Dec 53

THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

DECEMBER 1953

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPRING ISSUE : THURSDAY 4th MARCH.

This is the last 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.

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THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XXXVIII DECEMBER, 1953 No. 3

HEADMASTER'S NOTES The time has now come when the London County Council Education Plan published in 1943 is about to be implemented in our area by a considerable expansion of Wandsworth School. It does not therefore come upon us suddenly: nor will it take us unprepared.

Expansion will not altogether be a new experience. During the year 1945/46 the School expanded fourfold, from under 100 pupils who returned from evacuation to 400 who were on the roll in September, 1946. Then followed more gradual expansion to our present total of 550.

Ultimately we shall be a 2,000 school. But nearly half this number will come from our own school and the new school we have begun to build up at the Technical Branch to which the present 1E are the first recruits. In the future the eleven-year-olds who join the Technical Branch will be fully members of Wandsworth School. So that in three years time, or less, when the new building is ready, Wandsworth School will be over 900 strong. In this strength we shall be able to impress our own standards and traditions on the additional recruitment. Proportionately, we shall be in a far stronger position to maintain our traditions and standards than was the nucleus which we brought back from evacuation in 1945. We have consolidated our gains so far in such a way that we have every hope for the future.

Details of our plans will be made clear in due course. There is, however, an immediate situation to meet as soon as building operations start: that is, the provision of alternative and adequate playing fields.

Ultimately, extensive and fully equipped playing fields will be provided in the Green Belt. But during the interim period, that means for some years, a special local arrangement has been made. We have secured the use of rugby pitches on the Wimbledon Common Extension. These are about three miles from the School and transport will be provided, though no doubt many boys will find it convenient to use bicycles.

For cricket next summer we hope to get four pitches, partly close at hand in Wimbledon Park, partly on the by-pass near Robin Hood Gate. We shall see in due course.

So far as Rugby is concerned there is reason to expect that the pitches will be fit for play throughout the season, having at least that advantage over our present field, which is often unfit for use for weeks at a time, especially during the Spring Term.

The new arrangement was expected to come into force this term, but owing to delays in the building programme we have continued to be able to use the school field.

Next term the Parents' Association meeting will be devoted to a consideration of the plans and provision in the new buildings, several attractive features of which I mentioned on Speech Day.

We are very pleased to know that Mr. Cowan's health has now improved considerably and were happy to receive a visit from him during the term.

Scholastic standards have advanced considerably over those of the immediately post-war years and now over top anything that we have achieved in the past. It is particularly gratifying to record three State Scholarships. Congratulations to Harvey, White and Gosden and their teachers. White's success is quite remarkable for a boy who was unlucky enough at eleven years of age not to get a grammar school or even a central school place. He proved the most brilliant candidate of his year and gained the Old Wandsworthians Prize for the highest academic achievement. This is a real triumph of character and grit.

It is good to hear from time to time of Old Boys who, not being lucky enough to go to the University straight from School (or straight from military service), win their way there in the end. For example, G. H. Crabb, who left in 1942, has just been awarded a National Coal Board Scholarship which takes him to Cardiff University College for three years. Another success recently notified to me by the Hon. Secretary of the Institute of Actuaries is that of Arthur Charles Black who has qualified for the high distinction of Fellow of the Institute.

Colin Dingle, having finished his military service, has entered Borough Road Training College where he has been delighted to renew the acquaintance of Dr. Wardale, once Music Master here.

On October 2nd we enjoyed a short concert in the Hall given by the Marylebone String Quartette, of which the 'cellist was Mr. P. A. Wayne, Headmaster of Marylebone Grammar School. When I incidentally mentioned that the late Mr. Hatfield had presented his old 'cello to the school upon obtaining a beautiful new instrument, Mr. Wayne was able to say that the latter had passed to him upon his great friend Hatfield's death. A touching coincidence.

On October 31st, the School was chosen as the venue for the annual meeting of the Federation of School Lodges. This was a great occasion in the history of the Wandsworthians' Lodge.

Among the larger groups of foreign visitors whom we have entertained since the last issue of "The Link" were a group of twenty Danish teachers, another of thirty German teachers, and most remarkable, a group of twenty United Nations Fellows from all over the world who had come to England to study social services.

Dr. Tint left us at the beginning of October to take a post as Lecturer at the London School of Economics in French Thought and Philosophy.

Herr Germelmann from Gandersheim, Germany, spent the month of October on the Staff.

Welcome to Monsieur Bayer and Herr Amann who are with us for the year as French and German "assistants" respectively.

Congratulations to Amir Ali upon winning a "Star" bat and certificate for his cricket feat of taking 9 wickets for 9 runs in a school match.

Also to G. H. Harvey and A. K. G. Salmon upon gaining the "Award of Merit" of the Royal Life Saving Society, the highest award open to a schoolboy. A. A. Bennett, a previous holder, gained the Bar to the Award of Merit.

To the list of ten University entrants given in the last issue of "The Link," I am pleased to add Brian Light, accepted by Durham University and G. H. Crabb, mentioned above.

A dozen University entrants in one year is a definite high-water mark.

The gift of two new trophies in Coronation Year by the Parents' Association is recorded elsewhere. The Fives Trophy will commemorate the 21st Birthday Anniversary of the Association, and the Headmaster's Eisteddfod Trophy the completion of 21 years tenure of office. On behalf

of the School, and on my own behalf, may I express the warmest thanks.

Prefects for this term are:—

Head Prefect: M. A. Phelps.
Second Prefect: C. B. Gosden.
Third Prefect: T. R. Wright.

Full Prefects: W. M. Stanley (Head Prefect Emeritus), J. W. Bloss, J. Barucki, D. T. Glayzer, B. A. Holder, A. K. G. Salmon, J. S. J. Wharton.

Sub-Prefects: D. J. A. Livingstone, R. G. Hall, D. G. Nye, D. T. King, W. T. Szyjkowski, D. J. S. Granfield, A. C. Bergson, A. J. Sawyer, J. M. Gooders, G. B. Dodge, P. L. Eastwood, R. W. White, A. C. Savage, T. F. Phillips.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE New Boys Since Last Issue of "Link."

Ainsley, J. S., Anderson, I. S. H., Andrews, J. C. S., Andrews, M., Andrews, W., Atack, J. F., Ayshford, R. D., Aziz, K., Ball, D. H., Bellenger, R. E., Berry, A. J. R., Bishop, N. C., Bone, R. M., Booth, N. D. D., Brown, C. J., Bunce, J. R., Burgess, I. C. R., Butler, B., Byrne, A. P., Calder, B. W., Carrell, V. G., Cass, R. A., Channing, D. A., Cluxton, G., Collins, K. J., Collman, D. J., Congdon, L. N., Coniam, J. A., Constantine, P. A., Cooke, L. A., Cooper, G. W., Cousins, J. H., Cownden, D. F., Crabtree, C. N., Crosbie-Hill, D., Crosby, D. R., Danks, R., Davis, J. A., Davien, R. S., Dickson, G., Dobbie, J. C., Dodd, M. W., Dries, M. J., Dunlop, B. H. J., Dunmill, E. C., Dyball, G. E., Edbrook, P. T., Edwards, A. G., Edwards, B. A., Ellis, D. G., Ellis, M. W., Elson, T., Emery, B. F., Fadhli, A., Fennell, R. J., Firth, D. E., Fordham, A. W., Forge, D. W., Forrest, D. K., Foulds, P. W., Francis, F. W., Freeman, G. J., Frost, A. J., Fuller, W. F. R., Gillam, R. T., Gillingham, P. M. T., Golding, M. P., Goodenough, P. R., Green, J. E., Gunn, M. J., Halsey, M. J., Hancock, R., Handorff, T. G., Harman, D. R., Hayter, V. E., Hender, G. J., Hewitt, J., Hickton, W. T., Holdaway, R. D., Holdich, D. M., Hollowell, D. B., Holman, T. W., Hooks, M., Howarth, F. P. M., Howe, M. K., Hull, C. F. H., Hyde, D. L., Hyde, R. J., Jackaman, P. G., Jarvis, B. A., Jales, A. L., Jenkins, V. B., Joiner, J. C., Kirby, P. C., Laurie, J. R., Lauwers, A. J., Levene, L., Levy, M. D., Lewis, P. A., Mann, B. F., Martin, L. J., Mayhew, F. A., Mills, K. P. H., Morgan, M. D., Mulligan, C. A., Murrell, M. J., Nelson, B. D., Newman, R. C., Parrott, M. D., Peacock, R. A., Phillips, J. A., Piddington, G. S., Polley, D. E., Poole, D. G. R., Pooley, R. G., Poore, A. L., Prockter, B. F., Rabson, A. G., Ratcliffe, N. A., Rawlings, J. H., Redmond, I. K., Redmond, M. J., Rees, P., Richardson, D. J., Ringer, A. B., Robins, K., Ruff, V. C., Samme, T. E., Seager, M. B., Seagrave, M. J., Shailer, B. F., Sharp, J., Shons, F. R., Silverman, P. L., Simpson, D. L. G., Slough, J. W. H., Smart, C. I., Smith, A. R., Smith, W. R., Smith, G. A., Stallard, A. C., Staig, A. C., Stewardson, D. A., Symes, M. W., Tarkowski, J. W., Taylor, M. J., Thorpe, R. T., Tilley, J. S. G., Towers, R. H., Turner, M. J., True, R. N., Trusty, P. W., Upfold, J. P., Wade, A. N., Waters, K. E., Watkins, G. E., West, J. F., Western, J. A., White, G. C., Wilkins, C. J., Williams, T. C., Williams, W. M., Wilson, D. V. Wilson, R. G., Wingfield, D. T., Woodcock, D. S., Wooster, J., Wright, D., Young, J. S.

