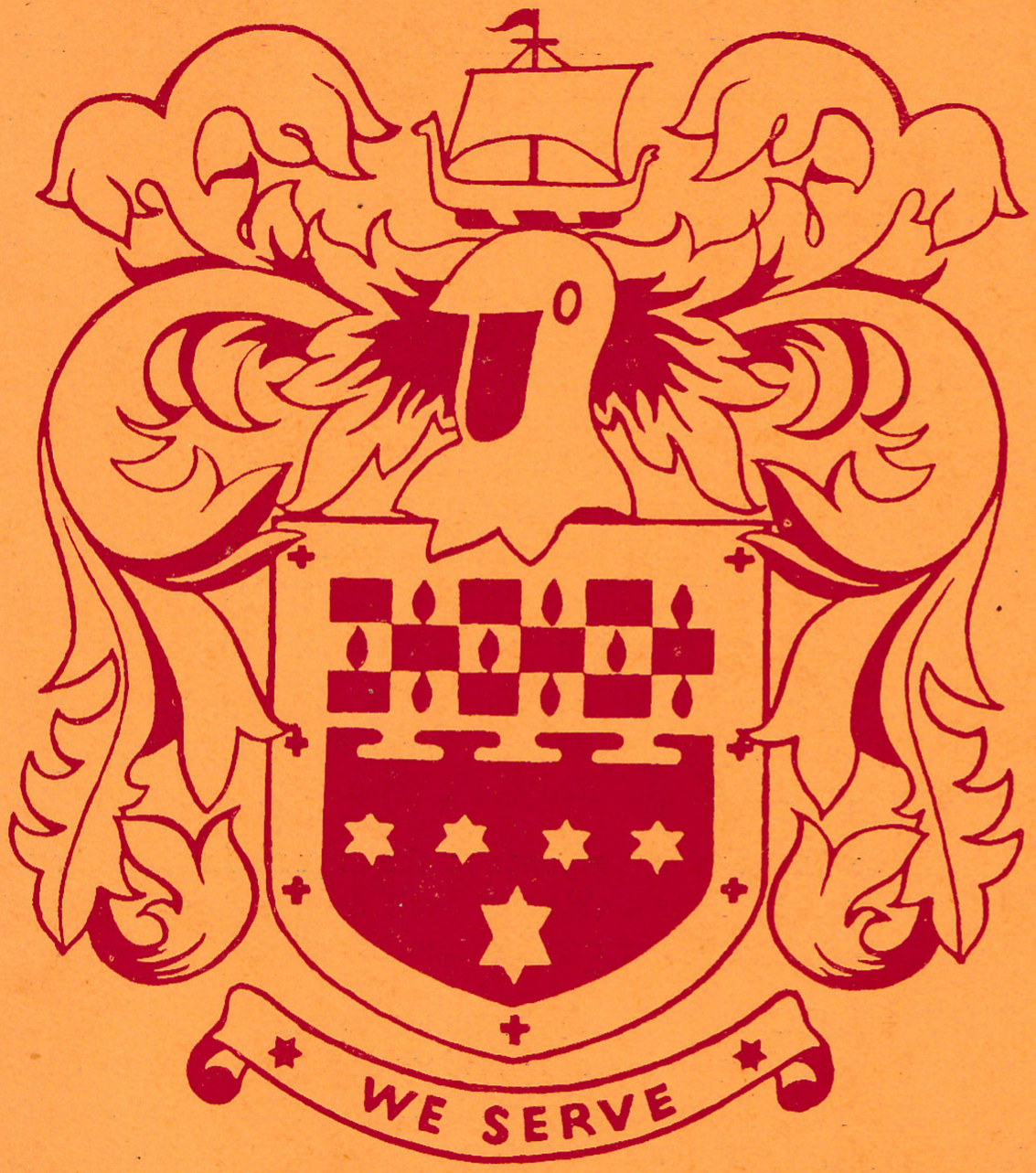


THE LINK

DECEMBER, 1952
NO. 3 VOL. XXXVII

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE :

Editor : Mr. W. H. George.
Treasurer : Mr. G. Elms.
Art Advisor : Mr. A. Hodgkinson.

CLOSING DATE FOR SPRING ISSUE :
THURSDAY, 19th FEBRUARY.

This is the latest date on which contributions will be accepted for consideration — NOT the date on which nine contributions out of ten are to be handed in. *The majority of contributions should be in at least ten days before the closing date.*

EDITORIAL

The temporary absence of Mr. Levy on a course of study in Paris has necessitated a change of editorship, but the form of the magazine remains as before.

Your attention is drawn to the closing date for contributions to the next issue. The work of editing is considerably reduced if contributors of items of a general nature send in their articles early. There are many boys who could indeed make a useful contribution to the magazine if they could be persuaded to take the trouble. Some have interesting and unusual hobbies, others have spent recent holidays in original and exciting ways. These, and other contributions of a similar nature, would be appreciated as magazine articles. And, remember, when you do submit your copy, see that it is clearly written on one side of the paper only.

We were very glad to hear from a number of old boys overseas and have included one or two items received.

There has been no response to the request for line drawings and lino-cuts suitable for head or tail pieces and the invitation extended in our last number still stands.

The L.C.C. has recently increased school holidays to the level granted by most other Education Authorities. Consequently we have a longer Christmas holiday than in previous years and we trust that you will all the more enjoy what is usually regarded as the most welcome holiday of the year.

THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XXXVII DECEMBER, 1952 No. 3

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

The three experiments in re-organisation of the curriculum, described in previous numbers of "The Link," seem to be justifying themselves and are likely to become permanent features of school arrangements.

Since they were designed primarily, though by no means only, to improve the chances of various groups of boys under the new examination conditions, it is appropriate to judge them by examination results.

The first experiment, which goes under the cryptic name of "Riptog," applies to the A Form in the fifth and sixth years. It enables boys to take two subjects at the Advanced Level at the end of their first year in the Sixth Form and thus qualify for university entrance or "matriculation." This last summer the First Year Sixth obtained 38 passes in subjects at the Advanced Level, rather more than the number obtained by the 2nd and 3rd Year pupils — a remarkable success and full vindication of the experiment.

The second experiment concerned Form V B and C. It enabled boys to take four subjects of their own choice as special studies, while continuing the rest of their subjects at a more general level. We rightly judged that this would enable the average boy to reach the higher standard now demanded for a pass at the Ordinary Level at any rate in his four special studies — provided he took full advantage of the plan. Under the old arrangements it would hardly have been possible for a boy in V C to gain four "credits." But under the new plan the results show that this was actually done.

In the third place, the experiment of providing a limited technical course for the non-academic class proved that boys who would not ordinarily have been entered for the examination in the Fifth Year could pass in such subjects as Technical Drawing, Wood and Metal Work, and Architecture.

All this is distinctly encouraging to boys who this year are following any of the above three plans.

The generous response of the School to the Unesco Gift Coupon Scheme enabled us to "adopt" the Aqabet Jaber School for Arab refugee children and provide for them some badly needed educational equipment. Some of their pupils have written to us strangely pathetic but deeply grateful letters of thanks, and Gosden, A. G. Salmon, and Herbert have replied to them on our behalf. I hope others will continue the correspondence.

Aqabet Jaber School lies "on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho." Thus are we privileged to add a sequel to a story two thousand years old.

It was my remarkable experience to spend the month of August as Dean of an international students' seminar in Berlin, that island of Western civilisation deep behind the

Iron Curtain. We had students from both east and west Sectors of Berlin, and from both eastern and western zones of Germany, from India, Persia, and Japan, from the United States, and from the western democracies. Our subject was: Building a World Community — a lively theme to study in a city where world problems are so acutely focussed.

The School continues to recruit staff of high distinction. In spite of the extreme rarity of Science specialists who are prepared to teach in schools, we have been fortunate enough to get a Doctor of Science whom we most heartily welcome in the person of Dr. H. Medinger.

The Modern Languages Staff has been strengthened by the addition of Mr. H. Tint and Mr. J. E. Austin, both with high honours degrees of London University. In addition we are happy to have with us for the year Mons. Hoang Gia Linh of Viet Nam and Herr Emunds, French and German "assistants" respectively. To all a warm welcome to Wandsworth.

Congratulations to Mr. Martin upon achieving First Class Honours in Biology (Special) at London University this summer.

Mr. Gibson is being seconded for a number of years to Kumasi College on the Gold Coast. So we reluctantly say goodbye to him at the end of this term. He takes with him our best wishes for his happiness and prosperity in his new work and our gratitude for his able and loyal service here for the past three years.

I record as a matter of interest the visits towards the end of last term of a group of 16 French student-teachers, a party of 30 teachers from Berlin, and a dozen members of the Graf Anton Günther School in Oldenburg, Germany.

On October 27th we had the pleasure of hearing a lecture-recital on the Oboe by Mr. Harry Powys, accompanied by Miss Cook, another of the series of instructive and enjoyable short concerts arranged for schools by the L.C.C.

The winning of the Marchant Cup by the School Fives Team is a great triumph for us as a school where Fives is a comparatively new game. Congratulations to the Team!

And congratulations to Curme, last year's Swimming Captain, who earned many distinctions, and to Bennett, both of whom gained the Award of Merit, the highest distinction offered by the Royal Life Saving Society. Salmon gained the Bronze Cross and, along with Gilbart, Harvey, Hiscock and Wharton, the Bronze Medallion.

