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THE LINK

The Magazine of Wandsworth School

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE.

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Headmaster's Notes.

I must give first place this term to the launching of the Old Wandsworthians Memorial Fund Appeal, to provide a fitting memorial to the Old Boys of the School who gave their lives in the cause of their country and of humanity during the Second World War.

The appeal is sponsored by Governors, Staff and School, by the Old Wandsworthians, by the Parents Association, and by the Wandsworthians Lodge.

The scheme proposed includes a commemoration plaque in the School Hall; but the Memorial Committee are aiming at a more ambitious object, the acquisition of a Sports Ground for Old Wandsworthians. By the time this is achieved it is likely that many if not most of the boys now in the School will have become Old Wandsworthians. Hence, in addition to its desirability as a worthy and permanent memorial, the project is of practical personal interest to all present boys, and in turn to all future school generations.

I commend this grand project to all friends of the School for their utmost support.

An important administrative change has occurred during this term. The old Governing Body, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Blizard, terminated its duties at the end of June, and a new and larger Governing Body was appointed to administer both Wandsworth and Elliott Schools.

In paying my tribute to the old Governors for so long and happy an association with them, I should like especially to record our debt to Mrs. Blizard and Professor Dechamps, who have served for longer than I have been Headmaster, and who now sever their official connection, though certainly not their personal ties, with the School.

The other members of the old Governing Body, Mrs. Ponsonby, Mrs. Marshall Brown, Messrs. T. H. Jones, J. W. Bowen, Desmond Reid, and Professor Dorothy Tarrant as representative of London University, will serve on the new body, and they will be joined by Lieut.-Colonel G. I. Matthews and Messrs. W. J. Radcliffe and G. C. Semmens, whom we welcome as new Governors. Three other Governors remain to be appointed or co-opted.

A hearty welcome back to Mr. G. M. Travers, the last of our service masters to resume his post here. Mr. Travers, with his high linguistic qualifications, with his experience in teaching and the military intelligence service, strengthens our Modern Language Department, which has recently added further distinctions to its fine record of success.

Two boys have this term been awarded L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarships for three months' travel abroad: D. Perry in French and P. Brunning in German. I congratulate them and the masters, to whom they owe their success and good fortune.

At short notice Mr. P. A. Borman came to us temporarily for the summer term to take over the duties successively of Mr. Radford and Mr. Maycock.

We were sorry to lose Mr. Maycock's services which had been lent to us for the war period. He now returns to a school in the old L.C.C. division within reasonable access of his home. It was at great inconvenience that he continued so long to make the daily journey to Wandsworth. His loyal service to us is much appreciated.

And so are the services of Mrs. Williams who leaves us this term after two years. She came originally to fill the vacancy arising from the loss of Mr. Hatfield, and has gallantly helped us to bridge the difficulties until Mr. Travers' return and the appointment of two further permanent Modern Language masters for next September.

Wandsworth Civic Week stimulated an interesting Social Study project planned by Messrs. Fenn, Payne, Keyte and Hodgkinson for the Fourth Forms. At the time of writing it is too early to appraise the results, but I think the experience may be a useful guide to important curricular developments. The next few years must be a time of wide and varied experimentation in the schools, and Wandsworth School has a tradition of enterprise in various fields of educational development.

The pre-war annual Hobbies Exhibition at the close of each Spring Term was revived this year in a somewhat different guise. There had always been some elements of an Eisteddfod in the pre-war function, but this year this aspect overshadowed the rest. Dramatic pieces, choral speaking, vocal choirs and instrumental performances—the responsibility for the production of all of which was thrown on the boys themselves—were the chief components, and there was praiseworthy enterprise and emulation on the part of the four Houses.

The Parents Association were fortunate in having Mr. S. Monson, the Borough Treasurer, to talk to them on the eve of Wandsworth Civic Week. Mr. Monson is President of the local branch of N.A.L.G.O., the organisation responsible for the civic exhibition.

At the same meeting the Parents Council for 1947-48 was elected and has already considered plans for next year.

For the first meeting on Friday, October 3rd, at which there will be many new members to welcome to the Association, a " Brains Trust " of people representing administration and different types of educational institution will answer any questions sent in to Mr. Scott, the Hon. Secretary, or to the Headmaster at the School.

There will be a Parents Social on Saturday, October 25th, and a Debate on Friday, November 14th.

By the time this appears the Old Boys Cricket Match and Fête will probably have been held (July 19th). The Old Wandsworthians commence their campaign on behalf of the Memorial Fund on this occasion.

Congratulations to Pitt House upon their ascendancy at the Athletic Sports, and to Jones of Pitt upon his success in winning the Shapcott Cup and upon his outstanding successes in the inter-schools and other cross-country runs.

We also congratulate Easey upon his success in the violin class at the Wimbledon Musical Festival. He was accompanied on the piano by Grieves.

Those who remember Vladimir Derevenko will be interested to hear that he has now become a naturalised British subject, and has also taken his finals for the A.C.I.I.

It is a long time since the School won the Rucker Shield for the local schoolboy swimming championship. This year Chaplain came first in his heat and third in the final.

It is with regret, both personal and professional, that I record the fact that Mr. Barber is leaving us this term to take up a post as Lector at Gothenburg University College, Sweden. We lost six years of his service to the R.A.F., and the time he has been with us seems all too short. Mr. Barber is, of course, brilliantly qualified for a university post: he has also shown himself a first-rate schoolmaster, original, inspiring, and most keenly energetic. The whole School wishes him well.

Congratulations to A. C. D. Wilson, on the award of an Imperial College Scholarship, tenable at the City and Guilds College—a high and well-merited award.

House Notes.

CROMWELL.

House Master: Mr. Fenn.

Set Masters: Messrs. Clode, Hodgkinson, Keyte.

Prefects: Gould, Perry, Hurcomb, Lewis, Hardingham.

House Captain: Gould.

Cromwell's former glory has been somewhat dimmed this year, owing to a general decline in our athletic achievements.

The defeat which is freshest in our memory is that which we sustained on this year's sports day. It need hardly be mentioned that we occupied bottom position—surely an inglorious fall for a House formerly so famed in this branch of sport, indeed so famed that people always referred to "Cromwell's sports day."

Nor have we much to be proud of in the inter-House rugger competition, the seniors winning only one match and the juniors less still.

Having made a moderately successful attempt to gain the boxing shield, we went on to win the cross-country race, both seniors and juniors winning by comfortable margins. Indeed, the seniors managed to gain 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 13th positions, a highly creditable performance. Our resounding victory must have caused chagrin among our formidable opponents in Pitt House.

It now remains for Cromwell to exert itself sufficiently to wrest the cricket shield from the hands of Morley, who have guarded it so grudgingly for many years. At the time of writing, we are off to a good start by a convincing win over Gibbon. I hope by the time this Magazine is published that we may claim to have achieved our object.

Perhaps our most meritorious efforts were made in connection with the Eisteddfod. The difficult play, which was the main feature of our success, was put across by Perry and other hard-working actors and stage staff with a real team spirit. A special word of praise must be recorded for our "discovery" on this occasion, D. R. Kenyon, who delighted the audience with a charming portrayal of an Irish colleen, a part which he undertook with no previous stage experience and no knowledge of the Irish brogue.

Our last, but by no means least, success this year has been a gallant bid for the Couch work shield. Whether or not we have secured it remains to be seen; but considering our steady diligence averages this year, this would appear quite possible.

Above are recorded our defeats and successes. Let all Cromwellians now make it their duty to see that the next time these notes are written we have only successes to record.

R. Hurcombe, D. P. Perry.

GIBBON.

House Master: Mr. Prior.

Set Masters: Mr. Elms, Mr. Radford, Mr. Prior.

Prefects: Edwick, Fellows, Wilson, Brunning.

For the second year in succession Gibbon House came top in boxing. Special mention must be made of Bicknell and Francis who won in their accustomed fashion. These two have won every bout they fought for the School. However, all put up a very good show, and deserve equal congratulations.

In athletics Gibbon came second, and perhaps if more boys had turned up to the standards we might have done better still. Edwick and Anstis did very well in the long jump, both coming easily first. We came a very indifferent third in the cross-country race, our best boy in the race, Gage, coming ninth. In rugby Gibbon were third, Cromwell coming fourth.

The results of the Eisteddfod were very gloomy for Gibbon; we came last, although there were some bright spots here and there. Edwick and Co. put up a very good show in their presentation of "Macbeth," both Edwick (as Macbeth) and Wilson (as Lady Macbeth) acting extremely well, and being supported by an excellent cast. In the literary section Gibbon was not very successful. Lightman Senior's essay came second, gaining Gibbon's only three points.

It is a pleasure to congratulate Brunning on the gaining of an L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarship, as a result of which he is now enjoying an extensive holiday on the Continent. Brunning also took part in a B.B.C. broadcast with three others of the School, of which an account is given elsewhere in this number of "The Link."

Last year Gibbon came second in diligence: this year there is still room for improvement.

Whether it is a question of athletics, rugby, or diligence, Gibbon's position does not depend so much on the ability of individual boys, as on whether we are all willing to pull our weight; and even if Gibbon were to come bottom in everything, so long as every boy can say, "I have done my bit," we should have nothing to complain of. However, Gibbon is far from being bottom, and with a little more effort, we can be top in other things, as we are in boxing.

