THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF
WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XXXV XMAS, 1950 NO. 2

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Vol. XXXV **XMAS, 1950** **No. 2**

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

With this issue The Link resumes its regular terminal appearance no longer faced with the deficit inevitable under the old subscription terms of 1/- per number. It is now financed, along with School clubs and societies, educational visits, team travel and hospitality, and other valuable features of School life, by the Activities and Amenities allowance of the L.C.C., supplemented by the Amenities Fund to which parents subscribe 2/6d. per term, a relatively small amount compared with the abundance of the opportunities and satisfactions that it makes available to their boys.

In July we held the last of the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate Examinations. In the present School Year and for the future there is to be a single new examination for the General Certificate of Education, in which subjects may be offered at ordinary, advanced, or scholarship levels. The general intention of the Ministry is that this new examination should be taken as late as possible in the course. There is no such thing as a pass or failure in the examination as a whole: each candidate will get a statement of results in whatever subject or subjects he offers.

In the future, therefore, there will no longer be the traditional marked break between the Fifth and Sixth Form, and boys who wish to qualify for Matriculation under the new conditions will normally have to complete the Sixth Form course. Abler boys will have a chance of completing the matriculation qualification at the end of the first year in the Sixth, so as to be able to concentrate on university scholarship work in their second year.

In these circumstances for many boys the School's own internal certificate will become an important qualification. To gain such a certificate it will be essential to complete at least the normal five years' course, whether the new General Certificate is taken or not.

It is with special pleasure that we welcome to the Governing Body of the School, Mr. David Rapoport, an old boy of the School, who was here from 1920-1928. He fills the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Ponsonby, reported in our last issue.

After 43 years' service to the School, Mr. P. J. Tribe retired on September 12th, having handed over the Woodwork Shop to his successor, Mr. H. G. Hall.

Old boys of the School remember Mr. Tribe with a good deal of real affection for his quiet modesty and delightful sense of humour; the personal interest he took in them as individuals, and his reminiscences going back so far. We always found him willing to give his time and skill to the various jobs of constructional work that our activities required from time to time. He was a loyal and friendly colleague whose qualities I have appreciated over many years.

We said goodbye this term to our groundsman, Manley, who has been with the School since its transfer in 1927 to the present building. When he reached the normal superannuation age several years ago, we put in a plea for his retention beyond that age. Now he has finally decided to retire, and he carries with him the good wishes of many generations of schoolboys who have known him familiarly as "Bill."

In addition to the Swiss Tour, in which some thirty boys took part from the School and its Technical Branch, I was pleased to be able to facilitate the participation of a number of others in foreign visits during the summer. From reports I hear that they acquitted themselves well.

Perhaps this is a suitable place to record my own impressions of recent contacts with people abroad. It serves the purpose of international understanding to pass on to whatever circles we can any favourable impressions we form from such experiences.

During the last week of the holidays I was privileged to address a series of inter-city meetings at five centres in Holland: Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Utrecht, Zwolle and S'Hertogenbosch. My subject was the English educational system. I found Dutch sentiment for this country overwhelmingly friendly, and their admiration for our schools most marked, especially with regard to the idea of a school as a community in which social and moral qualities are fostered. Prior to my visit to Holland I had the interesting opportunity of leading a party of English Educationists at a Conference at Gugenheim, in the American Zone of Germany. Here similar groups from a number of democratic countries discussed with some 150 German teachers the problems they are concerned with in the rebuilding of the German educational system. What impressed me was the co-operative attitude of the German teachers and their willingness to learn: above all their determination to develop principles, methods, and attitudes in their schools that will promote the democratic outlook and way of life.

A new arrangement by which at present Form IV D benefit came into operation this term. For three sessions per week that Form is able to go by school 'bus to the Technical Branch in Garratt Lane for such subjects as mechanical and technical drawing, architectural drawing, wood and metal work. The same 'bus service enables two forms from the Technical Branch to take advantage of such amenities here as the playing field and gymnasium.

The Wandsworthians Memorial Fund is again indebted to the Skeena Hill Gardens and Allotments Association for the half of the proceeds of its annual fete on the School Field. We greatly appreciate this neighbourly gesture. It was with the utmost regret that a week before the fete we learned of the sudden death of Mr. Gerald Boyce, President of the Skeena Hill Association, and sent a message of sympathy to his colleagues on the committee.

As these notes are being written, we are sending out invitations for the annual Speech Day at which we have invited Mr. Fred Clarke, late Director of the Institute of Education of London University, to present the prizes.

The Parents Association held a very pleasant and exceptionally well-attended social on 29th September, at which a special welcome was extended to the parents of the new boys. Mr. Lincé, as usual, organised the social side in a way that gave us all great pleasure. The main object was to enable parents to make the better acquaintance of the staff and of each other. This was facilitated by having the tutorial at-homes in the Hall and keeping the proceedings mobile and informal.

Next term's main meeting of the Parents Association is on Friday, 2nd February, and will take the form of a talk and discussion on the Comprehensive School.

For parents who wish to be well informed on the subject, I strongly recommend a booklet published at 1/3d. by the English New Education Fellowship, and obtainable at the school.

We are all extremely gratified to hear that Clive Lawler Wilson, who left us in 1947 with an open scholarship to the Imperial College of Science, has now gained a First Class Honours Degree in Engineering and has been awarded a Research Studentship of £260 a year by the British Institute in Paris tenable at the University of Paris.

Congratulations, too, to A. R. Curme, who has brought the Rucker Shield back to Wandsworth School as champion schoolboy swimmer of Wandsworth. Many of our swimmers did well this term in the Wandsworth Schools Swimming Championships, and our Junior Team tied for 1st place in total points, so gaining the right to hold the Junior Shield for six months.

In another field of activity we have an unusual success to record. Roland Williams gained first prize in the London and Home Counties Area Contest for the National (Amateur) Accordion Championship.

Williams has often given generously of his services at our concerts and socials. We appreciate him.

Dennis Brass, who left the School in 1932, writes from Austria, where he is serving under the British Council, about a book he has had published on " MIGUEL TORGA," a new Portuguese writer. Brass has translated a number of his stories and written an introduction.

There is no need to stress the obvious significance of such international cultural work.

On behalf of the School Library I acknowledge with thanks gifts of valuable books from D. R. Horner and P. H. Scott, who left last year.

Prefects for this Term are:—Head Prefect: D. G. Fenton; Second Prefect: J. E. K. Francis; Third Prefect: D. Richardson; Other full Prefects: A. B. Cullum, K. W. Bush, D. V. Stacey, B. G. Light, R. E. Williams, R. C. A. Attoe, N. F. Roberts, J. G. Morris, D. G. Maclean, M. Grazinski, G. W. Bliss, K. M. Line, M. A. Howells; Sub Prefects: J. S. Chafen, P. F. Gritt, R. W. Harrington, M. J. Kelly, W. M. Stanley, D. J. Toomer, J. A. Totham.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE

The following have been admitted since the last issue of The Link:

