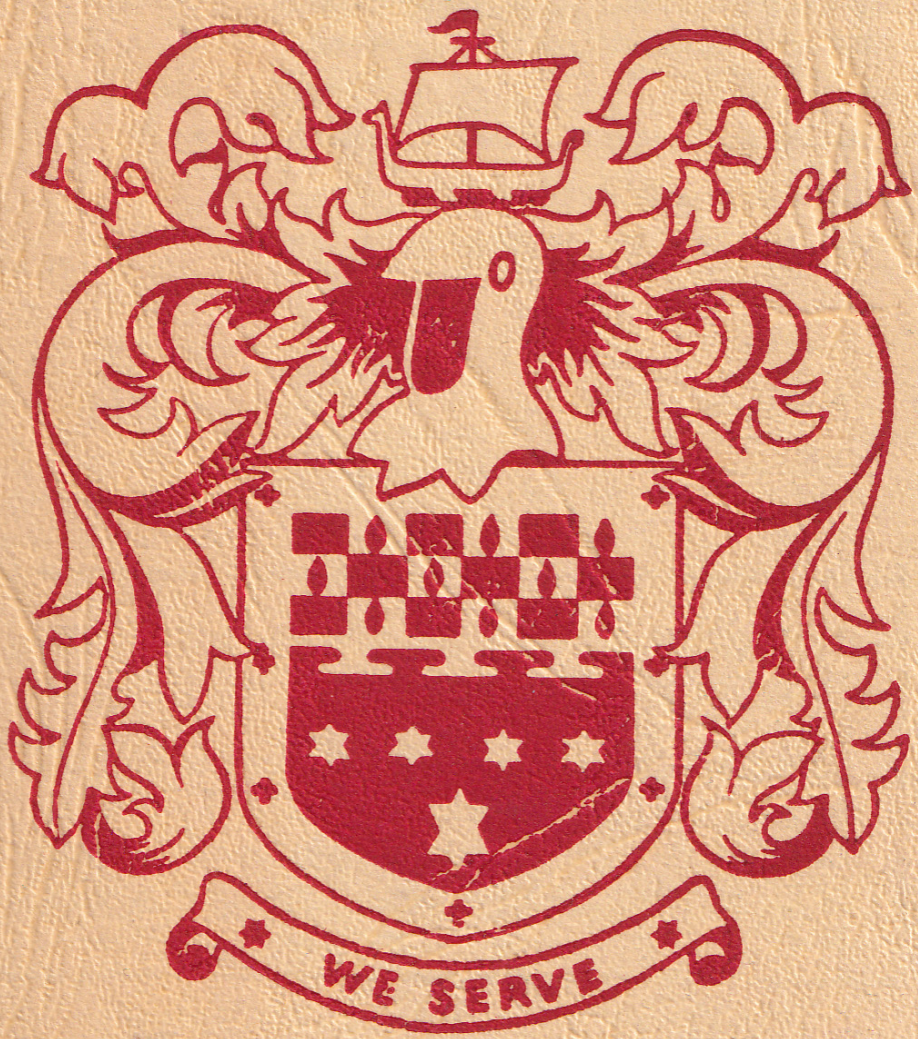
THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

MARCH 1953

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE :

Editor : M. J. Kelly.
Associate Editors : C. B. Gosden and S. F. Weber.
School Representatives : A. J. Dean, S. W. E. D. Elsey, R. W. Griffiths.
Business Manager : Mr. W. H. George.
Treasurer : Mr. G. Elms.
Art Advisor : Mr. A. Hodgkinson.

CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE : 5th JUNE.

This is the latest date on which contributions will be accepted for consideration—NOT the date for handing in. The majority of contributions should be in at least ten days before the closing date.

BAKER & WITTE, LTD., Standen Road, Southfields, S.W.18

THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XXXVIII **MARCH, 1953** **No. 1**

HEADMASTER'S NOTES After an interval of fifteen years we have again had a General Inspection by the Ministry of Education. During the four days February 17th—20th, about a dozen H.M.I.'s under the general direction of our particular Divisional H.M.I., Mr. Bullock, descended upon us and investigated our work in all subjects and our general activities and organisation.

It will be some weeks before the official Report is received by the Governors, but it would appear from a conference that the Inspectors held with the Governors at the end of their visit, that there was a good deal to praise and not very much to blame.

As the Inspectors discovered, and as we were well aware, one of the least satisfactory elements in our provision is the School Library, which is inadequate as judged by the best grammar school standards. This defect is due partly to loss of books, especially during evacuation, and partly to the high cost of new books that has to be met from a limited books allowance at a time when expensive textbooks are making prior demands.

I wonder if in the aggregate quite a large number of our books are not reposing forgotten on the shelves of neglectful borrowers. It is never too late to do the right thing.

It is with great regret that we record the death of Mr. E. W. Garrett, Governor of the School, and at one time President of the London Master Builders' Association.

Recently appointed Governors are :
Miss D. W. Mobbs, Mr. R. G. Norman, Mr. Reeves, Mr. R. A. Rendell.

The number of university entrants from the Upper Sixth this year promises to be very much higher than in any year since the war, and as many as in the last three years put together. This is an indication of the gratifying recovery and development of our Advanced Studies, since the war and evacuation so seriously diminished our numbers. We have had to build from the lowest forms upwards.

It was an unusual and quite thrilling experience to have the First Folio Players here on the morning of Friday, 30th January, to give their spirited performance of "Julius Caesar" in the Hall. The audience literally "assisted at" this performance and became part of the Roman crowd.

The "Friday Concert," a delightful entertainment for which we have to thank our Old Boy, Ronald Easey, and two of his friends from the Royal Academy of Music, drew but a disappointingly small audience. It was, however, most keenly appreciated.

I note this term the revival of the History Society. This was for some years the largest and most lively society in the School, as is shown by its records which are in my possession and date back to 1923, thirty years ago.

The Wandsworth Rotary Club has continued this year to furnish a series of Career's Talks to the Fourth Forms. On 20th March the Parents' Association and members of the Staff met a panel of the speakers for a "tripartite" discussion of careers.

The second "Old Tyme Dance," arranged for this term by the Parents' Association as a result of the delightfully social and enjoyable nature of the one held last term, failed to draw the attendance expected; a disappointment perhaps, though anything but a failure.

The Annual Old Wandsworthians' Dinner was memorable for me personally since the occasion was marked by a commemoration of my 21st year of Presidency, and the presentation by the Old Boys of attractive souvenirs. Opportunity was also taken to wish God-speed to Bernard Pauncefort who relinquishes the secretaryship upon his appointment to service in Malaya.

I have accepted, with great pleasure, the generous offer of Imam Bajwa of the Southfields Mosque to present a prize to the School for Scripture. This will be awarded for work during the present school year.

We have had the usual number of visitors from abroad including a party of six teachers from Chile.

Congratulations to Gosden on gaining an L.C.C. Modern Languages Scholarship for three months' travel abroad.