S. LIGHTMAN.

MORLEY.

House Master: Mr. Chart-Leigh.

Set Masters: Mr. Benyon, Mr. Makin, Mr. Cowan.

House Captain: D. J. Finch.

House Prefects: K. J. Williams, R. F. Mason, D. A. Thompson, J. S. Haydon.

On our return from Woking we were pleased to note how quickly and smoothly the House adapted itself to the new way of life. Passing rapidly over the first year of resettlement, we pause only to record successes in rugby and cricket, second place in boxing and a brilliant half-mile by Finch to win the Shapcott cup. Also, after having held the diligence shield since 1939, we were extremely disappointed to find that we were bottom in the first year of return.

But we now proceed to give an account of this year's activities. Firstly Diligence: In this we are well in the running for the Couch Trophy, and a little more effort on the part of certain boys would ensure us of victory. In Rugby the seniors lost one match and won two, the juniors lost and won one match. The latter were unable to play their third match owing to the inclement weather. The strength of our first 15 rested largely with the back division. Our forwards, with no member of *the* School fifteen in their ranks, scrummed very well, and this is to their credit. Also they gave the backs opportunities to score.

Representatives: Senior: Whitesman, Ralph, Woodley, Leadbetter, Heyward, Dingle, Lyon, Field, Finch, Sloggett, Dore, Edwards, Haydon, Gilmour, Smales, Davey, Whitlock, Thompson. Junior: Sperger, Hilldrup, Clayton, Dodds, Munton, Carr, Cuff, Pain, Skelton, Harrington, Totham, Smith, Miller, Barron, Dorting.

In the cross-country race, although we came last, credit is certainly due to the few seniors who did take the trouble to turn out and support their House. In this respect the juniors certainly put the seniors to shame.

As last year, Morley were again runners-up to Gibbon in the inter-House boxing tournament. Here again our lack of success was mainly due to the

paucity of senior contestants, most points being won by the juniors. In the finals we had 11 contestants, but we must not forget the valuable points gained by boys in the preliminary bouts.

The following boxed well and deserve mention: Haydon, Culff, Mattey, Nelson, Carr, Whitesman.

In the Eisteddfod we managed to gain second place owing largely to a last-minute effort on the part of our artistes. Mention must be made of the chess tournament in which we were beaten in the finals on a judge's decision.

As we go to press we learn that we have gained third position in the School sports. Here again a little more effort on the part of certain boys would be greatly appreciated. And, last but not least, we were pleased to hear that three of our seniors were included in the group which visited the B.B.C., details of which are given elsewhere.

On the whole this has been rather a mediocre year in which our efforts have been handicapped by the number of boys who have failed to contribute in any way to the House's achievements. We can only hope that in cricket, swimming and all future activities, the House will repeat its pre-war successes, backed to the full by all its members.

D. A. THOMPSON, J. S. HAYDON.

PITT.

House Master: Mr. Ascher.

Set Masters: Messrs. Aubrey, Barber, Travers.

Prefects: Feld, Stephenson, Jones.

During the past year Pitt House has been very successful in most of the sporting activities, boxing excepted, in which, although there was no lack of keenness, Pitt managed to come bottom.

Our form on the rugby field was much improved. The juniors won all their matches, but the seniors lost their match against Morley. Although we did not play Gibbon, we were awarded the Rugby Shield.

The Pitt team came second in the cross-country race, and mention must be made of the remarkable performances of Jones and Kitt, who were first and second, the former breaking the record with a time of 18 mins. 56.2 secs.

The result on Sports Day fulfilled our expectations. A preview of what was to come was given by the results of the standards, Pitt A. B, and C being 1st, 3rd and 4th. Outstanding performances were given by Berry, R.. and Feld, who won all their events. Feld also won the high jump at 5ft., and Jones, the captain, won all his track events and was second in putting the weight. Credit must also be given to Kitt and Jenkinson especially for their brilliant half-mile. Jones topped his performance by winning the Shapcott Cup. Thus Pitt has won the Athletic Shield for the third year in succession.

This account of the athletic successes of the House would be incomplete without mentioning the good work of Jones and Kitt in inter-school cross country races, Jones being first or second on numerous occasions, and third in the mile at Herne Hill. Berry, R., also did well at Herne Hill, coming fourth in the final of the 100 yards sprint.

Unfortunately, we have lost the valuable services of Mr. Terry and Mr. Maycock, Mr. Terry having partially retired, although he still teaches the higher forms Scripture. Mr. Maycock has had to return to his pre-war school. We have welcomed to the House Mr. Travers, one of its former tutors, and Messrs. Aubrey and Barber. We are sorry to be losing Mr. Barber, to whom we wish the greatest success in his lectureship in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Although Pitt, C., has been top on numerous occasions in the diligence awards, the House, at the time of writing, holds the third place, a fraction behind the leaders in the tussle for the Couch Shield.

Seeing that he was by far the youngest producer, D. Horner made an excellent attempt, with the material available, for the Pitt House play in the Eisteddfod. Our position, third, was not really representative of the keenness and enthusiasm displayed.

J. W. STEPHENSON.

The School "Eisteddfod."

The most memorable event last term—perhaps the most memorable event of the School year—was the "Eisteddfod." This was an inter-House contest in music, art, drama, speech and literature. The conditions of the contest were laid down by a joint organising committee of staff and boys, under the chairmanship of Mr. Elms, but the actual training of the contestants, the production of the plays, etc., was carried out entirely by the boys, with no staff assistance whatever. It was this complete devolution of responsibility on to the boys themselves that made the whole contest so valuable, and the success of the venture reflects great credit on all the boys who participated, either as contestants or as organisers.

The various sections of the competition included items for teams as well as for soloists: there were, for example, items for choirs and for speech-choirs as well as for solo singers, solo instrumentalists and solo speakers, and each House produced a one-act play—a truly formidable undertaking. Most solo items were divided into junior, intermediate and senior sections, to give boys of all ages a chance to compete. A lighter touch was added by the inclusion of an inter-House General Knowledge Quiz, ably conducted by Mr. Radford.

The adjudication of the various items lasted for about a week, and then on the evening of Tuesday, March 26th, the winning contestants gave a concert, to which parents and friends were invited. This was a most enjoyable climax to the whole festival, and a very high standard of performance was achieved.

Details of the various sections of the contest are given below:— C. B.

DRAMA.

On every hand we heard praise of the drama section. It was delightful to see these efforts by the four teams prepared, delivered and received with such gusto. This is the answer to the spiritless, mechanised doping that nowadays goes by the name of entertainment. Professional entertainers play the very devil with us. Under their slimy ministrations we dream away the best hours of our lives. We become purblind lookers-on at the game of life instead of players. Our most memorable hours are those in which we are taking part in composite efforts to entertain ourselves.

There was any amount of variety in the fare offered. Horner for Pitt House presented *The Dear Departed,* a sort of jellied-eels course in the banquet of drama. This working-class farce went with a swing and was staged with much ingenuity. Perhaps the dénouement was not sufficiently pointed. There was not enough wicked pleasure shown by Grandfather at the discomfiture of his astonished relations. But the fun was there and the audience liked it.

K. Williams presented the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice* for Morley. This was the most ambitious undertaking of all, considering the demands of the thing in casting, dress and virtuosity. The cramping quarters, the difficulty of improvising clothes, and (let us face it) sheer shortage of acting talent, made it an unhopeful undertaking despite the hard work that obviously had gone into the production. Perhaps it was in costume that the play was most lacking. Doubtless the Renaissance costume, so rich and yet so exacting, which this play demanded, was the hardest to achieve out of makeshifts, which the rules of the contest imposed.

Edwick's production for Gibbon of scenes from *Macbeth* was a fine effort. Untidy, and even feeble in some matters, yet it was kept at a high level by the fine speech and the intense feeling maintained by the two principals. Edwick

and Witson were fitting mouthpieces for the tremendous words of the muse of fire that burns in this play.

The judges gave the highest award to Perry's production for Cromwell House of *Dave,* an Irish one-act play by Lady Gregory. This was a performance worthy of better material, for the rather self-conscious probing of the Irish nature with which these Irish plays are preoccupied doesn't vastly interest an audience that has other pin-up girls than Cathleen ni Houlihan. Yet the thing was carried off by sheer acting ability. A little work of art was produced out of nothing by these boys, and I don't know any higher praise. It took fire from the first rising of the curtain. We were in the kitchen among the eternal feckless spellbinders of Ireland from the first moment; and the illusion was maintained. The most surprising thing was the Irish speech, that was sustained unqualified by any drop of S.W.18 right to the end in a way that surprised everybody and falsified all prophecy. It would be invidious to specify, but a special word is owing to Kenyon for his performance of the part of the girl Loughlin, who moved through the part with a grace that stays in the memory. Cromwell House is doubly fortunate in having Perry to lead and produce and several tried old actors to support.

It was a pleasure to have the help of two ladies in the judging. Mrs. King and Miss Hanson, of Mayfield, deserve our thanks, and especially the latter lady for her adroit and discerning summing-up at the end.

This contest was something we intend to make an annual institution. Won't it be delightful when we have accumulated an extensive dressing-up box and have no longer to make-do with an old dress, a black-out curtain or a shabby schoolmaster's gown for the habit of those who once did hold the gorgeous east in fee!

