparable magnitude. The Twelfth Triennial Dinner, on September 30th, was, if anything, even more of a success than its predecessors. Wisely, it was decided that the experiment of holding the dinner in two places at once had more disadvantages than merits; so that tickets had to be limited to the 350 guests a closely-packed Big School could accommodate. About fifty late applicants had to be refused. Those of you, quite a few, who will be eligible for the Dinner of 1958 will no doubt make a note.

All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Air-Marshal Sir Charles Guest, one of the most distinguished of our living Old Edwardians, made an admirable Chairman; the speeches were all first-rate—with perhaps a special "credit" to Charles Vince (1906). Among those dining was Bernard Challen, who left school in 1882. It was a great joy, too, to see Commander Langley and "Joe" Manton. Also the ever-green Ford, School Porter for so many years.

Work on the new O.E. Football and Cricket ground goes on well; and one believes many of you now at the School will be able to use it as Old Boys. The Chief Master turned the first sod on October 28th and very good progress was made with levelling and draining during a fine autumn and early winter. The other activity, building up the funds for development, also goes on. Between £8,000 and £9,000 has been raised, so that we still have a long way to go. None-the-less, we are confident we shall get there.

Congratulations to the XV on another most successful season and commiserations to Wilson on the injury which kept him out of the later matches—notably the fine victory over Merchant Taylor's. Congratulations, too, on the successful visit to London of the Fives team. Our own athletic achievement still remains modest. Yet we believe that, despite the interference of National Service and the increasing number of men going to the Universities, sooner or later, good football at School will be reflected, as it used to be, in good O.E. football.

O.E.

## OXFORD LETTER

*To the Editor of the CHRONICLE.*

SIR,

We are not quite sure who found it, but the Genista Club is a lost cause no longer; and so we take up our collective pen to write briefly of some of the doings of our members. To say something of everybody would be too lengthy, to say everything of somebody too libellous; for the rest suffice as excuse our natural disinclination for coherent self-expression.



Last term we held two parties and it is rumoured that P. R. Foxall (University) has since been able to paper most of his room with the various letters of complaint he received from the Dean after our gathering there.

Not, of course, that we spend all our time at parties; there are strong, albeit as yet unconfirmed, rumours that some of our members are working. Needless to say, this category does not include Old Uncle Tom Keeley (Exeter and the Radcliffe Nurses' Home) nor A. R. N. Higgs (Wadham). The latter recently sought escape from the tedium of Oxford by going to the other place for his afternoon game of squash.

Also at Wadham is J. L. Eaton. He is President of the J.C.R., and spends his spare time in Cinemascopy and Campanology. The venerable figure of M. R. Maxam (Worcester) is still in evidence searching for fresh libraries in which to pursue his study of mountaineering. P. S. Trevis (Trinity), this year's President, struggles hopelessly with sleep, beer and Aristotle, all of which overcome him.

Oxford has already had its effect on some of the Freshmen. I. A. Downing (Exeter) has burst into print and whiskers. A. D. Grounds (Worcester) has got himself engaged—an event which brought forth many congratulations. P. J. Turner (Pembroke) having explored Iceland, is now intent on exploring something more fundamental, while J. D. L. Adams (Merton) has exchanged his job as Custodian of Prince Lee's Pink Boys for that of Guardian of his College's Pink Elephants. G. H. (Hearty) Herringshaw (St. Cath's) is still talking. P. H. R. Mercer, the blond beast of Teddy Hall, disdaining to arrive with the rest of the Freshmen, came up three weeks late.

But let this suffice as both information and warning. There is much more to do at Oxford than sport continually an Old Boys' tie, and yet he would be an unfortunate man who did not like occasionally to talk of old times, and touch the secret springs which unlock remembrance of things past. We rejoice in the great events of the past year and to you, Sir, and the School we send our very best wishes.

So, under the cloak of obscene obscurity, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

OXONIENSIS.

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## THE ROYAL VISIT, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1955

### THE WEEKS BEFORE.

It was at tea on July 8th when the Archbishop of Canterbury was visiting the School for Speech Day, that it was first whispered, very confidentially, to me that we might perhaps look forward to a Royal visit in the autumn. And thus there came in sight again the possibility of fulfilment of hopes entertained, but dashed, in 1952. The next I heard of it was in August when most people were away, and those who stayed thought of the swimming bath rather than future plans. Happening by chance to be back in Birmingham for two days, I was rung up and told to prepare within forty-eight hours a scheme and route for a brief Royal visit, which would be submitted to Buckingham Palace

immediately. I felt then, as I feel now, that the two things which it was essential that Her Majesty should be shown are Big School and the Chapel, our old Upper Corridor transplanted from New Street, restored and put to its new and inspiring purpose. When those two fixed points were decided the rest of the plan fell into place. Before leaving for Norway, I wrote straight to Mr. R. C. Dunt to commission a new verse for the Quatercentenary Song.

When we assembled for the Christmas term boys recognized that something was impending from the amount of fresh paint there was to be seen. The Common Room had news of the plan the day before term, and set up a Committee of masters in charge of the various phases of the progress. As soon as the news was public we could go to the arrangement of a long and increasingly intricate list of rehearsals, starting by ourselves in Big School and then bringing in almost a half of the High School to join us there—placing the Guard of the C.C.F.—should it be in three ranks, two ranks or in one?—and near the great day itself inviting large parties from the Foundation Grammar Schools to line the route, and rehearse their move round the buildings to the Parade Ground.

Meanwhile behind the scenes there was intense activity, and a tremendous amount of liaison with the Civic authorities, the Police, the Press, our neighbours. Plans and times were changed—and often changed back. At one time we were threatened with a mere passing visit such as Queen Victoria paid to New Street in 1887, merely stopping her carriage at the door. But in the event Her Majesty took the time table into her own hands, and we were given what we had planned for—about half an hour—and it did not seem in the least rushed. Through all the planning the School owes special thanks to the Lord Mayor, and to his Town Clerk, J. F. Gregg, O.E. : the Town Clerk spent hours on evening after evening at School checking every detail and most helpfully suggesting to me means of improving the occasion. Meanwhile under the planning and direction of Mr. J. B. Hurn every study or activity that has visible products was called in to contribute to the Exhibition in the new Upper Corridor. Not until the very last moment had I any idea what this would look like : and on the evening of November 2 I was overwhelmed by the glory of the transformation which had taken place. Mr. C. H. C. Blount unearthed from the Governors' strong rooms treasures from our history which most of us had never seen before, and set them on display in the Library. It has been estimated that during the afternoon of November 3rd nearly 3,000 people came to see the Royal Exhibitions.

On October 30th, half-term Sunday, a rehearsal took place at School for all the officials who were to be involved : if a bad dress rehearsal augurs a good performance 'on the night,' then omens were set fair for the Royal visit.

The one sad reflection is that all through the period of rehearsal we had lovely autumn weather : but when it came to the day itself, November weather was with us, overcast and drizzling. We had our plans for "Drench, drizzle or dry" : we hoped in vain for the last, but we were spared the first.

This was the first time in our history that the Sovereign has entered our portals : the Royal Visit marks the completion of our new home, and



The Visit of  
Her Majesty  
Queen Elizabeth II  
and  
His Royal Highness  
The Duke of Edinburgh  
on the  
3rd. November 1955

Elizabeth R

November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1955

Philip



THE GUARD OF HONOUR



sends us out with fresh inspiration into our fifth century of history. It will live in the memory of us all ; but for those who come after we have permanent records of it, for which we are specially grateful to Mr. G. G. Hoare, O.E., and Mr. G. A. Ratcliff. They have given to us a colour film of all the outside part of the Visit, photographs of the events in Big School, and a long-playing record of all that was said and sung in Big School and in Chapel.

R.G.L.

*(This article originally appeared in the "Birmingham Weekly Post.").*

NOVEMBER 3RD, 1955.

Ten o'clock on a dull, wet November morning does not seem, in retrospect, the best of times to welcome a Queen to School. After a four hundred years' wait, indeed, one could have wished for a glimpse of the sun to grace the occasion. Needless to say, however, the hour and the weather were factors which went unheeded in the general tension. Admittedly the grey sky started to drizzle a fine, gentle, but penetrating rain at the very moment when the convoy of cars slid into sight along the University Road. Admittedly the hundreds eagerly lining the Main Drive were being quietly and steadily soaked. But if anyone noticed it, then no one cared. Excitement was their only emotion as the sleek black cars swept in through the gateway and slowed to a crawl down the length of the Drive.

For those inside Big School, however, excitement was tinged with apprehension. From the Drive, the cheers swept up to us in ever-increasing waves as car after car drew up outside the Main Door. All this we could picture only. We could not see it. Nobody dared breathe a word, but as we faced each other across the aisle, the same thoughts were in all our minds : " Now she's walking through the Gild Hall, now turning—coming up the stairs . . . " Suddenly footsteps and a babble of voices carried up to us, and easily distinguishable from all the others was the clear ring of the Queen's voice. So she had come! Outside Big School could be heard the slight shuffle and murmur as the presentations were made. Inside, we quaked for fear that anything would go wrong. The Duke, not to be rushed, seemed to be talking to everyone while the Queen stood for several seconds, framed in the doorway—our first sight of her. And what struck us most forcibly was how little justice her photographs do her.

In Big School we sang with a verve which testified, not only to our loyalty, but also, I suspect, to our relief that what had been dreamt about and prepared for for weeks was actually taking place. But it was easy to hear that

*Elissam Elissam reginam celebramus*

was a welcome addition to the words of the Quatercentenary Song.

In the incredibly short time taken by the ceremony, we had sung this song, and the National Anthem, the School Captain had delivered his Address of Welcome and presented the Queen with a " History of the School." As the calm and dignified procession made its way slowly down

Big School once more, a crowd of photographers near the door jostled in an effort to get the best picture. In that moment we realized what must constitute a great part of the strain of the Royal itinerary: the continual conflict of a dignified occasion attended by the flash of the photographer's bulb. Of course it is necessary for the country to know what its Queen does, but it is none the less a pity that limelight should be a synonym for flashlight.

However, if the Queen was not unduly troubled by it, then neither were we. In any case, there was no time for reflection as the Royal party moved off to the Library where an apprehensive Vice-Captain held The Pen with which Her Majesty was to sign the Visitors' Book. After the Queen had signed, the pen was offered next to the Duke, who had greeted the Vice-Captain with a cheerful "Well, and what are *you* here for?" His Royal Highness, however, asked if we minded his using his own pen, and his signature surprised us by its remarkable resemblance in style to the Queen's handwriting. The Queen spent double her scheduled time in inspecting the Exhibition illustrating school life and history, but on completing the tour, she turned round to enquire after the whereabouts of her husband, who was, at the time, some thirty yards back. In fact we were bringing up the rear of the Royal party when suddenly a figure swept out of a nearby room and strode off down the corridor in an attempt to catch up. It was the Duke. Everyone was infected by his easy informality, and the Queen's and his many questions were answered, accordingly, with the minimum of embarrassment.

Outside once more the cheering began as the Queen made her way across the quadrangle to the War Memorial Chapel. The emerald green of her coat stood out from the dull browns and greys of the leaves and the sky. Girls of King Edward's High School and Foundation schools, new to the surroundings, stumbled over steps and grass banks in an effort to get a closer view of the Queen. In the Chapel the voices of the choir rose in a welcoming anthem as she walked up the aisle between the singers.

When the Queen appeared once more, tiny girls with cameras wildly waving took countless photographs of the backs of boys' necks. Others bumped and jostled, later went home with flawless snaps of a dull, grey, drizzling November sky. But it was all part of the excitement. Scarves, caps, and berets whirled in the air. Everyone seemed suddenly to be clutching at these last few minutes in an attempt to imprint them on film or in their memories. As the cars moved off, spectators streamed away across the muddy South Field for a last glimpse. Girls were well to the fore in this wild race, but it was amusing to note cynical and one-time anarchical Sixth formers not far behind. A flash of green, and they were gone.

Down came the paintings, home went the coffee tables and the Topographical Surveys of the Lake District went back to their dusty cupboards in the Geography Room. But after weeks of hard work, of planning and rehearsing, we would willingly start all over again tomorrow, for the reward was worth all our trouble.

G.O.M.



"THE QUEEN'S BEAST"



A CORNER OF THE EXHIBITION.



## THE EXHIBITION : A PERSONAL IMPRESSION

I find it difficult to focus my impressions so long after the Visit, but perhaps I should start by asking what the exhibition was for. It was I suppose the only way of displaying attractively and in small compass a wide variety of the School's doings. Some doings of course are more easily exhibited than others, and it is a pity that our most important activity—work in the classroom—is impossible to represent. A display stand showing a few battered physics notes and a crumpled Greek prose would not perhaps have much audience appeal. Similarly a static rugger scrum or a spin bowler poised at the moment of delivery could not comfortably be displayed. Nevertheless the range of the exhibition was impressive, and even on the academic side it had good things to offer us. The mathematicians produced some extraordinary models to demonstrate how marbles running down troughs don't behave in the way that a plain man would expect them to, but in fact obey the principles of their own obscure science. The scientists produced their double pendulum which operating mysteriously on a ball-point pen creates the most fascinatingly beautiful curves. The geographers in the Upper Middles had made a relief map in great detail ; this was displayed under the contour map of the same region, and I thought it a most effective and intelligent exhibit.

Our out-of-door activities came off surprisingly well. The scouts had a room full of poles lashed together to form spectacular towers and bridges ; and they were strong enough to carry full-size people though to my eyes they looked more like the "jungle gyms" of an up-to-date nursery school. In front of the photographs of the Iceland expedition I could only stand in horrified amazement. There you saw ordinary, sane members of the Geography Sixth crossing a river in Iceland, shoes in hand and smiles on their faces. It had obviously been an enterprise of which we should be very proud.

The backbone of the whole exhibition was the work in art and craft. For one thing the display stands had been cunningly crafted into four form-room doors : pieces of cloth lino-printed in clean and cheerful "squiggles" covered the stands ; hard-board, carved, hacked and bullied by armies of boys late at night into every imaginable shape burgeoned along the Royal Route. On and around these boards were paintings, posters, portraits, sculptures in wood, alabaster, plaster, models in clay—to me it was the variety of material and treatment that was most impressive. It was to be expected that the standard should be good, but it is surprising to find good painting in so many different styles in one school. The paintings of Pendry and Harper, and the posters of Spencer and Morley could all be picked out by their individual characteristics, and showed both talent and hard work. But the two pieces I remember best apart from the Queen's Beast (a technical rather than an artistic triumph) are a penguin in yew-wood and a large picture of a stubbly-jawed man ; there was life in both of these and they seem to me to sum up the enjoyment many of our boys obviously derive from painting and carving ; the demonstrators obviously did.

At the end of the corridor was a little dramatic corner : the play photographs brought back vividly the excitements and disasters of school plays and, to me, even more keenly the harrowing times when the shots

were taken with the clock moving rapidly towards midnight. In the middle of them was a model theatre with a revolving stage, providing three extravagant sets for Twelfth Night ; it seemed even more ingenious and inspired more confidence than many of the mechanisms that have been seen in Big School.

I have left the exhibition of the history of the School to the end. I learned a great deal from it and would have liked to be able to learn more, but a lot of time was needed ; it was no good just looking and passing on. I learned what the Gildhall of the Holy Cross might have looked like, and more interesting still I saw how our Founder made a profit of ten pounds per annum (plus rent from the Governors) out of the revenues of the Gild. The charming portrait of the Founder looked on unmoved. There was too an elegant prospect of Birmingham in the eighteenth century showing the new school with its tower that was never built since the money ran out. Next to this was a volume of Barry's original drawings for the nineteenth century school, signed on every page by the architect and the contractors. The old school could be rebuilt from them. These plans too show the spire that was planned—and then the money ran out. Perhaps we have been more fortunate this time, for we have a tower and can fly our standard from it.

I have left a great deal out ; much I can no longer remember or could not see for the crowds. What I have tried to convey is the impression of unity and vitality that the exhibition conveyed. It was the work of one school, but of a school that does many different things, as one could see from the posters. And though, naturally enough, one only puts one's best on exhibition, I was led to hope that we are doing these many things well.

J.A.B.

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### SPEECH DAY, 1955

Speech Day for the Upper School was held on July 8th, towards the end of the summer term, and the school was fortunate in having His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury to present the prizes and give an address.

After the Prize Declamations had been delivered, and the prizes presented, the Archbishop began his speech, and immediately held his audience's interest with the force of his personality and the urgency and sincerity of what he was saying. His subject was interesting and unusual, for Speech Day addresses tend to fall into a set pattern of congratulation and exhortation. Dr. Fisher's subject was one which was very much in the news and one about which we knew little : Africa.

He had, he said, recently spent some weeks in that country and had begun to understand some of the factors which make the African problem so grave. What happened in Africa during the next fifty years, he asserted, would influence the whole course of human history. Future developments would depend on the growth of a unity between the rising rather than the present, generation. He soon pinpointed the peculiar nature of the African situation :

“ In the West and East we all, in a sense, know each other and muddle along together somehow. Even those on the other side of

the Iron Curtain and ourselves cannot get away from the fact that in some sense we are Europeans.

“ In Africa you have a problem presented for the first time in history—how a predominantly African country is to be ruled and governed by a European population in such a way that European and African shall never cease to trust each other and together work out a multi-racial society in which they combine in complete harmony and mutual respect.

“ I would bid you to keep your eye on what happens in that continent. I believe it will affect the whole of human history to a marked degree, whether worked out in terms of partnership between the races or a volcanic system, in which you sit on top of the volcano wondering whether it will erupt.”

Dr. Fisher wished to stress that there was no essential difference between the African and the European. He was in no way intrinsically inferior, a suspicion—for which there was no justification—which the European sub-consciously harboured, and though the English boy leaving school had the advantage of a thousand-year-old cultural tradition, he had little more in the way of natural gifts. Dr. Fisher confessed that he, for one, had “ fallen in love with the Africans ” and could have no patience with those who :

“ talked about the European and the African as though they were two homogeneous sets of people against each other.”

But we in Europe, as he had said, had enjoyed civilisation longer than the Africans. It was to us that they had to look for guidance and leadership, for they had no other models. Naturally, however, this was coupled with the desire of the child (for complete independence) on finding its own feet. We must help to break down the barriers of race and culture, and work for the creation of a solid African middle-class which alone could ensure future prosperity for that vast continent.

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## CHRISTIANITY AND HUMANISM

The text of the sermon preached at the School Service at Edgbaston Old Church on Sunday, 17th July, 1955, by the Rev. C. F. Evans, O.E., Chaplain and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Psalm viii, 4-6 : What is man, that thou art mindful of him : and the son of man, that thou visitest him ? Thou madest him lower than the angels : to crown him with glory and worship. Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands : and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet.

When I was a boy at school, I made a vow that if ever I was asked to preach at a school I would avoid like the plague that most fatuous remark, “ when I was a boy at school,” and that I would not preach for more than ten minutes. I have already broken the first part of my vow, and I give warning that, despite the heat, I intend to break the second part also.

No doubt there are some here who are already beginning to feel nostalgic, since their time at the School has now come to an end, but they cannot be feeling one-tenth of the nostalgia that I feel when returning after twenty-six years to preach in the School, though not in the buildings

which stamped so ineradicable an impression on my mind, and for which I still discover in myself the deepest affection.

And so I am led to consider with you the question whether it is easier for you now, than it was for us then, to become a Christian, or to go on being a Christian when you leave this place either for the University or for your job in the world. Will it be easier for you than it was for us to retain your Christian faith if you already have it and to grow in it, or to discover it if you have not yet got it, 'and to find it to be the chief illumination of your mind, the chief direction of your will, and the joy and centre of your whole personal life.'

There are only two live options for a young Englishman in England at the present time. The first is Christianity in one of its recognized forms. What shall we call the other? It is generally called humanism; but that, of course, is to beg the question. A humanist is one who is concerned with man; it begs the question to say that one who is concerned with man must first get rid of God. The question of the psalmist, "What is man?" is a profoundly humanist question, and he answers it in terms of God. Those who built our cathedrals were clearly concerned with man and rejoiced in his activities. Richard Hooker, Thomas More, Erasmus and Aquinas were humanists, and were humanists because they were Christians. However, let us beg the question for the time being and call this other option humanism, more or less scientific according to taste and circumstance. As far as our belief and practice go it is a choice between this and Christianity, and nothing should be allowed to mask that fact. In fifteen or twenty years' time you will be, if you retain any sensitiveness at all, either a Christian or some kind of humanist. What is the difference between the two? How do they answer the psalmist's question, "What is man?" Compare and contrast, as the examination papers say, the basic tenets of humanism and Christianity under the following five heads. In doing so I am borrowing from a writer who says exactly what I want to say, and who says it far better than I could.\*

Firstly, humansim says: Man is the centre of all things. By his desires and supposed needs the value of all action is to be judged. Christianity replies: Not man's purposes but the purpose of God is the standard by which all is to be judged. To use man's immature desires, his imperfect understanding of his own true needs, and his imperfect understanding of his place in the sum of things as the standard of value is to court disaster. And even in his interpretation of God's purpose man's understanding is far from complete.

Secondly humanism says: Man is capable of achieving a peaceful, prosperous and happy society if only he will put away superstition and co-operate to seize the tremendous possibilities of advance made available by knowledge and especially by science. Christianity replies: Man's increasing ability of itself only succeeds in making society more complex, not better. And Man's ability to control that complexity, even if it keeps pace with the complexity itself, does not gain ground. His self-centredness remains. Only a change made in him from God can eliminate evil and its effects. Thirdly humanism says: The achievement of Utopia is

\*F. B. Welbourn, *Science and Humanity*, pp. 59ff.



through the mastery of environment. Evolution is an increasing mastery of environment, and will lead to the common possession by all of the earth's riches. Christianity replies : It is not mastery of the world but obedience to God, whose self-expression the world is, which is the way to full and successful living. Man is God's steward in the world, no more and also no less, and he may not with impunity use the processes of life for purposes other than those for which God intended them.

Fourthly humanism, and especially scientific humanism, says : Nature is one and uniform in its behaviour. All that happens happens because of a complex of causes, and cannot happen otherwise. Christianity replies : The unity of nature derives from the unity and personal integrity of God, of whose will all events are an expression. Its uniformity is an expression of his personal will and reliability. What is at the heart of things is not impersonal law but personal will.

Fifthly humanism, and especially scientific humanism, says : The only satisfactory method of arriving at truth is the scientific method. Christianity replies : Truth is to be found only in personal intercourse with God. However important is the information given by scientific method, and however imperfect are man's direct insights into the nature of the universe, it is impossible to know truth apart from the worshipful life, just as it is impossible to know one's friend by studying him in terms of physiology and psychology.

These, or some such as these, are the basic tenets or attitudes of humanism and Christianity, and they are contrary the one to the other. That this is so I can appeal to incontestable evidence before your eyes. You will have read in the newspapers last Sunday the signed declaration issued by eight of the world's leading scientists, led by Bertrand Russell on nuclear warfare. It is in many ways a most moving document. Calm yet urgent, they address humanity with the measured clarity of the expert scientific mind, and they give warning of its extreme peril. But there are two sentences in this declaration which must strike the Christian as pathetic indeed. The first is this. " We appeal as human beings to human beings : remember your humanity and forget the rest. If you can do so the way lies open to a new paradise." There, once again, is the old humanist fallacy, that paradise lies at our door in this world if only we will pull ourselves together—it is, of course, a paradise without God. But in calling upon men to remember only their humanity and to forget all else how do they conceive of this humanity ? What is man, that they are mindful of him ? Their answer is contained in this sentence : " We want you, if you can, to set aside strong political feelings and to consider yourselves only as members of a biological species which has had a remarkable history." So that is the answer to the question, " What is man ? " Man is a biological species which has had a remarkable history, and that, perhaps, will be his epitaph. But has any man ever done any thing which he thought worth while—studied a subject, written a book, built a factory, married a wife, brought up a family or died for others—because he considered himself and them as members of a biological species with a remarkable history ?

It appears then that these are still the two live options before us now, and will be so in the foreseeable future. So far as we remain sensitive

to things at all these two forces will compete within us and for possession of us. Of this there are two more things which I wish to say. The first is this, that if we are to hold to, and to grow in, Christian faith it will not be without a struggle, without what Blake's Jerusalem calls 'mental fight.' This fight will be to realize over and again, in the face of error outside and sloth, lust and pride within, that the Christian account of things is the account which makes most sense of them, and which faces all the facts, including the unpleasant facts ; that only in my relation to God in Christ am I engaged over the whole range of my being ; that the sum total of information supplied by the sciences or learning still does not add up to knowledge, to the knowledge of who and what I am as a man. It will be a fight to see that I am so constructed that not even my relation to other human beings is capable of satisfying me wholly and without remainder, and that St. Augustine's words, "Thou hast made us for thyself, and our heart is restless till it rest in thee" are so hackneyed because they are so true ; that only God as revealed in Christ can engage us completely and without remainder. The Christian Church has need of men who, having been trained to think by their education, have struggled through to a faith which is articulate, and which can support the faith of others and illuminate the minds of others who are not articulate.

The second thing is this. If we are to struggle for such a faith, our prayer and worship assume a crucial importance. For every act of prayer and worship, however feeble it is—and often it is very feeble—says No to the secularism and the godlessness of the world. It is an act by which we return to our senses and get things in perspective. In it we assert that things are not self-based and self-explanatory, but are given to us and received by us. In it we answer the question, "What is man?", that man is the priest of God's creation, the only member of it articulate enough to lift up creation to God the Creator, and that all man's science, learning and mastery of nature goes back to the primary commandment of God to us, which is none of the Ten Commandments, but the command to increase and multiply and to subdue the earth under His will. "Thou madest him lower than the angels : to crown him with glory and worship. Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands : and thou has put all things in subjection under his feet." To worship is to return from nonsense to sense, to come to the place where alone we can understand our lives as men. To worship, therefore, is the supremely human activity ; it is to be a true humanist, and to be doing that for which man is made. Not to pray is to be less than a man, to be sub-human. He is fortunate who, by the time that he leaves the School, has some inkling that this is how it goes with him, where the battle outside him and within him lies, and what are the forces available for the fight.

## FOOTBALL

Although the XV is not unbeaten this season, it has far exceeded all hopes and expectations.

The strength of the team has once again been in a fast and lively pack which has been developed after early experimentation. The

scrummaging and line-out work has been competent whilst the often brilliant play in the loose mauls has far exceeded anything seen in recent years.

The inexperienced back division has been well served by the forwards and halves. The wings, who are not quite as fast or as clever as last year's, have often been starved by the centres who both tend to run across and to hang on to the ball too long. Against this the scrum-half has often broken and passed back inside to the back row.

The defence which has been generally competent reached great heights against Bromsgrove but unfortunately it was out-paced and out-manoeuvred at Ratcliffe. The kicking has improved to such an extent that it is now the rule rather than the exception to find players capable of kicking with either foot. So far it has only been found necessary to call upon one place-kicker.

The 2nd XV has not proved as successful as was hoped. There are many capable forwards, but once again there is a scarcity of speed and experience in the backs. However, there are many young players of ability who will be needed to fill the ranks of the XV next year. The team was captained by P. W. Trown.

The 3rd XV under the captaincy of P. C. N. Vaugon has not had the chance to become a cohesive machine. However, the fierce competition for places in this team is a true indication of the healthy state of school rugby at the present time.

The U.16 XV under the expert coaching of Mr. Osborne has had a fairly successful season winning five out of its seven matches, including the first win over Rugby. The strong point of the team is the pack which gains a large share of the ball for the backs who are adequate if a little slow, although there is some speed and talent on the wings. The team is well captained by M. A. Whitley.

The U.15 XV has had a poor season. Inability to tackle seems to be the main source of trouble. When this is cured the team should improve, as there is much talent in it.

The U. 14 XV has been quite good. The team contains many large and forceful players who display a great deal of keenness.

As usual our thanks are due to Mr. Parry whose enthusiasm and genius has once again produced a formidable combination from seemingly little talent. Our thanks are also due to Messrs. Osborne, Leeds, Sacret, McGawley and Buttle, and to all the other members of the staff who help to coach, organize or referee games.

In conclusion may we thank the small group of loyal supporters who have spurred us on both at home and away, and the Chief Master, and members of the School for their support and interest.

R.K.W.

## THE XV. v. DENSTONE

*Played at Eastern Road. Won 13 points to 3.*

Only a treacherous cross-wind prevented the playing conditions from being perfect when the XV gained their most convincing victory over Denstone in recent years.

Denstone kicked off and aided by the customary sluggish start by the School, went straight into the lead with a penalty goal for offside. The XV now began to show signs of life, and good work in the loose by the re-organized pack took play into the Denstone half for the first sustained period. Then a quick heel enabled Wilkins to break and score a good try which was well converted by Pendry, who also kicked a penalty goal a few minutes later.

In the second half the School were completely on top. The quickness of the forwards in the loose unnerved the Denstone halves to such an extent that their potentially strong backs were not given any chances at all. The final score came from the best movement of the match. Millar, moving inside, took the scrum-half's pass and cut through, the ball was passed to Caulton, via the fly-half, and he dived over the line to score a try which Pendry converted.

The match finished with some loose play in midfield. This was undoubtedly the best display to date. The re-organized pack made a vast improvement on the previous week's performance and the backs at last began to look dangerous.

### THE XV v. BROMSGROVE

*Played at Eastern Road. Won 9 points to 6.*

A record crowd of some 800-900 people gathered at Eastern Road on November 5th for the Siviter-Smith Cup match against Bromsgrove. Bromsgrove won the toss and the School kicked off against the breeze. Once again the School started sluggishly and some inconsequent tapping in the line-out allowed Bromsgrove to get into an attacking position on our 25. They were awarded two penalties in close succession, the second being converted.

However, the School fought back and a good penalty by Pendry equalized the scores. The School were now getting a good share of the ball, but they were unable to pierce the Bromsgrove defence. Then Bromsgrove scored an unconverted try after bad positioning by the School centres and full-back had allowed them to get through. However, after more good work by the forwards Pendry kicked another penalty goal and Davis charged down a defensive kick and scored the deciding try. More calmness by the School at this point would have resulted in at least one more score. However, half-time arrived with the score 9—6 in our favour.

The School attacked consistently at the beginning of the second-half and appeared to be getting on top. Then after fifteen minutes L. R. Holloway, who up till this time had been dominating the line-outs, was carried off with a broken leg. At first the School kept up the pressure and two beautiful quick heels from the loose should have resulted in scores, but unfortunately the ball was held too long in the centre.

Bromsgrove now began to get on top again and only some inspired leadership of a rapidly tiring pack by R. W. N. Davis kept the Bromsgrove forwards at bay. In the last stages of the game when Bromsgrove were getting the ball all the time, the tackling by the backs and the defensive covering and kicking of D. F. Soutter were superb.

The final whistle went with Bromsgrove still pressing, and the School had won one of the hardest and most exciting matches seen at Eastern Road for a long time.



## THE XV v. MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL

*Played at Northwood, December 20th.*

The School beat Merchant Taylors' School by 22 points to nil in a fast and entertaining game, despite the poor conditions. As usual, we were slow to settle down and allowed the heavy Merchant Taylors' pack to gain possession from most of the early scrums and line-outs. Their attacks were easily broken up by our halves and back-row. Pendry was very prominent and gave us the lead with a well-taken opportunist try, which he converted. Encouraged by this success the forwards began to get much more of the ball and kept play well in the Merchant Taylors' half. Our line was threatened on one occasion when their right-centre intercepted and ran half the length of the field, before being overhauled and tackled by Lindley near the corner flag. Lawrence scored our second try, and before half-time came the best combined movement of the game. Wilkins broke away, Pendry backed up and after a succession of hand-offs passed inside to Davis who scored after catching the defence on the wrong foot. Pendry converted.

With a comfortable lead of 13 points, we indulged in some surprisingly good movements in the second half. Both forwards and backs handled the slippery ball with confidence. Davis and Caulton scored tries, and Pendry kicked a long-range penalty goal.

### FOOTBALL CHARACTERS

R. K. WILSON (1953-54-55-56).

A fast and penetrating centre-three-quarter. He is one of the best all-round players produced by the School for many years. His beautifully balanced running and change of pace have produced many spectacular tries ; few full backs have been able to challenge his progress once he has cut through. In defence his tackling is well timed, determined, and an object lesson in execution ; his dropping on is fearless, and his kicking with both feet reliable.

As a captain, both on the field and in training, he has set a praiseworthy example and has helped greatly in the development of the team.

It was a great pity that he missed the last two matches because of a cartilage injury, and the whole team hopes his recovery will be rapid and complete.

R.W.N.D.

R. W. N. DAVIS (1953-4-5-6).

Playing for most of the season at wing-forward he has been on many occasions the inspiration of the team. His drive and determination in the loose and near the scrum has unnerved many opponents . He is tenacious with the ball but has learnt to time his passes. In defence he scrags efficiently but averts most dangers by courageous falling. As vice-captain he has been invaluable and when called upon to lead the team he has done so with credit.