Boys Left Since Last Issue of "Link":—Ball, T. J., Bedale, A. E. J., Bennett, A. A., Bicknell, L. E. J., Bitmead, C. A., Bloss, F. G., Booth, N. D. D., Brodie, J. H., Bush, F. H., Carter, D. L., Cleghorn, R. G., Cooper, B., Cooper, B. A., Corkett, K. F., Croker, I. W. D., Crowther, J. N., Davison, J. R., Doeser, R. W., Elliott, W. J., Ellis, A. J., Elsey, S. W. E. D., Fardell, M. J., Flanders, D. E., Gale, G., Gingell, G. W. L.,

Grantham, P. R. G., Green, M. C., Harvey, G. L., Hellyar, B. R., Herbert, J. A., Hopson, B. G., Hulcoop, P. J., Kelly, M. J., Leelike, G. E., Leicester, P. H., Mann, D. E., Milstead, K. A., Morgan, J. K., Morrison, D. R., Nicholls, D. W., Osborn, R., Patterson, E., Peacock, E. B., Pearson, W. A. E., Percy, E. G. R., Perry, B. R., Ransome, P., Reeve, G. R., Richards, J. T., Richardson, K., Ridgley, B. P., Riley, M. B., Roberts, B., Robertson, J. A., Russell, D. W., Ryan, P. G., Sackman, D. F., Scott, B. G., Scott, J. J. W., Smith, B. E., Smith, R. T., Sommerville, J. H., Stafford, R. F. S., Taylor, A. J., Taylor, W., Thompson, E. W., Tonks, G. E., Triggs, P. E., Tringham, J. H., Turner, D. R. E., Tyson, S. J. J., Unger, J. F., Weber, S. F. F., Wegener, R. F. C., West, W. A., White, D. J., Willcocks, B. R., Willson, J. C., York, A. G.

RETIREMENTS

This term we bade farewell to two members of the School personnel, who, each in his own sphere, have for many years played an important part in our School life and carried out valuable and indeed indispensable duties. We refer, of course, to Mr. Allen and Mr. Catto.

Mr. H. J. ALLEN There are only one or two members of the School Staff who remember Mr. Allen in the days when he was assistant school-keeper at Wandsworth Technical Institute, of which the School was originally apart. His first appointment to that school dates from January 5th, 1912, and after service in the Royal Marines during the first World War, he stayed there until 1927, at which date our own School was transferred to Sutherland Grove. We were all pleased that Mr. Allen secured appointment to the new school, which had just been completed. When he left us in November, 1953, he had, therefore, been in the School's service for nearly forty-two years, twenty-six of which had been passed in our present building. He may justly claim to be the "grandfather of the School," and in the long course of his career he has been a familiar personality to a large number of pupils and masters who have passed through the School.

During the second World War when boys and masters were evacuated to Woking, Mr. Allen stayed at his post to safeguard the interests of the School, which was being used for other purposes, and they were both available to re-open the building as an Emergency School when the need arose.

In spite of the great hardships and difficulties of the war period, not excluding some enemy action, they maintained their high standards of order and cleanliness, so that the return from evacuation found the building as ready to receive its pupils as ever before.

We all realise how much the comfort and efficiency of our School life depend on the labour and skill of the caretakers. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have taken a great pride in the appearance of the School and have identified themselves closely with its fortunes. Their work has called for much vigilance, devotion and a strong sense of vocation. They have worked harmoniously with their assistants, who have responded loyally to the example of efficiency and attention to duty set before them. We trust that Mr. and Mrs. Allen will enjoy a long and happy retirement.

Mr. L. CATTO Early in the term, the School Secretary Mr. Catto took his retirement. He had been with us since 1933, having come here from Sloane School, and so we have had the benefit of a considerable proportion of the senior years of his career. He will be remembered by boys and staff alike for the very efficient performance of his duties and the thorough mastery of the numberless, and sometimes overwhelming details of which sometimes school organisation is composed. Mr. Catto is a man of many interests and we have no doubt that his retirement will be fully occupied by the numerous activities that filled his

leisure. He developed a great interest in things French—French language, literature, culture and country—and on several occasions joined our School parties visiting Paris. It would not be a wild guess if we prophesy that Mr. Catto's escape from a life of routine will be partly enjoyed in France. Many of us are aware of his artistic interests, such as book-binding and photography and have seen beautiful examples of his crafts-manship. He has occasionally taught book-binding to groups of pupils and frequently assisted in judging the entries in our Eisteddfod. We wish him an interesting and long retirement. J.A.

MY EXPERIENCES DURING THE FRENCH STRIKES In August of this year I had the misfortune to be in France when the nation-wide strikes started. One may wonder what induced me to attempt the return journey at such a time. I sometimes wonder myself why I did not linger awhile until the strikes ended; but there was a certain fear inside me, as day by day passed with still no trains scheduled, that if I did not soon get away from this enchanting place I never would. It reminded me of a poem by Tennyson about a company of sailors who landed on a far-away island and were so affected by its dreamy atmosphere that they felt they would never want to leave it. This poem expresses exactly my feelings as, with the passage of each day I became less and less concerned about arriving home on time. Then suddenly, for some obscure reason, a feeling came over me that I must leave that quaint little village before I took root, and so, actuated by a strange sort of panic rather than by reason, I decided, literally overnight, to leave.

So, on a chilly Monday morning, I rose at five-thirty (six hours earlier than usual) and packed my luggage. At a quarter to eight I caught the bus (fortunately, still running), and I was on my way, with mixed feelings of sorrow at leaving and triumph at having at last managed to drag myself away. I had set out not knowing whether there was a train for Paris that day or not.. On my arrival at Avignon station I was greeted by a cheerful-looking paratrooper with fixed bayonet, who, when I asked him if there was a train for Paris, replied that there would be one for sure during the day, but as for the time of its arrival, it could be in ten minutes and it could be in ten hours—the second estimate turned out to be not a bad guess.

Afraid to leave the station lest the train should turn up in my absence and leave me behind, I sat down and began the long wait!

As the time wore on I began to doubt the wisdom of my decision to leave for England. I thought of going back, but assured myself that that was out of the question. I was off now, and it was up to me to take full advantage of the great effort I had made in tearing myself away from Fontaine de Vaucluse. Besides one always feels rather foolish in coming back after just having said farewell—especially when the fare-well has been a painful one.

An hour or two later, having crossed to the opposite platform to find a less uncomfortable seat, I was staring disconsolately at some idle railway carriages on the next line when I heard a sound that fell like music on my ears: " When you come to consider it, though . . ." It was English. I looked round and saw that it came from a party of cyclists on the opposite platform. However, such was the depth of my misery at that time that I had not the mental energy to go and talk to them.

At long last the train grudgingly slid into the station. The first sign of its approach which reached my ears was a mildly excited buzz on the " north-bound " platform. I looked round to see what the fuss was about, and saw the train, the sight of which suddenly galvanised me into action. I jumped to my feet, leaped down on to the track and crossed to the other side, determined not to miss this train at any cost. Its arrival caused no great jubilation. This greatly surprised me since the French are usually represented as being a more demonstrative, more emotional race than the English.