Special mention must be given to Ronald F. Mason, who left us in 1947 and has now at the age of 22 taken his Ph.D. of London University. A distinguished achievement.

I am pleased to record that Zygmunt Bejnarowicz has through extraordinary persistence and hard work overcome tremendous handicaps to pass his first medical examination and gain admission to London Hospital Medical School.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE Boys left since last issue of "The Link." — Argent, W. V., Arnold, R., Balkir, V., Baylem, R. J., Bellerby, G. M., Benham, P. G., Bennett, B. W., Bonner, R. J., Bourton, J. G., Bowles, B. N., Bristow, R. A., Brooks, G. C., Burton, R. L., Chafen, J. S., Challice, J. R., Chaplin, A. D., Cook, A. E. N., Cordery, B. A. M., Curme, A. R., Dailey, M. H. J., Dorrell, P. F. G., Davidson, J. A., Dry, P. R., Dunn, A. G., Dunstall, R. A., Easey, K. G., Edgar, J. B., Edwards, D. F., Elsam, R. J., Farmer, K. H. G., Finch, N. J., Frankland, K. J., Furlonger, G. R., Gale, D. W., Gilbart, J. F., Goh, C. D., Greenaway, B., Griffin, J. J., Griffiths, V. S., Hammond, E. C., Hancock, E. L. J., Harding, R. F., Hardy, C. G., Harrington, R. W., Hayden, B. G., Heard, P. W., Hemmerlein, E. J., Hennessey, E. R. J., Hiscock, K. B., Hodge, P. I. M., Howell, A. S., Hughes, G. B., Hunt, P. H. F., Johnston, E. I., Jones, J., Jolly, K. R., Khedheri, H., Khedheri, S., Khederi, U., Livingstone, D. I., Maclean, D. G., Maddison, M. R., Mattafice, J. D., Matthews, K. A. C., Maxted, D. M., Morris, J. G., Nash, C. C., Newey,

G. W. S., O'Kelly, G. W., Page, R., Patrick, E. J., Payne, D. A., Payne, D. K., Pettican, D. G., Prangnell, R., Pullen, J. W. G., Quested, J., Rawlings, M. J., Rick, B. M., Ridgwell, T., Roberts, D. N., Roberts, N. F., Sanders, M. J., Saull, T. B., Shine, A. B., Spiers, A., Stear, M. C., Strutt, R. A., Strutton, A. G., Thorne, D. F., Tilley, J. W., Trebble, A. E., Twort, A. E., Tyson, B. F., Varney, D. J., Waller, C. A., Watson, A. G. E., Whitby, B. E., Williams, R. F., Wilman, R. J., Winchester, I. G., Winters, P. J., Wood Hill, P. T., Wood Hill, R. M., Wright, E. R., Wulfsberg, A., Yateman, J. C.

New boys since last issue of "The Link."—Alderson, G. C., Andrews, R. J., Ansell, K. R., Atkinson, A. W., Baker, R., Bari, A., Barlow, B., Bartley, M. G., Berens, R. O., Blackman, C. J., Bloomer, E. J., Bone, R. C., Bonner, A. A., Booth, R. D. J., Bradley, D. P., Burton, M. I., Bussien, J. E., Butler, R. J., Coates, C. W., Cockell, R. T., Coleman, B. J., Collins, J., Condon, D. R., Conetta, A. J., Coombe, P. J., Coppock, P. R., Cordery, R. B., Cort, P. D., Cox, B. A., Croker, I. W. D., Crouchman, E. C., Dennis, A. F., Denyer, K. H. W., Duggan, P. A., Dunstone, J. W., Easton, B. J. E., Elliott, P. R., Enright, M. J., Evans, B. P., Evans, D. R., Giles, E. F., Graham, D. M. G., Grainger, B. G., Grantham, T. H., Hammatt, R. W., Harding, J. J., Heath, C. G., Herbert, E. G., Holman, P. C., House, D. R., Hyde, D. A., Jeffery, B. G., Jones, B. W., Kaphan, N. L., Kirby, K., Laccohee, W. D., Laugharne, M. H. G., Lee, H. L. B., Legezynski, G. A., Levey, B. W., Libby, P. T., McGuigan, A. D., Mackie, C. M., McPhail, A. P., Marlow, M. J., Mason, M. J., Mason, R. W., Massey, R. A., May, D. J., Miller, G. C., Mills, P. A., Milward, D. W., Morcombe, J. W., Morris, P. G., Morris, T. E., Murray, P. G., Nobes, L. R., North, G. M., Ollerenshaw, P., Owen, B. R. J., Palmer, J. F., Parsons, J. G. F., Paterson, D. G., Patrick, M. C., Pearson, W. A. E., Poplett, D. G., Reid, D. J., Rickman, M. D., Riley, M. B., Rooney, K. G., Russell, H. J., Sanders, M. P., Scott, P. W., Sene, A. C., Smith, D. B., Smith, D. E., Smith, T. R., Stewart, A. E., Streatfield, C. W., Stretch, P. H., Thirlwall, I., Thompson, R., Tiffin, M. S., Tupper, C. D., Turner, R., Veale, P. A. O., Vincent-Townend, R. M., Webb, C. R., Wetherall, T. A., Williams, A. G., Williams, D. C., Williamson, R. C., Willis, G. W., Wilson, L. G., Woods, E. R., Wynne, P.

FATHER STANLEY

"You are old, Father Stanley," the first former said,
"And your eye is perceptibly duller.
Yet your nose is a flaming and furious red,
What makes it that luminous colour?"
"All my life," answered Stanley, with a petrified glare,
"I've drunk nothing stronger than cocoa.
If you really must know, it's the action of air
On the skin that has tinted my boko."

* * * *

"You are old," said the urchin, "and your life has been spent
Doing nothing with curious vigour,
And yet you have grown most uncommonly bent,
What causes that curve in your figure?"
"All this term," answered Stanley, "I've hoisted young rips,
To be caned by the Head, and no error !
In time they have naturally weakened my hips,
And you'll be the next, you young terror."

* * * *

"You are old," said the youth who was feeling benign,
"As I think I have previously mentioned,
It is hard to do work at a hundred-and-nine,
Don't you think it was time you were pensioned?"
"All this term," snarled Stanley, "I've reported young chaps,
Who were cheeky, and given them torture,
And you'll get a whacking to pay for your japes,
So be warned, you young scamp, I'll report you!"

(Based on a poem by Lewis Carroll)

M. B. RILEY (1a, Ga)

SHORT STORY

PERCY'S GHOST

Percy Micklethwait yawned as he leaned his fat, chubby elbow against the radiator. He was unaware that Mr. Nolicop, otherwise known as the "Lolipop," was watching him. He soon dozed off.

A few minutes later he was rudely awakened by a large and grimy hand descending with much force where it hurt. "Micklethwait! Report to detention this evening!" rang a thousand times through his head as he lowered it into a book of Latin verbs.

That evening Percy had intended to take himself to the soccer field for some practice but thwarted by detention he decided to turn in for an early night. He wondered why the stairs creaked so loudly as he climbed. He opened the door of the dormitory, saw it was empty and crept inside.

Some little time later a lusty and tuneless whistle echoed through the corridors of St. Dominac's as Smith Minor walked with his usual gait, hands in pockets, along the corridor which led to the dormitory which Percy had entered.

On opening the door, Smith Minor's eyes nearly popped out of his head, which was large and bespectacled. Creeping over the floor, he raised his booted foot to the fat, and large-proportioned stern which protruded from Smith Minor's locker.

"Yaroo!" yelled Percy, "You rotter, you cad."

"And what, may I ask, were you stuffing your fat self in my locker for?"

"Oh, er, er," said Percy, with his mouth full, "if you must know, I was looking for some of those delicious cakes you put in there recently."

"Well, it looks as if I haven't any left," replied Smith Minor, "so you can get out of my locker."

Percy got undressed and slipped into bed. The lights had been out for about three hours before Percy, awaking with a pain in his tummy, realised that the box-room light was still burning. He could see it through the dormitory window. Curiosity getting the better of his tummy-ache he decided to investigate.

On opening the door, Percy found that he could see nothing but dark shadows flitting before him on the walls of the corridor. Groping his way along he eventually felt the banister. Again the stairs creaked as he descended.

He reached the box-room and opened the door. It was in darkness. "That's funny," he thought, "I could have sworn the light was on a moment ago."

Then it all happened in a second. Something moved in the corner. Percy became aware of the outline of a suitcase surrounded by an eerie gloom. Then there was a loud crash and the suitcase disappeared. Percy saw what he thought was a ghost, a white apparition with a vague, human shape. His tummy-ache, which he had forgotten until then, returned suddenly and disastrously. Percy fled.

