April 55

THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

APRIL 1955

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE : THURSDAY 9th JUNE

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. XL **APRIL, 1955** **No. 1**

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

THE YEAR OF TRANSITION In September a number of changes will be made which will anticipate the new set-up and familiarise you with certain arrangements planned for the future school, so that the transition may be carried through more smoothly.

The first of these developments concerns the recruitment of boys at 11. The process of expansion started two years ago when we began by taking in five new first forms in the September entry. Next September we shall take six first forms: the traditional three "grammar" category forms, two "central" or grammar marginal, and one "technical." I use these names for clarity though they are no longer used by the Authority in its scheme for admission to secondary schools.

Four of these first forms will be based at the Grammar School and two at the Technical Branch, but there will be the familiar interchange by bus to enable the forms based at Garratt Lane to spend some sessions at the School to which they actually belong.

The second development involves the taking over of more accommodation for our own boys at the Technical Branch premises, so that next year we shall occupy rather more of the premises than the present Technical School. We shall have nearly 200 of our own boys based there altogether. The intention is that they remain fully identified with Wandsworth School. We have to overflow into the Garratt Lane premises because of pressure of numbers during the expansion before the new buildings are ready. But boys concerned will understand that the situation is only temporary. We shall all be together at Sutherland Grove by September 1956.

The third development concerns the nomenclature of the forms. In the future school the forms will not be strung out in order of general ability, A B C D etc., from top to bottom. Aptitude, bent, and choice will also be deciding factors. Who is to say, for example, whether Technical Building is "higher" or "lower" than Technical Engineering? Or whether the "Technical High School" stream is higher or lower than an average Academic stream? Or how the best Modern stream compares with the average Technical stream, or verbal ability with practical ability?

Hence the names of the forms will no longer convey the idea of a general order of ability, though of course a boy's ability and more especially his effort will determine whether he gets into or remains in the form of his particular choice.

Altogether there will eventually be at least a dozen forms in each year, but they will be grouped four forms together for purposes of setting and re-setting in various subjects.

The four forms most of you will be concerned with will be named not A B C and D but P A N and TH, written in Roman but given their Greek

pronunciation (Pi, Alpha, Nu, Theta).

Forms P and A will be academic forms, and the boy who aims at the university will endeavour to get into P, or failing that into A.

Forms N and TH will be roughly parallel in ability: Form N will offer Engineering Drawing as an alternative to the second foreign language and will take Handicrafts as an examination subject. Form TH (Technical High) is intended for boys of ability who wish to go forward to a full time Technical College course or perhaps the technological side of a university institution.

The next group of four forms will all be secondary technical: in two of them the centre of interest will be in Engineering and in the other two Building. They will be named forms E O R and e (Epsilon, Omega, Rho, Eta). In this group the abler boys will find themselves in Form E (Engineering) or O (Building), according to choice of interest, and will take the G.C.E. in a sufficient range of subjects to qualify them for exemption from the preliminary examinations of various institutes.

Other boys in the technical streams will aim at craft or trade apprenticeships or possibly work in building or other offices.

Then there will be the range of Modern forms, named T, I, K, O and S (Tau, Iota, Kappa, Omikron, Sigma). Some of the forms in this group will have a full five years course of secondary education, and the best pupils may continue into a sixth form.

The complete build up of the Main School will take some years, but the academic side and part of the technical will fortunately be complete from the start.

Finally, for this time, a note on the arrangement for the Lower School, i.e., boys of 11—13 in the first two years. The Lower School will be separately organised and the Form for them will also be the Tutor-Set. That is to say, they will have Form-master-Tutors, and will not join the usual Tutor-Sets until they enter the Main School in Form 3.

During this first two years secondary schooling, which may be called the period of "orientation," the nomenclature of the forms will be different from that of the Main School, since the basis of classification obviously cannot anticipate that of the Main School, which is not decided until 13.

The Lower School Forms will use the letters G, N, O, TH, I, S, E, A, U, T and On (Gamma, Nu, Omega, Theta, Iota, Sigma, Epsilon, Alpha, Upsilon, Tau, Omikron). The Forms G, N and O will correspond with the present "grammar school" entry, TH and I will represent the "central" or grammar-marginal category. S the boys of average ability who already show aptitude for "practical" (or technical) work, and E, A, U, T and On will be pupils of "Modern School" category.