But there was one mad rush to get on to the train and, seeing that it was every man for himself, I joined in with enthusiasm and several people found out that English elbows are just as bony as French ones. Needless to say I did not get a seat, but parked my suitcase in a corner of the corridor and did my best to stay with it as the crowd surged past.

The train started at a quarter to five—seven and three-quarter hours after I had taken my place that morning for the long wait. The train consisted of about thirty coaches and consequently progress was very slow—indeed the journey to Paris took fourteen hours instead of the normal eight. For the first mile or so I think I could have run much faster than the train but nevertheless I was very much cheered up now; I was at least on the move. The journey to Paris I spent alternately standing outside on the platform of the carriage, enjoying the evening air or sitting on my suitcase to snatch brief bouts of sleep, from time to time glancing out of the window and being infuriated by seeing huge, lumbering lorries overtaking us on nearby roads. Packed all around me were French soldiers, probably as annoyed about the whole business as I was, but showing a passive, resigned attitude—just as I felt myself. They all looked as exhausted as I was, too, and we gladly used each other as pillows to snatch such rest as the slow, lurching movement of the train allowed. Waking up once as the train slowed to a halt at a large station I almost got off, presuming it to be Paris, but on inquiry I was told that it was Lyons; I was only a third of the way to Paris yet, after seven hours.

The rest of the journey I spent either asleep or half asleep, being frequently disturbed by a funny little man in shorts who was amusing his friends by singing songs in English. At last, at six-fifteen on Tuesday morning we were jolting through the suburbs of Paris and by six-thirty we had arrived at the Gare de Lyons.

Luckily for me the Métro was still functioning and I carefully picked out my route across Paris on the map. As for the conditions on the Métro, I hope for the sake of the people who use them every day, that they are not always as they were on that day. A train drew up, and I could see absolutely no room inside, and stood back, deeming it full. But to my amazement several people came along and somehow squeezed into the packed carriages. "When in Rome . . ." I thought, and in I ploughed, suitcase and all. To one who packs down in a rugby scrum every Saturday during the winter months this was not too much of a strain. But how the numerous women in the carriage stood up to it remains a mystery.

During the journey across Paris I was frequently perturbed by a woman next to me who kept muttering something—the gist of which I did not catch but which was probably not very complimentary anyway—about my suitcase, which I had parked in the middle of the floor and was doing my best to prevent from moving with the crowd. At length I emerged from the Métro, surprisingly none the worse, at the Gare St. Lazare. I strode out into the sunlight and my heart sank at the sight that met my eyes. There, across the road, were the gates of the Gare St. Lazare, securely padlocked, and guarded by more paratroopers, complete with fixed bayonets. It looked as though I would be forced to hitch-hike to Dieppe, but, looking along a street which ran alongside the station, I spotted a steady stream of people going through what appeared to be a side door into the station and eagerly I investigated and found that it was in fact an entrance and, moreover, that there was a train for Dieppe at ten o'clock—in an hour and a quarter. I boarded the train and, what is more, found the luxury of a seat.

On the way to Dieppe I made up for the sleep I had missed the night before. Arousing myself as the train passed a sign reading "Dieppe 5 km.," I prepared to get off. The rain was pouring down on Dieppe Harbour. "Just like home!" I thought, as I walked towards the customs house.

After a rough crossing I at last put my feet on British soil and I was home by a quarter to ten that night, having taken thirty-eight hours over a journey which normally takes about twenty. I have never been so glad as I was at Newhaven to board a train bearing the mark of good old British Railways—I'll never say another word against them.

D. NYE.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION—21ST ANNIVERSARY This year sees the 21st anniversary of the Parents' Association and the event was celebrated in the School Hall on Friday, November 20th, when Speech Day was incorporated in the function.

Prizes were distributed by Lady Linstead and trophies by Sir Hugh Linstead, M.P. In his address to the School he emphasised that education should be suited to the needs of our own age and urged parents not to fear the changes inseparable from progress. He asked for their whole-hearted co-operation with those who strive to teach and train the children of the mid-twentieth century.

Wandsworth School, Sir Hugh said, recognised the value of both the academic and the modern curriculum. He urged the boys to regard their day and generation in a spirit of hope, since opportunity was as great as ever and the so-called Atomic Age was as capable of being a blessed one as a dangerous and destructive one.

The evening's proceedings were opened by the School Orchestra which played the suite from "King Arthur" by Purcell. This was followed by the address of the Chairman, Lt.-Col. G. L. Matthews, O.B.E., T.D., Chairman of the Governors, in the course of which he paid a warm tribute to two retiring members of the non-teaching staff, Mr. Catto and Mr. Allen.

The Head Prefect, Maurice Phelps, followed. He emphasised the out-of-school activities both sporting and cultural and mentioned the Inter-School Sixth Form Society which links our own Sixth Form with those of eight other schools, and also the participation of the School in the Putney Youth Group of the United Nations Association.

Two items by the School Choir followed: "Blow Away the Morning Dew" arranged by R. O. Morris and "Scottish Air" arranged by T. Dunhill. This musical interlude preceded Mr. Raymond King's address. He reviewed the work of the past year, stressing especially the expansion of advanced work in the upper forms. Three State Scholarships had been won and some dozen boys had entered various Universities. The current Sixth Form was the largest on record and its achievements were superior to those of its forerunners. H.M. Inspectors had visited the School earlier in the year and their report was the most favourable in its history.

The Headmaster then turned to the activities of the Parents' Association. The Association, which was founded in 1932, deserved the greatest gratitude of the Staff and boys of Wandsworth School. They had made generous gifts of a physical nature, such as the proscenium and curtains in the Hall; their willing co-operation had brought success to the Tutorial System, which was now an established feature of Wandsworth and might well be initiated elsewhere.

The forthcoming changes associated with the Comprehensive High School were referred to by the Headmaster, when he pointed out that the Grammar Schools should be the agent and the instrument of the intention to make secondary education available to all. He could see no basis in psychological science or educational philosophy for the present tri-partite division of schools into Grammar, Technical and Modern. The present school would not be injured or destroyed but extended and improved by the prospective changes. Wandsworth School had evolved a system capable of adapting itself to the requirements of the times and would play its part.

Before the distribution of the prizes by Lady Linstead, the Speech Choir gave three recitations, "Ducks," by Clifford Dyment, "Sherwood," by Alfred Noyes and "This England," by William Shakespeare.

The vote of thanks to Sir Hugh and Lady Linstead was moved by Dr. Tarrant, the Vice-chairman of the Governors and seconded by Mrs. Crabbe.

To mark the special occasion the Parents' Association presented two shields, one to the School to be competed for at Fives, and the second to the Headmaster, as a tribute to his personal services to Wandsworth School for over twenty years. This latter trophy was then handed over to the School as the Headmaster's Shield, the School prize at the Annual Eisteddfod.

A more personal gift of a de luxe Atlas was made to Mr. King by the Association, in order, he said in his acknowledgement, that he might at all times know where he was going! A gift was also made to Mrs. Shapcott, assistant secretary to the Association throughout its history.

The evening was concluded by the singing of the School Hymn, "Foundation."

FORM PRIZES

(for diligence)

I. Baker, Ronald.
Coleman, Bryan J.
Legezynski, George A.
Libby, Peter T.
Parsons, John G. F.
Stewart, Anthony E.
Willis, George W.

II. Cassidy, Patrick N.
*Eeles, Ronald W.
Francis, John T.
Pavitt, Frederick J.
Smith, Malcolm R. M.
Squires, Clifford J.

III. Christodoulou, Christopher G.
Croombs, Gordon H.
Cross, David B.
Harding, Brian R.
Irving, Colin D.
*Kaminski, John W.
Newson, Clive M.

IV. Eastman, Clive.
Gritt, Terence.
Hore, Richard S.
Lamb, John A.
Norton, Brian V.
Williams, Gerald R.

V. Bergson, Adrian C.
Dean, Ronald S.
Savage, Anthony C.
Sawyer, Alan J.
Swallow, Charles J.

(*Special merit)

SPECIAL PRIZES

(for merit in the General Certificate Examination)

Ordinary Level, Form V.