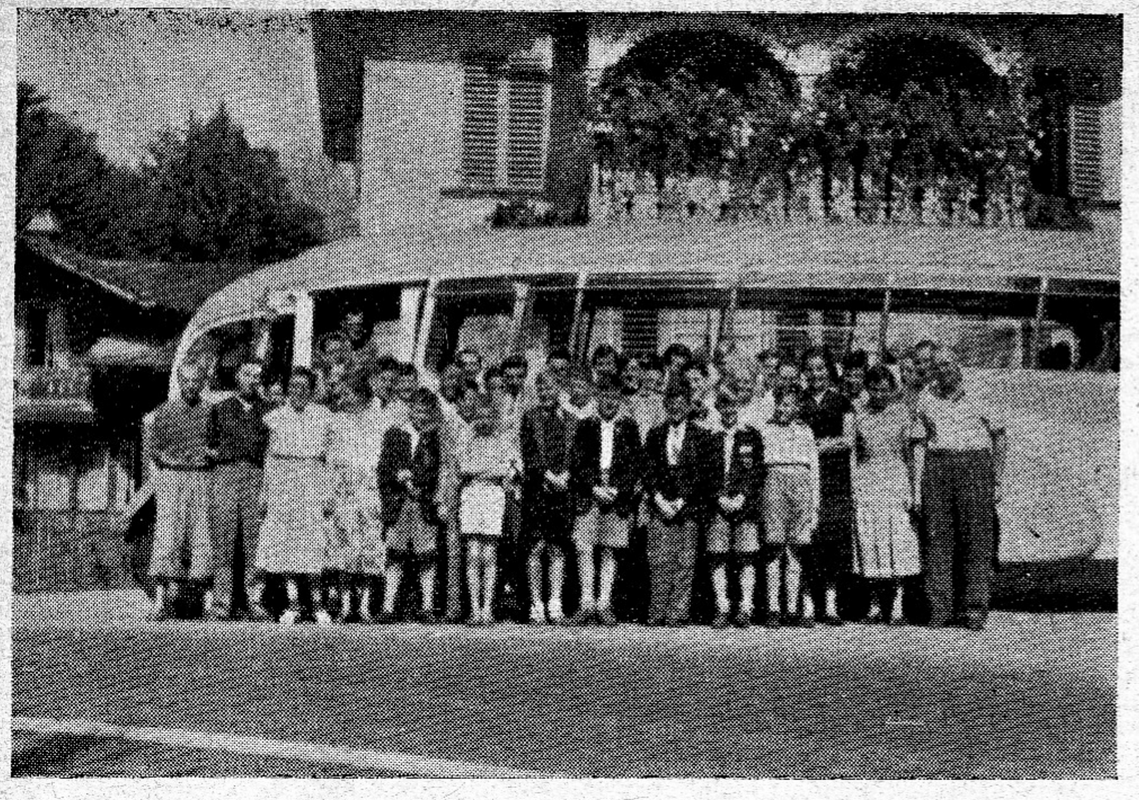
The loud yells had wakened the whole school. The lights went on and Percy saw several masters in the corridor before him. He just had time to gasp the word, "Box-room," before the masters were away in a flash.

The next day Percy was the School's hero, for it turned out that Percy's "ghost" was a burglar. "Evidently he was after the school's cups and medals," swanked Percy to his surrounding admirers, "but, thanks to me, he never got away with it. I foiled him."

M. J. H. (Pd. IIIc).

SWISS TOUR, 1952

Most of the boys who left Victoria Station by coach in the early morning of July 24th had not been to the Continent before and, consequently, excitement was high when the coach reached Dover. At the dock, however, came frustration. The "Lord Warden," due to leave at 10 a.m., had damaged her propeller and had been withdrawn from service. No substitute vessel having been arranged, the party had to wait until 1 p.m. to travel on a slow service vessel, "The Shepperton," to Dunkerque (instead of Boulogne) arriving there, after much delay outside the port, at about 5.30 p.m.



The Chief Officer of "The Shepperton," noting from the ship's passenger list that a Wandsworth School party was aboard, sought out the Staff. "I cannot remember your name," said Mr. Elms, "but I shall say one word . . . Falstaff!" The Chief Officer was none other than John Arthur, an Old Wandsworthian, who had excelled in the part of Falstaff in the School Play, "Henry IV" before the war. John expressed regret that his efforts in French did not appear so commendable as his efforts in Dramatics. He seemed to have a particularly vivid memory of his French master.

Help given by John speeded the party through the Dunkerque Customs and we "crawled" out of the town at about 7 p.m. Dunkerque was in a shocking state; war debris was still very much in evidence, the roads were bad and, like most of Northern France that we saw, the town seemed to possess an atmosphere of decay. It was easy to think that the French had been so disheartened by the destruction of two wars that they had not the courage to rebuild their shattered towns.

On a delightful summer evening, we sped through open country towards St. Quentin. Throughout France, we were impressed at the ability of the French to make their main roads (always tree-lined) so straight that they frequently seemed to disappear into the sky in the distance. We arrived at St. Quentin at 11.30 p.m., only six hours late! A good meal awaited us and we retired happily to bed.

The following day, we had the unique experience of visiting the underground caves of Messrs. Pommery and Greno, champagne manufacturers of Reims, and then, without mishap, we went on to Besançon, where we stayed overnight. The ride from Besançon into Switzerland was delightful and, when we saw the deep blue of Lake Geneva, we did indeed feel that we had entered a land of great beauty. On reaching Weissenburg in the evening, there was little time for exploration but we were happy to anticipate devoting the whole of Sunday to it.

Sunday was a perfect day. A local ramble in the morning and an afternoon mountain climb fatigued most of us but left the guide, a grand old man of seventy-six years, as lively as a cricket.

In spite of heavy rain for the greater part of Monday, incidentally our only wet day, there followed four memorable days when we visited Berne, capital of Switzerland, Lucerne, Grindelwald, Thun, Spiez and the summit of the Niessen. How fascinating were the Swiss mountain railways! What an exhilerating experience it was to sail up the mountainside in a chairlift and to sit in a railway carriage ascending an incredibly steep incline! How pleasant it was to experience the cool, fresh air and the exquisite views from the tops of the Niessen and the Faulhorn! How silly, too, to make a special visit to

Lauterbrunnen to see the tremendous waterfall that was reputed to be like Nature's own power house, to find just a feeble little trickle down the side of a mountain and then to discover, when it was too late, that we had not walked far enough to see the real falls! How strange, too, after England, to see a country with streets, roads and public places absolutely free from litter!

We left Weissenburg on Friday morning, arriving in Rémirement, a sleepy French country town, in the evening. staying overnight and then travelling on to Reims, where we stayed at a most luxurious hotel. Unfortunately, Mr. George's cine film supply did not last beyond this stage.

Our ship was due to sail from Boulogne at 4 p.m. the following day, Sunday, but on reaching Boulogne, we were directed to travel another sixty miles to Dunkerque. On arrival there, we found the ship in dock but quite inaccessible as the townsfolk were watching a special cycle race round the dock area and refused to move to allow traffic to pass. With the driver threatening to run the coach into the crowd, hooters blowing almost incessantly, French and English exchanging "compliments," there was near-pandemonium. Eventually, after enticing a gendarme into the coach and refusing to let him out until we were allowed to proceed to the ship, we managed to get on board just before it sailed, but many intending travellers were left behind to wait for the midnight ferry.

It was almost dusk when we saw the Dover cliffs and castle. At half past one in the morning of August Bank Holiday, we arrived at Victoria, tired, a little grimy, but happy.

One of the minor irritations of the tour was the rough quality of Continental packed lunches, although the set meals were generally of excellent quality. Perhaps the major criticism of the trip, however, would be that too much was attempted in the short time available. It will be a policy in future tours to give boys more free time. In spite of the crowded itinerary, despite the long periods of coach travel, not one boy was sick during any part of the holiday and each and every one of the party felt that he had had an experience which he would remember with pleasure for many long years. It is hoped that there will be many more Wandsworth School Continental Tours, including some cheap ones, and that every boy, in his passage through the school, will try to have the stimulating experience of a holiday abroad shared with his school friends.

G. R. G.

SPEECH DAY, 13th NOVEMBER, 1952

For the first time in the history of the School, an Old Wandsworthian was the guest of honour at the Annual Speech Day on Thursday, 13th November. The Rev. Canon J. A. H. Waddington, M.B.E., T.D., B.Com., after presenting the prizes, delighted the audience with an address which gave those present occasion both to laugh and to think. His theme was suggested by one of the recitations which preceded the address: "Thoughts of England," by J. E. Flecker.

He put forward the view, supported by a number of pieces of evidence, that, in spite of her weakened position in the economic field, Britain still has the opportunity today to give the world moral leadership. The nation must prepare itself to do this, and Canon Waddington gave a balance sheet of the national life, to show where the strength and weakness lay.

Among the assets he classed Justice, Mercy, Tolerance, Love of Home, Sense of Humour. He classed as Britain's weaknesses insularity, laziness — in particular, intellectual laziness — and materialism. Unless the present generation learnt how to live, he saw no future for the world.

The evening was, as usual, conducted by the Chairman of the Governors, Lt.-Col. G. L. Matthews, O.B.E., T.D., and following Canon Waddington's address, a vote of thanks was proposed by Councillor Frank East, seconded by Professor Dorothy Tallant. At the conclusion of the evening, a vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed by Mrs. Goodrich, and seconded by Mrs. Linstead.

The customary reports were given with more than the customary ease of delivery by the Head Prefect, W. M. Stanley, on the Social Activities, and by the Third Prefect, D. J. White, on Athletics.

The Headmaster, in his report on the academic progress of the School, started with a few words of welcome for Canon Waddington. This year, the twentieth of his headmastership, had been marked by the completion of three experiments in reorganisation of the curriculum in the upper part of the main school. These experiments are mentioned in the Headmaster's Notes.

