# THE LINK




WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

DECEMBER 1954

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPRING ISSUE : THURSDAY 3rd 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 MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

**VOL. XXXIX DECEMBER, 1954 No. 3**

## HEADMASTER'S NOTES

In the last three issues of the Link, I have prefaced my Notes with some observations on the future of the School.

I have pointed out that the expansion of the School will be a gradual process and has already begun; that expansion will not be a new experience for a school which has quadrupled its numbers in the course of a few years after returning from "Evacuation"; that expansion will not mean any lowering of the standards achieved hitherto, but rather will afford the opportunity and a challenge to the achievement of parallel standards in a wider field of secondary education, including the technical and the modern.

For the benefit of new readers of the Link, and especially the parents of new boys, it may be well to repeat that a larger school does not mean larger classes: rather the reverse. Nor does it mean "Mass Education": it obviates this by enabling us to fit the curriculum, (and that means the subjects, the pace, and the methods) to the needs of the individual pupil at whatever stage he is. But for all there is an upward progression to the limit of their ability and the "late developer" need never give up with a sense of defeat or frustration.

Ideally in a school there should be no "misfits." But in a secondary school of one particular type you are bound to have misfits, all the more when a decision has to be made as to which type of school at the early age of 10—11.

The much abused term "Comprehensive" was originally an attempt to describe the kind of school that should eliminate misfits. It would be a good thing now to forget the name and study the reality. For the term is not properly applied to a "type" of school, as opposed to the Grammar, the Technical, or the Modern School. These latter are types. The Comprehensive School is not a type but a Grammar School, a Technical School and a Modern School, together with intermediate types, all in one.

As a grammar school it will ensure that all pupils and not just those selected hitherto that will get the chance of a "grammar school" or academic education. Whether they take the chance will depend on the degree and kind of ability they have, or that they can develop through perseverance, and also on their special bent and on their vocational aims.

There will be other avenues for ability as well as the academic, and they too may lead up to the university, if that is the goal.

Many boys now in the school will find that a full or partial technical course, with engineering or building as its basis will afford them greater opportunity for making the best of themselves and will assure them of a more satisfying and successful career than an academic course is likely to lead them to. And a boy who has completed a full secondary course successfully along modern school lines will be a better product than one who has encountered little but failure along the academic path. He may rightly expect to be offered the better job of the two.

Above all, the School of the future will ensure a continual process of self selection. Every course will remain open at every stage to boys who prove themselves fit to undertake it. Perseverance and hard work will bring many boys, whose original standard did not qualify them, up to the more difficult courses as they progress through the school. And —sobering thought—slackness and indifference will have the opposite effect and there will be no secure intervening floor to arrest a total descent.

Forms will not carry "passengers." Every one will be required to work his passage, or get into another boat, where the conditions will still apply. Ultimately for those unwilling to work in any of the boats there might have to be a "galley." But in the vast majority of cases I feel sure a boy will decide rather to be his own taskmaster.

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We were all profoundly grieved to hear of the death of Mr. Cowan. After a lifetime of service to Wandsworth School, he had so recently retired that most of the School knew him as the sympathetic and discerning teacher he was. Boys and masters alike counted him as a friend. Several members of the Staff, and an earlier colleague, Mr. Radford, were able to travel to St. John's, Woking, to pay our last respects to him and our deeply felt sympathy to Mrs. Cowan and his family.

We offer, too, our sympathy to the family of Alfred Wrigglesworth, an Old Boy who left school as recently as 1951 and who had the tragic misfortune to be killed in an accident on the airfield where he was serving.

We welcome four new members of the permanent Staff this term: Mr. J. Tremayne who gained First Class Honours in French at the University of Wales and joins our Modern Languages Department; Mr. R. W. Waters, B.A., Hons, of St. John's College, Cambridge, who spent last year teaching in France and now joins the English staff; Mr. D. Gouldstone from the Chelsea Polytechnic who replaces Mr. Martin as Biology teacher; and Mr. Russell Burgess, G.R.S.M., A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Gold Medallist of the Royal Academy of Music, who holds a new appointment here as Music Master. He was at school under Dr. L. Couch, a former member of our Staff, and donor of the Couch Work Trophy.

We are indebted to Mr. T. J. Fox, who filled the gap owing to Mr. Burgess's military commitments during the first half-term; and to Mr. Weston who took up a Chemistry vacancy at a moment's notice in a temporary capacity.

This term we are losing Mr. Benyon who after seventeen years here has decided to have a change of experience. He is joining the staff of a British School in Germany in January. Much as I regret losing so able and loyal a colleague, I appreciate the fact that experience of new fields should not left too late if it is to be used to advantage in one's career. I wish him Godspeed.

His place is being taken by Mr. Thom, who besides high qualifications and considerable experience as a school and university teacher has held an important public appointment as secretary of the National Committee for Visual Aids and serves on the Advisory Committee of the National Foundation for Educational Research. I am sure Mr. Thom has an important contribution to make to the present and future development of the school in his capacity of Chief English Master.

It was most encouraging to Mr. Green, our new honorary Secretary of the Parents' Association, to see such a large number of parents at the September meeting. The Ladies' Catering Committee coped most energetically and successfully with the problem of serving refreshments to a crowded Hall.

By the time these notes appear in print, a Social Evening for parents will have been held, at which, among the many interesting items, I note a presentation to the retiring Secretary, Mr. Scott, to mark his long and devoted service to the Association.

In addition to numerous individual visitors from abroad, we had this term two large groups who spent the day with us. A multi-national party of 22 people engaged in educational work was brought along by the British Council to hear about "New Techniques in Education" and to see some of them in practice. We also had the annual visit of advanced students of several nationalities from the London Institute of Education. It is a privilege we value highly to be called upon by such institutions to explain and demonstrate the principles and methods of educational practice that we have evolved at Wandsworth.

We gratefully acknowledge the gifts of two cups this term: one, presented by D. J. Granfield, who left last term, is appropriately to be held by the best athletic performer of the year: the other presented by Mr. and Mrs. H. Simpson, is for Fencing, which is one of the many interests Mr. Simpson has in our School activities, which interests enhance his and Mrs. Simpson's valuable services to the School whose premises are in his charge.

Belated acknowledgements are due for two trophies presented last term, too late for mention in these notes. Both are in the nature of a memorial to Mr. Culverwell, the one from his parents Mr. and Mrs. James Culverwell, and the other from his widow. Both are to be devoted to Chess. They will serve to keep us mindful of the master we all liked so well.

The following appointments have been made to the Prefectorial body this term:—

*Head Prefect*: D. T. King. *Second Prefect*: D. J. A. Livingstone.
*Senior Prefects*: R. G. Hall and D. G. Nye.
*Prefects*: W. T. Szyjkowski, A. C. Bergson, J. M. Gooders, P. L. Eastwood, R. W. White (left), A. C. Savage, J. S. Edwell, R. W Griffiths.
*Sub-Prefects*: J. W. F. Boreham, H. I. Butnick, F. J. Gorman, A. D. Cook, K. Gugan, J. E. Lothian, S. G. Whitesman, I. H. Simons, J. B. Smith, R. S. Hore.

**AVETE ATQUE VALETE**

New Boys since the last issue of The Link.

Alison, D., Arkill, J., Ashby, J., Austin, W. R., Baker, R. E., Bastick, A. M., Beer, D. M., Berry, J. R., Blackman, D. T., Blake, J. M., Blake, R. J., Bradley, W. F., Brewer, A. K., Bright-Taylor, O. W. H., Brind, B. C., Brown, J., Brown, R. F., Bruton, D. J., Bull, J. A., Bullingham, J., Burge, B. A., Burnett, C. M., Burris, M. A., Burt, R., Bush, S. J., Butler, R. W., Chandler, M. F., Chapman, A. E., Clark, C., Cobb, I. A., Collins, A. F., Collins, M. M., Collis, J., Cope, G. C., Coppock, P. F., Couling, I. M., Coutts, A. S., Cowdrey, J. P., Coysh, M. G., Craig, J. W., Crow, I. K., Clarke, H., Daines, R. I., Dawber, G., Dawkins, J. B., Dawson, R., Dufton, J. C., Eadie, B. A., Elliott, P. L., Evans, F. W. R., Everton, P. H., Fairbrass, M., Feast, M. P., Ferris, G., Filbey, G. J., Flint, D. P., Florence, P. D., Fogg, C. M., Francis, D. G., Francis, P. E., Friedlander, P. L., Fullbrook, J. M., Fuller, A. J. W., Gerry, K. A., Gibbs, S. E., Gingell, C. R., Ginn, M., Glenister, V. G., Goddon, W. F., Guy, D. J., Haith, B. A., Haley, M. L., Halsey, S. G., Hamblin, J. S., Harbar, R., Hardy, R. C., Harnley, T. M. C., Haydon, P. D., Healey, W. J., Hearn, A. E., Hillier, J. F. Howard, A. M., Hunt, J. E. B., Hunt, R. G., Hutson, C. J., Hyland, A. W., Jackson, K. D., Jackson, R., Jefferies, A. K., Jenkins, B., Jones, G. L., Jones, R. H., Jones, R., Keen, S. G., Kemp, G. R., Knight, R., Lally, J. A., Landsdell, R. E., Lees, D. A., Levens, R. J., Leverick, P. R., Levine, P. W. J., Lloyd, D., McDonell, M. W., McIntosh, B. S., McNeill, A. D., Martin, B. J., Martin, P., Miller, C. R., Miller, M. H., Mitchell, B., Mitchell, R. H., Moore, R. D., Morris, M. C., Morrison, D. J., Moss, P. C., Mundy, R. C., Nichol, A. R., Nicholls, M. F., Norman, M. J., Ollerenshaw, J. R., Owen, N. J., Padginton, P., Parker, D., Passmore, M. H., Pendelpho, A. C., Perry, T. R., Pinnock, J. E., Powell, P. W., Prestedge, M., Price, R. W., Prince, P. F., Pritchard, R. H., Ramsell, M. W., Randall, K. B., Reeder, R. F., Reid, R. K. G., Reynolds, J. H., Rout, C., Rowe, G. M. L., Rowe, S. F. L., Ryan, G. S.,

