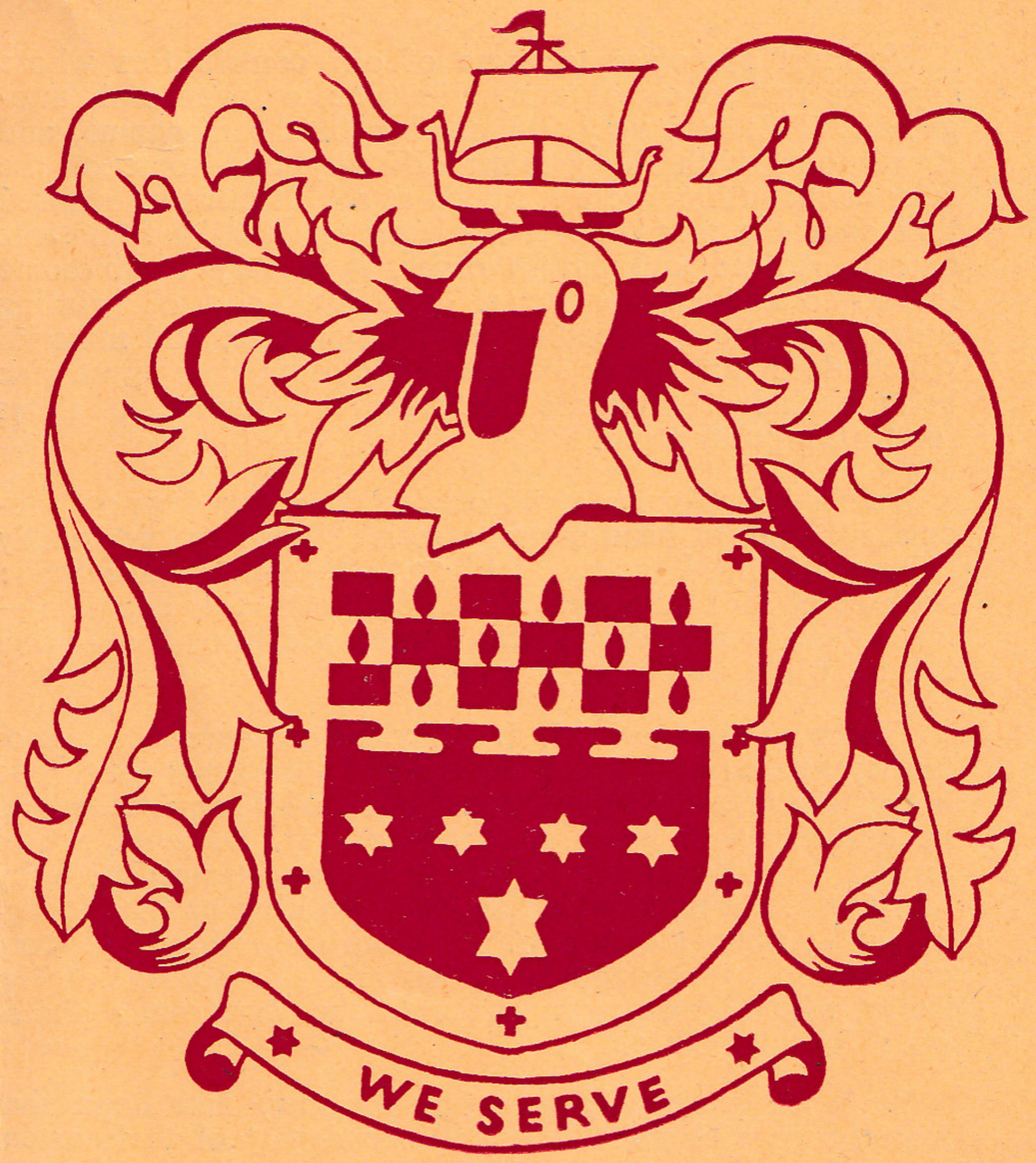
1952



THE LINK

JUNE, 1952
NO. 2 VOL. XXXVII

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE:

Editor: Mr. R. Levy.
Associate Editor: Mr. G. M. Evans.
Treasurer: Mr. G. Elms.
Art Advisor: Mr. A. Hodgkinson.

CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUMMER ISSUE: THURSDAY, 6th NOVEMBER.

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

We must apologise to those of our contributors whose copy we had to cut severely this time, or even omit altogether. This is a very full number of the magazine, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that some of the later contributions were included at all. It must be realised that once the magazine is made up, and all the contents chosen, revised and put in order, it is very troublesome indeed to add further items. The high cost of printing prevents us from exceeding our present size, and material which does not arrive before the closing date must risk being excluded. We are holding over a number of items for future publication.

We should welcome small original line drawings or linocuts, suitable for head or tail pieces. These must be exactly column width, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches, and not more than 2 inches high: subjects of all kinds, serious, satirical, comic or beautiful—but carefully and deeply cut if they are lino, and Indian ink on white card if line drawings.

We wish to thank M. J. Kelly, whose excellent photography made possible our three illustrations this time. He is entirely responsible for the two Eisteddfod pictures, and he photographed the illustration for Mr. Benyon's article on the School Players. The original of this was made by Mr. C. A. Roberts, who has been working as Mr. Hodgkinson's assistant this year. He also drew the very lively coat of arms which adorns our cover. The portrait of Mr. Terry, which appeared in a recent issue, was from a photograph by Mr. Catto.

We wish everybody a happy summer, and hope that many, boys and staff alike, will spend part of their extensive leisure in fruitful meditation on a contribution for our next issue. Holiday photographs of general interest are welcome — explorers in foreign parts please note.

THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

Vol. XXXVIII JUNE, 1952 No. 2

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

We all tend to take the conditions under which we work and live for granted. It would surprise most of you if you realised how unusual our school arrangements, our school life, our out-of-school activities, and indeed our idea of the nature and function of a school, appear to people abroad.

I have recently had two remarkable opportunities to compare notes with educationists of other countries. At Easter there was a Sixth Form Seminar at Bad Schwalbach in the American Zone of Germany, where representative pupils, both boys and girls, from Germany, as host country, and from England, France, Holland and Switzerland, to gether with a few from other countries, discussed the principles and practice of democracy in schools. The seminar was democratically run by the pupils themselves, the few teachers present acting as advisers or consultants.

It would be true to say that pupils on the continent are much harder worked, and have a considerably greater weight of studies to carry, than pupils in England, and, consequently, have more knowledge of more subjects. But, on the other hand, I should hold it to be true that the English school affords a better education, if we take education to include, as we must in the present world, the development of responsible, co-operative and active personalities. That is because we look upon a school as a social community within which these qualities can be developed by actual experience and practice.

During Whit week there was a European Education Congress in Vienna, in connection with the Vienna Festival, of which a prominent feature was a month's Schools' Exhibition, of most remarkable range and quality, in the Messepalast, the Olympia of Vienna. Speakers from various European countries, and from the United States, were invited to consider the general topic of School and Democracy, and it was my good fortune, or should I say responsibility, to act as spokesman for Great Britain.

In the course of my address to the Congress I illustrated my thesis with various examples from experience, two of which appeared almost incredible to many foreign educationists. They could not understand what incentives induced teachers to give so much voluntary time and effort out of school hours to the promotion of school athletic and social life; nor could they conceive masters assuming the role of tutors in addition to their work as specialist teachers. And yet they agreed that, if these things were possible, there was no doubt about their immense value for the cultivation of the qualities and attitudes that promote the democratic way of life. But how to transplant them into their own schools?

All depends on the conception that the teachers themselves hold of the nature of the school and of their function within it. The grammar schools of England inherit a unique tradition of human relation within a social community. And we look to the present and to succeeding generations of pupils to maintain it by living the full and active school life that the voluntary services of the Staff make possible.

Towards the end of the Spring Term we arranged the first annual handwriting competition for the Trophy given by Mrs. Ponsonby for the benefit of the three schools of which she was for so long a Governor. It was a team competition, six pupils from each of the schools being entered for the final. Rather to my surprise, Wandsworth School won the Trophy, and congratulations must be offered to Herbert, who came first, and to the rest of the team, McDowall, Clowes, Finch, Hitchins and Dean.

The large gathering that assembled for the Eisteddfod Concert will remember the dramatic recitation by David Perry of two of La Fontaine's Fables. It will interest them to know that, since then, Perry has been awarded a scholarship by the French Government, affording him a year's study in France, for a similar performance. I quote from the *Times*: "The palm went to Mr. David Perry, an astonishingly proficient, young, self-taught amateur, who gracefully, vividly and confidently enacted La Fontaine's "Les animaux malades de la peste".

Of this brilliant success we are all immensely proud.

It is very gratifying to record that Roberts, Morris, and Harrington have been accepted for admission respectively to Corpus, Wadham and St. Catherine's Colleges of Oxford University.

Roberts has also been awarded an L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarship for two months' study abroad during the long vacation.

Form IV.A distinguished itself by gaining an award from the Council for Education in World Citizenship for a form project on Human Rights. What to do with the £4 that accrued to them the form has not yet decided.

In a Quiz Competition on International Affairs organised by the S.W. London Group of the C.E.W.C., the School team, consisting of Roberts, Harrington, and Stanley, won first place.

Congratulations to M. C. Stear, Captain of Cricket, upon appointment as School Sub-Prefect this term.