Brinkley, Anthony D. S.	Handicraft.
Butnick, Harvey I.	French.
Chalk, Anthony N.	General Science.
Cooper, Barrie.	German.
Dodge, Graham B.	English and French.
Douel, Michael J. A.	Geography.
Gugan, Keith.	Mathematics.
King, Richard D.	Physics.
Richards, John T.	Mathematics.
Szyjkowski, Waldemer T.	Art.
Telford, Charles C.	French.
Tonks, Geoffrey E.	Art.
White, Ronald W.	French and Mathematics.

Advanced Level.

Gosden, Christopher B.	French and German.
Harvey, Geoffrey L.	Economics and Geography.
Kelly, Michael J.	Mathematics.
Morrison, David R.	
Phelps, Maurice A.	French and History.
Reeve, Geoffrey R.	Art.
Scott, John J. W.	Latin.
Stanley, William M.	Mathematics.
York, Alexander G.	British Constitution.

Chairman's Prize for Head Boy, 1952-53:	Stanley, William M.
Wandsworthians Lodge Prize for Service:	Harvey, Geoffrey L.
School Prize for Service:	Davison, John R.
Old Wandsworthians Academic Prize:	White, David J.
Imam Bajwa's Prize for Religious Knowledge:	Wright, Thomas R.
Ponsonby Handwriting Trophy:	Baker, Ronald.

TROPHIES

" Miller " Shield (Rugby)	MORLEY HOUSE.
" Parents Council " Shield (Cricket)... ...	CROMWELL HOUSE.
" Waite " Shield (Swimming)	MORLEY HOUSE.
"Coronation" Shield (Cross Country) ...	MORLEY HOUSE.
" Marcus Samuel " Shield (Athletics) ...	CROMWELL HOUSE.
" Couch " Shield (Work)	MORLEY HOUSE.
Fives Championship Cup	CROMWELL HOUSE.
" Mayfield " Cup (Eisteddfod)	GIBBON HOUSE.
House Championship Trophy	CROMWELL HOUSE.

Ordinary Level, Form L. VI.

Glayzer, David T.	Economics.
Griffiths, Roger W.	Latin.
King, Donald T.	Economic History and Political Science.
Salmon, Anthony K. G.	Latin.
Tringham, John H.	History.

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE There are many people to-day who continually repeat the opinion that all the inhabitants of the world ought to speak one international language. They maintain that this would mean a better understanding between the nations through being able to communicate more easily with one another. Numerous suggestions are offered as to the best tongue to use. Some advocate French, others cry out for English, still more suggest that we revert to ancient times and speak Latin.

These three languages are in their own way very useful, but there is one method of communication which is used almost every day. Every country employs it: Britain, France, Russia, Germany, even the primitive tribes of Africa. It is music. Called " the food of love " by Shakespeare, it could be the means by which the United Nations might really be united in peace and not by the flimsy thread of fear which is threatening to break at any moment. Through music, many people from different nations can be brought together in friendship or friendly rivalry.

An excellent example of this can be found in the Eisteddfodau of Wales, both National and International. In the " International," visitors come from all parts of the world to the town of Llangollen in North Wales to sing and play their folk music and to dance. Most of them speak neither Welsh nor English but for a week everyone lives solely for music. There is no talk of politics nor of any of the matters of

everyday life, and Llangollen becomes during that week a miniature United Nations convention from which the real United Nations would do well to take an example.

Let the inherent hatred and prejudices of nations give way to the glory of music; let each nation, whilst retaining its own characteristics and charm, give freely of its musical traditions to mankind, and the conservatism of international boundaries would disappear under the magic of universal harmony.

ROGER W. GRIFFITHS.

HARVEST CAMP A party of nine boys from our school left Waterloo Station on August 16th this summer, bound for what was to be a splendid holiday at Somerset. We were bound for a small fruit farm near a big town called Yeovil.

The train journey had lasted about three hours when we arrived at Yeovil. There we were met and taken to the camp.

It was raining slightly when we arrived and the tents, which we were to live in, were already set up. Next to the tents was a Nissen hut which we were to use as a kitchen. Opposite the tents was one of the orchards with a nursery behind. After settling into the tents we had a little refreshment and went exploring. On one side of the orchard was a shed which kept the tools and tractors in and since then some of us have been tractor mad. Then we went down the road and saw the farm houses and the other parts of the farm. We also saw the little grocer shop.



Relaxing on Sunday morning.

Photo — N. Smith.

By the time we had seen these things it was time to cook dinner. I was appointed cook and I am glad to say they all managed to keep alive. Our cooking was restricted to boiling and frying. After the meal we were all appointed to our separate jobs. We retired that night very tired but full of apples.

The next day we started work at 7.30 a.m., and half of us went wood chopping, knocking down an old orchard, while the rest of us picked some cooking apples. At the break for dinner the wood-chopping boys came back half dead; we then had a snack and went back to work. In the evening the boys started up a game of "It" in the orchard when it was dark. We then went to bed.

At the week-end on the Saturday afternoon we went in the car to the seaside, to Weymouth. We went again the next Saturday to West Bay

as we had half-day on Saturday. We picked a lot of apples during those weeks and at the end of the holiday we succeeded in demolishing the orchard and burnt it down as it was to be used as grazing land.

The farm used to be owned by the old Mr. Hebditch, then he split up the farm between his sons.

The food we had! We were blown out at the end of each meal. One day we had boiled hens, other days we had rabbits, steak and other varieties.

The men on the farm were very nice to us and we were sorry to leave. Then the end came and we had to leave. During that holiday I earned fifty shillings besides paying for food. The weather had been very good all through the holiday.

N. SMITH.

THEATRE VISIT On the 12th November 1953 a party of boys from form 3a and four boys from form 3b went with Mr. Levy and Mr. Robertson to Wimbledon Theatre to see a production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

The performance, which was given by the Elizabethan Theatre Company, was for school children and quite a large number of schools were represented.

Before the play commenced there was a great deal of noise and laughter from all parts of the building, but as the lights dimmed there was complete silence.

The curtain went up and revealed most realistic scenery. You could almost imagine that you had been transported back through time to the old city of Illyria where the play is set.

The play started and right from the beginning we could tell that the standard was going to be very good. During the first interval a number of boys said they were enjoying it.

At the end of the play the artistes took five curtain calls. Then came a great hush as the National Anthem was played.

The general acting throughout had been very good and I for one could not single out the best performance. I think most of the boys and girls must have gone home realising that they had had two and a half hours of first class entertainment.

R. BLEWETT.

THE SMOG MASK

Why don't you buy a smog mask?
My uncle said to me
You get one at the chemist
And it costs one and three.

So, when I went along there.
It was nigh on closing time,
I could not raise the money
For they cost one and nine.

I raced home like Reg Harris
To try and raise the "dough"
But, I got back dejected
They closed at quarter to.

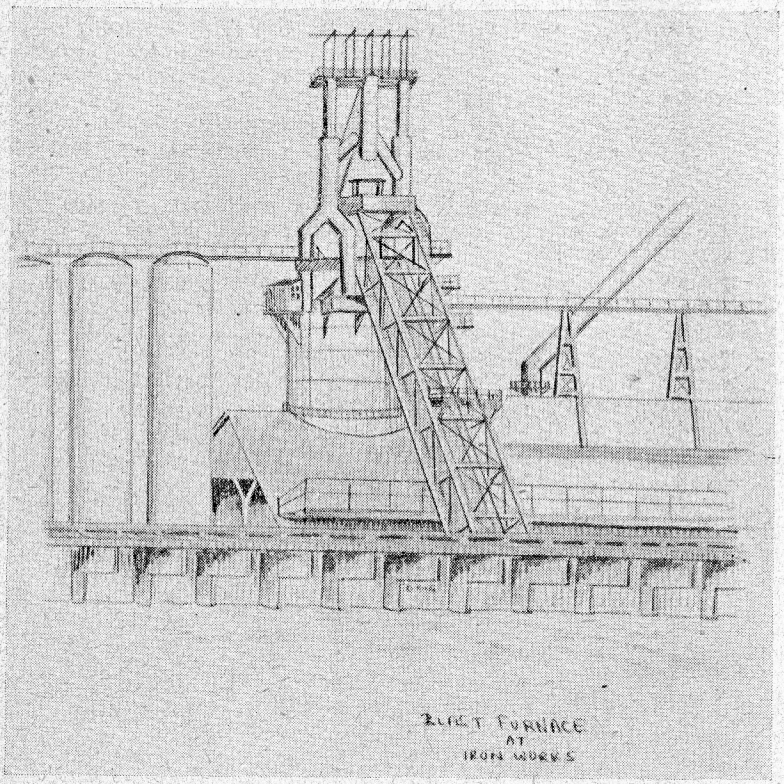
So, when I got back home again,
Engrossed in deep despair,
What caught my eye as I came in?
A Smog Mask lying there.