Scott, R. J., Scott, W. G., Sexton, A., Shivers, H. C., Simmons, A., Simmons, J. W., Skinner, C. J., Skinner, D., Smith, R., Smith, R. J., Speller, J. C., Spencer, C., Strugnell, L. A., Stuart, K. R., Styles, A. E. J., Sullivan, M. J., Tanner, A. E., Tarrant, J. D. R., Thomas, M. A., Thomas, R. R., Tilly, S. E., Tong, D. M., Van-Goethem, R. A., Veal, K. T., Vickers, J. F., Weltman, B., Whitear, R. J., Wilson, A. B., Wood, P. H., Wright, A. T., Young, R. A.

**Boys Left since last issue of The Link**

Ardley, L. R., Barucki, J., Bloss, J. W., Booth, K. H., Brinkley, A. D. S., Bullen, R., Butler, D. W., Carney, M. A., Carr, D. G., Cooper, E. J., Craddock, G. T., Deegan, R. F., Dodge, G. B., Earle, M. H. R., Eastman, C., Edwards, R. W., Evans, D. H., Evans, R., Farmer, C. W., Geneux, P. R., Glayzer, D. T., Gosden, C. B., Granfield, D. J. S., Grantham, S. J., Gritt, T., Hurley, D. T., Jarvie-Hunt, M. J., King, R. D., Kreuchen, K. D., Lamb, J. A., Langdon, M. J., Laurie, J. R., Lewis, B. W., Lightfoot, R. W., McKitterick, M. G., Mann, D. W., Mills, J. V., Morgon, K. J. B., Phelps, M. A., Pierce, C. P., Redmond, R. C., Rickman, R. A., Ristow, R., Rogers, J. A., Roper, F. J., Rye, F. A., Sawyer, A. J., Seager, M. B., Skeef, J. S., Stanley, W. M., Stuart, M. K., Thompson, P. G., Udall, T. R., Walker, K., Wallis, J. E., Walsh, A., Watts, G. A., Webber, M. J., Wharton, J. S., Wilson, R. J., Winter, C. J., Wrench, G. D., Wright, T. R.

## SAMUEL COWAN, B.A.

1891—1954

*At Wandsworth School* 1919—1954

It is with deep regret and a profound sense of loss that we record the death of Mr. Cowan, who died suddenly at his home in St. John's, Woking. Only a few months before, at the end of the Summer Term, Mr. Cowan had visited the School where a presentation was made to him on behalf of the pupils and staff to mark his official retirement from his profession. It is sad that so little time was left to him to enjoy his well-earned leisure. The Headmaster paid tribute to Mr. Cowan before the assembled School on the day the sad news was received and several members of the Staff represented the School at the funeral to pay their respects to a well-beloved colleague. Readers of this magazine noticed in the Summer issue a record of Mr. Cowan's career as a schoolmaster and appreciation of his personal qualities, together with a recent photograph. All that regretfully remains for us to do is to express our deep sympathy with Mrs. Cowan and her family and to assure them that we share their personal sorrow in the passing of one whom we admired and loved as a splendid teacher endowed with a high sense of duty, as a delightful colleague and companion, as a man of sensitive tastes and high standards, and above all as a kindly human being whose life-work, based on love's inspired authority, must have had incalculable influence on those who knew him as teacher and friend.

J.A.

## SPEECH DAY AT WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

On November 12th, Wandsworth School was honoured by the presence of Sir David Hughes Parry, M.A., LL.D., D.C.L., former Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, who came to distribute the prizes at Speech Day.

An attractive programme included two selections of Scottish songs tastefully sung by the School Choir under the direction of Mr. J. Keyte, and a group of poems very effectively recited by Form 3A Speech Choir led by Anthony Atkinson.

After the Chairman of the Governors, Col. Matthews had welcomed Sir David, the Head Prefect, Donald King, and the Second Prefect, Duncan Livingstone, presented with impressive eloquence their reports on the social and athletic activities of the school. They emphasised the many contacts of the school with the wider world outside the school gates, and lamented the loss of the school playing fields, expressing the fervent hope that a satisfactory and permanent arrangement for school games might not be too long delayed.

In his report the Headmaster referred to the difficulties the Grammar Schools were facing in recruiting to their Staffs Science graduates of the calibre demanded by the advanced work of the upper forms. Unless a sufficient number of Science graduates found their way into the schools, the supply of future scientists would inevitably shrink. So far the School has managed to solve this particularly anxious staffing problem.

The academic work of the School continued to develop satisfactorily. At the Ordinary Level of the G.C.E. the proportion of passes and the number of 'distinctions' (over 70%) both showed a marked increase on the previous two years, but the number of passes at the Advanced Level had not yet repeated the striking quadruple increase reported two years ago. The potential number of candidates for the Advanced Level was diminished by the undue proportion of boys, some of high promise, who still left at sixteen.

The purpose of increasing the three form Grammar School entry by two forms of non-grammar category entrants in the last two years was to pave the way for the forthcoming expansion of the School. It would, however, in practice add to the number of boys really suitable for academic education, in addition to feeding future technical and other courses.

The School had carried out over the last five years a highly significant plan of recruitment. In 1950 and 1951 two forms of 'G' category (grammar) pupils and one form of 'C' category (central) pupils had been admitted. By the time these boys reached the fourth year 50% of the 'C' category pupils were in the A and B streams of the Grammar School. The present A stream in the Fourth Form contained no fewer than ten 'C' category pupils—one third of the form.

Obvious conclusions were that selection at the age of eleven excluded much good Grammar School material and brought in a significant proportion of pupils less well fitted for such education. No arrangement for transfer between schools of different types would or could solve the problem. The real solution lay in a continuous process of self-selection, as pupils developed from eleven to thirteen and beyond, and showed by their response and progress what type of education they were fitted for. This could only happen under a comprehensive organisation of secondary education. The Comprehensive School was the best defined as a school designed to eliminate misfits. It was not a type of school. Type schools multiplied misfits, especially since the effective selection took place at the tender age of ten or eleven. The school towards which we were moving was a Grammar School, a Technical School, a Modern School and intermediate types, all in one. It was designed to give a full secondary education to all to the limit of their ability.

After presenting the prizes Sir David Hughes Parry addressed the School. He offered encouragement to four sections of the audience, whose activities had a direct bearing on the life of the School.

To the Governors, whose function he likened to those of a jury, Sir David stressed the importance of their work in humanising the administration of the educational system, which might all too easily become too rigidly concerned with technicalities.

To the Staff he said that the teaching profession is one which did not offer the stimulus and satisfaction of immediately calculable results. It was exacting in its demands on energy and enthusiasm, and entailed much disappointment. He told them of a memorial tablet he had seen in the hall of an African college. The inscription read "This hall was planned and built by Robert Jones." The Robert Jones in question had

been a schoolfellow of his, who had been sent down in disgrace. Apparently a failure at school, he had distinguished himself many years later. His teachers had contributed to his education and development, but they never saw the results of their labours.

To the parents Sir David stressed the importance of co-operation with the School. Education was a combined operation, and they must not expect the School to do it all. The home atmosphere and environment played a vital part in the development of the boy, and without parental encouragement and help much of the work of the School would be in vain.