Alder, J.
Alvey, V. R.
Andrews, P.
Annand, K. S.
Antell, R. B.
Ayshford, D.
Barnett, A. J.
Barrable, J. R. G.
Baruki, J.
Bellenger, J. S.
Bishop, A. E.
Blackie, B. D. W.
Bristow, R. A.
Carr, R. J.
Clowes, P. M.
Cooper, A. L.
Cooper, D. M.
Cornish, P. J.
Cowling, M. J.
Cowper, G. A.
Coyne, P. B.
Croombs, G. H.
Cross, D. B.
Davies, J. T.
Denison, E. G.
Eaton, G.
Edmonds, D. W.
Evans, F. J.
Evans, Raymond
Evans, Robin
Fox, J. P.
Gant, T.
Gilbert, E. F.
Grantham, P. R. G.
Grantham, S. J.
Halcrow, K. J.
Hammond, P. W.
Harbar, G.
Hardcastle, C. R.
Harding, B. R.
Harmer, R. V. H.
Hazard, A. J.
Hemmerlein, E. J.
High, J. E.
Hill, A. J.
Homewood, B. C.
Hopson, B. G.
Howard, L.
Howells, M. A.
Irving, C. D.
Jarvie-Hunt, M. J.
Jarvis, B. W.
Johnston, B. C.
Jones, F. J.
Kaminski, J. W.
Kesseler, A.
Khedheri, H.
Khedheri, U.
Kreuchen, K. S.
Lawrence, J. A.
Libby, P. G. C.
Lillistone, M. A.
MacDowall, J. W.
Mallard, E. E.
Marchant, E. C.
Marshall, J. R.
Mattafice, K. E.
Meads, K. A.
Middleton, R. P.
Moran, A. C.
Morgan, D. S.
Morrison, S. R.
Nabi, A. J.
Naden, M. G.
Nebbett, R. R.
Nebbitt, D. G. E.
Newson, C. M.
Orrow, R. J.
Patrick, B.
Pearson, G. C.
Potter, N. F.
Rickman, R. A.
Roberts, P. B.
Rollason, G. F.
Ryan, T. J.
Sharp, J. W.
Shine, A. B.
Smallwood, J. H.
Sparke, A. T.
Stemp, M.
Stewart, P. M.
Surry, P. E.
Swaine, B. G.
Taylor, J. M.
Tee, B.
Tomkins, A. R.
Trussell, G. J.
Walters, D. J.
Westacott, L. J.
White, D. T.
Wilson, A. S.
Wiseman, G. L.
Wort, G. W. C.
Wulfsberg, A.
Wyeth, N. L.
Wynne, J.
Young, R. H. T.

The following have left since the last issue of The Link:

Alcock, B. W.
Bartlett, R. H.
Beaumont, P.
Bejnarowicz, Z.
Biggs, D. C. R.
Bishop, P. H.
Blackett, J. R.
Bray, D. M. J.
Bricknell, T. C.
Brookes, J. M.
Carr, A. J.
Carter, G. W.
Clavey, R. J.
Cockburn, J. R.
Coleman, A. C. S.
Contreras, G. E.
Coppack, J. D.
Dobrowolski, J.
Dodimead, B. D.
Drane, T.
Dries, D. P.
Evans, J.
Fassbender, H. K.
Fayed, R.
French, D. J.
Gannon, P. H.
Hack, M. B.
Hartley, R. C.
Hatley, D. J.
Hatley, G. E.
Hazell, D. C. J.
Hodgson, J. C.
Horner, D. R.
Howard, L.
Hudson, J.
Johnson, K. H. W.
Jones, D. G.
Krasnodebski, J.
Lane, F. G.
Lawrence, A. E.
Lewis, J. A.
MacLeod, C.
Malandrone, J. L.
Miles, A. L.
Miller, D.
Miller, R. P.
Musgrove, L. G. H.
Nelson, J. A.
Nelson, K. J.
Nunan, F. H.
Oulds, A. B.
Oulds, R. W.
Powell, M. J.
Quandt, P. J. A.
Quinsey, M. P.
Raymond, C. E.
Razzell, B. H.
Reeves, J. H.
Rollason, P. B.
Scott, P. H.
Sims, D. S. J.
Thorpe, D. S.
Vila, A.
Vincent, J. W. C.
Ware, K.
West, J. A. G.
Whitfield, P. J.
Wright, G. H.

MR. P. TRIBE

The retirement of Mr. Tribe from the Staff of the School severs a big link with the past. With his departure, there is not left on the staff a single master who taught at the old School in Wandsworth High Street before the first World War. But even more than that, Mr. Tribe had actually been a pupil at the School during the years 1898-1903, i.e., he joined it when it had been in existence only three years. Mr. Tribe's affection for his old school must have been very great and his reputation there very good—for in 1907 he was appointed to the Staff as Assistant Instructor in Handicraft. The chief instructor was then Mr. Davey, who had been one of the founders of the School. Mr. Tribe's career as a teacher was bound up with Mr. Davey for a considerable period, for both of them took over the Handwork when the School removed to its present building in 1927. On Mr. Davey's retirement soon after, Mr. Tribe was left in sole charge—a position for which he was eminently suited by his own qualifications gained before his appointment, and by his long, valuable training under his mentor's experienced guidance.

Retiring, as he did, at the age of 65, Mr. Tribe was a familiar figure to many a generation of Wandsworth boys and staff. In spite of the fact that during the war he had been seconded to Alleyn's School, his heart was always at Wandsworth, where he returned with great pleasure at the end of the evacuation period. Known affectionately as "Phil," he will always be remembered for his good humour, ready wit, and his willingness to render practical service—especially in connection with stage carpentry and school open days. He was a firm believer in the educational value of handicraft and honest workmanship in the training of all kinds of pupils, and the high standards of accuracy and neatness which he advocated and instilled have been and will remain a lasting influence in many of his pupils. We shall miss him greatly, and wish him a long and congenial retirement.

J.A.

OBITUARY

MR. A. GRUTCHFIELD, B.Sc.

We recently learned with deep regret of the death of Mr. Arthur Grutchfield, who was on the Staff of the School from 1904 to 1938. Mr. Grutchfield, who was trained as a teacher at St. Mark's Training College, came to Wandsworth School shortly after its foundation and taught Art in which he was qualified. With characteristic energy he later took a degree in Science and eventually taught Physics as his main subject. During the First World War he served in Army Ordnance and reached the rank of Major: later he was to resume this rank during the Second World War, when he was attached to the Ministry of Supply. This was after his retirement in 1938, at the age of 61. He had moved to Polegate, near Eastbourne, but his war work brought him back to London for several strenuous years. We were pleased to see him on the occasion of the School Jubilee and of the unveiling of the War Memorial.

Mr. Grutchfield was a teacher of rare skill and practical ability. He had, above all, the great gift of lucidity, the power of clarifying, by illustration and analogy, the most complicated subjects. He was a firm believer in accuracy and in the inculcation of fundamental principles as a basis of logical thinking, not only in science, but in everyday affairs. A man of calm and even temper, and of cool detached judgment, he was a wise counsellor both to pupils and colleagues. Systematic and practical, he could be relied on for any job requiring order and smooth efficiency. Many pupils will remember his keen interest in the Cadet Corps and the Rifle Club—now both non-existent, but above all they will recall the man himself—the personification of quiet courtesy and essential dignity.

We offer our respectful condolences to Mrs. Grutchfield and to the family.

H. G. WAYLING, M.Sc.

We have only recently heard of the death of Mr. Wayling, which took place last February. Mr. Wayling had been in retirement at Epsom since 1934, when he left us after a period of fifteen years on the Staff.

Mr. Wayling came to us from Battersea County School and taught Science. His deep interest in the subject was infectious and he had the gift of making it live. This was largely due to the human and personal element he brought to the subject through his researches into the lives and personalities of great scientists and especially of London scientists. Into this aspect of the history of science he had gone very deeply, and he had drawn up some interesting plans and charts, which were publicly displayed in connection with a Science Exhibition in London. He gave occasional wireless talks (notably one on Alchemy) in the early days of broadcasting. A man of quiet demeanour and simple ways, he was an excellent colleague, a conscientious teacher, and a pleasant companion.