(Vardv)

G. G. KEMP (1954-5-6).

A small and solid forward who has played in both the front and back rows of the scrum with equal success. He is at his best in the loose maul where he manages to get his head over the ball and use his weight. His handling and dribbling are very good. He is efficient if a little slow as secretary.  
*(Captain of Levett)*

M. WILKINS (1954-5-6).

The portly young gentleman who is so often mistaken for our coach is in fact our scrum-half. His experience and capabilities have made it possible to employ several unorthodox movements from the base of the scrum. He possesses a strong but inconsistent pass, and an intelligent and often devastating break which is made more potent by his ability to pass at the correct time. He is a glutton for work and at his best in a battle where he tackles and falls superbly.  
*(Heath)*

J. S. PENDRY (1954-5-6).

A strong and experienced forward who has played at lock-forward for most of the season. In the open where he combines intelligently with the backs his ruthless hand-off and indescribable side-step make him difficult to stop, but unfortunately like most of the team, he is very loth to part with the ball. He dribbles cleverly and his covering and long kicks to touch which have saved the team on numerous occasions are often brilliant. He is a very able and consistent place-kicker.  
*(Captain of Vardy)*

D. F. SOUTTER (1955-6).

One of the outstanding players in the team. In defence he kicks superbly with either foot. His covering and tackling are excellent and his falling very courageous. In attack his ability to pick up even the worst passes enables him to get his line moving very quickly and ensures a plentiful supply of the ball for the other backs. He hasn't yet the confidence to break through very often himself. His ambition is to score another try.  
*(Captain of Cary Gilson).*

L. R. HOLLOWAY (1955-6).

A back row forward who was the team's line-out expert until his injury unfortunately deprived us of his services. He jumps high and catches the ball cleanly, and plays hard in the loose.  
*(Heath)*

J. N. BROMLEY (1955-6).

A powerfully built second-row forward who has improved beyond recognition during the season. He jumps and catches well in the line-out and plays extremely hard in the loose. He possesses a powerful and accurate left-footed kick and his play in the open is above the average.  
*(Captain of Gifford)*

M. G. VARLEY (1955-6).

A smallish front-row forward who scrummages well and plays with great gusto and intelligence in the loose. A useful asset in the line-out and often at the head of dangerous forward rushes. Remains convinced that his moustache is his most devastating weapon.  
*(Jeune)*

G. R. BELLAMY (1955-6).

A young hooker whose play both in the tight and the loose has improved considerably during the season. The fact that he has not been out-hooked is due to his ability to strike cleanly with either foot. He falls courageously and has been known to tackle. *(Gifford)*

G. O. MILLAR (1955-6).

As a wing three-quarter, though originally a centre, he has improved considerably each game, and is now capable of beating his man on the inside. His scoring power will be enhanced when he learns to go harder for the line. His defence is good. *(Captain of Heath)*

M. W. GOODE (1955-6).

A second-row forward who is extremely useful in the line-out. He is undoubtedly at his best in the loose mauls and forward rushes where he makes his weight felt. He falls and scrags well. Has been known to kick but never to pass. *(Jeune)*

G. K. CAULTON (1955-6).

A capable centre-three-quarter whose defence is above reproach. His speed off the mark has enabled him to develop a clever cut through which will be more potent when he learns to link up again. Has been seen to kick once. *(Captain of Prince Lee)*

F. K. HAMMOND (1955-6).

Converted from a scrum-half to a full-back he has by assiduous practice become a consistent player. His relative inexperience in this position often causes him to be caught out of position, but fortunately he is usually quick enough on the turn to remedy his mistakes. He tackles and falls bravely and kicks with his right foot. He is rather inconspicuous in long grass. *(Captain of Jeune)*

J. R. MOUNTFORD (1955-6).

A fast and strong wing three-quarter whose play is often marred by his inability to take his passes. However, he has now developed a swerve and is difficult to stop when moving at speed. His defence is reliable. *(Gifford).*

J. M. H. SPENCER.

A tall, powerfully built front-row forward, who jumps and catches well in the line-out. He is capable in the open but very loth to enter the loose mauls. *(Cary Gilson)*

D. K. LINDLEY.

A young wing three-quarter who has shown much promise. He is speedy, handles well and has a nice swerve. His defence is good. *(Jeune)*

The XV this term has been : F. K. HAMMOND, J. R. MOUNTFORD, G. K. CAULTON, R. K. WILSON, G. O. MILLAR, D. F. SOUTTER, M. WILKINS, G. G. KEMP, G. R. BELLAMY, M. G. VARLEY, J. N. BROMLEY, M. W. GOODE, L. R. HOLLOWAY, J. S. PENDRY, R. W. N. DAVIS.

Also played : J. M. H. Spencer, P. G. Robinson, D. K. Lindley, J. C. Hall, J. A. Lawrence, J. Cole.

R. T. Cox has acted loyally as touch-judge.

#### RESULTS OF MATCHES

<i>Date</i>		<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Oct.	1	K.E.G.S., Aston	Home	Won	17	6
"	8	Ratcliffe College	Away	Lost	8	10
"	15	Denstone College	Home	Won	13	3
"	22	Warwick	Away	Won	24	0
"	29	Worksop College	Home	Won	21	5
Nov.	5	Bromsgrove	Home	Won	9	6
"	12	Nottingham High School	Home	Won	11	0
"	19	Wrekin College	Away	Won	15	0
"	26	R.G.S., Worcester	Home	Won	25	3
Dec.	22	Merchant Taylors'	Away	Won	22	0

#### SECOND XV

<i>Date</i>		<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Sept.	24	K.E.S., Stratford 1st XV	Away	Cancelled		
Oct.	1	Tettenhall College 1st XV	Home	Lost	8	13
"	8	K.E.G.S., Five Ways	Home	Won	11	3
"	15	Denstone College	Away	Lost	6	17
"	22	Sebright School 1st XV	Home	Lost	3	8
Nov.	12	Bromsgrove	Away	Lost	5	9
"	19	Wrekin College	Home	Lost	12	14
"	26	R.G.S., Worcester	Away	Won	19	0
Dec.	3	King's School, Worcester	Away	Lost	8	10
"	10	Warwick	Away	Lost	8	19

#### THIRD XV

<i>Date</i>		<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Sept.	24	K.E.S., Stratford 2nd XV	Away	Cancelled		
Oct.	1	Tettenhall College 2nd XV	Away	Won	15	3
"	8	Ratcliffe College 2nd XV	Away	Lost	6	11
"	22	Sebright School 2nd XV	Away	Won	37	0
Dec.	3	Old Edwardians' 3rd XV	Away	Lost	18	28
"	10	Warwick	Home	Lost	0	6

#### UNDER SIXTEEN XV

<i>Date</i>		<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Oct.	8	Rugby	Home	Won	6	3
"	15	Denstone College	Home	Lost	3	13
"	22	Warwick	Away	Lost	0	6
"	29	Worksop College	Home	Won	16	9
Nov.	12	Nottingham High School	Home	Won	16	8
"	19	Wrekin College	Home	Won	16	5
Dec.	10	Bromsgrove	Away	Won	5	5

#### UNDER FIFTEEN XV

<i>Date</i>		<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Sept.	24	Bishop Vesey's G.S.	Home	Drawn	9	9
Oct.	1	Tettenhall College	Home	Lost	3	30
"	8	K.E.G.S., Five Ways	Home	Cancelled		
"	15	Moseley G.S.	Away	Lost	6	30
"	22	Sebright	Home	Won	8	5
Nov.	12	Bromsgrove	Away	Cancelled		





OUTSIDE THE WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL



*Standing (left to right): J. T. BAKER, G. D. ANDREWS, R. G. DAUNCEY, P. F. WILLIAMS (1955), A. D. HOLLAND, G. E. PHILLIPS, E. L. B. SAXON (1953-54-55, Vice-Captain), A. C. SMITH (1952-53-54-55, Captain), J. MULFORD (1954-55, Hon. Sec.), A. N. B. DAVIES (1955).*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Nov. 19	Tettenhall College .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Won</i>	8	3
" 26	R.G.S., Worcester .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	8	19
Dec. 3	King's School, Worcester .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	3	22
" 10	Warwick .....	<i>Home</i>	<i>Lost</i>	12	28
1956					
Jan. 28	K.E.S., Stratford .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	6	14

#### UNDER FOURTEEN XV

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>	
Sept. 24	Bishop Vesey's G.S. ....	<i>Home</i>	<i>Lost</i>	3	19
Oct. 1	Tettenhall College .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Won</i>	19	3
" 15	Moseley G.S. ....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	3	25
" 22	Sebright .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Won</i>	6	3
Nov. 12	Solihull .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Won</i>	12	8
" 19	Leamington College .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	3	19
" 26	R.G.S., Worcester .....	<i>Home</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	6	6
Dec. 10	Warwick .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Lost</i>	0	25
1956					
Jan. 28	K.E.S., Stratford .....	<i>Away</i>	<i>Won</i>	14	0

### CRICKET RETROSPECT

The 1955 season was dominated by one player—A. C. Smith, the captain. Not only did he continue to display the brilliance as wicket-keeper that had come to be expected of him, but also he showed himself to be one of the best batsmen that the School has ever produced. By scoring 805 runs, which included three centuries, he created a record. Moreover, as captain, he showed an astuteness which deserved better results than the XI achieved : Played 17, Won 3, Lost 1, Drawn 13.

The first half of the season was marred considerably by rain, but, at the same time, it must be admitted that the results of competent, if at times uninspired, bowling were, on a number of disastrous occasions, nullified by slipshod fielding. Consequently, although the batting efforts of the captain were frequently supported by good scores from other players, several matches, which were either narrowly lost or drawn, could have been won by efficient fielding.

Prospects for 1956 are good, for the side should be the most balanced for several years, both in batting and bowling. We may also be sure that, with assiduous practice, the Vice-Captain will prove to be a competent wicket-keeper.

J. MULFORD (*Captain of Cricket*).

### CRICKET AVERAGES

#### BATTING

	<i>Innings</i>	<i>Not out</i>	<i>Highest Score</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Average</i>
A. C. Smith ..	16	2	134*	805	57.5
P. F. Williams ..	17	3	56	338	24.1
M. Wilkins ..	17	—	50	299	17.6
A. N. B. Davies ..	14	6	38	128	16.0
J. Mulford ..	17	2	45	224	14.9
E. L. B. Saxon ..	14	1	50*	173	13.3

\*not out.

## BOWLING

	<i>Overs</i>	<i>Maidens</i>	<i>Runs</i>	<i>Wickets</i>	<i>Average</i>
R. G. Dauncey ..	147	53	339	20	16·9
J. Mulford ..	214	51	635	31	20·5
E. L. B. Saxon ..	161·4	38	457	16	28·6

## RESULTS

### THE XI. v. WARWICKSHIRE CLUB AND GROUND

Warwicks. C. and G. ..	188 for 5 declared (C. W. Leach 54, J. S. Evans 43, K. Ibadulla 37 ; J. Mulford 4 for 63).
The XI .. .. .	148 for 4 (E. L. B. Saxon 50 not out, M. Wilkins 34, A. C. Smith 31).

### THE XI v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Manchester G.S. ..	195 for 9 declared (T. M. Richardson 53, C. E. Druce 40).
The XI .. .. .	62 for 7.

### THE XI v. BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL

Bedford Modern School	173 for 6 declared (W. Chamberlain 57, P. D. Watts 39, B. J. Salter 34 ; J. Mulford 4 for 46).
The XI .. .. .	129 for 6 (A. C. Smith 41, P. D. Watts 4 for 41).

### THE XI v. THE OLD EDWARDIANS' ASSOCIATION

Old Edwardians' Assoc.	204 for 2 declared (B. C. Homer 101 not out, P. O. Kendrick 72 not out).
The XI .. .. .	200 for 8 (A. C. Smith 90, A. N. B. Davies 38).

## SWIMMING, 1955

A swimmer's pleasure in presenting the swimming report for the summer term of 1955 can hardly be less than that of last year's captain of Rugby football when he announced an unbeaten season for the XV. It was indeed a feather in the cap of the School when, in one year, we produced two undefeated school teams.

With only two new members in a team of seven, we had experience to our credit from the beginning. J. R. Richardson and A. D. Edwards performed consistently well throughout the season while A. E. Hodgetts, as in the previous summer, was only on top of his form in the early weeks of the season. P. Davies swam very well as a new member of the team but was somewhat unconvincingly supported.

Our prospects for the coming season are reasonable, assuming that our winter training scheme is brought to a satisfactory climax this term. To Mr. Cotter, for his continued and valuable assistance throughout the year, we extend our warmest thanks and express a firm resolution not to disgrace ourselves next term.

Water-polo is gaining in popularity and it is hoped that some sort of inter-house competition will be started this summer. As distinct from "water-polo" as some members of the school play it, these matches would, of necessity, be on a friendly basis. For tuition and organization we are again indebted to Mr. Cotter.

H. P. AITKEN (*Captain of Swimming*).



## SCHOOL SWIMMING TEAM, 1955 :

J. D. L. Adams (*Captain*), H. P. Aitken (*Vice-Captain*), A. D. Edwards (*Hon. Secretary*), A. E. Hodgetts, P. Davies, J. R. Richardson, A. C. Young.

### RESULTS OF SCHOOL SWIMMING MATCHES

<i>Date</i> 1955		<i>Fixture</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Points</i>	
				<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
May	31	Trent College .....	<i>Won</i>	39	13
June	2	Shrewsbury .....	<i>Won</i>	40	21
"	7	Malvern College .....	<i>Won</i>	50	11
"	11	Harrow .....	<i>Won</i>	31½	29½
"	25	Solihull .....	<i>Won</i>	43	9
"	30	Repton .....	<i>Won</i>	35	17
July	2	Bromsgrove .....	<i>Won</i>	46	15
"	7	Wrekin College .....	<i>Won</i>	54	19
"	9	Rugby .....	<i>Won</i>	49	14

### RECORDS BROKEN DURING THE SEASON

40 yards Free Style : A. E. Hodgetts. *Time* : 27·2 secs.

100 yards Free Style : H. P. Aitken. *Time* : 61·7 secs.

200 yards Free Style : J. D. L. Adams. *Time* : 2 mins. 24·6 secs.

Medley Relay (A. E. Edwards, P. Davies, H. P. Aitken). *Time* : 1 min. 2·7 secs.

Free Style Relay (J. R. Richardson, A. E. Hodgetts, J. D. L. Adams, H. P. Aitken).  
*Time* : 1 min. 9·8 secs.

### SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

*Woodcock Street, July 15th, 1955.*

One length (Under 12½) : 1, Watton (L) ; 2, Loach (V) ; 3, Holmes (G). 24·2 secs.

One length (Under 13½) : 1, Papps (L) ; 2, Titterington (L) ; 3, Jenkins (H). 22·2 secs.

One length (Under 14½) : 1, Reeves (V) ; 2, Stevens (H) ; 3, Thane (J). 24·2 secs.

#### Junior :

50 yards Free Style : 1, Ellison (E) ; 2, Bagnall (H) ; 3, Titterington (L). 37·2 secs.

100 yards Free Style : 1, Titterington (L) ; 2, Bagnall (H) ; 3, Ellison (E). 90 secs.

50 yards Breast Stroke : 1, Bagnall (H) ; 2, Richards (V) ; 3, Stagg (G). 44 secs.

50 yards Backstroke : 1, Stevens (H) ; 2, Smith (V) ; 3, Ellison (E). 41·4 secs.

Dive : 1, Bagnall (H) ; 2, Pettitt (L) and Shipley (G).

Plunge : 1, Stanworth (L) ; 2, Ellison (E) ; 3, Wood (J). 47-ft. 7½-in.

Half-Mile : 1, Bagnall (H) ; 2, Titterington (L) ; 3, Smith (V). 19 mins. 44 secs.

#### Intermediate :

50 yards Free Style : 1, Whitfield (V) ; 2, McCarty (V) ; 3, McBroom (G). 30 secs.

100 yards Free Style : 1, Whitfield (V) ; 2, McBroom (G) ; 3, Tagg (E). 75 secs.

#### Open :

50 yards Free Style : 1, H. P. Aitken (P) ; 2, A. E. Hodgetts (E) ; 3, J. D. L. Adams (P).  
27·6 secs.

100 yards Free Style : 1, H. P. Aitken (P) ; 2, J. D. L. Adams (P) ; 3, A. E. Hodgetts (E).  
62·4 secs.

200 yards Free Style : 1, J. D. L. Adams (P) ; 2, H. P. Aitken (P) ; 3, A. D. Edwards (L). 2 mins. 24·6 secs.

100 yards Breast Stroke : 1, P. Davies (P) ; 2, Whitfield (V) ; 3, Williams (G). 80 secs.

50 yards Back Stroke : 1, J. D. L. Adams (P) ; 2, A. D. Edwards (L) ; 3, A. E. Hodgetts (E). 34·2 secs.

Dive : 1, A. C. Young (J) ; 2, Whitfield (V) ; 3, H. P. Aitken (P).

Plunge : 1, Masters (G) ; 2, Brown (H) ; 3, Wilson (L). 54-ft. 7-in.

Half-Mile : 1, J. D. L. Adams (P) ; 2, A. D. Edwards (L) ; 3, H. P. Aitken (P).  
16 mins. 11 secs.

Senior Swimming Champion—Carr Cup : J. D. L. Adams.

Junior Swimming Champion—Governors' Cup : R. Bagnall.

Terminal Competition (Standards)—Allday Shield : Evans.

Swimming Sports—Jacot Cup : Prince-Lee.

Swimming Championship—Solomon Cup : Prince-Lee.

## ETON FIVES

This is the first full season in which the School has had the benefit of both the covering and the lighting of the courts. The lighting itself compares favourably with that of all other schools we have visited.

Now that it is possible to play House Competition matches in the short days of December, all Houses have been able to complete five matches by Christmas. Gifford have won all their five and must be favourites for the Fives Championship. It is, however, likely that there will be a keen struggle for second place.

The school handicap knock-out Fives Competition attracted an entry of forty-six pairs, and is being enthusiastically played.

The School team has had mixed success this year. The first match against a weak Old Edwardians' team was won 10-6. There followed defeats by Repton and the Old Citizens', by 6-2 in both instances. The annual tour of London Schools was held early in January. Highgate were beaten by 5-2, City of London by 6-0, St. Olave's by 6-1. As only one member of last year's team is still at School, these results are quite encouraging.

During the remainder of the season new fixtures will be played against the Old Reptonians' and the Old Olavians'. Two interesting innovations will be the playing of an under sixteen match against Shrewsbury, and the playing of a second team in a match against Wolverhampton Grammar School.

All Fives played at School depends upon the efforts of Mr. E. V. Smith. For this it is my pleasant duty to thank him.

M. R. BIRD (*Captain of Eton Fives*).

## SHOOTING

At the Bisley meeting for the Ashburton Shield in July, we were placed 60th out of 90, with a score of 478.

The individual scores were :

THE VIII :	200 yds.	500 yds.	Totals.
B. S. Adams ( <i>Captain</i> ) .. .. .	32	32	64
P. Broadhurst .. .. .	29	34	63
Hall, J. C. .. .. .	31	31	62
D. G. Todd .. .. .	30	31	61
Cope, D. W. .. .. .	29	31	60
Penny, J. E. T. .. .. .	30	29	59
J. G. Henly .. .. .	30	56	56
D. E. Plews .. .. .	29	24	53
	239	239	478
			ex 560

CADET PAIR :	200 yds.	500 yds.	Totals.
Banks, R. L. .. .. .	30	32	62
Stanworth, P. A. .. .. .	25	25	50
	55	57	112
			ex 140

A new School record for the N.S.R.A. type target has been set up by D. G. Todd who scored the maximum possible of 100 points.

The House N.S.R.A. was fired last term. The results were :

			D. G. Todd	96
1.	Jeune	.. .. 548	Pickworth	} 95
2.	Levett	.. .. 535	Blackwell	
			Banks .. ..	
3=	Heath	} .. 531	Garrard	.. ..
	Vardy		Williams, M. I.	.. — 93
			Stubbs .. ..	— 93
			Chinery .. ..	} 95
5.	Cary Gilson	.. 507	J. G. Henly	
			Whitehead, B. H.	
6.	Prince Lee	.. 498	Hall .. ..	96
7.	Evans	.. 480	Ramsay .. ..	97
8.	Gifford	.. 479	Cope .. ..	95

This year an encouraging number of novices have taken up Shooting, and for the first time we have been able to have a 2nd VIII. If House Shooting captains continue to encourage their marksmen to attend VIII practices we shall soon have more talent to choose from.

We are again indebted to Major Cooke and R.S.M. Moore for the help they have given us throughout the season.

J. G. HENLY (*Captain of Shooting*).

#### RESULTS OF N.S.R.A. POSTAL MATCHES, 1955

<i>Week Ending</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Result</i>
Oct. 8	Bromsgrove .....	755	760	Lost
" 15	Sedbergh .....	737	756	Lost
" 15	Oakham .....	737	745	Lost
" 15	Winchester .....	737	758	Lost
" 22	Glasgow Academy .....	763	735	Won
" 22	Rugby .....	763	752	Won
" 22	Wrekin .....	763	735	Won
" 22	Eton .....	763	774	Lost
Oct. 29	Blundell's .....	763	767	Lost
" 29	Elizabeth College, Guernsey .....	763	772	Lost
" 29	Sebright .....	763	738	Won
Nov. 5	King's, Worcester .....	762	767	Lost
" 5	The Leys .....	762	780	Lost
" 5	Felsted .....	762	775	Lost
" 5	Victoria College, Jersey .....	762	784	Lost
" 5	Repton .....	762	—	W.O.
" 12	Edinburgh Academy .....	765	780	Lost
" 19	Uppingham .....	764	762	Won
" 26	Marlborough 1st VIII .....	760	767	Lost
" 26	Marlborough 2nd VIII .....	726	—	W.O.
" 26	Glenalmond .....	760	777	Lost
Dec. 3	Denstone .....	760	—	W.O.
Dec. 10	Alley's .....	750	754	Lost
" 10	Harrow .....	750	—	W.O.
Matches Fired, 23.				
" Won, 5, by default 3.				
" Lost, 15.				
Our average score ..		757.6	Individual average, ..	94.7
Opponents' average ..		761.9	" , ..	95.2
Difference ..		4.3		.5

# INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES

	<i>Times Shot</i>	<i>Total points Scored</i>	<i>Highest Score</i>	<i>Average</i>
J. G. Henly .. .. .	9	845	97	93·8(89)
D. G. Todd .. .. .	10	970	99	97·0
Penny, J. E. T. .. .. .	10	955	98	95·5
Cope, D. W. .. .. .	10	951	97	95·1
Banks, R. L. .. .. .	10	940	98	94·0
Hall, J. C. .. .. .	10	939	98	93·9
Stanworth, P. A. .. .. .	8	751	96	93·8(75)
Blackwell, D. .. .. .	10	935	97	93·5

Teasdale and Campbell have also fired.

## LAWN TENNIS

Last season's tennis was marked by great enthusiasm and a conspicuous lack of the success it deserved. As only one of last year's team remained, we had few outstanding players, and the team as a whole suffered from lack of experience. The first pair—J. C. Orr (Captain) and D. F. Soutter—had a very good season, and it is to the other pairs that we owe our dismal record. In the Public Schools' Competition at the end of the summer, our luck was no better than before ; we lost in the first round to Berkhamsted, and again in the first round of the losers' competition. We hope, however, that the experience gained by the young second pair will be useful next season.

The House Competition was more vigorously contested than ever. It was won by Gifford, with Cary Gilson second. The Burges Cup was won fairly easily by J. C. Orr, and the under sixteen competition by J. G. Hills, but only after a long and arduous final with N. Joseph.

Our warmest thanks go to Mr. Osborne for all his help and encouragement, and we wish him a speedy recovery from his illness.

C.W.L.

## RESULTS OF MATCHES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>
May 4	IV v. Edgbaston L.T.C. ....	Home	Drawn	0—1
„ 7	VI v. Trent .....	Home	Lost	3—6
„ 14	VI v. Solihull .....	Away	Lost	4—5
„ 21	VI v. Nottingham H.S. ....	Away	Lost	0—3
„ 21	VI v. High Pavement, Nottingham .....	Away	Won	3—0
„ 23	VIII v. Masters .....	Home	Lost	2—6
June 4	VI v. Nottingham H.S. ....	Away	Cancelled	
„ 18	VI v. Wrekin .....	Away	Lost	1—8
July 4	VIII v. Masters .....	Home	Won	5—3
„ 9	VI v. Solihull .....	Home	Lost	3—6
„ 26	IV v. Berkhamsted .....	Away	Lost	1—3
„ 27	IV v. Bishop's Wordsworth .....	Away	Lost	1—3

## P.T.

After yet another change in date, the P.T. competitions this year are to be held just over half-way through the Lent Term. The event has been brought forward by two weeks in order that Oxford Scholarship examinations shall not prevent the more senior competitors from taking part.

As usual, only the junior members of the School showed any keenness during the Michaelmas term. However, the House teams are now making full use of the seven weeks of the Lent term before the competition, the results of which will be given in the July edition of the CHRONICLE.

P. W. TROWN (*P.T. Leader*).



## CHESS

This year we have tried a new idea by entering four teams in the Birmingham Junior League, instead of the usual three. The idea appears to work—none of the teams has yet lost.

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>
1st Team ..	4	2	2	—
2nd „ ..	4	3	—1 match for adj'tion	
3A „ ..	5	2	—3	„ „ „
3B „ ..	5	1	2, 2	„ „ „

The success of the 2nd and the two 3rd teams is heartening. Our prospects look good in the future.

On Saturday, November 26th, a team of ten players went to Oxford to play Oriel College, where the team won 6-4, thanks to the playing on the lower boards. We hope to have similar success next term in two interesting matches, one against R.G.S., Worcester, and the other against Oxford University.

Once again our thanks are due to Miss Chaffer for the use of the Dining Hall, and finally a special word of thanks to Mr. Hurn, our enthusiastic chairman, without whose supervision chess would be in a chaotic state.

K.W.M.

## SQUASH

As is shown by the record entry for the A. W. Harris competition, Squash is becoming increasingly popular. A great deal of credit for this mounting interest is due to the skilful and enthusiastic coaching of players and beginners alike, by Messrs. Cadenhead, Guy, Bolton and Osborne.

With only one of last year's team remaining, the results of the two matches played in the Michaelmas Term, against Solihull and The Masters, were not impressive. The team is young and inexperienced, but keenness and a reasonable amount of talent promises well for the future. The middle school still unfortunately seems disinclined to indulge in this excellent pastime.

D. F. SOUTTER.

## FENCING

Once again I am glad to report that enthusiasm for fencing is on the increase. Our numbers are growing.

This year twenty-four new members joined the club, thus bringing our total strength to fifty.

There has been only one school match this term—against Lucas Engineering School—which, unfortunately, we lost by 13 fights to 3.

The club held its individual competition for the Peter Mountford Trophy in the summer term. It was again won by K. W. Masters with M. I. Webbe in second place.

Our thanks are due to Mr. McGawley for taking on once more a class of beginners, and to Mr. Cotter, whose coaching, criticism, and help, has again been so readily forthcoming.

K.W.M.

# THE HOUSES

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## CARY GILSON

Although we did not start the year with particularly high hopes, we went forward to win the major competition of the Michaelmas term, the Rugger League.

The First XV, not up to full strength due to illness and injury, lost its first match, but from that time never looked back, sweeping all before it. The Second team also lost only one match, and won the others purely by good team-work, and not by the presence of any stars. The Third team, again only losing one match, showed by the large margin of some of their successes what formidable opponents they were. Although their skill was not always in evidence their will to win was never absent.

However, with the start of the knock-out their star waned, although they still finished in fourth place. They might well have done better than this, had not a tendency towards over-confidence developed, which revealed itself in some rather careless play. But when losing, they fought back hard, and the second and third rounds were lost by only two and three points.

We can look forward to the knock-out and seven-a-side, knowing that our chances are better than they have been for several years. With the enthusiasm shown throughout the league, by reserves as well as regular team members, we cannot fail to put up a good fight, even if we do not achieve the same success.

In Fives we have won three of the four matches played, and so stand in second position. In the summer we can have high hopes for the juniors, who this year could well put us at the top in the combined placing.

The term's Shooting was disappointing. In the N.S.R.A. we only came fifth in spite of three scores of 95, although this is a great improvement on last year, when we were a very low eighth. If those lower down the team will put in a little more serious practice, we should do better in the competitions still remaining. However, classification has progressed well and is helped greatly by the loyal services of the range orderlies.

We *can* do well, if the spirit that has so far been shown by the Rugger teams reveals itself throughout the entire House, as it reveals itself in our House Master Mr. Biggs, and in our tutors Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Weatherall, whom we thank for their support and advice at all times.

J. G. HENLY (*House Captain*).

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## EVANS

Having suffered the frustration of losing the House Championship to Heath by 4 of a point, undaunted, the House made a spirited entry into the new School Year, none of the three Rugger teams losing any of their first three matches. And despite the fact that the record of the First XV tailed off during the term, the Seconds and Thirds continued vigorously to come second and first in their respective leagues. Unfor-

tunately, in the Knock-out Competition, the Thirds were handicapped by the absence of several players and came fourth equal. So far in the senior competitions, the First and Second XV's have lost and won respectively their opening match. Although the House has few School players among its members, it is to be hoped that keenness will show itself wherever talent does not.

In previous years, poor results in the major sports have, to a great extent, been compensated by the efforts of the House Chess and Fives teams. However, following the lamented final departure of the House of Lloyd from this place, Evans has ceased to be among the foremost exponents of these activities. Indeed, in Chess, we have even sunk so low as to be in the bottom half of the table.

Shooting continues.

Nevertheless, our prospects in the warm sports are not unhealthy. The captain of Swimming is almost bursting with confidence (although one wonders, perhaps, why this is so); and, in Cricket, we may be quietly confident. Finally, it has been revealed that in the House there are: a pianist, a violinist, an oboist, a flautist, a timpanist, a side-drummer and four recorder players. It seems that versatility, the characteristic of Evans for many years, is still present in abundance—if not in harmony.

J. MULFORD (*House Captain*).

## GIFFORD

Let's face the fact: Gifford is not Cock House. You can juggle with the figures and prestidigitate to your heart's content, but when it comes to finding out which House is top in the struggle for the Championship, our position is that of an also-ran. We have our scholars and we have our whist players, but rugby is only too often regarded as a dead sport which, were it not for the well-meant but rather childish efforts of a select group of muddled oafs, would lie down with other barbaric activities of past generations.

This theory has been held by our Fifts and Divisions for years and has become something of an endemic. Along with many other theories it is often left behind when its proponents become Sixth Formers, but by that time the next generation of enlightened thinkers have put on the skin which their predecessors had sloughed off.

Still there is nothing to be gained by being unduly depressed by our House First and Second Fifteens. The House Third Fifteen is showing what we can do in no uncertain fashion. It has won the Knock-out and includes several promising players who, stimulated by their success in the team, will, with their keen but somewhat less skilful brethren provide a really good House First Fifteen in a few years' time. In the more immediate future, we hope with the help of our School XV players to redeem, in the Knock-out, and Sevens, at least some of our League failures.

House Fives deserves more than a mention. We have got our eye on at least one cup and are training reserves in a most efficient fashion. Good luck to the ball spinners of the future.

To express views on paper as to what is going to happen in the future is a dangerous pastime, and one in which I will not indulge. Optimism is certainly there, but its counterpart is no less evident. All I can do now is to wish you all the best of luck in the coming terms and hope that we will rise to the top by the application of skill and hard work.

K. H. T. SCHIEMANN (*House Captain*).

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## HEATH

The House which has just won the championship must surely have the most exacting task. However, if we ignore the platitudes and knowing warnings of our rivals, Heath has one clear and shining duty—to recapture the spirit of our successful predecessors. The Third XV have already given us the right example, for they overcame the difficulties of inexperience and a lack of individual talent to produce a storming finish to the term. They won few of their early matches, but proved themselves to be the most improved side in the Knock-out Competition.

The 1st XV were unbeaten in the league, although they were weakened by the loss of six players in all to the School XV. They played extremely well, and, except for two unfortunate injuries, our Knock-out chances would seem particularly bright. The Seconds were disappointing, chiefly because they relied on a few stars, but once again they can be successful if they accept the value of team-work. At this point let us congratulate P. G. Robinson on his learners' coaching and also his league performances and sympathize with L. R. Holloway on his injury in the Bromsgrove match which will prevent him from playing this term.

The Fives results have not been impressive, in spite of N. J. Whitley's excellent work, because few people are prepared to practise. However, P. N. Garrard has inspired a new enthusiasm for Chess which may soon result in a victory. In comparison Shooting is a sober activity and R. L. Banks manages to conceal most of his administrative successes. The subject of Cross-Country Running has been mentioned.

At the moment the keynote is uncertainty, but Heathans must realize that the so-called minor sports are usually the deciding factors in the House Competition.