To the boys he said that they enjoyed a very great privilege, firstly, to be at a Grammar School at all, a privilege not open to every one, and secondly, to be at a school with the good traditions and delightful amenities that Wandsworth School possessed. They had a great responsibility to their day and generation, the responsibility of taking the fullest advantage of their opportunities.

After votes of thanks had been proposed to Sir David by two of the Governors, Professor Dorothy Tarrant and Mr. Train, and to the Chairman by Councillor Deodora Croft, the pleasant evening ended with the singing of the School Hymn, "Foundation."

## PRIZE LIST

### FORM PRIZES
(for diligence)

*FIRST FORMS*

1A.—Crosbie-Hill, Duncan; Poole, David G. R. 1B.—Cousins, John H.; Stewardson, David A. 1C.—Golding, Michael P.

*SECOND FORMS*

2A.—*Baker, Ronald; Cox, Brian A.; Murray, Peter G.; Sanders, Malcolm P.; *Willis, George W. 2B.—Nobes, Louis R.; Parsons, John G. F.; Veale, Peter, O. A.; Williamson, Robert C. 2D—Butler, Raymond J.

*THIRD FORMS*

3A.—Carr, John D.; Cassidy, Patrick, N.; Eeles, Ronald W.; Francis, Percival J. T. 3A—Pavitt, Frederick G. J.; Smith, Malcolm R. M.; Squires, Clifford J. 3B—Agha, Amir Ali.

*FOURTH FORMS*

4A.—Antell, Raymond B.; Carr, Robert J.; Croombs, Gordon H.; Cross, David, B.; Harding, Brian R.; *Kaminski, John W. 4A.—Newson, Clive M.; Orrow, Royston J.; Wort, Gordon W. C. 4B.—Swaine, Brian G. 4C.—Nabi, Akbar J.; Ronald, Victor.

(* Special merit)

### SPECIAL PRIZES
(for merit in the G.C.E. examination)

*ORDINARY LEVEL*

*Form* 6.—Gooders, John M., Economics.

*Form* 5A.—Cooper, Eric J., French and Mathematics; Fox, Julian P., English Literature and French; Gritt, Terence, Art; Hore, Richard S., Physics and Mathematics; Lightfoot, Roy W., History and French; Norton, Brian V., Mathematics; Preston, Albert E., French; Simons, Ian H., French and History; Walsh, Alan, History and English Literature; Watts, George A., Mathematics; Worrall, Roy, Geography and Mathematics. Scripture (special prize).

*Form* 5B.—Colegate, Reginald B., French and German.

*Form* 5C.—Evans, Raymond, Art and Handicraft; Walker, Kenneth, Technical Drawing (Oxford).

*ADVANCED LEVEL*

*Form* 6.—Glayzer, David T., Geography; Griffiths, Roger W., Latin and French; King, Donald T., Geography and Economics; Kreuchen, K. Dieter, German; Nye, Daniel G., Oral French and L.C.C. Travelling Scholarship; Savage, Anthony C., Mathematics, Pure and Applied.

*Chairman's Prize for Head Boy* 1953/4: Phelps, Maurice A.
*Wandsworthians Lodge Prize for Service*: Phelps, Maurice A.; Wright, Thomas R.; Webber, Michael.
*Old Wandsworthians Academic Prize*: Stanley, William M.
*Semmens Prize for Drama*: Salmon, Anthony K.
*Ponsonby Handwriting Trophy*: Gillard, John W.

*TROPHIES*

*"Parents Council" Shield (Cricket)*: Gibbon House.
*"Millar" Shield (Rugby)*: Cromwell House.
*"Waite" Shield (Swimming)*: Morley House.
*"Coronation" Shield (Cross-Country)*: Morley House.
*"Marcus Samuel" Shield (Athletics)*: Cromwell House.
*"Culverwell" Shield (Chess)*: Morley House.
*"Parents Jubilee" Shield (Fives)*: (Not awarded).
*"Couch" Shield (Work)*: Cromwell House.
*"Headmaster's Trophy" (Eisteddfod)*: Gibbon House.
*"Culverwell" Challenge Cup (Chess)*: (Not awarded).
*"Mayfield" Cup (Drama)*: Gibbon House.
*Fives Championship Cup*: Wharton, James (Morley House).
*Sports Championship Trophy*: Cromwell House.

**A VISIT TO THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE**

As in previous years, towards the end of the summer term a group of about thiry boys from the upper part of the school left for a "Week in Industry." Five days were, in fact, spent among the woollen mills, engineering works and coal mines of the West Riding, and a further five days in the Craven district of the Pennine upland.

Under the guidance of Mr. Keyte and Mr. Martin, those of us not marooned in a tunnel near St. Pancras left the sunny South and a few hours later saw the darkening skies over the West Riding. Our arrival in Leeds coincided with a cloud-burst, but under the stern gaze of the Black Prince the party split up and in "booses" and trams headed towards the University Hall at Adel on the outskirts of the city.

That day started our busy, sometimes tiring, but always interesting stay in Leeds and neighbouring towns.

On the first morning, a new diesel rail-car whisked us to Bradford, hub of the Wool Industry. We quickly learned how rash it is to praise Leeds, or—even worse!—to speak of Bradford as a "neighbouring town of Leeds," to a Bradford man. At a Wool Sorting and Scouring Mill we were struck (literally in the case of lanoline and its odours) by the great amount of by-products of the processes.

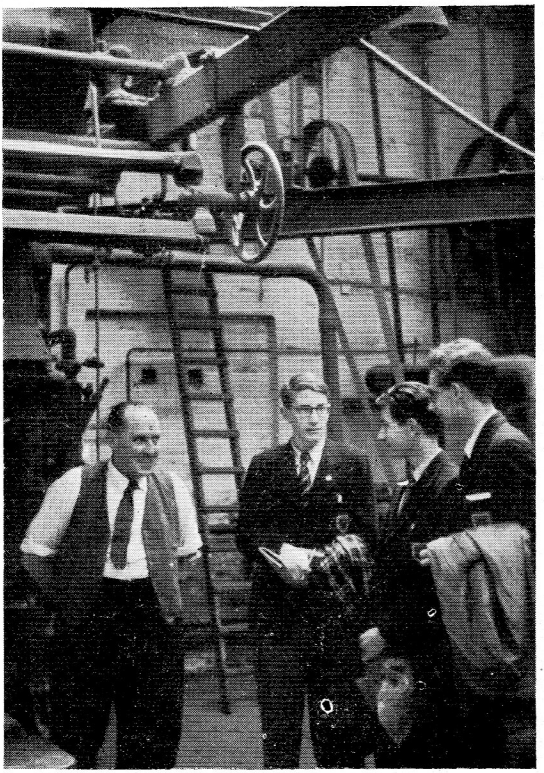
After some refreshment, we made our way to the laboratories of the Conditioning House, where Bradford Corporation test wool samples for their water content, for wool—like milk or beer—can be watered to cheat the consumer. Certificates of condition are issued over an awesome seal which commands respect in Wool circles the world over. (Leeds has nowt like it!). The "Con." House also tests moth-proofed woollens, and breeds grubs of the clothes moth in darkened rooms behind carefully locked double doors.

The old Bradford Grammar School entertained us to dinner, and after a brief talk on the history of the city by one of the staff, we found our way to a worsted mill. Employees introduced us to the mysteries of Tops and Noils, Noble Combs, Gill Boxes and Cards, and to such processes as teasing, doffing, fettling and yarn spinning which remain the same in principle after hundreds of years, and enrich the English language with their names. Directors of the firm came to have tea with us after the visit.

The following day increased our vocabulary by two words—shoddy and mungo—which in everyday language mean the fibres of hundreds of tons of rags imported from all over the world and torn to shreds in mills at Dewsbury. These fibres are mixed with new wool for spin-

ning into yarn again. Our school blazers are made from such yarn. Just as the world would go short of steel if there were no scrap, so would it go short of woollens if there were no shoddy. A bale of rags reflects a nation's habits and standards of hygiene, and we were told that Scottish rags are cleaner than English rags, and rags from Holland the cleanest of all.

At Gomersal, after a most hospitable welcome, we toured an enormous worsted mill of the latest design and equipment. An engineer demonstrated the push-button controls of his *oil*-fired boilers, and pointed with pride to the firm's clean chimney-stack.



*Yarn spinning in a Yorkshire Mill*

In Leeds itself we saw the vast mills of Montague Burton Ltd., where assembly belt methods have been applied to the manufacture of clothing. The size of these mills may be judged from the Canteen, a room which accommodates eight thousand workers at *one* sitting. We watched electric saws cutting with fantastic speed parts of many garments at the same time.