Dr. Kankan, seconded from the Staff to the Headmastership of a leading Indian public school, writes: "We are having our Founders' Week next month and I have invited the President of the Republic, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, to visit us on that occasion. There will be a Drama, Exhibition, P.T. Show, etc". Further, he continues: "I am selected by the Union Public Service Commission for a post in the Ministry of Defence as Principal of King George's Military College".

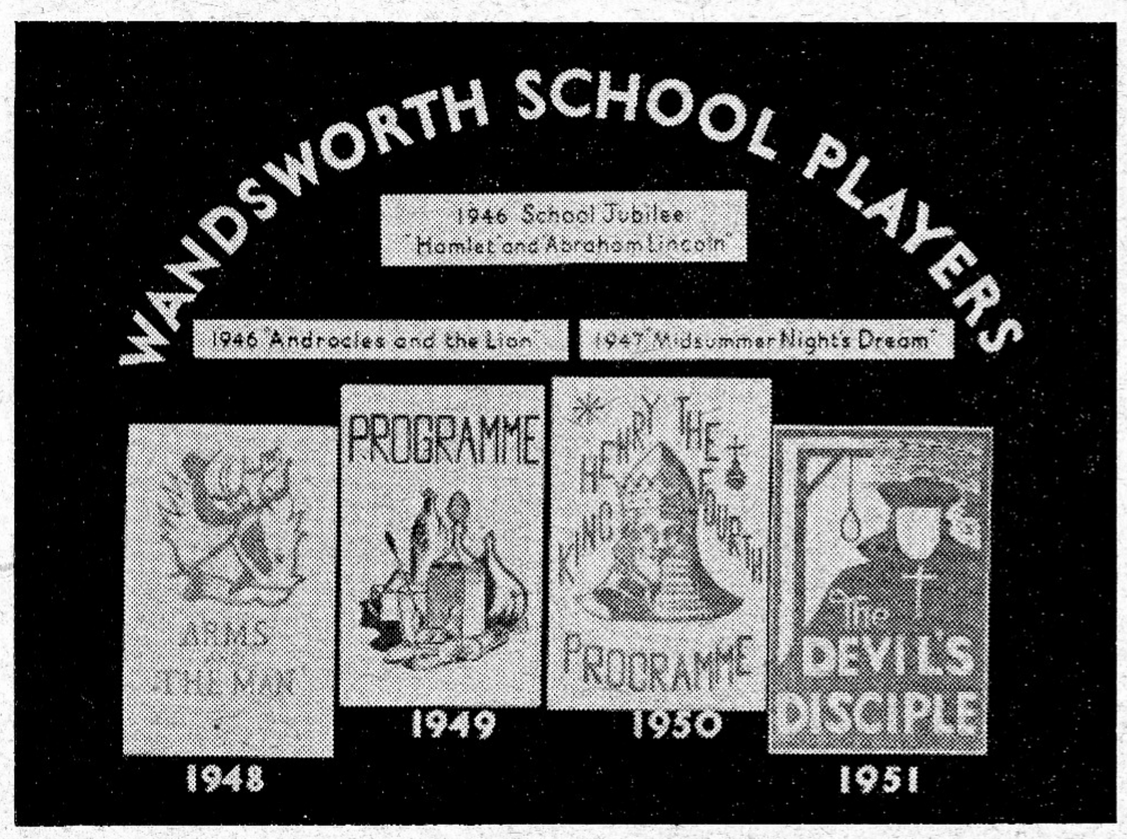
Dr. Brooks, who recently left the staff for the post of Professor of Literature in the Pakistan University of Peshawar, also writes: "After five months, life is still full of excitement and surprises, and, of course, as one gets the educational perspective more established, one begins to see what this country and this people are in for, and also to realise the odd problems one has undertaken in coming out here".

I wish there were space to quote more from his long and fascinating description of his experiences. Perhaps more can be given in the next "Link".

The enterprise of the newly formed Astronomical Society deserves commendation in these notes. Inspired by the example of our late Head Boy, Fenton, who constructed a six-inch telescope during his last year at school, the Society has set about the construction of a Newtonian nine-inch reflector instrument.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE Boys left since last issue of "Link."—Avery, J., Baber, S. W., Barber, J. M., Barrett, J. D., Bowyer, M. J., Richards, D. A., Smith, R., Dorrell, P. F., Hooper, A. W. F., Hoffman, P. M., Leeman, J. E., Nebbett, R. A., O'Neill, T. R.

New boys since last issue of "Link."—Nicholls, R. H., Simons, I. H.



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL PLAYERS One of the first steps taken to re-establish the pre-war standards of the School on its return from evacuation was the revival of School drama. Anyone who knows what difficulties have to be overcome, and how much time is absorbed in the type of production our players have presented twice a year since the war, must realise that it would not be done at all unless great importance were attached to it. And drama has educational value for those who take part which it would be difficult to obtain otherwise.

Actors and back-stage team learn by hard experience the need for and the technique of co-operation with others. They realise that without the ready help of the Art and Handicraft departments there would be little chance of effective scenery, or a handsome programme. They see that, unless the business manager knew his job and gave his time to it, there would be chaos in the auditorium and no money to pay the bills. The boys on the curtain, the lights and the properties learn to carry their responsibilities to the actors, whose performance they might easily ruin. The actors value the loyal service which makes their role possible and are always the first to acknowledge it. Anyone who did let the group down would feel very sorry for himself indeed.

The urgency of this sense of responsibility towards the group arises naturally from the fact that the group is exposed to public appraisal as a group—very exposed and brilliantly lit nowadays. The deaf old man who, according to the producer, invariably sits in the back row of the cheapest seats and asks for his money back if he does not hear every word, is a challenge to the actor. Correct articulation, phrasing, pace and intonation are taken out of the English lesson and become tools of a trade, with which to earn the rich reward of an audience's response. You cannot hope to make an audience understand a speech unless you understand it yourself, so a profound grasp of the meaning of a fine play is unconsciously and eagerly sought by all who take part.

To all directly concerned with the creative aspects of the play, especially the actors, comes the opportunity for self-expression and individual success. Even more important than these satisfactions is the individual's realisation that they are worth what they cost in hard work, submission to the discipline of the medium, and subordination to the

artistic unity of the production. The constant effort of the actors to understand how the characters they portray would think and act in the situations that arise helps them to that highest wisdom, detachment in judging their own thoughts and actions.

In order to spread the benefits of the drama more widely and to give boys a chance to tackle production, make-up, stage-management, costume and scenery, as well as acting, an Inter-House Drama Competition is run annually. The work is done entirely by the boys from the moment their choice of play has been sanctioned by the Eisteddfod Committee. The boldnes of this experiment has been justified and every year has seen at least one, some years two or three, good productions. No school office requires greater organising capacity and leadership than the successful production of a House play.

When all is said about the educational value of the drama in school, we have to confess that we do it for the fun of it too. Staff and boys work together on the play in an informal atmosphere which leads to many amusing situations. There was the case of the clergyman-to-be who, having learnt all the more lurid bits of his part in a Shakespeare play, could not, so he said, cut them without making all sorts of mistakes.

The selection of suitable plays on which to base this activity is a real problem. The following considerations govern our choice of Christmas play and, less stringently, Eisteddfod set pieces. Only plays of recognised merit are considered, because a grammar school should set a standard and provide its pupils with first-hand experience of good drama. Costume plays have been preferred because it is difficult for a boy to seem convincing as a woman in modern dress. Plays which include women's parts beyond the scope of a boy actor have also—often regretfully—to be ruled out. Very large casts are out of the question because of expense and the impossibility of arranging rehearsals. Although our stage is now roomy, handsome and well-lit, every entrance and exit, and every movement of furniture or scenery, must be by way of a narrow, tortuous flight of steps, so plays which require elaborate setting cannot be put on. This does not worry us unduly, as we are no great believers in real lions on the stage, but when next you see an actor make an effective exit, bear in mind that, the moment he ceases to be visible, he will probably fall into space or a promiscuous heap of properties and actors waiting their cue in our hopelessly inadequate wings. We believe that Shakespeare should often appear in our list of productions, but we also want to widen the horizon by doing modern and, where possible, foreign plays. We have a secret desire to do a Greek tragedy, but have not had the nerve yet. Finally, we believe that the audience, as well as the players, should *enjoy* the play. If you have read any good plays lately and feel that there was one which satisfied all the above conditions — well, we are already trying to decide what to produce next Christmas.

T.G.B.

SHORT STORY

ALGY AND THE APE

"Yes — hapes is strange creechers," went on Algernon Carson. Major Browne yawned. Perhaps it was the hot South African sun — or was it boredom? All the morning Algernon Carson had been informing the Major of his experiences in the African wilds.

Carson did not have to leave until the next day, so Mrs. Browne had invited him to stay the night — and how the Major wished she had not.

Carson was a truck driver, and he brought stores and mail to the white settlers in that district once a week. That is why he was there at the Major's bungalow.

The Major was a retired soldier, renowned for his bravery, and had fought in the Boer War when he was younger. He was now living the rest of his life in the country he loved, and which his wife loved too, so they both got on very happily.

Carson proceeded with his life story, which forced another yawn from the Major.