It is good to learn that there are prominent gentlemen in other activities at School, for we have many traditions to uphold. Individuals have already achieved success : may the whole House contribute towards a memorable Heathan year.

M. WILKINS (*Head of the House*).

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## JEUNE

“ Old Mother Hubbard  
Went to the cupboard  
To fetch her poor dog a bone,  
When she got there  
The cupboard was bare . . . ”

Yes, it's the old story : we haven't a bone in our cupboard. Or, to be more exact, we have only two cups.



We finished fourth in the House Championship last year. During the summer, although second in cricket, we did not excel ourselves, as we finished fourth in Tennis and, as usual, near the bottom in seventh position, in Swimming.

This year it seems that we are keeping towards the middle of the House Championship Table. With only half of the rugby season over, we have come fifth in the league. The First XV and the Third XV were disappointing, but the Second XV won five of its league matches. The Third XV redeemed themselves in the Knock-out by winning two of their matches and so finished second equal. However, prospects are better for both the Knock-out and the Seven-a-Sides.

In the minor sports we have been doing quite well. At last we have won a Fives match—in fact we have won two matches out of four. Chess still proceeds in its usual lethargic manner and at present we are top. Prospects for both Chess and Fives are fair. But our best hopes are in Shooting. Already we have won the House N.S.R.A. competition, and prospects for the *Country Life* and the Tunstall Cup (which we won last year) are good.

During the Lent term the House must combine more closely. This term House Music competitions begin and in this again the whole House must combine if it is to do well.

This year we welcome all the new boys to the House, hoping that they will turn out to be loyal and useful members of the House. We welcome also Dr. Allison as a House Tutor and hope that he will enjoy his time with the House.

We look forward to the remainder of the year hoping that we shall find ourselves higher in the House Championship than we are at present. Perhaps we may also see a few more trophies in our cupboard. To achieve this *all* members of the House must pull their weight in House activities for the latter half of the year.

Finally, our thanks are due to our House Master, Mr. Leeds, and to the House Tutors, Mr. Sacret, Mr. McGawley and Dr. Allison, for all the help and support that they have given the House. It would be pleasing if all members of the House were as loyal.

F. K. HAMMOND (*House Captain*).

## LEVETT

Having partially recovered from the numbing shock of finding ourselves yet again at the foot of the House Championship, although in June we were holding second place, it is to be hoped that this year even if we do not attain great heights, we shall not plumb the depths with such unerring accuracy.

The First XV won only one match in the league football, but several were only just lost, and in the first round of the Knock-out, the inspiration of our "member of the XV" provided just the little extra required to defeat Evans by 5 points to 3. The Second XV has been good, but the Third XV inconsistent, and our final position in league rugby was sixth.

Chess and Shooting, the two sports at which Levett is traditionally more successful, are proving a little less fruitful than in previous years, although the House was second in the N.S.R.A. competition.

The standard of Fives in the House has been improving since 1949, and it appears likely that in this sphere we shall achieve another second place—higher than ever before.

Last year one of the reasons for our “débâcle” was accredited to the failure of our cross-country teams to attain high placings in the race; and it was with the object of improving the better people in the House, that holiday practices were held. It is to be hoped that the value of this training will be revealed in the future.

In the educational and social field, Levett are once more well to the fore, and we congratulate P. K. Hawes on his election to a Classical Exhibition at St. John's College, Cambridge.

I. D. Bent has been providing music in House Prayers, and it appears likely that the House will acquit itself well in the Music Competitions.

We believe also that the P.T. team has once more come out of hibernation, and is exercising in the gym.

Our thanks are of course due to the Housemasters, who support has been unflinching, and whose general interest in House matters has encouraged everyone to greater efforts.

A. N. B. DAVIES (*House Captain*).

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## PRINCE LEE

At the time of writing, we are, after “riding along on the crest of a wave” for so long, in a deep trough. When sport is mentioned, our seniors wince, and with misty eyes remember the glories of former days. But enough. The past is gone and the present is inevitable; it is to the future, immediate and beyond, that we must look to regain our prestige.

But for the moment, I shall begin by recapitulating briefly the closing weeks of the Summer term. Our Cricket began well, but, after a promising third place in the league, our “no-star” teams slumped in the Knock-out and we finally finished seventh. Shooting and Chess were disappointing, but our Junior Fives team and several talented swimmers swept all before them. We were fifth in the House Championship.

Our activities on the football field this term have been disappointing, and in many ways unlucky. Our seventh position in the league is, we feel, a poor reward for some encouraging efforts by those concerned. As to the future, our juniors, alas, have failed, but not miserably, for a faint gleam of hope appeared in their Knock-out. We must nurture their talent, however meagre, until it blossoms to bring the Rothe Cup once more to our cupboard. This, if we are to believe our captains of Fives and Shooting, will be singularly bare, but our veteran Chess captain, C. J. Hurn, predicts a good position, so all is well!

It is now that we must show what we are made of. Each and every one of us, as a member of Prince Lee, is fully conscious of his responsibility—we shall not disappoint our talented predecessors. We must overcome our difficulties by united effort, which is the true measurement of a House's loyalty and spirit—the spirit which will never be lacking in Prince Lee.

Finally, as we begin the Lent term (who knows, we may have some musicians !) our thanks are due to Mr. Williams and Mr. Osborne, whose presence will be sadly missed this term, Mr. Bolton and Mr. Hutton for their continued guidance, support and encouragement.

N. G. MCGOWAN (*Head of the House*).

## VARDY

In the championship competition for the Cock House we finished fourth. In the Rugby Football League Competition we finished—fourth. We have therefore maintained our position. We are confident, however, that we shall improve on our past achievements in the two terms that lie ahead.

Our performance in Rugby Football has shewn great promise. The XV has won five matches and met with two mishaps. The Second team did not come up to expectations, but we hope it will distinguish itself in the Knock-out Competition. The Third XV, in spite of having won only one match in the League and one in the Knock-out, is developing most encouragingly. We make no apology for saying that it was from lack of weight and not from lack of skill or pluck that it met with comparative failure.

Chess has been disappointing, but we hope for better results next term. The Fives team has so far failed to win a match, but there is (we believe) hope for the two remaining matches. A handful of our number have begun to practice for the cross-country race : they will be joined in their efforts by the rest of those eligible to compete next term. In the race itself we are confident of a good result. In the N.S.R.A. competition, our Shooting team finished third equal, the first creditable position we have attained in any Shooting competition for some years.

One remarkable and very welcome feature of the past term has been the number of elderly and scholarly gentlemen on the touch-line declaring vocally or silently, their loyalty to the House. We look forward to seeing them come powerfully into action next term.

In the artistic sphere our talents are equally manifest. There are no less than seven of our number acting in the School play, not counting scenery designers and shifters. With regard to the forthcoming music competitions, we cannot, of course, being a seriously musical House, boast the eccentric musical combinations in which others appear to take pride, but we have choirs, pianists, string and woodwind players to enable us to compete effectively.

We therefore face the future confident that we have not so far done ourselves full justice and that we shall soon have the opportunities to do so.

Finally, it remains to record our gratitude to Mr. Copland, Mr. Parry and Mr. Skinner for all their encouragement and advice throughout the term.

M. I. WILLIAMS (*Captain of the House*).

## HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS, 1954-55

1.	Heath	..	..	..	388.1
2.	Evans	..	..	..	387.7
3.	Jeune	..	..	..	345.4
4.	Vardy	..	..	..	337.2
5.	Prince Lee	..	..	..	322.8
6.	Cary Gilson	..	..	..	321.1
7.	Gifford	..	..	..	305.5
8.	Levett	..	..	..	285.7

## THE SOCIETIES, 1955

We have a variety of society. Sharing the hazards of Icelandic adventures or carousing with Shakespeare, our evenings are torn between visiting meetings and deciphering their respective posters. There is no doubt that the societies are flourishing, and that the problem lies not in the conflict between boredom and duty, but between equally attractive propositions.

Alphabetically reported, the Archaeological Society has done well for it has learnt more about Roman Walls and has used all the available films in the Margaret Street Library. In this way the present and the past have been delightfully integrated. The Art Society, in its various forms, is just a bundle of pulsating energy eagerly concerned with designing and constructing, exhibiting and discussing, as well as finding the time for three well-attended lectures. We are assured that the Lent term will be just as varied.

Debating is popular, chiefly because of the inevitable references to brass-button waistcoats for which the ex-secretary won enthusiastic praise. Apart from these shafts of wit, the road system has been revolutionized by the introduction of left-handed right-angle bends, and Picasso was preferred to wall-scratching. The junior partners of this society have not been idle, for in three dynamic evenings they have welcomed the possibility of space travel, seen a future in British Railways, and have considered Birmingham "something to be proud of."

The Railway and Model Engineering Society is busy modelling railways, but occasionally the members venture forth into the bracing air of such beauty spots as Swindon, Leeds or Chester. In contrast the Geographers have been entertained to the history of Jamaica and an Icelandic expedition with its rainy deserts and muddy glaciers. The Secretary regrets the low attendances. Despite its varied programme, the chief worry of the Natural History Society is that it might become a Bird Watchers' Club.

Modern linguists are as prosperous as ever. The unlimited influence of the Chairman has secured many excellent speakers for large and appreciative audiences. They have met M. Malbert and the eminent Doktor Voigt, have seen a delightful display of histrionic talent by Mr. Ackstine, and have been amused by the spicy tales of a much-travelled forum. The Institut-Français annoyed them when they sent the wrong films.



The Literary Society is functioning again after a hibernation which extended over two English summers. It has met three times to hear papers on "La Patience Napoleon," "The Novelist's Vision," and has also seen a film about Yeats. This renaissance is a sign of new vigour in literary circles. Apparently our Philatelists are becoming possessive, for they no longer wish to enjoy the delights of swapping. Nevertheless, the Society still attracts large numbers to its principal meetings. The Photographers met once last term, but the major event is the arrival of the enlarger which should ensure bigger and better activities in the future.

The Scientific Society has heard about "glass" and "Recent Advances in Nuclear Physics" and has seen two films—jolly test-tubes! Housed in the luxurious precincts of the Cartland Room with the delights of a high-class "binge" during the interval, the Shakespeare Society has enjoyed its three meetings. The Elizabethan Society has read more widely, but with equal comfort. We feel sure that the Bard would approve.

The Student Christian Movement held two meetings in the Michaelmas term. At the first the Rev. E. W. Moreton introduced a film about the work to be done by the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, and secondly the Right Rev. W. A. Partridge spoke about the state of Christianity in India to-day. Both meetings were well-attended.

The Society with the largest membership is, however, (deviationist outcast that it is), not affiliated to the School Club. Therefore we shouldn't mention it. But we will. The Film Society flourishes numerically but struggles financially. Its programmes have been well attended and popularly acclaimed. Bravo.

The final word of thanks must go to the Chairmen of all the Societies, who willingly devote their time and energy to ensuring the best possible results for their meetings.

M.W.

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## MUSIC

A very encouraging feature of last term's meetings of the Musical Society was the considerable rise in attendance over previous years. It is hoped that gentlemen will continue to make a special effort to attend these meetings at mid-day on Wednesdays. Six concerts were held, including a performance of Mozart's magnificent Trio for clarinet, viola and piano. Mention must also be made of I. D. Bent's piano recital and J. K. Portwood's performance of Bach's B minor Violin Sonata, both of which were of a very high quality. The Chapel choir recital of Christmas music at the end of term is now almost a traditional feature, and once again the Chapel was packed out for a magnificent performance.

The School Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Allison, continues to meet regularly after school on Mondays. The concert at the beginning of December was most encouraging and high hopes are held for the future.

The Choral Society is practising Rossini's "Stabat Mater" for performance in the summer term. Any tenors and basses are invited to attend rehearsals, which are held at mid-day on Mondays. They are assured of an enjoyable and even instructive half-hour.

J.A.L.

## MUSIC CIRCLE

Last term, one of our most interesting meetings was in the Cathedral when Dr. Grant demonstrated to us the Swarbrick Organ, built during the first decade of the Eighteenth century. On other dates, Miss Sylvia Cleaver and Mr. Cyril Perfect showed us how stringed instruments should be played ; Mr. W. Brown was prevailed upon to sing Vaughan Williams' " Five Mystical Songs " ; Mr. Barrie Hall, then Concert Manager of the C.B.S.O., spoke on the history and administration of that orchestra ; Mr. Peter Wishart gave us some insight into his own methods of composition, and Mr. Harold Gray has promised to mark the bicentenary of Mozart's birth with a talk on his music.

As ever, our thanks must be expressed to Dr. Grant for his efficient chairmanship and for his success in procuring interesting speakers and artists.

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## SYNDICATES, 1955

Syndicates were not designed for the worldly profit of our sixth formers. Their real purpose is to provide a group with interest, mental activity and valuable knowledge outside the G.C.E. syllabus. This report is based on the record of the syndicate's work, where members were often very much " on their own."

The United States Syndicate was faced with a large field of historical development. They began with Colonization and Independence, and then studied the two great national heroes—George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. This served as a background to the twentieth century America typified by its New Deals, its flamboyant elections and the myriad activities of one J. McCarthy. The net result of this far-reaching survey was the conviction that Americans are not only " swell guys ;" some are even " good chaps."

In complete contrast a distinguished group undertook the study of Law and the Juvenile Delinquent. The sordid fascination for this subject kept them day after day at the Law Courts and in the dark quarters of the City in search of information and excitement. They returned wiser and more dangerous men. An able-bodied few felt the attraction of Physical Recreation in the gym. The Secretary hastened to inform us that much written work could be done on this subject, and that, in fact, the syndicate was more concerned with the history and development of sport than with its practical application. Like most activities, the source of Recreation could be traced back to the Ancient World which not only practised the brutal art of boxing, but also played a rugged sort of football.

Five seems an inadequate number for studying such a vast subject as Foreign Literature in Translation, but the members were not deterred and chose a few of the most outstanding creations. Rabelais provided a provocative beginning which was increased by Goethe, Cervantes and Rousseau ; and so with the inclusion of Machiavelli the group had read enough to excite their interest in European literature. The Post-War Novel syndicate had an equally mammoth task. Their answer was to select a few of the best-known authors and discuss their merits as original writers. For example, Graham Greene and Anthony Powell were felt to be men of exceptional talent in an age of types rather than individuals.

Droitwich was the home of a hardy group of excavators who were aiding the work on a Roman Villa. Their discoveries included numerous coins and pieces of pottery as well as a small isolated building later recognized as a corn-drying shed. The members returned to school for a week of lectures on pottery, Paleography and Roman fortifications in Britain.

Atomic energy cannot be ignored and a chiefly scientific group enjoyed a varied programme ranging from the types of Atomic Bomb to the social implications of this discovery. The Geology Syndicate won similar support in its discussions on "The Interior of the Earth" and Earth formation. Other members studied particular areas and their numeral products. The ceramics syndicate was mainly amateur in tone but the report of the rapid development from a group of ignorant, clumsy laymen to a group of knowledgeable clumsy laymen reveals the true worth of potting. The satisfaction of self-expression was the chief reward for hard days at the wheel and nerve-racking moments when the kiln was doing its worst.

The Indian Religious Syndicate struggled manfully with the intricacies of its subject.

We congratulate everyone who contributed to the success of the Syndicates and thank the masters most warmly for their advice and helpfulness.

M.W.

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### BYRD'S MASS

A performance of Byrd's 4-part Mass was given in Big School on the 18th of July by a joint choir consisting of sopranos and contraltos from K.E.H.S., together with tenors and basses from boys of the syndicate group.

The performance was a competent one, judged by any standards, and when it is borne in mind that the work was sung after a fortnight's rehearsal, the magnitude of the feat becomes memorable. It is, however, not as a *tour de force*, but as a work of art that the performance will be remembered. The Mass contains some of the greatest English Church music ever written, and the very fact that they have sung it through should prove of incalculable value to the choir members.

To indicate flaws in the performance would be quite pointless, although, in passing, we cannot refrain from noting that the remarkable quality of alto-tone produced by their conductor stood the choir in good stead on one particular occasion! Rather should one be grateful for the many moments of beauty provided for us, particularly in the wonderful "Agnus Dei," with its sublime and other-worldly cadences, gradually dying, like a glorious sunset, into complete serenity. If, even here, we feel the need to state that the accented first beat of the bar (those horrible bar-lines!) was noticeable, then obviously we are suffering from a hypercritical phobia and should bring this article to a full-close.

R.S.A.

## KING OEDIPUS

In a thrilling hour on two evenings in July the Sixth Forms presented W. B. Yeats' 'bare, Bold and natural' translation of Sophocles' "King Oedipus." It was an admirable example of what our post-examination 'syndicate' system can call into life.

The printed programme was inspired by the Greek Red figured vase technique—an idea extended to the costumes themselves in the contemporary Bradfield production of "Oedipus at Colonus." The scene showed Thebes in the background, palace door on one side, marble masonry here and there. Effective but melodramatic use was made of these elements by the producers: lights were lowered and darkness covered the earth; the Queen burst from the doors like a Jocasta-in-the-box to scold her brawling husband and her brother; the messenger managed to mount the marble block *ἀστροφοῖς ὀμμασι*.

Some costumes gave an almost oriental appearance and Jocasta had trouble with her hem, but make-up was good and Oedipus not only limped but also had the tell-tale scars on his ankles. In the embarrassing last scene between father-brother and his daughter-sisters, casting, costume and make-up were most ingenious: the girls could have been of any age but they were small enough to emphasize the great gaunt hands that sought the contact denied the bloodied eyes in the marred visage of the King.

The awful tale was put across with immense force by all the actors; not a word was hard to hear, not a line fluffed. Oedipus was majestic and yet misguided. Creon seemed young and priggish enough to crave to regain the good opinion of his suspicious hero. Tiresias was blind as well as bitter and futile. Jocasta showed, as a woman would, a wider range of insight and emotion than her childish men-folk. The messengers and herdsman gave forceful and colourful accounts of themselves and their burdens.

The chorus of seven, who also had verse to speak used effective gesture and were surprisingly audible; but perhaps their unison was pitched too much in one key.

The impact of the whole production was sharp and sustained and created for its audience, as the Dublin production had done for Yeats, "but one overwhelming emotion, a sense of the actual presence in a terrible sacrament of the god."

## THE SCOUT GROUP

The summer term came to a fitting conclusion with the visit of the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, to the Handsworth Rally on July 2nd, where the Parents' Committee organized a lucrative side-show.

Summer camps were held in several parts of the country. Park Vale and New Troop spent a memorable time in Cornwall where they indulged in organized hikes, bridge building, and patrol exercises. The Lizard and St. Michael's Mount were two places of local interest visited.

Vikings and Mitre Troop held their camp in the Cumbrian Eskdale where mountain walking, an ascent of Crinkle Crag and Sea Fell, and lemonade drinking were the principal occupations.



Members of all four troops wish to express their gratitude to the Scoutmasters and their able assistants for making these camps both instructive and enjoyable.

The Autumn Term saw the addition of an enthusiastic number of recruits. Troop programmes have continued along usual lines with hikes at week-ends and half-term.

The Senior Troop is now under the guidance of Mr. Dodds, whose leadership is greatly appreciated. The Summer Camp was spent in yachts on the Norfolk Broads. Our thanks are due to Mr. Skinner as Admiral of the Fleet and to his officers—Mr. Dodds and K. W. Masters.

During the Autumn Term the Group won the Senior Section of the Divisional Swimming Sports, and the De Renji Shield was retained. A. J. Broadhead, R. T. Cox and A. D. R. Ogborn are to be congratulated on becoming Queen's Scouts, whilst three juniors have obtained their First Class. The Scout Group organized a major exhibit for the Royal Visit. N. J. Whitley is to be congratulated on his representation of the group at the World Jamboree in Canada.

Finally we wish to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Mayor for his conscientious leadership as Q.S.M. R.T.C.

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### THE SCHOOL WEATHER STATION

For the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh an exhibit was prepared showing the station's activities. It was prepared by the observers under the guidance of Mr. Whalley. When opened to the public in the afternoon and evening the exhibit was popular with visitors.

1955 proved to be the most interesting year (for meteorologists) since records began in 1947. There was the extreme cold of February with an average temperature of 32°F. (Normal, 39°F.), followed six months later by the heat of August, with an average of 66°F., against the normal of 61°F. May was extremely wet with just over 5-in. of rain, but August failed to produce  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in.

Snow lay more or less continuously for the first three weeks of January, the last three weeks of February and the first week of March.

Details of the past year's weather have been exhibited outside Geography Room "A" during the first few weeks of term. R.H.D.

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### BRITISH SCHOOLS' EXPLORING SOCIETY, 1955

Last year's Expedition consisting of five army officers, two doctors and fifty-five boys went to East-Central Newfoundland with the intention of bringing back information on a wide variety of subjects, and of making a map of as large an area as possible.

We crossed the Atlantic by air and then travelled south from Gander by train and truck to a point on the Terenceville-Goobies road where it touches the southern tip of Long Pond. From here we walked round the lake to the base camp situated in a sheltered position on the north shore.

Once in base camp, the expedition split up into five "Fires"; one for the surveying, which included both of us, one to operate the



wireless sets the Canadian Army had lent us, and three others to do general exploration work and various scientific investigations.

For the first few days all our time was taken up with re-siting the tents and building shelters from the plentiful supply of timber.

As soon as the base camp was in a habitable condition the survey Fire started work. All the preliminary triangulation was based on accurate trig points that had been set up on prominent mountains in 1950 by the Canadian Geophysical survey. With the four points we could see, Piper, Mother, Haddock and Wigwam, we were able to fix accurately the position of the small beacons we set up round the camp.

Once the beacons were fixed, and after many delays due to rain and fog, we went out in pairs with plane tables to draw the map proper, working at a rate of about one sq. km. per pair per day of a 25-ft. contour two-and-a-half inch map.

Whilst surveyors were poring over their plane tables and the wireless operators were struggling with aërials and petrol generators to produce the most commendable results, the other groups were occupying themselves with cross-country marches of three or five days' duration. From them we learnt the nature of the surrounding country ; to the south lay the road and a range of low mountains hiding the sea from our view ; to the east there was two days' march through forests and around lakes before one reached Pipers Hole river, a wide swift flowing river possessing, according to the locals, the best salmon fishing in the world ; to the north the bog stretched as far as one could see with the exception of Mt. Tolt, a lump of granite three days' march away that stood on the horizon like a bowler hat ; the west beyond the Wigwam river two hours' away was not explored till the long march.

After nearly four weeks the expedition split up and a survey group with a few reinforcements went further north to set up a depot camp from which small parties of five or six could go out to increase the area covered by the ever-growing map. Here some of us left the survey group and formed a new one of twelve boys and two leaders whose object was to go as far west as possible and back again in twelve days.

For this march we had to carry our own food, clothing and bedding ; the tents and extras, such as axes, billies and ropes were shared out. At the start the packs weighed anything up to sixty pounds which included about twenty-eight pounds of food. The long march covered about 130 miles across various kinds of country ranging from the bogland near base camp to the rocky mountainous region of the coast.

Route finding was by no means easy for the only map we had was an Esso twelve mile to the inch road map which gave only a rough indication of where we were, but as there were no paths or bridges anyway, the simplest way between two points was as near as possible a straight line along a compass bearing, any rivers or lakes in the way being taken in one's stride.

Food, as is usual, was the main topic of conversation, but though it was dried and compressed as much as possible, it was quite adequate ; and on a staple diet of biscuits, cheese, dried vegetables and pemmican most of the lighter members of the expedition managed to put on weight, while the heavy-weights only lost a pound or two. The diet was

supplemented with trout from the lake and blueberries which were the only edible fruit in any quantity, though at times we found wild strawberries, cherries, raspberries and brambles.

The wild animals as a whole kept themselves to themselves ; but many of us saw moose and caribou and a bear and lynx were also seen. Three of us had the luck of spending three days on our own watching the daily life of a pair of beavers with the intention of photographing them ; but the results of lying in three inches of water for two hours with the camera held in the air were very disappointing ; on the negative only a small spot appeared in the middle of a large expanse of water.

By this time we were due to return home and going back by the same route we arrived in England on September 14th, glad to be back in civilisation, sorry that it was all over.

In ending, we should both like to convey our gratitude to those whose generosity made it possible for us to join the expedition. Our advice to anyone who ever has the chance of joining another of these expeditions is : go—you'll never regret it.

P.N.G., J.D.L.A.

## IMPRESSIONS OF CANADA

(*The W. H. Rhodes' Educational Trust Tour to Canada, 1955.*)

"What went ye out for to see?" I suppose that every one of us in the Rhodes Party had an idea of what Canada would be like ; an idea constructed of scraps of information and surmise. I am sure that not one of us was prepared for what he saw.

To the Englishman, the size of Canada is overwhelming ; more so on account of the smallness of its population (less than three people to each of its 3,800,000 square miles). The idea of walking a thousand miles and seeing no one is inconceivable, until one has actually been among the woods and lakes of Ontario. We spent a few days in camp by one such lake, where the silence and isolation were almost terrifying. Contrasting with this, were the large cities, such as Montreal and Toronto, where it seemed unbelievable that the country could be so vast that one was probably nearer to London than to Vancouver.

Most of us expected, nay, let us be honest, feared, that Canada would be the fifty-third State of the Union, that all ties with the Commonwealth would be merely historical and regarded somewhat patronisingly. Between Canada and the U.S.A. is a more or less arbitrary border some 3,000 miles long, and it is scarcely surprising that there are many similarities in the ways of life of the two nations. On the other hand, I disagree with the writer of a previous article in the *CHRONICLE* who said that Canada is "Americanised in every way." This, I think, is a rather superficial view : truly, skyscrapers, long flat cars, dollars, and "High School" play a large part in Canadian life, but there is no confusing a Canadian and an American when you talk to them.

The Canadians we met were all patriots, not with the hideous, aggressive nationalism as of a country remembering years of foreign domination, but with something nearer to the spirit which pervades

"Henry V"—the patriotism of youth. This is not surprising for Canada is a young country, free from the disadvantages of a circumscribed way of life, which has become, alas, synonymous with tradition. The informality is delightful. In Hamilton, the so-called "Birmingham" of Canada (the comparison flatters Birmingham) the Mayor greeted us with the words "Gee it's hot, boys, take your coats off; I have." Remembering the vacuous pomposity of civic occasions in this country, I, for one, wanted to stand up and cheer.

Quite apart from lack of formality, there were many things in Canada which affected me like a cool breeze after a thunderstorm. Weary of the stolid flatulence of so many aspects of British life, it was indescribably refreshing to meet a people apparently buoyant with the energy of freedom. Britain is, of course, a free country, but owing to the gross evil of overpopulation it is impossible to escape from the influence of one's fellow man. The result is that we do not enjoy our freedom, indeed, are often not even conscious of it. In Canada, I never heard the Civil Service or Local Authorities mentioned. In Britain, they squat on society like a London fog, a difference which, to me, seems very significant.

In case I have been too eulogistic, let me hasten to say that there are several things which I dislike about Canadian life. Their games, their schools, and their "taverns," particularly (I would maintain) are inferior to their English counterparts, and, after all, these are pretty well fundamentals.

Nevertheless, owing to the monumental generosity of a true philanthropist, forty young men returned to this country with the conviction that Britain has much, although by no means everything, to learn from the people of the Dominion. "What do they know of England who only England know?" Mr. Rhodes, we thank you. J.G.E.

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## EXPEDITION TO ICELAND

This expedition to the real wilds of Central Iceland over forty miles from the nearest outpost, was the first of its kind ever to be organized by the School's Geographical Society. It would be interesting to discover now, how many of us would have joined the expedition if we had known what was in store for us. We have all been asked why we went. Theoretically research was to have been undertaken in the various fields of glaciology, climatology, botany and ornithology, but the weather, the worst Icelandic summer in living memory, changed the focus of the expedition from science to survival.

The expedition was based in the uninhabited central area of Iceland, north of Guysir and Gullfoss, lying between the ice-caps of Längjökull and Hofsjökull. We camped at the foot of an old volcanic peak, Bláfell, until one night gale force winds and heavy incessant rain seriously damaged two tents. We were thus forced to move to a hut. This was eight miles away and the walk there in low cloud and driving rain is still one of our more frightening memories.

From the hut, glaciers, icebergs and glacial rivers, volcanoes and lava flows, deserts and marshes were all visible and many were visited,

often under exceedingly bad weather conditions. We thought how true the introduction to our kit-list had been, "camping in Iceland will often involve taking strenuous exercise in the cold and wet." However, we managed to do some work. Meteorological observations were taken regularly, a study of sedimentation was made in the River Tjarna, and a flock of pink-feet geese were seen by our ornithologists. The greatest achievement was the collection of botanical specimens by our lone botanist.

After we had managed to repair our tents, Base Camp was regained in somewhat better weather. Here we spent a very happy two days in the sunshine. An excursion was made to a glacier flowing from the Längjokull on to which we managed to clamber after negotiating a difficult fluvio-glacial stream. Then the long march back began. Up over Bláfell Col and much lava desert, through many rivers, seeing nothing but stones, glacial rivers and rain, with only an occasional bird or plant.

Food was appreciated even though the regular and monotonous use of porridge twice daily seems to shock our friends at home. All the food was taken from this country and our thanks are due to Scotts, Bovril, Macvita, Stork, Kendal Mint and Spratts, who either gave us the food free and specially packed, or let us have it at remarkably low prices.

Above all our thanks are due to Mr. Benett for the remarkable amount of organization and paper-work which he put into the expedition for nearly a year beforehand and for the great responsibility he accepted by being its sole leader. Throughout the expedition he had a helpful word to say to everyone, and I would like, on behalf of the "anoraked" eleven, to thank him for making the experience possible. J.D.E.

### THE PALIO OF SIENA

For three hours the train shot over the Roman Campagna, heading northwards until it came to the little junction of Chiussi, where three coaches were waiting, headed by a picturesque black engine, ready to take us to Siena.

Half-an-hour later we were winding through rolling brown hills, higher and higher, at a snail's pace. At last we slid to a stop opposite a board with the legend "Siena."

The blue bus left the station almost immediately, bumping up a steep hill on which the town was built (in common with most other Italian cities dating from Roman times). We shot through the gates, decorated with the proverbial she-wolf, and bounded into a bristling, fairy-tale town.

Overshadowing the uneven cobbled streets were ancient houses from whose windows hung brilliantly-coloured drapes and hangings displaying the coats-of-arms of the seventeen contestants in the race. The winner of the horse-race in the "Campo" receives the ceremonial shield or "Palio."

With a final jolt the bus came to a standstill and we all poured out. Frantically asking for the Piazza del Campo we were at last directed down a steep, narrow flight of steps which led into—a shell-shaped square, looking as if it had come out of the Decameron or Froissant's Chronicle, so great was the atmosphere of the Middle Ages which pervaded it.

As all the approaches but one narrow alley were flights of steps the square was neither used by nor intended for motor vehicles, but was



meant rather as a kind of forum where the inhabitants of the city could come to chat and promenade. This was borne out by the fact that the Town Hall was at one end of the square and that the other side was composed of cafes.

Outside one of these places was an obese "foreigner" dressed in a linen cap with an immense peak, a loud tie, a light-coloured coat and a pair of pumps. Revealing himself as an American he asked if he could help us.

He tried at all the cafes to get seats on the banks of benches which the proprietors had erected outside. But in vain. Those at the start were sold out and the remainder "bootleggin" (i.e., holding on to the seats until the last moment to secure the highest price). We decided to stand in the middle of the square, facing outwards.

At five o'clock all entrances were barricaded and seating placed over them. Then followed an hour's dreary wait until, at five to six a contingent of the "Noble Guard" came to clear the course. These men, all well over six feet, are dressed in the Napoleonic style with tricorues, cockades, plumes of scarlet, pistols, epaulettes, braids and piping. They were an uproarious success, even though they could be seen every day in the street. The applause was deafening.

At six a maroon was let off and the leader of the immense parade pranced through the entrance on a mettlesome horse; in his right hand a great flag.

The next group was a band of trumpets—not modern trumpets, but what are now called post-horns; these played from time to time a tone-perfect fanfare. From their instruments hung the banners of the district which they supported.

Behind these were flag-wavers who accomplished feats greater than even those of the Swiss exponents. Waving them round and round they suddenly seemed to stop, swing back and flung the flashing banners up for twenty or thirty feet to the acclamations of the ten thousand in the square and the hundreds more on the yellow-ochre roof-tops.

The procession was continued by a knight in full armour, surrounded by pike men, esquires and other retainers. The most striking thing was that the arms did not seem to be the cardboard accoutrements of a village fête, but the real thing, which, in fact, they were.

Not one, but seventeen of these processions went past, differing only in the gorgeous colours in which contestants and assistants were arrayed. At the end of them came what seemed an anti-climax—a peaceful image of the Virgin Mary, surmounted by a bell and frame, tolled by a small boy in a black robe. The Palio was inaugurated because the Virgin had saved Siena from a plague.