We offer our respectful sympathy to all his family.

J.A.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL

It is with mixed feelings that we record the attainments of Cromwell House since the last issue of The Link. Although we are proud to record the fact that Cromwell has regained the Cock House Trophy, we must express some anxiety for the immediate future in the matter of diligence. In this sphere the House once again occupies last position, mainly owing to a lack of effort and house spirit. Reading through our House Notes published over recent years one is struck by the frequent exhortations to better diligence, and is appalled by the lack of response from the offenders whose recurring poor diligence results drag down our set averages. It has been decided, therefore, that some practical means of rectifying this state of affairs must be adopted. We hope that those among us who are the worst offenders will take note.

We are happy this term to extend a welcome to Mr. Hall, who has recently become a member of Cromwell House.

To the Boxing and Athletics Trophies we have added the Parents' Cricket Shield. This was a marked improvement on our performance last year when Cromwell did not gain a single point in the competition. Our success this year was due to the enthusiasm and co-operation shown both by seniors and juniors.

At the time of writing there is little to report on the Inter-House Rugby. Our senior team has felt the loss of our captain, J. G. Morris, who has been unable to play this year owing to injuries sustained in School matches.

And now we must turn to the future. Next term we have the Cross-Country Run. The House team is lucky to have the leadership of D. G. Maclean, who has had some well-deserved success in local events. We must, however, remember that this is a team event, and the result will depend upon the amount of training put in before the race. So let us see a good turn-out for the organised practices when the time comes.

The Eisteddfod takes place next term. We hope it is unnecessary to remind the House of our defeat last year when we fell from our accustomed position of first place to third. We must do better next term. We must show the people in these other Houses that the Mayfield Cup is Cromwell's private property. It is up to us to rally round our leaders in the various departments and help them to bring us back into first place.

Can Cromwell House retain the Cock House Trophy; and can we improve upon our efforts over the past year? Cromwellites, it is up to **you!**

D.G.F., J.G.M

GIBBON

It is now time for us to survey the activities of the House during the last three months, and to record a verdict which does not entirely fulfil the hope expressed in the last issue of The Link. One favourable sign is the encouraging progress Gibbon House has made in the field of sport, for the unique honour of winning the Rucker Shield was brought to Wandsworth School by a member of the House, A. R. Curme, and this is typical of the increase in enthusiasm which has been noticeable during this past term.

In the Swimming Gala, Gibbon House, shaking off its lethargy of last year, almost attained the heights of victory, being beaten by only two-and-a-half points. For a third of the time Gibbon House led, and it is a sobering thought that had every swimmer in Gibbon House played his part to the full by entering for all the standards, this close struggle would have resulted in our triumph. However, Gibbon House extends its heartiest congratulations to all who took part on their fine performance, especially to our captain and vice-captain, Quested and Curme, and to the juniors, Watts and Winchester, who among the others, did credit to the House.

On the Rugger field Gibbon has not shone forth as in other spheres of activity, and at the time of going to Press we have lost our first game of the season, against Cromwell, by six points to nil. This was indeed a surprising result since we had anticipated losing to such a strong team by an even greater margin, and from this point of view it was a moral victory. But moral victories will not win us the rugger shield that the excellent leadership of our rugger captain, Clarke, deserves.

For some members of the House next term will herald the beginning of much hard work for an exam; for others it will be the beginning of the end—the end of their school life; but for most of us it will be just another term, a spring term, the first of the year, the first of 1951.

And in the spring term two activities quite suddenly appear from the wings and fill the stage until Easter: cross-country running and the Eisteddfod.

Gibbon House regrets the loss of Bartlett, our cross-country captain, who did so well for the House last year. With an excellent team, and him as captain, Gibbon House won home, and since then the Cross-Country Shield has had a blue ribbon pinned above it. Let every member of the House do his best and once again we shall come first.

And now we come to an important activity, and the blackest part of our history: the Eisteddfod. It is needless to remind ourselves what position we reached last year, or the year before for that matter. The cause of our failure has, in the past, been not so much a lack of enthusiasm as sheer **laziness** on the part of many of the members of the House. In the organised sections of the Eisteddfod we generally fare quite well, but in the other sections where all depends on the initiative and enterprise of individual members, our results were poor. It appears that the reasoning of many individuals was that their contributions would not be of a high enough standard. How ridiculous! Let there be no recurrence next term of this attiude, which culminated in our complete failure to produce a play.

But let us not end on a sad note. The time has come when we all have the chance to prove that we individually are determined to do our utmost to raise Gibbon House to the position it deserves. Let no member of Gibbon House waste that chance.

W.M.S., B.T.

MORLEY

It is with a slightly more optimistic outlook than in the last issue of The Link that we are able to write these House notes, although in the Swimming Gala, the first sporting event of the year, we managed to gain only 3rd place As usual, this was due to the fact that many Morley swimmers failed to turn out for the standards, in which every boy has a chance to score valuable points for his House. When will the House realise that the Swimming Shield is won and lost on standards, and act accordingly?

Nevertheless many Morley swimmers did extremely well at the Gala, especially Totham, Forbes, Hobson and Richards, D. The latter distinguished himself particularly by winning the junior and middle diving events. A notable achievement!

So far in the diligence Morley has done extremely well, and, at the time of writing, is top, having won both awards. The main credit for this must go to Morley C, who have invariably led the House. If we are to maintain this lead and win the Couch Shield we must work still harder, especially Morley B.

At the time of going to Press the inter-house rugby matches are in progress and Morley have got off to a reasonable start. Enthusiasm is high, and under T. Dore, our captain, there have been regular practices, which have been well attended. Our senior XV has already convincingly beaten Pitt 14-3. Our junior XV did not fare so well, but will no doubt improve with experience and practice.

In the next few weeks, when the individual championship is settled, the inter-house fives competition will begin. Our hopes for this are very high, as the captain of school fives, the vice-captain and the secretary, besides a member of the committee, are all in Morley House.

Now we must look forward to next term, when the Eisteddfod, the cross-country and chess competitions take place. We have already elected as our cross-country captain K. J. Sperger, with J. M. Alvey as vice-captain. It is the duty of the House to back them up. We want to improve on last year's sorry performance, and the way to do this is to turn out for practice runs. For although we get a large number of the House turning out on the day of the run, only a few of this number bother to get any preliminary training, so essential for success.

We should have a good chance of winning the chess, for in Morley House we have four members of the School chess team and several other good players.

Earlier this year we won the Eisteddfod for the first time, and there is no reason whatsoever why we should not repeat our success. The Eisteddfod covers so large a field that there is no reason why every member of the House, from the 1st Form to the VIth should not do something to help. It is not too early to start thinking out ideas for pictures, stories, poems, etc., to enter in the competitions.

Thus there are signs that the dark cloud which has lain over Morley House so long is slowly rising. Let us see that it is completely dispersed by each pulling his weight both in work and sport. Then perhaps we shall at last see yellow rosettes attached to the shields in the hall.

A.T., R.H.

PITT

This first paragraph is addressed to new boys who have joined the House this term. We hope that you will all play your part, however small it may be, and uphold and improve the reputation of your House.