Turning from the expansion of the school's studies to the expansion of the ideas upon which the life of Wandsworth School had been built up, the Headmaster mentioned three instances during the present year when the experience of Wandsworth School had been used for the benefit of education abroad. First, the part played by pupils themselves in ordering their lives and activities had been the subject of a European Sixth Form Seminar to which he had been invited at Bad Schwalbach in the American Zone of Germany.

Secondly, Education and Democracy was the theme of an International Congress at Vienna at Whitsun to which the Headmaster was invited as spokesman of the British point of view.

Thirdly, in August a students' seminar on the theme of Building a World Community was held in Berlin, where world problems are most sharply focussed. As Dean of this Seminar of young people from many parts of the world, the Headmaster had been able to draw a great deal from an experience of twenty years at Wandsworth School in matters of education for international understanding.

As a recent practical example of international-mindedness, the Headmaster described the adoption by Wandsworth School of a school for Arab refugeee children at Aqabet Jaber, which lies on the road "from Jerusalem to Jericho," the scene of the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The Headmaster concluded with a warm tribute to his colleagues on the Staff and to the Governors of the School.

The speeches were interspersed with contributions from the School Orchestra, playing with greater decisiveness and precision than ever, from the Third Form Speech Choir, with accurate and spirited renderings of two well-known passages from Shakespeare, and of Flecker's "Thoughts of England," and from the School Choir, which sang two Elizabethan songs and two modern songs with a polish we have become accustomed to expect from them.

PRIZE WINNERS.

FORM I: P. N. Cassidy, R. W. Eeles, F. J. Pavitt, R. L. Polley, M. R. M. Smith, C. J. Squires.

FORM II: K. S. Annand, R. B. Antell, D. B. Cross, B. R. Harding, B. C. Johnston, J. W. Kaminski, U. Khedheri, K. E. Mattafice, C. M. Newson, G. W. C. Wort.

FORM III: C. Eastman, T. Gritt, R. S. Hore, H. Khedheri, B. V. Norton, J. R. Tickner, P. E. Triggs, M. J. Webber, G. R. Williams, R. Worrall.

FORM IV: L. E. J. Bicknell, H. I. Butnick, A. N. Chalk, R. S. Dean, G. B. Dodge, S. Khedheri, M. J. Langdon, A. C. Savage, A. J. Sawyer, C. J. Swallow, W. T. Szyjkowski, J. F. Unger.

FORM V: J. R. Davison, N. J. Finch, D. T. Glayzer, R. W. Griffiths, D. T. King, M. F. Morgan, A. K. G. Salmon.

SPECIAL PRIZES

(for merit in the General Certificate Examination).

ORDINARY LEVEL: B. W. Bennett (Mathematics), D. T. Glayzer (Geography), R. W. Griffiths (English, Latin, French), P. I. M. Hodge, C. C. Nash (Mathematics, French), D. G. Nye (Mathematics, French), A. K. G. Salmon (French), M. J. Sanders (Art).

ADVANCED LEVEL: J. W. Bloss, R. D. Cardwell (Mathematics), A. D. Chaplin (Geography), R. J. Elsam, C. B. Gosden (French), G. L. Harvey, G. B. Hughes (Mathematics), D. R. Morrison, M. A. Phelps (French), J. J. W. Scott, B. F. Tyson (English Literature), D. J. White (Applied Mathematics), A. G. York.

Chairman's Prize: N. F. Roberts; Wandsworthians Lodge Prize: J. G. Morris; Old Wandsworthians Prize: M. J. Kelly; Religious Knowledge: R. W. Griffiths, R. S. Hore. Ponsonby Handwriting Trophy received on behalf of a team by J. H. Herbert.

ATHLETICS: Royal Life Saving Society: Award of Merit, A. R. Curme, A. W. Bennett; Bronze Cross, A. K. G. Salmon; Bronze Medallion, A. K. G. Salmon, G. L. Harvey, J. F. Gilbart, K. B. Hiscock, J. S. J. Wharton.

Hundred Yards Schoolboy Swimming Championship of Wandsworth: A. R. Curme.

Marchant Inter-School Cup for Fives: G. L. Harvey, A. D. Chaplin, R. D. Cardwell, G. M. Bellerby.

TROPHIES: "Couch" Work Shield: Gibbon House; "Mayfield" Cup (Eisteddfod): Gibbon House; "Parents Council" Shield (Cricket): Morley House; "Miller Shield" (Rugby): Cromwell House; "Waite" Shield (Swimming): Pitt House; "Coronation" Shield (Cross-Country): Gibbon House; "Marcus Samuel" Shield (Athletics): Cromwell House; Fives House Cup: Gibbon House; Sports Championship Trophy: Morley House.

LIBRARY The Librarian acknowledges with grateful thanks the gift to the Library from Mr. Morris of three guineas on the occasion of the departure of John Morris for Oxford. This sum has been used to purchase a copy of Harold Nicholson's "Life of King George V" and a number of smaller books.

The attention of boys is drawn to the rule whereby details of all books removed from the Library should be correctly recorded in the book provided.

During the day the Library is much in use for private study. If this is to be fruitful it is essential that, in the common interest, the rule of silence should be carefully observed.

W.E.P.

LETTER FROM AQABET JABER SCHOOL

Our gift through Unesco to the school for Arab refugee children was acknowledged by three of the pupils in the following letter, the composition of which will be sympathetically construed by all of us here, remembering that the writers are in their first year of secondary education.

"In deputive of ourselves and the headmaster, staff, and all the pupils of our school, we advance to offer you our thanks, sincerely, in opposition of the scholarship you offered us, and which encourages us to proceed in our education life: especially in these bad circumstances we are in.

"We like to introduce you ourselves by some informations and discriptions of our school as a glimpse.

"It situates at the south of Jericho, which stands at the north of the Dead Sea; it is at the western side of the main road: Jericho—Jerusalem.

"Its area is 120 metres by 60 metres, railed with a wall of two metres high, has three doors, and the entrance gate leads to the main road.

"Inside it there is a vast yard with a basket-ball playground: in the yard there are twelve taps.

"Its education is divided into two parts, one for the vocational pupils, the other for education. Let us inform you about the educational part.

"It has 31 rooms, 1,470 students, 24 teachers with the Headmaster, 22 classes, one for the first secondary, and the rest for the primaries.

"This list indicates the parts of each class. Each one of the first, the second, and the third is divided into four branches, while each of the fourth and fifth is divided into three sections, the sixth is in two branches, the seventh,—and the first secondary.

"We spoke about the education part, and are going to inform you something about the craft part:

"The vocational part is composed of (a) carpentry (b) shoe makers.

"We have written these contents to show you how much trouble the teachers suffer during their teaching, in spite of their little salaries, and the bad conditions they lead. But anyhow the pupils are very likely for learning, hoping your assistance to be able to advance and complete their learning, and for getting the necessary needs during their study.

"Lastly we send you our gratitude for your precious gift, and hope for further assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

ABDUL HAMID PINKAM.
ABDULL-LATIF A. HASSAN.
MOHAMMED I. EL-BANNA."

DESTINATION FRANCE When we, the 2nd London Troop of Polish Scouts, set off for a three weeks' holiday in France we were all hoping for adventure. Our plan was to hitch-hike through and really see the country.

On the 8th August we were off on the Folkestone road and hoped to reach Dover in time to catch an evening boat to Boulogne. Every one of us had about £8 and a heavily loaded rucksack with provisions necessary for three weeks.

Everything went according to plan and it was quite dark when we entered Boulogne harbour and set our feet on the French shore. When we reached the Youth Hostel in Boulogne we felt hungry and sleepy and our clothes were wet with rain, but we all felt that the adventure had begun.

Next morning we left for a holiday resort about thirty miles along the coast to visit a Girl Guides' camp. Here we stayed for several days and when the time came we were very sorry to leave although we had a very interesting route before us.

We succeeded in getting two lifts and reached Paris at midnight. We found that travelling by "auto-stop," as the French call it, is much more difficult in France than in England.

So far our finances were in a good state and we seldom used our allotted 6/- a day. Our daily menu consisted usually of a loaf of bread, a bottle of milk or wine, and a few pounds of grapes.

First impressions in Paris were the armed policeman and the inefficient Metro. We found accommodation in a Students' Hostel and stayed in Paris for a week. What thrills there are here! Montmartre, famous churches, galleries and museums, the Louvre, the store of the world's masterpieces, with the original Mona Lisa and Venus de Milo!

But nobody can say he has been to Paris unless he has walked along the famous L'Avenue des Champs-Elysees and to l'Arc de Triomphe de l'Etoile. It costs forty francs to go up to see from the top the streets shooting out in all directions in star formation, each one either to disappear on the horizon or to lead to another square with another Arc de Triomphe. The Paris streets and avenues are so straight that it is not very easy to get lost. We visited the famous Gothic Cathedral of Notre Dame and the Sacre Soeur Cathedral.

After a few more days on the road, a few more empty bottles of milk, and a few more lifts we reached the third city of France — Lyons — the city of two rivers. The hill of the Basilica of Notre Dame de Fourviere dominates this historical city with its ancient buildings in Romanesque style.

We did not stay long in Lyons and soon were about a hundred miles away, surrounded by the Alps in Grenoble. Unfortunately, this was the end of our journey. I was so impressed by the beauty of the Alps that, as I left Grenoble, I decided to go to Switzerland next year and again have a date with adventure.