On the foregoing basis, the forms next September will be named:

Forms	1G, 1N, 1O, 1TH, 1I, 1S.	6	Forms.
„	2G, 2N, 2O, 2TH, 2I.	5	„
„	3P, 3A, 3N, 3TH, 3E.	5	„
„	4P, 4A, 4N, 4TH.	4	„
„	5P, 5A, 5N.	3	„

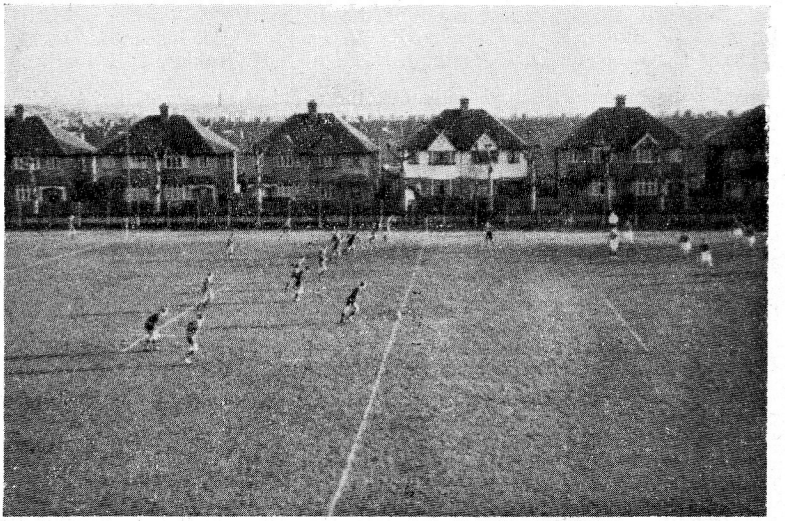
The Sixth Forms will retain their present names.

The following forms will be based temporarily at Garratt Lane:

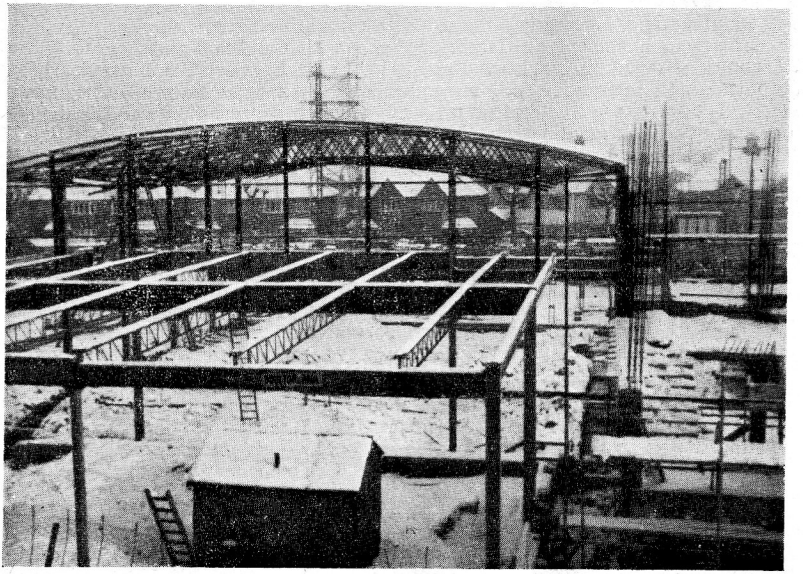
1I, 1S, 2I, 3TH, 3E, 4TH.

We welcome this term as new members of the Governing Body, Mr. Leslie K. O'Brien, Mr. W. H. Clarke and Mrs. H. T. Lawden.

THE SCENE CHANGES



The last game (Swansea v. School) Jan. 16th. 1954



A view taken from the same spot on Jan. 14th. 1955

E. E. Mallard, J. W. Morcombe, R. D. Moore, C. E. Morgan, K. A. C. Parker, F. J. Pavitt, D. A. Peach, R. N. Rose, J. D. R. Tarrant, A. A. Templeton, D. J. Walters, T. A. Wetherall, R. W. White, K. J. Fordham.