This term sees us engaged in a hard struggle to retain the Rugger trophy. We have already played off one senior and one junior match, and we are pleased to say that our juniors won very convincingly. However, the senior XV was not quite so good and lost 14 points to 3. If we could rely upon the juniors alone, we are sure that we should keep the trophy for yet another year. This, however, will not be so unless the senior pack improves vastly.

We started the term well by winning the Swimming Gala very narrowly, a success which we hope will be repeated next year. This was really due to the short lead which we managed to secure last term in the Standards. We must especially congratulate our juniors again, but for whom we should never have won the Shield. The junior team promises well for the future. Our success is all the more remarkable in view of the fact that we lost our two best senior swimmers, A. Vila and K. Broome, just before the Gala.

Now, as regards diligence. This term the House started well by coming first, but this good form was not maintained. This is not good enough. Each boy must do his own part

Next term we have the Cross-Country Run and the Eisteddfod. These two activities both rely for their success on a large number of entries, and on giving up some of your own time. This should not be too much to ask of boys in a Grammar School. Last year's Eisteddfod was a great improvement, for we failed utterly in the music and yet we jumped from a poor third to a good second place. This year, with a record number of entries, we hope to come first. The Cross-Country Run, besides entries, requires some training, and so we want you to answer the call and attend all Pitt practices.

Now to finish: we should say that the House does not require each boy to be a superman but that everyone should do his best.

N.F.R., D.R.

CRICKET

Captain: K. H. W. Johnson; Vice-Captain: J. G. Morris; Hon. Secretary: D. S. Thorpe.

A considerable number of Colours, Colts and Senior players remained from last season, thus providing firm foundations for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd XI's.

Johnson again captained the School, and experience gained in preceding seasons showed particularly in the astute way he placed his field, which on every occasion gave him adequate support. The 1st XI batsmen were usually capable of mastering opposing bowling. Dries batted attractively and aggressively; Bartlett with a liveliness that reappeared in his wicket-keeping; and Johnson with rock-like steadiness at No. 1. The form of the other batsmen fluctuated widely, though they maintained a high standard of fielding, especially Carr at short-leg. Line proved an effective all-rounder and Lewis developed his fast left arm bowling sufficiently to lead the attack on most occasions. Blackett was promoted from the 2nd XI half way through the season mainly for his batting, but his bowling proved better, and he shared the attack with Lewis. Prangnell and Benham, of the Colts, merited inclusion in the latter part of the season, picking up a lot of useful knowledge.

Most of the 1st XI matches were played away owing to the lack of a decent pitch, and the 2nd XI had to battle against bumpers and shooters on a viscous rugby-scarred wicket. A slight trickle of new equipment has at long last reached our store-rooms, but it is disheartening to note that (at the time of writing) we are still without sight-screens and umpires' coats, which help to make a cricket field the more neat and tidy.

Dr. Solomon managed the cricket this year and energetically fostered and organised end-of-term coaching schemes for promising players.

1st XI RESULTS

v. Roehampton C.C. (April 29th) and v. Bec (May 6th), cancelled owing to rain; v. Wandsworth Officers C.C. (May 13th), H., won by 5 wickets; v. Raynes Park (May 20th), A., drew; v. Sir Walter St. John's (June 3rd), H., lost by 34 runs; v. Battersea Grammar (June 10th), A., lost by 2 wickets; v. Selhurst (June 17th), A., lost by 44 runs; v. Sloane (June 24th), A., drew; v. Surbiton (July 1st), A., won by 25 runs; v. Parents (July 8th), H., won; v. Old Wandsworthians (July 15th), H., lost by 10 runs; v. The Staff (July 19th), H., lost by 45 runs.

2nd XI RESULTS

Captain: P. J. Whitfield.

On the whole a much better season than last year. Malandrone and Bourton were good bowling men, while Blackett and Bricknell maintained good batting abilities. Fielding at times was very lax, but Whitfield performed a good job at point, and Toomer kept wicket well.

v. Sir Walter St. John's (May 20th), H., lost by 10 runs; v. Battersea Grammar (June 10th), H., won by 45 runs; v. Selhurst (June 17th), H., won by 2 runs; v. Sloane (June 24th), H., won by 3 wickets; v. Surbiton (July 1st), H., lost by 8 wickets.

House Cricket

The combined Senior and Junior results showed that Cromwell had won narrowly from Gibbon and Pitt. Morley now occupies the position Cromwell occupied last year. The Senior games again showed that it is vital that more and more boys devote themselves to the game, and that House practices be attended with a lively enthusiasm. This would abolish the despairing position most captains find themselves in when in theory their task seems simple—namely to choose eleven senior cricketers out of some hundred senior boys in their House. Again it was the regular School players who did all the work in the games. A tournament like this should attract boys who wish to display their abilities with a view to getting selected for a Saturday eleven. Only one boy—Jones of Morley, through his bowling—earned such a place.

Colours were gained as follows:—Full (re-awards): Johnson, Line, Dries, Lewis; Full: Morris, Blackett, Carr, Bartlett; Half: Stear, Bullock, Prangnell.

D. THORPE

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Captain: J. G. Morris; Vice-Captain: K. M. Line; Secretary: J. A. Totham.

1st XV RESULTS

v. Mitcham, lost 9-0; v. Purley, lost 23-3; v. Tiffin, lost 8-6; v. Bec, lost 17-9; v. Raines Foundation, won 17-9; v. Surbiton, lost 21-0.

Although the loss of several of last season's regular players has weakened the School Rugby Club, at the beginning of the season there still seemed to be a nucleus around which a strong 1st XV could be formed. Unfortunately these expectations have not yet been fulfilled. Several individual performances are worthy of mention. Dore, leader of the forwards, has distinguished himself in the line-outs and loose scrums. He has been ably supported in these efforts by Totham, but they have lacked the full co-operation of the other forwards. The Bourton-Line combination at half-back improves with every game, whilst Attoe, amongst the other backs, has given outstanding displays both in attack and defence.

The forwards have never let the team down, but they could improve their loose scrummaging by binding together and by showing more spirit and determination. However, they are beginning to support each other and to follow up.

In the three-quarters, with the exception of Attoe, we can no longer see the determined and straight running with which last season's backs won their games. The handling and passing are not of 1st XV standard and the defence is weak. Indeed, only three or four members of the 1st team seem to believe in the " tackle low, tackle

hard" formula. The remaining players prefer either to jump on their opponents or to seize a jersey. If the tackling can be improved and the defence rendered safe, some confidence might be infused into the team and produce more displays like that against Raines.

The School team has been unfortunate in losing the services of their captain, Morris, through injuries. The duties of captain have been taken over by Line, who has led the team very well.

Finally, we should like to offer our congratulations to the Colt and Junior XV's, especially the latter, for their excellent unbeaten record.

J.G.M., K.M.L.

SECOND XV

Captain: K. J. Sperger.

So far this season the 2nd XV have won only two of the six matches played. This is due to the average lightness of the team in comparison with our opponents. We have not lost because of the lack of keenness, but because there is not enough teamwork amongst the players. The forwards still need to bind together in the loose scrums and the three-quarters fail to mark their opponents.

Summary of matches:—v. Mitcham, lost 0-23; v. Purley, lost 0-24; v. Tiffin, won 14-3; v. Bec, lost 0-13; v. Raines Foundation, won 20-11; v. Surbiton, lost 3-25.

COLTS

Captain: D. Cracknell; Vice-Captain: J. W. Tilley; Hon. Secretary: R. Prangnell.