When they had passed round the square (taking one-and-a-half hours) the squires, retainers and flag-wavers assembled on white benches by the Town Hall, their brilliant clothes contrasting pleasantly with the mellow stones.

At last all the flag-wavers threw up their flags with a flourish and, deftly catching them, disappeared. Then the horses were led to the starting post and the race began, with a maroon. The Italians shrieked and yelled for three minutes—then all was over. Three men had been thrown on the hard cobbles, one was unconscious. Fighting our way through the crowd we left Siena.

G.K.



## LINCOLN IMPS

Each year, the Royal School of Church Music holds, in one of the Cathedrals of England, a course for members of affiliated choirs. A choir is formed, the trebles being drawn from parish church choirs and the lower voices from public school choirs. The purpose of this course is to continue for a fortnight in the month of August, while the regular Cathedral Choir is on holiday, the normal daily sung services of the Cathedral. This year's course was at Lincoln Cathedral. So, while others were bounding outward, two of the School's Chapel Quiristors took their exercise in this more esoteric manner.

There were many impressive events in the fortnight—there comes to mind the singing of the Litany in procession, of Maurice Greene's masterpiece, "Lord, let me know mine end," of the broadcast of Choral Evensong on the last Wednesday, and the Chaplain of the College's sermon on the duties of a choir, but by far the most memorable was our visit to the Anglican Monastery at Kelham, near Newark. We went there on one of our two free days, the only day on which it rained. As we entered the grounds, we met a novice who consented to show us the Chapel—a glorious piece of modern architecture. We left, three hours later than we had arranged, with strong invitations to come again, and a feeling that God was very near.

The course moved quickly on to its end, which was, it transpired, an almost extempore concert (Sacred Music banned) before what seemed to be most of Lincoln. After the performance, presentations were made to Mr. Knight, director of the course, and speeches made by a great number of people.

Our applications are going forward for next year's course.

R.M.S., I.D.B.

## INGLEBORO', 1955

On the 27th October eight members of the Geography Department arrived at Stainforth Youth Hostel to study (chiefly) limestone topography and vegetation. They also (incidentally) explored interesting potholes, descended precipitous waterfalls and generally went up the airy mountains and down the rushy glens, though they did discover several classic geographical manifestations: the erratic boulders at Norber, made famous by Professor Holmes; the collapsed cavern at Frow Gill, and Ingleboro' Cave were among the most notable.

It was, with the aid of favourable weather, a very successful trip and we must thank the organizers who planned everything—even the food supply—to such effect.

T.J.H.

## MONKS' HOUSE BIRD-OBSERVATORY, 1955

During August, seven members of the Natural History Society visited Monks' House Bird-Observatory in Northumberland, one of several observatories established for the study of bird-migration.

The party helped to trap migrants and mark them with numbered rings, and also watched for unusual species. In particular, a barred warbler and an Iceland gull were seen. Expeditions were made to the Farne Islands and into the Cheviot Hills.

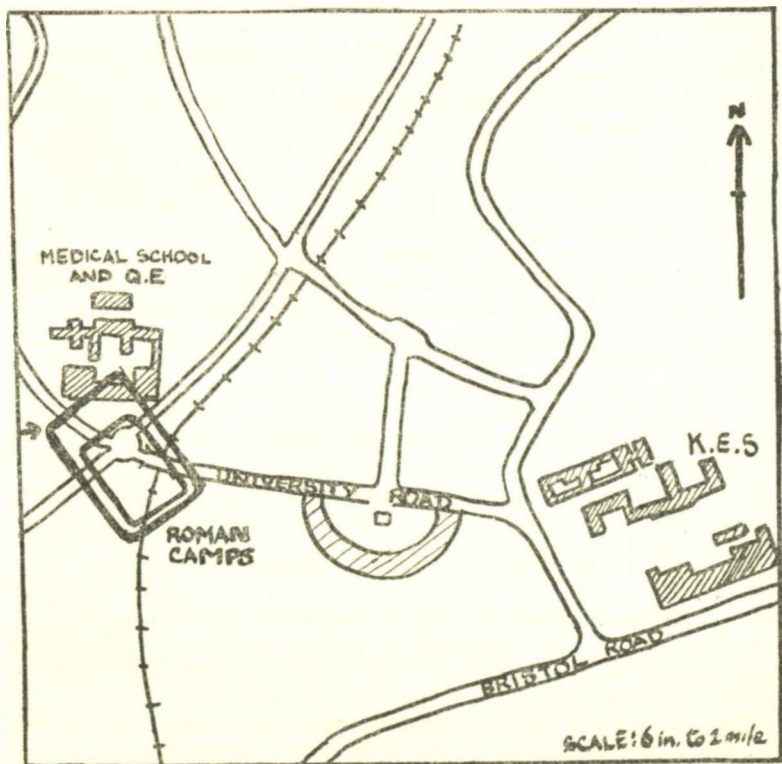
All would like to express their thanks to Dr. E. A. R. Eunion, the Director, and to Mr. Woods, who made the week such an enjoyable holiday.  
J.G.E., R.S.B.

## TWO ROMAN CAMPS HALF-A-MILE FROM K.E.S.

The sites of two Roman military camps, one within the other, lie about half-a-mile to the west of the School. The site is now partly occupied by the University of Birmingham Medical School, which is easily approached by way of University Road.

The camps in Roman times were at the junction of two roads. One, the Icknield, or Ryknield Street ran from Bourton-on-the-Water, in the Cotswolds, through Alcester (*Alauna*) to cross the Watling Street at Wall (*Letocetum*). The other road ran from Worcester through Droitwich (*Salinae*) to meet the Ryknield street at the camp.

If we visit the site to-day, we notice that the ramparts have almost completely disappeared. We know, nevertheless, that they did exist until comparatively recent times, for it is shown as "The Camp" on estate maps of the last century ; but as the land became more cultivated, and



MAP 1.—The position of the site to-day. The corner marked with the arrow has been restored.

Birmingham expanded, the ditches and banks were unable to withstand the weight of the heavier types of agricultural machinery which were coming into use.

The larger camp covers approximately 15½ acres, and therefore would probably have accommodated a force of about half-legionary strength (about 3,000 men). The inner camp covers about 6½ acres, and would have held a proportionally smaller body of troops.

Pottery found in the larger camp, although scarce, seems to show that the Roman soldiers were in occupation between 50-60 A.D. Pottery unearthed in the smaller camp seems to be generally later, and it is supposed that this camp could not have been built more than twenty years after the first.

Scarcity of permanent structures, and also of pottery, suggest that neither camp had a very long occupation on these grounds. It is estimated at about a year or so.

We naturally wonder for what reason these camps were erected. It is supposed by archaeologists that they were rest-camps for troops marching northwards in their conquering advance across Britain.

We are extremely lucky to have such an interesting archaeological discovery almost on our doorstep, particularly as one corner has been partly restored, giving us a fair idea of the design of the original buildings. A brief inspection of the site is a pleasant relaxation from the arduous of a cross-country run.

A.H.C.

### INDUSTRIAL ELEGY

Another day dawns on a Midland vale—

Desolate wastes swept by a gale

Which swirls, past mine, stack, rickety rail

The smoke, a hideous veil.

From wealth and schemes, from labourer's toil

What here remains but clumsy spoil ?

What once was green has turned to grime

That forest now a mine.

Weary workers with bloodshot eyes,

Sweat by furnace in twilit mist

Sleep and drink to another new day

Ragged, rusty, dark as this.

B.A.R.

### THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

As its name implies, the Voluntary was originally a casual addition to the Church service, for the most part employed to fill up any awkward or difficult gaps which might occur. It was usually reserved for special occasions. Now, however, it plays an essential part in religious worship.

Until the latter half of the nineteenth century voluntaries were played not only at the beginning and end of Mattins and Evensong, but also after the Psalms. The following is an entry from a Vestry Book at Boston (Lincs.), dated 29th April, 1717 :

“Ye organist who shall be chosen to serve in ye Parish Church of Boston shall play : Upon Sundays, Holy Daies, and as often as there shall happen to be a Sermon or Homily, One short Voluntary

before ye service begins, another immediately after ye First Lesson . . . and a Voluntary immediately ye service is finished."

Nowadays the custom of playing this "middle voluntary" is no longer kept up, though the Nonconformist Churches sometimes have an organ solo during the offertory.

In the sixteenth century the title was given to contrapuntal pieces free of a Canto Firmo, thus allowing the composer to construct all his parts at will. Thomas Morley, in his "Plaine and Easie Introduction to Practicall Musicke" (1597), says :

"To make two parts into a plaine song is more hard than to make three parts into a voluntarie."

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the voluntary kept pace with the general style of musical composition. It incorporated elements of the prelude, toccata, operatic aria, suite, sonata, etc. However, it often went outside the bounds of suitability for church use, becoming a display-piece, as is seen by a reference in the *Spectator* of 28th March, 1722, to :

"Merry Epilogues after Tragedies, and Jigging Voluntaries."

There exists to-day a vast repertoire of excellent material for organ voluntaries, and an even vaster repertoire of nineteenth century music which, though possessing the title of Voluntaries, is totally unsuitable for that purpose.

Needless to say, the music chosen for playing before Prayers in this school is always of the highest quality !

I.D.B.

### THE BUZZARD

A spot in the void

A blur among the clouds

And then a life, a force,

A magic of the air.

Two pinions soaring high

Effortless, free—

Sweeping through the mist

Gliding in an aerial sea.

A feathered spirit

Of Nature's very being,

A master of the wind breathing

A law unto itself seeing

What we can never see.

P.J.D.

### OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The Editor wishes to acknowledge receipt of the following :

*The Arrow, The Barrovian, The Blundellian, The Bristol Grammar School Chronicle, The Britannia, The Bromsgrovian, The College Times, The Coventrian, The Cygnet, The Denstonian, The Edwardian, The Ellesmerian, The Epsomian, The Five Ways Magazine, The Herefordian, The Holt School Magazine, Knots (Hobart), The Leamington, The Leys Fortnightly, The Liverpool College Magazine, The Novocastrian, The Phoenix, The Portcullis, The Radleian, The Sotoniensis, The Staffordian, The Wolvernian, The Wrekinian, The Wulfrunian, The Wykehamist.*

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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

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 four 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,  
R. J. GARRATT,

*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 ten 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.







# KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL CHRONICLE

JULY 1956

The aims of the CHRONICLE, as stated in the first of the present series, March, 1875 :

- (1) To bind together all sections within the School.
- (2) To strengthen the connection between our old and present members.
- (3) To Chronicle all events of interest to the School.

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THE SEVEN

*Standing (left to right) : D. F. SOUTTER, M. WILKINS, J. S. PENDRY, D. K. LINDLEY, G. G. KIMBLE.*

*Seated (left to right) : R. K. WILSON (Captain), T. R. PARRY, Esq., R. W. N. DAVIS.*



# THE PREFECTS, 1955-56

*Standing (left to right) :* F. K. HAMMOND, R. W. N. DAVIS, J. G. HENLEY, N. G. MCGOWAN, J. S. PENDRY, P. C. N. VAUGHN, J. N. BROMLEY,  
R. D. WILDBORI, J. COLE, D. F. SOUTTER, C. W. LONG.

*Seated (left to right) :* A. N. B. DAVIES, G. O. MILLAR, R. K. WILSON (*Captain of the School*), THE CHIEF MASTER, M. WILKINS (*Vice-Captain*),  
J. MULFORD, M. I. WILLIAMS.

# King Edward's School Chronicle

Vol. LXX

July, 1956

No. 327

## EDITORIAL

“ Ay, fashion you may call it, go to, go to ” (*Polonius*).

First, boys, a word about style : let us consider the “ chatty,” or, as some say, the *démodé*, or *ersatz* confidential.

Isn't it odd how you can tell, when the chatty fit's coming on you ? You pick up a pen, smooth the back of your favourite old envelope, and resolve to commence with a terse, “ It is our pleasant lot to commence a new year with the plaudits of the old ever ringing in our blushing ears . . . ”, and lo and behold, but you go and put, “ Gee but it's great to be back,” or some such drivel. [We, of course, have avoided this particular error of tactics, which rates as nothing more than a descent into a Transatlantic Journalese slanted, culturewise, for the garbage-can press. Yes, dear reader, hitting the nabe market in the pan is a terrible thing, a terrible thing ; but if Columbus hadn't opened his mouth, of course, and revealed the existence of chewing-gum, there might have been never a single Yew-nited State to worry about, and consequently we might all have been writing about Writing after all, culturewise, and not publicity-wise. We might, dear reader, have been saying at this very moment that, acknowledging that to an external report, our language is not without superficial levities and deformities, it is inwardly replenished with excellent virtues and powers, though it be used to some conditions and courses base and unworthy soever, wherein divers professors of learning have wronged themselves.

It might not, on the other hand, have been worth it.]

But there are fashions in writing—or errors of tactics if you prefer it—which can, under no circumstances, be classed as journalism. There is, for example, the fellow who starts off his Editorial with a quotation from some blamed play or other, and exploits two Un-British words in the first line : both of them from different languages. Well, d . . . e, as they used to say, but this is insupportable. We appeal to you, dr. rdr. : how is a fellow like that to be tholed ? (an old Scottish expression used by old Scottish nannies, meaning put up with). It seems, in fact, to be fashionable nowadays to baffle your reader with a display of polyglot erudition (as above). But not for . . .

But we're digressing. What were we . . . Oh, yes. Fashionable.

D. reader, this quotation we've got at the top here, with (*Polonius*) written after it. Well, we were going to talk about that in the light of the fact that M. Dior has decreed shorter skirts again (but on reflection, we seem to have stymied ourselves rather). We were going to say that M. Dior seems to have the whole of the female world right in the hollow of his hand, and that at one wink of his cutting-shears, can raise or lower the altitude of hems in a jiffy. Think of it, dear r., all those fashionable

hems trembling between knee and calf just because M. Dior had a bad lunch. Well, really, it's incredible.

You know, the more we think about it, the more of a pity it seems that we haven't left ourselves more room to develop the point. You see we collected, oh, lots of quotations about this business, and all for your enlightenment. (As a matter of fact, we could let you have a few now, if it's not too late, e.g.

"The fashion of the world passeth away" is a good enough one for anybody's money. And we heard a man in the Bull Ring the other day, quoting the famous old lines :

"O!

Kin let you have fifteen denier

Or fully-fashioned.")

Polonius, you see, had the right idea about this fashion nonsense, before he got his just deserts behind the arras. He was probably measuring curtain material anyway, when his call came. He should have known better.

But maybe you don't think this is really all we meant to write about ? All right then, we'll prove it. What we were modestly working around to, was what we might have put more simply this way :

Dear reader,

Fashions in Editorials change.

Yours,

Ed.

And thank goodness for that, you will say, d.r., and thank goodness for that.

---

## NOTES AND NEWS

### SCHOOL DIARY

Half-term in the Lent term began on Friday, February 24th and ended on Tuesday, February 28th.

The long-awaited thaw came too late to prevent the postponement of the Cross-country Race from February 21st until March 1st. Snow also caused the cancellations of : the XV's fixture with Mount St. Mary's ; the Knock-out Final ; and the Inter-House Seven-a-sides and Kicking Competition.

On February 28th a service was held for the parents of Confirmation candidates, and school Communion was celebrated on three subsequent occasions during the term. The School Confirmation itself took place on March 15th at Edgbaston Old Church, when the Bishop of Birmingham conducted the ceremony.

The Gymnastic Competitions, House and Individual, were held on March 2nd and 3rd.

Large-scale manoeuvres were performed by the three branches of the Corps on Field Day, March 16th.

On March 18th a Service of Passion Music and Readings was held at Edgbaston Old Church to celebrate Passion Sunday.

The Music Competitions took place on March 20th and 21st, when Mr. Clarence Raybould was the adjudicator. Individual competitors performed on the Tuesday, and on Wednesday was innovated a House



Music Competition, consisting in a song by the whole House, a part song by a smaller group, and an instrumental group competition. After a morning's singing and playing, Cary Gilson were declared the winners, with Prince Lee runners up.

A. N. B. Davies was Open Champion by a large margin of points in the Athletic Sports on March 22nd. Heath and Levett tied for first place in the House Competition. This was in fact the last day of term because of the three days' Royal Holiday in the following week.

The Summer Term began on Thursday, April 26th. Half-term was taken as usual, not half-way through the term, but at Whitsun ; from May 19th to May 23rd.

For the Feast of St. Philip and St. James on May 1st, the first Holy Communion of the term was celebrated. Ascension Day was also marked by the celebration of Holy Communion in the Chapel.

The Triennial School Photograph was undergone on Wednesday, May 2nd. The weather for once was too obliging, and we waited for a cloud before we opened our eyes and smiled.

On Tuesday, May 8th, a few of us enjoyed, or to be more accurate, indulged in, a few moments of Peaceful Co-existence when a Civic Delegation from Sverdlovsk, U.S.S.R., the guests of the then Lord Mayor, Alderman A. Lummis Gibson, was shown round the school and afterwards entertained to sherry in the Chief Master's study where they signed our Visitors Book and were waited upon by Prefects. They lunched with us in the Dining Hall. From their expressions, they evidently regarded us as something in the nature of a publicity stunt, but this was probably due to the fact that only one member of the school, G. D. M. Ramsay, was able to talk to them in their own language. We *believe* he is still at school.

The Junior Dramatic Society gave, untactfully, we thought, a lively performance of Thomas Dekker's "The Shoemaker's Holiday" barely a week later, on three unusual nights, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 15th, 16th and 17th of May.

The Annual General Inspection was carried out in foul weather on May 29th by Major General M. M. A. R. West, C.B., D.S.O.

The Choral Society disarmed its critics by giving a most creditable performance of Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and a most exciting one of Thomas Wood's "Daniel and the Lions" on the evening of May 31st in Big School.

G.C.E. began on June 11th and ends on July 13th.

Speech Day is to take place on the morning of July 19th. The finals of the Knock-out will be played off on that afternoon, and on the following three days there will be further events of major importance in the Edwardian Year. On Friday 20th at 7-0 p.m. the Swimming Sports will be held at Woodcock Street Baths, and on Saturday afternoon the XI will play the O.E. Association XI ; the Cricket Supper will be held that evening. At 3-0 p.m. on the afternoon of Sunday, July 22nd, the School Service will take place in Edgbaston Old Church and there will be a special celebration of Holy Communion for those who are leaving, on the morning of July 24th. Field Day will be held the day before, Monday, and the term will end on Thursday, July 26th.



## OLD EDWARDIAN NEWS

Our new Bailiff of the Foundation is Mr. Basil Thomas, who has been a Governor for six years. He was at school from 1924-1930 and was a member of the XV, Captain of Swimming, Captain of Fives, and P.T. Leader.

We offer our congratulation : to Dr. J. H. Partridge, who took his B.Sc. with Honours at Birmingham University, on being elected President of the Society of Glass Technology : and to C. Gilbraith on obtaining a First-Class in the Preliminary Examination in History at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

We were delighted to see R. F. Peierls recently elected President of the Union at Cambridge, and we noted with interest his appearance in a debate on the Home Service, when the other speakers were the Rt. Hon. Earl Attlee, and Lord Beveridge. R. F. Peierls is a Mathematics scholar of Gonville and Caius.

We offer our congratulations also to J. D. L. Adams (Merton College, Oxford) on being selected to swim for his University. He also plays water-polo for Oxford. Other Old Boys of recent vintage who are doing well in the world of sport include A. C. Smith, who has played cricket for the Army ; and O. S. Wheatley, who has played for the Free Foresters v. Cambridge. Both he and J. L. Wilkins travelled this year on the Crusaders (Cambridge University 2nd XI) Tour of Holland. B. Lobb, who left school some seven years ago, is reckoned by some to be among the ten best opening bowlers in the country, and recently took 6 for 19 for Somerset against Worcestershire.

## COMMON ROOM

Mr. Osborne rejoined us at the beginning of this term, and we have been glad to see him looking progressively fitter as the weeks passed.

Three masters will be leaving at the end of term. Mr. Hutton, who has taught English and History at King Edward's for four years, has tired of the pale faces of Birmingham and is going to the Achimota School, Gold Coast. He believes that he is going to teach there, and has a shrewd idea whom, but doesn't yet know what. A tribute to his work with the Junior Dramatic Society may be found elsewhere in the CHRONICLE. He has been also an indefatigable officer in the C.C.F., and his organizing ability was never better shown than on the Field Day when he used the military to find (as part of their training) his lost wallet.

Mr. Weatherall, who also has been with us for four years teaching English, is leaving to devote himself more wholeheartedly than he now can to the study and practice, but especially the practice of literature. We look forward to his being a set book. Mr. Weatherall also has been an officer in the C.C.F., where he has added a touch of authenticity to the Naval Section. Among his other activities have been the assistant production of a number of School plays, a long, though not always active, association with the sports-car fraternity, and the form-mastership of Remove D.

Mr. Ackstine, whom we have known for only a year, is leaving us to teach Modern Languages at Wolverhampton Grammar School. He has been chiefly concerned at King Edward's with French with the Modern Language Sixth and Upper Sixth.

To all these we wish good fortune in their new occupations.

We congratulate :

Dr. and Mrs. Allison, on the birth of a son, who is, we understand, not qualified for Yorkshire.

Mr. Parry, for his organizing and training of the Seven.

Mr. Guy, on his unusual rate of scoring. During half-term he scored a double-century and a century on successive days.

Mr. Chapman, on his engagement.

Mr. Hutton, on his persistence in continuing to drive.

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## PREFECTS' ROOM

The following gentlemen have been appointed prefects :

C. W. LONG : Captain of Lawn Tennis ; Secretary of the Cartland Club ; Secretary of the Debating Society. (*Evans.*)

D. F. SOUTTER : Captain of Squash Racquets. (*Cary Gilson.*)

The following gentlemen have left :

K. H. T. SCHIEMANN (1948-55) : Prefect, 1955 ; Secretary of the Debating Society ; Charles Massey Debating Trophy ; House Captain ; Leading Seaman in C.C.F. ; Scholar of Pembroke College, Cambridge. (*Gifford.*)

P. W. TROWN (1948-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; P.T. Leader, 1955-6 ; XXX Colours, 1955-56 ; Secretary of Pugh Society ; House Captain, 1956 ; A.S.M. in Scouts ; Scholar of Oriel College, Oxford. (*Gifford.*)

The following gentlemen are leaving at the end of the term :

R. K. WILSON (1948-56) : Captain of the School and General Secretary of the School Club, 1955-56 ; Prefect, 1954-55-56 ; Captain of Rugby Football, 1955-56 ; Secretary of Rugby Football, 1954-55 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1953-54-55-56 ; Secretary of Athletics, 1955-56 ; Athletics Colours, 1954-55-56 ; Open Champion, 1955 ; XXII Colours, 1954-55 ; Secretary of the Closed Circle, 1955-56 ; A.S.M. in Scouts, 1954-55-56 ; Dale Memorial Medal, 1956 ; Rhodes' Trust, 1956. Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. (*Heath.*)

M. WILKINS (1949-56) : Vice-Captain of the School, 1955-56 ; Prefect, 1955-56 ; President of the Cartland Club, 1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1954-55-56 ; Vice-Captain of Cricket, 1956 ; Cricket Colours, 1954-55-56 ; Head of the House ; Bache Memorial Cup, 1956 ; Sergeant in C.C.F. ; Rhodes' Trust, 1956 ; St. John's College, Cambridge. (*Heath.*)

G. O. MILLAR (1948-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; Editor of the CHRONICLE ; Rugby Football Colours, 1955-56 ; Vice-Captain of Athletics, 1956 ; Secretary of the Film Society ; Exhibitioner of Christ Church, Oxford. (*Heath.*)

A. N. B. DAVIES (1948-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; Captain of Athletics, 1956 ; Athletics Colours, 1955-56 ; Cricket Colours, 1955-56 ; Fives Colours, 1955-56 ; House Captain, 1955-56 ; Petty Officer, R.N. Section ; Bursar, Aberdeen University. (*Levett.*)

F. K. HAMMOND (1948-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; House Captain,

1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1955-56 ; Secretary of the Scientific Society ; C.S.M. in C.C.F. Pembroke College, Cambridge. (*Jeune.*)

M. I. WILLIAMS (1948-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; House Captain, 1955-56 ; Secretary of the S.C.M. ; Scrivener of the Shakespeare Society ; C.S.M. in C.C.F. ; Barcroft Exhibitioner of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. (*Vardy.*)

J. N. BROMLEY (1949-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1955-56 ; XXII Colours, 1954-55-56 ; House Captain, 1956 ; Sergeant in C.C.F. Jesus College, Oxford. (*Gifford.*)

J. COLE (1949-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; XXX Colours, 1955-56 ; Sergeant in R.A.F. Section ; University College, Oxford. (*Heath.*)

R. W. N. DAVIS (1949-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; Vice-Captain of Rugby Football, 1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1953-54-55-56 ; Petty Officer in Naval Section ; Merton College, Oxford. (*Vardy.*)

R. D. WILDBORE (1949-56) : Prefect, 1955-56 ; Corporal in C.C.F. ; Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. (*Jeune.*)

J. S. PENDRY (1949-56) ; Prefect, 1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1954-55-56 ; Athletics Colours, 1956 ; Cricket Blazer, 1956 ; Secretary of Art Society ; Slade School of Fine Art, London. (*Vardy.*)

C. W. LONG (1949-56) : Prefect, 1956 ; Captain of Lawn Tennis, 1956 ; Sub-Treasurer of the School Club, 1956 ; Secretary of the Cartland Club, 1955-56 ; Secretary of the Debating Society, 1956 ; Petty Officer in R.N. Section ; Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford. (*Evans.*)

D. F. SOUTTER (1950-56) : Prefect, 1956 ; Captain of Squash Racquets, 1955-56 ; Rugby Football Colours, 1956 ; Tennis Colours, 1955-56 ; A. W. Harris Squash Trophy, 1955-56 ; Leading Seaman in C.C.F. ; Birmingham University. (*Cary Gilson.*)

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## THE CARTLAND CLUB

The Cartland Club has had a successful, if quiet, year, which has been notable for the fulfilment of the second of the Club's aims : intellectual discussion. Work, too, has taken place, in moderate quantities. This is proved by the fact that of the school's thirteen award winners, twelve were previously members of the Club. Let us hope that future generations of the club will keep up this fine record !

We have received some most welcome gifts this year, including books for the library, for which we thank the donors very warmly.

C.W.L.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

The following elections were announced too late to appear in the March issue of the CHRONICLE :

*Oxford :*

D. E. Veitch : Top Scholarship in Modern Subjects at University College.

M. W. Goode : Open Scholarship in Natural Sciences at St. John's College.

## COLOURS

We congratulate :

F. K. Hammond, J. R. Mountford and D. K. Lindley on the award of School Rugby Football Colours.

P. W. Trown, J. Cole, A. D. R. Ogborn, J. A. Lawrence, J. M. H. Spencer, J. C. Green and M. W. Guest on the award of XXX Colours.

M. Wilkins, P. F. Williams and A. N. B. Davies on the re-award of School Cricket Colours.

R. G. Dauncey on the award of School Cricket Colours.

J. S. Pendry, G. E. Phillips and A. E. Hornig on the award of their School Cricket Blazers.

J. N. Bromley, M. J. Disney, J. T. Baker, M. A. Whitley, and W. S. Shrimpton on the re-award of School XXII Colours.

R. C. Spiers, N. G. McGowan, A. B. Clayton, and A. C. Yarwood on the award of School XXII Colours.

R. K. Wilson on the re-award of his School Athletics Colours.

A. M. Russell and J. S. Pendry on the award of School Athletics Colours.

D. F. Soutter on the re-award and W. F. Pickworth on the award of their School Tennis Colours.

P. Davies on the re-award of his School Swimming Colours.

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## CHAPEL NOTES

Ten years have passed since an appeal was launched to construct a Memorial to those Old Edwardians who fell in the war. The Chapel itself was finished in 1952. No one could have foretold then what response there would be to weekly services in it. Though they leave little room for complacency, congregations have been satisfactory, especially at Holy Communion. On March 20th, the Chapel accommodated a record number of 108 communicants at the first Corporate Communion of the newly-confirmed. The Bishop of Birmingham, Dr. Wilson, was the celebrant.

In passing, we are happy to note that collections at Holy Communion are keeping pace with rising prices. So far during the academic year they have amounted to £26 17s 0d., a ten per cent. increase over last year's.

Work on chapel benches continues. Dormant talent has awoken, and new faces are to be seen in the Craft Room. It is even predicted with confidence that this year's Syndicate will complete the last four benches, as well as two more kneeling rails and the new altar.

Donations to the T. C. Kemp Memorial Fund now amount to close on £200. The Fund remains open, and we hope that the present figure will be considerably increased. Cheques should be sent to the Chief Master. If everything goes according to plan, the work on the East End will be over by the beginning of 1957.

Traditionally no place of worship is complete without its bell. At last, thanks to an anonymous donor, the Chapel has a bell mounted on the wall beneath a little "doll's-house" roof of cedarwood tiles. We are still experimenting with the ringing of it, to find how to draw the largest congregation with the minimum of effort.

We should like to express our gratitude to the following : the group of volunteers who gave up a morning of their Easter holiday to polish



furniture ; the twenty-six members of the Chapel Choir whom Dr. Willis Grant has trained to sing so impressively unaccompanied ; Mr. F. W. Chinery and Mr. W. H. Andrews for their donations ; and finally, all those other benefactors by whose benefit this school is brought up in godliness as well as good learning.

T.C.B.

## THE CHAPEL CHOIR

Right from the opening of the Chapel, four years ago, by the late Dr. Barnes, many events have taken place which have increased the fame and dignity of this impressive edifice.

The first service took place on November 7th, 1952 ; a truly great day for the newly-formed Chapel Choir.

Since then, the Choir has increased its self-confidence and its repertoire. (We have learnt new settings and anthems by the score.)

After several months of widely-praised services, the Royal School of Church Music accepted us as an affiliated choir. With this honour came the excitement of the R.S.C.M. Festivals where affiliated choirs gather annually to sing in famous places of worship all over the country. We started attending these magnificent gatherings in 1954, when the festival was held at Gloucester Cathedral ; in 1955 we went to Lichfield Cathedral, and this year on June 5th we sang in Birmingham Cathedral and later, on June 12th, we were privileged to sing, together with a few other selected choirs, in the Chapel of Eton College.

Perhaps the most memorable occasion in the life of the Chapel Choir was the visit of Her Majesty the Queen, when the Choir sang " O Lord, make thy servant Elizabeth, our Queen," an anthem composed by William Byrd for the first Queen Elizabeth. At the end of our impressive presentation of the anthem, the Queen expressed her appreciation of our singing.

One cannot praise continuously the choir's many qualities without adding a word of thanks to Dr. Grant for the vast amount of work that he has put in, making us as good as we are, and driving us to the perfection that we are soon to reach.

A.J.M.

## FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S NEEDS

DONATIONS for the twelve months ending April, 1956.						£
Children's Country Holiday Fund	..	..	..	..	..	43
British Red Cross Society	..	..	..	..	..	37
Spastics	..	..	..	..	..	46
British Council of Churches and Inter-Church Aid to						
Refugees	..	..	..	..	..	52
						178

## OBITUARY

MARCH, 1956

PROFESSOR L. P. GAMGEE, Ch.M., F.R.C.S. died on the first of March at the age of eighty-seven. He was the Consulting Surgeon to the Birmingham General and Children's Hospitals, and Emeritus



Professor of Surgery at Birmingham University. He was also a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons from 1926-36. His talent seems to have been inherited, for both his father and his grandfather were distinguished in the field of surgery, though not always practising in Birmingham. In fact, his father was born in Florence, and travelled on horseback across the Alps on the way to England. Professor Gamgee was, in the words of Mr. T. W. Hutton, "not only a distinguished son of the school... but also... for many years a Governor": in fact from 1919 until 1949, when he resigned his position for health reasons. Twice he has been Bailiff of the Foundation: in 1926-27 and in 1941-42. This last was one of the most significant years in the school's recent history, since it was then that we came back from the enforced exile in Repton, to begin the next stage in our career at Edgbaston. Professor Gamgee will long be remembered for his service to the school throughout this trying time.

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#### MAY, 1956

In the space of little more than one week the School lost five veteran alumni, each in his chosen line a man of distinction, and all five blest with long years and the respect of their professions.

A. W. IBBOTSON, Knight, C.I.E., M.B.E., M.C., left the School in 1905 after a most distinguished career both on the field and in the classroom: he was Captain of the XV, a member of the XI and a record-breaking athlete. He went up to Pembroke College, Cambridge, and in 1908 was Senior Wrangler: in each of the last two years in which this title was awarded its winner was an Old Edwardian. In 1909 he entered the Indian Civil Service in the Revenue Department. During the 1914-18 War he served with the Cavalry and on the Staff of the Mhow Division in the Middle East, winning the M.C. and the M.B.E. His record in India was such that whenever a peculiarly delicate or difficult situation arose it was usually Ibbotson who was sent to tackle it. During the Second World War he was Secretary to Government in the Civil Defence Department, and thereafter advisor to the Governor of the United Provinces. After his retirement in 1946 he settled in Kenya: he had hoped to re-visit the U.K. in 1955 and to take the Chair at the Triennial Dinner, but was prevented from this journey by failing health.