"Yes, hapes is funny fings — min' you, some knows how to handle 'em; I ain't boastin' though, but I knows all about hapes——"

"Really?" interrupted the Major. "Tell me anything about them that I don't know, and I'll — I'll pay you five pounds straight down!"

"Bah!" ejaculated Carson. "I don't like sarcastic ole buffers, 'specially stoopid sodjers — an' I can tell you one fing, you're a hape, yerself!"

Major Browne bubbled up with rage.

"Get out!" he cried. "Get out, this minute! And I'll employ someone else as my carrier — Get out, I say."

Mrs. Browne came on to the verandah at that moment, but no amount of pleading from her would change the Major's mind, so Algernon Carson left the bungalow, grumbling, and after a few minutes drove off in his truck.

Mrs. Browne suggested that her husband had been a bit hasty, but, not wanting to anger him more, she got on with her cooking.

On Tuesday evenings the Major usually drove in his car to a water-hole some miles distant to do a bit of observation and maybe some hunting. As this was a Tuesday, he kissed his wife good-bye about five o'clock and drove off, accompanied only by his friend, D'Arcy Clarke-Smith, whose house lay about half a mile away from the Major's.

They reached the water-hole about seven, and parking the car in some bushes, they sat in the branches of a nearby tree to wait. It was now dark, and soon some antelopes and buffaloes came to the water's edge to drink. Then came elephants, gnus and giraffes, which mingled with the other animals and drank.

Suddenly a terrific roar was heard, and all the animals fled, crashing and stumbling in terror, as, from out of the jungle by the side of the water-hole, limped a huge lion. There were large claw and tooth-marks over its body, which was plastered with dry blood. The lion had probably had a fight, and was maddened by its wounds.

Both the Major and his friend realised that the lion would be extremely dangerous in its present state, so they decided that it should be killed. After a drink, the lion went off into the jungle, the two men following: the Major with a Martini rifle, and the other with his four-bore.

They came to a clearing, where the lion lay down, and they advanced cautiously. Clarke-Smith raised his gun and, taking aim, fired; but a split second before the bullet could find its mark, the lion leapt up and charged at a figure which had just emerged from the undergrowth.

It was a large gorilla, and a second later both it and the lion were locked in a deadly struggle. Evidently the gorilla had been the lion's adversary in the earlier fight, for it, too, was stained with blood.

After a minute or so of this combat, the lion sank back, dead, and the victorious gorilla, foaming at the mouth, and blood dripping from claws which had torn the lion's body so viciously, advanced towards the hunters.

Before either the Major or Clarke-Smith could fire, their weapons had been torn from their grasp, and the gorilla was upon them. The creature forced them into a stranglehold, and grinning maliciously, proceeded to crush them.

The two hunters awaited death, which seemed inevitable, but before the gorilla could do its worst, it released its hold and turned.

There stood Algernon Carson, looking the animal straight in the eyes. He pointed to the jungle, and gave the gorilla a push. After glaring sullenly at Algernon, it lumbered away whence it had come.

The two hunters picked themselves up. Their clothes were torn, and there were scratches and dirt on their bodies.

They thanked Algernon again and again. The Major handed him a five-pound note when they arrived at the bungalow, saying, "I offered you five pounds to tell me anything I didn't know about apes — and though you didn't do that you have shown me that you can make them obey you! By the way, how did you manage to be there at the time?"

"I came back to your 'ouse to ask if you'd change your min' about employin' someone else, and Mrs. Browne said that you'd gone to the water-hole, so I goes too, and I was jus' in time to save you from a nasty haccident!"

"Yes, you were," replied the Major. "I take back all I said about sacking you — and I apologise for turning you away! You can stay the night, after all!"

"Thank you sir! Oh, yus, hapes is strange creechers!"

J. P. Fox (3a).

ARE WE THE BEST FORM IN THE SCHOOL?

This is a question that will arouse considerable controversy, but I wonder how many forms, after reading this article, will be bold enough to put forward their case.

Starting with the first sport in the School, Rugby, we had six members of our form in the Colt XV: these were Bergson, Bicknell, Gooders, Herbert, Richards, D. and Szyjkowski. Whitesman has been reserve. Four of the above, Bicknell, Herbert, Szyjkowski and Whitesman have represented the Second XV, whilst Szyjkowski and Herbert have gone to even greater heights by representing the School First Team. Szyjkowski also played for Surrey and Home Counties XV.

Next, Cricket: the Captain of the Junior Team last year was in our form; Boreham, Edwell, Bicknell and Richards, D., also played for the team; Herbert was reserve.

One of our biggest triumphs was in Athletics: four of our form represented the School, while another was a reserve. Everyone will remember last year's "crack" junior relay team: three of the four members came from our form, Gooders, Herbert and Richards, D. Incidentally, the time of this race, 51.6 secs., is equivalent to an average time of 11.5 secs. for each hundred yards. Szyjkowski represented the Wandsworth district in the London weight-putting championships, while all the above, and also Bicknell, represented the School in other matches.

Boxing: during this year the School had only one Wandsworth champion. This boy is a member of our form, Herbert. Two years running Herbert has gained honour for the School by reaching the London semi-finals.

In numerous other sports our form has been outstanding: in chess, where Sawyer, Edwell and Winter have played for the School; Richards, D., and Bergson have swum for the School; Herbert was second in last year's junior cross-country race; while White is a regular member of the School cross-country team.

Apart from our sporting activities we won £4 for our entry in the essay competition about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

One of the members of our form was in the School's production of "The Devil's Disciple," while the whole of the stage hands were members of our form.

In the handwriting competition held between our School, the Technical Branch and the Elliott School our form provided the individual winner in Herbert.

J. Gooders (Md. 4a).

A HEAD PREFECT'S LAST TERM

Eight years ago I first came to this School, and now my time has come to leave it. I can hardly believe that soon I will no longer have to hurry to school in the mornings or sit at a desk which is too small for me. It was not so small eight years ago.

To juniors this must seem a very long time, but I can assure them that these years have slipped past without my noticing their passing. Term after term, year after year, has sped away until now I reach the end of my life here and stand at the door of the everyday world.

When I first arrived, a very small boy, with a very Welsh accent, flying bombs were making a mess of London, and so the School was still at Woking. Thus my early years were spent under such legendary figures as Mr. Chart-Leigh and the late Mr. Phillimore. Many boys will not remember

these great men, but they will stay in my mind, not as schoolmasters, but as fabulous eccentrics, who lighted my younger years.

School life at Woking was very different from school life now. For one thing, the school building was a pleasant private house with extensive grounds, which were the pride of Mr. Phillimore's heart. Indeed, my most vivid memories of Woking are mathematic lessons in the open air. These generally consisted of sweeping up piles of leaves from the immaculate lawns and making of them bonfires in which apples stolen from the kitchen garden were roasted.

After the excitement of Woking, life at Wandsworth seemed rather colourless, and very soon the fifth year was with me, bringing with it examinations. However, these were soon safely over, and I entered on my last three happy years. My life became fuller and more varied. New interests arose, and all around one could feel the intellectual excitement, which one prides oneself on having in the sixth form.

But now all this is nearly over, what shall I miss most? What remember? I suppose my happiest memories will be those not connected with work — waiting backstage before the first night of a School play, practice with the choir before school, or lazing on the field with music drifting through the open windows of Room A. Then I am sure I shall remember amusing happenings, such as the time when Mr. Chart-Leigh kicked the late Mr. Hatfield in the teeth, or the occasion when a well-known member of the staff jumped fully clad into the Wandsworth Swimming Bath to rescue a damsel in distress. But there are other things I shall recall with pleasure, things concerning the scholastic life of the School — the quietness of the exam. room, and the lively discussions after sixth form broadcasts.

Of course, I would not be such a hypocrite as to subscribe to that old tag which says that school days are the happiest days of your life. But I will say that mine have been very happy. This may be due to the fact that I don't remember the less joyful moments. However, it is all coming to an end, both sad and joyful. Soon I shall be handing in my badge and throwing myself on the mercy of the world.

NELSON F. ROBERTS.

A FRENCHMAN LOOKS AT A GRAMMAR SCHOOL

I took to the school-uniform at first sight. That statement will probably be booed by boys who cannot bear wearing the school cap; but I am sure that those boys, after spending a year in a French Lycée (the equivalent of a Grammar School) would be glad to come back and wear their English school-cap again. A school uniform of any kind is quite unknown in France. A Lycée is considered as a place where the intelligent pupil tries to gather as much knowledge as possible, without bothering about any kind of social activity.

The French schoolboy misses the rallying point of the school uniform. He scarcely bothers about the victories or the defeats of the school soccer team. A French school has no social activities, such as a debating society, a photographic club or any other of the many clubs you have in this school. He has no school colours or school uniform to provide a link between all the boys of the same school. That is why I took to the school uniform: because it provides an agreeable change from the anonymity of a Lycée; because it proves to me that there are schools whose ideal is not merely to cram boys with knowledge.

Another puzzling point for a Frenchman is the existence of prefects. In France the various duties of a prefect are taken over by a professional staff of "Surveillants" (a French name for which there is no English equivalent), specially paid for this job. True enough, those surveillants have some of the masters' duties also, such as looking after the detentions or writing the term reports to the parents. But in this country it is a striking feature to see the older boys in charge of school discipline; and in spite of having read about the English system beforehand, it is always amazing to see it working with one's own eyes. We

would not dream of doing such a thing in France: we consider that the older boys have quite enough work to do with their studies and the masters enough to do with teaching, without bothering either boys or masters with discipline which, though necessary, is ancillary to teaching itself. The result is that, in France, we need a special professional staff to take care of the discipline question. Such a solution gives to masters and pupils a complete freedom of mind to allow them to concentrate on teaching and learning without distraction.