S. C.

House Trios.

It was difficult to decide between Cromwell and Pitt, the only houses competing, both giving good performances of Samuel Webbe's glee, "Glorious Apollo," for unaccompanied treble, alto and bass voices.

Cromwell chose a cheerful tempo and avoided monotony of tone by doubling the trio in repeats, but the tone itself was of indifferent quality, and the balance between voices unsatisfactory.

By contrast, Pitt sang far too slowly and lacked variety of tone, but the tone in every part was good and the balance perfect.

House Choirs.

The competition was keener than some had anticipated in view of the wealth of musical talent in Cromwell House; but, conscious of the expectations it had to fulfil, the Cromwell choir had taken no chances with good team work on the part of conductor, singers and accompanist. It was their all-round efficiency which won them first place.

Clothier, conducting, had insisted on the choir singing from memory and thereby gained a reasonable response to his vigorous directions. There were a few instances of unintelligent breathing and poor articulation, and a self-conscious start momentarily jeopardised intonation, but the performance of the two-part "Thoughts at Twilight" as a whole was pleasing and expressive. Grieves accompanied.

The Pitt Choir, conducted with quiet competence by Catterole, with Leaney accompanying at the piano, would certainly have rivalled Cromwell for first place had *both* set pieces been ready for performance. Pitt's tone quality and intonation were indisputably better than Cromwell's in the unison, "The Yeomen of England," and if the singers had been less busy reading words which should have been memorised, the singing might have been more expressive. The choir was quite unmoved by a con spirito mark at the beginning of the chorus where, by contrast, the Cromwellians had summoned up such a spirited contempt for "Spaniards and Dutchmen and Frenchmen and such men" that the chorus had been well worth the double hearing.

Morley Choir under Watkins deserved praise for its beautiful tone and expression in the opening bars of "Thoughts at Twilight," but at the change from minor to major a remarkable deterioration set in which continued to the end. The final disappointment was "The Yeomen of England," which was too slow and not even thoroughly known. However, the choir had undoubtedly been handicapped by lack of an accompanist at rehearsals, and their achievement was creditable.

Gibbon Choir had been trained by Foot and Domney in the absence of a music specialist in the house, but the standard reached was far below that of the other houses.

J. K.

Art Section.

It is a thankless task to try to award an order of merit to work so copious, so varied in attack and personality as was submitted in this section, and the judges would rather have praised than awarded competitive marks.

In the painting section perhaps the following deserve special mention: A spirited painting, Work in the Art Room by Williams (M), Lady in a Garden by Trebble (M), Trees by Woodley (M), Landscape by Light (M), and Ships by J. C. Clark (G). The last of these, while conventional in matter, was redeemed by splendid colour. The work generally was bold and individual in approach.

Among drawings there was a sensitive self-portrait by Fellows (G) and some striking drawings in charcoal by Harrold (P), Crust (G) and Hine (P).

There was a splendid lino section containing any amount of attractive work, especially by the juniors. A set of three Animals by Hooper (C), Bird at Nest by Burton (G), Butterfly by K. Wright (G), a set of three varied prints by Dobson (C), Horse by Pavitt (M), were all by boys of the lower School. Davies (M) showed two very strong pictures, especially Blacksmith, while Light (M) with a decorative Elephant and Reed (G) with Moorhen and Chicks represented IIIA.

The poster section was perhaps specially satisfying. The work had a modern flamboyancy without the shallow trickery that one so often sees nowadays. The G.P.O. poster by Williams (M) and the Electricity by Wagerfield (C) were works of real beauty. Good stuff, too, was shown by Woodley (M), by the brothers Cox (M), Brigden (C), C. Smith (C) and French (M). Davies (M) showed a very painstaking sheet of Gothic lettering, and Smith (C) two excellent initials to vary the very workmanlike publicity in the modern taste, which we have not room to enumerate in detail. The junior entries in this section were rather disappointing.

It was noticeable that original work was presented by vigorous spirits among our competitors, the more timid taking refuge in meticulous copies of work from periodicals and well-known pictures. This copying is perhaps due to a mistaken notion of what is "beautiful." Individual expression is far more important than what the more thoughtless would call "beautiful." The right attitude is rather: "This is what interests me; and if it's not as "pretty" as a chocolate box picture, well it's just too bad, but I don't care!"

S. C.

Literary Composition.

Section 4 of the Literary Section of the Eisteddfod was devoted to original literary composition. The subjects set offered a wide choice, the juniors being required to produce stories or poems on any theme, while the seniors were given an essay on a choice of set subjects or were free to submit a poem. Further, in the junior section, a play or sketch was included.

In view of this extensive choice and the fact that it is most important that everyone should be able to express himself well in the mother tongue, the number of entries was rather disappointing, especially in comparison with the large number of entries in the Art section. Moreover, except in one or two cases, the quality of the work was mediocre. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that literary work requires thought, careful planning and arrangement, strict selection of words and phrases. In the verse, it is not sufficient to throw together a few

words that happen to rhyme without any reference to the central idea of the poem. Short plays must be concentrated on a definite theme with severe economy of speeches and characters. Short stories, too, should have a clear theme or plot and work up to a clear climax. Inattention to these matters must produce boring or even valueless work.

The only First Class in the Seniors was awarded to Edwards (Morley) for an excellent Chinese story, well planned, containing much descriptive detail and yet moving rapidly. In the second class, Perry's short story, "The Tunnel," was only a little below first class. Of the essays, those of Lightman (2nd Class) and of Thompson (3rd Class) both dealt with the "Problem of Freedom" in a thoughtful way. In the third class, too, fall "a shocker" by McKeown, a grisly play by Harrold, and a gruesome story by F. R. Clark. A poem by Perry and an essay by Haydon, neither of them devoid of interest and value, were finally awarded a fourth class.

The Junior entries were few and slight. It is sufficient to record that it was not possible to make a first-class award. In the second class, Liggett's playlet on "Lord Nelson's Death" was the best entry.

J. A.

Speech Choir.

Only one choir, that of Cromwell, very ably trained and conducted by B. C. Butler, reached a high standard. The conductor had selected his small choir carefully and trained them in meticulous articulation and timing, so that the total effect was pleasing. The interpretation throughout all three pieces was sensitive and adequate. Morley Choir and Pitt choir were difficult to place because Morley, trained by D. A. Thompson, had made an effort to carry out the subdivision of a large choir which is demanded by the "Ode for St. Cecilia's Day," while Pitt, conducted by Harrold, had reached a higher standard of unity and interpretation in the shorter pieces. The judges awarded second place to Pitt for a rather better all-round performance. Gibbon, trained by P. Brunning, lacked the cohesion and timing, which are the sole foundation on which to build a good speech choir.

T. B.

Eisteddfod Results.

		C	G	M	P
Quiz		12	8	4	16
Drama		24	18	6	12
Speech Choir		16	4	8	12
Solo Reading,	Senior	4	2½	1	2½
,,	Intermediate ...	—	2	5	3
,,	Junior	6	4	—	—
Literary,	Senior	8	3	7	2
,,	Junior	5	1	2	—
House Choir		20	5	15	10
House Trio		12	—	—	16
Solo Singing,	Senior	—	—	8½	1½
,,	Junior	—	—	4	—
Piano Playing,	Senior	7	—	—	—
,,	Intermediate ...	8	—	2	—
,,	Junior	4	3	1½	1½
Pipe and Recorder Playing		6	—	—	—
Painting, any Subject		2	3	24	2
Drawing of a Head or Figure ...		—	8	—	6
Lino Cut		10	9	9	2
Poster		9	3	26	—
Design		6	1	15	—
Totals ...		159	74½	138	86½

Athletics

Captain: D. I. Jones.

Vice-Captain: R. Feld.

Secretary: I. Maclean.

House Captains: I. Maclean (Cromwell); B. N. Edwick (Gibbon); C. Dingle (Morley); D. I. Jones (Pitt).

Athletic Standards.—Every opportunity and encouragement has been given to all boys of whatever athletic ability to attempt as many athletic standards as possible, and, upon the whole, the response has been satisfactory. In many respects this is the most important part of the School's athletic programme, as it gives an opportunity for all boys to contribute towards the success of their Houses in the Annual Sports, in which fifty per cent. of the total points are awarded on the results of the athletics standards. This year Pitt House were deservedly winners with 594 points, followed by Gibbon 534 points, Morley 505 points and Cromwell 475 points. The scaled-down points are shown on the tabular lists below.

Inter-Grammar Schools Sports.—This sports meeting—the eighth, and the first since 1939—was held at Herne Hill track on Thursday, May 15th. Ten schools competed for the Gibson Shield held by Bec School, and it was not long before Roan School showed themselves to be undisputed champions. Wandsworth secured fourth place with 44 points, of which 30 points were contributed by our under 16 year team. In this age group R. Anstis gained 2nd and R. Berry 4th place in the 100 yards final, and the relay team also a good 2nd place. D. I. Jones gained a 3rd place in the open mile.

Other results were as follows: Nelson, 6th high jump (junior); Kitt and Jenkinson, 3rd in 1 mile relay (2 x 880 yards); Lewis and Maclean, 6th in both discus and shot (senior); Harrold and Fellows, 5th and 6th respectively in the senior hurdles final; relay seniors, 5th.