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J. F. JORDAN, M.B., F.R.C.S., J.P., left the School for Mason College in 1883. He was one of the leading gynaecologists of his day and was for thirty-six years senior surgeon on the honorary staff of the Women's Hospital. He was a pioneer of his specialism, being responsible for the design of new surgical methods. In his working days he was an active and enthusiastic supporter of the O.E.A. for which he played Rugby football—in the team which won the Midland Counties Football Cup in 1889-9—and of which he later was made a vice-president. He was also a keen tennis-player and gardener. Since his retirement in 1928 he had lived for the most part in London.

L. ARTHUR SMITH, M.A., B.C.L., went up from School in 1897 to Oxford. He was a solicitor of nearly fifty years standing, and had twice been president of the Birmingham Law Society. He took an active interest in philanthropic organizations of the City, especially the Royal School for Deaf Children. He was for many years the Law Clerk to the Governors of King Edward's School, retiring from this appointment in 1953.

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A. L. STERN, D.Sc., F.R.I.C., was a foundation scholar : in 1887 from Mason College he obtained a First Class Honours B.Sc. of London, and after some years of research on compounds of phosphorus he became D.Sc. He then joined the firm of Messrs. Bass, Ratcliffe and Gretton, and became their head chemist and brewer. Many new technical processes in the preparation and transport of beer were influenced by him. He was a man of wide cultural interests, which included archeology, natural history and sport, especially rowing and golf, which he played to the end of his life. He was well known in and round Burton both for his sportsmanship and for his public work : he was for some years a member of the Education Committee.

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F. W. THOMAS, C.I.E., Professor Emeritus, was the doyen of oriental studies : it was said of him that he knew more of oriental languages than any other living man West of Suez. He was a man of great learning and indefatigable industry, inspired originally by the Rev. A. R. Vardy, his head master of whom he always spoke with deep reverence and affection. To the classics he was taught at School, he added the learning of Sanskrit with one of the masters, Mr. Donkin. He was School Captain in 1884, and won a classical Scholarship at Trinity College, Cambridge. There in a brilliant career he collected four firsts in the Tripos ; he studied Latin under another Old Edwardian and former School Captain, J. P. Postgate. His university prizes were many : Greek Epigram in 1887, Latin Epigram in 1888, Greek Ode in 1889, Latin Essay in 1890 and in 1891—both on Indian subjects. He held office in the Union, he represented Cambridge at lacrosse, he was a keen tennis player and cross-country runner.

In 1891 he returned to K.E.S. in the now extinct role occupied by a succession of distinguished men, called " headmaster's assistant." While here he composed a Latin school song, he played Rugby football with the boys, and was chairman of the football and sports committees, predecessors of our present House Committee. In 1892 he was elected to a Fellowship at Trinity but combined it for another six years with his work at K.E.S. In 1898 he went to the India Office as assistant librarian, becoming the librarian in 1904 and there remaining until 1927. There his services and his learning based upon profound and tireless research won for him an international reputation. He became a member of the staff of London University, he attended as a delegate a number of International Congresses of Orientalists, he was an office-holder in the Royal Asiatic Society. In 1941 he was awarded the Triennial Gold Medal of the Society. Of the Philological Society he was president from 1926 to 1929. He travelled

widely and visited India, Nepal and Tibet. In 1927 he became Professor of Sanskrit in the University of Oxford, and a Fellow of Balliol, a Fellow of the British Academy (Oriental Section) and a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire.

His published work was voluminous but naturally of limited appeal : but those most competent to judge rated it very highly indeed, and paid tribute to his scholarship in an address on his seventieth birthday and in a volume of Eastern and Indian studies two years later. His works of general interest include the book, *The Making of a Sanskrit Poet*, and contributions to the *Cambridge History of India* and *The Legacy of India*.

He was active in retirement working several hours each day in his garden, and often far into the night on his researches. In 1949 he was given an honorary D.Litt. of Birmingham University. He received also a number of Indian honours and titles. It must surely be the case that he was one of the most learned and distinguished Old Edwardians of his time.

## SCHOOL NOTES

No one will deny that the event of the year, 1956, was the winning of the Public Schools Seven-a-side Competition at Rosslyn Park. Those of us who were privileged to be there will never forget the experience. Our team and our coach cannot be praised too highly for having won so handsomely the Public Schools' major Football honour. To commemorate their victory, the Seven, with Mr. Parry, the Chief Master, Mr. Leeds and Mr. Sacret, were graciously entertained to Dinner on the evening of June 4th, by the Bailiff, Mr. Basil Thomas.

We are delighted to see Mr. Osborne back amongst us looking so well, and we wish him long-continuing health.

We congratulate M. Wilkins on being elected to the Bache Memorial Cup. The School Captain and he have our best wishes as they travel on the Rhodes Educational Trust Tour of Canada this year. M. Wilkins seems determined to write "ditto" under his brother's name in the record books, for both of them have been Vice-Captains of the School, Heads of House, prominent in Rugger and Cricket circles, travellers on the Rhodes Tour and winners of the Bache Memorial Cup. J. L. Wilkins is now pursuing his education at St. John's College, Cambridge, whither his brother also repairs in 1957. It seems in order to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Wilkins as well.

J. S. Pendry delighted, but did not surprise us in following in J. W. McCracken's footsteps to the Slade School of Fine Art in London. We congratulate him on this rare achievement and wish him every success while he is there.

We are pleased to record the outstanding success of B. G. Barlow, who has won, for the *second* time, a gold medal for obtaining top marks in his Grade in the examinations of the Royal School of Music, in competition with entrants from all over the country.

Congratulations also to M. H. Wilson on winning a scholarship to Cranwell.

May we be allowed to thank Messrs. Hurn and Perry Hayes for their

valuable and delightful contributions to our enjoyment of school drama. Their sets at once strike the right note and act as a not obtrusive background to the plays. To have heard the audience gasp with admiration when a few colourful drapes transformed a dirty London to a Ducal Palace must have been a fine reward for all Mr. Perry Hayes' hard work. By the way, we like his picture.

We also liked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Brigadier John Enoch Powell, M.B.E., M.P., O.E., when he came to talk to the Sixth Form on March 10th, in the Saturday Lecture series. Among his many academic honours, Mr. Enoch Powell was Professor of Greek in the University of Sydney, but to prove that he was not lost in the mists of antiquity, Brigadier Powell entered the Service in 1939 at the outbreak of war and had risen to his present rank by 1944. Apart from several social studies, he has to his credit a number of Classical publications, including a translation of Herodotus. He spoke entertainingly and a trifle cynically about the British Parliamentary System.

Mr. E. Prins, a member of the Arts Council, whom some will remember from the time when he gave a brilliant talk on Vermeer to the Sixth Form, came once more to school on March 3rd to talk about Humour in European Art : a subject which he covered vigorously and comprehensively in the very short time he had at his disposal. Talking of art, we should like to note that the Portrait of the Chief Master, commissioned by one who is an Old Boy and Governor, has been in the Summer Exhibition of the Royal Academy and has been promised to the Governors as an addition to their historical heritage.

Another distinguished O.E., Mr. Kenneth Marshall, M.A., was the speaker on 17th March. While at school he was a member of the XV and the 2nd XI, and Secretary of the Scientific Society. He went on to St. John's College, Cambridge, and after research in Metallurgy was called to the Bar. He is now the director of the Joint Iron Council.

The charm and dignity of the Chapel have been enhanced by the hanging of the Bell. But nothing becomes the Bell so much as the ringing of it : it always draws a good crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. George Adams are successfully installed in the Pavilion and their catering, both on Saturdays and weekdays, has been much appreciated by visitors, as well as by the hungry hordes who no sooner have risen from their lunches than they are to be seen streaming down to the ground in their thousands to queue up for the afternoon issue of W\*g\*n Wh\*\*ls. Mr. T. L. Brierley and family are also apparently safely ensconced at the foot of Park Vale.

We have noted the new cricket nets. They seem to be working successfully, but it is a pity that the English youth must nowadays be brought up on a synthetic and inferior substitute to the green sward we old ones used to know. Coconut matting and defunct Ground-Nut Schemes, Asphalt Jungles and Gilt-Edged Consoles—they all go together, you know : there's the smoke of Big Business hanging over the village green, and one of these days—you mark my words—on one of yon asphalt nonsenses, it'll be summer-time again, and you'll have a right old sticky dog.

Some of the entries in the Calendar this term are masterpieces of subtle innuendo. A plain case of "take it or leave" was the juxta-



position of "last day for Prize Entries" with "Leavers' notices due" on the same day. And one particularly liked the thunder of "General Inspection by Major General M. M. A. R. West, C.B., D.S.O.", followed by a sly "XI v. Wadham College (A)" . . . all those cricketing sergeants chuckling quietly all the way to Oxford.

We nevertheless have to report sadly that A. N. B. Davies has been at it again. Not content with flying to his University Scholarship Examinations in a "Viscount," and bringing back a G. G. Nicol Bursary into the bargain, he has chosen as his subject—Forestry, and he intends to read, saw, chop or whatever you do with Forestry, at Aberdeen University. Down here apparently, you can't get the wood. He also managed to find time during the Easter holidays to win the Half mile at the Midland Public Schools Athletic Championships on the University (Birmingham) track, and later went up to the White City to compete in the L.A.C. Schools' Championships (see the Athletics report). While in London for the week he obliged by playing for the School in the Public Schools' Eton Fives Competition (see the Fives report), and he and his partner, N. J. Whitley, were mentioned in dispatches in the *Times*. Later in the year he intends to run in the Midland Junior Championships on the newly-opened track at Wolverhampton. We wish him every success.

It is impossible to ignore the latest little addition to our domestic scene: we seem to be starting some sort of a collection of these things. If so we would gladly arrange a swop meeting. La Coco-cola is big, but this new tcha-tcha machine is the daddy of them all. It means bigger and better pop, one supposes, but it also creates its own little problems. It is (seriously) rumoured that the Air Force Stores are to be transferred to the Temporary Buildings and it and its little brother will move into the vacated premises some time in the near future. Senior addicts will then be able to drink secretly in there, and there will be a service hatch connecting the Shop with the new extension, to relieve congestion in the present quarters.

We read with feeling Mr. J. Mulford's new book, "Relative Positivity" (—or was it "Positive Relativity" ?). We believe he entered it for the John Thackray Bunce English Essay Prize and was startled to find he had been awarded prox acc. for Greek Verse. He said in explanatory parentheses that what he had meant to say was . . . but on perceiving the collapse of his ego to be imminent, he fell into a mulish silence and the waste-paper basket.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### OLD EDWARDIAN LETTER

*To the Editor of the CHRONICLE.*

SIR,

Once again congratulations. The School's triumph in the "Sevens" was great work finely done. Those who saw it—unbiased witnesses and not merely prejudiced O.E.s—were impressed by the manner as well as the fact of victory. Clever tactics, skilfully executed, followed with solid persistence, it was these that earned success. Good football, brains and "guts"; who could ask more? Congratulations to the team, to Roger Wilson, and certainly to Mr. Parry, "organizer of victory."



O.E. news, this time, looks both backward and forward. Looking back, we record the loss of several aged men, aged by our standards as well as yours, who in their time have done the nation service and won the School not a little credit. Fuller notice of their achievements appears elsewhere.

Looking forward, one notes two developments in Association affairs which may well affect every boy at the School and many still to go there. The project of a new Ground, of which I wrote in March, goes forward steadily ; and anybody who cares to look in at Streetsbrook Road can see for himself the sort of pitch, cricket and football, on which before long he will have the opportunity to play. Financially, a great encouragement has been the generous offer of two O.E.'s, who wish to remain anonymous, each to add one pound to every five given before the end of the year. Their prime object is to encourage such folk as modestly feel the mite they could give is hardly worth while. No doubt one or two readers of this will be Old Edwardians before the summer ends. *Verb. Sap.* Also "many a mickle makes a muckle."

Quite new is the prospect that we may have both the need and the opportunity to change our Club Rooms before the end of the year. If this goes through, we may have to ask of all our Town Members, even those straight from school, a rather higher subscription. But we shall offer in return greater amenities and a prospect of continued life for the social side of the Association—the other side will not be affected. Of all this you will hear more when the party of O.E.'s comes down to the School to invite leavers to join the Association.

I have, I hope, left myself just room for congratulations to J. D. Waterstreet on his Half-Blue for Athletics at Cambridge and to John Adams on his Swimming Half-Blue at Oxford. Recently yours, we can claim them now as ours. O.E.

*To the Editor of the CHRONICLE,*

DEAR SIR,

I thought perhaps your Readers would like to know, well in advance, some of the plans the Old Edwardians Football Club is making for 1957/58, its seventy-fifth Season.

We have decided that the principal day will be Saturday, the 5th October, 1957. In the afternoon we shall be playing the Old Blues at the County Ground. The Old Blues are the Former Pupils of Christ's Hospital, and the fixture between our two clubs is the oldest Old Boys' fixture in the country.

Their XV will be our guests that evening at a Dinner held on the lines of the Triennial Dinners at the School. Other guests will include the President of the Rugby Union, members of clubs we play regularly, the School Captain, the Captain of the XV, and so on.

In addition to our normal fixtures, we shall be playing Coventry, Notts and Old Cranleighans. On Boxing Day, instead of Moseley, we entertain the Birmingham Combined Old Boys at the County Ground. At Easter, we go on tour to Harrogate and Skipton.

We shall, of course, hold our normal social functions during the season—the President's Evening, the Cocktail Party, the Ball, the

Players' Dance and the Rugger Supper—some of which several of your Readers have already sampled.

Although the development of our new ground at Streetsbrook Road is going very much according to plan, it will not, unfortunately, be ready for our seventy-fifth season. A pity, but no doubt when we do move there a series of suitable celebrations will be arranged.

Yours faithfully,

G. I. A. TAYLOR.

*Hon. Fixture Secretary,  
O.E.F.C.*

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## MAJOR-GENERAL M. M. A. R. WEST, C.B., D.S.O.

MAY 29th, 1956

After inspecting the C.C.F., Major-General West gave the traditional address to the contingent in Big School. There were some present who remembered the shattering opening remark made by one famous soldier four years before—"Now that you've got your hats off, I can see that some of you could do with a good haircut"—and some of us, perhaps, assembled with a trace of foreboding. But Major-General West gave us no ordinary pep—, recruiting—, or other standard talk.

The parade, he said, had been good ; if it had not been so, he would have told us ; but it was. He went on to so wide a variety of topics that the less charitable amongst us began to wonder whether he had already said the important thing, and was now simply stretching his talk to a decent length. The General in due course confirmed our suspicion.

Among the many amusing and instructive things he told us in the next ten minutes, these few stand out. Only fifty out of every thousand National Servicemen fail to enjoy their service : of those fifty, forty-nine fail through their own fault : only the odd one is by nature incapable of enjoying it. (A faint wave of relief passed over the troops.) The helicopter would be a major factor in any future war, since it could bring a man from the front line in Korea to an operating table within twenty minutes. If we were going to join the Army, we should start at the top ; it was indescribably easy being a General. And the motto is : "Know your enemy"—which would have helped the soldiers of the Commonwealth Division in Korea who were bringing back a Chinese prisoner to their lines : the prisoner kept shouting, and they hit him on the head with a rifle every time he shouted ; but every time they hit him he shouted louder. "Clout, shout, clout, clout, shout," said the General, "and it was not until they were nearly back at our lines that they realized he was shouting, 'For Heaven's sake, stop hitting me on the head with that rifle.'"

## FOOTBALL RETROSPECT

The bad weather severely curtailed the second-half of the football programme. The XV's matches against Mt. St. Mary's and the Old Edwardians were both cancelled, and so was the knock-out final.

For this reason much more interest was taken in the Seven-a sides. The final success of the Seven came as the culmination of the efforts of

some twenty-five members of the school who gave up a large amount of time to help in the training and preparation.

We are grateful to the Chief Master for his presentation of a teak seat, for the ground, in commemoration of the victory. The seat is inscribed AD HONOREM SEPTEM VIRUM MCMLVI.

Finally it remains to thank Mr. Parry for his continued guidance, and our small but ever-growing band of supporters for their tireless efforts, and to wish next year's XV the best of luck.

R. K. WILSON

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### PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEVEN-A-SIDE, 1956

*Played at the Old Deer Park, Richmond, on the 27th, 28th and 29th March.*

Our approach to this year's Sevens' tournament was beset by many and varied problems, but our one great weakness was the lack of speed, particularly as Wilson, our fastest player, had had no competitive Rugger since his cartilage operation in the previous December. We did, however, have many other qualities. Wilkins and Soutter were skilful half-backs, Lindley a determined young player, and Wilson an experienced centre, gifted in attack and defence. Moreover, in Davis, Kemp and Pendry the School possessed three outstanding forwards, strong in the tackle, intelligent in the open, and unyielding in their determination to secure the ball. It was their scrummaging which made success possible, though how Pendry managed to dispose of his extra inches and pack as low as Davis and Kemp, will remain a mystery for all time.

Contrary to the opinion of the experts, we decided at first to adhere to no particular plan. Taunton, with two experienced three-quarters from last year's losing Finalists would be a difficult obstacle to surmount, without cluttering up our play with fanciful ideas. The accent was to be on hard tackling and bustling endeavour to win the first round : tactics and plans could be formulated as we progressed. As it happened we were forced, much earlier than we expected, to adopt a clearly defined policy.

The clash with Taunton, hailed as one of the outstanding matches in the first round, was won by the forwards. Pre-match nerves disappeared as they plunged their way into the Taunton half. Soutter slipped through with a neat dummy, but was easily overhauled when seemingly well in the clear. Two minutes later Wilson brushed aside a tackle and confidently set out for the distant posts. Surely, we thought, this must bring us a try, but just as surely Wilson, too, was overhauled by an uncommonly fast centre. No score at half-time ; but in the second half a cold, vile, blustering wind hustled us along. Kemp kicked high for the corner flag, bounded after it, and nearly scored. From the ensuing play Wilkins put Soutter over on the blind side. Pendry converted from the touch-line : a huge kick and an extra valuable two points. Immediately, our combined play improved and showed purpose ; for the halves and forwards began to move the ball about instead of running into tackles. From such a movement Davis scored, and the issue was now beyond doubt. We won by 8 points to nil.

After the initial excitement was over, we were forced very rapidly to

think how we could evolve a method of attack which would not expose our limitations of speed, and give the opposition a certain moral ascendancy in being able to overtake our players even after they had broken through the defence. The overhauling of Soutter and Wilson had pinpointed our weakness in the very early stages of a long and arduous tournament. In some ways it was fortunate, as it made us face up to the fact. Further progress, especially on the second day, would be impossible unless we could continue to control the forward play, and, more important, discipline ourselves to attack from within close range of the opponents' goal line. There was no mysterious plan, and there was little kicking, except from a defensive position. The method was simply to let the forwards and halves bear the brunt of the play, keep the ball moving within their particular orbit, and then, once established near the opponents' 25, open out the game to the centre and wing. Variations in the way of creating overlaps and changing the direction of attack would be adopted as the opportunity arose. This meant a big strain on the forwards but they played admirably.

In the second round against Wrekin, the conditions were so bad that we were unable to gauge the possibilities inherent in this method. Suffice it to say that Wrekin scored a penalty against us, the only points we conceded in the tournament; and a great tribute to our defence. In reply Lindley and Davis scored tries, while Pendry kicked a penalty goal. At least we were in the last sixteen schools out of a total of eighty-two but we still did not know how our revised approach would fare on the morrow. As we pondered over our difficulties in the semi-darkness, there came from the neighbouring pitch ominous shouts of triumph to acclaim the rash, fierce blaze of scoring by Kingswood. At least we hoped it was rash. They were a splendidly equipped Seven: the outsides were fast and clever, the forwards massive and mobile. The self-appointed prophets had already marked them down for the Final and had decided to forego the spectacle of Kingswood's destruction of the School Seven. Cranleigh and Stowe offered the chance of summing up the prospects of Cranleigh, untested as yet. They missed a stirring sight.

The real glory belongs to the forwards. We had seen them outplay Taunton, but little did we realize that they would be able to dominate, so remorselessly, such a large trio. Kingswood were prevented from rampaging in the loose, but it was in the scrums that they were subjected to their severest gruelling. Kemp set the standard by packing so low that he virtually excluded his opponent from the scrummage, with the result that they never heeled the ball cleanly and Wilkins was able to smother the scrum-half easily. This constant pressure reduced the Kingswood Seven to impotency and the crowd, predominantly Kingswood supporters, to silence. Wilkins scored on the blind side, in territory which ought to be known henceforward as Wilkins' corner, and Pendry kicked a penalty goal to give us a half-time lead of 6 points. In the second half Kingswood, seeing the crown slipping from their grasp, frantically clamoured for the ball to be thrown back, or heeled back to their outsides. But all their forwards could do was to scramble it back on occasions; useless against the quick breaking of Pendry and the half-backs. Then Wilson caught their defence in possession after taking a rapid penalty kick, for Soutter to carry on the good work and score. Soutter's timing was ever impecc-



able, and Kingswood were now truly out of the fight. Lindley scored another try after an opening by Wilkins, and just to emphasize our superiority strolled over another, only to be recalled for a forward pass. 12 points hardly represented the measure of our superiority. This was the break-through for the School Seven, confident now in their ability to dictate the course of the game even against bigger and faster opponents. We had hit upon the method best able to meet our needs.

Our fourth round opponents, Royal Belfast Academical, had been taken into a short period of extra time by a skilful but quicker-tiring Monmouth team. Belfast looked powerful enough to give us a severe testing, but from the kick-off they were surprised by the intensity of our forward play and were soon in trouble. Wilson placed his kick outside the reach of their wing in a perfect position for Lindley to scoop up the ball and score in the corner. We held this lead until half-time, and so completely were we in control that 3 points seemed a safe enough margin. Wilkins and Soutter then found their way through the unguarded spaces for Soutter to score and Pendry to convert. This seemed comfortable enough, and then suddenly we lost the initiative. It may have been over-confidence. Anyway, a casual kick meant for touch was snapped up by the eager Belfast fly-half and the ball swung across field. We were, for the moment, out of position and each of the Seven in turn had to tackle desperately, alarmed at the opposition's daring to attack at all. No team had offered any combined threat to our line. This was insufferable, in spite of our 8 points lead, and Wilson set the tempo of this magnificent defensive interlude with one memorably aggressive tackle of their fly-half, the danger man. It took, perhaps, a minute or so to contain the situation, but to the prejudiced onlookers, visibly wilting, it seemed endless. Belfast put everything into that attack and were now unable to withstand ours. Pendry, with a clever interception and long run, took the game out of the danger area. Kemp and Davis hammered their way through. Wilkins all but squeezed himself a try between the posts, managed to release the ball to his attendant, Soutter, and Davis got the final touch-down. With a lead of 13 points we were safe for the semi-final. to emulate the performance of B. C. Homer's team in 1953.

We were to play King William's, Isle of Man, in the second semi-final. Little was known about them : rumour had it that they were fast and had a most elusive winger. Obviously they were more than a useful Seven : their victory over the bustling Worksoy team, the conquerors of Oundle, proved that. But by this time we were past caring about reputations. We had made our own. The forwards had been quite unmatched, and Wilkins's depredations had been so complete that we were quietly confident of forcing King William's to play our game. And so it proved to be.

The game followed the usual pattern, with the forwards dominating the opposition and Wilkins mesmerizing the scrum-half into all sorts of errors for Pendry, in particular, to turn to advantage. Nevertheless, we took a long time to score as King William's speed cut off promising attacks, and it was left to the incomparable, quick-thinking, Soutter to pierce their tight defence. With effortless ease he gathered a fast running ball fiercely heeled from a scrum, darted behind Wilkins into the gap on the blind side and scored. Changing over with a 3 points lead the



School seven played methodically and intelligently, realizing the imperative need to conserve their energy. Pendry ranged far and wide, controlled the line-out and worked a quick change of direction with Wilkins to enable Wilson to score a good try. King William's were forced to defend continually and never had an opportunity to show their attacking possibilities. The margin of victory, 6 points, was unimportant, but what was significant was the manner in which it was achieved. Here was no needless expenditure of energy, no desperate tackling or frantic covering. It is the last ditch kind of defence which saps the energy : a brief introduction to its dangers was sampled in the Belfast game, and the lesson truly learnt. Consequently, we entered the Final a fresher team than Cranleigh because they were unable, in their semi-final, to withhold any of their resources against the resilient Millfield seven. The pace of this game was remarkable and the issue in doubt until Cranleigh improved on their 2 points lead after a brilliant run by a player masquerading as a forward. They won in the end by 10 points to 3 points.

The Final was expected to produce a clash in styles. Cranleigh were the faster team, no doubt, and heralded by the pundits as the gay scorer of innumerable tries. On the first day they had scored, but against moderate opposition, 41 points : we had scored 17 points. But on the second day we had scored 31 points, the same number as Cranleigh. Moreover, and the statisticians seem to have overlooked this, Cranleigh had conceded 12 points whereas we had conceded none.

The early thrills were all Cranleigh's. Gathering the ball from our kick-off their wing made his way dangerously for the open spaces. Cranleigh supporters, and they were legion, prepared to cheer their man home, but were forced to choke back their gasps as Wilson came across field to time his tackle perfectly, and plant their wing firmly under the writhing seats of the ringside spectators. Once more and once more only did Cranleigh attack to any purpose. This time Lindley, in that oddly-effective clawing tackle of his, tumbled his opponent and himself to the ground in one confused, leaping, threshing action. From that point and for the rest of the game the forwards asserted their rightful sway. The formidably determined figure of Davis, the value of whose play had been beyond measure, surged alongside Kemp, skilled in all the close forward arts : while Pendry, revelling in the open spaces, was masterly in attack and defence. It was Kemp who made the first try possible. Quickly changing the direction of attack he threw a long and accurate pass to Wilson who held on sufficiently long to attract to himself the attentions of both the opposing centre and wing. This gave Lindley the glimpse of a chance which he seized with both hands, in more senses than one. Clutching at the ball and jabbing out a forbidding arm at the same time, he tore past a startled defender to score under the posts for Pendry to convert. A great triumph for a young player, ostensibly inexperienced, to seize such an opportunity to give us so valuable a lead at half-time.

We had, throughout the competition, played well in the second half. The Final was no exception. Wilkins even surpassed his efforts in smothering all attacks from the base of the scrum : to us a fascinating performance, to them a heart-breaking one. Nevertheless, Cranleigh still defended heroically. Quick in the tackle, well-organized in defensive covering, they knew that one slip on our part would enable their superior

pace to turn defence into attack. We had to wait a long time for our second try ; but it was worth waiting for. Wilkins, breaking wide from the scrum, sent Soutter away on the outside. This time Wilson, conscious of Cranleigh's ability to converge on and protect their flank, called for a reverse pass and went streaming through a Cranleigh defence heading the wrong way. He scored under the posts and Pendry converted. A fitting climax for Wilson's appraisal of the tactics needed for a given moment, and a just reward, not only for his individual prowess, but also for his firm, cool leadership of a team of all the talents. T.R.P.

RICHMOND, 1956  
or  
THE WEARING OF THE GREEN  
*By a Spectator.*

Scene : the Old Deer Park on a bright, dry afternoon ; the ground hard and the wind keen. A large crowd, youthful, cloth-capped, concerned mainly with loyalties to the Big Names of School Rugby, rings two pitches, on which seventy-four school sevens have already struggled. Uppingham and Sherborne are out, but Llandovery and Cranleigh have won in great form. The announcer over the loudspeaker wrestles futilely with " Royal Belfast Academical." Just outside the ropes round pitch 2 stands a small group of players in bright green jerseys, mingling with an even smaller group of supporters. All are unspeakably nervous ; there is the heavy recollection of last year's first-round fiasco—and are we not about to play Taunton, who lost narrowly to Oundle in last year's final ? We cannot even wear our school jerseys, owing to their vague similarity to Taunton's colours. Snatches of talk in the crowd : " That's not King Edward's, Nuneaton, is it ? " " Ah yes—King Edward's—a fine team ; Watcyn Thomas coaches them, of course." " Just time for a beer, old boy." " We might as well see how Taunton shape this year." " I'm off to pitch 1 to get a good place for the Kingswood game."

Well, rather over twenty-four hours and six matches later, the green jerseys had won the tournament ; stood facing their opponents before the grandstand, waiting to receive the victors' shield ; had shown themselves invincible among the latest and largest assembly of schools from three countries.

" Workmanlike," said the papers. " Unspectacular," the pundits. And, true, the loudest cheers had sounded for the two prep. school sevens who had fought their midget battle to divert the crowd before the final. Thus unnoticed went our own agonised excitement. So before memory cools ; before the soft-waisted scholars prove irrefutably that it is all rather childish and un-Edwardian ; I wish to record the impressions of the moment, and pay tribute to a quite remarkable feat of skill and endurance

The facts, of course, speak eloquently enough. Six very good sides—two of them confidently tipped as possible winners—were defeated in turn at ever shorter intervals, without our line being once crossed ; to Wrekin we conceded a penalty goal—that was all. In reply we totalled

58 points : 5 goals, 2 penalty goals and 9 tries. But the facts do not convey the extraordinary dominance which our team, playing mostly unremarked upon pitch 2, unobtrusively established over the tournament. Not only was our line not crossed ; it never *looked* like being crossed. Not only were good sides beaten ; they were played into the ground, their resistance and cohesion remorselessly broken down.

How was it done ? The pattern, perceptible already in the first round, became clear against Kingswood in round 3. It was based upon domination by the forwards, who throughout saw to it that the ball hardly ever reached the opposing backs. Quick spoiling and opportunist handling took and confined play to their 25 (I find it hard to recall any noteworthy events in our half) ; and finally our all-round pressure left only a short run necessary to score. Any move by the opposition was smothered by unerring tackling. Kingswood, Belfast and King William's each had particularly fast and skilful backs—rarely indeed were any seen to get more than ten yards with the ball.

This process was carried out with consistent vigour and efficiency by as talented a group of individual players as the school can ever have assembled—not forgetting Homer's fine side of '53, from whose experience in reaching the semi-final this year's team profited so much. The firm foundation of success was laid by the forwards, Davis, Kemp and Pendry, without whom any representative English Schools' XV would be considerably weaker. To compare Davis and Kemp in motion with a charging rhinoceros is handsomely to flatter the latter : both can change pace and direction with the best of three-quarters, and their shove in the scrum, a foot lower than their opponents, reduced supporters of these to awed silence. Pendry adapted his wayward genius and dissimilar shape admirably, and his uncanny knack of being in the right place and of fastening upon a loose ball has never been seen to better effect. Behind this scrum it would be hard to exaggerate Wilkins' masterly part in turning the game to our advantage : whether descending in monolithic majesty on his luckless opposite number—a technique he has perfected this year—or cantering nimbly away from the maul before passing. His passes went to Soutter, who, as usual, held them at all heights and angles, and whose quickness off the mark was decisive in turning defence into attack. He increased, if possible, our admiration of his all-round ability by tackling that key player, the stand-off, with unfailing courage and finality. In this, as in all else, Lindley joined with increasing aptitude as the tournament progressed. It says much for this young winger that he gave not a moment's uneasiness in such expert company, and his four tries were well taken and well deserved.

We come now to the captain, Roger ("the Battler") Wilson. Trouble with that leg was feared. Lost his pace, they said. Just to confirm it he made his usual break against Taunton and allowed himself to be overhauled near the line. "See ?" we shrugged. And then the veteran settled down, resolved upon a minor change of tactics, and directed operations with assured experience till final victory. The classic low covering tackle which so often saved his line during the season was required only three times, but each time it shut off triumphant cheers like a tap. His calm control, which ensured, among other things, that vital economy

of effort in the semi-final, cannot be over-praised. And his culminating try, when a neat inside pass by Soutter sent him in like a train, thirty yards to the posts, while Cranleigh watched helplessly, will long be remembered as a fitting climax to a great occasion.

We are now the title-holders in an important national event in the school football calendar. No one, in these increasingly competitive days, with more schools playing every year, will expect us to repeat this success. But ambition is in our minds. An exceptional constellation of senior players, exceptionally handled in turn by Mr. Osborne and Mr. Parry, has of recent years earned us the right to cherish and eventually to achieve this ambition. More of our junior players must become aware of and share in the enlargement of our horizon. An enlargement it is, of course. It is idle to dismiss this as the vainglorious apotheosis of "muddled oafs." The custody of the school's reputation is in more hands than many of its members think, and success in this exacting and exhilarating competition raises standards all round. We were on view at Richmond, and we did all right. Sorry almost all of you missed it. Why not try to be there next time ?