The detention system of a Lycée would make an English schoolboy take to his heels. It is operated on an hour basis: i.e., for a minor offence you get two hours' detention and for a graver offence you get from three to eight hours' detention on Thursday, for Thursday is usually a holiday for the French pupil. If you really go beyond the limit you may get a detention on Sunday or even be expelled from the school.

The working hours of a Lycée, too, would make an English schoolboy shudder. We start at 8 a.m., and have four one-hour periods in the morning: in the afternoon we have three or four one-hour periods according to the different classes. So, boys, when you feel sleepy at 9 a.m., just think of the French schoolboy who has already been working for a whole hour. I am sure that will wake you up!

These main differences do provide a complete difference of atmosphere in a Grammar School and in a Lycée. The Lycée stands for teaching without "trimmings"; a Grammar School tries, besides teaching, to educate a boy socially. And the boys produced by these systems are quite different: if the French boy is stuffed with a great deal more knowledge, he has still to acquire a community feeling; the English boy is much more community-conscious, is much more aware of the meaning of the word "team-work."

J. R. WERNER.

THE F.A. CUP FINAL

Once every year 100,000 people pour into Wembley Stadium to see the footballing event of the season, the Football Association Cup Final. This year's final was between Arsenal and Newcastle United, and I was lucky enough to get a ticket.

It was a lovely sight, as I came out of Wembley Park Station, to see the two big towers of the stadium, and thousands of supporters wearing either red and white, or black and white rosettes and scarves, thronging up the road towards the ground.

Inside the ground I found myself among all the Arsenal supporters, which is not surprising as I got my ticket from the Arsenal. As I came into the ground Arthur Caiger was just taking his place, on a stand in the middle of the pitch, to conduct the community singing, accompanied by the band of the Grenadier Guards. The crowd sang popular songs played by the band, but it was not until they started to play the "Blaydon Races," which is the song that the Newcastle supporters are always singing, that it became interesting. For when the people from Newcastle started to sing the "Blaydon Races," all the Arsenal supporters started to sing their own song.

Five minutes before the kick-off the two teams walked out side by side, and lined up before the Royal Box, waiting to be presented to the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill. After the presentation, the players separated and started to kick the practice balls about. The two captains, Joe Mercer of the Arsenal, and Joe Harvey of Newcastle, were called into the centre to spin a coin for the choice of ends. Mercer won the toss for the Arsenal.

Newcastle kicked off, but the Arsenal pressed, trying to get an early goal. Then the play evened out and both defences were well on top. After about twenty minutes, the Arsenal trainer had to be called on to the field to attend to Barnes. After a quick raid by Milburn and Mitchell, Barnes had got in the way of Milburn's boot as

he tried to make a back pass. About fifteen minutes later, Barnes was again injured, and this time he had to be taken off the field. This upset the Arsenal, and Newcastle were on top until Arsenal re-organised their team.

In the second half play became more exciting. Newcastle were playing a little better, but the Arsenal, with only ten men, were gallantly holding on. Play was also getting rougher. Once Milburn looked as if he was going to break away, but Forbes sent him sprawling with an extremely vigorous tackle. The free kick was of little use because Arsenal blocked their goal. Ten minutes from the end, Newcastle were on top and it was lovely to watch their beautiful passes bewildering the Arsenal defenders. But Arsenal were holding Newcastle out until a cross by Mitchell was headed in by George Robledo. There was silence as the ball bounced over the line and trickled into the corner of the net, and then there was a terrific roar from the Newcastle supporters. In the few remaining minutes Arsenal put everything into their attack, but it was Newcastle who nearly scored again when Milburn drove the ball just wide.

When the final whistle sounded, the Newcastle team jumped up and down, shaking hands with one another, and being congratulated by the Arsenal players. The Newcastle team were led up to the Royal Box by Harvey, their captain, where they were presented with the Cup and medals. The Arsenal team then filed up to be presented with their medals. The Newcastle team hoisted their captain and the Cup on their shoulders and walked off the pitch.

B. SMITH (3a,Cd).

ANAGRAMS I suppose you have all heard of an anagram. Really the word "anagram" means words or sentences formed by changing the order of the letters of other words or sentences. Making anagrams is not just an amusing game for the evening, it is quite a good English exercise.

When you choose words for anagrams, take long words, with several vowels in them, as you will find they are much better than short words with few vowels. Use such words as Revolution, which gives "Love to ruin," or Astronomers, which gives "Moon-starers," and that is not a very bad description as astronomers are, in a way, "moon-starers." French Revolution gives an anagram which is a very good description of itself — "violence run forth." Old England can be turned into "Golden Land," and here is a good one, Punishment into "Nine thumps."

Making anagrams from famous persons' names can be good fun, especially if the anagram describes the person's work in life. For instance, we have Disraeli, from which we get "I lead, sir!" but there, of course, Gladstone might have made the anagram on Disraeli, "Idle airs." Here are two on William Ewart Gladstone, "A man to wield great wills," or "Go, administrate law well."

Then back to single words, we have Catalogues, "Got as a clue," or Melodrama, giving "made moral."

Try making anagrams from names of places; if you have only seen Rome once you would probably like to see "more."

Really you could make anagrams from any type of words, as they all provide good enjoyment.

H. BUTNICK (4a, Cd).

EISTEDDFOD, 1952 The success of such a function as the Eisteddfod, with its very wide appeal to so many interests, depends, to a large extent, on the choice of House organisers, who this year, by their high standard of work and enthusiasm, ensured success from the beginning. Play production and choir training are not easy tasks and require in their organisers high qualities of personality, tact and stimulating energy.

The decision, at the request of many parents, to extend the function to three evenings was fully justified by a large gathering of parents and old boys on each occasion.

On Friday evening, 3rd April, the four houses competed in drama under the exacting scrutiny of the adjudicators, Mrs. H. R. King, Mr. C. Fisher and Mr. David Perry, who gave high praise to the quality of the performances. After a long and critical estimate of each presentation, Cromwell House was declared the winner with their surprisingly mature and original performance of scenes from "Julius Caesar." Further details of the drama competition are given in a separate article in this issue.

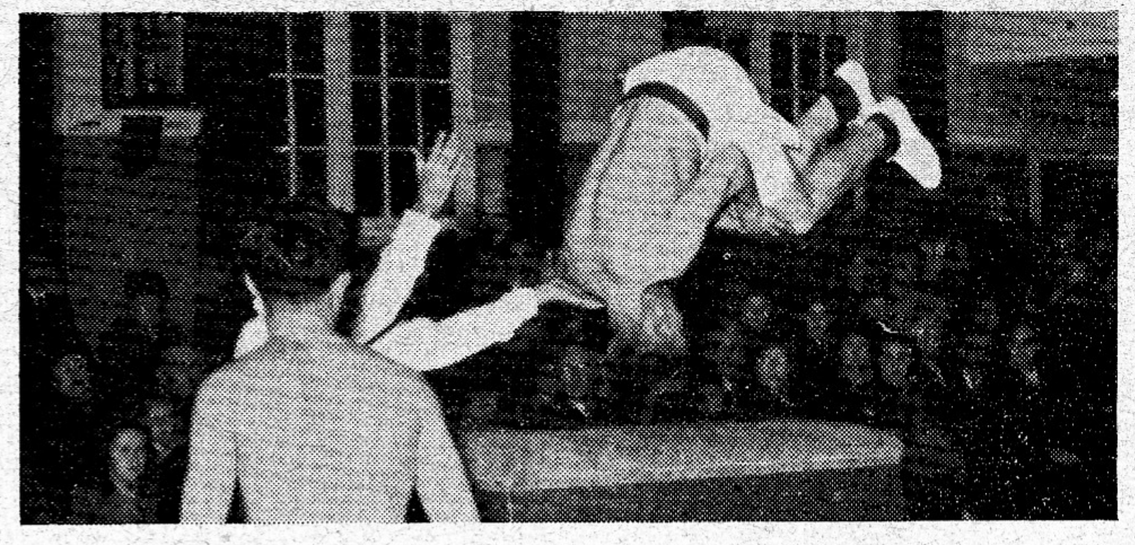
Friday evening, 4th April, was devoted to an interesting variety of exhibitions and displays. In the art section almost every type of work was displayed — portraiture, landscape, poster-design and lino-cuts. Another group contained hobbies of every description, such as model-making, photography, stamps and other collections, with aeroplanes and mechanical devices predominating.

Other exhibitions represented the various school societies, and were mostly arranged and demonstrated by the boys of the school. The chemistry department had a large and varied show, progressing from models of molecules through several experiments, ranging from one demonstrating very exhaustively the process of rusting, down to some rather spectacular processes giving rise, amongst other things, to brilliant green and yellow flames. Specimens of about sixty different elements with the ores in which they are found, were also displayed.

In the Model Railways' show two large and complicated "0-0" systems had been laid out and were running very efficiently.

The Physics Section started off with an interesting display of discharge tubes and sparking machines. One was then conducted round a series of experiments and shown the use of various types of apparatus. One spectacular piece was melting nails, which burst into flames after a few seconds.