And when I asked my mother
What was the mystery,
She told me that the Smog Mask
Was lying there for me.

E. DENISON.

SIXTH WEEK IN INDUSTRY: GLASGOW AND THE HIGHLANDS

This year, a party of twenty-six boys went on the "Week in Industry" expedition which has become a regular event each year. This time, our study of industry and geography in general took us to Scotland with our base at Glasgow. The visit lasted a fortnight, from the 10th to the 25th of July. The first week was spent in examining the industries in and around Glasgow, and the second was spent walking and climbing in the Highlands.



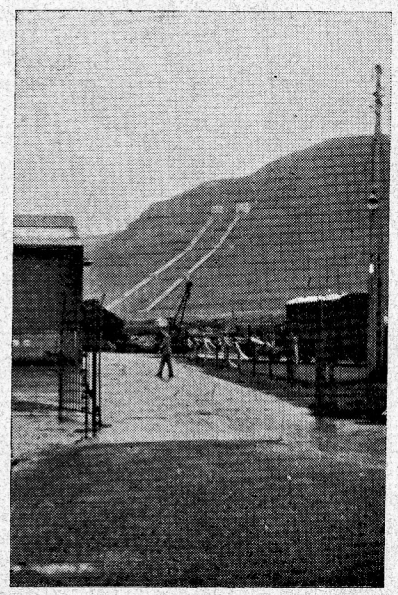
Drawn by D. T. King.

The party travelled to Glasgow in two groups, the seniors going on the "Starlight Special" which left London at 11 p.m. and arrived in Glasgow at 9.45 a.m. The rest of the party arrived later the same day by "Royal Scot." I was in the party which travelled through the night. We had determined to be awake for the sunrise and it came soon after we had crossed the border into Scotland. We caught a glimpse of the sun as it rose over some hills to the East. For a few minutes it shone brightly into the mist-laden valley of the Nith below us and then disappeared behind a bank of cloud. It only showed itself a few times during the rest of the fortnight. The summer was to be the wettest in living memory in the Western Highlands!

The first week we stayed at Maclay Hall, Glasgow University. We were lodged in double rooms and we had the use of a gymnasium, fives court and table tennis room. We also had a large common room in which we met to discuss the events of the day. Two masters were in charge during the first week, Mr. George and Mr. Martin, but they were relieved (in more senses than one) for the second week by Mr. Keyte and Mr. Culverwell.

The excursions included visits to a coal mine, an iron and steel works, a shipyard, a rope-walk and a jam factory.

The mine was one of the oldest in Scotland, and nearly exhausted. We descended the shaft in a cage which held only three persons. Foul air from adjacent workings made things none too pleasant, and our guide calmly showed us buckling roof supports and rotting timbers. We were for the most part nowhere as composed as he was!



Pipe-lines for a hydro-electric generating plant.

Photo — A. J. Sawyer.

Colvilles' Iron and Steel plant was new and spectacular. We saw white hot coke being forced out of the coke ovens and falling in a cascading, flaming mass into a waiting truck. When they tapped the blast furnace we kept our distance from the fiery golden liquid that gushed out, but the workers calmly lit their cigarettes from the molten metal as it rushed past them.

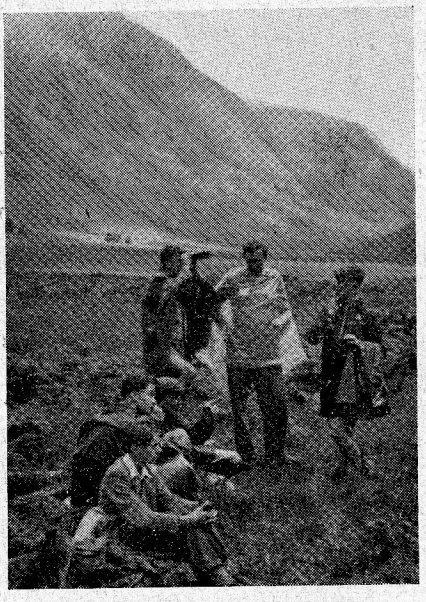
Other excursions were to Edinburgh and the Ocean Weather Ship Base at Greenock. Here we went over the "Weather Recorder." The radio officer demonstrated the ship's radar equipment, and down in the engine room one of the engineers amused himself with numerous shrieking jets of steam. Tea and cakes in a crowded ward room ended a most interesting visit.

An afternoon was spent in the Campsie Fells where, to the bewilderment of our coach driver, we swarmed over hillsides to collect specimens of rock and photograph or sketch waterfalls and river terraces. That evening, we were given an excellent talk by Mr. Halstead, a lecturer of Glasgow University, dealing with the Central Lowlands and the parts of the Highlands we were to visit the following week. He invited three of us to go over the University, and took us up the high central tower to view the city.

Not least among the pleasures of this week were our journeys on the Glasgow trams.

And so to Fort William on Saturday, loaded with three days' supply of food, and now in the charge of Mr. Keyte and Mr. Culverwell who, with Harvey, had travelled up from London on the night train. The journey was a most exciting one, and most of us were crowded in the corridors, anxious not to miss the magnificent spectacle of mountains, lochs and moors that passed. Somehow the railway seemed insignificant and out of place in the impressive wildness of the country.

Three nights were spent at the Youth Hostel in Glen Nevis. We climbed the Ben through rain and cloud, denied—except for a few magical seconds—the magnificent views which accompany a climb in clear weather. A morning was spent in a whisky distillery, and an afternoon at one of the three aluminium works in Britain. Here they surprised us by saying they were short of water.



Practical Map Reading — somewhere in the Highlands.

Photo — G. Williams.

The cooking during this week was a problem. The party was divided into five " messes," and competition for a space on the hostel stove was keen. Some lived on food out of tins, but the more enterprising experimented with flour and other basic materials. If the quality was not high, the quantity was more than sufficient.

At Glencoe we settled in another Youth Hostel close to the site of the famous massacre. We examined the cauldron subsidence and other geological features. The valley was explored and the more hardy among us undertook the ascent of Bidean nam Bian, highest mountain in Argyll. The climb was a stiff one, and beset by mist and rain, but the reward was great for the views from the summit were magnificent. We clambered on to the summit cairn and delivered the school war-cry across the hills of Argyll. Scarcely had the hills stopped shaking, when a thin gleam of sunlight revealed, in the mist of the terrible corrie below, the strange figure of the Brocken spectre framed in his rainbow glory.

A day was spent in a forest controlled by the Forestry Commission. Our guide was most informative and we returned with many specimens of conifer trees. A young Sitka Spruce from Glen Duror is thriving in my garden at this moment.

It was about then that Mr. Keyte received a large and mysterious package from London. This turned out to be a tuck box for the whole party sent by the parents of Gerald Williams, one of our number. They should have heard the cheers! This thoughtful and generous gesture was indeed appreciated.

Friday saw the beginning of our journey home. We stopped a night at Loch Lomond, and continued on to Glasgow very early in the morning. The "Royal Scot" party left immediately for London, and the rest left that evening.

This year's was one of the most exciting and informative of the "Weeks in Industry" that we have held. I think this was due to the large variety of subjects touched on, giving us a good overall picture of Scotland, her landscape, industries and people. A second factor was the great amount of work and preparation by the staff to ensure the smooth running and the enjoyment of the trip, for which all concerned are very grateful.

D. T. King.

HOUSE NOTES

Cock House Scores 1952-53.

	Scaled Points			
	Cromwell	Gibbon	Morley	Pitt
Cross-Country	25	40	50*	32
Rugby	80	65	100*	50
Table-Tennis	25*	20	16	12
Athletics	100*	50	65	80
Fives	25*	16	20	12
Cricket	100*	72½	50	72½
Swimming	65	50	100*	80

* Trophy Holder.