School Leaving Certificates for 1952 are now available. Boys who are entitled to one should apply to the office at the School without delay.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE. Boys left since last issue of "The Link."—Birch, F. R., Cardwell, R. D., Gardner, B. C., Janaway, D. G., Post, D. E., Streatfield, C. W., Surry, P. E., Turner, F. A., Turner, R., White, A. J. W.

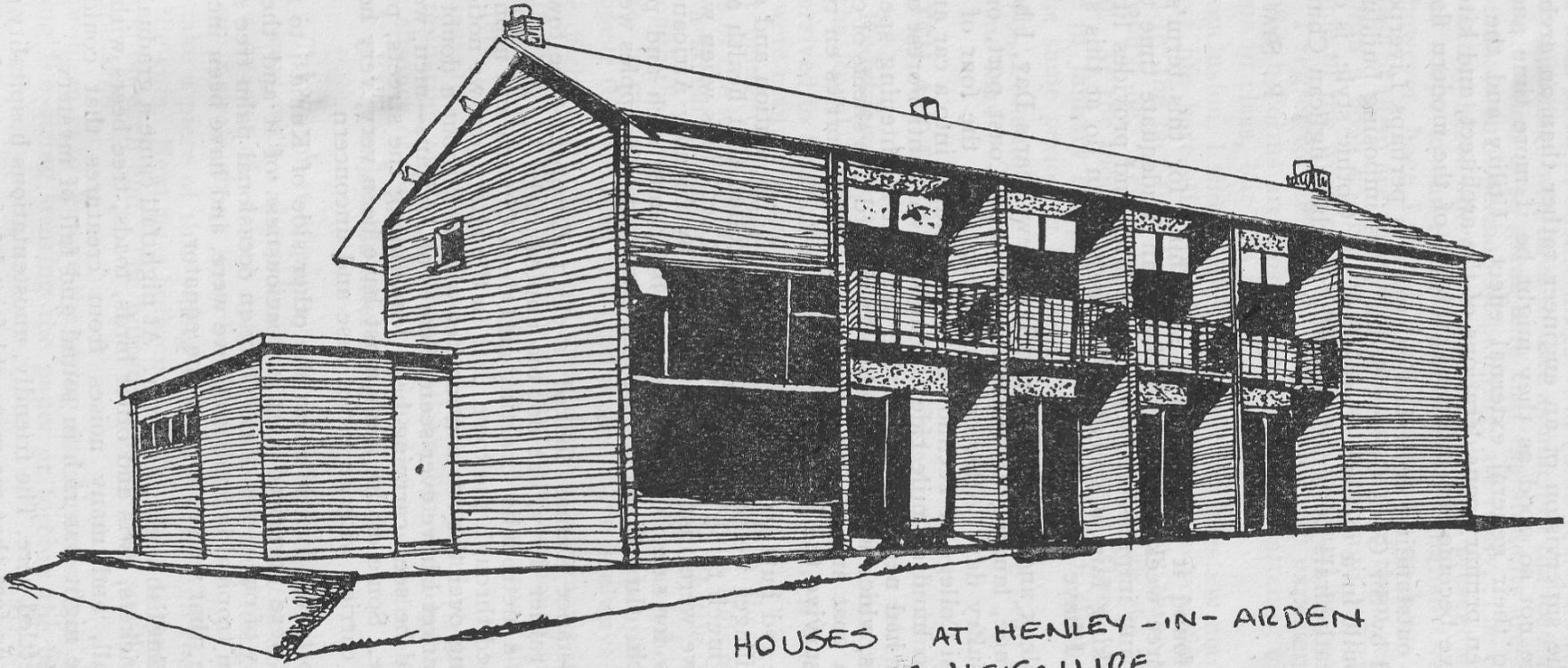
New boys since last issue of "The Link."—Agha, A. A., Emerson, J. R., Hellyar, B. R., Wall, R.

MODERN ARCHITECTURE Current ideas in architecture seek to combine dignity with utility. Domestic efficiency has gradually superceded the romantic Gothic and other revivals of the nineteenth century. The tendency to make buildings purely functional was carried to extremes in the typical so-called 'modern' blocks of flats and commercial and industrial buildings of the pre-war period.

These were planned on a massive scale with steel frame structures and a thin wall covering to give economy of space. Generally speaking, architecture has become a complicated feat of engineering skill more than an artistic accomplishment. Nevertheless, there is much to be admired in the smooth soaring lines of a skyscraper, or the well-sprung efficiency of a modern concrete bridge.

If we stop to consider the amazing feats of engineering skill that have gone into the building of the American and Canadian skyscrapers, which have anything up to one hundred floors, it is impossible not to be impressed. It still remains a matter of speculation whether this form of architecture is to be considered an artistic achievement, but New York's skyline must be counted one of the wonders of the modern world, and the Empire State Building one of its most wonderful single efforts in architecture.

Amongst fine achievements in modern architecture we find many industrial buildings. Battersea Power Station, built by the famous architect, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, is particularly good. Few people could fail to be impressed by the sense of strength and power of the colossal chimneys and solid foundations.



HOUSES AT HENLEY-IN-ARDEN
WARWICKSHIRE.

G. R. REEVE.

In domestic architecture there has been a great change from the old country mansion to the modern luxury flat. Blocks of flats have been built under the supervision of an engineer rather than an architect, and the results are not so good as they might be if more time and thought had gone into their general external effect. Utility and the saving of space have been primary considerations of the architect, and kitchens and bathrooms have become the principal features of the modern flat.

The most outstanding ecclesiastical work is perhaps Liverpool Cathedral, designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. This imposing building, begun in 1903 and built in a modern adaption of the Gothic style, is one of the few English cathedrals designed specially for the Anglican Church.

R. STAFFORD.

KUMASI I found it hard to write something for this term's "Link." Three weeks in West Africa is an inadequate time to sift the many bewildering impressions of a new country and provides little opportunity for making fair judgments. The best I can do at this stage is to describe what I have seen and felt.

Leaving bleak and dismal Liverpool on New Year's Day, I had a most delightful voyage, landing at Takoradi, the Gold Coast port, on January 13th—a hot, sultry day. After customs formalities, the four of us bound for the Kumasi College of Technology were bundled into a car and carried away on a two hundred mile ride through the Ashanti Forest area. The African driver had nerves of steel. He drove at frightening speeds along atrocious roads, which were potholed and wrinkled like sheets of corrugated iron, killing a goat and just missing several timber lorries en route. We felt lucky to survive the journey.

The crude red huts, and the general air of dilapidation and squalor of most of the villages we passed through, suggested that health and living standards left much to be desired. On the two occasions when we stopped in a village, we were instantly surrounded by friendly Africans offering fruit and nuts for sale. Oranges were a halfpenny each and pineapples eightpence each. (In a London store last Christmas pineapples were selling for £1 each!)

From a distance Kumasi looked a clean, European-type town. From within it was rather dirty, but not too unpleasantly so. By West African standards it is a metropolis, boasting an Odeon Cinema and neon lighting. When we passed through the town, late in the afternoon, we noticed many vultures circling over the African market which, without a doubt, must be the filthiest market I have ever seen. Scores of Africans—men, women and children—could be seen carrying head loads along the streets, pictures of perfect balance. Some of the loads must have been very, very heavy, and yet they were carried with an air of ease and unconcern.