Then came the Amateur Radio Exhibition, which included a complete short wave receiving station.



The Astronomical Society displayed a six-inch reflector telescope made by Fenton, one of the boys, and a nine-inch mirror in the process of being ground to shape, as well as a set of models and demonstrations to show the night sky, what to look for and how to find it.

Finally, one came to the Week in Industry Exhibition, containing a fascinating range of photographs, drawings, maps and specimens, illustrating various aspects of the intensive study of the Durham area carried out by a party of boys last July.

During the evening some excellent displays of gymnastics and fencing were given under the direction of Mr. K. Coate-Bond and Mr. R. Levy respectively.

The third evening — Monday, 7th April — was devoted to the Eisteddfod Concert of winning items in music, speech and drama, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. W. Fenn. At the end of the concert Mrs. H. R. King presented the Mayfield Cup to A. E. York, the co-ordinator of Gibbon, the winning house; and the Headmaster, Mr. H. Raymond King, M.A., welcomed the large gathering of visitors and congratulated the organisers and all those who took part.

HOUSE ORGANISERS

Cromwell: J. R. Challice (Music); D. I. Livingstone (Drama); J. M. Barber (Speech); J. S. Chafen (Co-ordinator).

Gibbon: T. Wright (Music); B. F. Tyson (Drama); W. M. Stanley (Speech); A. E. York (Co-ordinator).

Morley: A. E. Trebble (Music); C. B. Gosden (Drama); J. W. Bloss (Speech); J. G. Bourton (Co-ordinator).

Pitt: S. F. F. Weber (Music); R. J. Bonner (Drama); D. T. Glayzer (Speech); N. F. Roberts (Co-ordinator).

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

MUSIC.

(Adjudicators: Mr. J. Keyte and Dr. J. D. Solomon).

1. *Pianoforte.*—(Advanced): 1, S. F. F. Weber. (Intermediate): 1, J. W. Sharp; 2, N. C. Pearce and P. A. Townson; 4, M. K. Stuart. (Elem.): 1, D. A. Richards; 2, C. B. Gosden and P. Thornton; 4, K. Gugan.

II. *Violin.*—(Adv.): 1, G. R. Williams; 2, D. King; 3, A. C. Savage and D. A. Richards. (Elem.): 1, B. C. Johnstone; 2, J. A. Lawrence; 3, C. D. Irving; 4, G. W. C. Wort.

III. *Miscellaneous Instruments.*—1, S. W. Baber ('cello); 2, J. B. Edgar (viola); 3, P. N. Cassidy (recorder); 4, K. Gugan (horn).

IV. *Solo Singing.*—(Bass): 1, J. M. Barber; 2, R. J. Elsam; 3, C. B. Gosden and A. E. Trebble. (Baritone): 1, J. R. Challice and N. F. Roberts; 3, J. G. Bourton; 4, A. W. Bennett. (Treble): 1, B. C. Johnston; 2, J. W. Sharp; 3, P. N. Cassidy; 4, J. Cormack and S. Hammond.

V. *House Choirs.*—1, Cromwell; 2, Morley; 3, Pitt; 4, Gibbon.

LITERARY COMPOSITION.

(Adjudicator: Mr. J. Ascher).

I. *Story.*—(Sen.): 1, D. I. Livingstone. (Jun.): 2, J. Fox; 4, G. Rogers.

II. *Playlet.*—1, R. D. King.

III. *Verse.*—(Sen.): 2, J. C. Yateman. (Jun.): 3, J. R. Marshall.

SPEECH.

(Adjudicators: The Headmaster, Messrs. T. G. Benyon, R. Levy and W. Payne).

I. *Solo Reading.*—(Sen.): 1, J. M. Barber and B. F. Tyson; 3, D. I. Livingstone and N. F. Roberts. (Inter.): 1, A. E. Preston; 2, P. M. Bates; 3, R. A. Bristow and R. Lambert. (Jun.): 1, P. N. Cassidy; 2, B. C. Johnston; 3, G. H. Croombs and M. Stemp.

II. *Public Speaking.*—1, W. M. Stanley; 2, R. W. Harrington; 3, T. H. Wright; 4, J. S. Wharton and T. F. Phillips.

III. *Choral Speaking.*—1, Gibbon; 2, Pitt; 3, Morley; 4, Cromwell.

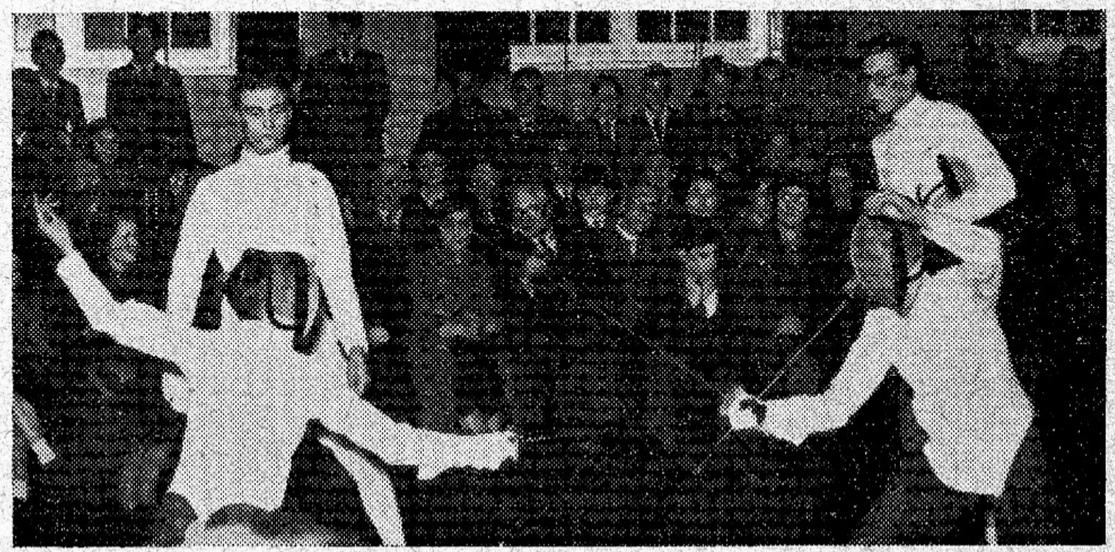
DRAMA.

(Adjudicators: Mrs. H. R. King, Messrs. C. Fisher and David Perry).

1. *Cromwell*: Julius Caesar, Act III, Sc. 1 and 2 (Shakespeare).

2. *Gibbon*: Scenes from "Pygmalion" (Bernard Shaw); *Morley*: "The Old Bull" (B. Gilbert).

4. *Pitt*: Extract from "The Bishop's Candlesticks" (Victor Hugo).



ART.

(Adjudicators: Messrs. S. Cowan and A. Hodgkinson).

I. *Paintings.*—(Sen.): 1, M. F. Morgan; 2, D. King; 3, G. R. Reeve; 4, A. J. Taylor. (Inter.): 1, J. R. Tickner and M. Burr; 2, T. Gritt; 3, J. Ungar; 4, D. E. Mann. (Jun.): 1, S. J. Grantham and P. M. Clowes; 2, A. Paxman; 3, G. Wort; 4, G. Wiseman.

II. *Portraits.*—(Sen.): 1, A. G. York; 2, J. F. Gilbart. (Inter.): 1, R. Evans. (Jun.): 1, R. Orrow; 2, D. Cross.

III. *Lino-Cuts.*—(Sen.): 2, J. Barucki. (Inter.): 1, W. Szyjkowski.

IV. *Posters.*—(Sen.): 1, D. G. Pettican; 2, P. Hunt. (Inter.): 1, P. Grantham; 2, G. E. Tonks. (Jun.): 1, J. Bellinger.

V. *Design.*—(Sen.): 1, J. F. Gilbart; 2, M. Sanders. (Inter.): 1, J. C. Vallé-Jones.

VI. *Drawings.*—(Sen.): 1, G. C. Brooks. (Inter.): 1, M. Burr; 2, P. M. Hoffman. (Jun.): 1, A. Hill; 2, B. Blackie.

VII. *Modelling.*—(Sen.): 3, J. Bourton. (Inter.): 1, F. G. Bloss. (Jun.): 1, P. M. Bates; 3, W. S. Smith.

HOBBIES.

(Adjudicator: Mr. L. C. Catto).

I. *Photography.*—(Sen. A): 1, P. F. G. Dorrell. (Sen. B.): 1, P. F. G. Dorrell; 2, R. S. Dean; 3, R. D. Cardwell and J. Tringham. (Jun. A.): 1, G. R. Williams.

(Adjudicators: Messrs. P. Culverwell, H. C. Hall and G. Elms).