Cock House Cromwell (420). 2nd Morley (401). 3rd Pitt (338½). 4th Gibbon (313½).

DILIGENCE AWARDS 1952-53.

	Autumn 1952	Spring 1953	Summer 1953	Total
Cromwell	57.15	44.15	45.81	147.11
Gibbon	60.82	45.69	44.56	151.07
Morley	60.48	46.23	45.89	152.60
Pitt	58.64	45.56	43.27	147.47

CROMWELL Congratulations! Cromwell is once again the proud possessors of "Joey." Our one desire is, now that we have attained the momentum to regain this position, we have the impetus to retain it.

While we are, as a house, praising ourselves, we should like to congratulate two of our members individually; firstly G. L. Harvey on being awarded a State Scholarship and also for being presented with the Old Boys' Service prize. Harvey has now left us and is attending the London School of Economics where we wish him all the success that he had here. He was School and House captain of both rugby and cricket, as well as indulging in fives and table-tennis. Secondly we would like to congratulate R. R. Nebbett as he was the only member of the school to be selected to play for the Surrey Colts and South of Thames XV.

Much of our success in the inter-house rugby competition was due to our juniors, who, under the competent captaincy of D. J. Liggitt, convincingly won two of their matches and drew the third. The seniors, who were ably captained by D. J. Granfield, were rather less fortunate and only managed to win one game. As Gibbon and ourselves have an equal number of points, we can, at the moment, only wish our team all success in the expected, forthcoming, decisive game.

It is indeed a change that the standard of diligence in the House does not provoke the almost conventional feeling of despair in this particular sphere. In the last award, Cromwell, mainly owing to the efforts of Cromwell B, led the school, and the House would do well to follow the example and erase the one black mark which has been on our book for many years.

It will soon be time again to think of the Eisteddfod which is undoubtedly the most interesting and important function in the school year. For two years now we have missed the "red rosette from 'neath" the Mayfield Cup, and have perceived with anguish a blue substitute. However, in view of our late successes, the time has obviously come to rectify such matters, and although it will necessitate some degree of effort throughout the House, such a challenge can surely not be ignored.

R.G.H. D.J.L.

GIBBON Gibbon, at last, seem to be awakening from their long hibernation. Last year we saw a mounting enthusiasm, not only for sports but also for the more intellectual societies of school life. Although we were unable to improve on our customary fourth place we have many promising juniors developing into fine athletes who will lift us from this dismal position.

This term the main attention of the house has been upon the inter-house rugby competition and it is pleasing to note that at last we are rivalling the other houses who are stronger in talent but not in enthusiasm. As these notes go to press the final house matches will be played and we are certain either to gain the shield or be runners-up.

The school relies more and more on Gibbon House for its leaders. We not only have the school head prefect, M. A. Phelps and third prefect, T. R. Wright, but many boys in the drama and other social activities of the school.

If Gibbon House continues to improve as it has begun to do, we will soon achieve the much sought-after trophy of Cock House.

M.A.P. R.M.R.

MORLEY We are glad to learn that Mr. Cowan's health is now improving and that he has settled down happily in bis new home at Woking. He is sorely missed both as Set master for Morley C and as Housemaster.

Turning now to the more usual business of these notes, we regretfully record the fact that Morley has failed to retain Joey, symbol of the Cock House in the sporting field of activity. Our final position was second and we feel sure that with a little more effort from everybody, as distinct from the performances of our ever-willing enthusiasts, we should not have had to surrender Joey. We got off to a rather poor start in our attempt to regain the Trophy through our performance in the Rugby competition, in which we did not fare at all well. Our Seniors did well to beat Cromwell and Gibbon and lost to Pitt after both our Captain, B. A. Holder, and Vice-Captain had been injured. Our Juniors this year are a very small team composed largely of Second Formers and not surprisingly lost their matches, although they had a very close game with Pitt. However, they show great promise for next year and we expect great things of them.

We had quite an easy win in the swimming gala, largely owing to the enthusiasm of Wharton and our Captain, A. A. Bennett.

And now for the future. By the time these notes reach the press the Cross-Country race will have been run and we hope to do well in it. We have every hope of success in both the Chess and Fives Competitions as we have a number of players in both school teams.

We are holding our own in the Diligence Competition but this is not enough. Only a little more effort is required from every boy and we could be quite sure of winning.

Finally, we call for a special effort in the Eisteddfod next year. It seems a long time ahead but it is not too early to start thinking about it. We have won it before and can do it again.

J.W.B. B.H.H.

PITT Last term we regretfully said goodbye to Davison and Herbert, who both did so much for the school and House in sporting activities. Davison was captain of the School and House Athletic teams, broke many school records and distinguished himself in inter-club events. We congratulate D. R. Morrison and M. J. Kelly, who are now studying at Wadham College, Oxford, and the Imperial College of Science respectively. In the Swimming Gala at the end of the Summer Term we were most unfortunate in coming a very close second to Morley.

This term Mr. Austin became tutor of Pitt C in succession to Mr. Ascher; thus giving Mr. Ascher, as House Master, more opportunity of visiting the other sets of his House.

At a House meeting earlier this term Glayzer was elected senior Rugby captain ,and Farmer junior captain. Butler was elected Athletics captain and White captain of cross-country running. Both Nye and Szyjkowski have played extremely well in the senior Rugby Team.

Results so far this term:

The Junior Team beat Morley 8—3
as did the Seniors 19—3.

The Juniors beat Gibbon 13—9
but the Seniors lost to them 0—10.

The Senior Team was defeated by Cromwell 3—5.

Four members of the House are taking part in this year's school play "The Merchant of Venice."

In the first diligence award this term, Pitt C was equal with Morley D as top set in the school. The House itself was second only to Gibbon. If everyone tries a little harder in the Diligence Awards we can be confident of once more winning the Diligence Shield.

I.H.S.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ATHLETICS

Captain: Davison, J. R. Vice-Captain: Granfield, O.

The school team finished off a most successful athletics season by having five boys representing London in the All-England Athletic Championships. The five who gained their county colours were: Granfield, Nebbitt, Ash, Lothian, and Davison. Congratulations to all five. Also four of these boys represented London in an International Inter-City contest held at Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, on the second of September.

RESULTS.

London Schools Championships: June 16th.

The school was excellently represented in this event, and finished with three London Champions. They were:—

Granfield in the Shot Put, with put of 44 ft. 5½ in. Ash in the intermediate high jump, where he established a new record of 5 ft. 5 ins., and Davision in the intermediate quarter-mile with a new record time of 52.4 secs. Others who gave good performances were Lothian by finishing second in the 220 yds., Nebbitt fourth in the junior 100 yds., Corkett fourth in the junior javelin, and Cheesman third in the intermediate 100 yds.

North London G.S. v. S.L. Grammar Schools, July 3rd.

The school had a very good representation in the South's side, especially in the Junior and Middle age groups who really excelled themselves. The individual results were:—

Juniors (Under 14)

Wort first in the high jump, with a jump of 4 ft. 11 ins.; Leggett second in the 220 yards; and Cross second in the long jump with a distance of 16 ft. 8½ ins. Congratulations to all three boys on putting up very fine performances.

Middles (Under 15)

Ash again came first in the high jump, and Cheesman first in the 100 yds., while Corkett finished fourth in the Javelin.

Seniors (Open)

Davison finished second in the 440 yards, his time being 52.9 secs.; Granfield was fourth in the Shot Put; Paterson fourth in the 880 yds.; and Butler fifth in the one mile.

Wandgas Inter-Schools Relay—July 4th.

The School entered two teams for this event, the "A" team finished first, and the "B" team was third, with Tiffins Grammar School second. The school "A" team which consisted of Leggett, Nebbitt, Cross and Spark, had practised hard for this event and deserved their well-earned victory.

All-England Schools Championships—July 17th and 18th.

This year's championships were held at the R.A.F. Stadium, Uxbridge, and the two most outstanding competitors for the school were Granfield and Davison, both of whom reached the finals.

Individual results:—

Ash, in the high jump, was placed in seventh position with a jump of 5 ft. 2 ins., and had he been on much better form he would have, I am sure, been placed in the final six.

Lothian ran in the Intermediate 220 yards, but could only manage third place in his heat.

Nebbitt ran in the Junior 220 yards, and was very unlucky indeed by being in the fastest heat which was won in 24.1 secs.; he finished third with a personal best time of 24.9 secs., an excellent performance.