Played 7, won 4, lost 3; points for, 88; points against, 41. v. Mitcham, won 9-3; v. Purley, lost 8-3; v. Tiffin, lost 12-6; v. Chiswick, won 22-0; v. Bec, won 21-0; v. Eastcote Lane, won 24-5; v. Surbiton, lost 13-3.

The following boys have played this season: Cracknell, Tilley, Prangnell, Gingell, Wrigglesworth, Hennessey, Elliott, Thompson, Glayzer, Howell, Winters, Edgar, Smith, Nye, Kennedy, Holder, Harding, Hayden, Thorne, Jesset, A.

R.P.

JUNIOR XV

Captain: D. J. S. Granfield; Vice-Captain: J. A. Herbert; Hon. Secretary: J. M. Gooders.

Played 6, won 6, points for, 133; points against, 20.

The team has had a very successful season to date, having won all its six matches.

Several members of the team have been very consistent in the number of points they have scored. Granfield tops the list of scorers with an individual record of 43 points and Szyjkowski has scored tries in every match, his total being 27 points to date. Herbert, Gale and Mitchell, though not so outstanding as the two members previously mentioned, have good individual scores. It is reasonable to expect that as the team continues with their fixtures, further progress will be made and that we shall see some more examples of outstanding achievement, both in the record of the Junior Team and in individual records.

Summary of matches:—v. Mitcham, won 8-3; v. Chiswick, won 17-3; v. Tiffin, won 20-0; v. Bec, won 28-14; v. Eastcote Lane, won 21-0; v. Surbiton, won 39-0.

The following boys have played for the Junior team: Selway, Mitchell, Granfield, Charsley, Bush, Sommerville, Forbes, Geneux, Barrett, Appleyard, Gibbons, Hennessey, Brodie, Herbert, Gooders, Bicknell, Patterson, Gale, Szyjkowski, Sackman.

D.J.S.G., J.M.G.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The School Debating Society has continued to hold meetings on most Monday afternoons after school this term. Despite the claims of rival activities, debating has aroused the enthusiasm of a growing number—still too limited, however—of keen and regular supporters.

A committee, representative of all the senior forms, has met regularly to select topics and speakers. More ready willingness to take the plunge and agree to open debates on the part of our would-be orators, however, would make the work of this committee more agreeable. Special thanks are due to Roberts, Stacey and Wharton for their services in a secretarial capacity.

Our standard of debate is not yet very high. Careful preparation, not only by the leading speakers, is essential to a lively meeting. Orderly and forceful presentation of the relevant facts and arguments is likewise called for, and requires constant and regular practice. Above all, clear and varied expression must be cultivated by those who are inclined to adopt a mumbled monotone. Nor are wit and humour out of place in an activity, the main object of which is to persuade and to ridicule. We hope that, indirectly, debating will have educational value in developing the capacity to see all round a subject and to disagree on serious matters without bitterness, as well as in providing opportunities to acquire confidence and facility in public speech; but the activity itself should be as pleasurable and as diverting as good conversation. Our performance this term has not always been remarkable for its display of lively mind, ready tongue, and intellectual good manners, but some members have shown genuine promise of forensic achievement.

The subjects of debate have included the very important questions of the menace of football pools, the advantages of corporal punishment, the role of the cinema, the future of the aristocracy, the possible banning of the Communist Party, and the passing of the trams.

Suggestions for future topics or offers to open debates should be made to form representatives on the committee, who are looking forward to the time when we are strong enough to take on teams from other schools.

W.E.P.

A PERSONAL NOTE

I devote this piece to all boys who shy away from the Debating Society. I myself belong to it and go regularly. I know some boys think that the debates are stuffy and boring, but this is not so.

The subjects are interesting, and when they are not, the arguing and tricks of speaking are interesting enough. I myself go, not because I want to hear what is said about the subjects, but rather to hear the speakers pull each others' arguments apart. These differences often develop into private arguments and the Chairman has to call the speakers to order.

Some boys are afraid to go because they think they will have to speak. They may make short speeches from the floor or speak in favour or against the motion, but they are never forced. It is not much good going if you are afraid of speaking, but if you go you will soon want to speak.

There are some boys who are too lazy to go. All I can say to them is that they may as well go, because they need not do anything, but will learn something from just listening.

N. F. PARKHURST, IVB

CHESS CLUB NOTES

The School Chess Club this year has been entered by Dr. Solomon for the London Secondary Schools Chess League.

This was done in view of our very successful season last year. However, unfortunately, enthusiasm has not been kept up to last year's pitch. The Chess Club has been resting on its laurels!

Apart from the usual burst of enthusiasm from Form I for the beginners' classes at the commencement of term, meetings have not been well attended. We believe, however, that there are many boys in the upper school who can play chess and would make quite good players if they came along to practice. Remember, this year most of the stalwarts of last year's team have left and there is an excellent chance for new players to get into the school team.

The following are the details of this term's matches to date: 29th September, v. City of London, won $3\frac{1}{2}$-$2\frac{1}{2}$; 2nd October, v. Raynes Park, lost $5\frac{1}{2}$-$3\frac{1}{2}$ (compare this with last year's result, won 8-2); 16th October, v. Bec, won 6-2. The School team had a very easy win, but it was more by "wood-shifting" than chess!! 27th October, v. Tenisons, won $3\frac{1}{2}$-$2\frac{1}{2}$; 10th November, v. Tiffins, lost $7\frac{1}{2}$-$\frac{1}{2}$. The strength of the School team was really tested, but failed to live up to expectations. Tiffins are one of the strongest teams in the district (compare last year's result, won $7\frac{1}{2}$-$4\frac{1}{2}$).

In conclusion, we should like once more to thank all those without whom the Chess Club could not function: Dr. Solomon, Mr. Mercer, the school-keeper and the ladies who provide us with teas for the visiting teams.

R. E. WILLIAMS, A. CHAPLIN

RUGBY FIVES

Since the last issue of the School magazine, enthusiasm for the game of Fives throughout the School has increased tremendously. So much, in fact, that it has been possible to organise an Individual School Championship.

Although the championship has had to be confined to the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Forms only, there have been sixty-four entrants. This means that sixty-three games will have to be played to find the "Champion, 1950-51." The competitors will have to bestir themselves to get the competition finished before the School games begin in the New Year.

From the championship results I hope that each House Fives captain will pick his team of two players. Each House match will consist of two singles games and one doubles game. The House Fives Trophy, to be competed for every year, has been kindly presented by Mr. R. W. Fenn. Also from the championship results will be picked the School team of four players.

At the moment of writing, your Honorary Secretary, K. J. Sperger, is compiling a fixture list for the 1951 season. We have entered for the Marchant Cup again and hope to do better in this competition than last time. We also hope to renew acquaintance with Henry Thornton School. The Old Boys have also approached me with regard to an Old Boys v. The School match.

May I point out that our School is lucky to have such good Fives Courts. Other schools have congratulated us on them.

Fives Club officials are as follows:—Captain: J. A. Totham; Vice-Captain: A. E. Twort; Honorary Secretary: K. J. Sperger.

J.A.T.

BOXING

Captain: J. F. Francis; Vice-Captain: P. J. Whitfield.

Owing to the fact that none of the staff was able to take over the organising of the Boxing Club, we have combined with our Building Branch and are now under the very able guidance of Mr. Wilson, their games master.

The training is going well and although there is a shortage of seniors, our boxers are full of enthusiasm and are showing promise which might well bear fruit in the near future. The inter-school fixtures have been cancelled, but if the team progresses favourably enough, a few matches will be arranged before the end of term.