II. *Models.—Flying Models.*—(Sen.): 1, A. J. Kaminski and W. T. Szyjkowski; 2, A. Salmon. (Jun.): 1, T. R. Udall; 2, G. A. Watts; 3, J. W. Kaminski; 4, N. C. Pearce. *Historical Models.*—(Sen.): 1, D. King. (Jun.): 1, J. Tudgay; 2, G. Douel; 3, F. A. Turner; 4, K. Morgon. *Geographical Models.*—(Sen.): 1, A. York. (Jun.): 1, G. Eaton, G. R. Williams and G. W. C. Wort; 2, K. F. Old. *Mechanical Models.*—(Sen.): 3, A. C. Savage and T. B. Saull. (Jun.): 1, R. Hore; 2, J. Cormack; 3, M. Lillistone; 4, E. R. Carr. *Scientific Models.*—(Sen.): 1, J. W. Bloss, R. D. Cardwell, A. B. Shine and W. M. Stanley; 2, A. N. Chalk. (Jun.): 1, R. M. Smith; 2, E. R. Carr; 3, K. Hudson; 4, A. Claydon. *Miscellaneous.*—(Sen.): 1, R. Hall and J. Jones; 2, A. C. Savage. (Jun.): 1, B. G. Swaine and K. S. Kreuchen; 2, C. Hardcastle, J. Robertson and J. Wilson; 3, R. Carr and F. Jones; 4, B. C. Homewood and A. Richards.

(Adjudicators: Messrs. K. Coate-Bond, A. Lincé and J. Makin).

III. *Collections.—Stamps*—(Sen.): 1, D. Kreuchen; 2, R. D. Cardwell; 3, S. F. Weber; 4, C. D. Goh and G. B. Dodge. (Jun.): 1, J. M. Taylor; 2, D. J. Mount; 3, P. E. Triggs; 4, P. M. Bates. (Novices): 1, J. T. Francis; 2, J. N. Jarvis. *Miscellaneous.*—(Sen.): 1, B. A. Holder; 2, P. I. M. Hodge. (Jun.): 1, G. W. C. Wort and G. Leelike; 2, A. Walsh; 3, C. T. A. Bowyer; 4, R. L. Polley.

HOUSE RESULTS

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Music	10½	32½	38	19
Literary Composition	33	27	20	20
Speech	38	14½	27	20½
Drama	25	40	25	10
Art	29	26	16	29
Hobbies	43	18	31	8
Section	**Gibbon**	**Cromwell**	**Morley**	**Pitt**
Totals	**178½**	**158**	**157**	**106½**

G.E.

1952 DRAMA COMPETITION

Congratulations to Cromwell House on being the first House ever to win the competition with a Shakespeare play, and with what was probably the largest cast ever to be entered for the competition. Their Producer, Livingstone, boldly took full advantage of the enlarged stage for a really imaginative production of the assassination and ensuing scenes from "Julius Caesar", and his cast-

ing and selection of the crowd of citizens, probably went further towards winning the competition than did his very good interpretation of the character of Mark Anthony. Indeed, it is difficult to single out any of the players for individual mention — the impression was rather of team work and real dramatic achievement.

The Gibbon House production of scenes from Shaw's "Pygmalion," on the other hand, contained some of the best individual performances of the evening, notably Tyson as Professor Higgins and Gale as the dustman who contrived to remain unperturbed even after his daughter's entry into high society. Gibbon had the advantage of possessing most of the "stars" of the 1951 School Play and were perhaps unfortunate to have to share the second place with Morley, but their production lacked pace, and did not always bring out the interesting contrasts between the group of characters portrayed.

Morley's play, "The Old Bull", a rustic comedy, was a much less ambitious production, but it had real atmosphere, due mainly to the fine character sketch of Wharton, as the Cowman. He also managed to produce and sustain a most convincing rustic accent. No other member of the cast had previous experience, and the result is all the more credit to the producer, C. B. Gosden, who himself did not take a part, a decision which other producers, present and future, might do well to copy.

The other play, "The Bishop's Candlesticks", produced for Pitt House by R. J. Bonner, was not a wise nor an original choice, and was the only performance of the evening to which proper attention had not been given to the learning of the words. This was most unfortunate, as the dialogue of this play tends to be stilted, even when there are no awkward pauses before cues are picked up. Even though placed fourth, however, this play contained one of the best performances of the competition, namely, Roberts as the Bishop, so one can safely say that the standard of all four plays, taken together, was higher than has ever been offered before at an Eisteddfod.

This was the opinion of the judges, too, and, speaking for them at the end of the evening, David Perry paid the compliment of applying the most stringent standards of criticism to the performances. That his remarks will be of very great help to them when next they act is certain— but to the audience, which seems to get bigger every year and to increase in enthusiasm, his detailed summary was perhaps a little more than could be digested at the end of a long evening in a crowded hall, and on future occasions it might well be communicated to the actors in private, with perhaps an opportunity for discussion.

E.B.

CYCLING

A cycling holiday is such fun,
  A lovely time for all,
As down the great long roads you run
  And up the hills you crawl.

You start off early in the morn,
  Through town and country lane,
Past fields of flowers and waving corn,
  And hope it will not rain.

You stop for lunch and then go on,
  You pass the fields so green,
And then you see how time has gone,
  And, oh! how far you've been.

As homeward bound you wend your way,
You'll think you've had a lovely day.

J. EDWELL (Md, 4a).

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL The House Senior Rugger Team set the seal on a great season when it defeated Pitt by 27 points to 14, bringing the aggregate to 79-14. We can single out Morris for his inspiring leadership and play. He has also brought academic distinction, too, upon the House in being accepted at Wadham College, Oxford.

In the Cross-Country, we were second to Gibbon, but the spirited running of our team was something to be proud of. Edgar was second in the Senior and Nabi third in the Junior.

Second place in the Eisteddfod was less than we had hoped for, but Livingstone's fine production of "Julius Caesar" took first place in the Drama Section. His playing of Mark Anthony was also the finest individual performance of the evening. The support given by Barber and Chafen and the "mob", which was well-trained, exemplify the fine team spirit of the House.

As to Diligence, as compared with the "slow progress" mentioned in last term's notes, we now lead the field. Well done!

Harvey has led the Fives team to its second victory in two games and Gibbon alone stands in our path. In cricket, we lost our first game against Gibbon by one run.

For the fourth time in five years, the House won the Athletics Shield, this time with a score of only two points short of 200 and 43 ahead of the second, Morley. Liggitt equalled the 75yds. record and ran well to overhaul the Morley man in the under-12 relay. Ardley returned 12.25 to win the Middle 100 yards, and in the same section Hulcoop won the Hurdles and Granfield the Shot and the Discus. In the former, Granfield putted 43ft. 5in. to set up a new School record. Morris won the 100 and 220 in 11.25 and 26 secs. respectively. Edgar ran his best race to date by winning the mile in 5min. 4secs., and the Senior Relay team rounded off the day by winning their event.

GIBBON At last Gibbon has put its shoulder to the wheel, for Gibbon now have a chance of becoming Cock House.

We started on the road to victory by winning the Eisteddfod and then followed it up by the winning of the Cross-Country Shield. The securing of first place in the Eisteddfod was a particularly good effort, for we secured first place in each section except Music and Drama. Thanks must be tended to Messrs. Stanley, Phelps, Tyson, Wright, Arnold and Curme and all the boys who backed them up.

The success in the Cross-Country is due to our having such fine runners as Pettican and Lightfoot. Although Gibbon failed, through no fault of those who tried, on Sports Day, this has not deterred them from winning the two Inter-House cricket matches that they have played at the time of going to press. The Cromwell—Gibbon match was going to be a "walk-over" for Cromwell according to the majority of the School. However, Gibbon dumbfounded everyone by beating Cromwell by one run.

A team which consists of two members who play for the School, namely, Chaplain and Bellerby have put Gibbon in a strong position in the Inter-House Fives tournament.

Altogether, the sun is shining more brightly for Gibbon than it has for longer than anyone cares to remember.

MORLEY At last Morley seems to be regaining confidence. We have won the Table-Tennis Competition by beating all three houses (Cromwell 9—7, Gibbon 10—6, Pitt 10—6).

We now have a good Senior Cricket Team and have got off to a good start by beating Pitt by 108 runs (Morley 112, Pitt 4).

In the Eisteddfod we were very unlucky to come third to Cromwell by one point. In connection with the Eisteddfod mention must be made of Wrench and Trebble. Wrench worked very hard in preparing the violinists, thus allowing Trebble to concentrate on the choir (which came second) and the solo-singers. In the Drama Morley did well in tieing with Gibbon for second place.

We seem to be holding our own in the Diligence Competition, although there is still room for improvement. In the Athletics we gained an easy second to Cromwell. Squires did very well, winning both the 100 yards and 220 yards Junior events.

Morley did reasonably well in the Cross-Country although our third place to Gibbon and Cromwell was mainly due to the lack of enthusiasm among our Seniors.

We end by asking everyone to make an especial effort in the Diligence Competition, as this is a competition in which every boy's individual contribution helps. We should also like to wish our Cricket Teams every success and hope they will be as successful as our Seniors were in their first match this year.

PITT With this issue of "The Link" we are able to survey the achievements of Pitt House in the Eisteddfod and Athletics competitions.

Unfortunately they were not outstanding; the House came last in the Eisteddfod and third in Athletics. However, it should be pointed out that in actual points scored on Sports Day, we were second only to Cromwell. Our final placing was due entirely to the lack of points forthcoming from the Standards. We should like, at this point, to congratulate Davison, the House Captain in Athletics, who broke the 440 yards record in the South London Grammar Schools Sports, and also Hamilton, who broke two School records on Sports Day, the Junior High and Long Jumps.

In the Eisteddfod, earlier this term, Pitt's main success was in the Solo Reading and Art Sections, in which there were many notable performances, particularly those of Cassidy and Roberts in the Junior and Senior sections respectively.