Annual Inter-House School Sports.—The preliminary sports meeting took place on Monday afternoon, June 2nd, and the final meeting on Saturday afternoon, June 7th, in the School Ground. There was a deluge of rain in the morning, and until mid-day it seemed that a postponement was inevitable. However, this proved not so, and by 1 p.m. it became warm and sunny. A slight breeze added to this soon made the track reasonably good, and everything was set for an enjoyable afternoon. At 2.30 p.m. the pistol went for the first event—the 100 yards final (seniors)—and without interruption the programme went on smoothly and was completed at the scheduled time, 4.45 p.m. At the close of the meeting parents, old boys, and friends gathered in front of the School pavilion for the presentation of the sports trophies by Mrs. H. R. King. After a very pleasing speech by Mrs. King, D. I. Jones, Captain of the winning Pitt House, was called forward by the headmaster to receive the Marcus Samuel Athletics Shield. Jones was also the recipient of the Shapcott Cup—a cup presented in memory of a beloved Old Boy to the winner of the 880 yards open.

On Thursday, June 12th, the School relay team gained second place in an Inter-Schools Invitation Race at the Sloane School Sports.

Among the other fixtures for this term may be mentioned the Inter-Schools Medley Relay at the Old Mid-Whitgiftian Association Summer Fête, June 28th; Highgate Harriers Invitation 440 yards Relay Race, July 2nd; and the Roan School Invitation Relay on July 5th.

G. E.

The Annual Athletics Meeting held on Saturday, June 7th.

1st Pitt ... 222 pts. 2nd Gibbon ... 170½ pts. 3rd Morley ... 159½ pts. 4th Cromwell ... 145 pts.

Event	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	C	G	M	P	Time
Mile	Jones, D. L. (P)	Kitt, A. J. (P)	Maclean, D. (C)	Clothier, M. J. (C)	3	—	—	7	4m. 56s.
100 yds., Senior	Feld, R. (P)	Dingle, C. L. (M)	Hardingham, R. P.(C)	Gould, P. (C)	3	—	3	4	11.1s.
100 yds., Middle	Berry, R. A. (P)	White, B. G. (G)	Woodley, R. J. (M)	Edwards, J. G. (M	—	3	3	4	11s.
100 yds., Junior	Dries, D. P. (G)	Lewis, J. A. (P)	Cook, R. D. (M)	Totham, J. A. (M)	—	4	3	3	12.5s.
75 yds., Under 12	Casparis, J (M)	Harvey, G. L. (C)	Bruce, J. A. (P)	Chaplin, A. D. (G)	3	1	4	2	10.2s.
H. Jump, Junior	Nelson 4′ 1″ (M) Sperger 4′ 1″ (M)	Bartlett 4′ 1″ (G) Clark 3′ 11″ (G)	Lewis, J. A. (P) Tracey, 3′ 10″ (P)	——	—	4	6	2	——
L. Jump, Senior	Edwick 16′ 7″ (G) Anstis 16′ 4½″ (G)	Lewis 15′ 5″ (C) Hurcomb 15′ 6″ (C)	McAuliffe, 14′ 11″ (P) Dobrowolski 14′ 10″(P)	Whitlock 13′ 6½″ (M) Smales 13′ 7″ (M)	4	6	1	2	——
220 yds., Senior	Feld, R. (P)	Heyward, B. C. (M)	Gould, P. (C)	Edwick, B. (G)	2	1	3	4	27s.
220 yds., Middle	Berry, R. A (P)	White, B. G. (G)	Woodley, R. J. (M) Williams, R. E. (G)		—	4½	1½	4	25.5s.
220 yds., Junior	Dries, D. P. (G)	Totham, J. A. (M)	Hazell, D. C. J. (G)	Hobson, H. P. (M)	—	6	4	—	28.8s.
H. Jump, Senior	Feld 5′ 0″ (P) Line 4′ 6″ (P)	Clothier 4′ 10″ (C) Deards 4′ 7″ (C)	Lyon 4′ 9″ (M) Dore 4′ 3″ (M)	——	4	—	2	6	——
L. Jump, Junior	Totham 13′ 5½″ (M) Nelson 13′ 2″ (M)	Hearn 13′ 1″ (C) Liggett 13′ 0″ (C)	Vincent 12′ 10″ (P) Farrelly 12′ 3″ (P)	Clarke 12′ 2″ (G) Bartlett 12′ 9″ (G)	4	1	6	2	——
440 yds., Senior	Jones, D. I. (P)	Clothier, M. J. (C)	Gould, P. (C)	Finch, D. J. (M)	5	—	1	4	60s.
440 yds., Middle	White, B. G (G)	Kitt, A. J. (P)	Jenkinson, N. P. L.(P)	Smith, C. J. (C)	1	4	—	5	61.2s.
Discus, Open	Lewis 81′ 2″ (C)	Line (P)	Boucher, 70′ 4″ (G)	——	6	2	—	4	——
	Maclean 71′ 6″ (C)	Foxwell 55′ 8″ (P)	Taylor, 48′ 11″ (G)						
Weight, Middle	Jenkinson 31′ 4½″ (P)	Woodley 31′ 0″ (M)	Fenton 31′ 0″ (C)	——	2	—	4	6	——
	Stacey 31′ 5″ (P)	French 27′ 10″ (M)	Metcalf 27′ 1″ (C)						
Weight, Senior	Lewis 31′ 1¼″ (C)	Jones 29′ 1″ (P)	Dingle 25′ 8¾″ (M)	——	6	—	2	4	——
	Maclean 28′ 11½″ (C)	Line 23′ 7″ (P)	Smales 21′ 4½″ (M)						
Hurdles, Senior	Heyward, B. C. (M)	Edwick, B. (G)	Deards, M. (C)	Lyon, J. W. (M)	2	3	5	—	15.4s.
Hurdles, Middle	Berry, R. A. (P)	Gage, C. W. (G)	Owen, E. W. (G)	Porter, R. D. M. (P)	—	5	—	5	16.4s.
Hurdles, Junior	Dries, D. P. (G)	Biggs, D. C. D. (M)	Vincent, J. H. C. (P)	——	—	4	3	2	17.4s.
880 yds., Senior	Jones, D. I. (P)	Maclean, D. (C)	Clothier, M. J. (C)	Finch, D. J. (M)	5	—	1	4	2m. 16s.
880 yds, Middle	Kitt, A. J. (P) Jenkinson, P. L. (P)		Gage (G)	Maclean, I. (C)	1	2	—	7	2m. 30.2s.
H. Jump, Middle	Berry, W. 4′ 7″ (G) Boucher, R. 4′ 4″ (G)	Edwards 4′ 6″ (M) Davies 4′ 3″ (M)	Child 4′ 5″ (P) Hancock 4′ 1″ (P)	Fenton 3′ 11″ (C) McKeown 3′ 11″ (C)	1	6	4	2	——
L. Jump, Middle	Kitt 15′ 4½″ (P) Stacey 14′ 11″ (P)	Berry, W. 15′ 5½″ (G) Boucher, R. 13′ 0″ (G)	Smith 13′ 11″ (C) Kenyon 13′ 6″ (C)	——	2	4	—	6	——
Relay, Under 12	Morley (M)	Pitt (P)	Gibbon (G)	——	—	4	10	7	1m. 25.2s.
Relay, Junior	Gibbon (G)	Pitt (P)	Morley (M)	Cromwell (C)	1	10	4	7	1m. 18s.
Relay, Middle	Pitt (P)	Gibbon (G)	Cromwell (C)	Morley (M)	4	7	1	10	1m. 47.2s.
Relay, Senior	Pitt (P)	Cromwell (C)	Morley (M)	——	7	—	4	10	1m. 45s.
				Standards ...	79	89	84	99	
				Totals ...	145	170½	159½	222	

Rugger.

Owing to the bad weather of the Spring Term only one match was possible, and our opponents on this occasion were our old friends Bec. The School lost by 6 points to 5, but nevertheless put up their best show of the season.

Jones opened the score in the second half following a grand passing movement among the backs, and he touched down between the posts for Domney to convert. Bec immediately replied with an unconverted try. The play for the rest of the game was mainly confined to the Bec half of the field, but despite continued pressure we could not cross their line. In the last minute of the game Bec broke away and, through a misunderstanding between the School backs, made an opening and scored.

The season ended without a game being won, and the main reason for this was our weakness behind the scrum. Tackling in general was fair, but the passing of the threequarters was deplorable and little initiative was shown in making openings or taking advantage of opponents' mistakes. The forwards were good, ably led by Finch, who had grand support from Lewis, Burton and Edwick.

And what of next season? We should have a fair nucleus of forwards to build around, and there is no reason why the pack should not be up to our usual standard. However, there will be a dearth of backs, and so we shall be on the look-out for any talent in this direction next term.

The following colours were awarded at the end of last term:—

Full reawards: Finch, Lewis, Edwick, Horner, Fellows, Burton.

New full awards: Boucher, Field, Jones, Maclean.

Half awards: Heyward, Domney, Hardingham, Foxwell, Stephenson, Davey, Chambers.

J. F.

RESULTS.