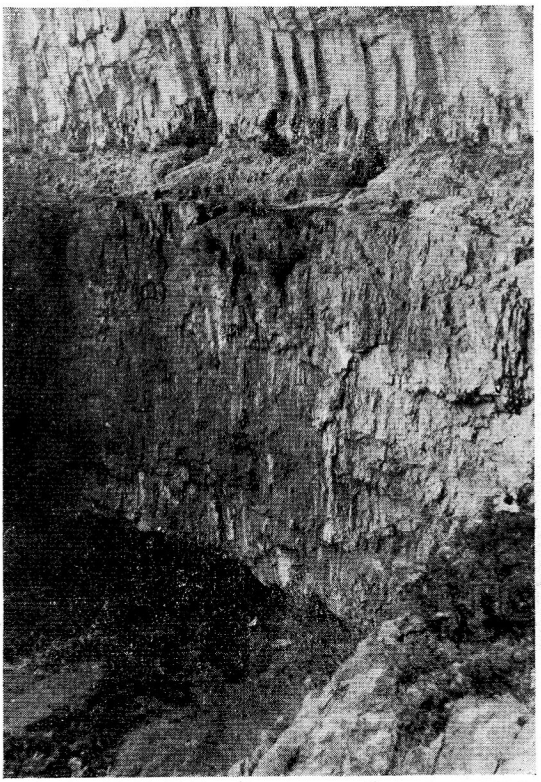
At the Hunslet Engine Works, those who could hear anything for the noise learned many things about building locomotives for world markets. Perhaps the most exciting visit, however, was to the Water Haigh Colliery. The Surveyor showed us plans of the workings, and explained how modern methods of underground roof control made it possible to remove a pillar of coal from under a local farmhouse without causing damage from subsidence. Then we were dropped like a stone into the depths of the earth, and a walk in-by along electrically-lit, stone-dusted "gates" brought us first to the pony stables and then to the coal face.

A long crawl under a low roof left us unanimously deciding to support any claims by the miners for a rise in wages.

With this, our stay in Leeds came to an end. It had been pleasant and instructive mainly because of the hospitality and willingness to show and teach us something on the part of people who met us in the various factories and mills. The University, too, had looked after us magnificently. Even the weather, for such a wretched summer, was good.

Aye, it were reight grand! . . . .

Before leaving Leeds we packed our rucksacks, discarded all unnecessary weight and divided into two parties. The first party departed under the leadership of Mr. Keyte and was christened the "hard" party for reasons which will appear. The botanists and butterfly collectors set out later with Mr. Martin.



*The source of the River Aire below Malham Cove.*
*Two members of the party are in this picture.*

From then onwards we can tell of the life of the "'hard" party. We left the train at Clapham Station, and took a cheerful walk of three miles in the rain to Clapham Cave at the foot of Ingleborough, passing over the Craven Fault on the way. This great fault runs from west to east, and the rocks on the south side of it have subsided many thousands of feet, leaving strange contrasts of scenery in the area. After penetrating the cave for almost 600 yards, we returned to Clapham village, descended the prominent fault scarp of Giggleswick Scar, and reached Stainforth Youth Hostel by way of Settle. Each of us was provided with a one-inch map.

On Sunday our goal was Malham Tarn where we were to make contact with the other party. We climbed out of Stainforth, examined Catrigg Force, and traversed a limestone plateau liberally sprinkled with boulders of a dark gritstone described by the map as "rocking stones." These were glacial erratics. A brief search brought us to the Victoria Cave where excavations in the cave floor have uncovered a fascinating story of occupation by men and animals in prehistoric times. Crossing over the main water divide between the Ribble and the Aire, we arrived at the point where Malham Beck mysteriously disappears into its bed, almost at the same time as the other party. They were full of their experiences in climbing the waterfall in Gordale Scar.

The joint expedition then set off down the valley below the water-sink. The valley rapidly developed into a gorge—absolutely dry—which eventually led us to the brink of a 300-foot limestone precipice called Malham Cove, cut by some ancient Niagara. The river Aire emerges from the limestone at the foot of this cliff.

On our long way back to Stainforth we turned and saw the most amazing pattern of the Pennine walls near Malham.



*Two members of the "hard" party approaching the rendez-vous with the second party near Malham Farm*

The rest of our time was spent in similar expeditions across this wild and beautiful country. We climbed Penyghent and successfully located Hull Pot and Hunt Pot. We traversed an old coal road across the moors to Garsdale Head, examining peat bog and old coal shafts on the way. We spent a night at Garsdale Head Youth Hostel more than a thousand feet above sea level, having located the source of the Ure between dinner and dusk. We climbed the formidable slopes of Ingleborough. Nearing the top we were suddenly plunged in cloud, and two of us had sunk up to our knees in mud before reaching the summit. There we met three boys from Giggleswick Grammar School in Rugby shirts and shorts who were following the school custom of climbing the Three Peaks in one day before leaving school.

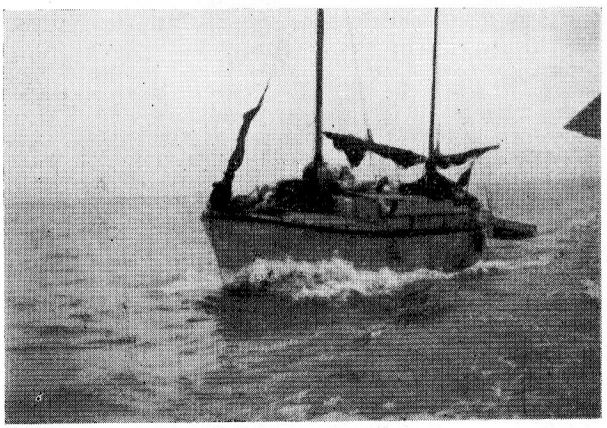
Our final effort before rejoining the other party was to climb Whernside—the third peak. The decision was made over coffee in the Chapel-le-Dale Inn at 5.00 p.m., and we were due for dinner with the other party at Dentdale Youth Hostel some seven miles away at 7.30

p.m. A message was sent by road to hold back dinner by fifteen minutes, and five of us climbed the whale-back of Whernside into the clouds. The descent to the hostel involved three miles of boggy ground and we lost all interest in keeping dry. We were five minutes late for dinner! The whole party was re-united after the "hard" party had covered about eighty miles in their five days.

We understand that the total mileage o fthe other party is being inscribed in the School Records—in secret.

W. T. SZYJKOWSKI, J. M. GOODERS.

**JOURNEY TO DUNKIRK** My father, his friend Johnny, Johnny's father Bill and myself set out from Putney Bridge at 4.30 a.m. on Saturday, 31st July, on my father's twenty-eight foot life-boat for Dunkirk (France). Three other boats were also going but they left about ten minutes before us. When we reached Battersea Pleasure Gardens Pier, we saw that one of the boats, the "Tope" had tied to the pier but we did not stop to give him a hand because he waved us on. A little while later we came into sight of one of the other boats called "Danalf." Bill, the owner of "Danalf" told us that the "Daphne" had gone on to Hole Haven at almost top speed.



*Making record time*

When we were nearing Hole Haven about our lunch time, a slight mist dropped but soon lifted. We did not recognize Hole Haven at first and had to turn back. About an hour later the "Tope" turned up and said that they had blown a gasket. Later we all put our masts and sails up. At about 2.45 p.m. we all left Hole Haven but the "Tope" had to turn back with engine trouble. We soon reached the Spile Buoy and from there we had to go to the Mid Last Buoy, but we got lost and found, after two hours, that we were hitting the bottom at the Margate sands. Johnny turned the boat about and went back about a quarter of a mile at full throttle but it was getting dark so we turned again and went on nearer land to Margate Pier where we anchored for the night.

We weighed anchor at 1.30 p.m. from Margate Pier next day and went on to Ramsgate Harbour where the men made up their minds to stay for the rest of the day.

The next day, Monday, the weather was rough, so we stayed in the harbour.

The day after, we untied and left Ramsgate Harbour at 10.30 on a beautiful day but only with the "Daphne" because the "Tope" had engine trouble and the "Danalf" wanted to stay at Ramsgate. After

about six hours we saw France, the sea started to get a bit rough, and when we were about twenty minutes from Dunkirk (spelt in French, Dunkerque) the engine stopped but we soon got going again. As soon as we had tied up I had to get some bread. The loaves were twenty-six francs each, roughly sixpence.

During the next morning my friend Christopher and I went to look for a bank but could not find one until we were directed to the only one in Dunkirk by the owner of an English car.

On Thursday, August 5th, we got up rather late and later went for a swim. I had to be quick about it because we were to go into Belgium by bus. Unforunately our clothes had vanished and the police-station on the beach knew nothing about them. After two and a half hours we went out and found our clothes in another tent. We did not get back to the boat until four o'clock and, of course, the men had gone. I got myself something to eat and waited for the men to come back. My father had forgotten to leave me any money so I could not get anything and we were leaving next morning. When they got back I explained everything and they showed me some presents they had bought.