We had to travel five miles on the other side of Kumasi to reach the College. We were surprised at the spaciousness of it and the English quality of many of our views of it. Only an occasional palm tree suggested that we were in tropical latitudes and we were, and have been increasingly surprised since, that we are so near the equator.

It was no English night, however. At nightfall came a gradual crescendo of noise; crickets, owls and other birds, toads, tree bears with a rather frightening call, and many noises from creatures that could not be identified. The night was rich in sound and full of mystery.

We soon settled here. The friendly, unostentatious hospitality showered upon us made us feel that we were old friends of everyone here.

The College, when completed, will be magnificent, standing in a huge, park-like area of eight square miles. For some years, however, the present temporary buildings will have to take as much of the load as possible. The need for education is so great here that the students are being accommodated somehow until permanent buildings are ready. The courses provided will ultimately be of university standard, but at present most courses are of similar scope to our Sixth Form work in English Grammar Schools. Never, however, have I found English students as keen as the Africans here. Most of them are short of books, and one of them recently asked me to lend him a book so that he could work through EVERY example on every topic of the work mentioned in lectures—and he really meant what he said. I regret to say that it has been my sad experience that boys in English Sixth Forms are most often reluctant to attempt *any* examples on work done in class, but this is a digression!

In conclusion, I should like to answer the question many of you would ask me of life here—'Do you like it and how do you find the climate?' Qualified by the fact that I have had after all only three weeks here, my answer would be, 'Yes, I like it a lot and I think the climate is much maligned. At the moment I am thriving on it. Three weeks of glorious sunshine in January compare most favourably with sleet, frost, rain and fog in the same period in England.'

Finally, I should like to thank those who have been good enough to write to me here.

G. R. GIBSON.

THE DUTCH ART EXHIBITION On Friday, 27th February, a party of thirty seniors were taken by Mr. Payne and Mr. Hodgkinson to the exhibition of 15th—18th century Dutch Paintings at the Royal Academy.

We arrived to find the gallery quite crowded, which was not surprising as there were many fine and well-known paintings on show. The exhibition aimed at being completely representative, and so there were not only examples of the work of men like Rembrandt, Frans Hals and Van Goyen, but also a lavish display of the paintings of the "Little Masters."

Although there was a profusion of pictures, there seemed to be striking similarities in many of them, particularly in the landscapes, from which it would appear that Holland is a land where there is always a storm!

Some of the portraits showed great depth of character in the faces, but there were many which had obviously been commissioned and were almost photographic in the attempt to reproduce with accuracy the facial details of the sitters.

The seascapes showed a pleasing variety, particularly in the subtle and delicate rendering of the cloud formations, but we noted with regret the complete absence of 'black-and-white,' and of a miniature section.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

W.M.S.

PUZZLE Take a sheet of paper, and down the middle make two parallel cuts with a sharp knife. The cuts should be about two inches long and a quarter of an inch apart. About one inch from one end of the cuts cut out a circle about ⅜ inches in diameter.

Now take a piece of thin string and pass it through the strip of paper made by the cuts. Next pass both ends of the string through the hole and tie a button on each end. The buttons must not be small enough to pass through the hole.

The problem is to remove the string and buttons from the paper without untying the string, tearing the paper or forcing the buttons through the hole.

(*For solution see back page*)

C.E.W.C. FRENCH CONFERENCE It was with a feeling of the greatest pleasure that I learned of the chance I had of attending the C.E.W.C. Conference to be held at St. Pancras Town Hall.

The following morning I was in the queue as early as possible with my entrance fee, having been told by Mr. Payne that the first twenty to pay would go. Happily though, it was found possible to take all the form. On the Monday prior to the day, we received a programme of the conference plus a pamphlet with a description of the subject to be discussed—France.

Everybody was at Southfields station sharp to time, fully equipped with packed lunches and thermos flasks. Tickets obtained, we were soon safely aboard the train for Earls Court, there to change to the Piccadilly Line. Alighting at Kings Cross, we made our way along the Euston Road to the Town Hall, arriving at 9.50 in quite good time as the conference was due to begin at ten o'clock. I was very impressed with the building, it being constructed of white stone and decorated beautifully inside. A stage was at one end of the Hall and we took our seats facing this.

Promptly to time the Chairman appeared on the stage and announced that a short film would open the proceedings. It proved to be very interesting, dealing with the Paris Basin and its products. Champagne was shown with its vineyards and the process of wine making. Also we saw a market place, the wares of which appeared to be mainly fruit and vegetables.

After the film the curtains parted, and there seated were a lady and a gentleman on each side of the chairman, who rose to announce them. The lady—an Englishwoman, by name Mrs. Pickles—and the gentleman was French.

The Frenchman spoke first, and he gave us France from the Frenchman's point of view. He said that the showing of the film explained much of French agriculture that would have taken too long to tell. He went on to tell of the French Revolution and the way the French had benefited from it. He told us of youth organisations and the method of government.

Mrs. Pickles also told us of the political parties, fifteen in all, including communists. When she had finished speaking, we were told the milk had not arrived and were advised to walk around for twenty minutes.

We assembled again and the lights were put out for a film to be shown about the French iron and steel industry. The commentator was American and, as the apparatus for sound appeared faulty, it was difficult to understand. We could see, however, the molten metal fashioned into great bars of steel by a series of rollers, being fed from one to the other by men with metal grips in their hands. At the end the finished article was shown.

We then split into groups. One, the A group, went into the refreshment hall to have dinner (the milk had arrived by then) and the other, the B group, of which we were part, went into the balcony in a number of groups to discuss which was the most important occupation—agriculture or industry—and other questions. The object was to prepare three questions for the Brains Trust after lunch. It was decided to ask : 'What would be the best way of helping the French people to know more about the people of this country?', and 'What can we do to learn more about the people of France?' After this, group A took our place and we went to lunch.

Returning after a short walk, we took our seats for the Brains Trust which was composed of two gentlemen and one lady. Questions were asked concerning sport in France, and among other things we were told how poor people prepare their snails for eating. They do this by keeping them in a clean bath and starving them so that they cleanse themselves of dirt and poisonous matter. More fortunate people eat those that are specially bred.

This and other interesting questions and answers made the time pass most quickly. I hope to attend a similar conference again.

D. AYSHFORD.

WANDSWORTH SCHOOL.

"ST. JOAN"—11th, 12th and 13th December, 1952.



The Wandsworth School Players acquitted themselves excellently in a shortened version of Shaw's "St. Joan" in the School Hall on the evening of 11th December. The play had been cut with discretion, with the possible exception of the parts of Ladvenu and La Hire who seemed to be less noticeable than they should if my recollection of the full version is correct. The pace was good on the whole and cues were taken up smartly—an important matter in a play which seems to contain an abnormal number of exits and entrances. The stage manager and producers made the best possible use of their shallow stage; the production was satisfying visually, and the lighting adequate, flattering the rich costumes while leaving the simplicity of the background undisturbed.