Granfield was placed in sixth position with a shot put of 43 ft. 10½ ins., thereby reaching the final six, which is a brilliant performance.

Davison ran in the intermediate quarter mile, and was placed in third position in the final, his time being 52.1 secs.

School v. Sloane Grammar School—July 20th.

This match was confined to juniors (under 15 years of age), and resulted in a win for the school by 117 pts. to 89 pts. This match showed that the school possesses some very promising juniors, as Sloane had not been beaten in an athletics match for three years. The four most outstanding competitors for the school were again Nebbitt, Cross, Leggitt, and Wort, with Morrison putting up a good performance in the 440 yards.

International Inter-City Championship, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany—September 2nd.

The London Schools team, which contained four of the schools athletes, namely Lothian, Ash, Granfield and Davison, visited Frank-

furt-am-Main, Germany, for an inter-City Athletic Meeting between teams from Vienna, Brussels, Frankfurt and London. The individual results were:—

Lothian, who ran in the 100 metres, was placed in fifth position out of eight runners. He also ran in the relay which finished second.

Granfield was placed in third position in the Shot Put, a creditable performance.

Davison won the 400 metres in a time of 52.4 secs. He also ran in the relay.

Ash, who was jumping in the high jump, put up the best performance in the whole of the meeting, and certainly deserved the tremendous applause he received from a crowd of 40,000 spectators when he cleared the bar with his own personal best jump of 5 ft. 9½ ins. This performance speaks for itself when I inform you that Ash's own height is only 5 ft. 6½ ins.

On summing up this year's School Athletics I think I may safely say that it has been one of the most outstanding for Wandsworth School. And the school can look forward to much better seasons to come with such promising juniors who will in future years form the nucleus of a very strong senior team. J.R.D.

CHESS CLUB At last chess has been officially recognised as a school game and will now count towards the Games Trophy. Next term, therefore, an inter-house chess competition will be held, probably over four boards. We also hope to be able to use the "Mayfield Cup," formerly used for the Eisteddfod, as a Chess trophy.

We have been very fortunate this year in losing only one member of last year's team. Thus, having almost the same team as last season we have had much better results in inter-school games, which so far this season are as follows:—

September 25th: v. Henry Thornton. Lost 5—3.

This match, the first of the season, was lost mainly through a series of blunders, no doubt caused by lack of practice after the long summer term.

October 16th: v. Surbiton. Drawn 4—4.

Last season results were both losses 5—3 and 5½—2½.

October 23rd: v. "Sinjuns." Won 8—2.

A marked improvement on last year's results which were both losses, 9½—½ and 5—4.

November 9th: v. Bec. Won 5½—1½.

November 13th: v. Tiffins.

With one game to be adjudicated we are losing 9—2. This result was expected as Tiffins are usually quite strong.

Other matches to be played before the end of term are against Wallington, the Old Boys and Sloane, the results of which I shall be able to give in next term's issue.

By the time this is published, the "Knock-Out" Competition, which is already well into its second round, should be finished.

Full Colours for last season were awarded to Sawyer, and Half Colours to Morrison.

I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating Doctor Solomon on being chosen as Chairman of the London Grammar Schools' Chess League of which this school is a member (together with 38 other schools).

I would also like to give warning well in advance that the Chess Rally, to be held once again at Sloane School, is on Saturday, March 27th, 1954, and that we would like to enter two teams in the Inter-Schools' Chess Competition which is usually held at these rallies.

We will teach any boy who still wishes to learn to play chess if he will come to Chess Club, which meets every Tuesday and Friday.

Meanwhile we hope that our match results will continue to improve as the season progresses.

A. J. SAWYER.

CRICKET The 1st XI, with only two of the previous year's team, did perhaps rather better than expected. Of the school games, three were won, two drawn and four lost. The Parents, Old Boys and Staff were all defeated.

Our bowling was usually very effective; Granfield was the most consistent performer, with a clever mixture of fast medium and leg breaks; Sommerville was sometimes successful, though he was inclined to try to bowl too fast, and Harvey and J. B. Smith were very useful change bowlers.

York's wicket-keeping improved out of all recognition, but the fielding could have done with some tightening up. Our batting showed a certain lack of basic technique, which led to collapses on two or three occasions. Nobody was really outstanding, but York, Phelps, Salmon, Granfield, Sommerville and Harvey all played useful innings on occasion and a ninth wicket stand of 58 by Carr and J. Smith deserves mention.

The 2nd XI were very weak and lost most of their games. The Juniors had considerable ability, but tended to be demoralised and to collapse on the loss of one or two wickets. Cornish and Amir Ali were outstanding bowlers; the latter is to be congratulated on his award of a "Star" bat for his performance against Tennison's when he took nine for nine. Eeles and Newson both look likely to develop into useful wicket-keeper-batsmen.

The Under 13½ team under Mr. Haggard, made a most successful start and looks like providing a most helpful reservoir of talent for future years.

Cromwell made no mistake this year and won the House Competition fairly easily.

DEBATING AND CURRENT AFFAIRS The Debating Society has been re-organised this term as a society for the discussion of current affairs as well as the society for the debating of topics of general interest. At the time of writing there have been three meetings. At the first meeting, after electing officers (Mr. Payne as chairman, A. Preston as Honorary Secretary and A. Chalk as Publicity Officer), we planned the programme for the term. On October 23rd, the Honorary Secretary reported on the news of the past fortnight; this was followed by a brisk discussion. On November 3rd we debated the motion "This Society disapproves of Sunday Newspapers." T. Wright and A. Chalk proposed the motion, and J. Fox and C. Irving opposed it. This motion was carried by the narrow margin of one vote.

We hope more Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Formers will attend our future meetings (without obligation to speak) and help to present a great variety of views in what could be a very lively Society.

A. PRESTON (Hon. Sec.).

FIVES The School Team had a very successful season, although we played relatively few matches, only five in all. Our outstanding success was the winning of the Marchant Cup for the second year in succession. The Cup is competed for every year among the five-playing South London Grammar Schools. We played two matches, one at home and the other away, against our old rivals, Sloane School. In the home match we won by 135—112 and lost a hard-fought return game by 130—128. We thus won the First Round on aggregate and went into the Second Round. There we received a bye from Henry Thornton School

and so reached the Final to meet St. Marylebone. We played them at our courts and had a relatively easy win by 175—53, thus retaining the Cup.

Our other matches were against Henry Thornton, whom we beat at home by 169—90 and the College of St. Mark and St. John whom we beat in away match by 169—142.

Mention must be made of G. L. Harvey, last year's captain, who played magnificently and was a tower of strength in the team. The team was:—

G. L. Harvey, J. W. Bloss, B. Salway, C. Bitmead.

J.W.B.

GYM CLUB After our exhibition last Easter, which we hope was a success, we closed for the summer. But we re-opened this September.

We started our tenth year's work, rather shakily I am afraid, amidst the activity associated with the reception of innumerable first year boys. Now, however, we are meeting regularly every Wednesday, under the leadership of Mr. Coate-Bond, to prepare next year's Eisteddfod Exhibition. We have planned this year to show both Juniors and Seniors in the two groups, i.e., Ground-work and the work on the larger apparatus, as well as including some balancing items. As we always stress in reports, the club tries to teach more advanced gymnastics to those boys who have the ability.

We now have, in the club, a large number of Second Form boys who are quite efficient and who, in a number of years time, will be a great team like that of Gilbart, Hiscock and Pullen two or three years ago. Thus, I hope, every year the Gym Club will be turning out in the future accomplished gymnasts as we have done up to now.

M. WEBBER, C.B., 5A.

RUGBY

FIRST XV

The performances of the School 1st XV so far this season have been surprisingly disappointing. There have been only the slightest glimpses of that fine team work and determined fighting spirit which have been prominent characteristics of their play in the last two years. But all schools inevitably pass through these seasons of only partial success. For a senior school XV cannot hope to remain together for more than two seasons. After this comes a stage of slow and painful reconstruction, when a team of gifted but inexperienced players finds itself often overwhelmed by far stronger opponents.