On Friday we got up early and we got some presents and at 10.30 a.m. left the harbour. It was a rough day and the waves were six to ten feet high all the time. With the wind in our sails we were back in record time and found ourselves on top of Margate Harbour where we tied up.

On Saturday, we went aground right in the mouth of the harbour at Hole Haven. Luckily the tide was rising so in three-quarters of an hour we were alright. In the evening I had to get the 7.45 p.m. train to London to tell my mother not to worry if my father was not home on the Sunday as planned. Half way to London somebody pulled the communication cord but I reached home at about 11.45 p.m.

B. SHAILER, Mb, 2a.

**BONFIRE NIGHT** It was Fireworks' Night. There had been tension in the air all day, and now it was gradually being released. A few bangers and rockets were being let off, and the finishing touches were being put to the tremendous bonfires. They must have been at least twelve to fifteen feet high, piled with "Dunlop" car tyres, old motheaten blankets, armchairs, mattresses, planks, chair-legs and other miscellaneous thrown-away articles.

During the next hour, crowds gathered like flies on a decaying rabbit. The fires were in full swing now. Sparks flew everywhere and the heat was terrific. "Bangers" exploded, rockets flew, cannons blew off. Children were shouting, "Coo, that was a smasher, wasn't it?"

"Whew, look at that rocket go."

Excitement reigned. Everyone was putting full zest into letting off fireworks. There seemed to be an inexhaustable supply of them for the next two hours. After that, the crowds dwindled and then a few varied bangs and flashes of light.

The bonfires were still smouldering three days later.

D. GRAHAM, Ga, 3b.

**SUMMER CAMP** When we arrived at our Camp site (in Knole Park, Sevenoaks) we found that some of our Seniors and Rovers were already there. As soon as the lorry stopped their willing hands helped us to unload and pitch our tents. Just as everything was unloaded the lorry got stuck in the mud . . . in the end it had to be dug out.

On Sunday we got breakfast in pouring rain. We got ready for Inspection and Flag Break. After that we got ready for our 2-mile walk to church. We spent the afternoon and evening in a bell tent as it still continued to rain.

On Monday we collected wood. After dinner we had our rest hour, so we just lazed in our tents reading and writing letters. After tea we were free until supper time which we used in playing games.

Tuesday was going to be the most exciting of the camp. In the morning we played rounders against the Seniors and Rovers who had an easy win. In the afternoon there was a deer hunt (some had escaped from the Park and were damaging crops). First the Scouts went beating through a wood of chestnut trees but no deer were sighted. Then they went through an apple orchard and there was great excitement when three deer broke cover and ended with shots. As we ran out of the wood we found a deer lying dead (another was killed later) and everybody went to the slaughterhouse to get a piece of skin. Most of our boys got some skin (which they later cleaned and dressed for woggles and knife sheaths) and the Rovers and Seniors got the head of a deer.

On Wednesday another exciting but not so bloodthirsty thing happened. We had a Wide Game. There were two sides each with two flags, and you had a piece of grey or blue wool round your arm and if you had that ripped off you were dead and if you were killed three times you were out of the game. It was very exciting and each side got a flag.

On Thursday it rained all morning. In the afternoon we first of all went to the pictures and then went to the swimming baths. We also had a night game.

On Friday as it was the last full day of the Camp we had a little service thanking God, which was taken by Father West. We also had a piece of venison from one of the deer.

Saturday. To-day everything for breaking up of the Camp is well under way. We were all quite sorry to leave as in the last four days there were many hours of sunshine."

A. J. Berry, Pa, 2b.

**RIDDLE-M-REE by R.A.P.**

My first is in Car, but not in Van;
My second's in Ham, but not in Spam;
My third's in Rip, and also in Tear;
My fourth's in Pip, but not in Pear;
My fifth's in Sit, and also in Stand;
My sixth's in Fist, but not in Hand;
My seventh's in Woman, and also in Man;
My eighth's in Family, and also in Clan;
My ninth's not in Fork, but is in Spoon;
And my whole is coming very soon.

R. A. Peacock, CD, 2A.

(*For solution see last page*)

**I'D LIKE TO BE**

I'd like to be a sailor
And sail upon the sea,
And kill all sorts of enemies
For my King and country.

I'd like to be a driver
And drive a very fast train,
And drive it down to Devon
And straight back home again.

I'd like to be a doctor
And kill off all the germs.
It's better than a gardener
Who kills off all the worms.

W. Hickton, Md, 2c.

### THE BANDIT

The night was dark, the wind was rough,
A stagecoach passed the highland bluff.
A bandit's guns were at the ready;
The night was growing dark and heavy.
The coach was passing hangman's tree,
(The bandit's mare did prance with glee).
Then out he jumped, with guns aroar;
The driver tumbled to the floor.
The passengers, their goods did give,
As 'neath the coach they quickly hid.
His deed fulfilled, he sped away,
To count his gold and jewels next day.

G. WILSON, Pb, 3a.

### THE GIRAFFE

Giraffe, you are a haughty thing,
You walk upon tip-toe,
Your neck is like a piece of string,
And leaves your shoulders down below.

### THE WHALE

Oh Whale, you are so big and fat
You'd fill the Albert Hall.
Your spout is like a Chinese hat,
And showers the mackeral.

FORM 1b.

### THE RIVER IN WINTER

Past empty fields and leafless trees,
With swaying fern clumps at its side,
And grass that's rustling in the breeze
There flows the river, broad and wide.
In Winter, water, icy, black,
Down to the sea it coldly glides,
And on its banks, the earth frost cracks,
Bare trees outline the leaden skies.

G. W. WILLIS, Gc, 3a.

**CONFERENCE ON GOVERNMENT** On July 15th, a party of Fifth and Sixth Formers went to the Friend's House, the Headquarters of the Quaker Movement. The audience was very large, some 1,200 in number, four times the number the organisers expected. The purpose of the conference was to give us a good summary of the way in which Britain is governed.

Four talks were given, dealing in turn with: the Work of Backbenchers in Parliament; The House of Lords; The London County Council, and the Town Hall in Action.

The speaker on "Backbenchers" was the M.P. for Bristol, Mr. Wedgewood-Benn. He gave us a good picture of the work of the backbencher and how he has to obey his four masters; his Agents, his constituents; his party whips, and his conscience. Mr. Wedgewood-Benn gave us much interesting information on the inside of Parliament which is not commonly found in books on the subject.

The next speaker was a member of the House of Lords who announced that he was going to give us some inside information on the working of the House of Lords. He then proceeded to give us a standard text-book account, laced with such figures as how many Lords had been hanged with a silk rope. After this we retired for lunch.

We returned to the Hall for the second half of the programme which was concerned with the work of local authorities. An ex-Vice-Chairman of the London County Council spoke about the growth of the L.C.C. and the extent of its powers at the present time. Then the Town

Clerk of St. Pancras described the work and functions of the Town Hall in a talk entitled "The Town Hall in Action." Quite a few present were surprised at the extent to which their local authorities affected their lives. After each of the speakers had finished, they invited questions from the floor and this gave rise to some lively discussion on the various aspects of the English method of Government.

On the whole, the Conference was very useful in giving Sixth Formers a comprehensive review of the Government of our country. However, those of us who have studied the British Constitution would have found it more useful if a representative of the government departments had been present to describe their work and if the sections of government dealt with, had been co-ordinated and shown in relation to one another in some way. As it was, one had the impression of a number of separate parts working independently.

D. T. KING.

**MY JOURNEY** My journey from the capital of Pakistan, Karachi, to London the capital of England was very interesting and exciting for me. I had to begin my journey from my home at 9 p.m. on a cold and windy winter night.

The plane had to take off at 10 p.m., and one is supposed to reach the airport about half an hour before the take-off. Anyone who has been lucky enough to go abroad by a plane, knows that one has to show one's luggage and other things.

The people who had been in a plane told me terrible things about it, such as, that it makes terrible noise which sometimes affects your ears, does not let you hear anything, and if you look down from the plane you feel frightened, and something would happen to your heart and several other things.

So naturally anybody who would hear that would be frightened, and so I entered the plane nervously, after saying goodbye to my dad.

Then I waited for the take-off feeling very worried, but at last the plane took off, making a great noise. To prevent the ears from hurting badly the air hostess gave me some sweets; the moment I swallowed the sweet I felt much better. After I had taken a last glance of my country for two or three years I went to sleep quite comfortably.

The next morning we landed at Beirut the time being about 3 a.m. but 7 a.m. by W. Pakistan standard time, which was quite amazing for me. We had some tea there, and after about two hours we took off.

I had some more sleep up to 9 a.m. when the sun began to shine brightly. I looked down to see what we were passing over; it was an ocean, which was not a good sight to see. When the air hostess brought me my breakfast I asked her where were we going to land next. She said that the next stop was at Zurich, but I did not know what country Zurich was in. Funnily enough, I had heard about Switzerland before but did not know anything about Zurich.