Unfortunately, other activities have taken up the time of several of last year's promising boxers. However, we hope to see our numbers increase, although, owing to limited space, a large boxing club is for the present not practical.

It must be remembered that the Great Britain Championships are being held next term and we want to put up a good show by having one or more boys representing London in the finals at Harringay next March. The School has had a representative in the finals every year since the war, and we hope to follow the example set by Francis and Whitfield, P., in previous years.

G. WHITFIELD

SWIMMING

The supreme importance of "Standards" was again emphasised in this year's Swimming Gala. Pitt had established a small lead over the other Houses, but it was not thought to be sufficient to ward off the strong challenge expected from Gibbon. After an exciting evening, with the lead changing hands several times, Pitt finally won the Dr. Waite Swimming Shield with 146 points from Gibbon (143½ points), Morley (139 points) and Cromwell (130½ points).

The Headmaster introduced Mr. D. Rapoport (himself an Old Boy and now a member of the School Governors), who presented the Shield to the captain of the Pitt team.

Later in the same week A. R. Curme won the Rucker Shield and thus became the 100 yards Schoolboy Champion of Wandsworth. G. L. Harvey, too, narrowly missed winning the Putney Town Regatta Championship Cup; in fact he returned a faster time in his heat than that recorded in the final. J. S. Chafen was third in this event. It is interesting to note that both these highly-prized trophies were previously won by K. Broome, who is now doing so well both with the Avondale Club and the Civil Service Swimming Club.

An interesting event in this year's Gala was an Old Boys' Competition. The four competing associations were represented by well-matched teams and so evenly were the events contested that the issue was in doubt until the final relay.

Result: 1st, Bec Old Boys (16 points); 2nd, Old Wandsworthians (15 points); 3rd, Old Tiffinians (14 points); 4th, Old Mid-Whitgiftians (13 points).

The Old Wandsworthians were represented by Messrs. Ferne (who organised the event), Bullivant, Vila and Newman.

In the Wandsworth School's Swimming Gala, the Juniors again acquitted themselves well and tied for first place. The late arrival of one of our star breast-stroke swimmers means that we hold the Championship Shield for six months instead of a year. In the London Championships, where the standard of performance is very high, both our relay teams won their way to the finals, but were disqualified for technical faults in the breast-stroke swimmers.

Now that the School Bath is equipped with a diving board it was pleasing to see the general improvement in the standard of diving; but in swimming very few boys seem to possess the perseverance and determination to develop a good crawl stroke which can only come from many hours of practice. Curme, Totham and Harvey can perhaps be excluded from this general stricture, and we are looking forward to Morgon succeeding Broome as the holder of both the Rucker Shield and the Regatta Cup in a few years' time.

H.A.

Swimming Gala Results

One length free style (Junior)—1, Winchester, I. G. (G); 2, Bergson, A. C. (C); 3, Forbes, E. (M); 4, Rawling, M. F. (P). One length free style (Middle)—1, Harvey, G. L. (C); 2, White, J. F. (G); 3, Miller, A. J. (M); 4, Mortimer, B. (P). One length free style (under 12½)—1, Morgon, K. (P); 2, Earle, M. (M); 3, Watts, G. (G); 4, Smith, J. (C). One length free style (senior)—1, Chafen, J. (C) and Hobson, H. (M); 3, Quested, J. (G); 4, Wilman, R. (P). One length back stroke (under 12½)—1, Hill, A. J. (P); 2, Bates, P. M. (C); 3, Styles, G. (M); 4, Pierce, C. P. (G). One length back stroke (Senior)—1, Totham, J. A. (M); 2, White, J. F. (G); 3, Ryan, P. (C); 4, Vary, R. G. (P). One length back stroke (Junior)—1, Rawlings, M. J. (P); 2, Saull, T. B. (G); 3, Forbes, E. (M); 4, Bicknell, L. (C). One length back stroke (Middle)—1, Curme, A. (G); 2, Miller, A. J. (M); 3, Vincent, J. (P); 4, Bales, W. (C). Form 1 Championship—1, Hill, A. J. (P); 2, Nebbitt, D. G. (C); 3, Alvey, V. (M); 4, Cooper, D. M. (C). Inter-School relay—1, Bec; 2, Sir Walter St. Johns; 3, Wandsworth. Old Boys: Two lengths breast stroke—1, Bec Old Boys; 2, Old Tiffinians; 3, Old Mid-Whitgiftians; 4, Old Wandsworthians. Old Boys: Medley relay—1, Old Mid-Whitgiftians; 2, Bec Old Boys; 3,

Old Wandsworthians. One length breast stroke (Junior)—1, Sackman, D. (P); 2, Bricknell, L. (C); 3, Saull, T. (G). One length breast stroke (under 12½)—1, Styles, G. (M); 2, Smith, J. (C); 3, Pierce, C. (G); 4, Hill, A. J. (P). One length breast stroke (Senior)—1, Totham, J. (M); 2, Quested, J. (G); 3, Nesbitt, J. (P); 4, Reeve, G. (C). One length breast stroke (Middle)—1, Curme, A. R. (G); 2, Harvey, G. L. (C); 3, Pavitt, T. (M) and Sackman, D. (P). Old Boys: Two lengths free style—1, Old Wandsworthians; 2, Old Tiffinians; 3, Bec O.B.; 4, Old Mid-Whitgiftians. Old Boys: Relay—1, Old Tiffinians; 2, Old Wandsworthians; 3, Bec O.B. Relay (Middle)—1, Cromwell; 2, Gibbon; 3, Pitt; 4, Morley. Dive (under 12½)—1, Watts, G. (G); 2, Morgon, K. (P); 3, Roper, F. (M) 4, Cooper, D. (C). Dive (Junior)—1, Richards, D. (M); 2, Morgon, K. (P) and Winchester, I. G. (G); 4, McKeown, M. (C). Dive (Middle)—1, Richards, D. (M); 2, Sommerville, J. (P); 3, Curme, A. R. (G); 4, Leeman, J. (C). Dive (Senior)—1, Quested, J. (G); 2, Sommerville, J. (P); 3, Hobson, H. (M); 4, Liggitt, R. (C). Relay (under 12½)—1, Pitt; 2, Cromwell; 3, Morley; 4, Gibbon. Relay (Junior)—1, Pitt; 2, Cromwell; 3, Morley; 4, Gibbon. Relay (Senior)—1, Gibbon and Morley; 3, Cromwell; 4, Pitt.

ATHLETICS

We competed in only two matches during the year. The first, the South London Grammar Schools Sports, brought little success to the team as a whole, but the Junior Relay Team, Tilley, Livingstone, Davison and Gooders, ran grandly to be second. The mile team of Maclean and Francis performed well and were third in that event.

The Junior match against Elliott was narrowly lost. Thompson is to be congratulated on clearing over 16 feet in the long jump.

For the third year in succession, Cromwell won the Athletics Shield. Cromwell were behind on Standards and the result was in doubt until the relays, when they gained three first and one second place in their races. Pitt was second, and Morley third.

D. G. MACLEAN

SCHOOLS CONCERT at the Albert Hall

On Friday, 13th October, a small party of boys from forms five and six were privileged to attend a special concert given for London secondary school boys and girls who will shortly be leaving school.

The object of the concert was, as Dr. Leslie Russell pointed out before the programme began, to give to boys and girls about to leave school a taste of the great works of music, so that when they go out into the world they will always demand the best that music has to give.