	1st XV.	2nd XV.	3rd XV.	Jun. XV.
Surbiton	6—6	—	6—3	6—9
Whitgift	0—11	0—23	24—8	3—9
Tiffin	11—11	5—30	0—34	28—6
Bec	3—3	0—13	0—18	6—18
Thames Valley ...	3—8	12—6	—	—
Tiffin	0—23	0—3	0—38	6—6
O.W.s.	5—15	—	—	—
Selhurst	0—16	3—15	—	—
Bec	5—6	0—11	5—15	6—0

Junior XV.

The season, on the whole, was a disappointing one owing to the fact that only six of the fourteen games were played, and these were played under far from ideal conditions.

Surbiton.—This game was one in which the players commenced full of vim and vigour and ended on their knees. Though we lost, this was not a fair reflection of the game, as we had the misfortune to have a penalty awarded against us in the last minute of play.

Whitgift.—This was an excellent game, and Whitgift won more decisively than the score 3—9 indicates. Their forwards dominated the game.

Tiffin.—We won this game fairly easily, for our backs worked like a well-oiled machine. Gage must be commended for his fine place-kicking, as he converted all the tries.

Bec.—The reason that we lost this game was the absence of two of the regular backs, Berry and Woodley, who were injured whilst boxing for the School the previous night. At such short notice it was impossible to replace them. The School lost 6—18, but made amends in the return game, which we won 6—0.

The backs played exceptionally well throughout the season, and among them Jenkinson, Berry, W., Kitt, Gage, Boucher and Woodley should be mentioned.

R. J. A. W.

I am sure all who are interested in Rugger will be glad to learn that the School is now a member of the London and Home Counties Schools' R.F.U. This union was formed early this year, and its main aim is to encourage Rugger in all schools. With this in mind, representative county games have been arranged, and these will be followed by trial games for the London and Home Counties XV. As a climax to the season this London team will tour the West during Easter, and propose to play Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire.

Trials for the county games will be held in October and November, so it is up to all of you to get fit early next term so that I can send forward as many names as possible for these trials.

B. C.

Boxing.

Captain: G. Gould.

Vice-Captain: W. N. Lewis.

The House finals on Friday, March 14th, completed a very successful season. There was keen rivalry between the Houses and, although Gibbon were worthy winners, there was no great margin between top and bottom House. There were four School matches, but one (Sutton) had to be scratched on account of the Arctic conditions prevailing at Sutton during the cold spell and coal shortage.

v. Sir Walter St. John's (H). Won 5—1.

Sinjuns were only able to send a team of six on account of an epidemic of flu, and of these the School won five. Gould, Davey, Barron, Miles and Carr won their bouts, whilst Beckett hurt his hand and was obliged to retire.

v. Hampton Grammar (A). Lost 6—8.

The coach eventually found the school through the snow and frost, and the school spectators were rewarded with seeing some close and spirited boxing. With a little more enterprise on the part of the seniors, the result could very easily have been reversed. Carr, Miles, Maclean, Bicknell, Francis and D. Jones won their bouts, whilst Nelson and Friday only just lost. Mention must be made of Jones's bout with Mosscrop (Hampton), the referee stopping the bout in Jones's favour in the third round. It was a splendid display of clean, hard hitting, tenacity and good sportsmanship.

v. Tiffin (H). Draw 6—6.

On this occasion the boxing was rather mixed. Bray, Carr, Nelson, Barron, Maclean and Cattermole won their bouts, but Whitesman, leading easily on points, was rightly disqualified for hitting low. Friday had hard luck in not winning, but Attoe and Davey were not quite up to their usual standard and lost their bouts.

HOUSE COMPETITION.

This year there were seventy-one competitors, a slight improvement on the number last year. The standard of boxing was mixed, not only in the preliminaries but in the finals as well. The best bout was the 5st. junior between Friday (G) and Mattey (M), both boys boxing cleanly and tirelessly, the decision being in doubt right to the end. The following is a brief account of the finals.

Juniors.

U. 5st.: Friday (G) beat Mattey (M) very closely on points.

U. 5½st.: Carr (M) beat Miles (G) after a bout which was occasionally suggestive of all-in wrestling.

U. 6st.: Nelson (M) received the verdict, as Barron (M) injured his hand and was unable to box.

U. 6½st.: Cowley (G) won comfortably over Maclean (C).

U. 7st.: Culff (M) tried his best against Bicknell (G) but found him too strong, the referee stopping the fight in the second round.

U. 7½st. : Attoe (P), making use of a longer reach, beat Mallows (G).

U. 8st. : Dries (G) had the natural advantages in height, reach and age, beating Totham (M) by a narrow margin.

Intermediates.

U. 8st. : Whitfield (C) tried hard but was unable to beat Beckett (P), who had the advantage of greater experience.

U. 8½st. : Whitesman (M) surprised everybody by not being disqualified for using an open glove and just beating his opponent, Carver (C).

U. 9st. : Haydon (M) boxed very pluckily but found Francis (G) too strong for him.

U. 9½st. : Butler (C) beat Millwood (C) in an all-Cromwell and rather tame contest.

U. 10st. : Davey (M) had a walk-over.

Seniors.

U. 8½st. : Cattermole (P) had a walk-over.

U. 9st. : Hughes (M) was given the verdict, his opponent being absent through illness.

U. 9½st. : D. Jones (P) was given the verdict, Stephenson being injured and unable to box.

U. 10st. : Gould (C) won narrowly against Harrold (P), who showed much improved form.

U. 10½st. : No entry.

U. 11st. : Maclean (C) showed more gymnastic than boxing ability, and the referee awarded the bout to his opponent, Burton (G), just before the end of the first round.

U. 11½st. : This was a somewhat disappointing termination to the evening, Lewis (C) beating Domney (G) by a technical knock-out.

Result.

1.	Gibbon	56 points.
2.	Morley	50 ,,
3.	Cromwell	48 ,,
4.	Pitt	40 ,,

Boxing Colours.

The following colours have been awarded:—

Full: P. Gould, R. Davey, J. Francis, K. C. Cattermole.

Half: N. E. Beckett, M. Carver, G. E. Chambers, B. Harrold, D. I. Jones, B. Heyward, G. Whitesman.

Junior recommendations: R. Attoe, A. Barron, R. Bicknell, A. Carr, D. Cowley, J. T. Friday, J. F. Miles, J. Nelson.

Cross-Country Running.

Captain: D. I. Jones.

Vice-Captain: I. Maclean.

Hon. Secretary: M. J. Clothier.

The enthusiasm with which members of the School team have trained despite severely cold weather has made this season a happy and successful one. In some ways, no doubt, the hard and icy roads, which covered the countryside during the greater part of the Spring Term, helped rather than hindered cross-country running. Rugby was mostly impossible to play, and so the rival claims of this game did not prevent the School from fielding the strongest possible teams.

The first fixture was the Ranelagh Harriers 3½ miles Inter-Schools Race for the Ranelagh Trophy, held from the club's headquarters at the "Dysart Arms," Petersham, on Saturday, February 15th, at 3.15 p.m. The afternoon was overcast and very cold, and the going was hard owing to a thick layer of snow on the grassland. After the race all teams were entertained to tea, at the end of which

Mr. C. Hoffey, the club's president, presented the cup and winning medals. Members of the School team who secured second place out of the teams were presented with medals and, in addition, D. I. Jones, who gained second place in the whole field, was presented with a silver medal. The School team was placed in the order: D. I. Jones, A. J. Kitt, M. J. Clothier, J. W. Stephenson, I. Maclean, D. J. Finch, P. Gould.

The second fixture was the Highgate Harriers' 3½ mile Invitation Schools' C.C. Race, held at 3 p.m. on March 1st, at Parliament Hill Fields. Twenty-three teams changed and were afterwards entertained to tea at the William Ellis School. D. I. Jones ran brilliantly to gain first place in the entire field of nearly 200 runners. A. J. Kitt was 19th and was closely followed by Clothier, Stephenson, Maclean, Finch and Gould. The School did well to gain fifth place.

The next fixture was a delightful and informal meeting arranged by the Ranelagh Harriers. D. Jones, who came in 2nd, was beaten by his old rival, Ellis, of Greenford School. The School came in 2nd to Westminster Bank out of a field of four teams.

The last fixture was the Inter-House C.C. Race, held on Wednesday afternoon, March 26th, on Wimbledon Common. The weather was ideal, with a cloudless sky and a slight breeze. Nearly 200 competitors—a record number of entries—were able to make use of the splendid changing accommodation afforded by the Army huts, and later to have tea at the Windmill Tea Gardens. D. Jones, in winning the senior run in 18 min. 56.2 sec., set up a new record, breaking the old one held by J. Shapcott in 1937. The results were :—

Senior: Cromwell, Pitt, Gibbon, Morley.
Junior: Cromwell, Gibbon, Morley, Pitt.

First six individual placings :—

Senior: Jones, Kitt, I. Maclean, Clothier, Carver, D. Maclean..
Junior: Dries, Skelton, Hearn, Quinsey, Tracey, Nunan.

The School team owes much thanks to Mr. R. D. Callis, of the Ranelagh Harriers, and an Old Boy of the School, whose kindly assistance and encouragement throughout the season have been most helpful.

G. E.

Inter-Schools Club.

At the time of writing there have been five meetings of the Club during 1947.

The first was held at Wandsworth on January 24th, and took the form of a debate on the motion that "Nationalisation is a Menace to Industry." Good arguments were put forward on both sides, but lack of space prevents me from making a fuller report.