Diligence this term, although of a reasonable standard, has not been of the order that has long been associated with the House. Evidently, more effort is needed in this direction.

Due congratulation must be given to the House Captain, Roberts, mainstay of Pitt House for several years, on his gaining an L.C.C. Travelling Scholarship in Modern Languages and also upon his acceptance at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. We wish him every success in his university career.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY A week after the last issue of "The Link" went to be printed, our own magazine was published. After much discussion among senior members, it was decided to call it "Ad Astra." (Other suggestions were: "News of the Worlds," "The Planet," and "The Comet.")

We thank the School for its support of our magazine and also, all those who contributed an article, whether printed or not. If it was not printed, we are sorry, but this was entirely through lack of space.

At the Eisteddfod there was a display, consisting of an illuminated diagram of part of the night sky in April; a model of Algol, the Arab's Demon Star; Gugan's working model showing how the equatorial mounting on a telescope compensates for the earth's rotation, and the Fenton telescope. A few visitors saw the mirror grinding in progress, but, unfortunately, the mirror would not stick properly to the wood. The edge and the bevel on it had already been ground and the reflecting surface was to have been ground then. Most of the grinding this term will be done after the exams are over.

In connection with the building of our telescope, we have been given a fly wheel by Tickner and we would be pleased to know if anyone has, or can obtain for us:— three six-inch ball races, two inches inside diam.; a two-inch diam. ball bearing and two blocks of iron, six by six by four inches, drilled through the square face with a two-inch diam. hole.

The Society will meet again in the winter term when it is dark earlier.

CHESS

LONDON GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' RALLY Once a year, in the Autumn or Spring Term, a Chess Rally is held by the London Grammar Schools' Chess League of which this School is a

member. For the last two years, when I myself have attended, it has taken place at William Ellis School, Parliament Hill Fields, near Camden Town. Although the fare is rather expensive, it is well worth going. The admission fee is sixpence, and the Rally starts about ten o'clock and ends at eight o'clock.

During the day many different activities are in progress. For example, at the 1950-51 Rally, there were Lightning Tournaments, Simultaneous Displays and Kriegspiel in progress all day. The two highlights of the day were a Simultaneous Blindfold Display and a telephone match against Birmingham Schools' League. In the 1951-52 Rally, the highlight of the day was an Inter-Schools Lightning Match. We did not enter this, however, because only two of us attended the Rally. I hope this will be rectified next time, and the only way to do this, is for more of our boys to go there.

You can enter any of the activities, even telephone matches, and I can assure anyone who is thinking of going next time, that he will have an extremely enjoyable day.

CRICKET With no fewer than eight boys who played for the 1st XI last year, our prospects for the present year are quite bright. Up to the present, the 1st team has won three matches and had the better of a draw in the fourth. The bowling is particularly strong; with Payne, Bourton, Granfield and Harvey we can maintain a fast attack for a long time, while Benham, Prangnell and Stear provide a diversity of slow and medium styles. Granfield's performances have been quite outstanding; he has both life and accuracy.

The batting is perhaps a little unsteady, but useful scores have been made by Stear, Edwards, Prangnell, Morris and Tilley.

The 2nd XI has so far won two matches and lost one. Here again, the batting is uncertain, but two bowlers, Watson and Jones, would probably gain a place in the 1st XI in normal years.

The Under 14 suffer from the same trouble; and in addition their bowling has not the prime virtue of length. So far, they have won one, drawn one and lost two.

It is clear that the performances of School teams will continue to be erratic until a fair proportion of Juniors take the trouble to acquire a satisfactory basic batting technique. Far too many are reluctant either to lift up their bats or to make proper use of their feet.

The House competition looked, on paper, to be a good thing for Cromwell; but its surprising defeat by Gibbon has greatly added to the uncertainty and interest of the contest.

Results to date:

v. Surbiton (A). School won by three wickets. Surbiton 28 (Granfield 6 for 8 runs); School 29 for 7 (Morris 22 n.o.)

v. Henry Thornton (H). School won by 86 runs. School 134 for 4 dec. (Edwards 28, Stear 23, Prangnell 33 n.o., Morris 27); Henry Thornton 48 (Stear 4 for 7).

v. Battersea Grammar (A). Match drawn. Wandsworth 110, Battersea 74 for 7 (Granfield 4 for 16).

v. Sir Walter St. John's. School won by 8 wickets. St. John's 64 (Bourton 4 for 18); Wandsworth 65 for 2 (Prangnell 33 n.o.)

The 2nd XI has defeated Henry Thornton and Battersea Grammar but lost to Sir Walter St. John's. The 3rd XI has lost its only match so far, against Battersea.

FENCING Although the Fencing Club is not meeting this term as a whole, several senior fencers have been attending on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Mr. Burnett-Rae, in order to train for the fixtures that have been arranged.

Mr. Levy's scheme for the training of fencers right from their entry into the club, has so far succeeded. Each fencer has to pass a series of tests to become a Senior fencer; this entitles him to face another Senior fencer in free play at the end of each meeting, and each Senior fencer is eligible to fence in the School team. The Senior fencers coach the younger members during the meeting. At the end of last term there were ten Senior fencers:—Gosden, C. B. (Captain); Chafen, J. St. C. (Hon. Sec.); Eastman, C.; Parkhurst, F. J.; Roberts, N. F.; Savage, A. C.; Squires, G. P.; Tonks, G. E.

A Fencing Display was one of the main attractions of the Eisteddfod Exhibition last term. The hard work by Mr. Levy and the club was well rewarded by the appreciation shown by the audience.

The Parents' Association are awarding two further bursaries for the coming season, and these have been granted to Squires and Eastman, as our two most promising youngsters. These lads will have to work hard when they join last year's winner, Tonks, at Bertrand's, to justify their selection. Tonks' parents are enabling him to continue his membership there when his bursary expires in a month or two. With three of our young fencers receiving first-rate professional tuition, and passing on to others what they are learning, the standard of the club should begin to rise steadily. We are indeed grateful for the continued generosity of the Parents' Association.

FIVES The School Fives Team has enjoyed one of its best seasons since the war. We have played and conquered nearly all London fives-playing schools. Out of eleven matches played this year, we have succeeded in winning ten.

We have again entered the Marchant Cup Competition for London schools, and at the time of writing we have won through to the semi-final after beating Sloane School (the holders) by 105 points. Our opponents in the semi-final are St. Marylebone (last year's runners-up), and a stiff fight is to be expected.

We also entered the Mappins (doubles) and Jesters (singles) Cups, public schools competition, in which the standard of play is very high. Chaplin and Harvey got to the third and fourth rounds respectively in the singles, and as a pair to the 3rd round. A net increase of three rounds on last year.

The House competition for the Fenn Cup is under way and will be decided when Cromwell play Gibbon for first place, and Morley play Pitt for third.

The success of the Fives Club this year can mainly be attributed to the keenness of the four School players:—Chaplin, Bellerby, Cardwell and Harvey, who throughout the season have maintained, through constant practice, a high standard of fives.

THE HANSARD SOCIETY MEETING On the 3rd April a party of fifth and six formers attended a meeting of the Hansard Society at the Royal Festival Hall.

The morning session was opened by Stephen King-Hall, president of the Hansard Society. He lectured on the procedure followed in the Parliaments of Europe and the other principal countries of the world.

Then he called upon the wife of the Indonesian Ambassador in London to tell us something of the way in which Parliaments in Asia, and especially Indonesia, worked. This country comprises eight insular areas (e.g., Sumatra and Java). As these areas were scattered over rather a large area, a central government was rather impracticable. But after the war a democratic form of government was formed. This Parliament has developed from the simplest form of government, i.e., village councils.

The next speaker was Prof. Goodhart, from the U.S.A., who was described by Stephen King-Hall as the greatest living authority on the American Congress system. He started his talk by giving an outline of American history from when the 13 states joined together in 1775. He did

this, he explained, because it would then be easier to understand the present system of government.

Congress first met in 1787 and then in 1781 the prominent judges of the U.S.A. drew up an article of Confederation. The U.S.A., unlike Britain, has a written constitution. To-day the central government consists of the President, a senate comprising two senators from each state, and a House of Representatives of 635 members. The states themselves deal with local government.

At the end of the morning session questions were invited from the audience, on matters concerned with the English Parliament which had no party prejudices attached to them. These questions were answered in the afternoon by Messrs. Fothergill, Hollis, Tirney, Callaghan, King-Hall and Mrs. Castle.

Some of the questions raised during the session were: Should intellectuals have a double vote? Should the voting age be lowered? Should the House of Lords be reformed? Should voting be compulsory? Should there be an amendment in the Representation of the Peoples Act?

The meeting was a great success and the Society must be congratulated on providing such an interesting meeting for so many school children.