Boys left since the last issue of the Link: J. S. Bellenger, M. J. Burr, A. G. Butler, R. B. Colegate, K. W. Fendt, P. E. Godden, R. V. H. Harmer, C. G. Heath, D. I. Heath, J. E. High, J. K. Jenkins, J. E. Lothian,

We shall soon see on our banknotes the name of the new Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, Mr. Leslie K. O'Brien. He is an Old Wandsworthian and attended this School from 1920 until 1927. We are proud of this distinction for an Old Boy, a former member of our Economics Sixth which has already produced a President of the Cambridge Union.

We were interested to note that Dennis Brass, who left us in 1932, was selected to give a public lecture at King's College, London University, on February 22nd, on "The 'Trabalhos de Jesus' of Frei Thomé de Jesus (1529-1582)." This field of Portuguese literature is one in which Brass has become an authority.

Congratulations to Spencer Shapcott upon his appointment as deputy Housing Manager of the City of Lancaster.

This year the Languages department of the School is to be warmly congratulated upon the award of three L.C.C. Modern Language Travelling Scholarships, enabling the holders to spend three months abroad in the summer. J. W. F. Boreham, H. I. Butnick and I. H. Simons are the fortunate and deserving winners.

Congratulations to W. Stanley who through obtaining admission to Wadham College, will duly join the band of Old Wandsworthians at Oxford.

Mr. R. J. Thom, M.A., whose appointment as Chief English Master was mentioned in these notes last term, has now joined the Staff and is already making a varied and lively contribution to School life.

It was with great sorrow that we learned of the sudden death of Mr. J. H. Sexton of the Technical Branch, for many years the master in charge of Painting and Decorating there. Our sympathies are with Mrs. Sexton and his son, a student at Cambridge, and with the Staff and boys of the Technical Branch in his loss. Present and past boys who came under his influence and instruction will remember him as a most sincere and kindly man, a first-rate artist-craftsman, and a most conscientious and patient teacher who took great interest in his pupils personally and retained it long after they had left school.

Towards the end of last term we enjoyed a morning Musical Recital in the Hall given by Miss Joyce Gow, soprano, and Mr. Michael Thomas, harpsichord and clavichord, with an expert demonstration of these two instruments which were displayed for our inspection.

The Parents' Association have had two successful meetings this term: the first was devoted to Careers with talks by a member of the Advisory Panel of the Youth Employment Service and Mr. Aubrey, Careers Master. The second was a lecture-demonstration of educational films by Mr. Thom, assisted by Mr. Keyte.

Parents who do not yet possess a copy are reminded that an E.N.E.F. booklet on the Comprehensive School can be obtained from the Association via the Tutor at the reasonable price of 1/3d. This publication is recommended to all who desire to understand the developments about to take place at Wandsworth School and elsewhere.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE New boys since the last issue of the Link: M. Blacker, R. T. J. Moody, P. Dutt-Roy, D. R. Hancock, W. P. Oliver, M. J. Lovett, S. R. Abercrombie, S. J. J. Tyson.

EDITORIAL This is my last term as editor of the Link, and I would like to say a few words to the School on the matter of contributions. First of all, the amount of material this term was remarkably low. Indeed, up until a few days ago, the Editorial Committee was uncertain whether the Link would contain anything except the Head's Notes, House and Society Notes, and other regular articles. This is serious, and must be remedied. As has been stated time and time again, the Link is your magazine, and it cannot exist without contributions from the School. So look up the closing date for entries for next term in this issue, and see if you can tear yourselves away from your holiday enjoyment for an hour or so, and write something to be given in before the closing date.

Now a word about setting-out. The first point is—*write on one side of the page only*. Several of our contributors failed in this. Secondly, as to the length of the article: we accept anything between about 100 and 600 words —anything, in fact, to cover up to two pages of the magazine. But no more, please, or there will be no room for other material. The third point—write as clearly as you can: type and double-space your work if possible, although, of course, this is not compulsory. Especially you should write your name and form clearly, as it makes the printer's work so much easier.

The new editor is A. E. Preston of Morley A. We wish him every success and we should try to make his work as easy as possible by turning in our contributions in mass, by the correct date, and written as clearly as possible.

ROGER W. GRIFFITHS. U6a. Ca.