J. BARUCKI.

HOUSE NOTES

Cock House Scores 1951-52.

	Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
	Scaled Points			
Rugby	100*	50	80	65
Cross-Country ...	40	50*	32	25
Athletics	100*	50	80	65
Table Tennis	16	20	25*	12
Cricket	65	80	100*	50
Fives	20	25*	16	12
Swimming	65	50	80	100*

(*Trophy Holder)

Cock House : Morley (413) ;

2nd, Cromwell (406); 3rd, Pitt (329); 4th, Gibbon (325).

DILIGENCE AVERAGES 1951-52.

	Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
Autumn Term ...	58.13	62.52	60.79	57.14
Spring Term ...	45.45	48.96	45.31	44.34
Summer Term ...	48.71	49.35	48.27	46.40
Totals	152.29	160.83	154.37	147.88

CROMWELL This term we wish a hearty welcome to all our new "Cromwellians" and hope that they will soon become valuable members of this House, for at the end of last year we suffered greatly from the loss of Maclean and Morris, who has now taken up residence at Wadham College, Oxford.

Diligence so far this term has been very disappointing except for the outstanding effort of Cromwell B in being top-set. It is up to every set member to gain at least another "one" instead of these "minuses" and "threes."

In the cross-country run this year Cromwell's inexperienced Senior Team came fourth, despite its stout efforts to do better by turning out to practice runs, and the absence of Bicknell, the captain, during the weeks preceding the run. The Juniors also came fourth, although special mention must be made of Nabi, the captain, who secured second place.

In the Swimming Gala we came third, which is rather disheartening, since in past years we have been accustomed to gain first position. Our failure was due to the lack of swimming ability of the Junior and Middle Schools. Special mention, however, must be made of the Seniors, who for once turned out in force.

The individual Fives Tournament is now in progress and we can look forward, with some certainty, to seeing Harvey, last year's winner, once more the champion. The Fives Team also stands quite a good chance of winning the "Fenn Cup."

The House Table-Tennis Team includes, in Harvey, Granfield and Bicknell, three of the School Team. Consequently we expect much of them.

However, under the captaincy of Harvey, the School Rugby captain, our Senior "Rugger" XV are expected to give a good account of themselves, as are our Juniors under Nebbitt.

Let us face facts and say that our achievements at the beginning of this new School year have not been so great as one might have expected. Therefore it is the duty of every member of this House to pull his weight in the classroom and on the field and to back up those elected by him. If so, we shall once more see Cromwell regain that position which in former years the House has been accustomed to hold. *"Otiosis nullus adsistet Deus."*

R.O. and J.S.

GIBBON We have lost some very valuable seniors this term and this calls for extra exertion from the House. The loss of Tyson, Arnold and Gale greatly weakens our dramatic sections. Losing Tilley, a prominent member of the 1st XV, is a great blow, for now we have only two members of the first team in the House XV. Swimming and Fives will suffer from the loss of Curme and Chaplin, respectively. However, despite these losses, we can still do well in the Inter-House activities. All that is needed is more enthusiasm and initiative.

We congratulate Stanley on being chosen as Head Prefect and White as Third Prefect.

Our Cross-Country Team, led by Phelps, fared excellently, due to the fine running of Patterson, Smith and Phelps in the Senior run and Beharrie and Williams in the Junior. Although the Seniors were placed first, and the Juniors second, we were narrowly beaten by Morley in the combined result.

We have excelled ourselves by winning the Diligence Shield. If we keep up this standard we shall be well on the way to being Cock House. We have the talent, but it is not always being used to the full advantage. There are still some enthusiastic members, but the future success of the House depends on the loyal support of all.

Now! Let us make an all-out effort in the future and show the other houses a clean pair of heels.

A.K.G.S.

MORLEY At last our ceaseless pleas for greater efforts from Morley have been answered. Morley is Cock House and the proud possessor of "Joey."

Our Cricket Teams contributed very greatly to this success, for both our teams were unbeaten, a truly inspiring record. Our congratulations to Benham, our Cricket Captain, for his fine leadership.

In the Swimming Gala we came a very close second to Pitt, thus making our claim to "Joey" irresistible. A. A. Bennett, Morley's Swimming Captain, must also be congratulated on gaining an Award of Merit for Life-saving, as must be J. Wharton for his Bronze Medallion.

Another contribution to our success was our first place in the Diligence Competition. Every boy can help in this competition, and although we were first in this term's first award, we dropped to second place in the second award, and we hope that you will all do your best to restore us to our rightful position.

Our performance in this term's Cross-Country did not count towards the competition for "Joey," but our first place will help to retain him next year. This success was due mainly to a fine effort by our Juniors, who came first, our Seniors coming second.

We conclude by asking you to make a special effort in next term's Eisteddfod Competition, and we are sure our Rugby Teams under their Captain, B. Holder, will do their best.

J.W.B., C.B.G.

PITT This term has seen the Annual Inter-House Swimming Gala and the Cross-Country Championship. It is very heartening to report that we won the Swimming Gala for the third successive year. Congratulations to all those who had outstanding successes. Carney won the Junior and Middle Dives in fine style and Morgan won the Middle Free Style and Back Stroke. Our Captain, Somerville, led the team well and won the one length Back Stroke and Plunge. Sackman did well to finish second to Harvey of Cromwell in the one length Free Style. Our only successful relay team was the Senior, which won convincingly to decide finally the result of the Gala, which up to this time had been in the balance.

The House finished third in the Cross-Country Championship although we provided the individual winners for both Junior and Senior races, Hancock and Davison respectively. Hancock won a particularly fine race and shows promise of being a valuable asset to the House in the future.

Davison must be congratulated on finishing eleventh against keen competition in the Surrey Inter-Schools Cross-Country Championship.

Our Rugby prospects this season are quite good, although at the time of going to press only one match, a Junior game, has been played against Morley, in which we were defeated, the result being 21 points to 8. With five school players, Herbert, Gale, Szyjkowski, Glayzer and Tickner, we have a reasonably strong Senior team.

Herbert, Simons, Morrison, Carney and Glayzer are members of the cast of "St. Joan," by G. B. Shaw, performed by the School Players at the end of this term. With this number of actors in the House, hopes seem to be brighter for the Eisteddfod Inter-House Drama Competition at the end of the Spring term.

Diligence has been good this term, although there is still room for improvement. Only a little extra effort is required from each boy to put us back into first place. Come on Pitt, let us have some real effort to get us out of the rut and bring home the Diligence Shield from Gibbon, and even more important, the Cock House Trophy.

D.E.P.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

The club did not meet during the first half of the term due to the light evenings, but regular meetings are now taking place. Steady but slow work has been done on the telescope. The component parts required proved to be rather difficult to acquire but we now have nearly everything needed. We wish to express our thanks to Mr. Keyte for his valuable help and to R. Simmons, of Mc, who obtained for us several excellent ball-races.

The mirror has reached the stage where only ten hours polishing are required to finish it. Concrete foundations will shortly be laid for the base of the telescope. We are going ahead with our plans under the threat of the promised new buildings. The Technical Branch of the School is being extremely helpful in connection with the metal-work concerned in the construction.

Viewing this term will be through the six-inch telescope which was constructed by D. Fenton and presented by him to the School.

M.J.K.

ATHLETICS AND CROSS-COUNTRY

This year we said farewell to "Mac"lean and we wish him the best of luck in his future career.

The season proved to be one of the very best the School has ever had, with four boys reaching the All England Schools' Championship at Bradford. They were Granfield, Hayes, Lothian and Davison.

RESULTS

May 10th.—Surrey Youths' Championships: Davison third in 440 yards, Pettican and Edgar ran in the mile.

May 20th.—S.L.G.S.A. Championships at Paddington Recreation Ground: The School finished fifth out of thirteen schools. Individual winners were:—Maclean 1st in one mile, Granfield 1st in Shot Put (new record), Davison 1st in 440 yards (new record), Intermediate Relay 1st (new record).

May 28th.—School Inter-House Championships: Cromwell finished first. New records were created by Granfield in the Shot Put, Hamilton in the Junior Long Jump, and Thorne in the Senior Hurdles.

May 23rd.—Wandsworth Borough Championships: Tooting Bec School finished first in the Junior and Intermediate events. Winners were:—

Under 14: Crofts, 220 yards.

Under 15: Cheeseman, 100 yards; Aardly, 220 yards; Patterson, 880 yards; Relay Team; Bedale, Long Jump; Ash, High Jump; Hayes, Hurdles.

Under 16: Lothian, 220 yards; Davison, 440 yards; Pettican, 880 yards; Relay Team; Twort, Hurdles; Granfield, Shot Put; Thomas, Javelin; Thompson, Long Jump.

June 17th.—London Schools' Championships at Paddington Recreation Ground: Individual winners were:—Granfield, Shot Put; Lothian, 220 yards; Hayes, 110 yards Hurdles; Davison, 440 yards.

July 4th.—S.L.G.S.A. versus N.L.G.S.A.: The School was well represented by nine boys. Winners were: Maclean in one mile; Granfield in Shot Put; and Davison in 440 yards.

July 11th and 12th.—Four of our boys represented London in the All England Championships. Granfield came 8th in the Shot Put although he is only 16 and was competing in the Under 17. His was a very fine effort indeed and we hope to see him first next year. Hayes reached the semi-finals in his event, as did Davison in the 440 yards. Lothian was unlucky not to get through his heat.