The part of de Baudricourt, played by J. A. Herbert, is difficult by any standards. This part starts the play and the actor, almost alone, has to rant, bully, stamp, cajole and vacillate peevishly through a long scene. Herbert did it very well with adequate assistance from R. G. Hall as his Steward, and entered into the spirit of a conventional, self-deceived militarist quite triumphantly. He set the play off briskly and made an effective entry for Joan possible. A. J. Sawyer played the part of De Poulengey in this scene.

This tempo continued in the castle of Chinon and though Trémouille, played by G. L. Harvey, was a thought too active, his foil the Archbishop (D. J. White) was unable to sustain the bottle-like immobility his part suggests, so the right contrast was fortuitously achieved. It was the entry of the Dauphin which confirmed, in my opinion, what the first entry of Joan promised, that this was to be an exciting evening. T. R. Wright gave an excellent performance—assured and apparently artless. He was querulous, timid, old-maidish, and took every suggestion his supporting cast gave him and is his turn gave Joan (A.K.G. Salmon) the contrasting dignity she now acquired. Everything about him was enjoyably right. Joan found herself early in the first scene and gave a sustained performance, playing confidently and with assurance. The latter part of the trial scene was excellently done. M. A. Phelps' interpretation of Warwick was perhaps too sly and crafty, the speeches suggesting jocular cynicism and disillusion of a sort. He was good in the performance he gave but lost the earl in the conspirator. J. S. Wharton as Stogumber, his chaplain, made his points and overplayed his part as I think Shaw intended it to be overplayed. So well did he do his breakdown scene with Warwick, much more the earl now, that he overshadowed the professional performance I last saw.

Involved reasoning and discussion seemed to cause no one any difficulty and as the ecclesiastical characters are largely concerned with this they are to be congratulated. They played their several parts with distinction. The not sufficiently static Archbishop of Rheims managed well enough, while C. B. Gosden as the Bishop of Beauvais was suavely fierce in his convictions, episcopal in his bearing if, to be critical, not quite ascetic enough in appearance. The Inquisitor was well made up. D. R. Morrison, who played him, was old and wordly enough but made him a little more single-minded than he is meant to be. De Courcelles (R. D. King) and Stogumber contrived their duet in the trial scene with obvious enjoyment of the parts, with D'Estivet (I. H. Simons) an efficient prosecutor.

I think that Ladvenu (J. P. Fox) suffered from exclusion of his scene in the Epilogue, as to a lesser extent, did Stogumber. He did, however, manage to sketch in his part most effectively in the brief time at his disposal, and this greatly to his credit. The singing soldier in the Epilogue (R. G. Hall) was a minor triumph. G. R. Reeve looked the part of an English man-at-arms and doubled competently for C. M. Smith as la Hire when he fell ill after the first night.

The other military gentlemen in the cast were rather hampered in that most of them had little to do, though Dunios (J. W. Bloss) was magnificent in his armour and handled scene three very well. J. M. Gooders as Gilles de Rais made a promising satanist, suggesting interesting possibilities of the near future prophesied by Joan. The Pages (M. A. Carney and J. W. Sharp) were charming and efficient, the executioner (G. E. Tonks) obviously a craftsman and like the gentleman from the Vatican (D. T. Glayzer) a stickler on points of order. The latter's entry from the floor was very effective.

I would like to congratulate the producers for many incidents which showed care and attention. The isolating of Joan, both in the Cathedral scene and in the Epilogue, was done skilfully and avoided an obviously devised effect. This is not easy on a cramped stage. Finally, all the players were audible. Altogether an enjoyable evening.

THE ARMS OF WANDSWORTH Each boy in the School has on his cap the shield which forms the main part of the Coat of Arms of the Borough of Wandsworth, and on the calendar issued to him is a full representation of the complete Arms. Permission to use the Arms has been given to the School by the Borough Council. The College of Arms made a grant of Arms to the Borough on 6th July, 1901.

The official description of the Arms is : *Per fesse nebuly chequy Azure and Or,* each of the last charged with a Gutté of the first and Sable, in base five Estoiles four and one of the second all within a Bordure Argent charged with eight Crosses coupled Gules; and for the Crest on a Wreath of the Colours an ancient ship having a Dragon's Head at the prow Sable, five Oars in action, the like number of Shields resting against the bulwarks and suspended from the stern an Anchor all Or, Mast and Rigging proper with a Flag flying to the dexter Gules, Sail Azure charged with a Wyvern, wings elevated within eight Guttés in Orle Argent. Motto : *"We Serve."*

This Heraldic language can be interpreted as follows : the Shield is divided through the middle by a wavey line, the upper part consisting of alternate squares of blue and gold—each of the gold squares having on it a blue drop. The lower part of the shield is black and has five golden stars arranged, four over one. The shield is surrounded by a silver border on which are displayed eight red crosses.

The symbols on the shield refer to historical and geographical associations of the Borough. The blue and gold chequer was part of the Arms of the first Earl of Surrey. The blue drops represent the tears of the Hugenots who settled in the district after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685; their burial ground is at the top of East Hill. The five gold stars refer to the five old parishes in the Borough, namely—Putney, Clapham, Streatham, Tooting and Wandsworth. The wavey line through the middle of the shield suggests the rivers Thames and Wandle. The red crosses in the border are meant for Swords and indicate the connection of the Borough with the City of London, a sword being part of that city's Arms. The Crest represents an old Viking ship which is credited with having sailed up the Thames as far as Putney.

G. WILLIAMS.

GIBBON A review of the record of the past term for Gibbon House includes no outstanding successes, nor any dismal failures. The most important activity—rugger—has not been too successful for Gibbon, mainly because we lack outstanding talent. There were two bright spots, however, the Seniors drawing against Cromwell and Pitt, the scores being 3—3. In both games the Gibbon team scored at the beginning and were leading for most of the game, only to be baulked of victory towards the end. Mention must be made of the playing of Phelps, Brodie and Eastwood and, of course, of our captain York. The game against Morley Seniors we lost. Pearce led the Junior team to victory against Pitt; against Morley we drew and against Cromwell we lost. In all we came third in Rugger.

In the diligence awards we were again first, and we stand a good chance of winning again this term.

The result of the Table-Tennis Competition has so far been a win for Cromwell, by eleven games to five. The House team—Smith, Salmon, Patterson and Dodge—played well, and we wish them well in the other competitions.

Congratulations are due to White who gained admission to the Imperial College of Technology, London, and to Wright who has gained entrance to Cardiff University College.

The words 'Spring Term' and 'Eisteddfod' are closely linked. Last year, by a tremendous effort we heaved ourselves out of fourth place, which had been consistently ours since the institution of the Eisteddfod, and we brought home the Mayfield Cup. For the very first time, the whole House played its part and achieved a very fine result. There is a very good chance that we may win again this year. What the outcome will be remains to be seen, but with even a small personal effort from each member of the House we may well repeat last year's performance.

W.M.S.