The second meeting, a record evening edited by B. Edwick, was held on February 21st. The large gathering heard a selection ranging from Gigli to Sinatra, and the evening was voted a great success. The next meeting, however, was not so successful. It was to have been a magazine evening, but the members of the Society evidently preferred to hide their literary lights under a bushel and very few efforts were forthcoming. However, an evening of impromptu reading was arranged instead. This meeting took place at Mayfield on March 14th.

The term ended with the Inter-Schools dance, now quite an institution.

This term, two meetings have so far been held. The first, at Mayfield on May 16th, was a lecture on Jamaica by Miss Davies, and the second, at Wandsworth, was a debate on the motion that "Religion should not be taught in schools."

Two meetings remain to be held this term. They are the dance on July 25th and another (and, it is to be hoped, more successful) magazine evening on July 11th at Mayfield.

Finally, I must mention that a second hike took place on May 18th.

So far the attendance at the meetings and dancing classes has largely comprised 6th Formers. It is to be hoped that the apparently shy 5th Form will evince a keener interest.

R. H.

Chess Club.

Last term the Chess Club continued to meet twice a week, with good attendances. The most interesting event of the term was the Inter-House Chess Contest. This was a knock-out competition, between teams of six players. Oddly enough, in the first round Gibbon drew with Pitt 3—3, and Cromwell drew with Morley 3—3; but in the replays Gibbon beat Pitt 6—0, and Morley beat Cromwell 6—0.

In the final, Gibbon beat Morley $3\frac{1}{2}$—$2\frac{1}{2}$.

This term, with the competition of fine weather and outdoor games, attendances have fallen and meetings have been held less frequently, but we are looking forward to renewed enthusiasm and an improved standard of play next September.

The Stamp Club.

Up to the time of going to press there have been six meetings this term. At the beginning of this term we were deprived of the services of our very able officers, Secretary Burton and Treasurer Light. So on May 2nd an election was held. Officers were elected as follows: Secretary, Percival; Treasurer, Roodhouse; Committee, Feld, Clark, Knight, Rodd, Reed.

May 9th. A competition, "Air Mail," was arranged by Percival. The winner was Roodhouse, with Knight, Reed and Saunders as second, third and fourth respectively. The prizes were sets of stamps. The winner received a handsome set of Belgian "Kings."

On May 16th Feld gave a talk on "British Stamps," tracing the history of this country's stamps from the Penny Black to the Victory Stamps.

May 30th. Talk by Percival on the stamps of Holland during the German Occupation, and on post-Liberation issues. One of the most interesting stamps was an overprint in gold, issued by the Germans to commemorate the "First European Postal Congress."

June 6th. Dobrowolski, who has almost a complete collection, gave a talk on the stamps of Poland. Among the interesting people on Poland's stamps are Chopin and Copernicus. He also has some fine covers, used on Polish warships.

On June 13th there was a competition arranged by Percival, Rodd and Roodhouse. Members had to remember as much as they could about twenty stamps which they were shown. First was Broughton, second Norman, and third Crust.

This term, in spite of other diversions, attendances have been good. Suggestions are always welcome, as are new members. We should like to say that new boys will be especially welcome. And if anybody has a "pet" country and would like to give a talk about it, the Committee would be pleased to hear from him.

A. PERCIVAL, *Secretary*.

Religious Study Group.

In response to the desire of a small group of boys it was decided to form a Religious Study Circle. Membership is confined to boys in the upper part of the School (Forms IV, V and VI). It is proposed to affiliate the group to the Student Christian Movement, which will enable it to call on the resources of that world-wide organisation. Of course, the Circle will be conducted on strictly inter-denominational lines and will study outstanding works in recent religious literature, with unfettered opportunity for questions and discussion. Three meetings have been held this term and a promising start has been made.

The School Library.

Despite the finer weather, which tends to discourage indoor activities, the library has been very little less popular this term than last, and a fair-sized crowd has read and browsed (and sometimes merely lazed) in the library every lunch-hour. A few new books have been added to the library, most of them gifts of thoughtful friends of the School, to whom the committee offers its sincere thanks. However, several hundred volumes were lost during the war, and it will be a considerable time before even these deficiencies can be made good, and even longer before the Library Committee will be able to embark on any ambitious programme of expansion. Indeed, shortage of funds, combined with the difficulty of obtaining the books required, renders it probable that many years will pass before the library is able to offer that fine breadth and variety of reading so desirable in a liberal education.

In view of these difficulties, the Library Committee would be most grateful if any parents and Old Boys still in possession of long-since-borrowed books would return them at once to the librarian. We need them more urgently than you do. The Library Committee would also be grateful at any time for gifts of books. The sections of the library most urgently in need of books are Art, Music, Careers, Geography and Junior Fiction, but any good books would be welcomed.

This term the committee has been able to re-establish the pre-war practice of taking periodicals. These range from the *Meccano Magazine* for the juniors to *The Listener* and the *New Statesman* for the seniors. It is hoped that it will be possible to continue and even to extend this practice.

On the organisation side, too, progress has been made: the subject-catalogue is at present being brought up to date, and this work should be completed this term; later in the term, it is hoped that work will begin on an alphabetical card-index of authors, which is a pressing necessity; and improvements have been made in the system of recording the issue and return of books.

However, in the long run the vitality of the library depends on its users—on the respect they show for it, on the pleasure they obtain from it, on the care they take of its books, on the pride they have in its orderliness, on the interest they take in its organisation and its management, on the sensitivity they show to its peaceful atmosphere. A good library consists of people as well as of books. The committee is trying hard to do its share; it's up to you to do yours. C. B.

Choice of a Career.

"Tinker, tailor . . ." What shall I be? According to a famous psychologist the choice of a career is one of the three great problems which every man is called upon to solve (what are the other two?), and upon the successful solution of which depends his happiness in life. It is not therefore something to be decided upon during the last fortnight before you leave School, but something about which you should have been thinking carefully for many months; but let me say at once, to save disappointment, there are no £1,000 a year jobs available even for VIth Formers.

In spite of the stress laid upon the social wastage due to setting young men of ability to uncongenial work (and vice versa!), there is still far too large an element of chance in the choice of many careers; in this respect the tendency to "hereditary succession," which is quite common in all grades of society, often results in much unhappiness. There is the doctor who, having a successful practice, trains his son to succeed him as a matter of course, without considering very seriously whether the boy has a real aptitude for the work; or the slaughter-house worker who decides to place his son in that occupation, regardless of the fact that the boy was an extremely sensitive and affectionate child whose leisure was mainly devoted to the care of his numerous animal pets. Each boy should therefor make quite sure that his preference is not based upon some purely superficial

aspect of the chosen trade or profession—the short hours of banking, the long holidays of teaching, or even, in extreme cases, merely a uniform.

Most people can be classified very roughly under the three headings : (1) Practical, (2) Social, (3) Those best suited to a clerical and somewhat routine life.

You should put yourself in the first class if you are predominantly concerned with the manipulation of concrete objects—designing things, making things, etc. You should put yourself in the second class if you are predominantly concerned with personal contacts, managing, advising, instructing, persuading. The third class speaks for itself.

Most occupations can be classified in a similar way, but here again there will be a certain amount of overlapping.

Practical.	Social.	Clerical.
Engineering.	Teaching.	Accountancy.
Art.	The Church.	Librarianship.
Surveying.	Police.	Banking.
Photography.	Journalism.	Insurance.
Building.	Salesmanship.	Civil Service.
Advertising.	The Law.	Local Government.
Agriculture.	Medicine.	
Draughtsmanship.		
Architecture.		
Dentistry.		
Printing.		

It is worth while noting that the organisation of most large firms falls into the same three divisions:—

(1) Practical and active—the works.
(2) Social—sales and personnel management.
(3) The office and administration.

When you have decided upon your own classification and looked carefully at the occupations in the same class, you should select one or two careers in the list and find out more about them. The Careers Department has copies of the pamphlets on Careers issued by the Ministry of Labour, which contain all the essential information about the opportunities afforded by many careers and the training required for them. If when the time comes for you to consult the officials of the Headmasters' Employment Committee, you can go to them with some concrete ideas in your mind; it will be much easier for them to find you the right kind of job.

In this connection it may be worth while to stress the importance employers attach to a candidate's interests in other than the usual school subjects. It is the out-of-school activities which go to make up personality—ability to win the respect and liking of others, the appreciation of the other man's point of view, the spirit of give and take so essential on the Rugby field.

H. A.

The Wandsworthians Lodge.

The Ladies' Festival, held at Ardington Rooms on April 19th, 1947, was most successful. Many O.Ws. were present and a most enjoyable evening was spent under the presidency of the Master, F. L. Maughan. During his tenure of the Mastership, the membership of the Lodge has again increased, each meeting being the occasion for welcoming a new member. More O.Ws. have applied for admission, and the year 1947-48 will be one of great events.

The new Master will be S. H. Fairey, who is the genial, hard-working Secretary of the O.W. Association. He is to be installed on Friday, October 3rd, 1947, when we hope to welcome many O.Ws. who are Freemasons as our guests. Meetings will be held on Friday, December 5th, 1947, and on Fridays, February 6th, 1948, and May 7th, 1948. Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, The Wandsworthians Lodge, c/o Wandsworth School, Sutherland Grove, S.W.18.