MR. T. G. BENYON, M.A. At the end of the Christmas Term, Mr. Benyon said farewell to the boys and staff of Wandsworth School on his departure to take up the post of Senior English Master and Librarian at Queen's School at München-Gladbach the new Headquarters of B.A.O.R., Second Tactical Air Force and Allied Forces in Northern Europe. His leaving breaks a connection with the School dating from 1937 when Mr. Benyon came to us after a distinguished career at the City Grammar School, Chester, and Cambridge University where he had taken his honours degree in English and his Teacher's Certificate. In addition to his English studies, Mr. Benyon had a deep interest in French and in Dramatics, and both of these interests soon found scope in the School. Then came the War with its inevitable disruption and new experiences. To Mr. Benyon, this meant a period in the Royal Armoured Corps and in the Army Educational Corps, leading to a commission in the Pioneer Corps, a post involving service in Egypt, Palestine and Italy, as Company Officer and Liaison Officer.

On his return from the Forces in 1946 Mr. Benyon resumed his work in the English department here and later, on Mr. Cowan's retirement, took over the headship both of this department and of Morley House of which he had been a Tutor. His interest in Dramatics soon involved his undertaking the annual School Play and we shall long remember the series of striking productions that, in spite of difficulties, were put on our far from adequate stage. It was to a great extent his influence and urging that eventually procured for us the fine Proscenium and improved lighting that now facilitates the work of the producer. Both those who took part in the plays and the spectators owe Mr. Benyon many hours of pleasure and interest.

We shall miss Mr. Benyon greatly both in the Classroom and in the Common-Room but we must not grudge him the opportunity for wider and more varied experience that his new post will bring him. To him and his wife and family we wish all happiness in their fresh surroundings.

J.A.

THE SCHOOL PLAY For the past nine years the name of Mr. Benyon has been inseparably associated with the production of the School Plays, and it will be a long time before their very high standard will be forgotten. His departure last Christmas will be particularly regretted by everyone who has been connected with him in them.

It is, perhaps, convenient to take this opportunity of commenting on the overwhelming importance of the producer in amateur dramatic work, and it is to Messrs. Benyon and Bacchus that the success of this year's play was largely due. Apart from normal production problems, the decors—deceptively simple, enlivened by colourful costumes—were their responsibility. Casting is another vital and difficult matter. D. Livingstone was well suited physically to the part of the bluff Smirnov in the curtain-raiser " No Oats for Toby " by Chekhov, and he carried the half-hour of furious tirade which the part involves with commendable verve. P. Cassidy's exceptionally fine diction was perfect for the genteel, over-dignified Popova. The audience was well amused by D. Donovan's clowning as the servant.

The longer " Reluctant Doctor " by Molière was, perhaps, even more notable for the hilarious pace of its production. It is clear that the absurd situations of farce can only be enjoyed if a fast and commanding production can force us into temporary credulity, and in this performance the rapid movement of both dialogue and action, lively though never fidgety, revealed the skill of the producers at its highest. Here again casting triumphed, from the bovine R. Blewitt, P. Drain's hoyden, J. Fox's fop, and P. Murray and J. Parsons' lovers, to A. Atkinson's portrait of a shrew, in which he revealed a mobility of face and body promising well for the future. J. Sharp as Sganarel, however, was the star of the evening, and well deserved the Drama Prize. His personality blossomed before the footlights, and he commanded the stage finely, carrying the audience unswervingly through the confusions of the plot, and delivering the second act pseudo-scientific satire particularly well.

Any production depends very largely on the support of the minor players, and R. Hore, J. Gooders, B. Watts and G. Wort were loyal and more than competent members of the team. The back-stage boys are no less important, and the excellent continuity of each performance was due to the adroit and hard work of the Stage Manager, Mr. H. C. Hall and his team D. Ayshford, A. Cook, J. Lawrence, G. Salmon, D. Spooner, J. Taylor, R. Wall and C. Hardcastle. Business Manager was Mr. J. Austin, the music was arranged by Mr. J. Keyte, and the make-up in the hands of Messrs. G. Evans and R. Waters, under the direction of Mr. Benyon himself.

This evening of continental comedy from France and Russia has brought the School's drama standard very high. It is with keen anticipation that we await next year's production.