L.S.S.O. Some readers may recall an article appearing in a recent edition of an evening paper, "London Schools' Symphony Orchestra is to visit Denmark." Some may have been to or heard about the successful concert given at the Royal Festival Hall early in the year by the L.S.S.O. They are to play there again at Xmas. The orchestra also appeared on Television in a programme on the architecture of the Hall. All these events are very exciting for members of the Orchestra, but none so thrilling as the forthcoming tour, when Scandinavian countries besides Denmark will be visited. The Orchestra will leave at the beginning of August, travelling either by ship or by plane. The first concert will be held in Copenhagen, before the British Ambassador, the Danish Prime Minister and members of Parliament. The morning of the next day will be free and then they leave for their next engagement. There the members will be accommodated in the homes of hospitable Danish youths. Mornings will be taken up in rehearsals and the afternoons will be free. Following the continental habits, concerts begin rather late in the evenings. Thus the tour will consist of rehearsing, sightseeing and contact with the people of the Scandinavian countries. (Gugan and Edgar are members of L.S.S.O.—Editor).

RUGBY The standard of play in the 1st XV deteriorated considerably towards the end of the season. The rhythm and cohesion, previously so prominent, disappeared almost completely in the last four games.

v. Wallington (lost 14—3). This proved to be an even more formidable team than expected and it dominated the game throughout.

v. Selhurst (lost 8—0). This reversed the score of an earlier fixture. Although the School fought hard, there was little method in their efforts.

v. Latymer Upper (won 15—0). The School finally won comfortably. Easey, making a belated debut at three-quarter, scored three tries, while Stear completed his hundred points for the season.

v. St. Marylebone (won 9—8). Our first fixture with this school produced a really tough struggle although with little good rugby.

However, the final record shows that the 1951-2 season was the best for many years. Played 20, won 16, lost 4, points for 289, against 75.

The following awards were approved by the Games Committee:—Full Colours: Re-award, Morris; New Colours: Bourton, Chafen, Elsam, Glayzer, Harvey, Livingstone, Stear, Tilley. Half-Colours: Barber, Elliot, Oliver, Payne, Quested.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Letters for this section of the magazine are invited especially from old boys and distant friends of the School. However, anyone who has anything of interest to say is welcome to say it here—controversial and provocative themes are not excluded.—Editor.)

MR. ROBERT W. FENN REPLIES TO "OLD BOY" FIRTH

Dear Firth,

Your letter to the Editor of "The Link" awakened so many memories that I am allowing myself the pleasure of replying on his behalf.

As the oldest inhabitant of this middle-aged, if not exactly ancient, foundation I have vivid and colourful recollections of the days when you were on the roll. Of the Staff of your day only two now remain besides myself, Mr. Cowan and Mr. Ascher, who joined us about a year before you left.

The ten years I spent in those old buildings represent the sort of experience that is not easily forgotten. Apparently the usual way of recruiting new staff was to interview the unsuspecting candidate after dark in the only modern part of the premises, out beyond the plumbing shop. At least that is what happened in my case, and not until much later did I discover the real implications of my appointment.

I can perhaps recall one or two other memories to you. There was Mr. Davey, up in his crow's nest above the woodwork shop, from which he could survey whatever was going on down below. He used to say that his motto was "Hear all, see all, and say nowt".

I can picture Mr. Grieves, with queer animal-like figures, representing organic formulae, on the bench in room 13, discoursing good-humouredly about salicyclic acid, while some of the less scientifically-minded of his congregation crawled about behind the benches at the back of the room.

Then there was Mr. Soutar, with a blackboard covered with incredibly tidy mathematics, and Mr. Powell, preoccupied with cricket and football fixtures, past, present and to come.

Then, in room 17, was Mr. Grutchfield, with an enormous blackboard full of careful drawings, in perfect geometrical perspective, and near by was Mr. Shrive ("Squidge" to you) preparing interminable exercises from "Spiers French Drill" with small boys, whose names, somehow, always escaped him.

In the Physics Lab. was the formidable Barratt-Bonnet combination, and a stove that somehow so often seemed to have a minute fragment of india-rubber in the hollow of its lid. And there were other names: Houseley, Shoosmith, Dudley, Scott, Burt (one of those who got away and went into business), Padfield, Hare, Couch, V. V. Smith, glittering with perspiration and full of gruesome stories, and Hatfield, with even more and better stories.

Some of these soon disappeared into the army, to be succeeded by a whole series of temporary war-time staff of amazing variety and varying degrees of competence and incompetence, some of them a gift from Heaven to any small boy.

I see you do remember the little door through which the Staff came in, and the boys slipped out to nip across to Bloss' and get back without being spotted by Weston, on his way to fetch a little something from down the road. Do you also remember the secretary coming through the classrooms to check registration and trailing clouds of Parma Violet, or Lily of the Valley, or was it Californian Poppy? I forget, but there was an awful lot of it, whatever it was.

Were you amongst the privileged few of the initiated who sought occasional sanctuary in the armoury in times of stress?

One way and another we managed to extract a fair amount of fun out of life, in an uncomfortable sort of way. I have always found both Staff and boys very easy to get on with. Had it been otherwise I should not have stayed here for nearly thirty-four years.

It is nice to hear news of the older Old Boys. That is the great attraction to me of the Old Boys' Dinner, which is still held round about Christmas time. It is there that so many of these old memories are annually revived.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. W. FENN,

Deputy Headmaster.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Association activities for the past term have been concerned with the Annual General Meeting, Annual Fete and the Parents v. Boys Cricket Match, but a full report and comments on these last two items must be reserved for the next issue of "The Link."

The A.G.M. on May 16th received a very full attendance and following the Tutorial-at-Home in the Hall, the business meeting was rounded off by a most interesting "Any Questions" session. The team, consisting of Messrs. Fenn, Cowan, Lincé and George, with Mr. Aubrey as the question master, dealt at length with the many questions put up by the audience. I extend my thanks to these gentlemen for providing us with a pleasant finish to a very full evening.

The report submitted by the Secretary was considered as very favourable; the year was generally successful with attendances well up to the average, the one exception being the Whist Drive and Dance on March 22nd, which suffered through lack of support. The Secretary also dealt with some aspects of the manner in which the Association Funds were utilised for the benefit of the boys, mentioning the provision of the Proscenium, the establishment of the Fencing Bursary, assistance given to the boys' clubs, and the provision of the sports fixture calendars.

The Treasurer produced an excellent balance sheet and reported that our financial position was very sound following his policy of building up a strong balance before committting ourselves to any large scale expenditure.

The report and balance sheet were adopted without dissent. Mr. Raymond King was again elected President and Chairman. The election of a new Parents' Council was dealt with by members of the retiring council submitting to re-election, together with two new nominations, Mr. Green and Mr. Smith. These members were then declared elected, so your Association has again a full and experienced Council to deal with your future affairs.

The report of the proceedings of the first Council meeting on June 11th, together with a full list of the officers elected and Council members, will appear in the next issue of "The Link."

It is a pleasure to report that the special Parents' Evening and Hobbies Exhibition on April 4th, arranged by Mr. King and the staff in response to requests I had received from parents, was a great success. We had a large attendance of parents taking the opportunity of seeing some of the out of school activities carried out by their boys with the encouragement of the staff. We hope to arrange for a repetition of this popular event during next spring Eisteddfod celebrations.

At the risk of repeating myself, I again extend to all parents an invitation to send into the Council any suggestions for future meetings and social events. We should appreciate your informing us of your wishes. Remember we are elected to serve you and your interests. All we do request in return, is your active and continued co-operation and support. Given that, our Association is assured of a vigorous future.

H. J. SCOTT.

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS' ASSOCIATION

At the Annual General Meeting it was our pleasure to re-elect Mr. H. Raymond King President of the Association. Chairman S. H. Fairey, Secretary B. E. Pauncefort and Treasurer D. C. Ferne were also returned to office.

The Rugby Club has just completed a very successful season.

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points F.	Points A.
1st XV	26	18	4	4	233	76
"A" XV	25	16	3	6	312	174
Ex "A" XV	22	13	2	7	203	148
"B" XV	6	4	1	1	76	15

The 1952 Tournament results: the "Frank Hunt" Table Tennis Cup has been won, for the second consecutive year, by D. Kenyon, and the "Norman" Darts Cup has been won by P. J. Bull.

In consultation with the Headmaster we have arranged to present a prize, the "Old Wandsworthians' Association Prize," to the boy with the most distinguished academic achievement each year.

Our next major function is the Summer Show and Fete to be held at the School on Saturday, 5th July, when, in conjunction with the Skeena Hill and Parents' Associations, we shall raise funds for the Greater London Fund for the Blind and our own Memorial Fund.

The annual cricket match with the School takes place on the Saturday after the fete — 12th July — on the Sutherland Grove ground.

THE WANDSWORTHIANS' LODGE

There has been much work during the Mastership of the Rev. Canon J. A. H. Waddington. Our membership has increased and we have had the pleasure of visits from O.W.s belonging to other Masonic Lodges.

The "Ladies' Night" held at Ardington Rooms on 19th April, 1952, was most successful, as have been all our meetings under our present Master. His successor will be elected at our next meeting on 4th July and he will be installed on 3rd October.

Our meetings (at Ardington Rooms) are held on the first Friday in February, May, July, October and December. Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Wandsworthians Lodge, 209 Raeburn Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "THE LINK" Owing to the continued increase in the cost of paper and printing, we have been compelled to increase the price, commencing with the next issue, to 1/6 per copy, or 4/- per annum (three issues) post free. Present subscribers, however, will continue to receive their copies at the current rate until their credit runs out.

"The Link" is published three times a year and can be obtained from The Treasurer of "The Link," Wandsworth School, Sutherland Grove, S.W.18. Subscriptions to cover the cost of any number of copies can be forwarded.