Visits to the Theatre.

The drama, which for school children has hitherto been confined to text-books, has recently been brought to life by the enthusiasm and enterprise of the L.C.C.

This term the School has had the opportunity of attending four plays of average quality of production.

She Stoops to Conquer.

The company who produced the first of these—Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer"—gave perhaps but a mediocre performance of this sparkling play. In the effort to convey Goldsmith's wit to an audience of young children, many of the actors succeeded only in making "the unskilful laugh and the judicious grieve." The company lacked nothing necessary to a very good production. The stage set was excellent, the costumes bright and well-carried. Nevertheless the play hardly got on the wing. Perhaps it was because the theatre was icy, the coughing almost incessant, and the sound lost among the makeshift draperies that were used to bring the small set up to the dimensions of the huge stage.

Murder in the Cathedral.

The production of T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" was the "composition of a poet in the mouth of a graceful actor." Mr. Robert Speaight, the Shakespearean actor, led a company who, undaunted by an audience that contained very unpromising material, maintained a very high level of performance throughout. Against an austere setting, the choreographic grouping of the actors was kaleidoscopic and yet always full of dramatic significance. Beautiful speech, solo and choral, rounded off a production of West End standard.

Julius Cæsar.

The strongest impression of "Julius Caesar" as performed by the students of R.A.D.A. was certainly made by the crowd scenes. The producer was fortunate in being able to call on talented actors for minor parts, and he took full advantage of his good luck. Individuals in the crowd were neatly characterised, and the Cobbler's performance, as leader and spokesman, was spirited, fiery and sensitive. Yet, for all the liveliness of its individual members, the crowd surged back and forward, loudly expressing its fickle emotions, as a crowd. A splendid piece of interpretation and real good theatre. Together with a simple stylised setting against a blue drop which gave an impression of space and light to the rather cramped acting area, the crowd formed a formidable background for the principals to dominate. That for the most part they did dominate was due to the good quality of their own performances and the skill with which the producer set the stage. We liked Cassius for his fine speech and economy of gesture, we liked Antony for his ability to dominate that crowd, we liked Cæsar and Brutus, though we felt that the former was a little too conscious of his purple, and we hope the latter will lose his trick of opening his mouth to make his subsequent words portentous. In short, we all enjoyed this fine production very much indeed.

Victoria Regina.

On May 13th we saw "Victoria Regina," by Laurence Housman. This was a selection from "Happy and Glorious," a collection of short scenes dealing with the life of Queen Victoria. Though the production showed signs of having been done on the cheap, it nevertheless was adequate and brought home with surprising vividness and humour some big and some little moments in the life of the Queen. Again, much of the text was inaudible for one reason or another. About half-way through the show somebody reversed the dust-extracting fans (or so we were told) and the theatre was filled with a choking dust that dimmed the glory of Victoria and drowned the Prince Consort's eloquence in gusts of coughing. After that the play never quite recovered. The voices of the actors (it was their second show that day) seemed unable to make the grade, and a suitable final scene having been excised at the last minute, the play ended rather depressingly in a tent that effectively blanketed whatever was eloquent and memorable in the words of Disraeli.

D. P. P.

Ein Besuch zu dem B.B.C.

In January, Mr. Fenn received a letter from the B.B.C., asking him to send four boys to take part in a German Spelling Bee, against a team of four girls from Bromley County School for Girls.

On Saturday, March 8th, Brunning, Field, Haydon and Thompson, with Mr. Fenn, proceeded to a small studio off Wardour Street. An official led us to a table in a small room, and a few minutes later four girls arrived, obviously just as nervous as we were, and introduced themselves as: Betty, Ann, Pamela and Fredrica. Our shyness gradually disappeared and we were soon conversing quite freely. Then it happened. We all trooped into the actual recording room. This contained a piano, a table and three microphones. The walls were soundproof and on one side there was a large glass panel through which we could see Mr. Fenn and the B.B.C. recording engineers. After receiving our German names and some instructions on speaking into the "mike," we proceeded to run through our 20 minutes programme about four times, the microphone, of course, being dead. There was then a short break during which we received much needed refreshment.

We then returned to the recording room, and after one final rehearsal we took the plunge. After an anxious 20 minutes, it was all over and the engineers who had been listening at Broadcasting House, informed us that it had been a perfect recording. We were asked to Broadcasting House on March 29th, and we heard the play-back, which was most interesting, although none of us recognised his own voice. When it was all over, an official took us to the room from which family favourites and other record programmes are played, and explained to us the working of the turn-tables. Then someone suggested refreshment, and Mr. Weltmann took us to a café not far away, where we consumed coffee and cakes. Then, having said goodbye to our friends from Bromley (whom, by the way, we beat 7—5), we returned home.

D. A. T.

Last Man In.

"Better get your pads on now;
The wicket's soon to go.
And then there is you: the last man in.
Only twenty odd more runs to win."

I heeded all the captain's words
And buckled on my pads.
The wicket soon fell: the last man in.
Only twenty odd more runs to win.

I passed the batsman coming out
And he gave me a warning shout:
"The bowler's a terror": the last man in.
Only twenty odd more runs to win.

I took the guard well inside my ground,
And then looked very slowly round.
The bowler is impatient now: the last man in.
Only twenty odd more runs to win.

Careful now! This ball's a yorker.
Oh blow! The wicketkeeper's got her!
He calls to me with a wicked grin,
"Only twenty odd more runs to win!'

D. THORPE (IVA).

The Bee Threars.

Tunce upon a wime, there were bee threars; buther mère, barther fare, and bittle lair, and they all lived in a nosy cook win the oods full of tine prees. One day, buther mère made the horrage too pot, and so bather fare said they would wo for a galk.

Min the eantime, a gittle birl named Loldigocks lot gost, and seeing the nosy cook, docked on the knore. Quall was iet, and so e shentered. Peeing the sorrage she tempted to yieldation.

Spifting the loon tee shaysted it. Hos it wat? Wes it jolly well, yas! But bittle lair's gaisted tood. Hiving fannished she clowly stimbed the stoken brairs, and stropped flaight into the ballest smed.

Straving finished the hole, bittle lair found his vorrage had pannished. Boz it a wurglar? He souldn't help cobbing. But baddy dare stent up t'wairs, and there was Loldigocks sarst afleep!

He wucked her out of chinder and said, "Uzz boff!" So she uzzed boff. The writers of this lem of giterature nish to werain manomynous.

VC.

A Hot Day.

Now a man begins with long sweeping cuts to mow the lawn in his small front garden, while his wife tries to clip the hedge into the shape of a leafy cockerel. Now a boy in shirt sleeves, with his shirt undone down to the bottom button, walks slowly down the street licking an ice-cream cone. Now he stops to watch a solitary horse and cart rumble past in the full heat of the afternoon sun, while the horse's owner walks slowly along beside his nag, with cigarette dangling out of the side of his mouth, allowing the horse to proceed at its own leisurely pace. Now a woman in a print frock hurries with a shopping basket and a hot and bothered look on her face to the grocer's to get the family rations before the shop closes. Now small children play in the gutter of the street and dig up the tar which has become soft with the heat, enviously watched by three other small children who are walking sedately on the pavement, clad only in bathing costumes and light sandals, accompanied by their mother in a summer dress and a hat with a broad brim to protect her from the sun.

Now the schoolboy walks slowly with his cap perched precariously on the back of his head, hoping that the baths will not be too crowded to-night. Now a man with open collar and his coat draped loosely from his shoulders lounges along behind his dog, whose tongue is lolling out and whose sides are heaving. Now the man casts longing eyes at the Crown and Anchor and wishes that not so many people had the same idea as he. Now a crowd of small boys jostle each other round a stall for the privilege of buying a "thru'penny" iced drink. Now two cyclists in short corderoy trousers and silk shirts, with cotton socks rolled down to the ankles, bowl merrily by and gradually dwindle in the distance till they turn to the left up the road to Upper Missingham and are lost to sight. Now in town people stand and gossip beneath the shop blinds, and the ice-cream queue turns dismayedly away as the shop puts up its "Sold out" notices, and the foremost ones think, now if only I'd come a little bit sooner.

Now a farmer in a cart, wearing gumboots, with perspiration streaming down his face, stops his horse with a "Whoa, George!" and enters the Crown and Anchor and thanks providence that he's there at last. Now a small black car, with camping equipment piled high on the luggage grid, and four occupants, coughs and splutters its rebellious way towards the camping ground at Lawtonfield. Now indoors the heat is as bad as outside. Now it is pointless to go to bed, where a hot ceiling seems to be slowly descending. Now it is impossible that one could ever fall asleep, and yet, somehow . . .

D. MACLEAN, J. WHITEMAN (IIIB).

The Headmaster.

As we go to press we hear that the School has received a signal honour. The Headmaster has just been elected a member of the National Co-operating Body to deal with matters of education that come within the scope of U.N.E.S.C.O. No other headmaster of whatever type of school has been asked to serve on this body, the representation being restricted to national institutions like the association of local education authorities and the Trades Union Congress. The School congratulates the Headmaster and itself on this distinction conferred on it.

Concert, March 26th, 1947.

PROGRAMME.