September 16th.—London versus Frankfurt: Granfield 3rd in Shot Put; Herbert 1st in Junior 440 yards; Davison 1st in Intermediate 440 yards.

CROSS-COUNTRY.

This season the School has been considerably weakened by the leaving of no less than six members. At present we have a very young team, the average age being just under 16.

RESULTS

Oct. 16th.—The Inter-House Competition is now being held at the beginning of the season. The Champion House this year is Morley. Individual winners were Davison of Pitt in the Senior, and Hancock of Pitt in the Junior, the latter giving a fine performance for a boy in the second form.

Oct. 25th.—Inter-Schools Relay organised by Walton Athletic Club: The School finished fifth out of ten schools, a fairly good result as there is no age limit in this event.

Nov. 1st.—Inter-Schools Race organised by Surrey A.C. in Richmond Park: The School finished fourth out of eleven schools competing. Our first three men home finished 9, 10, 11, showing very good team work, but our next man was in the thirties.

J.R.D.

C.E.W.C. FILM SHOW On Thursday, October 16th, the South West London branch of the Junior Council for Education in World Citizenship held a film show in the School Hall. We had intended showing films on N.A.T.O. and on the American Presidential Election, but owing to technical difficulties at the respective sources, these were unobtainable. However, by writing to the Norwegian, Swedish and Greek Embassies, we procured some films on life in those countries, which although not strictly related to World Citizenship, certainly provided much interest and enjoyment. These films, supplemented by others already on the premises, constituted a programme which kept the members of the ten invited schools well entertained throughout the evening. We would like to express our thanks to Mr. Keyte, who very kindly, came out of his own spare time, to work the projector for us, thus making the whole event possible.

C.B.G.

CHESS Once again the Chess Team has lost some of its best players but fortunately there are a number of new younger members and so the team is reasonably strong.

So far this term, the team has lost to Surbiton 5—3, but by the time this is printed we will have played another five matches.

A fair number of first form boys are learning to play chess but we would like to extend a welcome to all forms to join us. At the moment we are not able to play any matches above eight boards because there are not enough good players, whereas last season we had a fiftten board match. Anyone, therefore, who can play reasonably well, is likely to have a chance to play in the team. It would be very pleasing if some of the players who have fallen by the wayside would attend the Chess Club again.

The Captain for this season is Morrison and the Secretary is Sawyer.

Colours for last season were awarded as follows:—Full Awards: Maclean and Chaplin. Half Awards: Bloss. Cardwell and Morrison. New Half Award: Sawyer.

It is hoped to start some league or "knock-out" competitions and perhaps House matches (if they have not already started).

I would like to remind everybody well in advance that the provisional date for the London Grammar Schools' Chess Rally, held at William Ellis School, is March 14th, 1953. We hope all players of chess, good or bad, will make every effort to attend.

Finally, we would like to thank Dr. Solomon and Mr. Mercer for all the time they spend in running the Club.

A.J.S.

CRICKET The School 1st XI has had its most successful season for many years, with six wins, four draws and only two losses.

The batting was far steadier than usual, and the 100 was reached on every occasion when it was needed except against Mitcham and Sloane, who each had a quite outstanding bowler.

Prangnell and Stear, the Captain, were our most successful batsmen, but useful scores were also made by Edwards, Watson, Granfield and Morris. Granfield showed himself to be a versatile bowler and was well backed up by Bourton, Payne, Sommerville, Watson and Stear.

The 2nd XI was also unusually successful under the captaincy of York, but the Juniors had rather a patchy season; they should do better next year.

The House Competition was won, quite unexpectedly, by Morley, whose Junior team quite surpassed expectations. The strong Cromwell senior team crashed badly thanks probably to over-confidence.

The School owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Robinson, who has succeeded in greatly improving both play and practice facilities in spite of conditions which must be disheartening to any groundsman.

DEBATING SOCIETY Although there are a number of keen and skilled debaters in the Sixth Form, dramatic and other activities this term have prevented more than a few from giving much attention to the Debating Society. There is plenty of scope, therefore, for the members of fourth and fifth forms to come along every other Friday evening and improve their powers of self-expression.

The Secretary of the Society, Morrison, would be glad to receive suggestions for future topics for discussion and offers to speak on them for a few minutes. By the time of going to press the Society had this term decided that there was "no future for the world without religion"; and by a majority of only one, "that the growing influence of the U.S.A. on life in Europe, and especially Britain," was not to be deplored.

W.E.P.

ECONOMICS SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING

On September 30th a party of sixth form boys went to an Economics Conference at the London School of Economics. It was drizzling with rain when we started and rather cold, and we were glad to get into the building and take our places in the balcony of the lecture hall.

The first item of the day was a lecture by Prof. R. G. D. Allen (L.S.E.) on the "Cost of Living" which was very interesting and very instructive. The lecture allowed very little time for boredom as Prof. Allen introduced a number of illustrations, stories and jokes here and there. I shall not give you the details of the lecture (Index numbers, Prices, Wages, etc.), but just say that it made clear in our minds a number of points about the factors determining the cost of living. When Prof. Allen had finished, we were invited to ask questions, and the opportunity was eagerly taken.

Next came a debate in the form of an inter-school competition, City of London School against Hendon County School. The motion was "That Trade Unions are no longer a Progressive Force," which was proposed by the City of London School. The chief speaker for the City of London School first gave his views on the motion and his opposer then gave his opinions. This was followed by a general discussion and speakers were invited from the floor. The debate became quite lively and it was very enjoyable. Finally the seconders of the opposer and proposer gave their last summing up.

We then left the hall for the lunch break, and as we left we voted for or against the motion contested above.

When we returned we discovered that the motion had been carried by 200 votes to 165.

In the afternoon was a Brains Trust, when the speakers were C. Osbourne, B.Sc. (Econ.), M.P., Miss A. Godwin (Council of T.U.C.), D. H. Peacock (Banker) and a lecturer from the School of Economics. This Brains Trust started rather sluggishly but gathered momentum as it continued. The arguments were well fought as there was a quite large division of political opinion in the team.

Here are a few of the questions which were discussed:

(i) Does the team think that England is over-populated and if so, why are so many foreigners allowed to settle here?

(ii) Does the team consider it better to go back to the land?

(iii) Is the block vote democratic?

We left pondering the many things discussed in the course of the Conference and all agreed that we found the day very beneficial.

D. KING.

FENCING The Fencing Club this term has just entered upon a new phase in its existence. Mr. R. Levy, who founded the club, has, unfortunately for us, taken advantage of an opportunity to study for a year in Paris. In a meeting at the end of last term he explained to us, that, having set the ball rolling, he was now going to let it run on its own momentum until he returned from France. Mr. Burnett-Rae has very kindly consented to take the responsibility of the club on to his shoulders, for which all members are grateful, realising that without this offer the club would have been forced to close down. At the end of this same meeting G. E. Tonks was elected Captain for the next year.

This term the club has been meeting regularly every Monday and Thursday, and the number of attendances has has been most gratifying.

We have decided not to throw new membership open to the school, as in previous years, as we doubt the club's ability to cope with the resulting influx without the presence of Mr. Levy. However, several juniors requested to be allowed to join, and as their enthusiasm seemed genuine, we decided to take them. Their progress so far has been fairly promising.

At the end of last term we lost two valuable team members in J. St.-C. Chafen and N. F. Roberts, and so we are waiting until the new team has strengthened somewhat before we get down to fixtures. We expect to have a few before the end of this term, and then we shall go ahead as before, during the Spring term.

We close by hoping that members will continue to maintain the high standard of attendance, and by wishing Mr. Levy the best of luck in his studies in Paris.

C.B.G.

FIVES The School team brought the 1951-52 season to a very successful conclusion by winning the Marchant Cup Competition for the first time. We beat St. Marylebone (last year's runners-up) in the first half of the semi-final by 40 points, and were conceded the other half. In the final we beat Henry Thornton without losing a game.

The House Competition for the Fenn Cup ended with Gibbon an unbeaten first. Cromwell were second, Morley third and Pitt fourth. The Gibbon team was Chaplin and Bellerby.

The School team has only played two matches so far this term and we have won both of them. We beat Henry Thornton by 169—90 points at home and won narrowly at an away match with St. Mark and St. John by 169—142 points.

The School team for this year consists of J. W. Bloss (Captain and Hon. Sec.), G. L. Harvey (Vice-Captain), R. D. Cardwell and B. W. Salway.

J.W.B.; G.L.H.

THE GYM CLUB This term the Gym Club got off to a good start, but it is already evident that it will suffer greatly from the loss of Gilbart, Hiscock, Pullen and Curme.

We have some up-and-coming young gymnasts from the lower forms, but still are in need of more enthusiasts. We should be able to put on a very good display at next year's Eisteddfod and should have a very prosperous year's work.

T.K.S.

RADIO SOCIETY We have suffered a certain curtailment of activities this term owing to pressure of school work, but there is still in evidence quite a large amount of active interest in Amateur Radio. Recent meetings dealing with simple topics have been very well attended.