#### DETAILS :

- Round 1 v Taunton : 8-0 (Soutter, Davis).  
2 v. Wrekin : 9-3 (Lindley, Davis, p.g.).  
3 v. Kingswood : 12-0 (Wilkins, p.g., Soutter, Lindley).  
4 v. Royal Belfast Academical : 13-0 (Lindley, Davis, Soutter).

Semi-Final : v. King William's, Isle of Man : 6-0 (Soutter, Wilson).

Final : v. Cranleigh (defeated St. George's, Harpenden ; Oratory ; Stowe ; Christ's Hospital ; Millfield) : 10-0 (Lindley, Wilson).

*Team* : R. K. Wilson, M. Wilkins, J. S. Pendry (all at Richmond, 1955), R. W. N. Davis, G. G. Kemp, D. F. Soutter, D. K. Lindley.

*Reserves* : J. R. Mountford, G. H. Buxton, M. G. Varley.

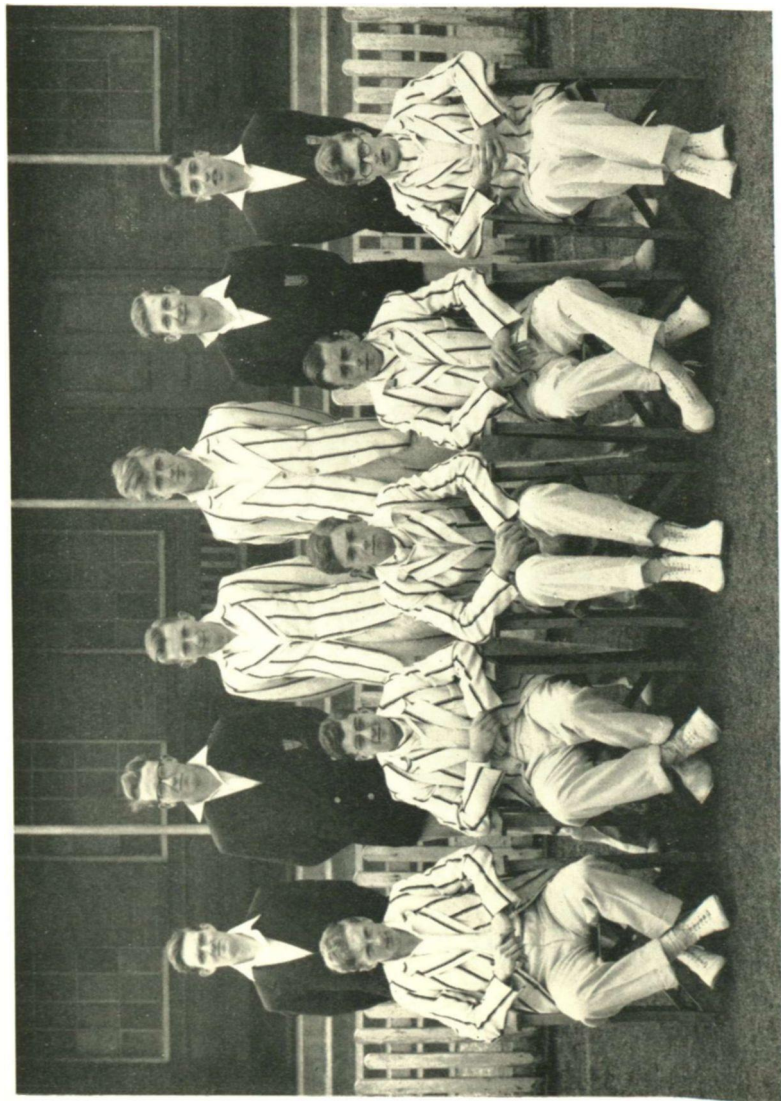
Pendry kicked the goals.

#### CRICKET

The XI has had a somewhat disappointing season so far this year. After beginning the summer with three victories, the record now is : Played 13, Won 5, Lost 3, Drawn 3, Abandoned 2. The main reason for this is that the batting has been erratic. Potentially it is good, but, on three occasions, a lack of concentration has nullified the advantages of good technique and mediocre scores have resulted.

The bowling has been steady, but, as before, the opening attack has not acted as a spearhead. Too often, the spinners have had to go on





THE XI, 1956

Standing (left to right) : J. T. BAKER, R. C. SPERS, G. E. PHILLIPS, J. S. PENDRY, N. J. WHITLEY, A. E. HOMIG,  
 Seated (left to right) : A. N. B. DAVIES (1955-56), M. WILKINS (1954-55-56, *Vice-Captain*), J. MUIFORD (1954-55-56, *Captain*),  
 P. F. WILLIAMS (1955-56, *Hon. Secretary*), R. G. DAUNCEY (1956).





# THE XV, 1955-56

*Standing (left to right):* G. R. BELLAMY (1955-56), J. R. MOUNTFORD (1955-56), G. O. MILLAR (1955-56), M. W. GOODE (1955-56), J. N. BROMLEY (1955-56), M. G. VARLEY (1955-56), G. K. CAULTON (1955-56), D. K. LINDLEY (1955-56), F. K. HAMMOND (1955-56).  
*Seated (left to right):* D. F. SOUTTER (1955-56), M. WILKINS (1954-55-56), R. W. N. DAVIS (1953-54-55-56), R. K. WILSON (1953-54-55-56, *Captain*), G. G. KEMP (1954-55-56), J. S. PENDRY (1954-55-56), L. R. HOLLOWAY (1955-56).

before a wicket has fallen. On the other hand, the fielding has been much better than last year, despite the fact that catches are still dropped and feet still remain apart.

The 2nd XI's record is also disappointing : Played 8, Won 3, Lost 3, Drawn 1, Abandoned 1 ; the performances of nearly all the members of the side are inconsistent.

Again, consistency is seldom to be found in Junior cricket, but, while the teams have failed to achieve brilliant results, they do contain a number of promising players.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Guy for his continued painstaking interest in the XI ; to Mr. Cockle who not only coaches all the teams throughout the week, but also works hard on Saturdays as well ; to Mr. Trott for being the mentor of the 2nd XI ; to Messrs. Freeman, Sacret, Buttle and all the other masters who help to supervise the junior teams ; to Mr. Leeds, who, as " manager " of the Kestrels, enlarges the scope of our cricket ; to Mr. Brierley for finding time to coach in the nets in addition to his other duties ; and to G. O. Millar who keeps our runs with an artistic fist and one eye on the tennis courts.

Finally, we are grateful to the First Cadet Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment Ex-Officers' Association for the gift of a Teak Seat on the ground to commemorate the association between the School and that Battalion during the War years.

(Signed : J. MULFORD).

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The following have also played for the XI : P. G. Robinson, M. J. Disney, A. B. Clayton, D. J. L. Ashton, R. G. Birch, P. B. Rothwell.

The Second XI has been chosen from : J. N. Bromley (Captain), P. G. Robinson, M. J. Disney, W. Shrimpton, A. C. Yarwood, M. A. Whitley, N. G. McGowan, A. B. Clayton, D. J. L. Ashton, R. G. Birch, T. P. Lee, P. B. Rothwell, J. A. Fletcher, J. A. Honeybone.

## RESULTS

### THE XI v. OLD EDWARDIANS' C.C. (Played at Hunnington, 28th April)

Old Edwardians' C.C. . . .	129 (B. C. Homer 53, I. R. McClelland 26 ; J. Mulford 4 for 49, J. S. Pendry 3 for 33, M. J. Disney 3 for 38),
The XI . . . . .	131 for 2 (P. F. Williams 43, G. E. Phillips 27, M. Wilkins 25 not out, J. Mulford 25 not out).

### THE XI v. TRENT COLLEGE (Played at Trent, 5th May)

Trent College . . . . .	147 (D. L. Bullard 38, P. J. H. Neal 31 ; J. S. Pendry 5 for 46, M. J. Disney 2 for 18).
The XI . . . . .	148 for 4 (P. F. Williams 41, R. G. Dauncey 40 not out, G. E. Phillips 33, J. Mulford 25).

THE XI v. WARWICK SCHOOL  
(*Played at the County Ground, 10th May*)

Although the XI made a slow start, violent hitting by J. S. Pendry took the score to 183 before the innings was declared closed. Warwick, left with two-and-a-half hours in which to score the runs, succumbed in just over two hours to some steady, aggressive bowling.

THE XI		WARWICK SCHOOL	
P. F. Williams, c Cook, b Mayo ..	2	D. K. E. Sale, run out .....	12
G. E. Phillips, b Mayo .....	53	I. P. King, c Wilkins, b Disney ..	0
R. G. Dauncey, b Maycock .....	2	M. S. Cook, c Homig, b Dauncey ..	45
J. Mulford, b Ramage .....	37	A. S. Hacking, b Disney .....	13
M. Wilkins, c Mayo, b Ramage ..	17	P. F. Ramage, c Wilkins, b Homig	14
A. N. B. Davies, not out .....	20	M. A. Lawrence, b Homig .....	0
N. J. Whitley, st Cook, b Mayo ..	3	J. T. Nettle, c Wilkins, b Pendry ..	21
J. S. Pendry, b Ramage .....	32	A. C. B. Wicks, c Homig, b Mulford	2
A. E. Homig, not out .....	5	D. J. Mayo, c Wilkins, b Mulford ..	12
M. J. Disney, P. Robinson did not bat.		I. C. Maycock, not out .....	0
Extras .....	12	B. J. Cordery, lbw, b Mulford ..	0
		Extras .....	11
TOTAL (for 7 wickets, dec.) ..	183	TOTAL .....	130

P. F. Ramage 3 for 50, D. J. Mayo 3 for 51.

J. Mulford 3 for 38, M. J. Disney 2 for 12, A. E. Homig 2 for 16.  
The XI won by 53 runs.

THE XI v. WYGGESTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
(*Played at Eastern Road, 12th May*)

The XI .....	145 (J. Mulford 34, P. F. Williams 22, R. G. Dauncey 22 ; P. G. Addison 5 for 62).
Wyggeston G.S. ....	146 for 9 (E. N. B. Adams 38 not out ; R. G. Dauncey 6 for 46, J. Mulford 3 for 49).

THE XI v. SHREWSBURY "A" XI  
(*Played at Eastern Road, 17th May*)

The XI .....	108 (J. S. Pendry 35, M. Wilkins 23 ; A. N. Duerr 4 for 20, R. O. Quibell 2 for 9).
Shrewsbury "A" XI ....	113 for 1 (J. M. Nicolson 73 not out, R. O. Quibell 35 not out).

THE XI v. DENSTONE COLLEGE  
(*Played at Denstone, 19th May*)

The XI .....	192 for 6 declared (P. F. Williams 78, M. Wilkins 49 not out, J. Mulford 34 ; J. T. Kelly 4 for 72).
Denstone College ....	154 for 9 (N. H. Wood 50 ; J. Mulford 4 for 47).

THE XI v. WARWICKSHIRE NURSERY XI  
(*Played at Eastern Road, 26th May*)

The XI .....	207 for 4 declared (G. E. Phillips 69, J. Mulford 50 not out, P. F. Williams 41).
Warwicks. Nursery XI ..	143 for 4 (W. B. Bridge 51, R. Whitton 50 not out ; A. E. Homig 3 for 30).

THE XI v. WADHAM COLLEGE  
(*Played at Oxford, 29th May*)

Wadham College .....	74 (Cheshire 25 ; A. E. Homig 4 for 11, P. F. Williams 2 for 4, R. G. Dauncey 2 for 19, J. T. Baker 2 for 19).
The XI .....	75 for 2 (P. F. Williams 28).

THE XI v. NOTTINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL  
(*Played at Eastern Road, 2nd June*)

The XI .....	120 (M. Wilkins 50, A. N. B. Davies 22 ; S. P. Unwin 4 for 43).
Nottingham H.S. ....	121 for 5 (J. D. Morris 37 not out, B. Calvert 27 ; J. T. Baker 3 for 18).

THE XI v. THE COMMON ROOM  
(Played at Eastern Road, 9th June)

The Common Room ..	145 for 9 declared (W. Traynor 51, R. S. Allison 28 not out, T. G. Freeman 23, R. D. J. Robertson 20 ; A. E. Homig 3 for 37, J. Mulford 3 for 42).
The XI .....	81 for 9 (R. G. Dauncey 31 ; A. E. Leeds 4 for 21, J. B. Guy 3 for 21, T. G. Freeman 2 for 23).

THE XI v. SOLIHULL SCHOOL  
(Played at Solihull, 23rd June)

The XI .....	164 (A. N. B. Davies not out 59, G. E. Phillips 37, N. J. Whitley, 26 ; Perrett 5 for 15).
Solihull School .....	121 (P. Taylor 37, G. C. Vaughan 25 ; J. Mulford 4 for 26, A. E. Homig 2 for 18).

THE XI v. BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

After steady batting Bromsgrove had produced a total of 186 by a quarter past three, the XI started their innings slowly. An hour was left for play when Wilkins and Mulford came together, with over a hundred runs still needed to win. However, this pair put on 94 in 48 minutes and the XI won with ten minutes to spare.

BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

J. W. Hughes, b Spiers .....	1
T. J. Huins, lbw, b Mulford .....	24
J. A. Passmore, c Baker, b Homig ..	63
J. W. Bunn, b Mulford .....	11
M. D. Baker, c Pendry, b Spiers .....	16
W. B. Stallard, c Mulford, b Homig ..	34
B. J. G. Sperryn, c Davies, b Homig ..	0
J. S. Pyke, c Pendry, b Spiers .....	7
R. B. Moore, c and b Mulford .....	1
H. M. Harvey, b Mulford .....	14
J. J. Chadwick, not out .....	6
Extras .....	9

TOTAL .....

THE XI

P. F. Williams, lbw, b Sperryn .....	36
G. E. Phillips, lbw, b Moore .....	6
A. N. B. Davies, b Baker .....	29
J. Mulford, c Stallard, b Harvey ..	39
M. Wilkins, not out .....	66
R. G. Dauncey, not out .....	6
J. S. Pendry, A. E. Homig, N. J. Whitley, R. C. Spiers and J. T. Baker did not bat.	
Extras .....	5
TOTAL (for 4 wickets) .....	187

J. Mulford 4 for 61, R. C. Spiers 3 for 22,  
A. E. Homig 3 for 45.

The matches against Warwickshire Club and Ground and Royal Grammar School, Worcester, were abandoned without a ball being bowled, because of rain.

## CHARACTERS OF THE XI

J. MULFORD Captain of XI 1955-56 (1954-55-56).

He has played very well this season, despite a persistent injury incurred at rugby. He is obviously the team's most intelligent bowler, for he combines spin with accuracy and is probably the most formidable off-spinner we have seen. He will probably take even more wickets when he uses flight consistently. His batting is stylish and attacking and we are patiently awaiting his first really large score. He led the team to some most convincing victories early in the term and although this record has not been maintained, his captaincy remains thoughtful and aggressive. He, too, remains occasionally thoughtful, and spasmodically aggressive.

(Evans)  
M.W.



M. WILKINS (Vice-Captain) (1954-5-6).

A batsman of power and versatility. His offside strokes have continued to delight and, in particular, his dangerous dab has now developed into a fine late cut. Moreover, he has now shown that, in the past, he has been harbouring a latent ability to hook. His main weakness is that he is still dominated by "the blood." As wicket-keeper, he has proved himself a worthy successor to A. C. Smith, although he maintains that the "faster ones" of a certain spin-bowler are quite beyond him.

(Heath)

P. F. WILLIAMS (Secretary) (1955-6).

This year, he has scored runs much more quickly than before, because he now hits the ball harder and has a wider range of strokes. However, he must learn that hitting with a "cross-bat" outside the off stump is dangerous early in a game. A safe fielder, but with a slight disinclination to sully his flannels.

(Gifford)

A. N. B. DAVIES (1955-56).

He has not so far this season made as many runs as expected. However, with *even more* concentration, he will make some good scores. The technique of his fielding is beyond reproach, but, at times, the application of it is a little curious.

(Levet)

R. G. DAUNCEY (1956).

His bowling remains as consistent as in the past, while his batting has improved considerably. He is, indeed, a good all-round player.

(Gifford)

\*G. E. PHILLIPS.

The improvement in his batting this season has been most noticeable and he has shown himself to be a competent opening batsman. He will improve even more when he no longer tries to hit the ball too hard. In the air, he is a good fielder, but, on the ground, he is sometimes uncertain.

(Evans)

\*J. S. PENDRY.

A useful medium-pace bowler. As a batsman, his ability to hit the ball very hard in a distinctly unorthodox manner has rescued several unhealthy situations. Perhaps the safest fielder in the side.

(Vardy)

N. J. WHITLEY.

A forcing left-hand batsman who has had little opportunity to exercise his powers. He is a fine fielder, although he tends to peregrinate at mid-wicket.

(Heath)

†A. E. HORNIG.

A young player whose leg-break bowling has captured a number of good wickets. Nevertheless, he must learn to bring the ball off the pitch rather quicker. His batting is improving with experience and he has held some fine catches close to the wicket. In the outfield he is a little over-anxious.

(Gifford)

†J. T. BAKER.

A medium-pace bowler who is able to use the new ball well and is also capable of bowling defensively. Recently, he has revealed a capacity to stymie his opponents as a No. 11 batsman. As a fielder, he has now brought his feet together.

(Jeune)



R. C. SPIERS.

A fast, left-handed bowler who has come into the side in the middle of the season. He bowls with four short-legs, but occasionally likes to keep his third man occupied. Has had one spectacular success. In the field, he must show better anticipation. (Cary Gilson)

G. O. MILLAR.

Keeper of the runs—and the bottle-opener.

\*Denotes School Cricket Blazer.

†Denotes School XXII Colours.

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## ATHLETICS

We have progressed. This year our fortnight's athletics has evoked considerable interest, and some members of the school have even admitted to enjoying it.

The Cross-country was run on Thursday, 1st of March. There was a large entry for both races, and the Richards Cup was won by Heath.

The John Urry Cup for Standards was won by Evans : less standards than usual were gained.

There were matches against Ratcliffe, and Nottingham, and a short, sharp, system of heats, and then it was Sports Day. The events were contested very closely and five records were broken. The Junior Relay by Levett, the Open Half-Mile and Hurdles and two Intermediate field events. The Open Relay, probably the most exciting race of the day, was run in rain which had been threatening all afternoon, and was won by Levett with Jeune second. Finally on the strength of third and fourth places in the mile, Heath tied with Levett for the Athletic Sports Trophy. The rain stopped, and the trophies and certificates were then given away by Mrs. E. V. Smith, to whom we extend our thanks.

During the Summer Term, coaching in various fields of athletics will be started, and it is hoped that this, our first attempt to take athletics really seriously, and in an organized manner, will be successful. We thank Mr. Cadenhead and Mr. McGawley for this innovation, and also for the vast amount of work which they have done during the season, to produce an athletics team, and organize athletics within the school.

A. N. BRETT DAVIES.

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### K.E.S. v. RATCLIFFE (At Home)

*Thursday, March 15th. Lost 52½-78½.*

The first athletics match of the season was run at home under cold, windy conditions. The School won but three events, although the performances were, in general, good. The mile and half-mile were won by Davies, and Green won the javelin. Russell ran a very fine quarter-mile from the outside lane, but was beaten into second place in a fast race (52.8s.).

The match was notable for the distance which Taborelli, the Ratcliffe Captain, putted the shot (44-ft. 2-in.) and the ease with which Day won the high jump. The latter won this event in the schools' national championships later in the year.

The final result of 52½-78½ was a fair reflection of the match, and was not unsatisfactory.

Ratcliffe also won a junior match by 50 points to 70.

K.E.S. v. NOTTINGHAM H.S. (At Nottingham)

*Saturday, March 17th. Won 70-61.*

In the first event, the half-mile, Davies and Millar won first and third places, and this initial success was followed by five wins, in the Discus by McGowan, with the good distance of 119-ft. 4½-in. ; in the 220 yards by Russell, in the fast time of 23·9s., and in the High Jump by Pendry (5-ft. 3¼-in.). Wilson had a good day, winning the Long Jump and 440 yards, and coming second in the Hurdles.

The mile was a very fine race, in which Hayes, the Nottingham runner, set a steady pace, with Davies about fifteen yards behind. In the final sprint Davies managed to win in the new record time of 4m. 39·6 s.

The relay provided the final touches to a pleasant afternoon, and the School four ran well to win by a yard or so.

In a junior match the School lost narrowly on the result of the Relay by 57 points to 62.

K.E.S. v. WARWICK AND R.G.S., WORCESTER (At Warwick)

*Monday, March 26th. Won : K.E.S., 50, Warwick 39, R.G.S. 30.*

In this annual triangular match the School won six of the eleven events, on a hilly Warwick track, and only in the discus and 100 yards did we fail to get either first or second place. However, performances were not outstanding. Russell won the quarter mile for the second year running (55·0 sec.) and Holland won the hurdles when all other competitors had been disqualified. Wilkins won the shot (34-ft. 11¼-in.), and Davies won the half-mile (2 min. 9 sec.) and the mile (4 min. 44 sec.). A fitting climax to the athletics season was provided by the brilliant running and baton-changing of the Relay Team (Lindley, Russell, Wilson and Eagles) who won the 4 × 220 yards relay by about 50 yards in a fast time.

During the season the following records have been broken :

Open ½ Mile : A. N. B. Davies. 2 min. 6·4 secs. *Sports Day.*  
Open Mile : A. N. B. Davies. 4 min. 39·6 secs. *At Nottingham.*  
Open 110 yards Hurdles : R. K. Wilson. 15·0 secs. *Sports Day.*  
Intermediate Discus : C. J. Wood. 106-ft. 8-in. *Sports Day.*  
Intermediate Javelin : I. Webley. 136-ft. 8-in. *Sports Day.*  
Junior Relay : Levett House. 57·6 secs. *Sports Day.*

SPORTS RESULTS

Trophy Winners :

Under 12½ Champion : Barlow, R. H.  
Junior Champion : Gregg, C. J.  
Intermediate Champion : Beaumont, R. K. J.  
Open Champion : A. N. B. Davies.  
Tudor Cup—Junior Relays : Levett.  
Robert Moseley Cup—Intermediate Relay : Heath.  
Holdsworth Cup—Open Relay : Levett.  
Richards Cup—Cross-County : Heath.  
John Urry Cup—Standards : Evans.  
Wiggins Davies Cup—Sports : Levett and Heath.  
Mitten Shield—Athletics Championship—Heath.

OPEN EVENTS :

100 yards : A. M. Russell. 10·6 secs.  
220 yards : A. M. Russell. 23·8 secs.  
440 yards : A. N. B. Davies. 54·4 secs.  
880 yards : A. N. B. Davies. 2 min. 6·4 secs. (Record).  
Mile : A. N. B. Davies and J. G. Bean, tied. 5 min. 5·4 secs.  
Hurdles : R. K. Wilson. 15·0 secs. (Record).  
High Jump : J. S. Pendry. 4-ft. 10½-in.  
Long Jump : A. N. B. Davies. 18-ft. 7-in.  
Discus : N. G. McGowan. 103-ft. 7-in.  
Shot : M. Wilkins. 37-ft. 4-in.  
Javelin : J. S. Pendry. 135-ft. 0-in.

The Athletics team has been selected from the following : G. O. Millar ; R. K. Wilson ; J. S. Pendry ; A. M. Russell ; M. Wilkins ; McGowan ; Green ; Soutter ; Lindley ; Holland, R. ; Bean ; Spiers ; Eagles ; N. Whitley ; Buxton ; Mountford ; Macdonald ; A. N. B. Davies.

## L.A.C. SCHOOLS' ATHLETICS, WHITE CITY, APRIL, 1956

During the Easter vacation, the Captain of Athletics, A. N. B. Davies, journeyed up to London to compete in the famous annual schools' meeting. After his success at the Midland Public Schools' Championships on the University track (organized by Messrs. McGawley and Cadenhead) where he won the half-mile easily in the comparatively slow time of 2 minutes 11 seconds, he began to train seriously for London. By the day of the race—the half-mile—he had probably reached peak fitness and apart from the usual nerves, he was fairly well. His previous best was his record set up at the Sports—2 minutes 6.4 seconds—and at the end of the first lap in London he was surprised to hear the timekeepers call 59 seconds. He clung tenaciously in his favourite position a yard behind the leader until fifteen yards from the line when disaster struck. Catching a spike on the ground, he tripped and fell headlong. He was out of the race. The winner's time was 1 minute 58.8 seconds. This same man later went on to record the same time in the final, and although he came second, was accorded the same time as the winner. It seems likely therefore, that with a little less ill-fortune our Captain of Athletics could have excelled himself. We commiserate with him, and wish him every success in his future athletic career. We are pleased further to record the success of A. M. Russell who won the 220 yards at the Midland Public Schools' Meeting, in the comparatively fast time of 24.2 seconds, on a very windy day.

G.O.M.

## LAWN TENNIS

The Tennis team has had a new and invigorating experience this season : that of regularly winning its matches. We have won five out of seven matches played so far ; and of the two lost, one was in the absence of D. F. Soutter, the stalwart of the team. In the first round of the Glanvill Cup (the Public Schools' Tournament) we came a close second in a three-cornered contest with Kettering G.S. and Northampton G.S. Kettering G.S. is well known as a tennis school, and there was a county player in their side. Nevertheless, they won a good match by only five rubbers to four. Perhaps next year we shall pass this first hurdle in the competition.

The House Competition is being contested as keenly as ever. A welcome feature of it is that school players no longer seem to dominate house matches. Also, the Singles tournaments, both senior and under sixteen are further advanced than is usual at this date. The Junior competition in particular has excited some enthusiasm in the lower school, and several extremely promising players have appeared in the Upper Middles and Removes : an encouraging sign for the future. Meanwhile we look forward with optimism to the rest of the season, and

especially to the Youll Cup Public Schools' Competition at Wimbledon, in early August.

Once more we offer Mr. Osborne our best wishes for his complete recovery, and our thanks to Mr. Cadenhead for the helpful and energetic way he has taken his place.

C. W. LONG  
(*Captain of Tennis*).

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## LAWN TENNIS CHARACTERS

C. W. LONG.

A steady and energetic player who possesses a consistent and well-placed service. His ground shots, undoubtedly the best in the school, are powerful and penetrating. Tends to impetuosity while waiting for lobs. He has led a small but enthusiastic team admirably. D.F.S.

D. F. SOUTTER.

His ground strokes now match his powerful volleys, and he is a formidable opponent. His service and smash are particularly good. A very present help in trouble. Drives rather fast.

PICKWORTH, W. F.

A hard hitter who has steadied up a great deal this season. His volleys are very good, and he retrieves well. He has what most left-handers lack, a safe backhand.

HILLS, J. G.

Hits the ball hard—often too hard. He tends to forget that the lob can be an attacking shot. An efficient secretary, but where is his rather lovely green eyeshade?

WILSON, R. K.

A tireless fighter and retriever with a good backhand and service. His forehand needs practice, but he smashes well at net level.

HAMMOND, F. K.

He has a good smash, and paradoxically, a weak service. His backhand sometimes lets him down, but he volleys safely on both sides. He is at his best on grass where he gains the advantage of surprise.

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## SWIMMING, 1956

“Hear now, ye rebels! Must we fetch you water out of this rock?” And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice, and the water came out abundantly. (Numbers XX : 10.)

Moses, of course, had divine collaboration. But, for all his hammering, the captain of swimming proved no diviner and the swimming bath was still empty half-way through June.

After innumerable disappointing delays in the earlier part of the term, the painters at last managed to complete two coats of gleaming white paint between thunder showers. Then, when all was ready, the first six inches of water introduced into the bath immediately peeled the

paint off again. The suppliers of the paint were called into consultation and once again the bath was emptied.

Despite various setbacks, however, the swimming team had been training as best it could with the limited time and space at Tiverton Road. The season began with a match against Malvern College in which we were defeated by one event and seven points. The match against Solihull School, swum in a temperature of 54°F., was a little more encouraging. We defeated them fairly easily by 34 points to 19.

When we swam against Shrewsbury, however, we were confronted with performances considerably better than any in our previous experience. Shrewsbury wrought vengeance in no uncertain manner for our victory over them the previous season.

Nevertheless, this year's team, although weaker than that of 1955, has performed creditably during the season and will be virtually unchanged next year.

H. P. AITKEN  
(*Captain of Swimming*).

#### AGAINST MALVERN COLLEGE. *Away.*

(1 length = 26·5 yards.)

2 lengths Free Style : 1, Aitken ; 2, Malvern ; 3, Malvern ; 4, Whitfield. 29·8 secs.  
4 lengths Free Style : 1, Aitken ; 2, Malvern ; 3, Malvern ; 4, Rufus. 68·2 secs.  
8 lengths Free Style : 1, Malvern ; 2, Malvern ; 3, Rothera ; 4, Tagg. 2 mins. 32·4 sec.  
4 lengths Breast Stroke : 1, Davies ; 2, Malvern ; 3, Rothera ; 4, Malvern. 84·5 secs.  
2 lengths Back Stroke : 1, Malvern ; 2, McCarty ; 3, Malvern ; 4, Whitfield. 38·1 secs.  
Dive : 1, Malvern ; 2, Tagg ; 3, Whitfield ; 4, Malvern.  
Medley Relay (3 × 2 lengths) : 1, K.E.S. (McCarty, Davies, Aitken) ; 2, Malvern.  
Free Relay : (4 × 2 lengths) : 1, Malvern ; 2, K.E.S. (Whitfield, Tagg, Rufus, Aitken).

*Malvern won 34-27 points.*

*Against Solihull* (Away ; open air ; unheated ; 1 length : 25 metres.)

*Result* : The School won by 33-19 points.

*Against Shrewsbury* (1 length : 23 yards 1-ft. ; Indoor heated).

*Result* : Shrewsbury beat the School by 45-16 points.

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### ETON FIVES

Three matches have been played during the Lent Term. The match against a strong Oxford University side was lost 6—0, but all the games were closely contested. The School team was weakened for its final fixtures which were against Shrewsbury, lost, and the Old Cholmeleians, drawn.

The first pair for this season has been M. R. Bird and A. Hughes, Because of an injury to Hughes, D. F. Soutter played twice. A. N. B. Davies and N. J. Whitley, the second pair, have proved to be a good combination. As last year, there has been no serious weakness in either team, neither has there been any player of outstanding merit.

Other matches were a second team match easily won over a keen but inexperienced Wolverhampton Grammar School side, and Under Sixteen matches with Repton and Shrewsbury. In the last two, the School Junior team was completely outplayed. It is fortunate that we have a tradition for developing players late.



A disappointing feature of this season has been the failure to produce any young players of particular promise. Although practice games between members of this year's School team have reached a high standard, most games played at the School Courts are of a poor quality compared with those of some other schools. The present state of affairs is probably of long standing. But the raising of the standard of play in Blocks B and C by a system of coaching by members of the school team could well improve future teams.

During the Easter Holidays the School sent the first and second pairs to the annual Public Schools' Eton Fives Competition at Highgate School. The first pair, after easy wins over Cranleigh III and the Swiss School Zuoz, were over-run in the quarter-finals by the exceptionally fast Cranleigh I. Cranleigh were eventually beaten in a splendid final by the more intelligent Eton I. However, all honour must go to the second pair. They were drawn to play the same Eton I in the first round. After a shaky start they improved immensely and for three games the match seemed in the balance. Eton eventually won 12-7, 14-15, 12-8, 15-14, but only in the final were they as hard pressed. This was one of the best performances by a School pair since A. J. G. Campbell and N. C. Brown won the Competition in 1953.

For carrying out so well the difficult task of distributing equipment, for his advice and encouragement our thanks must go as ever to the Second Master.

## ETON FIVES CHARACTERS

M. R. BIRD (1954-55-56) *Captain*.

Potentially the best player in the team, he has, unfortunately, found his best form on only a few occasions, when his domination of the game has proved masterly. His defence and positioning are sound, while his powerful smashing with both hands compensates for a rather weak first cut.

As captain, his official duties have been reduced to a minimum, but he has always been, genially, one up by tea-time. A.N.B.D.

A. HUGHES (1955-56).

This year some faults in his game have become apparent. There is a certain weakness downstep when hurried, particularly on his left hand. But his ability to dominate all but the fastest games from upstep is exceptional. Given the right partner he should do well next year. He has carried out the responsibilities of secretary with enthusiasm.

A. N. B. DAVIES (1955-56).

He has developed into a fine player in all aspects of the game, excelling in a fast cut. Perhaps he has not been given all the chances he has deserved.

N. J. WHITLEY (1955-56).

Fast and accurate upstep play is the essence of good Eton Fives; were it not so he would be a much better player. Downstep his game is most impressive and he has a powerful cut and smash. It was not until the final match with Eton, however, that he was able to overcome apparent lethargy upstep.

D. F. SOUTTER.

He has shown bewildering speed in practice. It is unfortunate that a player of such promise has been unable to practice more. The three games he has played for the School must be considered rather disappointing.

M. R. BIRD (*Captain of Eton Fives*).

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## SQUASH RACQUETS

During the Lent term two school matches were played against Solihull and Birmingham School of Architecture. The former was narrowly lost by three matches to two, the latter was convincingly won, both matches being played at the school court.