General Knowledge Quiz	Quiz-Master : Mr. Radford	Pitt v. Cromwell
Cromwell House Choir	"Thoughts at Twilight"	Conductor : M. J. Clothier
Reading	"Sonnet" (Shakespeare)	D. P. Perry
Trumpet Solo	"Konzertstück" (Geehl)	M. J. Clothier
Reading	The 24th Psalm	D. I. Livingstone
Piano Solo	"Fantasia in D minor" (Mozart)	G. A. Brand
Trio	"Glorious Apollo"	Pitt and Cromwell
	Conductor : K. F. R. Cattermole	
Piano Solo	"Scherzo in B flat" (Schubert)	M. J. Clothier
Cromwell Speech Choir	"A Song for St. Cecilia's Day" (Dryden)	
		Conductor : B. G. Butler
Piano Duet	"Variations on a Theme" (Schubert)	
		J. C. Grieves and C. A. Warnes
Piano Solo	"The Merry Peasant" (Schumann)	T. R. Wright
Vocal Solo ...	"On Wings of Song" (Mendelssohn)	A. A. Bennett
Violin Solo	"Allegro from Concerto in A minor" (Mozart)	R. P. Easey

ONE-ACT PLAY.

"DAVE."

By Lady Gregory.

Timothy Loughlin ..... M. J. Clothier
Josephine Loughlin .....D. R. Kenyon
Dave ..... D. P. Perry
Kate O'Cahan ..... B. G. Butler
Nicholas O'Cahan ..... J. C. Grieves

(Produced by D. P. Perry.)

The Beach.

Amongst those cruel clouds
There shines the moon
Reflecting like a cold fire in the sea;
Then as a wave comes up
The flames rise high
Then die down as onward the wave will pass.
All is still,
And but for the sighing of the wind
All is quiet.
All is still where but a moment before
There came a wave
Spreading destruction in its path,
Sweeping away untidy paper bags and lemonade bottles
That people have left upon the beach,
Leaving the sand clean and pure,
Battering the walls of castles
And filling in holes
Which children, now long in bed,
Did spend many pleasurable hours in digging.
A thousand tiny sea-creatures are invading
And bringing new life
To the stale and shabby beach of yesterday.

W. M. STANLEY (IA).

I Win a Prize.

The one and only time I have been on the stage is when I entered for a young talent competition at one of the Odeon Cinema Clubs. One week the manager (whom we had to call "Uncle Tom") asked any of us to send in our names to him if we thought wec ould entertain for three minutes. So I sent in my name and was told to come to the stage door the next Saturday. The prize, I was told, was to be saving stamps. I got up on Saturday morning and went to the cinema and round to the stage door. I walked past the sixpenny queue, which consisted of all the young ruffians in the district, and passed the ninepenny queue which consisted of all the "upper classes."

When I got to the stage door I was admitted after stating my business and taken to the side of the stage, where the three other competitors stood. I was conscious of a huge noise coming from somewhere. "What's that noise I can hear?" I asked. "Oh, that's the community singing," I was told. I could faintly hear the strains of an accordion accompanying the riot. Suddenly it stopped, and changed to applause, cat-calls, and boos. The man who was playing the accordion came off the stage. "These —— kids get worse every week," he said.

This was not very encouraging. The other children with me did not think so either.

There was a girl who was going to sing, a boy who was to recite, while the other child was going to tell "funny stories." I was to play the piano. At that moment a further outburst of yelling from the audience told us that the films were beginning. But the club song was first. Now most of the audience cared as much about real singing as a duck does about Latin. They just roared it out. Then the curtains rushed forward to meet each other, and the footlights came on. We heard a terrible outburst of cheers, and we knew that our turn was next. We began to bite our nails. The manager came up. "Hello," he said, "not feeling nervous, are you?" And before we could get our nails out of our mouths he went on, "Of course you're not." "Girlie, you're on first." And "girlie" looked ready to faint. He went on to the stage and announced her. Then the girl came tripping daintily on and began to croon some terribly sad love song that went on and on. At last she tripped daintily off, not noticing in time the big cable running across the stage to the microphone.

I will not describe the performances of the other two boys. The audience didn't hold a high opinion of them, but they had a bit of trouble with the curtains, and that got them quite a bit of applause.

Then it was my turn. A grand piano was pushed on, and I shakily followed. The stage seemed very large and the lights turned everything to an orange-coloured nightmare. Then they dimmed and all was blue in more senses than one. I sat down and began to play "The Merry Peasant," which they all knew. I stood up, went orange again, and walked off, just missing the curtain.

Believe it or not, the manager walked on and announced I had won.

A. E. Trebble (IIB).

Zero Hour.

We were all there, all twenty-six of us, in that room that we were soon to know so well, listening to our final instructions. One or two of us coughed and gave a last look round before going to our doom. One of our number was clutching a mascot, a rabbit's foot, hoping, perhaps, that it would save him from the fate to befall us.

As I looked around I wondered what the others were thinking about. One of my friends was nervously chewing a piece of gum, while another was delving into a bag beside him. Most of us took off our jackets, as it was growing hotter every minute.

So this, I thought, is the culmination of five years' hard labour. This is what we have worked for all these years.

Our taskmaster came round and handed to each of us a piece of paper containing our last orders. As he did so a silence, deep and profound, settled over the room, and we all began writing the answer to our first general school question.

D. A. T.

From a Picture.

Through the Scottish glens the rivers run,
Roaring over rocks and rolling stones,
Passing through the valleys all aglow
With heather, shadowed by the mountains, topped with snow.

From the mountain tops the little rills
Run towards the sea through quiet hills.
But, at the coming of the melting snow,
These hills will echo with the increased flow.

Soon, with budding flowers, will come the spring.
Woodlands will be green again and birds will sing.
The farmers once again will plough and sow,
And by the sleepy rivers, crops will grow.

A. Pirie (IIIB).

Better British Stamps.

There are few countries that have remained so obstinate in the production of their postage stamps as Britain. Ever since the penny black, the majority of our issues have been printed in a monotonous stream bearing just the profile of the reigning sovereign. The remainder consist of half-hearted attempts at variation, mostly issued in commemoration of some important occasion, such as the ascent to the throne by a new King and Queen, or the opening of an exhibition. Why should Britain, a country presumably inhabited by people of temperament and originality and possessed of love of beautiful things, not lead the world in pictorial issues? I now make a few suggestions of how we can improve the standard of our postage stamps, both commemoratives and ordinary issues.

Firstly, why not issue some stamps bearing the portraits of our leading statesmen, authors and celebrities? I shall not suggest film stars and actors, for their importance is slight and passing.

Secondly, here in Britain we have our landscapes and famous places just as other lands have. I have seen on a set of Maltese stamps a view of Windsor Castle. This is good, but why not on a British stamp, instead of leaving our colonies and possessions to show the world our own scenes?

Hampton Court Palace would provide a good example among places of historic interest, and the view from Richmond Hill (Surrey), overlooking the River Thames, is an example of beautiful landscape. Some of our higher mountains would offer impressive views, such as Great Gable, Snowdon, The Peak, Kinder Scout, Ben Nevis, etc. Views of London's famous places would help to signify the greatness of our history.

As pictorial stamps progressed, nature study of Britain would be very suitable to depict on a set of stamps. Our different species of birds could appear in one set, our commoner trees, such as the oak, elm, ash, in another set.

When our country grows more prosperous our products could be advertised and exhibited on stamps. Rosy apples from the Devonshire orchards, an ordinary box of British manufactured matches, our latest motor-cars, pottery and a sack of British coal would all make fine symbols of British manufactured goods and stress the slogan, "British and Best."

These are just a few suggestions; many others could be added. Britain in future years will have to prove its worth and place in the world as a leader of nations; and this will be aided a little by improvements in our postage stamps.

F. R. Clark (IVB).

The Criminal.

He ducks behind a wall,
Jumps at a sparrow's call,
Pays heed to every step,
Ran while all folk slept:
That's the criminal.

He's hunted day and night,
Has forfeited his right.
Thief, pickpocket, little cheat,
He's scared of the policeman on his beat:
That's the criminal.

He'll steal from warehouse or backyard,
He's usually a crafty card.
He laughs when he remembers what's he done.
He's a coward, he's always on the run:
That's the criminal.

Douglas LIVINGSTONE (IIA).

The Night Watchman.

There he sits, alone,
In his dreary cabin,
Fearing nothing that might
Linger in the dark.
A night watchman, poor and lowly,
His old face gilded by the glowing cinders.
One might wonder what he does there,
Sitting, sitting unsleeping.
But there is many a little job for him to do
Before the dawn breaks.
His eyes do ache from the brazier's fumes,
Yet he stays regardlessly,
For the lamps must be attended to.
Unsteady loiterers must be protected from the gaping hole.
Sometimes he hears footsteps
Of a policeman on patrol,
And the cat slinks by with noiseless tread
Bent on its own business,
As it disappears through the cemetery railings.
Now and then he gets up
To see that everything's all right,
For he has many things to look to.
Buckets, picks and shovels, cement and sand,
Not one of them must disappear,
The frying pan and mugs for tea. ...
When he goes back to his cabin
He puts on his big brown coat,
Then settles down on his wooden bench,
With his newspaper in his hand.
And now he dozes and he droops,
And soon he'll be fast asleep,
Dreaming of goblins and fairies,
And luxury, comfort and wealth.

J. Bourton I