THE LONDON SCHOOLBOYS' FOIL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1955 This year, for the first time in the history of British Fencing, open schoolboys' foil championships were held. A championship restricted to Public Schoolboys has been running for many years, but fencing is becoming increasingly popular in Grammar and other Secondary Schools and there has existed a need for some time for an open competition. The championships are at present confined to London schoolboys, but it is hoped to have a championship, eventually, which will find the Schoolboy Fencing Champion of Great Britain.

The whole idea of holding these schoolboy championships belongs to Mr. Levy, our own fencing master. He suggested it over five years ago, but only now has it become possible to organise it.

The championships were held at St. Paul's School on Saturday and Sunday, 15th and 16th January. There was a senior championship, for boys over 15 and under 19, and a junior one for boys between 13 and 15. There

were seventy entries for the Senior, and twenty-six for the Junior—a very creditable response. A silver challenge cup was awarded to each of the winners, and medals to those attaining first, second and third places.

There were nine pools of eight fencers. (All the fencers in a pool have to fight each other, a given number, usually half, being promoted to the next round of pools, until the final pool is reached. The winner of this is the champion.) Kreuchen was in Pool One, Squires in Pool Two, and Warren in Pool Seven.

Kreuchen was eliminated from his pool.

Squires lost his first fight, but won the next fairly comfortably and went on to win four in all. He was placed second in the pool and was duly promoted to the next round.

Pool Seven was the last to finish, so Squires and Kreuchen had the chance to see how Warren was doing. He had started badly by losing four fights in a row, but he rallied in magnificent style to win his last three. He was extremely unlucky not to be promoted to the next round, but on a count of hits he had one too many against him.

The second round of six pools of six fencers each started at 5.30, Squires being in Pool Four. Knowing the competition to be much stiffer now, Kreuchen and Warren stayed on to support him. He started well, unexpectedly winning his first fight against a seeded fencer from Dulwich College, who eventually reached the last twelve. But this was the first of three fights with only one bout gap between them and, although in each case he scored the first two hits, he could not find sufficient stamina to stay the very tiring pace. He won two fights out of five. The winner of his pool had won all his fights and all the remaining five had won two fights each. When the hits against were tallied it was found that Squires, like Warren in the first round, had one hit too many against him.

The final stages of the championships were held on the Sunday. St. Paul's School achieved the magnificent result of getting four fencers into the final pool of six in the Senior, the remaining two being from Dulwich College and City of London School. St. Paul's took the first three places.

The Wandsworth fencers learned a great deal, and were particularly impressed by the standard of fencing and the stamina required for success. The standard shown in the later stages was rather higher than ours is at present, but, then, most of the fencers were from the Public Schools, receiving a great deal of professional tuition. But we hope to do a good deal better next year.

G. P. SQUIRES. L6. Md.

C.E.W.C. (S.W. LONDON GROUP) A meeting of the South-West London Group of the Council for Education in World Citizenship was held at the school on Thursday, January 17th, at 7.30 p.m.

The evening took the form of an "International Gramophone Record Evening," by Mr. E. J. Brice of the United Nations Association. About forty people from member schools attended the meeting, which was most interesting and enjoyable. A record of Sibelius was very memorable. Records of an entirely different kind were also played, including the "Swedish Rhapsody."

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Gouldstone and the Chairman of the S.W. London Group of C.E.W.C. expressed their thanks to Mr. Brice.

I. H. SIMONS. L6a. Pc.

C.E.W.C. CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE During the Christmas holidays I was privileged to attend the C.E.W.C. Conference at the Central Hall, Westminster.

The first session opened on the afternoon of Tuesday, 28th December, with the Presidential address from the C.E.W.C. President, Dr. Gilbert Murray, O.M. We were privileged to have His Excellency the Nicaraguan Ambassador as our chairman. Our first lecture came from Professor R. A. Humphreys, professor of Latin-American History, London University, who spoke on "The Historic Past." Mr. Humphreys summed up by saying it was not a case of a new continent growing old but of an old continent that was being made new. We ended the afternoon with discussion groups.

The second session began with Mr. Julian Duguid, B.B.C. special correspondent in Brazil, speaking on the "Land of the Golden Legend." He said: "The Hub of the whole of Brazil rests on a couple of generators." The chairman was Sir Arthur Evans of the Anglo-Brazilian Society. After a brief interval, Mr. David Huelin, former editor of "Review of the River Plate," spoke to us on "From Ox-cart to Aeroplane." He told us of the rapid expansion and development of raw materials in Latin-America, but he also told us of the vast extravagance of Latin-American wealth in Hydro-Electric Schemes. In the afternoon half the Conference delegates had a lecture-recital on Latin-American Dancing, while the other half had group discussion.