MORLEY Morley's chances of retaining 'Joey,' the trophy of the Cock House, appear to be quite bright. We have started the sport's season excellently by winning the Rugby Shield. Our Seniors, under the leadership of B. Holder, were unbeaten and did not have a point scored against them. They beat Cromwell 9—0, Gibbon 22—0, and Pitt 14—0. Especially noteworthy members of the team were Thompson, Wharton, Earle and Gingell. The Junior Team were not so successful but had a reasonable record, beating Pitt 22—8, drawing with Gibbon 3—3, and losing to Cromwell 13—9.

With regard to our prospects in the Table-Tennis Competion, we seem certain to do well, having started with a victory over Pitt by eleven games to five.

In the Fives competition for the Fenn Cup, it is improbable that we will lose our second place to Cromwell. We lost to them by 99 points to 35 points, but face our other matches with confidence.

Although the Inter-House Chess matches have not yet started, we can entertain reasonable hopes of success, since over half the School Chess Team are from Morley.

We end with an appeal to every boy in the House to do his best in the Diligence Competition and the forthcoming Athletics and Cricket Competitions. Morley A continue to lead the Diligence averages but more effort could be made by the other sets.

J.W.B.

PITT This term has seen few successes in team events. In Rugby we lost four games and won only one. In Table-Tennis we were knocked out of the championship by Morley. We appear to stand a little chance in Inter-House Fives. The only bright spot is Diligence, in which we were on top in the first award this term.

Morrison must be congratulated on gaining entrance to Wadham College, Oxford, and Glayzer on having been selected to play for Surrey Schools at rugger.

In the Eisteddfod, at the time of writing, we seem to have a sporting chance. The speech choir is making good progress, our drama group stands a fairly good chance, but the vocal quartet is making only fair progress. We are hoping for some extra effort this year in the Literature Section of the Eisteddfod, where we do not usually excel. Of course, the usual good art entry is expected.

To sum up then, this term, with one or two exceptions, has been quite unsuccessful and it is to be hoped that this matter will be remedied by a really enthusiastic Eisteddfod entry.

D.G.N.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES.

BIOLOGY The Club has been quite active this term. Earlier, the junior members learned how to use a miscroscope. The senior members have been working on plans for the Eisteddfod Biology Exhibition.

For the next few weeks it is proposed to study the distribution of plant and animals on Wimbledon Common.

R.D.K.

CHESS During the past two terms the School team has been kept busy playing in matches. The results were, as was expected, mostly losses. Of the eleven matches played, seven were lost, two were drawn and two were won.

Although the losses were large in number they were not due to bad play but rather to inexperience, for there is only one player in the Sixth form, the others being in the Fourth and Fifth and one in the Second. All but one played below board six last season. The fault at the present time is that the School possesses a number of good average players but none with enough experience to play on boards one or two.

Next season we hope to have more successes because most of the present team will still be at school then, and by that time will be more experienced and, therefore, better . After all, practise makes perfect and with every week that passes the team is steadily improving in strength.

A.J.S.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

Captain : J. R. Davison. Vice-Captain : E. Patterson.

This season has proved to be the most successful the School has had since the war. Our team was rather young for 'open' competition, but has trained hard and has been justifiably rewarded. All the team would like to thank Mr. Clark—firstly for coaching the team, and also for being our one and only supporter throughout the season.

RESULTS.

v. Ranelagh Harriers.—29th November, 1952. The School had a most convincing victory by 56 points to 94. Patterson and Chappel ran brilliantly and were excellently supported by the rest of the team.

v. Highgate Harriers, Inter-Schools' Race.—December 6th. Only five of the team turned up for this event, the rest of the team were delayed by thick fog. Out of twenty-two schools we finished seventh. Davison finished 16th, Bedale 17th, Mitchell 21st, and White and Smith also ran.

v. Belgrave Harriers.—December 13th. All of the team ran brilliantly against this very strong club, and we managed to win by 49 points to 56. The first four for the School were Davison, Cobb, Mitchell and Patterson.

v. Hercules A.C.—3rd January, 1953. This event was held during the Christmas holidays; the team ran reasonably well to win by 31 points

v. Sloane G.S.—January 22nd. The School triumphed over Sloane by 45 points to 94. The team packed brilliantly to gain seven out of the first eight places. The first four home were Davison, Mitchell, Cobb and Bedale.

v. Cambridge Harriers, Inter-Schools.—February 7th. The School was unlucky not to finish first, but we were placed second and fourth. The best performances were put up by Cobb (6th) and White (11th), who were closely supported by Chappel, Patterson, Edwell and Bicknell, all four running extremely well over a course which proved very difficult.

The results of the South London Grammar Schools' Cross-Country and the rest of the Matches will be reported in the next issue of 'The Link.'

J.R.D.

DEBATING SOCIETY In spite of the various diversions, such as the School Play last term and the attraction of other School clubs which function on Friday afternoons, the School Debating Society has held several debates since the last issue of the magazine was prepared. If not too well supported they were, at least, very successful for those present.

The first topic for debate was, "That this Society deplores the growing influence of America in Britain," an old issue which provoked much interesting discussion. The motion was put by Stanley and Bloss and opposed by Barucki and Kuczewski. From the floor opinion was divided, often fiercely, always a healthy sign in debate. Eventually the motion was defeated by the narrowest of margins, one vote!

The second debate, proposed by Gosden and Bloss and opposed by Wright and Morrison was, "That in the view of this Society there is now no place for religion in the modern world.' This debate proved to be most entertaining, mainly as a result of remarkable self-analysis and self-revelation on the part of certain members. A majority finally decided, by a small margin, to support the motion.

The first meeting of this term consisted of impromptu debates. They ranged in subject from " Tin-openers, a boon or curse?" to " Sunday Entertainment." For the small number present, this meeting was most enjoyable.

The last meeting before going to press considered the motion "That it is more valuable to study the sciences than to pursue the arts." Some good contributions were made by Wharton, Thompson, Gosden and Wright, but in view of the limited but select company of members present, the meeting, with the help of the Chairman, was turned into a stimulating discussion out of which developed something like a synthesis of the opposing views.

The gift of oratory is afforded to few, but anyone in the upper forms of the School can, by attending these meetings, gain valuable experience in putting his ideas forward cogently and in such a way as to sustain interest, a valuable acquisition indeed for future life. We, therefore, hope more members of the upper School will attend our meetings and join in what must be one of the most exacting and yet one of the most satisfying of all school activities.

Finally, we would like to thank Mr. Payne, without whose enthusiasm our Society would find its continuing activity no easy task.

D.R.M.

THE GYM CLUB The Club, as usual, started well on this term's work, with an eye to the Eisteddfod display. As if in answer to my last plea, the membership has risen considerably, owing to an influx of first and second form boys, and I am afraid there is now no more room for further members. The standard this year is not yet up to that of last year, but it is to be expected as we no longer have Gilbert, Hiscock, Curme, and Pullen. However, we have the talent and there is plently of enthusiasm, so that I am sure that the display will be up to the usual standard, despite the fact that some of the Juniors are very immature and need much coaching. But I am certain they will improve rapidly under the expert eye of Mr. Coate-Bond.