The Harris Trophy matches progressed slowly during the Lent term, the final being played at the beginning of this term. The match was closely contested, being won narrowly 3-1 by D. F. Soutter.

Considering the handicap of having only one court, the standard of Squash during the competition and the mounting interest in it is a tribute to the coaching and advice of Mr. Cadenhead, aided by Messrs. Bolton, Guy and Robertson.

D. F. SOUTTER.

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## THE HOUSES

### CARY GILSON

The optimism of the last report has been fully justified. Not content with our effort in the Rugger league, we have continued to gain honours, and not only in the sporting field. Our successes include : 1st equal in the Rugger knockout, 1st in the Chess competition, 1st in the Music competition, and we boast the holder of the Harris Squash Trophy.

In addition to this our chances in the Cricket league and Tennis are good, and our Junior Fives players are consolidating the second place of the Seniors.

It now remains for the Swimmers of the House to show their mettle, for, with a good position in this sport, the Cock House Championship should at last be within our grasp.

I would like to thank our House Master, Mr. Biggs, and our House Tutors, Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Weatherall, for their encouragement and support throughout the year.

J. G. HENLY (*House Captain*).

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### EVANS

The House won the Athletics Standards, came second in the Tunstall Cup, and third in the Music Competition : it is doing reasonably well in Cricket, is virtually bottom of Chess and looks forward to coming in the first three in Swimming.

Having stated this, untraditionally, I shall not employ violent invective to offer a few criticisms, or give the odd hearty slap on the back or make an even heartier plea for greater efforts in the future, but merely thank sincerely Messrs. Dunt, Buttle and Hodges for their spirited and unflinching support in a year about which Evans can be guardedly pleased, though, indeed, not complacent.

J. MULFORD (*House Captain*).

## GIFFORD

It is a custom that we sleep during the first two terms of each year ; this year our sleep has been serene and beneficial to the health. It has unfortunately, also given us seventh place in Rugby and eighth in Athletics. We do, however, congratulate the Fives team, marshalled by the School first pair, on their regular victories ; and the third Rugby team on winning their cup, the first for Rugby ever won by Gifford. Our athletes were both too few and too ardent exponents of somnambulism.

This term the summer sun has wakened us. Shooting has improved, and our Cricket is exceeding all our expectations.

Tennis matches are social successes.

The only people who never sleep are Mr. Kay and his House Tutors, Mr. Bennett and Mr. Robertson. Their cheerful advice and exhortation has at last roused us to greater efforts ; they alone have not been deterred by the high mortality rate among House Captains.

J. N. BROMLEY (*House Captain*).

## HEATH

So far the House has achieved greatest success during the Athletics season, but at one time this result seemed unlikely. Only on the last day of Standards did we regain the drive which is required to win any competition. Nevertheless, the victories in Cross-Country and on Sports Day helped the House to retrieve some lost ground in the Championship. Of the other completed sports we can be reasonably satisfied. The standard of House Shooting has been maintained, the P.T. team acquitted itself admirably and our Chess men are fighting back. The lethargy of a hard, cruel winter has been shaken off and vigour has returned to our activities.

It is good to see that Heath can still produce more cricketers for School teams than any other House, but the League results have suffered unnecessarily, not only because we lack stars, but because the teams show little more cohesion than a general liking for "Wagon Wheels." Knock-out teas should be more comforting. The rebirth of House Tennis as a positive force has at last occurred, and we all rejoice at what must be "progress" with a capital "Gaff." Swimming and Junior Fives have nothing in common.

The final position in the Championship is not at all clear, but certainly the House retains the qualities of enthusiasm and good humour, which have always made it—excuse us—such a good one. For these features, we thank most sincerely Mr. Barlow and the House Tutors, in the hope that they will continue to lead the House as well in the future.

M. WILKINS (*Head of House*).

## JEUNE

The House performed adequately in the sporting field during the Lent Term. We finished lower than expected in Rugger—in fifth position—but the weather, which interfered with the Rugger, did not prevent the P.T. team from coming third in the P.T. competition.

However, we failed to regain the John Urry Cup for Athletic Standards. We lost to Evans by ten standards but did rather better than expected during the Sports and finally finished fourth in Athletics. The Chess team was checked and dropped from first to fifth position at the end of the competition. Although the Shooting team fired wide of the target in the Tunstall Cup, it just managed to win the Shooting trophy by .2 of a scaled point.

Cricket and Tennis have progressed with success so far, and prospects remain good. With luck we may see some more trophies in our House cupboard by the end of this term.

F. K. HAMMOND (*House Captain*).

## LEVETT

At last there appears to be hope. Perhaps we shall not reach the bottom this year. Complacency, however, must not be prevalent, for Cricket can still cause a radical change in the House Championship, and Cricket is not one of our better sports.

In Athletics our successes included the winning of all the Open running events in the Sports, the winning of the Holdsworth Cup for the Open Relay in an exciting race, and the Tudor Cup for Junior Relays for the second year in succession. These results, together with sixth and fifth places in the Cross-Country races, and Standards respectively, gave us an overall position of second in Athletics.

In Chess and Shooting we have achieved third places, and after the now traditional early morning practices the P.T. team won the competition.

Our senior Swimmers are this year weaker than usual, but with good juniors we may hope to attain an average position.

We must thank our House Masters, for their continual help in all matters sporting, and in particular Mr. Porter for his timekeeping during the Athletics season, and his support on the cricket field.

A. N. B. DAVIES (*House Captain*).

## PRINCE LEE

Following five years' considerable success, and two years' decline, we have apparently reached rock bottom. We are singularity devoid of individual talent in any sport, and our combined efforts have been inadequate ; but further effort, and some luck, may save us from bottom position.

Our sporting activities were unfortunate ; only Chess, Junior Fives and Junior Cricket have shown skill and promise.

We cannot be satisfied with this record. We desperately need individual members of the House to make an effort to improve their own powers on the sports field.

Next year we must not let apathy creep in ; we must forget this setback, and above all, continue to do everything to the very best of our ability. Then, regardless of our position, we can be satisfied with our work as a House.

N. G. MCGOWAN (*Head of the House*).

### VARDY

Our first duty is a pleasant one. We wish to put on record our congratulations to Mr. Parry, and to those two of our number who were members of the team, for their part in the School's victory in the Public Schools' Seven-a-side Tournament.

The House XV again reached the Knock-out Competition Final ; but once again the weather prevented the match from being played.

This term, cricket has so far been encouraging, if not brilliant. The House XI has not yet failed to score a hundred runs, though, unfortunately, the other side has on each occasion contrived to score more. The second and third teams have both won matches. The fourth team again seems capable of winning the league ; it is, to date, unbeaten.

An exceptionally bad result in Standards marred our best efforts in Athletics. Chess, Shooting and P.T., however, have done much better than in recent years. Lawn Tennis is not, at the moment, flourishing, although it is still played in hope. The Junior Fives team has won a match. The better results long awaited from minor activities have at last been forthcoming. Swimming, on the other hand, is an activity in which we excel by tradition, although this year, owing to certain unscrupulous athletical gentlemen, it is a debased currency. We hope for the very best results from our swimmers.

Finally, we must express our gratitude to our House Master, Mr. Copland, for all that his guiding hand has meant throughout this and the many years past. Also we thank our House Tutors, Mr. Parry and Mr. Skinner, for all their help and advice.

M. I. WILLIAMS (*Captain of the House*).

### “ CORIOLANUS ”

This must be among the most difficult of Shakespeare's plays to put on the stage effectively. It ought to absorb anybody who is interested in the clash between aristocrat and multitude, who is vulnerable to tragedy, or who gasps for a message : adding up surely to everybody. But the line dividing enthralment from boredom is narrow. Not a single sympathetic character is presented ; and the plot moves stiffly : much is said, and much is done, but speech and action tend to alternate. Consequently during the static situations the actors require to understand what they are talking about at such length, if they are to hold the attention of the audience ; and the moments of crowded action can only be saved from confusion, and the tragic intensity of the climax from flatness, by excellent performance.

As the protagonists in the conflict Shakespeare puts before us, on the one side, one of the most complex of his tragic heroes, the brilliant warrior and the spoilt-boy-mob-baiter. No critic would care to say,



"I have a smack of Coriolanus myself, if I may say so," hence the comparative lack of commentary, yet even Hamlet is hardly more interesting. His adversary is not that third-rate field-marshal Tullus Aufidius, nor yet the tribunes, but the mob. The more was the pity that in this production the mob made little impression. It ought to have filled the stage : fifteen foul-mouthed louts, not seven well-spoken young men who snarled well enough at the required moments but were otherwise altogether too charming. In fact all the crowded scenes were disappointing. The fighting at Corioli was scrappy : stage fights can be most effective if they are drilled, every clout and parry rehearsed.

Credible mobs and efficient fights may be beyond the scope of school plays, with rehearsal time and place constantly at the mercy of every other form of school activity. In this production they were rendered impossible by the nature of the set. The need for a rostrum became increasingly apparent. Coriolanus should stir actors and audience on his first entrance : he slipped on unobtrusively down a small ramp ; and in his banishment scene, where it was essential for him to be placed above the mob—for he was on trial, and he was dangerous—he was among the seven, half way up this same ramp. There were also some sliding doors, upon the efficient manipulation of which depended, to a disturbing extent, the dramatic action at Corioli. "Lo, now the gates are ope," and ope they were, as we all knew for we had been unable to take our eyes off them. Altogether the set was most impressive to look at and the lighting of it excellent ; but it did not help the production much.

The general standard of acting was not as high as it should have been, though there were some performances of distinct merit. Vaugon sustained the immense role of Coriolanus with credit. He never flagged, and he had his moments of triumph, notably the scene of his public display. But a complete portrayal was beyond him. Coriolanus the spoilt boy we never saw at all, and consequently the final scene, which depends for its force entirely on his reaction to the deadly gibe "the boy of tears," would have fallen flat had it not been for some sensitive verse speaking by Robinson, as Tullus Aufidius, who, though he sounded too often like a Henty hero of my youth, Wulf the Saxon, provided us with glimpses of an intelligent and promising actor. Of the two tribunes, Joseph gave an excellent performance, for he knew what he was about and used his voice sensitively ; and he was faithfully supported by Morley. Honeybone very nearly succeeded in bringing to life that ingenious character Menenius ; but he limped too much and failed to vary his tone sufficiently, except for one memorable moment when Coriolanus outside Rome spurned him off.

The outstanding actor in the cast was undoubtedly Swales. Quite unperturbed by the handicap of his size, he dominated the stage, and made us realize that this dreadful old Roman Matron Volumnia still loved and feared. His speaking of the line, "My first son, whither wilt thou go ?" electrified the stage and at least one member of the audience. Some of the minor parts were effectively played. Cairns and Guest struggled courageously with unrewarding roles ; the Volscian servants provided a pleasant interlude ; McCarty and Whitehead made a lot of a scene to themselves ; and Berry, Ferns and Stephens, with these two, did well in the mob.

But there was a depressing amount of unintelligent acting. Only two actors in this large cast displayed a consistent understanding of the lines that they were speaking : Swales and Joseph. My impression was that none of the others had ever really paused to think, to work out the variations in tone and the inflexions and the emphases and the rhythm of the verse : they had waited to be told. Learning of parts for school plays is left until far too late ; no actor can " get inside " the character he is portraying when he is still dependent on a book or is fumbling for lines. The producer does not have time to drill every actor in every word : it is rather shocking that it would obviously be a good thing if he did have time. This production of " Coriolanus " was, on the whole, impressively conceived and had its memorable moments. But the general standard of performance was below that of previous years because most of the actors had failed to apply their native wit to an attempt to understand the play.

P.H.H.

### THE SHOEMAKER'S HOLIDAY

Among the many clearly defined types of play which the theatres of 1599 offered to the public was a kind which specialized in reminding the citizens of London of their own jovial virtues. Such plays re-inforced the prejudices of a large section of the audience, and as the pursuit of this gratifying aim constitutes the essence of popular entertainment, they fall into the same kind as " Mrs. Dale's Diary." But one has only to compare that programme with Dekker's " The Shoemaker's Holiday " to become aware of the degeneration in the quality of popular entertainment during the intervening centuries. This process, as always, is most noticeable in the use of language. Dekker's prose is racy, incisive and full-blooded ; it has an air of confident vitality which, if it misses the subtle rhythms and cadences of the prose of Shakespeare and Webster, is at least alive. Over the moribund dialogue of the modern popular theatre it is charitable to draw a discreet veil.

Now although it is unlikely that members of the Junior Dramatic Society were preoccupied by such grave reflections as these, it was precisely the gusto of Dekker's play which they so convincingly transmitted. If they did not always succeed in fully relishing the zest of the language, they certainly communicated the robust atmosphere of the play as a whole, communicated it in the swirling rushes which Mr. Hutton's marked predilection for massed movement had led him to design. But to focus too much attention on the hearty camaraderie of honest shoemakers would be unfair to the production as a whole and to several outstandingly good performances. The production had pace and a perpetual flow of immediately interesting incident ; it commanded attention in the difficult places where the writing is perfunctory and rose vigorously to the moments of real comedy.

As Firk, A. H. Papps gave a genuinely comic performance. He pointed his lines with wicked emphasis, moved easily and confidently and, helped by the steps in front of the apron stage, established that intimate relationship with the audience which is the essence of comic acting. W. D. Richards, in the difficult part of Simon Eyre, spoke powerfully if a trifle monotonously, but really caught and held attention by the range,

ease and confidence of his gestures. R. F. Waterhouse, too, had a difficult assignment as Rowland Lacey ; however, he spoke well, even to the extent of making Dekker's pidgin Dutch sometimes intelligible, looked very much at home on the stage and danced with something approaching *galanterie*.

Of the rest, D. J. Munrow, as Hodge, was the incarnation of all honest journeymen shoemakers and B. H. Shaw as the Earl of Lincoln, and N. J. M. Arnold, as the Lord Mayor of London, both spoke excellently and, in spite of their lack of height, moved commandingly. I would not have believed it possible, before seeing Arnold, that a pillar of Shell A could master so completely the walk of a successful but touchy, middle-aged Elizabethan grocer. I sympathised with those who had to speak Dekker's verse, particularly if they were, at the same time, having to impersonate demure and wide-eyed maidens. It was, therefore, much to the credit of A. J. Gracie, as Jane, and J. Pook, as Rose, that they both carried it off perfectly adequately. Luckier in respect of his part was P. W. Grant who played Sybil and played it, I thought, with a nervous and angular intensity that made one sit up and take a good deal of notice. In H. C. Mason, as Margery, I was slightly disappointed. He had good moments but often appeared rather too bored by the whole business to make a consistent impact. This cannot be said for the rest of the cast, who whooped, whistled, rough-housed and flicked unexpected pancakes with some enthusiasm.

The dances, I thought, were less precarious than in last year's junior play. This was simply because the prevailing saturnalian atmosphere of the play allowed them to be designed on a more bacchanalian pattern. This obviously suited the taste (and capabilities) of the cast much better than the delicate trippings which "A Midsummer Night's Dream" requires. Moreover, the Morris dance seemed really excellently done. The music, upon which the success of the dances depended, was played confidently, particularly when the band was dominated by the flute or the trumpets ; and the integration of dance and music bore testimony to a good deal of hard backroom work by a lot of people, not the least being the musicians.

Of the set I cannot speak too highly. It gave a fine illusion of depth and space, and a wide variety of scene and colour, from the charm of the Lord Mayor's garden to the bold, gay colours of the last scene. Not the least of its virtues was the ingenuity of its design which enabled considerable changes to be made with great speed. In this, it played an invaluable part in helping the producer to achieve a rapid movement of the action which is so vital in Elizabethan drama.

This was Mr. Hutton's last production at King Edward's. It fell exactly three years after the first in which he was involved. In that time he has produced five plays and helped in the production of two others. If, as I think, his most aesthetically satisfying production was his first, Euripedes' "Orestes," I am pretty confident that it has been his junior school plays that have represented his most devoted labours. These have given a lot of enjoyment to both audiences and actors and, moreover, drama in the school will continue to benefit directly from his work for several years more. It must, therefore, go on record that we owe him a debt of gratitude which will not be fully paid until those whom he has produced have left school.

A.J.T.

## LIFE IN THE LOWER SCHOOL

The lower school has had several interesting activities this term. Besides P.D., we have had a novel debating tournament organized by the Junior Debating Society. The Shells and Removes combined team almost won, drawing with the might of Classical V in the final. Our scientists have had a few meetings, and two of them have given entertaining talks. The actors have had a rewarding production this year under Mr. Hutton as producer, of "The Shoemaker's Holiday."

The general topics of conversation which make up lower school life have indeed varied. Starting with one F.A. Cup until May 5th, when the whole of the lower school, if not the seniors, had forgotten rugby. But it was never mentioned after the afternoon's disappointment. We were soon talking of cricket instead. Some were even thinking of half-term. Our actors had only the junior play in mind, and they seemed to do nothing but rehearse. From there we plunged into half-term, and coming back refreshed, we were talking about the knock-out. Then, when "Butch's" tall blue rival arrived, merits of sixpenny drinks were discussed. Swimming was hoped for now, but house captains kept on putting us off. Exams began to be mentioned, and except for five-day breaks for test-matches, they have been the talking point of the lower school to date. And so at the moment we are tensing ourselves for the exams, consoled by the prospect of end-of-term relaxation.

D.S.F.

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## THE SOCIETIES

There has been a certain diffidence about reporting exactly what the Societies are doing this year. No complaints, of course, but how grateful we would be if the secretaries would give us just a glimpse of the myriad activities which they control so successfully.

Never backward, the Debating Society reports that their meetings have been "ultra-flippant" and super-shy, but we feel this is too modest, from the memory of some interesting and varied debates. The greatest problem is that few members are prepared to speak from the floor and some seem to be shy of even voting. It is interesting to wonder exactly why they imagine they are there, but then no one has ever heard them speak.

The Chairman of the Modern Linguists has proved the very soul of efficiency, and by his expert guidance their meetings have been particularly virile. The ability to attract foreign visitors who provide an accurate impression of their own country is the secret of the society's success. Of course the English-speaking visitors have proved most interesting, although barely intelligible.

It is good to see music figuring so largely in school activities—mainly because of the Director's unsparing efforts. The recent performance of the Choral Society, which employs so many unexperienced members, reveals a new interest in and enjoyment of music. The Society has succeeded in fostering this appreciation with a series of five recitals. The Scientific Society thrives in an atmosphere of hissing bunsens and tinkling test-tubes enlightened by idyllic soinees which studied the virtues of Blood Groups and Jet Engines.



Mr. Hoffman leaves behind him at least one unenlightened, conservative group still confident that the Shakespeare Society is not a misnomer. So much so that "Henry IV" and "Macbeth" have been added to the impressive reading list. Little is recorded of the binge, which is probably a good thing.

The vast Railway and Model Engineering concern is spreading rapidly—there seems no end to its development, drive, and ruthless ambition. The programme of meetings and visits is pursued with determination, while the great modelling concern is now housed in the Temporary Buildings where we hope they may succeed in doing their worst.

The Student Christian Movement has held three meetings in which Christian topics have been discussed by visiting speakers. That being that, the lot of the other societies is difficult to assess. They flourish still, for their posters drape most of the walls and the shortage of drawing pins often provokes a bulletin of "grave and serious from the Porter's Lodge." But "where was a, where was a Secretary" who would inform the breathless world at large of some of their secrets." Surely they realize how we wait upon their lips and how joyfully we would greet the news that everything is ticking over just so.

## CHARACTERS OF THE DEBATING SOCIETY

C. W. LONG (Secretary).

He tends to speak with some diffidence and prefers to pacify than to make war on other speakers. He has delighted the house with modest quotations from his vast learning. His minutes, compared with those of his predecessor, are a model of objectivity. His apparent meekness is misleading : he rules the Society with a rod of iron.

M.I.W.

R. K. WILSON.

As an expert on gastronomics, he has treated the Society to many a mouth-watering speech. He does not allow motions to get him down, but brings to them his own bonhomie and enjoyment of life. We suspect he distrusts politics.

M.I.W.

M. I. WILLIAMS.

A distinguished speaker who occasionally extracts something relevant from his ramblings. His stern facade hides a keen sense of humour with which he stimulates his well-written outbursts on the Government.

R.K.W.

I. D. M. MORLEY.

A true blue. His attempts to defend the Government are naturally unsuccessful, but we appreciate his generosity of mind. He has been more pictorially than vocally in evidence in the past year.

R. M. SWEENEY.

A really cultured gentleman. He refuses to treat motions in anything but a cynical manner. This manner is often successful, but sometimes provokes the worst in other speakers.



P. N. GARRARD.

A very serious-minded speaker. His massive presence was missed last term, but we expect to hear his careful, lengthy arguments again soon.

N. JOSEPH.

He does not always take matters seriously enough. He is often witty and his criticisms strike home. He is prone to find his own jokes irresistible.

N. M. L. BARNES.

He has difficulty in finding his way about railway catalogues, political pamphlets and other inflammatory documents. He modestly believes he has nothing to say : his audacity in saying it confirms us in this opinion.

The following gentlemen have also spoken : P. C. N. VAUGON, J. A. HONEYBONE, R. F. WATERHOUSE, J. A. GOODE, J. N. BROMLEY, N. H. MCBROOM.

## THE SCOUT GROUP

Little has happened. The troops continue to indulge in a wide range of activities with varied efficiency. The Seniors won the Senior Ambulance competition and also organized a realistic firefighter badge test.

Easter camp, which was larger than usual, has been followed by a number of week-end camps in preparation for Summer Camp. The rumours of the personages and scenery of Cornwall have attracted Mitre and Vikings for their Summer Camp, whereas Park Vale and New Troop re-visit an old site at Bettws-y-Coed.

We congratulate D. F. Patrick on gaining his Scout Cord and H. E. Greenway, A. J. Walford, A. C. Waltham, C. F. Jenkins, M. Totty and D. R. Ellison on gaining their first-class badge.

We welcome Mr. Cooper to our band of cheery smiles and brown shorts and we congratulate Mr. Whinnerah on gaining his Wood Badge. Finally we thank Dr. Mayor and the other scouters for their continued enthusiasm.

## THE SCHOOL WEATHER STATION

The School Weather Station is now busily engaged in compiling records of the past nine years in order to produce a summary of K.E.S. weather for our tenth birthday in January, 1957. Next October also holds an anniversary for us : it was five years ago, in 1951, that readings were first sent to the Meteorological Office.

Since our last appearance in THE CHRONICLE, another record has been broken ; on February 2nd the mercury failed to rise above 21°F., the previous lowest maximum was in February, 1947 (24°F.).

The weather to date in 1956 has been very dry, the year's total rainfall so far being the lowest on record for five months, although no monthly records have been established for dryness. There have been no droughts yet.

R. H. DARLSTON,  
*Senior School Meteorologist.*

## THE LIBRARY

Although there has been a small decline in the number of tickets held by members of the School, the total official issue of library books has been greater in number than that of last year. We hope that with the wide selection of books now being continually added to the library the circulation will continue to increase. Those who use the library are again asked to return books to their proper places on the shelves.

The Library has been greatly enriched by the donations of generous benefactors. In particular we are sincerely thankful for the gifts of books by Siward James, Esq., O.E. and Governor, W. Roberts, Esq., G. G. Hoare, Esq., O.E., Rev. H. R. Chaffer, O.E., Major G. C. B. Hawes, O.E., L. G. Brandon, Esq., T. W. Hutton, Esq., O.E., R. M. Genders, Esq., O.E. (Father Anselm, C.R.), and N. Loveridge, Esq. It is also pleasing to note that boys leaving School are presenting books to the Library to commemorate (or perhaps atone for) their stay at this place. This valuable habit has now become well established.

It remains for me to thank all the Library Staff who resolve order out of chaos every day of the week, and especially to Mr. Blount, who sets an example to us all by his efficient direction.

I. N. TURNER,  
*School Librarian.*

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS' APPOINTMENTS BUREAU SHORT WORKS COURSE EASTER, 1956

The Public Schools' Appointments Bureau held a short works course at the diesel engine factory of Messrs. Mirlees, Bickerton and Day, Ltd., Stockport, during the Easter vacation, 1956. Together with boys from Hull and Newcastle, I was fortunate to gain experience and an insight into the running and working of a large modern factory.

The course included visits to all branches of the factory, work both in the apprentice school and on the automatic machines, and a glimpse of the union and the administrative side of the works. I learned how engines are contracted for through the administration block, made piece by piece in the factory, and finally distributed to every corner of the world.

It was fascinating to see large steel monsters taking shape on a unique assembly line basis, taking shape from mere metal bars and rough forgings, and growing into immense, powerful engines, correct to the designers' specification to one-thousandth of an inch. Mirlees engines are used for a variety of purposes among which are marine propulsion, traction, and the generation of electricity. Development is the main theme of the factory and it has made a very long step from the third ever three-cylinder oil diesel engine to the massive sixteen-cylinder engines of the present, which run on natural gas.

My thanks are due to Mr. Hirst, the personnel manager, for his fine organization of the course, despite a three-day strike, and for the ideal accommodation he provided, and to Mr. Ballance for his help and advice throughout. I look forward to another course this summer, at English Electric Ltd., Stafford, and would advise other members of the school to take advantage of the valuable facilities of the Bureau. N.H.M.

## BLACK FOREST : RAMBLES

An oddly assorted little group emerged from the Central Y.M.C.A. The faces, not surprisingly, rather drawn ; an unaccustomed weight lay on the shoulders and the small of the back—while the clothing was nothing if not in the best " casual " tradition. Liverpool Street Station is not a romantic spot even as the first junction on the highway to the Continent, and this morning we had foregone breakfast to get there on time—a drastic measure which seemed to torment one of us throughout the trip.

Going towards Harwich is usually a peaceful experience if the eyes are closed to the horrors of most Englishmen's castles, but to-day one Y.H.A. card innocent, unsullied, and unstamped, still rested on the mantelpiece at home. Once aboard the boat there were two vital activities to be pursued. First a persistent gnawing had to be alleviated and secondly we sought a little haven out of the sea breeze which threatened cold and frost to every marrow-string vest or no. Both missions completed satisfactorily. Apart from the desperate search for an inaccessible and crumpled passport the crossing to Hook of Holland proved uneventful—but then the water was as still as a German beer. The brief business of stamping, questioning, marking, and forcing entry to the Lorelei Express were all completed rapidly and with a ruthless efficiency remarkable for such a sleepy group.

Most memorable is the picture of a thin eager little hiker festooned with proficiency badges, supporting an enormous framed rucksack bulging with pairs of corduroy shorts and innumerable hair shirts, to whom " the Continent " was place to scan from the highest peak, who was convinced that no hostel would welcome us without a card or photograph. May his passport remain unmarked.

Food was beginning to figure largely in our reckoning and because our arrival in Freiburg was destined to be at 5-30 next morning we agreed to eat well on the train. It is perfectly easy to decide such a course, even to go so far as to enquire at the restaurant car, but fate usually rears an ugly head in time to make things difficult. The dinner bell supposed to ring throughout the far reaches of the train must have been strangled, nay garrotted at birth, for we heard nothing and by this time one of our party was giving it his full attention. Then we were asked to wait for the next sitting—in fact, of course, there was only one sitting. Suspecting this advice we made another recce to hear the shattering statement that it was too late. Incredulously we inquired again to learn that by a swift flanking attack they might be surprised into providing for us before the frontier could be reached. We leapt up, staggered along the corridor and met two uniformed officials who promptly ordered us back to the carriage. Eventually they arrived to stamp each passport with extreme care. The Dining Car was reached and before us we discovered easily the best-cooked, best-served and most enjoyable meal I have ever enjoyed on a train.

Freiburg offered us neither rest nor comfort, but the first glimpse of post-war Germany was still impressive. Much of the town had been rebuilt, and the design was clean and strong—quite a change from Liverpool Street. Our blonde and handsome friend eagerly revealed his

two great delights : The University and the Cathedral. The University was firmly locked, but the Cathedral soon appeared on the horizon, marked by an interesting spire constructed completely of carved stone. The interior was not wholly impressive, because the gilt and colour of the carvings and altar seemed shoddy and rather gaudy. However, the memory of one beautiful stained window depicting the death of George's Dragon remains most vivid. We saw many Churches in Germany of different eras and tastes, but in general the simplicity of the village Chapels or the grandeur of St. Blasen Cathedral with its great dome and strong, rounded, pillars seemed finer than the great works of Rococo and Baroque. Flamboyant carving, gilded iron work, and small grotto-like confession boxes did not bear close inspection.

English Youth Hostels have always been a closed book, but if we had known that luxury in the shape of a private room, a soft mattress, a bright red eiderdown and a gullible proprietor is the very essence of these places, their doors would enjoy constant visitation. Each hostel offered new delights of a different kind. In one the food was splendid and the mice extremely friendly, in another, hot water was often available, another we found was a recently converted hotel and our last hostel supplied unlimited amounts of macaroni, enough for a factory of string underwear. Of course, to find these hostels is the difficulty, for the Black Forest is densely wooded and deeply laden with snow. One of our number was permanently cutting his way through chest-high drifts of snow, bitterly complaining that the puddles at home were comparatively shallow ; while, fortunately, we had brought our own abominable snowman destined to scare away most beasts of prey with his horrifying "chasmatic plunges" from one Gasthaus to the next. In general, though, our luck may safely be said to have been in, for whenever it was raining we found ourselves surrounded by bus shelters and whenever we were hungry menus literally strewed our route. On one splendid occasion we set out from the City of St. Blasen for our next hostel kilometers distant with a whole day ahead of us, carefully studied the map, walked vigorously along a main road, turned off on to a pathway, struggled up the forest slopes and followed the largest available path, confident of our navigatory skill. An hour or so later we began to search eagerly for the next village—the next bend perhaps, another slope possibly—ah, there it is. And there it certainly was—for a large green dome had emerged from the mists beneath us as we hurriedly descended into St. Blasien in time for the bus to the next night's lodging.

Our last four days were spent on the top floor of an ex-nunnery owned by Dr. Kurt Hahn who had left literally everything at our disposal. A wonderful ex-German Officer acted as our guide and companion and he revealed a compendous knowledge of the country around the Boder-See. In a short time we visited a monastery, an eighth century castle, innumerable famous Churches and many towns along the Lake. The kindness and politeness of all the Germans impressed us tremendously and we liked their country equally. The return to England was swift but then Liverpool Street Station haunts the unwary traveller, with its mists, dirt and Dickenson gloom, who dares to use its rusty gates as an escape to foreign pleasures.



## OUTWARD BOUND

On the morning of Saturday, March 31st, four healthy and fit scholars of King Edward's left for the Outward Bound Sea School at Aberdovey. Two returned.

A normal day started at 6-30 when we had a run followed by a cold shower, during which most of us were roused to full consciousness. A few memories that will not be erased :

The three-day mountain hike, and the transport that did not arrive.

Trying to cook on the swinging stove of the "Golden Valley," and the well-fed seagulls flying astern.

The day that the canoes took off in the wind and launched themselves.

The thirty-five mile hike over Cader Idris (2,927-ft. all the way from sea level).

The books that we hopefully took.

The realistic lecture on first-aid, when several of the audience required treatment.

Navigation over mountains in the clouds.

Activities after lights out, especially the morning our instructors returned at 3-30. Their arrival was heralded by a series of exploding booby traps.

Helping the captain's daughter with her homework.

The miserably cold and wet job of fire-fighting.

The unfortunate victim who, on descending from a great height, missed the fireman's blanket.

The unpronounceable Welsh names, Bwlch Farm, Tyddyn Gwilym and Cwm Dyffryn.

Discovering that a Welsh mile is nearly 6,000 yards.

In spite of less welcome souvenirs—sunburn, blisters, bruises and aching muscles—we enjoyed it.

T.D.A.

*Expression* : a part of a complete poem,

### " THE SOUL'S DESIRE "

The dumb, unable to express what they desire,  
Are sucked by inability into a mire  
Where souls, consumed by that which they most dearly will'd,  
(For souls exist to urge desire to be fulfilled),  
Cry out aloud at last, only when they are killed.  
But those whose faculties enable them to cry  
Aloud what they desire, and let the chance pass by  
Not through their laziness, but inability  
To break the throttling grip that chokes invisibly,  
Are damned in life, not to inactive sucking mire,  
But to the throbbing pain of all-consuming fire  
That sears the soul. No pain's as deep as that which comes  
When richest feeling cries, but ragged voice is dumb.  
Ambition, love of peace or truth, are badly dressed  
Unless with clear and pungent phrase they are expressed.

N.J.



## LAKE DISTRICT VISIT, JANUARY, 1956

This is the second year that Mr. Benett has organized a party to the Lake District which has stayed at the rambling but impressive Monk Coniston House.

We began the week's work with a fast climb up the Old Man of Coniston.

Clouds confined Wednesday's work to low-level walking ; hoping they would clear by the next day, Mr. Benett decided on a very pleasant trip to Esthwaite water and the well known beauty spot called The Tarns.