The programme, which was played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted by Dr. Russell, certainly lived up to this standard. It started with Handel's Overture to the Occasional Oratorio, which was followed by Haydn's Concerto for Trumpet, which, needless to say, proved just as popular on this occasion as always. Following this was the little performed Ballet Music from the opera "The Perfect Fool," by Holst. This work with its introduction boldly announced by two trombones, certainly was a big jump from the dignified Occasional Oratorio written in 1745 to commemorate the suppression of the Jacobite Rebellion.

The main work of the programme was the lovely Symphony No. 4 in G, by Dvorak, which was listened to with rapt attention and much enjoyed by all the Wandsworth School party.

R. E. WILLIAMS

NOVEMBER THE FIFTH

Now, as the dullness of the cold November day yields to the black and cold night, one notices the shop-fronts proudly displaying their posters for fireworks. Now most people remember the fun they had on this occasion when they were young. Now, on returning home from work, one sees the effigies of Guy Fawkes, and as some child puts that one question peculiar to November the Fifth, hands go into pockets to find the odd coppers. Now, after the explosion of a " banger " that has been thrown into a dustbin, sending the lid with a resounding crash to the ground, the laughter makes plain the enjoyment of the children and of the adults too.

Now flashes light the sky, rockets whizz into the air, bangers bang, " Cannon Crashers " crash, and giant whizzers whizz on the cold night air. The " Oh's " and " Ah's " when a " Golden Rain " showers forth its splendour, are all part of this famous and immemorial day. Now the fires are lit, and faces shine in the flame. Now the little boy who is " too young " to have fireworks watches with envy from his bedroom window the boy next door busy with his Guy and fireworks. Now children get their own back on Mr. P. who kept the balls that went into his garden. Now, hearing a ring at the front door, he opens it to be greeted by a bang that " nearly knocked the roof off."

And now, on hearing a rather suspicious ring at the front door, the writer finds that he has come to the end of his writing.

A. J. TAYLOR, IVB.

VERSE—HOLIDAY

Oh to be on holiday,
  Now that school term's here,
With history, maths and geography
  And other words of fear!

I'd rather far be swimming
  And stalking rabbits meek,
Than doing stacks of school work
  All through the week.

Hiking, biking, fishing
  Are more to my delight,
Than sitting in detention room
  For not getting homework right.

Columbus, Drake, Napoleon,
  Lots and lots of names;
While we are doing history
  I'd be rather playing games!

Pronouns, verbs and adverbs,
  Adjectives and nouns;
I'd rather see a circus
  And watch the funny clowns!

Oh to be on holiday
  Now that term is here,
With history, maths and geography
  And other words of fear!

R. M. ROSE, IIC

STAMPS

When the Summer days draw to a close
And people sit at home and doze,
My leisure time I spend quite happily
Upon my hobby called philately.

While outside, folks put up their gamps
For me it's calalogue and stamps.
The "penny black" brings up days of old
With cut-throats and highwaymen bold;
Stage coaches lumbering through the vales,
Bearing tidings and king's mails.

The train that thunders through the night
And the plane that links the world in flight
Are carrying stamps on every letter,
To help make my collection better.

G. DODGE, IIIA

THE PASSING OF TIME

Time, the most important thing in life,
Marches on through pleasure and strife.
The business men, they count the cost
Of all the time that they have lost;
The sluggard finds the day is long,
Blames you and me when things go wrong;
While the busy ones you can easily tell,
Find that time goes quickly and things go well.

C. SWALLOW, IIIA

ELY CATHEDRAL

Proud on its hill above the fens
  Stands that stately pile;
The traveller sees its graven towers
  And stops to gaze awhile.

He passes through the portals wide
  Into the nave so high,
His eye entranced by beauties rare
  Whose charm will never die.

The sound of singing strikes his ear
  Beyond the screen of gold
And soft and mellow organ tones
  A solemn strain unfold.

He is no longer of this world
  But in a world of yore
Where cares can all be left behind
  And peace reign evermore.

A. D. COOK, IIIA

RUGGER RIVALS

It's muddy, it's wet, it's pouring with rain,
Two panting teams are at it again.
All day long it has poured and poured
And nobody yet a point has scored.
They're scrumming once more in a seething mass,
They've played for an hour and they're still full of dash.
Great, unbeaten rivals in a tense final clash,
Surely one record must go with a crash.
The ball is heeled quickly through the two packs
To one of the waiting, alert half-backs:
But the whistle blows for a pointless draw;
Too bad! If only we'd ten minutes more!

J. HERBERT, IIIA

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS NOTES

Month after month, year after year, the same comparatively few members sit on the committees, do the work, run the Rugger and other sports sections, organise the dances and the summer fetes and generally spare no effort to expand the club and improve the amenities. Through circumstances mainly outside their control, they have, however, been unsuccessful in bringing about the rate of growth that is essential for a healthy Association. With rising costs, National Service and all the other present-day problems to be faced, it is only through a greatly increased membership that the club can prosper.

The present situation is one that has been discussed interminably in Old Boys' circles and it is hoped that certain steps taken recently will have an effect of recruitment. But every Old Wandsworthian who is not a member of the club should ask himself "Why aren't I?" and then make sure he does something about it. Wednesday night attendance at the School has shown a sharp falling-off recently although the amenities provided offer a reasonably wide range of activities. The Rugger section is valiantly trying to field three sides each week and just about manages it, but the Old Boys of a School of Wandsworth's size and traditions ought to be able to field four with ease.

The new committee got off to a good start, and a judicious rearrangement of the sub-committees concerned with particular activities has resulted in Norman Lowe's bringing his unique talents to bear on the running of the winter programme of dances, and the organising of the Annual Dinner on Friday, December 8. He is fortunate in having the assistance of Dennis Ferne, and the combination was deservedly congratulated on their handling of the first dance of the season at the King's Arms, Fulham, on October 14. It was one of the best for some time. The next is at the same place on December 23.

The Summer Fetes, our own and the Skeena Hill Allotments Association's, produced almost £100 between them for the Memorial Fund. The Old Boys' own fete might have done better but for some atrocious weather.

The Rugger section is running three fifteens, albeit sometimes under difficulties, and results at the time of writing were very flattering to the 1st XV but less so to the other two. However, the fun and pleasure that devotees enjoy is not materially dimmed by lack of success. Playing members are urgently required and are asked to contact either of the officers whose names and address are given below.

Secretary: P. Shapcott, 20, Borneo Street, Putney, S.W.15. PUT. 0339. Team Secretary: D. D. Grant, 59, Clonmore Street, S.W.18. PUT. 7480.

Enquiries about the Association generally should be made at the School on Wednesday evenings, or to the Secretary: S. Fairey, 5, Hillcrest Avenue, Edgware. (Edgware 4803).

D. D. GRANT

THE WANDSWORTHIANS LODGE

The nineteenth year of our progress began on 7th October, 1950, by the installation as Master of W. A. Skinner, M.A., M.Ed., B.Sc., A.R.C.S. (O.W. 1920-1928), the Wardens being the Rev. J. A. H. Waddington, M.B.E., T.D., B.Com. (O.W. 1921-1927) and his brother, H. E. Waddington (O.W. 1928-1931).

There is plenty of work ahead and more applications for admission as members awaiting consideration. O.W.'s who are Freemasons are always welcome as visitors, both at the Lodge meetings at Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction, and at the Lodge of Instruction, held on Fridays (except on Lodge nights) at the "Prince of Wales," Upper Richmond Road, Putney, at 7.30 p.m.