So I asked her what country Zurich in, she said that it was in Switzerland, the moment I heard the name "Switzerland," I went mad with happiness, because I had heard several lovely things about it.

Then I waited very happily. After a few moments I started to see mountains all covered with snow. What a lovely sight it was, which everyone would like to see. Soon after that the city of Zurich came in sight with mountains around it, and lakes. It was a very lovely setting of nature.

We landed there at 11 a.m. Some distance from the air port was a beautiful mountain, and then suddenly I saw a train coming out of tunnel. It was such a lovely sight, that I was very disappointed when I found out that there was not film in my camera.

At 12 noon we took off for London. The weather was not so good for the plane, so it started bumping when it entered air pockets, but it was quite alright after some time. At 4 p.m. the city of London

came in sight, and a big moment for me, because about three or four months before my leave for London, I had been trying hard to come here, and at last I had succeeded.

Anyway I landed at the London Airport 4.15 p.m. My cousin was waiting for me from the airport and we went by the B.O.A.C. coach to the B.O.A.C. terminal at Victoria. From there to Southfields I came by 39 bus to my cousin's house, and here I am now in Wandsworth School studying in the third form.

A. BARI, C.A, 3A.

**C.E.W.C.** A meeting of the South-West London group of the Council for Education in World Citizenship was held here at the School on Tuesday, November 9th at 6.30 p.m.

Two films, "' Lights That Never Fail," and " Men of Goodwill," were kindly shown by Mr. Keyte. We are grateful to Mr. King for welcoming our visitors, who numbered about forty.

After the film show in Room O, we adjourned to the Library where Mr. Payne was good enough to lead a discussion which ranged from the United Nations to German rearmament.

We were very disappointed that only six people from this school attended the meeting and we are optimistic in the view that more people will attend future meetings.

I. H. SIMONS.

## HOUSE NOTES

### COCK HOUSE SCORES 1953—54

*Scaled Points*

| | *Cromwell* | *Gibbon* | *Morley* | *Pitt* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rugby ... ... | 100* | 72½ | 50 | 72½ |
| Cross-Country ... | 40 | 25 | 50* | 32 |
| Chess ... ... | 20 | 16 | 25* | 12 |
| Athletics ... | 100* | 50 | 80 | 65 |
| Table-Tennis ... | 22½ | 22½ | 16 | 12 |
| Cricket ... ... | 72½ | 100* | 72½ | 50 |
| Swimming ... | 50 | 65 | 100* | 80 |

* Trophy Holder

(Fives.—Unfinished, no points awarded)

Cock House—Cromwell (405): 2nd Morley (393½); 3rd Gibbon (341); 4th Pitt (323½).

### DILIGENCE AWARDS 1953—54

| | *Autumn* 1953 | *Spring* 1954 | *Summer* 1954 | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cromwell | 41.80 | 48.48 | 48.92 | 139.20 |
| Gibbon | 41.56 | 45.38 | 45.63 | 132.57 |
| Morley | 39.87 | 44.11 | 45.04 | 129.02 |
| Pitt | 40.72 | 44.73 | 44.74 | 130.19 |

**CROMWELL** After glancing through the House Notes in last July's issue of the "Link," and comparing with them the events of this term to date, there is no doubt in my mind that Cromwell has regained that formidable prestige which it possessed in former times.

At the time of writing, Cromwell is still ahead of all the other houses in Diligence, thus maintaining last term's brilliant record. Our position at the top has, however, been rendered a little precarious due to the lack of effort on the part of certain of our number, so if we want Cromwell to be the undisputed head in this sphere we must put on a spurt for the next two awards.

Also at the time of writing Cromwell is at the top of the Rugger table, a now familiar result. Congratulations to J. B. Smith and D. J. Livingstone on being elected Captain and Honorary Secretary of School Rugger respectively. Double congratulations are due to Duncan, since he has also been made second prefect of the School.

We would like to express our thanks to D. Granfield, an ex-Cromwellite for the presentation of a handsome silver cup to be awarded to the best athlete of the year.

Before the next "Link" is out, Eisteddfod will be over, and we would like to see Cromwell extricated from its miserable position of 3rd, but we can look forward to that time with the utmost confidence for our success.

R.W.G., H.I.B.

**GIBBON** Since the last report Gibbon has distinguished itself by winning the cricket trophy after a tough competition. We offer our heartiest congratulations to Pierce, an able captain, and all who played.

Recently the House elections were held and the following officers were elected :— Rugby's captain is Cross; Fives' captain, Eastwood and Cuffley is captain of Cross-Country.

The rugby is now almost finished and with only two matches to play at the time of writing, one junior, one senior, we are not being too successful, having lost both our senior matches, to Cromwell 31 points to 3, and to Pitt 18 points to 3. In the senior team Williams and Eastwood have been the outstanding players, Eastwood's kicking often proving invaluable. The junior team has fared better than their senior team having drawn both their games, Coppock is the junior captain.

There being very few fives players in Gibbon House, Eastwood the captain is having to form a team from scratch to which all are welcome.

The cross-country run is, at the time of writing, only a few weeks away. Teams have been made out and those concerned are training hard. It is good to notice the keen interest and support given to the newly formed cross-country club by Gibbon, especially by the juniors. For this reason we should do well in this competition provided that we can pack well.

It is good to hear from old Gibbonites and we were glad to hear that White is progressing well at London University and that Williams and Stanley, two grand servants of the House, are now serving in Her Majesty's Forces.

W. F. Cuffley.

**MORLEY** It is with deep sorrow that we heard of the death of Mr. Cowan, who was for many years our Housemaster until his retirement last year. We are sure that all members of Morley House will join with us in offering our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Cowan.

Unfortunately we were only third in the cricket competition due mainly to the lack of support from junior members of the House.

But to strike to a happier note we would like to congratulate all boys who took part in the Inter-House Swimming competition on their fine victory.

So far in the Rugby competition we are lying third but with a little more effort we have every chance of improving our position.

In the Chess competition we have as members of our team four boys who regularly represent the school and in the Fives team we have Edwell and Savage who also play for the school so that we have a very good chance of winning both of these competitions.

Towards the end of this term the annual Inter-House Cross-Country will be held. We sincerely hope that members of the house will give Lothian their full support if asked to turn out to practice runs. We have won Shield for the last two years and we see no reason why we should fail to make it a hat trick.

We regret to say that so far in the Diligence we have not attained the high standard that has come to be expected from Morley House.

If all boys work a little harder and stop slacking we are sure this can be remedied.

In all we can expect a very successful term as long as all boys make that extra effort which makes all the difference between success and failure.

J.S.E., A.C.S.

**PITT** At a House meeting at the beginning of this term the following boys were elected: Nye, Captain of Rugby; King, Captain of Fives; Blackie, Captain of Chess; and Denyer, Junior Captain of Rugby.

We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Waters this term to Pitt A.

We congratulate D. T. King of Pitt D on becoming Head Boy of the School.

D. G. C. Nye (Pitt A) returned to school at the beginning of October after a most profitable three months in France as a reward for gaining in L.C.C. Travel Scholarship.

We are deeply grieved to learn of the tragic death of Alfred Wrigglesworth, who was a member of Pitt C from 1947-50. We offer our deep sympathy to his relatives and friends.

Pitt, for the second year in succession ran a close second to Morley in the Inter-House swimming gala at the end of last term.

So far this term two House Rugby matches have been played.

Pitt beat Gibbon 19—3, and lost to Morley 6—11.

Diligence awards this term have not reached the high standard asssociated with the House in the past; and we hope that everyone will make a determined effort to recapture our lost prestige.

Finally, we welcome all new members of the House and we hope they will soon enter into the activities of the School and House. During the past year, the House was in the unfortunate position of not gaining a single trophy, though the margin of failure was sometimes small. Here is a challenge to all members of the House to remedy the situation; and new boys will have every opportunity of showing their quality and co-operating actively.

D.G.C.N., I.H.S.

## CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

**ATHLETICS** The Athletics Club has now established itself as one of the School's major function. It was thought that the Club would have little success during the winter season, but this has proved entirely wrong. Every week about 30 regular members attend, all willing to work hard, for willingness to work hard is the prime requisite of the Club. Some of the members have had little experience in Athletics, many have never even seen an important Athletics match, yet they all show that same enthusiasm to enjoy themselves through physical fitness.