A.K.S.

THE HISTORY SOCIETY Early this term it was decided to revive the History Society, which had not been active since the War. At the inaugural meeting on Friday, 22nd January, which was well attended, Mr. Payne outlined briefly the possible activities which might be arranged in an endeavour to promote a greater interest in and appreciation of the study of history, not only among boys studying for examinations, but among all Seniors. Such boys, for a great variety of reasons, might find some aspect of history of absorbing personal interest, or realise the cultural or civic value of the subject as part of a general education in an age when, for much of the time, we have to specialise, with an eye on our career.

Activities which were envisaged included the following :— The preparation by members of talks of general interest on aspects of history for which they had acquired some particular affection, or of which they had acquired some special knowledge. The organisation of talks and discussions, if necessary with the assistance of the staff, on aspects of history which are not covered in ordinary school work. These, where possible, could be illustrated by films, slides, pictures or film-strips. The celebration of anniversaries and of special occasions of historic interest. The organisation of visits to places of historic interest, including buildings, museums and art galleries. The arranging, possibly in association with other schools, of meetings which would be addressed by distinguished historians. The preparation of scrapbooks on historical persons, places, periods, problems or particular themes as individual hobbies. The organisation of exhibition material from time to time, including maps, charts, drawings and diagrams, photographs and models. The discussion of historical novels, historical feature films, etc.

After T. Wright had been elected Secretary, two historical films were shown with the ready co-operation of Mr. George. A lively discussion, opened by Mr. Payne, then followed on life in the first Elizabethan age.

Other meetings this term were concerned with a talk by Mr. Hodgkinson on the history of Dutch art, followed by a visit to the exhibition at the Royal Academy; talks by Gosden on "Russia—Past and Present," and Wright on "Wales—Past and Present"; and discussion on the preparation of historical scrapbooks.

T.R.W.

RAILWAY CLUB The Railway Club has been formed again this term and a group of some dozen enthusiasts has been meeting at fortnightly intervals under the guidance of Mr. Bacchus. Items on the programme have included a talk on "Railway Curiosities," a number of films loaned by British Railways, and papers contributed by members and based on their own travels and observation.

At the end of term there was the usual model railway exhibition at the Eisteddfod, and next term it is hoped to expand the activities of the Club if more support is forthcoming. Members of Form II and above are welcome to attend.

J.R.T.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

FIRST XV

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

The First XV showed better form in the latter half of the season and succeeded in winning four and drawing two out of the eight matches played. The reason for this improvement was the scrummaging of the forwards and the harder running and greater penetration of the backs. Phelps has provided an invaluable link between forwards and backs. His service has been constantly accurate and his courage in going down at the feet of the forwards has been admirable. Thompson, Holder, Glayzer, York and Harvey have played consistently well in the pack, although the loose scrummaging has on the whole been poor. Of the backs, Gale and Gingell have been outstanding, especially Gale whose hard running and tackling have been the feature of ths season.

On the whole, the season has been reasonably successful.

RECORD.

Played	*Won*	*Drawn*	*Lost*	*Points For*	*Points Against*
22	12	2	8	246	209

RESULTS.

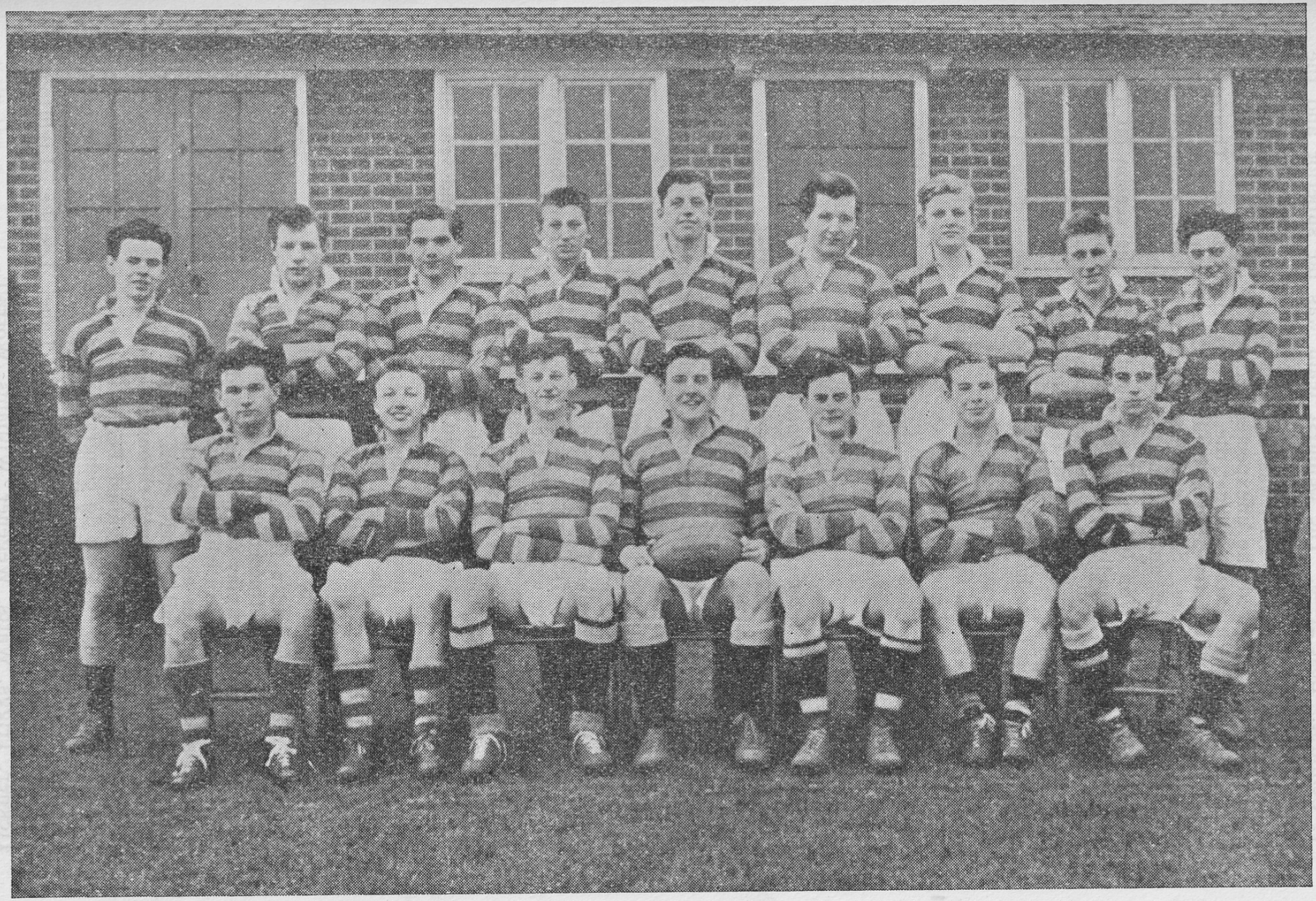
v. St. Olaves.—Won 14—0. The School played well and deserved to reverse their defeat of last term. The co-ordination between the forwards and the backs was excellent with the backs making good use of the ball. Gooders scored an opportunist try after a forward rush.

v. Bec.—Won 18—0. The School overwhelmed Bec with fast, open play. The backs looked dangerous whenever in possession of the ball and split the Bec defence wide open on numerous occasions. All the three-quarters and one forward scored tries.

v. Surbiton.—Draw 6—6. The School were saved from defeat by the excellent kicking of Stear, who placed two penalties from very difficult positions.

v. Wallington.—Draw 11—11. Although weakened by the absence of Holder, Phelps and Stear, we deserved to win this match. Gale, playing his first game at centre, was outstanding and deserved his two tries.

v Purley.—Lost 0—13. We were outplayed by a stronger team, but the match was not as one-sided as score suggests. Gale and Gingell in the centre defended well and Thompson played an excellent spoiling game.