The "Ladies' Night" is to be held on Saturday, 21st April, 1951, at Ardington Rooms. Early application should be made for tickets for this social event which affords an opportunity to meet other O.W.'s under delightful conditions.

Lodge meetings are held on the first Fridays in February, May, July, October and December. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Wandsworthians Lodge, 209 Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey.

THEATRE VISIT

On the day so long awaited, forms IVA and IVC met at the schoolkeeper's house, and, turning their backs on milling schoolboys condemned to afternoon school, set off for Southfields Station. As we walked along we drew enquiring glances from passers-by. And well they might stare. We were going out into the great world, to somewhere unfamiliar to us: Covent Garden.

Soon we were at Earls Court, where we changed. We looked around at the platforms where we had often been before, but never during school hours when other boys were at work. We boarded another train, which set off, as one boy phrased it, at the speed of a jet-propelled worm. Covent Garden station seemed untidy and deserted, and we ascended by a huge lift, not unmindful of parties of schoolgirls who had begun to appear, following us, of course!

So this was Covent Garden, shabby and crowded, with boxes of unripe fruit, and a few derisive types who looked at us with surprise and amusement. So we passed Bow Street Police Station and Covent Garden Opera House, and then in a side turning we saw a little place with the name Fortune across it. This was our destination. The play was to be Shakespeare's "Macbeth."

We had excellent seats in this pleasant little theatre, the first rows of the orchestral stalls. Suddenly the lights went out to a chorus of "Oh's," and up went the curtain revealing the three witches on the blasted heath.

We thought the play excellent generally. Outstanding was the scene between poor Macbeth and his wife after the murder of Duncan. Not so good was the behaviour of parts of the audience at points in the play. But "our withers are unwrung." (Shakespeare!)

We hope it won't be long before we have another such outing .

D.B., T.R.. R.G., N.F., IVA

THE RADIO SOCIETY

The Radio Society successfully completed its first year this September, when the AGM was held after a long and interesting programme. Our treasurer for the year, D. K. Hatley, has unfortunately left school, and I would like to record our thanks to him for the valuable services he rendered us during the year.

We began with a flying start this year, with an early visit to the International Radio Service, near Faraday House, which is described below. By the time this has gone to press, we shall also have visited, for the second year running, the RSGB Amateur Radio Exhibition in London, and we hope later on to take a party to Faraday

House—the biggest telephone exchange in the world. The rest of the term will be filled up with a few practical talks and demonstrations of a non-technical nature, and our work through the year will culminate in another exhibition of a somewhat larger and more varied nature than last year, and dealing mainly with a very high and ultra high frequencies and the possibility of a licenced G-/A amateur transmitting station.

The visit to the International Radio Service was an unprecedented success. Arriving there at about 4.30 p.m. we were each issued with earphones to study operating technique. First of all we were taken round the main exchange room, which deals with nearly all non-European long distance calls from all over the world, having had explained to us the channel allocation systems. We then descended to the relay-cum-test room where we traced the path of a cable from when it entered from the street until it went up to the exchange proper, also seeing how any fault could be instantly localised and repaired with hardly any wire-tracing to speak of. After this, we returned to the exchange above, again watching several operators at work. We then had drinks on the house, and went down to the local exchange, which houses about two hundred operators in daytime, though at night only about twenty. We studied the operating procedure here also very thoroughly, especially the 999's. Just after this we noticed how late it had become. We had been there four hours—and we had to say goodbye to a most enjoyable evening, for which we are indebted to Mr. F. Cowper, of the I.R.S., whose son is a member of this School.

73's, S.F.W., VISc.

EAST LANE

Other than the famous Petticoat Lane, I doubt if there is another place in England to equal it. If you want bargains go to East Lane! On week-days it is just an ordinary, rather humble street in south-east London. But on Sundays! A complete change comes over the place and people crowd to it from nearly every part of London.

One you have visited it you will not forget this business-like scene. There is one main street, and a number of minor ones. The layout of the place is not just haphazard. The various goods are displayed at different part of this network of streets which make up the market. For example, in one part the trays and trays of tiny cogs and springs make plain that you are in the watch and clock department. Further on, you are amidst rusty, broken bits of scrap-iron. This is the bicycle department. And so it goes on. In the main market, you get first the food and clothing. Next, a lot further up, one finds a slightly more assorted display, including fish for the aquarium, canaries, the auctioning of china and glassware, jewellery and other such wares. But if there is anything you want that is small but important, like a catch for something you are making, at the top of the Lane and its branches you are almost bound to find it. There are stalls with displays of rusty and dented objects. The thing you are looking for will probably be on one of these strange stalls. Ask the owner the prices, and you will get a typical answer, " Tuppence that, Guv.!"

The noise and clatter of the place is most remarkable, and almost unbelievable. Everybody is yelling at once, auctioneers banging walking-sticks against boards and the sides of lorries, the clatter of china, and the general din of the bargain hunters. As dinner-time draws near, the people slowly disperse, the junk is packed up, and the place goes quiet again until next Sunday.

R. DUNSTALL, IVB

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Recently I visited Morris Singer Co., Ltd., the company that made our memorial plaques. The Manager, Mr. Parrott, himself a father of two Old Wandsworthians, demonstrated the interesting process by which the plaques are made. This is the " Sand Process."

When the design of the plaque has been approved, a model of it is prepared, consisting of a plaster backboard with the design on. The lettering is made of previously prepared metal letters which are stuck on to the plaster. These letters may be taken off when the mould is made, and used again.

The completed model is embedded in fine sand, which is obtained from the West of England and which retains the slightest imprint when compressed. The mould is made in two parts: upper and lower. An iron frame is filled with sand in which lies the model with the level of the sand reaching up to the letters and design. Brick dust is sprinkled on the sand and French chalk on the model to prevent the upper mould from fusing with the lower. Over this another box is placed and filled with sand, pressed tight. Bars of iron are placed in this top mould to hold the sand firm.

When the upper mould is lifted off and the model removed, a core of sand is placed in the lower mould, allowing a space, representing the thickness of the metal, between it and the mould. The plaque is made hollow so that it will hang properly over an uneven wall, as well as to minimise weight.

Channels are now made in the mould, for the metal to be poured in and for the air to escape. Before the metal is poured, it is necessary for the moulds to be dried in an oven, or the heat of the molten metal would cause an explosion on contact with the moisture in the sand. The metal, statuary bronze, is made of 87 per cent copper, 7 per cent tin, 5 per cent zinc and 1 per cent lead. This is heated to 1,200°C. and poured into the mould, the two parts now joined together at a temperature of 1,100°C.

When the metal cools, the plaque is removed from the mould, cleaned and necessary alterations made. The finished product is a fine result of skill in design and workmanship.

J. R. CHALLICE, VA

TABLE TENNIS

Captain: D. G. Fenton; Secretary: D. I. Livingstone; Treasurer: C. B. Gosden.

This term has seen the inauguration of a School Table Tennis Club. The Club, which now has the official recognition of the Games Committee, will meet under the supervision of Mr. Aubrey, who has expressed his willingness to be present when the Club meets. We have been fortunate enough to gain the permission of the Old Wandsworthians Association to use their tables and equipment. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks for their co-operation.

A number of inter-school fixtures have been played this term, but at the time of going to press the results are not available.

At the moment membership must, unfortunately, be confined to boys in forms five and six, though it is hoped that we shall be able to extend an invitation to boys in lower forms at a later date. I hope that our future progress will justify the efforts of those who have worked for the formation of the Club, and that we may see a strong team in the near future.

D.G.F.