The Club meets once a week, on Mondays, in the Gym. After general strengthening exercises and style work on running, the Athletes separate to work at their various events. In the Gym Shot-putters, Discus throwers, Hurdlers and High Jumpers work side by side to master the complicated techniques so necessary in Athletics today. Most of the middle and long distance runners are urged to do most of their training over the country. Even this training has changed radically during recent years, instead of long medium pace runs of former years, runners now run faster over quarter mile stretches and repeat several times. A distance runner operates under a considerable oxygen debt, thus the more times he reaches his maximium debt in training the easier it will be for him to run into even greater debt next time. Schoolboys who have ambitions to be distance runners should train up to four times a week, although it is not advisable for juniors to do so.

The Weight-Putters and Discus Throwers, weather permitting, do a great deal of throwing outside, although the necessary strength is usually built up in the Gym. A special class is held for first formers, here they learn sprint starting, style and the elementary techniques of other events they may be interested in. We hope to see many more first formers next term, espcially as the day has been changed to avoid clashing with their games.

JOHN M. GOODERS, JAMES E. LOTHIAN.

**CRICKET, 1954** A short term, much affected by rain, confined our school fixtures to the limited number of eight. We beat Sloane, Westminster City, Raines Foundation and Surbiton, lost to Wallington, Bec, Selhurst and Archbishop Tenison's, and had the best of a draw with Mitcham.

Our batting was rather uncertain; the opening pair achieved little, and it was generally left to Granfield, Agha, Cornish and Stuart to pull the game round, though Morrison also showed some promise.

The bowling was generally rather better. Granfield could be very dangerous on occasion, but was inclined to lose heart if he did not obtain an early success; Agha, although he naturally had to buy his wickets, did well with leg-breaks, and Smith has greatly improved his medium-paced off-spinners. Newson kept wicket with quick efficiency, and is likely to fill the position for some years to come.

The 2nd XI were rather weak and lost most of their matches, but Mattafice and Davies showed some promise as batsman and bowler respectively.

This year we ran a proper Colts side for the first time under Mr. Haggard's guidance, instead of the old 3rd XI. They won 3, drew 3, and lost 2. Moran, Nicholls, Spooner and Eeles were promising all-rounders, while Farmer, who has unfortunately left, was outstanding behind the wicket. Burton's fast bowling, though not yet accurate enough, is still promising.

The Juniors looked promising, but proved erratic. Batting weaknesses were again the main trouble; the loss of an early wicket or two tended to demoralise the rest of the team. Coppock was easily the most successful batsman; Barlow shaped well, but was unlucky. Simpson looks like making a very useful opener.

Barlow bowled intelligently and well; Murrell and Coppock were also successful at times. Butler's catching near the wicket was noteworthy, and Atkinson's wicket-keeping improved greatly during the season.

*Full colours* :— Granfield, Cornish, J. B. Smith, Agha. *Half colours*: Phelps, Edwell, Morrison, Stuart, Newson. *Recommended for Junior colours*: Barlow, Coppock.

**CROSS-COUNTRY** Although cross-country has been an activity of the school for many years, there has not been a cross-country club, so this year we decided to start one. Now every Tuesday and Thursday about ten boys, mostly juniors, turn out for training.

So far this term we have had four fixtures. First was a junior match against Sloane which we narrowly lost; our revenge will be obtained in the return match. Both Hancocks ran extremely well. In a race against Tiffin the senior team was most unfortunate to lose for Lydiat, when a quarter of a mile ahead of the rest of the field, took a wrong turning and was lost. Had he finished first we would have won the match. Next came the Walton Athletic Club Relay where we improved on last year's 8th position by finishing fifth over a very slippery course. Lastly in the Surrey schools we again finished fifth, Lydiat once again ran extremely well to finish second, Hancocks 21st, also ran well.

Butler, the school captain, has now left, we thank him for his service to the school. Cuffley was appointed his successor.

W.F.C.

**THE DEBATING AND CURRENT AFFAIRS SOCIETY** At the first meeting this term of the Debating Society on October 1st, Mr. Payne was elected Chairman, D. T. King Vice-Chairman, and I. H. Simons Honorary Secretary. A committee, representative of all senior forms was also appointed; it also includes Mr. Gouldstone, who represents the staff.

The motion "That if one is old enough to fight for one's country, one is old enough to vote for it," was proposed by Butnick and Bergson, while King and Preston opposed. The motion was defeated.

On October 15th, when D. T. King took the Chair, the motion was that "Britain can do without American films." This was proposed by Preston and Bergson, and opposed by Fox and Squires (Junior). The motion was defeated.

On Friday, November 5th, when Mr. Gouldstone took the chair, the motion was "This House honours Guy Fawkes," proposed by Bergson and M. F. Morgan, and opposed by Livingstone and Drain. The motion was defeated.

The Debating Society houes to meet about once a fortnight, Fridays after school in the Library. The committee chooses the topics and speakers, and would welcome suggestions and offers to speak. It is also hoped to arrange occasional discussions and expert talks on matters of current and general interest.

Attendances have been a little better than in recent years; and there have been some lively exchanges, but new members from the senior school will be welcome.

The Society provides a good opportunity to learn the art of effective public speaking and to hear something of the variety of views that are possible on contemporary problems. Only if a good nucleus of competent speakers can be developed, will it be possible to consider inviting teams from other schools to engage in debate with a school team.

I. H. Simons (Hon. Secretary).

**FENCING** The club has been meeting regularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays since the summer holidays. On Tuesdays we have twenty-fie attenders, and on Thursdays, for the payment of five shillings a year, boys can receive good professional tuition. Many boys wisely take advantage of this excellent scheme and quite a few are showing good capabilities as fencers.

Fencing has now been included in the organised games programme, and on Mondays and Tuesdays twenty-five second and third formers can be seen learning to fence in the hall.

The officials for the coming year are Squires, Captain; Kreuchen, Vice-Captain; Warren, Hon. Secretary; and Green, Armourer.

These four fencers are at present receiving lessons every Wednesday evening in South Kensington from a Professor of Fencing, due to their having won fencing scholarships which the Parents' Association generously grant each year.

The club is also entering the London Schoolboy Championships which are being held for the first time next January. We hope to do well in this and to justify the amount of energy Mr. Levy has put in at the club.

Forthcoming events are the Club Championship which is to be held at the end of March, and a House Championship which we hope to hold at the end of February, if we can raise enough fencers from each house.

A.R.W.

**RAILWAY CLUB** The railway club started again this term with a following of about twenty boys whose interests range from Antiquarian branch lines to main lines of the present day.

The first meeting took the form of a brains trust. The senior members, led by Mr. Bacchus, answering questions put to them by the new junior members. The programme for the term was also arranged and includes talks on railway working in various parts of the country.

At the second meeting Homewood gave an interesting talk on the "History of Electric Traction." This was accompanied by a film strip.

We look forward now to our next meeting when Mr. Bacchus will give his talk on "Lines recently visited in Wales and Ireland."

Meetings are held fortnightly and all boys are welcome to attend.

J. TICKNER, LVI.

## RUGBY

### FIRST XV

*Captain*: J. B. Smith, *Vice-Captain*: D. G. C. Nye,
*Hon. Secretary*: D. J. A. Livingstone.

The First XV has made a disastrous start to the new season. This was mainly due to the fact that only four of last year's team are still present, and the majority of the team are under sixteen years of age.

*Our results so far are*:—

Lost to PURLEY (home) 12—0:

The school pack gave an encouraging display in both tight and loose, but we were let down by poor tackling in the three's.

Lost to TIFFINS (home) 47—0:

The school was completely overrun, and once gain our tackling was non-existent.

Lost to MITCHAM (home) 28—6:

Mitcham were lucky to gain such a decisive victory. They were outplayed in the first-half, but the ball ran their way, and our lack of stamina allowed Mitcham to score a series of tries at the end.

Beat WILLIAM ELLIS (home) 13—6:

Playing as a team, for the first time, we were always on top and deserved to win by a larger margin.

Lost to BEC away) 64—0:

This was a repitition of the Tiffins' match.

Lost to WINDSOR (home) 14—3:

An extremely scrappy game, in which we allowed our weak opponents to snatch an easy victory.

Lost to SURBITON (away) 20—5:

The school put up a very hard fight against an older and more experienced team. Although we were completely overrun in the forwards, the school backs and wing forwards put up a good fight.

Lost to ST. OLAVE'S (away) 8—28:

Played 8; Won 1; Lost 7.

The school backs are young and inexperienced, but they combine well in attack, whilst their tackling is improving. Our main weakness is in the forwards, who do not jump in the lineout nor push hard enough in the scrums. In the more recent matches, the school has shown a wonderful fighting spirit, which was evident at the end of the Bec match, when we never gave up fighting despite the mounting score.

Nye has given some brilliant displays both at full-back and loose forward. Williams, Gooders and Nebbitt have also been very consistent, whilst Barrable has successfully taken Granfield's place as kicker.

### SECOND XV

*Captain*: J. S. Edwell.