Rugby First XV, 1952—53

v. Selhurst.—Lost 21—0. The Selhurst team was far superior and the School was outplayed in all departments.

v. Mitcham. Won 8—6. This was the best game of the season and the School well deserved the unexpected victory. York hooked well and more than held his own against the English trialist Laker. Thompson scored an excellent try after a brilliant interception and ran at least forty yeards to score. Stear converted and in so doing scored his 100 points for the season, another magnificent achievement.

v. St. Marylebone.—Won 10—0. The School ended the season on a triumphant note by soundly beating St. Marylebone. Gale again took over the stand-off position and played courageously if not expertly. Tries were scored by York and Szyjkowski, and Elliott did well to convert.

The following boys have been awarded colours :—

Re-Awards :— Harvey, Glayzer.
Awards :— Phelps, Gale, York, Holder, Gingell, Thompson.
Half-Colours :—Herbert, Elliott.

Other boys who have played for the First XV are :—
Gooders, Szyjkowski, Scott, Wharton, Smith.

SECOND XV.

Played	*Won*	*Lost*	*Points For*	*Points Against*
19	1	18	58	442

The Second XV has had an unsuccessful season. The main faults among the forwards has been too much fly-kicking, apparent inability to fall on the ball, slackness in marking in the line-out, and slowness in forming loose scrums.

Passing among the backs has seldom been seen and still less often has it been accurate. Their tackling, on the whole, has been weak.

In spite of all the hard things said about the boys, about twenty-five in number who have played for the team, they have done their best against bigger, faster and more experienced teams. The root of the matter is that we, with a Sixth Form numbering less than forty, are playing against schools with Sixth Forms of between one hundred and one hundred and fifty, so that our Second team, consisting mainly of Fifth Formers, is matched against teams which are mainly composed of second year Sixth Formers.

One can only hope that more boys will stay on next year so that the rugby teams may reap the benefit in the form of increased weight, speed and experience.

D.G.N.

COLT XV.

The Colts have had a fairly successful season ,winning eight of the fifteen games played. Unfortunately, two of our highest scorers were, for short spells, unable to play for the Colts and a difference could be seen in the scores in the games in which they were unable to play. Our set scrums were variable but never as good as they could have been if our forwards had got down more and bound better. In the loose scrums we were very weak, but the threes played well throughout the season.

Our hardest game was against Bec when we beat them 10—9. Our highest score was 48—3. We do congratulate Smith and Roper on being picked to play for Surrey. The following boys have played for the Colts :- Bates, Burr, Cross, Gardner, Gritt, Hutt, Lane, Leelike, Lightfoot, McKitterick, Morrell, Perry, Pierce, Roper, Rose, Smith, Squires, Stuart, Tickner, Triggs, Watts, Wegener, Williams, Worrall.

RECORD.

Played	*Won*	*Lost*	*Points For*	*Points Against*
15	8	7	164	131

C.E.

JUNIORS.

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

The Juniors have had quite a successful term's rugby, winning three out of the four matches played up to the time of writing.

Bec again beat us last term by 12—6. The loss of Barrable, who was in hospital, was keenly felt.

The forwards were not able to settle down this term because of constant changes, but they have fared very well. Nebbett, Hazard and Leelike were outstanding forwards, while Cross, Nebbitt and Davies shone in the threes. We found a very good full-back in Bishop, a fearless tackler.

In addition to those named above, the following have played for the Juniors :— Antell, Cooper, Cornish, Coyne, Edmonds, Eeles, Liggitt, Mann, Marshall, Mattafice, Morrison.

RESULTS.

v. Tiffin Won 14—6. v. Bec. Lost 12—6.
v Surbiton. Won 12—3. v. Purley. Won 49—0.

TABLE TENNIS Captain : D. Glayzer. Vice-Captain : L. Bicknell.

The School's Table Tennis Club started off the season with a match against the Staff. The School were very confident but the Staff soon showed that they were no novices. Mr. Evans won two games and Mr. Tint one. The Staff also won both doubles. For the School, Harvey and Bicknell won two games and Granfield one game. The final score was five games all.

At the time of writing the Inter-House Competition is well under way. Results so far :—

Cromwell beat Gibbon 11—5. Scorers for Cromwell : Granfield and Bicknell four games and Harvey three. For Gibbon : Patterson two games.

Morley beat Pitt 11—5. Scorers for Morley : Tringham four games, Gooders and Doeser three games each. For Pitt : Glayzer three games.

L.E.J.B.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,

B. P. Pauncefort, who until recently was Secretary of the Old Wandsworthians Association, is now in Malaya where he has taken up a post as Information Officer in the Government Services. He flew out in January by way of Rome, Beirut, Bombay and Singapore, and is now settled at Kota Tingii in the state of Johore. We have recently heard that he has been allotted a sector of the country for which he is solely responsible, and in which it is his duty to put over to the native population the Government's policy and to explain Government actions insofar as they effect their welfare and safety. His immediate superior is stationed at Singapore and it is to him that Pauncefort has to report on local conditions and events. Another aspect of our late secretary's job is to combat Communist propaganda and endeavour to win opposition elements over to our side, and to gain the goodwill of the native inhabitants.

In this work he has at his disposal public address equipment and crews, and travelling cinema units whose operations and dispersal are at his direction. Although he has been in Malaya only a month, he finds the work very much to his liking and extremely interesting. His chief worry, far from being bandits and terrorists, appears to be the high cost of living and the naturally heavy expense of installing himself in his bungalow.

We await further news of Pauncefort in due course and will pass on anything of interest to your journal.

D. C. FERNE.

THE WANDSWORTHIANS CHAPTER The Installation Meeting held at The Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction on Friday, 2nd January, 1953, marked the opening of the sixth year of the Chapter. The Principals for 1953 are : C. L. Caiger (O.W. 1920—22), R. E. Kilsby (O.W. 1921—28) and S. H. Fairey (O.W. 1915—18), and the twenty-seven members and visitors present enjoyed a most successful evening. The Chapter continues to make satisfactory progress and has maintained a steady flow of Old Wandsworthians as new members, both from The Wandsworthians Lodge and other Lodges.