Thursday morning was spent in rock scrambling up Yewdale Crag. Much of the surface was wet and slippery, and several retreats were sounded. In the afternoon, Wetherlam was climbed.

On Saturday, after a day's rest, the fast and slow parties combined for an assault on Crinkle Crag and the Pike of Bliscoe. That evening, Mr. Benett told us a ghost story to celebrate the Twelfth night after Christmas (in point of fact, we suspect it was the thirteenth). This was a huge success, despite sundry unexpected noises off, and the appearance of a boy tied up in a sheet who denied that he was Father Christmas.

The last day snow was on the ground and the sun in the sky. Mr. Whinnerah led both parties for a climb, which culminated in a breathtaking tramp up a ridge to the Old Man, with a wind of about 50 m.p.h. striking us from the left. Several people were blown down, and a sou-wester disappeared into space.

It remains now to thank Mr. Benett and Mr. Whinnerah very sincerely for the hard work and trouble they put into organizing a most enjoyable expedition.

I.D.M.M.—R.T.C.

## NAVY ON THE BROADS

Once again the Naval Section paid its annual visit to the Broad in the Easter holidays. The "fleet" consisted of Belvior I and Tantivies I and II, with their commanders, Mr. Weatherall, Mr. McGawley and K. W. Masters.

As in previous years the cruise started from Wayford Bridge, but owing to the lack of water, Horning and Wroxham were visited instead of Hickling Broad. The other "ports" of call were Thurne Mouth, Potter Heigham, Horsey Mere, Ranworth, Ludham and Barton Broad.

This year we were fortunate with wind and weather, but the flagship was unlucky to incur several minor disasters, including the tearing of her mainsail. The Tantivies were not however completely unscathed ; one planing along the bank for fifty yards while the other, endeavouring to get "gunnels under" succeeded so well that water poured into the cockpit. One gentleman was afterwards forced to wear his father's golfing trousers for a few days. The cruise was a very happy one, thanks in no small measure to Mr. Weatherall's humour, and it is our hope that he and Mr. McGawley enjoyed themselves as much as we did.

P.F.W. K.W.M.

## C.C.F. NAVAL CAMP, 1955

Annual training was held at Harwich in Essex on board coastal minesweepers of the Royal Navy. Thirty cadets attended. Sub-Lt.

McGawley arranged for cadets to be allocated to ships that were preparing to put to sea. On Monday, we began to adapt ourselves to life in the Navy, and performed with great gusto the traditional practice of swabbing decks. Lectures were given on the basic principles of minesweeping by officers of the ships.

The following day, our knowledge was tested practically when everyone put to sea and had the "sweeps" out. Complicated apparatus for dealing with moored and magnetic mines is towed astern of the ships whilst acoustic mines, which are exploded by the tremors of an approaching vessel, are dealt with in a different manner. More noise is made so that the vessel is "heard" a good deal farther away, causing the mine to explode sooner. Practical experience was obtained in minesweeping and ship steering for two days on both inshore and coastal minesweepers, but on Thursday flotilla manoeuvres were carried out. So far the weather had been fine, but on the last day, the wind freshened and the sea became quite rough. H.M.S. *Highburton* and H.M.S. *Darlaston* put to sea, the latter on a courtesy visit for the night to Burnham-on-Crouch. The "sweeps" were out for the last time and the effects of the weather were already being felt. It must be reported that the sea claimed more victims; four hats were inadvertently lost before the gale drove us back to harbour. Meanwhile other cadets were sailing and pulling on the river.

We left Harwich on the Saturday morning after a week's enjoyable camp, during which time a great deal was seen of one of the more varied and interesting aspects of the Royal Navy.

D.A.Y.

### SNOWDONIA, EASTER, 1956

On Monday, 9th April, a party of nine members of Sci. Division II, with Mr. Kent and Dr. Allison, arrived at the Christian Endeavour Holiday Home, Plas-y-Nant at the foot of Snowdon.

All of us were soon caught up in the unique spirit of this picturesque house in the hills and were quickly made to feel at home, taking part in physical, religious and social activities alike. We immediately made friends with a mixed party from Wallasey, and for most of the week, we climbed with them.

On the Tuesday, we squelched home like drowned rats after climbing Cynicht, a hill not far away.

On Thursday we climbed Tryfan. It was a wonderful scramble to the summit, and one that will remain engraved in both our memories and knees for many years to come.

The next day turned out to be cold and misty, but nevertheless, we started up the Pyg Track on Snowdon. Having eventually managed to find our way up Crib Goch, despite fog, compasses, maps and precipices, we set out along the ridge towards Snowdon. This ridge has to be seen to be believed; however, with a two thousand foot drop on either side of us, and the ridge narrowing almost to a knife edge in places, we somehow managed to grope our way to the café at the summit of Y Wyddfa.

Back at the home, good use was made of the tennis court, table tennis flourished in the "Rec," and the traditional "down and up" was appreciated by most of our party.

We all wish to thank Mr. Kent for organizing such an unforgettable holiday, and "Doc" for constantly keeping us smiling. We hope to go back again next year.

B.H.S.

## MARINE BIOLOGY COURSE, BORTH

For the past three years a party of boys has visited Borth, in Wales, to study Marine Biology. This year the course lasted from April 16th to April 21st. The party stayed at the Youth Hostel where the dining room was converted into a laboratory. Now that the course has become established it is divided into two separate courses, an elementary and an advanced.

For the boys who are doing field work for the first time, the elementary course introduces ecology (the study of the way in which plants and animals live together), with particular reference to marine biology. The general routine each day consists in an introductory lecture by Mr. Dodds, followed by collecting expeditions on the rocks, which extend round the cliffs towards Aberystwyth. The collecting expeditions can only be undertaken while the rocks are exposed at low tide and so the lecture is sometimes given after specimens have been collected. The most suitable time to study marine biology is at the periods of maximum spring tides. During the spring tides the rocks are completely exposed so that specimens which are found only at the extreme low tide mark can be collected and classified.

After the collecting expeditions, the "catch" is brought back to the Youth Hostel, sorted out, classified, and studied.

The distribution of life varies on the sea shore because at the high tide mark animals and plants tend to be exposed much longer than those lower down the shore, and they are liable to lose water readily. Therefore, only those plants and animals which conserve water, e.g., the sea-weed, Channelled Wrack (*Pelvetia canaliculata*), and periwinkles (*Littorina neritoides*), are found high up on the shore, whereas lower down on the shore where they are rarely exposed are mussels, *Mytilus edulis*, and Serrated Wrack (*Fucus serratus*). Accordingly, this year a transect was done by those on the elementary course to show the gradation of animals and plants down the sea shore from the high to the low tide level. It is performed by stretching a cord down the sea shore and recording the animals and plants found every six feet. A graph is drawn and from this the zonation of the shore is seen.

The advanced course was divided into two parts. Under the guidance of Mr. Woods the chemistry of the sea was first studied, while the last days were spent in studying the salt marsh.

To study the chemistry of the sea, samples of sea water were collected and experiments were performed to discover oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations in the water. Oxygen is essential for animal life and the concentration of it regulates animal life. Similarly carbon dioxide is essential for photosynthesis—the method by which plants build up their carbohydrates and other foods. Thus the study of the concentration of the gases dissolved in sea water is important to the biologist. The samples of water are collected by using an apparatus called Winkler's apparatus. This ensures that the water collected has only the gases originally dissolved in it, and none from the air, which might dissolve during collection using other apparatus. The samples are collected from rock pools on the upper, mid- and low-tide marks as well as from the open sea. From

the results the gradation of oxygen and carbon dioxide concentration is shown. Other experiments were performed to discover the salinity and temperature of sea water.

The highlight of this part of the course was the experiments carried out from a motor boat on the open sea. When we were about three miles from the shore the engine was stopped. Samples of water were taken from the surface and from seven fathoms so that oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations and the salinity could be found back in the laboratory. The variation of temperature at different depths and the depth to which light penetrated was found. Recordings of the results were made and were studied in the laboratory. These results are recorded because both light and temperature are important factors for the growth of animals and, more especially, plants. Light is essential for photosynthesis and if the temperature is too low certain animals will not live in the water.

This year, for the first time, dredging was carried out from the boat. The dredge was lowered from about 150 yards of steel cable and dragged very slowly along the bottom, which we discovered was very sandy, and therefore had little animal or plant life. This was probably because the dredging was done towards the Dovey estuary, where fresh water mingled with the incoming sea water. However, we found heart urchins (*Echinocardium cordatum*) which generally are less common than the common sea urchin (*Echinus esculentus*), none of which were found. Starfish (*Asterias rubens*), brittle stars (*Ophiothrix fragilis*) and a few fish such as plaice, dabs and devil fish were also caught. Several dredgings were made but only the above specimens were found. In the estuary stones predominated in the "catch" but a few mussels (*Mytilus edulis*) were caught.

On the salt marsh a transect was performed and the marked gradation of the plants was seen. The gradation is caused by the high percentage of salt and lack of water on the salt marsh. The plants low down on the salt marsh, such as glasswort (*Salicornia*) and rice grass (*Spartina*), have a high percentage of salt but those at the top of the marsh are rarely covered by sea water and have a lower salt content. The sea rush (*Juncus maritima*) is such a plant.

Specimens were collected and brought back to the laboratory for identification and for experiments on osmotic pressure. This year a result for the osmotic pressure of a salt marsh plant was obtained by placing sections of the root of the plant into molar solutions of sugar. The isotonic solution, i.e., the one in which the osmotic pressure of the solution and the root cells is the same, was found to be between one and one-and-a-half molar. Thus the osmotic pressure of the plant is about thirty atmospheres.

From the results of the three courses a fairly comprehensive knowledge of the ecological situation at Borth has been gained. Now that the course is an established feature of the Biological Department, experience will ensure that future courses will achieve results of increasing scientific value. We must thank Mr. Dodds and Mr. Woods for all their hard work. The course was an enjoyable and a beneficial one. F.K.H.



## GRASSHOLM

An emerald set in a shimmering sea,  
Glinting green capped in the sun,  
Slipping smoothly from the waves,  
Sheers up from banks of curling foam.  
    And where the water licks upon the rock  
    A gleaming weed-fringed shelf runs  
    Down into the swell, and here  
    A foothold can first be found  
    While the boat grates amid the sand,  
    And azure skies blink heavily from languid brows.  
The hypnotic air hangs motionless  
Between heaven and sea, sleeping seal-like  
In the coves,  
And one by one the gannets plummet down  
Dropping their dizzy way like  
Silver daggers from the clouds.  
    A breeze whips up the wrinkled water,  
    Mist steals silently towards the land,  
    The sunlight flickers, the greenness blurs  
    Into the haze, and Grassholm

is gone.

P.J.D.

## THE PAINTINGS AT LASCAUX

The guide book had said, "These beginnings of pictorial art in Western Europe, discovered in 1940, must not be missed": and determined not to miss them, I accordingly set out on my bicycle from the town of Montignac, Dordogne, with every feeling of anticipation.

In common with many others in France the tourist-minded signpost in the town had greatly underestimated the distance to the caves. A precise "1.5 km." turned out to be a good two miles. Not that it was unpleasant! There were many things of interest up the winding road—among them swarming ants' nests, and a huge spider's cocoon hung high in a swaying fir-tree.

Streaming with perspiration and having had about as much as I could stand of bicycle pushing, I saw the end of the road: through a grove of sweetly-scented pine trees lay a path, prefixed by the terse inscription "Aux grottes."

About twenty yards further on from a rose-covered cottage was a hole in the ground approached by fifteen concrete steps. At the bottom was a copper door, fit for a bank safe. A notice announced the afternoon's opening to be from 2-0 p.m. to 6-0 p.m. There were, so I thought in my ignorance, just five minutes to go.

Later in the afternoon, as I was about to leave to search for someone, a party of five Americans arrived and sat down. They were delighted when I offered to search, for it appeared they had just come some two hundred miles by car. As they had been in Europe since early January, they hardly knew, or cared where they were; most American tourists are like that.

On arriving back at the entrance after a fruitless search of twenty minutes, I was surprised to find the guide selling tickets: needless to say, he had just arrived from the opposite direction. Once inside he displayed



his lamentable lack of psychological insight by offering to his angry and impatient party a selection of Cave postcards. He had little success : we had come to see the paintings themselves.

The lighting of the caves was designed to put the wind up the bravest of tourists. While the pictures on the walls and roof were thrown into brilliance, the floor, covered in steps and trip wires as it was, was in complete darkness. Then began the unfolding, in a most outlandish dialect, of the mysteries of the cave. All the paintings we could see were done in two colours, red and black, salts of iron and manganese respectively, both of which were found in the district. "Wonder they didn't get no steel" an elderly American murmured.

The paintings themselves were very large ; one huge bull was fifteen feet long. Other animals were bison, deer, antelopes, cows, horses and boars. Many of them were pictured pierced with barbed arrows : others were facing grilles which are presumed to have been traps. One horse was depicted upside down because it was the hunters' practice to get the horses excited and then to drive them over cliffs, when they could be killed. Thousands of horses hooves have been discovered at the base of one precipice in the area. Some of the animals are painted with distended stomachs as the hunters hoped they would have young when captured.

We looked at hundreds of these paintings for half-an-hour and were assured that there were many more in the caverns below. In spite of the fact that they are so vivid, the paintings give the impression of being genuine, as their colours are eaten into the rock. When I left I had a much greater knowledge of prehistory and a reverence for those men of long ago who, with daub and clay, were able to fashion images that were not only functional (for magic), but are comparable in artistic quality with much that is produced to-day. G.K.

## A MODERN FAUST : MONOLOGUE OF THE LUCKY WINNER

### An Extract

But I have played a dim, ill-planned charade.  
The only thing worth more than a man's soul  
I've coolly scorned. I bore the sponge of gall.  
My death, you'll say, with morning tea, was sad.

I even see you yawn and gladly go  
To sleep : and my dumb coffin swinging slow  
At night. A childsmare screen of living fire,  
The pitch-forked devil with green eyes. Ill health,  
You'll muse : screw the eye inward on yourself  
And see the hypocrite gasp in the mire,  
And struggle, and his ordained place deny.  
Oh, why don't you too try to be yourself ?  
That old, dull, incorrupt financier.  
Spy on *your* sparrow soul rehearsing those  
Immortal postures you think fancier  
And see my fate. Then you will see what blows  
Through Heaven and how a man should die : with a cry  
Terrible as dark between stars, unless  
He loves a greater thing in lowliness.

G.O.M.

## THE SILVER CITY

Aberdeen, the silver city, lies on the North-East coast of Scotland. With a single large street, Union Street, and an ordered warren of smaller side streets, it is compactly contained between the Don and the Dee.

An ancient University, the most northerly in Britain, serving the whole of the Highlands, and a fishing trade which has flourished for generations, are the main features of the city.

But there are two things which strike the visitor from England more forcibly. The first is the Aberdonian state of mind, and the second is the wind, cold and biting, which howls around the grey granite houses.

Aberdeen granite is famous throughout the world, the Opera House in Paris is built of it, and the quarrying of it in a hole now 400-ft. deep, is an ancient practice. This grey granite of which the whole city is built, gives an impression of cold cleanliness, totally lacking in all other British cities.

The Aberdonian is a thrifty Scot, who will get off the bus a stop before it is most convenient, if it saves him a half-penny. This thriftiness has broken the hearts of ministers not brought up in Aberdeen, whose main ambition to have the congregation sitting up the pulpit steps is quite likely to be fulfilled, but whose financial state is never likely to be comfortable. He disguises his public houses under the name of snack-bars, and drinks his faintly salty beer with a furtive air, for fear he should be noticed by an elder of his Church, or possibly his mother-in-law. The bus companies are understanding, they have frequent bus stops and double their services on Sundays, just before 11-0.

The Church is an institution in Aberdeen, as throughout Scotland, which it is difficult for an Englishman to envisage. Most people go to Church. This, in itself, is something never achieved south of the border, and in addition to regular attendance at, at least, one service on Sunday, a conscientious man, or woman, will sing in the choir or organize youth activities or a mothers' union. The fabrics of Scottish churches too are different. For the most part they have been built within the last hundred years, and this comparative newness, together with the urge to differ from the Episcopalian Church as much as possible has led to the building of large airy structures, with plaster walls, few elaborate pews and little stained glass. In Aberdeen, however, the one exception to this general principle, is the Cathedral Church of St. Machar, which dates from the thirteenth century, and has several fine stained glass windows. Even so it manages to appear undecorated, and bare when compared with an English Church.

The University of Aberdeen is ancient, founded in the fifteenth century. It is divided into two parts, one in New Aberdeen, and now more or less centrally placed, called Marischal College (F. 1593) and the other in the tranquil environment of Old Aberdeen some two miles away, King's College (founded 1499). To the latter is attached King's College Chapel, famous throughout Scotland.

The cobbled streets, the trams, and the Scots police in black and white chequer-board hats are all noticeable ; and so, always, is the wind.

The promenade, a windswept, unsheltered drive above the sands and the sea is long, while behind it lie the City Golf Links, and Pittodrie Park, the home of Aberdeen football.

My final impressions of Aberdeen as I stood on the road which leads to Dunbar and thence to Edinburgh, as the sun set behind the big Fells inland, were of its compactness, and as I watched the innumerable Church spires fade into obscurity, of its apparent cleanliness, and always the wind, blowing away the smoke to the sea.

A.N.B.D.

### ESTUARY AT DAWN

The dawn was lightening in the eastern sky  
When, on the marshes rang the cry  
Of grey-brown plovers, flying near the ground,  
In from the sea, and for the river bound.  
They wheeled, their white wings flashing in the light,  
And vanished by a bank, out of my sight.

I moved, and saw them standing on the edge  
Of muddy sand, among the grass and sedge.  
With darting beaks their crawling prey they chased,  
And sometimes two for one poor insect raced.

But all too soon they saw : with anxious song  
A screaming gull announced me to the throng,  
Which, whistling, rose and o'er the river heeled,  
To fly away to some more secret field.

R.S.B.

### THE EIGHTH WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE, NIAGARA ON THE LAKE, CANADA, 18th-28th AUGUST, 1955

At 9-30 p.m. on the 9th of August, three members of the school, two from the Birmingham contingent and one from the Warwickshire Scouts, took off from London Airport on a journey which was to take us some 10,000 miles in three weeks. We made a bad start. We were two-and-a-half hours late taking off and were being diverted to the Azores to avoid a hurricane—and we took eight hours getting there during which time we were served with a meal. Having successfully avoided our hurricane, we touched down in the Azores in the middle of an electric storm, which made landing a tricky operation, and we were immediately served with another meal (pine-apple and fried eggs) while the plane was being refuelled. Landing at Gander after a very bumpy twelve hours, we were served with dinner. It wasn't, apparently, a trip for the squeamish stomach. On the last leg of the journey, strong head-winds and a remarkable tendency for all the passengers to congregate in the tail at the same time did drastic things to our air-speed and, counting the diversion to the Azores, we landed at Toronto seven hours late.

Our flying over, we now had a week to await the arrival of a thousand other scouts from Britain before the Jamboree started, and we spent it

with Canadian families in the suburbs of Toronto. On some days the local scout authorities had arranged entertainments for us, and on other days our hosts took us out to see the sights. On the Saturday, the hurricane which we had so skilfully avoided, arrived. Well . . . we think we get some rain in England, but we get nothing like this ! It was impossible to see across the road, and with the gale as well, it was dangerous to go outside at all. At the Jamboree site fifty of the two hundred tents were blown down in one night.

On August 18th we took leave of our hosts and went down to the quay to board the boat which carried us over the Lake to the camp site. We arrived at mid-day. Already a large number of scouts had arrived and, as we found out, appropriated all the pioneering wood. We, however, with our English sense of perspective, turned our attention to more important matters. We had dinner. We didn't bother about the pioneering wood, which wasn't there anyway. We argued : if it's all gone, it's no good worrying about it, is it ? So we didn't. There was nothing like being prepared.

On Friday and Saturday, however, we did start to set up camp, though it was hot work. Throughout the Jamboree it was tropical : the average daily temperature was about 95°F., with a maximum of 98°F. and at night the temperature rarely fell below 85°F. On the Saturday afternoon the opening ceremony took place, conducted by the Governor General of Canada, Mr. Vincent Massey, but the grandeur of the occasion was marred somewhat by the failure of the loudspeaker system to function. We didn't hear a word he said. Our main occupation at the time was carving up ice-cubes to suck since the temperature was 98°F. in the shade and 118°F. out of it. After the Jamboree had been declared open, there was a march-past of all the scouts.

Sunday also was very hot. We assembled for Church Parade at 10-15 and marched to the Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake, where the service was conducted by three bishops and relayed to us all outside : a very impressive gathering. The next two days were spent in visiting scouts from other countries in neighbouring camps, and we needed the full two days to find our way around, so vast was the Jamboree. The British display on Tuesday evening was of a suitable magnitude and, by all accounts, the best one in the whole week.

If you remember the heat you will be able to judge how much we were looking forward to our only swimming parade. We had lunch early and quickly boarded the buses which were to take us to the "beach." Once there, there was put into operation the most elaborate set of safety precautions ever designed, not only to save a man from drowning but in addition, it seemed, to dissuade him from entering the water at all. After our briefing, we plunged in like some intrepid underwater explorers, in the grim knowledge that all the perils of the deep were congregating in vast malevolent numbers just below the surface. The water was barely two feet deep.

Another day we visited the Falls. We left the camp-site in a convoy of sixty coaches and swept through the neighbouring peach-orchards till our first stop at the Brock monument. We first saw the Falls from above, from Burning Heights, and we looked down on to a steaming cauldron of boiling spray and vapour : an awesome sight. Later we



went right down below the Falls themselves, into the glistening tunnels, or out along the Rainbow Bridge and over into the States for a few seconds. This was one of our most memorable days.

Another was memorable for a different reason : we had to get up at 3-30 a.m. in order to reach the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto in time for the march-past before Lord Rowallan. After a one-and-a-half hour parade we were given the rest of the day to relax in Toronto and were back in camp across the Lake by 11-0 p.m.

Saturday was the last day of the Jamboree, and we woke up to a wet world, for it had rained heavily during the night and a lot of our kit was soaked. The closing ceremony was the only bright spot in a day of drying and packing. Sunday sped by as we left camp and crossed the lake to spend a night with our hosts in Toronto, and Monday morning really did mean the end. Our Transatlantic crossing was spent mostly in sleep, but it appeared that four of our party, including the S.M. and the A.S.M., hadn't had enough even on arrival in London, for they managed to miss the train at Paddington after crossing half Canada and the Atlantic twice without missing so much as a meal. We did eventually arrive in Birmingham all complete, after an adventure that will always remain fresh in our minds.

N.J.W.

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## MORNING IN VERSAILLES

As we journeyed through the long day with the sun slipping away from sight to the south and reddening in the corner of our eyes, the sky grew sullen, more industrial. There was no industry hidden away in these cold dripping corn-lands, but, as our driver had said, in his logical way, Brittany was a holiday, Paris was work and civilization again. (He had stopped on the road to change his shorts to a sober suit.) And for him of course, the weather was right : it was a return to reality. All the sunshine drained out of the day as we neared Versailles, and the long flat road and the broad flat fields stretched in front, and to the side, wherever you looked, was flatness ; and when, once in a while, you would turn round to exchange a word with a companion behind, there, staring at you like a sullen dog through a window, was the same flat greyness and the tired wet cornfields to the side. Even the excitement of the twin spires at Chartres, which we had seen eight miles away across the swaying crops, was behind us. Now there was only Versailles, and beyond—Paris.

Only Paris. But first we must meet in Versailles, and it was breathlessly that we said an inadequate good-bye to our driver for six hours and two hundred miles, and strode out across the Place as the last gold streaks slanted down on the Palace's new gates.

It is a strange thing to come a two days' journey to meet familiar friends in unfamiliar surroundings. This is a new thing in their experience, as it is in yours, and knowing them so well, it is impossible not to wonder how they think of it. We did not find our friends in Versailles that night, although we moved quietly through the Palace and the Square, until the lamps were lit, and strolled from cafe to cafe in the thickening darkness, pretending that we could not bother about them.

Had they arrived and missed us ? Or would they come tomorrow ? Or were they stranded on some country track in the Loire ? Four hundred miles across a foreign land to meet two people at a street corner : exciting as it is risky, for the success of our Paris sojourn depended on them. That night we must sleep in Versailles. But where ?

Clandestinely, unofficially, an official from the Bureau de Tourisme suggested the wood on the lower slopes of the park, and, happy once more that action was forced upon us by the approach of night, we whistled our noisy way into the Estate of the Roi Soleil. But our whistles fell silent on the cooling Autumn air, and our gaiety was dispelled by the two negroes who moved softly in the trees next the avenue when we went past, and showed no sign of humanity on their dark, hungry faces. Under a railway tunnel a bundle of straw moved and groaned, and the ragged arm of a sleeping tramp fell quietly among the stars and broken glass, as he turned in his sleep. In our tent, we lay listening for the rustle of his step in the leaves, but all night long we heard only the shunting of engines above him.

The morning brought a summer's day, and, later, our friends, but first we passed a sunny two hours in the Gardens of Versailles, reading and eating a disconsolate sweet or two : a concession to England. We sat with the whole broad vista of Versailles laid out before us "like a patient etherised upon a table": at least with the same disarming frankness, and unabashed—and therefore charming—vulgarity. "This is what I must say, and this is how I shall say it," the king must have thought ; "this is the man that I am. You are in no position to criticize either it or me. I did not build it for you, but for me. And it is I who have enjoyed it." You could not help admiring the man who had thought these things, and swept a valley of villages from the face of the earth before his driving egotism : a full man. The vulgarity was the vulgarity of our age, not of his.

But it was not the full man that the trippers from the Pont de Sèvres had come to see that morning, as we sat by a chirping hedge. Slowly, wonderingly, and in whispers, they would emerge, beetlelike, from beneath the great shadow of the building, and stand hesitantly at the top of the steps, and let their dumb gaze steeplechase the long course of lawn and fountain, hedge and forest, to lose itself mistily on the yellow horizon. *Les petits* they would chastise for not admiring the glory that had been France : for this was the epitaph of their civilization, reduced now to the child who played in the pebbles at its foot. Intuitively, they knew it too : they must assert their splendours, lest we forget, but this (they would not acknowledge), is what you *have* been, dear France. All this, this splendour happened once when you had a strong man to lead you and make you cower. Now that you have too many weak ones, you are ruined. It is not the first occasion that a country has fallen in peace-time.

We were sad as we left the Palace, fighting a weary path through the blank eager faces, the searchers after knowledge, the perfume, the pomade, and the crew-cuts ; and I think we even winced as a mahogany finger stubbed a gnarled black Gauloise on the golden railings of the gate.

There across the broad circus of whirling cars, stood the two people we had come to see. But even as we ran towards them, laughing and shouting, we could not forget Versailles and its gaping caretakers.

# CONQUEST OF A MOUNTAIN

## An Extract

### I

Looming giant-like in the sky,  
Towering rigid in the clouds,  
A swinging mass of haughty rock  
Peers down upon mankind.  
And those who feel its rugged blood,  
Feel the throb of superhuman veins,  
Hear its misty voice, and long to break  
Its sullen pride.

### III

Winter was its friend : and the icy gusts  
Of driven snow that sang of distant lands  
Cooled the brow that Summer's sun had warmed.  
But now the calm of solitary thought is blasted  
Far away by cruel steel and weaponed men.  
And where the eagles fledged amid its caves  
The pangs of unfamiliar pain sear through  
To fill the walls of its aethereal den.

P.J.D.

## PEASANTS OF THE DORDOGNE

To the French peasant in South-West France, farming is not merely an occupation ; it is a religion. His body and soul are bound to the soil ; he strives to make it more productive and more beautiful. The difference between farming there and in Britain is like that between lace and canvas. In the Dordogne, every inch of earth is cultivated, no matter how laboriously and painfully : here, where agriculture is governed by the tractor, time and money are the only things counted important, and unprofitable plots are neglected.

Trees play an important part in the rural economy. As well as the normal fruit-trees, apple, pear, plum, cherry and peach, there are fields of tall walnuts neatly planted in shady avenues under which the green corn waves. It is possible to grow the latter because the dark buds of the walnut never break till late April, by which time the corn is a foot high and well on its way.

Besides giving large quantities of nuts, which in turn go for export, or become incorporated in liqueurs or other delicacies, the tree itself gives a most valuable and beautiful wood of which all the peasants' furniture is made. Not a splinter of soft wood was used in the construction of the old houses, and even their furniture is made of this priceless timber.

The peasant is very conservative in his use of flowers. Of these there are only two genera, grown in pots or painted oil drums. The first of these is the pansy, which is certainly grown phenomenally well in all colours. And the second is a riotous multitude of cactus. Every cottage

in the quieter villages has at least forty pots of these, belonging like the kitchen table, to the household. And they are brought out to bask in the summer sun, resting on tiers of planks. The "Christmas flowering cacti" of our living rooms is grown there in pots a yard across with about thirty scarlet flowers on each plant. This alone proves that some of these are heirlooms dating back for generations.

Since they are far more economical than a tractor, the peasant makes use of oxen. Their "fuel" is produced locally and therefore cheaply and they produce manure (invaluable for the vines)—unlike the tractor. There are hardly any hedges, for the simple reason that livestock does not come out untended. It is much better to keep the cattle indoors and to carry the hay into them because of the amount they would otherwise spoil by trampling on it. Thus cows are seen in the late evening or early morning browsing along the verges attended by very old women or extremely young children.

As well as being planted on practically all the hillsides, vines are trained on almost all sides of the house, having a standard stock about ten feet high which each year sends prolific shoots, long and shady, out over wire-stretched frames. These keep the house cooler and provide, of course, wine for the family.

The peasant farmer never ploughs up his pastures : these are just left to themselves, seedling trees and such being pulled out. At first thought, one would suspect this to be a flaw in their seemingly perfect system, but on reflection it is logical to assume that cows find a one-grass hay as monotonous and nauseating as the mythical Scotsman would find his porridge and haggis. There is, probably, no flaw in their system ; it is the best-kept farmland in the world. But only at the terrible cost to the peasants of devoting *all* their time and intelligence to the land, with the result that the men shout in their speech as they would to oxen and the women are old and wrinkled by the age of forty.

G.K.

## ON SEEING INTO THE LIFE OF THINGS

I have a lad of but five years,  
Not six years old is he.  
It is our wont to go for walks,  
My little lad and me.

One morn we plied our busy trail,  
We plied it at an amble.  
We watched the bounding lambs, we saw  
The little bounders gambol.

Tired with our sport, ay, tired was he,  
My little lad of five  
Cried " Father dear, look here at me,  
I've found a humble hive."



"I cannot tell, I do not know,  
But this is strange," said I,  
"My filial son, my Esthwaite, say  
Found you it, or did I?"

At this my lad palpably gulped,  
His tears poured forth in gushes ;  
At my stern intervention he  
Hid himself in the bushes.

Amid yon tuft of hazel trees  
I saw my Esthwaite lurk.  
"Come forth, my son, my lad, come forth,  
The Truth you cannot shirk.

Come, for, inveterately convolved,  
The dark clouds 'gin to lower ;  
We shall be caught, we shall get wet,  
Look lad, a very shower."

The lad came forth, and hung his head,  
(Glad heart, though countenance burn)  
Just as the rain streamed out the sky  
From the celestial Urn.

For I had found the hive myself ;  
My lad had told a lie.  
But Nature taught him truth to tell,  
In bush, and tree, and sky.

(Kindly reprinted from the anthology "Let's Explore Wordsworth" !  
edited by Wynfrey Godde. Shoddy Nook Press, 5s.)

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## OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The Editor begs to acknowledge receipt of the following :

*The Achimotan, The Arrow, The Barrovian, The Blundellian, The Bristol Grammar School Chronicle, Britannia, The Bromsgrovian, City of London School Magazine, The Coventrian, The Denstonian, The Edwardian (Bath), The Edwardian (Nuneaton), The Edwardian (Stourbridge), The Elizabethan (Darlington), The Holt School Magazine, The Magazine of King Edward VII School, Johannesburg, The Leamingtonian, The Leys Fortnightly, The Liverpool College Magazine, The Log (Hobart), The Radleian, The Veseyan, The Wolstantian, The Wrekinian, The Wykehamist.*

## 117

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(Signed) J. C. ROBERTS, *Hon. Treasurer.*

N. R. KITE

H. M. J. RAMSHAW

*Hon.*

} Auditors.

Expenditure for year ending March 31st, 1956	1254	19	11
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### EXPENDITURE.

£1254 19 11

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MID 5209.

67a, NEW STREET,

Telegrams  
EDWARDIAN, BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM, 1.

## O.E. MEMBERSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

### CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

For Members residing within 25 miles of the Club						
Building .. .. .	£	4	4	9		
But until the expiration of three years from the						
date of leaving School .. .. .		1	10	0		
and then for the next four 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,  
R. J. GARRATT,  
*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 ten 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.