By the time this appears in print we will have paid our usual visit to the Annual R.S.G.B. Amateur Radio Exhibition at the Royal Hotel in London. Our Secretary showed off a well built crystal controlled convertor for the 70 cm. amateur band at the exhibition. We have already started planning for next year's Eisteddfod here, after the unqualified success that attended last year's show; when we were visited by several local amateurs, including two town representatives of the R.S.G.B. Again, the accent will be on V.H.F. and there is a possibility of having a "live" amateur transmitting station in operation. So until next year's Eisteddfod, 73/s.

S.F.W.

RUGBY Captain: G. L. Harvey. Vice-Captain: D. T. Glayzer. Hon. Secretary: A. G. York.

The 1st XV have had a moderately successful season, so far; winning 6 out of 9 matches played. We were rather unlucky to lose at Surbiton but our two other defeats were convincing enough.

At the start of the season, with Morris playing in the centre, we played good open football, but in recent games we have missed his penetration in the middle. The pack, led by Harvey, have shown good form in foot rushes and close passing, but have yet to learn the art of loose-scrumming.

Outstanding members of the team are Harvey, Glayzer, Granfield, Stear, Bourton, Phelps and Morris. Gingell, at full-back, has improved considerably and Stear's kicking has been a great asset to the team.

RESULTS

v. Purley.—Won 15—6. A hard-fought match which the School deserved to win. The forwards gave the three-quarters a good share of the ball and they made excellent use of their chances.

v. Mitcham.—Lost 3—27. After beating Purley so handsomely this crushing defeat was unexpected. The powerful Mitcham pack dominated the play and their halves were given too much room in which to move. Stear replied once for the School.

v. Tiffin.—Won 12—9. Another very hard game and although the School pack were outweighted in the tight yet they received a fair share of the ball in the line-outs. Stear won the match for the School with a penalty kick from inside our own half.

v. Latymer.—Won 56—8. This match was played on a Wednesday and a large number of spectators saw the School outclass the Latymer side. Of the 12 tries scored Stear converted all but two.

v. Tottenham County.—Won 10—6. The School should have won this game more decisively than they did, but were disconcerted by the hard bare pitch. Leading 10—0 at half-time, the School allowed Tottenham to score a try and a penalty goal in the second half due to defensive blunders.

v. William Ellis.—Won 45—6. Another outstanding success for the School, who scored 11 tries. The entire team played well, notably Thompson, Harvey, Stear, Gale, Herbert and Phelps, especially the latter, who filled Bourton's place at scrum-half.

v. Bec.—Won 6—5. Bec scored in the first few minutes and the School did not gain the lead until the end of the game, when Stear scored two penalty goals. Owing to the intense rivalry between the two sides, the Rugby did not reach a high standard.

v. Surbiton.—Lost 3—11. This game should not have been lost by such a wide margin, but the School allowed themselves to be upset by the accurate tackling of the Surbiton fly-half. Too many advantages were missed in the second half.

v. Westcliff.—Lost 5—41. The pack played quite well but defensive blunders on the part of the weakened three-quarter line gave the Westcliff threequarters too many openings.

J. M. GOODERS.

SECOND XV.

The Second XV have had a disappointing season to date, having lost all their matches. It must be remembered, however, that they are playing schools which have a hundred or more pupils in the sixth form, and so are competing against more experienced players. Despite this they lost but narrowly to Bec, the School's traditional rival, and this was mainly due to good play amongst the forwards.

The main weakness is in the three-quarter line, which has shown little co-ordination and poor defence. Often an opponent has been allowed to run through the whole team owing to the half-hearted tackling of the team.

A word of tribute is due to those who turn out every week, in all types of weather, with the knowledge that the opponents will in general be heavier and more experienced and defeat is fairly certain. If this spirit was backed up with intensive training and harder tackling success would come.

The following have scored for the School: — Elliott (6 pts.), Wharton (3 pts.), Milstead (3 pts.), Nye (3 pts.)

J. S. J. WHARTON.

COLTS XV.

Captain: J. B. Smith. Hon. Secretary: C. Eastman.

Our first match was against Purley, which was a very one-sided match, but a very good start for the season, the School winning by 48 points to 3.

The hardest match played to date was the second, against Mitcham. Their threes were fast and their passing was good. Soon it was obvious that Mitcham were dictating the game, but nevertheless we fought back gamely. Our only score was a penalty goal taken by Tickner. Score: Wandsworth 3 points, Mitcham 11 points.

Tickner left the Colts after the first three games of the season and we congratulate him on his promotion to the First XI, where we understand he is doing very well.

The Bec match is always a hard nut to crack and this season's game proved no exception. This was a forwards game and our pack played very well indeed. Even the three-quarters proved fast and lively on the few occasions when they received the ball. Score: Wandsworth 10 pts., Bec 9 pts.

Our worst defeat was against Surbiton. The ground was wet and heavy and the game developed into a forward battle. Owing to half-term our team were out of practice and the final score was: Wandsworth 3 pts., Surbiton 15 pts.

Results to date:—Played 6, won 4, lost 2. Points for 101, points against 57.

C. EASTMAN.

JUNIOR XV.

Captain: D. J. Nebbitt. Vice-Captain: A. Hazard.
Hon. Secretary: G. R. Salmon.

So far the Juniors have had a fairly successful season, having won four of their six matches.

Our strongest opposition were Bec, who were a very well organized and experienced team. We were beaten by 14 points to 6 points. Our other defeat was against Mitcham, when the score was 8 points to 13 points.

Our biggest triumphs have been against Purley and Balham Central, when the scores were 52—3 and 38—0 in our favour.

The pack is strong and thrustful and give a good share of the ball to the threequarters. Liggitt at scrum-half and Eeles at stand-off blend well together, whilst the three-quarters improve with every match, showing good combination and hard running.

Special mention must be made of Coyne, who has had great success as hooker, Nebbett and Hazard, both hard-working forwards, and Cross and Nebbitt at centre.

The following boys have played for the Junion team:—

Nebbitt, Hazard, Cross, Liggitt, Eeles, Morrison, Barrable, Nebbett, Antell, Salmon, Coyne, Marshall, Davies, Leelike, Cornish, Mattafice, Westacott.

Summary of matches:—

v. Purley (home). Won 52—5.
v. Mitcham (home). Lost 8—13.
v. Tiffin (away). Won 11—3.
v. Bec (away). Lost 6—14.
v. Surbiton (away). Won 14—3.
v. Balham Central (home). Won 38—0.

G. R. SALMON.

TABLE TENNIS On behalf of the club I should like to thank Mr. Evans, who has expressed his willingness to be present when the club meets.

Unfortunately, rehearsals of the School Play, which started earlier than usual this term, have necessitated the suspension of the normal meetings of the club. Although this is a severe handicap we have arranged several School matches for this term. But at the time of going to press only one result is available.

School v. Sir Walter St. John's.—The School lost by seven matches to three. Granfield won both his games and Harvey won one.

Other School matches have been arranged against Sloane, Sutton and Whitgift Middle.

When regular meetings are resumed next term an Inter-House Competition and a Singles Championship will be held.

Once again we should like to express our gratitude to the Old Wandsworthians for the loan of their tables.

D.T.G.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LAND OF SUNSHINE AND OPPORTUNITY: SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Dear Sir,

I arrived in Southern Rhodesia last March, having left Wandsworth School in December, 1951. During the 15 day voyage from Southampton on the *Capetown Castle* and the 1,500 mile journey from Capetown to Salisbury I had imagined Salisbury as a very dusty little town sweltering in the African sunshine. Instead I found a beautiful, modern city with wide, tree-lined streets filled with all types of vehicles from ancient Bentleys to the most up to date Chevrolets. It is only when travelling away from the more settled areas that one finds the so-called "typical Africa." Miles of veld and bushland with native kraals, kopjes or small rocky outcrops of granite, and, of course, the wild game. Game which once roamed the country in great herds of many varieties has largely vanished from the closely settled areas. There was a danger that most of it would have disappeared completely. That danger has been averted by the setting aside of game reserves which are enormous stretches of bush, forest, mountains and rivers simply left to the wild life. Outside the reserves one still finds a large amount of game usually away from the settled areas but it is not uncommon to see various animals on roads, near houses, etc., especially at night. Leopards are a menace in some areas, not only to farm animals but to human beings as well. Though Southern Rhodesia is advancing fast, life continues in many areas in the manner of the past centuries. There are still remoter parts of the Colony where native life is still very primitive. While the standards of living of the African people are steadily rising, the bulk of them still live in little thatched huts grouped in kraals out in the bush. Each family cultivates its land and grazes its stock, remote from the mines and modern industries which are creating new wealth and opportunities for Southern Rhodesia. It is the women, by the way, who seem to do all the work in these native communities!

Although the whole country lies within the tropics, the climate is a happy blend of tropical and temperate since most of it lies at altitudes of between 3,000ft. and 6.000ft. above sea level. Since I arrived eight months ago it has rained only three times, the rest of the time we have been enjoying blue skies and a very warm sun.

Gradually, however, the scene is changing here. The natives, by far the most important problem, are learning to grow better crops, to build better houses and to ask for more of the amenities of modern life. It is the success of this peaceful revolution in the lives of Southern Rhodesia's indigenous peoples which will one day make it a unique example to the rest of the world.

R. A. LIGGITT.

Salisbury,
Southern Rhodesia.