However, with such promising young talent as Roper, Smith, Pierce, Earle, Williams and Gooders, the School can be confident that this stage will soon be over and that it will possess once again a strong and victorious side.

v. Purley: Lost, 3—8. Scorer, Granfield (Drop Goal).
v. Tiffin: Lost, 8—13. Scorer, Earle.
v. Mitcham: Lost, 6—15. Scorers, Szyjkowski, Harvey.
v. William Ellis: Won, 21—5. Scorers, Harvey, Holder, Gale (Two Tries), Gingell (Drop Goal).
v. Bec: Won, 8—3. Scorers, Glayzer, Granfield (Penalty).
v. Surbiton: Lost, 0—21.
v. St. Olaves: Won, 6—3. Scorers, Glayzer, Granfield (Penalty).

Played	Won	Lost	Pts. For	Pts. Against
7	3	4	52	68

M. A. PHELPS.

SECOND XV

The Second Team has started very well this season, showing much more determination and enthusiasm than in previous years. General play has improved immensely as is shown by our defeat of Purley, who beat us heavily last season in our first match. Tackling and passing have improved but there is still far too much fly-hacking in the forwards and not enough open play. This vast improvement is due mainly to the discovery of some new talent, i.e., Swallow, Davey, Worrall and Pierce, whom we have now unfortunately lost to the first team. Tickner has acquitted himself well by some excellent kicking. I think that the following results of the first matches set us on the road to a reasonably successful season.

Matches Played

v. Purley: Won, 16—15.
v. Tiffin: Lost, 8—26.
v. Mitcham: Lost, 8—19.
v. William Ellis: Won, 39—0.
v. Bec: Won, 13—0.
v. Raynes 1st: Won, 16—3.
v. Surbiton: Lost, 3—26.
v. St. Olaves: Lost 3—6.

Played	Won	Lost	Pts. For	Pts. Against
8	4	4	106	93

A.K.G-S.

COLTS

Captain: D. G. Nebbitt. Vice-Captain: A. Hazard.

Hon. Secretary: G. R. Salmon.

So far this season the Colts have met with reasonable success. They have played 9 matches, won 5, lost 3 and drawn 1. The forwards have not been able to settle down very well, owing to frequent changes. There has been some difficulty in getting people to play, but despite this the Colts have a forcing pack.

The three-quarters have fared very well on the whole, with Davies outstanding at centre. A good centre partnership can be found in Davies and Cross who are both fast.

The fullback, Antell, also has played very well with some displays of fine tackling and kicking.

We congratulate R. Nebbett on being selected to play for the Surrey and London Colts.

Games Played

v. Purley: Won 27—8.
v. Mitcham: Won 27—3.
v. Roxeth Manor: Won 11—6.
v. Bec: Lost 11—8.
v. Balham Central: Won 48—0.
v. Surbiton: Drew 8—8.
v. St. Olaves: Won, 11—0.
v. Brockley: Lost, 12—8.
v. Raynes Park: Lost, 11—6.

Points for 154 Points Against 59

G.R.S.

JUNIORS

The season started very well with five successive wins. Particularly good was the victory 9—0 over Bec School.

The three-quarters have shown a fine example of passing and fast movements. Mann, the scrum half, has been in many cases the starter of a fine movement, and Liggitt on the wing has often rounded it off with a super try after his fast sprinting. Much praise must be given to the Captain, R. Eeles, for his fine captaincy and kicking. The centres have been very good in getting the ball to the wings.

We have a very strong pack in the line-out and the scrum, the most outstanding boys being Thrower, the leader of the pack, Hitchins, the hooker, and Birkenshaw of the front row. Fendt, although he has not played in all the games, is also useful. The wing-forwards have also

played well. Last, but not least, is the full-back Bishop, a most essential boy in our team to break up the attacks, who has stopped many a try by his excellent tackling.

Our record to date is:—

Played	Won	Lost	Pts. For	Pts. Against
7	5	2	170	25

The following have been playing:—

Bishop, Liggitt, McClure, Farmer, Godden, E. R. Carr, Eeles (Capt.), Mann (Vice-Capt.), N. Smith, W. S. Smith, Bannister, Bennett, Fendt, Hudson, Thrower, Birkenshaw, Stephens, Hitchins.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chelsworth,
310 Stradbroke Grove,
Ilford,
Essex.

Dear Sir,

As one who has taken "The Link" since its inception in 1917 I should like to take the opportunity of congratulating the Editor and the Magazine Committee on the splendid Coronation Souvenir they have produced.

The foremost page with a becoming photograph of Her Majesty the Queen followed by the photographs of the Staff and School together with the Staff List, the first issued since the old curricula were dropped, the history of the School and the Coronation items are of absorbing interest.

Good luck, Wandsworth.

Yours sincerely,

ERNEST R. LISTER,

(1906-1909).

THE WANDSWORTHIANS LODGE The twenty-second year of this Masonic Lodge began on October 2nd, 1953, when Mr. C. F. Ferne (O.W. 1897-98) was installed Master, and Mr. G. Stanley Coombe (O.W. 1915-22) and Mr. Norman H. Coombe (O.W. 1920-25) invested as Wardens. It promises to be a very busy year. Already a special meeting has been held (on October 31st) and this is described bekow.

The Lodge continues to meet at the Ardington Rooms on the first Fridays in February, May, July, October and December. Further particulars may be obtained by writing to the Secretary of the Wandsworthians Lodge, c/o Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction, S.W.11.

On Saturday, October 31st, 1953, the Lodge was privileged to act as Host Lodge for the Sixth Annual Festival of the Federation of School Lodges.

The proceedings opened with the Master of the Lodge, Mr. C. F. Ferne, entertaining a small luncheon party at the School, when Mr. H Raymond King welcomed some 17 members of the Federation Executive and the Lodge Sub-Committee. This was followed by the Federation Annual General Business Meeting attended by over 120 members representing 41 Federated Lodges from all parts of the country. Representatives came from as far afield as Hull, Barry and Plymouth, and there were two members representing a Member Lodge in Bengal. At the close of the meeting tea was served at the School and the party then made their way to the Ardington Rooms. Here they were joined by further members of the Federation and in all 210 members attended an Emergency Meeting of the Lodge. The meeting was followed by a dinner and this enjoyable and memorable occasion came to a close at 9.30 p.m.

The arrangements for the festival, which was the largest function the Lodge has held during the 21 years of its existence, were in the hands of Mr. C. F. Ferne and a sub-committee of Messrs. S. H. Fairey, W. H. Skinner, R. O. Beard, F. R. Chaplain, R. H. Coombe, R. E. Kilsby and A. E. Tyrer who were ably and willingly assisted by many members of the Lodge.

The Lodge thanks Mr. H. Raymond King for making it possible for the meeting to be held at the School and also Mr. Allen and the catering staff for their assistance.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION I am sure that all members will be interested and pleased to learn that, thanks to the combined efforts of the Old Wandsworthians Association, the Parents' Asscciation and the Skeena Hill Society, our Summer Fete in July was an outstanding success and resulted in a total of £101 being passed to the credit of the Memorial Fund. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to all our members who took an active part and especially to those willing and cheerful ladies of our Catering Committee for all their splendid efforts with the teas and refreshments; all the associations concerned recognise their valuable assistance, which contributed so much to the success of the day.

The Parents v. Boys annual cricket match was another pleasant and successful event. Although the weather was anything but kind, and we were unable to manage a victory, nevertheless we did enjoy a very good game. Many thanks to all the fathers who volunteered their services, to those in the team and to those whom we were unable to include this time.

Our one event of the past term on which I am able to comment was the Parents' Social Evening in September. This event exceeded our anticipations and was the most successful social evening the Association can recall. It was a very great pleasure to be able to welcome such a large number of members, especially of new members.

The whole evening went well, the programme arranged to show some of the many and varied activities of the School, was once again in the capable hands of Mr. Lince who earns our sincere thanks, and was thoroughly appreciated by our large audience. Once again I must pass our thanks to the ladies of the Catering Committee who shouldered the task of the supply of refreshments to our large attendance so splendidly. I sincerely trust that all our new members who came along will be present in equally large numbers on all our future occasions and meetings.

The Grand Whist Drive arranged with the Old Boys' Association for December 5th must await comment until the next issue, but I am anticipating another really successful evening.

Your Council will be meeting early in the New Year to consider plans for the coming Spring Term which will be announced in due course. Once again I invite suggestions and ideas from all members for social events or meetings. We are elected to serve your interests and shall be happy to carry out your wishes.

After such an encouraging start to the new term I am confidently looking forward to more successes in the New Year.

H. J. SCOTT