Meetings are held at The Ardington Rooms on the first Friday in January, March and November, and particulars may be obtained from R. O. Beard (O.W. 1916-20), "Streoen," 7, Chessington Road East, Ewell, Surrey.

THE WANDSWORTHIANS LODGE On Friday, the 3rd October, 1952, the Rev. Canon J. A. H. Waddington, M.B.E., T.D., B.Com. (O.W. 1921—27), installed as the 20th Master of this Lodge his brother, Harold Edgar (O.W. 1928—31). As his Wardens, the Master appointed C. F. Ferne (O.W. 1897—98) and Norman H. Coombe (O.W. 1920—25).

A busy year lies ahead, during which we hope to increase our membership considerably. In July 1953, we shall attain our majority and we hope that many Old Wandsworthians, members of other Lodges, will join us on that occasion. The "Ladies Night," more popular than ever, was held at Ardington Rooms on Saturday, 18th April, 1953.

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

Since the above notes were set up in type and then unfortunately crowded out of the last copy of "The Link," we have increased our membership. One new member is an O.W. of 1918—23 and the other O.W. was at Wandsworth from 1922 to 1927. More applications are being considered.

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS ASSOCIATION

The Association has been very unfortunate in losing the excellent services of its late Hon. Secretary, Bernard Pauncefort, who has been seconded to the Government Information Service in Malaya. During his two years in office Bernard, with his unquenchable thirst for new ideas and an abounding enthusiasm, played no small part in helping to raise the Association's membership to its highest post-war figure. Through 'The Link' we echo the good wishes he received on leaving. Dennis Ferne is now combining the duties of Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and is being assisted by Cedric Smith who has been co-opted on to the general committee.

The Annual Dinner held at the Ardington Rooms on January 15th, was a great success in spite of a rather disappointing attendance. The opportunity was taken to present a wallet and silver pencil to Mr. H. Raymond King on the occasion of his twenty-first year as President of The Old Wandsworthians Association. A great tribute was paid to Mr. King by the Reverend Hubert Brazier who, in a most moving speech, proposed the President's health. Our guests included Lt.-Col. Mathews, Chairman of the School's Governors, Alderman H. Whitlock, Mr. J. Makin, Mr. H. J. Scott, Secretary of the Parents' Association, and the Head Boy of the School.

The Rugger Section has been able to field three XVs consistently and at one time there appeared to be a distinct possibility of a regular fourth side. Unfortunately, injuries and illness hit the club at a time when a half-dozen or so players were in such varying places as East Africa, Malaya, Havana and Scotland, and plans for this additional team had to be hastily put to one side. In spite of these setbacks, however, a grand club spirit has enabled a very worthy record to be maintained. Results to date (4.3.53) are as follows :—

	Played	*Won*	*Lost*	*Drawn*	*Pts. For*	*Pts. Against*
1st XV - - -	21	15	5	1	189	90
'A' XV - - -	22	10	11	1	233	199
Ex. 'A' XV - -	20	10	8	2	192	203
'B' XV - - -	5	5	—	—	73	18

Best wishes from the Rugger Club are sent to David Wood and Derek Finch who have taken up permanent positions in East Africa and Scotland respectively.

Our Table Tennis team continues to beat all comers and now lies joint first in the league. Theirs is a very impressive record—sixteen games having been won and only two lost. Ken Hope has not been beaten in any league singles match and has the finest individual record in the league. Congratulations, Ken!

Very enjoyable Bridge and Darts matches have been held against various opponents and, particularly with Bridge, fresh opposition would be welcomed. Any suggestions to the Secretary, please. Competitions for the Badminton, Table Tennis and Darts trophies are now in progress. The Samuel Samuel Lawn Tennis Cup was won by P. Brunning who beat D. Hughes in the final.

Coming events include the Summer Show and Fete at the School on July 4th. It is anticipated this will be the last occasion the School field will be used for such an event, so we look forward to a Bumper Day.

R.F.W.F.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION The notes for this issue deal rather more with our future activities than with the events of the past term, as this copy goes to press before I am able to comment of the Spring Term events.

The Whist Drive and Dance held in collaboration with the Old Boys on November 22nd last was, I regret to say, not the success that the previous year had given us to expect. While the Whist Drive came up to expectations, the support for the dance was sadly lacking.

The Summer Term programme commences on Friday, May 8th, when we hold our Annual General Meeting and election of a Parents' Council. Here may I remind all members that any parent is eligible for election to the Council, and Ballot Papers are enclosed with each Terminal Letter. I hope we shall again welcome a large and interested audience to this important meeting. Suggestions, comments or criticisms will all be welcomed and dealt with from the Platform. This is the opportunity for all parents keenly interested in their Association to discuss the year's activities and to give us their guidance for future arrangements.

The business meeting will be followed by a break for refreshments, which will provided at a nominal charge, and we hope to complete the evening with a film show of many of the School's past and present activities. I hope that all parents will make a note of this date and come along.

The Annual Summer Fete will once again be held in collaboration with the Old Boys and The Skeena Hill Allotments Society on Saturday, July 4th, and is being planned on an ambitious scale for this Coronation Year. We hope that all parents and friends of the School will combine to make, what we fear will be the last Fete to be held on the present grounds of the School, a resounding success. The day's events will be followed by a Whist Drive and Dance during the evening when we expect a 'full house.' Remember, this will be your last opportunity of taking part in the Annual Fete at the School as we know it, so make sure of this date.

Our next event will be the annual 'Parents v. Boys Cricket Match' on Saturday, July 18th. Now, fathers, the remarks about the Fete equally apply to this event. This, too, will probably be our final match on the present grounds, so let us make it a good one. We want to field a really good team to meet the boys, and we can do so if all the potential cricketers come forward and support their Association. I regret to have to remind you that for our last two matches we were unable to field a complete team. So please see to it that it does not occur on this occasion. Teas will be provided at a small charge for friends and supporters, so we should make this a really social occasion. Practice at the nets will again be arranged on Wednesday evenings prior to the match. Will all willing to play please send their names to Mr. C. F. Line, 26, Lifford Street, Putney, S.W.15, or to myself.

The foregoing is a brief outline of our plans for the Summer Term. I am confident that, with your support, we shall be able to record a major success for each and all of these events. Your new Parents' Council, as soon as elected, will be planning our future activities. May I again rely on your active and enthusiastic co-operation in making these activities a success.

All dates are regularly advertised in the Terminal Letters and notices of events are sent out to you through your boys in ample time for you to reserve the dates.

H. J. Scott.

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE Pull the strip of paper between the cuts into a loop and pass the loop through the hole. The buttons can then be pushed through the loop and the string is free . . .

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO 'THE LINK.'

"The Link" is published three times a year and can be obtained from The Treasurer of "The Link," Wandsworth School, Sutherland Grove, Southfields, S.W.18. The price is 1/6 per copy, or 4/- per annum (three issues) post free. Subscriptions to cover the cost of any number of copies can be forwarded.