OXFORD LETTER

Dear Sir,

A month at Wadham has been quite long enough for me to realise that life as an undergraduate at Oxford can be really marvellous. There is, unfortunately, one serious drawback. Since essays have to be produced each week, all the work cannot be left until the vacation. I have formed a few impressions of life here which may be of some interest to readers of the Magazine.

The work is, of course, supervised and guided by Tutors but the actual "grind" is all done by the student, who often faces a real difficulty—even in Oxford—of obtaining access to recommended books. There are several libraries, centred around the Bodleian, but when, as in the Faculty of Modern History, some four hundred people are doing roughly the same work, there is an enormous demand for certain books. A few years ago students actually queued

up before the libraries opened. As yet I have not been compelled to take such drastic steps myself nor to put into practice my Tutor's advice, "You'll simply have to kick the girls out of the way, punch the other fellow on the nose and grab the book." Not quite the Oxford spirit!

During the first week of term Oxford seemed to consist of clubs, societies and sports. Innumerable college secretaries called and the programme of every society includes something really worth-while and interesting. Many of these clubs have regular coffee-meetings or tea-parties which are invariably held in one of the women's colleges—there must be a reason or two for that. This social life, offering opportunities for meeting and conversing with all sorts of people, is quite an important feature and we are encouraged to take full advantage of it since it is quite as instructive as entertaining. Some people have been known to express a rather insane desire to work twelve hours a day and are bluntly told that they might just as well go home and take a correspondence course, and what do they think is the purpose of a vacation.

There is at least one tradition at Oxford that I know from personal experience still flourishes. The food in any College hall is reputed to be inedible — I can quite understand how the tradition arose. If the Wadham chef believes the old saying that fish produces brains, he must consider the members of the College to be sadly deficient in the "old grey matter!" It was a source of great dismay in the Junion Common Room when a record herring catch was recently made at Grimsby. Before long Oxford has a "Herring Week" — goodness only knows what will happen then.

Rex Harrington informs me that the food at St. Catherine's is something similar. His tutor insisted that the crushed pineapple, so often served as a sweet, had been condemned by every Food Ministry in Europe. St. Cath's. he continued, was rightly famous for its sausages, but his opinion of their origin and ingredients is unprintable. The last I heard of Rex was that the arm of the law had descended upon him for riding down the High without lights!

Last night, November 5th, several others clashed with the law, and at least one student spent the night in custody. The siege of Hertford College was quite amusing but the occupants repeatedly beat off the attacks by pouring water over the assailants. They finally won the day or rather the night, when they turned a hose-pipe upon us. Wadham, by the way, has an excellent record for rags. As a climax to a series of them the whole college was sent down in 1880.

I hope that I have been able to convey some idea of life at Oxford and of its very pleasant character. As for those who intend to try and gain a place here, I would assure them that it is well worth a great deal of hard work. Naturally, if you can get here without working hard, so much the better!

Best wishes to the School.

GRAHAM MORRIS.

Wadham College,
Oxford.

WITH THE SAPPERS IN EGYPT

The following is an extract from a letter from Brian Light, whom most of us well remember. It has topical as well as personal interest.

"Having succeeded in ignoring the ever-present characteristics of this region — the swarms of flies, the various diseases, and the monotonous surroundings — I have managed to enjoy the greater part of my service in Egypt. I have always found much to interest me, and to date I have not felt bored.

I have travelled the whole length of the Canal, some places being visited for pleasure, others whilst on duty. Quite early in the year I went as far south as the Gulf of Suez, whilst accompanying our branch cricket team to a match against "Movements," Adabrija. Whilst there we

couldn't help but notice the Ataya Mts., rising steeply for many hundreds of feet, and we all enjoyed our swim in the clear water of the Gulf. At Fayid itself we have the Great Bitter Lake, upon the shores of which is situated our Lido. It wasn't until a month ago, when I was on my way to Cyprus, that I went as far north as Port Said.

Despite the recent coup d'etat in Egypt, which automatically had some effect upon restrictions in the Canal Zone, I was able to have a fortnight's leave in Cyprus during September. I found the island very attractive as a result of its great natural beauty. The dusty arid countryside, with its population of hard-working peasants, and patiently plodding donkeys, reminded me of the south of France, about which I've so often read.

From the plain it is possible to gaze over a chequerboard of vineyards and orange groves to the blue mountain ranges beyond. The leave camp was very pleasant, and after living for so long amongst sand and flies, we found it luxurious. I visited much of the island by bicycle and went on three coach tours to various places of interest. Monasteries and castles abound, perched upon tall mountain peaks high up in the sky. But like all holidays the time soon flew past and now I'm back in the desert completing my second year's service."

THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Since the last issue of "The Link" the Association has had a full and varied programme.

The Annual Summer Fete in conjunction with the Old Boys and Skeena Hill Associations was again a very enjoyable day but owing to various causes did not prove as successful as the previous year's event. A cheque of about £65 was passed to the Memorial Fund as a result of the combined effort.

The Parents v. Boys Cricket Match proved another popular event, although I regret we were once again unable to field a complete team of fathers. We should really do better than this. We have to congratulate the School on giving us a good game and on their victory.

Our Social Evening on September 19th was once again a well attended and jolly evening and attracted a large number of our new parents whom Mr. King welcomed with a very interesting talk on the meaning of the Parents Association. The Secretary supported with a brief survey of the Association's work and activities.

On October 10th we staged, as an experiment, an "Olde Tyme" Dance, which was a most outstanding success and we have had numerous requests for a repeat. I should here like to express my thanks to one of our members, Mrs. Holder, who suggested the running of the dance, supplied the dance records and introduced our capable and genial M.C. The success of the Dance is certainly an encouragement to present another of the same type. The Annual Whist Drive and Dance with the Old Boys, arranged for November 22nd, must await my comments until the next issue of "The Link."

I am pleased to report that your Council has again agreed to assist the Fencing Club by establishing two Bursaries at Bertrand's Fencing School this year. I am sure that parents will appreciate our funds being used for the benefit of the boys in this way.

By the time this issue is in your hands we shall be considering our activities for the next term and I invite suggestions from members for future meetings or social events, so please let me have your ideas and we will endeavour to carry them into effect.

H. J. Scott.

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS ASSOCIATION

It gives me great pleasure to be able to take this opportunity to put on paper a report which, I think, reflects considerable credit on the Association's General Committee and the various Section Committees, and which gives potential Old Wandsworthians an extremely favourable impression of our many and varied activities. The progress we have made is indeed a fitting reward for the great amount of hard work involved.

The success of any Old Boys Association depends entirely on a steady stream of interested and enthusiastic boys joining its ranks on leaving school. We are greatly encouraged by the number of boys who have given us their support during the last year or two. Our membership is increasing. Already we have thirty more annual members than we had at the corresponding time last year, and since the end of our financial year in April the number of life members has risen from eighty to eighty-five. Our thanks for these excellent figures are mainly due to Bernard Pauncefort, our ambitious secretary, and Denis Ferne, an equally ardent and energetic treasurer. All school leavers are, of course, allowed free membership of the Association until the end of the financial year in which they leave school. They can get in touch with us by visiting the School on Wednesdays (when we hold our social evenings), or by contacting Bernard Pauncefort, 40, Longstaff Crescent, Southfields, S.W.18, direct.

The Rugger Club has made a first-class start to the season and up to the time of going to press (5/11/52) the 1st XV has the excellent record of having won 6 games, drawn one and lost nil, with 90 points for and only 21 against. The "A" and "Extra A" XVs are also enjoying a successful period, their results to date being:—"A" XV: won 5, drawn one, lost one, points for 101, against 25. "Extra A" XV: won 5, drawn nil, lost two, points for 88, against 76. A detailed up-to-date record of all games played can always be seen on the School notice board. A few more players are required to enable us to field a fourth fifteen, a target we are determined to reach before the end of the season. We now have two excellent pitches of our own at Kingston, and facilities for changing, bathing, teas, etc., are well above standard. Boys wishing to join the Rugby Club at Christmas should contact Arthur Dicker, 32 Gartmoor Gardens, Wimbledon Park, London, S.W.19, or any member of the Committee on Wednesday evenings.

An innovation this year is our entry into the Wandsworth Table Tennis League. As "new boys" we have had to start, of course, at the bottom of the ladder (Division 5), but having won our first two matches quite comfortably, are looking forward to promotion to a higher sphere in the near future. The Secretary of the Table Tennis Section is Peter Brunning, 27, Elsenham Street, Southfields, S.W.18, who would like one or two more players to build up a strong reserve to meet our heavy League commitments. Anyone interested should contact him. Peter is also organising a Bridge team, and hopes to fix up the initial match before the end of November. Here again one or two more players would be welcome.

Tournaments for the "Frank Hunt," "Norman," "Ralph Setti" and "Samuel Samuel" Cups for Table Tennis, Darts, Badminton and Tennis respectively are well under way and the names of the winners will be published next term.

We are taking this opportunity to extend our congratulations to John Coulthard, who, we understand, has been selected to play for Surrey in an inter-county Badminton match. We wish him every success and hope he will receive many more invitations to represent his county.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

1952.—December 20th: Rugby Club Christmas Party.
1953.—January 15th: Association Annual Dinner at the Ardington Rooms.
February 14th: Dance at the Wimbledon Park Hall.

Information regarding all these events can be obtained from Bernard Pauncefort, whose address appears earlier in this report, or from any Committee member.

R.F.W.F.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "THE LINK"

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