*Results*:—

v. PURLEY (away) lost 0—51.
v. CHISWICK (home) lost 8—17.
v. TIFFINS (home) lost 3—31.
v. MITCHAM (away) lost 3—37.
v. WILLIAM ELLIS (away) drew 8—8.
v. BEC (home) lost 5—6.
v. RAINE'S FOUNDATION (home) lost 5—18.
v. SURBITON (away) lost 0—17.
v. ST. OLAVES (home) lost 3—12.

In this team there are several good players. Their chief fault lies with the forwards who seem unable to heel the ball so as to give the

three-quarters a chance. But they play hard, never give up and seem to enjoy themselves and they are improving. The following have played: Ryan, Whitesman, Morgan, Newson, Davies, Bishop, Salmon, Edmunds, Mattafice, Swayne, Cooper, Thorn, Hutt, Holt, Hill, Cornish, Halfin, Jones, Marshall, Kaminski (jun.).

## COLTS

*Captain*: D. J. Birkenshaw, *Vice-Captain*: R. Eeles,
*Hon. Secretary*: J. A. Williams.

So far, due to injuries and players leaving, the Colts team has had a very unsuccessful season. The Colts have played all the strong teams and they look forward to better results.

Five boys, Birkenshaw, Bennett, Eeles, Fendt and Liggitt were selected to play in the Surrey trials. Of these Eeles and Fendt were selected to play for Surrey.

The Colts started off well, with two convincing wins against Purley and Chartesey, but after that the Colts failed to get an impressive record.

J. A. Williams.

*Games and Results*:—

PURLEY 0, WANDSWORTH 8.
CHARTESY 3, WANDSWORTH 18.
TIFFIN 50, WANDSWORTH 0.
MITCHAM 14, WANDSWORTH 10.
WILLIAM ELLIS 19, WANDSWORTH 11.
BEC 8, WANDSWORTH 16.
BALHAM 20, WANDSWORTH 6.
SURBITON 22, WANDSWORTH 0.
Played 8; Won 3; Lost 5; Points for6 9; Points against 136.

J. A. Williams.

## JUNIOR XV

The Junior XV started off the season with a win against Chartesey. The team playing together for the first time played reasonably well and had a deserved win.

The second match against Tiffin, however, did not go in our favour. Playing against a much bigger team the Juniors were lucky not to have a bigger score against them.

In the match against Mitcham the Juniors had to fight hard to win. This was undoubtedly the Juniors hardest match.

The match against William Ellis was easily the Juniors easiest game with a score of 25—6.

The Juniors were very unlucky not to force a draw with Bec, several times we were on the enemy's line but the finish just was not there.

The Surbiton match was also a very unlucky match. Several times the ball was put down on the line, but something was always wrong.

In the St. Olave match the Juniors were leading 3—0 until ten minutes before half-time when Olaves scored. Then they scored in the second half.

Boys who have played in the Juniors:— Morrell, Hammatt, Duggan, Howe, Cox, Coppock, Barlow, Wilson, Conetta, Mills, Mason, Tupper, Robins, Denyer (Capt.), Grainger (V.Capt.), Palmer, Congdon.

*Results*:—

v. CHARTESEY (won) 15—0.
v. TIFFIN (lost) 0—39.
v. MITCHAM (won) 12—9.
v. WILLIAM ELLIS (won) 25—9.
v. BEC (lost 0—20.
v. SURBITON (lost) 3—20.
v. ST. OLAVES (lost) 3—6.

K. Denyer.

## WHAT IS WRONG WITH WANDSWORTH RUGGER?

The question must be asked because at the time of writing the five teams have scored 212 points against our opponents' 674.

There certainly are reasons why things have gone badly against us but reasons must not be confused with excuses. When we were soundly defeated early in the term by Tiffins' the reasons were all too obvious. Many of our players were neither fit nor in practice, and there were no excuses for that. We had not made proper use of our field here at school. When players started coming to extra practices and going on runs together there was an improvement in our performance. It was cheering to have about 35 boys turn up for practice in the middle of the half term holiday. At the next match Surbiton did not over-run us, but Surbiton had defeated the Tiffins side who had won 47—0. The Second XV has also showed marked improvement, though they still have not won a match. The greater the credit to them for maintaining their keenness.

There is another reason why we have done badly and that is because on several occasions we have played with men short. It is shameful to have to record this because there is no excuse for it whatever. Surely out of 140 boys in the Vth and VIth forms we should be able to produce two teams of fifteen for the 1st and 2nd? Playing one man short puts an unfair strain immediately on the loyal fourteen. If boys are ill at the last moment the reserves must play. But this means that there must *be* reserves who will loyally come ot matches and probably not get a game. A good team always depends on its fringe members in this way. They must make a sacrifice for the sake of the school and remember that if they do not play they will be making a contribution by acting as linesman and supporting from the touchline.

But we want more supporters on the touchline. It is sad that there were more people shouting "Come on the Surbs!" at a recent match than there were giving the Wandsworth warcry. On the other hand we must thank those members of the first and second forms for their valuable services on Saturday mornings with the flags and organges. There is a very good spirit in these forms, and the makings of a good under 13 side.

There is one further reason for our ill success over which we have little control. We have had to play in the 1st XV too many boys under 16 of last year's Colts. They are a gallant band and they play well, but they find it hard going when they come up against more mature opponents of 17 or 18. Perhaps we have felt this more than usual because we have not allowed any old boys to play. However, this promises well for the future when these young but experienced players are a year or two older; and it should be an added incentive for them to stay on at school knowing they will probably be members of a victorious 1st XV.

Many of the above remarks apply to the Colts and Juniors. Perhaps also in several matches they were on the small side when compared with their opponents but remember that the larger a person is the heavier he falls when tackled *properly*. The enthusiasm for the game amongst the third formers must be mentioned and also the cheerfulness amongst all teams even when they hace been hit hard. This has been remarked upon several times by visiting and awey referees, "They were a bit ragged but they didn't give up."

It is *not* a reason that we have to play at Beverley Meads instead of on our old fields. Many schools are worse off than we are in this respect. We still have our little patch of green. Beverley Meads has never yet been unfit for play because of rain, as our fields frequently were.

What about the rest of the Season? I wonder what the situation will be when this Link appears. Whatever it is, remember: "Fitness wins," tackle *low*, don't hang around the back of the scrum and get offside but bind and get your head in low, and heel and hold, don't kick it into their hands, and fall, fall, fall, when it is going against you.

Practice as much as possible so as to get the feel of the ball which prevents mishandling in a crisis. Let the two halves practice until they are like a machine. But, more than everything, let *all* be as keen as most are. Some of these exhortations you may have heard before!

What is wrong with Wandsworth rugger? Very little that is not now being put right under our vigorous young captain J. B. Smith, whom we are lucky to have at this difficult time, ably backed up by Nye, Livingstone, Gooders, Nebbitt, Edwell , Birkenshaw, Denyer and all the rest. It is all these team players now that have to hand on the game of Rugby Football to the boys who will fill the new comprehensive school.

## THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

A new school year has commenced and the Association welcomes as members all those parents who have become associated with Wandsworth School for the first time. We welcome them to an Association which, we hope, is playing an important part in preparing our youth for the adult citizenship that lies ahead.

New parents seeing Wandsworth as it appears today, are unfortunate in that they have been deprived of that scene of a fine school building lying back from the highway, enhanced by the green grass of the playing fields in the foreground. Instead they witness a mass of iron girders and heaps of brown earth which are helping to form a new school. Let us not concern ourselves, however, with iron girders or heaps of earth, nor be too sentimental over this loss of a fair scene. In time we hope, the new buildings will present a possibly grander, though different, picture. Let us rather ensure that our Association is strong enough to meet the new situation and that it will find its place in the life of the newer and bigger School.

At the time of writing the picture of tightly-packed School Hall for the Autumn Tutoral At-Home is still fresh in mind. I sincerely hope that all parents, both new and old, found the opportunity to meet masters and fellow parents well worthwhile; and I hope that the social evening which followed was enjoyable. If any member would like to make suggestions or criticisms regarding these evenings, please do not hesitate to write to me, either c/o the School, or to my private address which is always quoted on the terminal letter.

The Parents' Council have again agreed to grant Fencing Bursaries of six guineas each to two boys in the Fencing Club. This will give them private lessons from a fencing master for a year, and we wish them both success in their sport. In addition, £50 has been donated from Association Funds towards the cost of the tape recorder at present in use at the School. Parents at the Social Evening on 24th September were introduced to this interesting and fascinating machine and were made aware of its capabilities. I trust that this expenditure of your subscriptions and donations will meet with approval.

Your Council has met this term and is looking forward with confidence to the future.

E. G. GREEN.

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*Solution to Riddle-M-Ree :* Christmas