Our third session started with an address from the Marquis of Reading, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. This was followed by Mr. George Pendle, formerly British Council representative in Paraguay, speaking on "The Forging of a New Civilisation." He said that "optimism is the essence of the Latin-American future." The chairman was Mr. H. W. Harris, former editor of "The Spectator." Our next lecture came from Sir Kenneth Grubb, who spoke on "Politics and Personalities." He said: "Unlike this country, where politics make personalities, in Latin-America personalities make politics."

On the last day of the Conference, we were addressed by Mr. J. A. Camacho, head of European productions, B.B.C., on "Latin-America and the World." The chairman was General Sir Ronald Adam. Later we had a talk on the work of the C.E.W.C. by its secretary, Mr. Terence Lawson. In the afternoon we had a Brains Trust on Latin-America, which was followed by a formal vote of thanks by the Headmistress of Putney County School.

During the Conference we collected £70 for the U.N.E.S.C.O. Gift Coupon Scheme. We sent the £70 to the "Fundamental Education Centre" at Patzcuaro, Mexico. During our dinner hour we saw a film on the work of this Centre.

A. C. H. SOUTHORN. L6 Gen. Gd.

A VISIT TO THE ROYAL ACADEMY On Wednesday, 23rd February, a party of Fifth and Sixth Formers went to the Royal Academy's Winter Exhibition at Burlington House. The exhibition was entitled "European Masters of the Eighteenth Century."

On arriving, the party was divided into two sections, one of which went round with Mr. Hodgkinson for three-quarters of an hour, the other under Mr. Payne; at the end of three-quarters of an hour the parties changed over. After this the boys were left to look at the pictures by themselves for the rest of the time.

Among the famous painters, there were paintings by Canaletto, Chardin, Fragonard, Gainsborough, Goya, Hogarth, Menendez, Reynolds and Watteau. Of these I found the still-life and flower-paintings especially interesting for their accuracy and detail; but perhaps the most interesting

painting from the technical point of view was the unfinished Gainsborough in one of the galleries. There was also a very interesting painting by Fragonard of a " Fête de St. Cloud," which was marvellous in its feeling of lightness; another very good painting was that of a forge, which was marvellous in its accuracy. But, in my opinion, the best section was the still-life and flower-paintings; for they had a minuteness of detail which was amazing.

This was a most interesting, instructive, and enjoyable afternoon; it is to be hoped that many more such visits will be arranged.

A. PRESTON. L6a. Ma.

THE HANSARD SOCIETY On November 19th a group of Fifth and Sixth Formers were among 2,700 boys and girls from 93 schools who attended a most interesting meeting of the Hansard Society at the Royal Festival Hall.

Commander Sir Stephen King-Hall, the Society's chairman, was question-master. The panel comprised four eminent M.P.s: Sir David Eccles, Sir Robert Boothby, Mr. Herbert Morrison and Mr. Hugh Gaitskell.

One of the questions, " When, if ever, is an M.P. justified in voting against his own party?" evoked much laughter and applause after the amusing speeches of the panel.

On account of the very good speeches, rhetoric and comments of the panel, it proved a most interesting afternoon.

I. H. SIMONS and A. E. PRESTON.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT At the end of the Autumn term, our musical resources were put into a concert which was performed for the School. It was the first Concert for some time, but unfortunately it could not be held in public.

The programme consisted of a number of well known carols sung in unison or by the school choir, while the choir sang some carols which were not so well known.

The most interesting choral item was the anthem " Rejoice in the Lord Alway," or the " Bell Anthem," by Purcell, which was for a solo quartet and chorus.

There were also some solos which gave the choir a rest. D. King played a violin solo, and later Mr. Burgess and Mr. Keyte gave a masterly and spirited rendering of two movements from the " Scaramouche " suite by Milhaud and followed with a soothing Chorale by Bach.

All in all, the afternoon was spent very pleasantly, and at the end Mrs. King expressed her appreciation of the choir's performance and the orchestra's excellent work, and the School endorsed her sentiment. Next year it is hoped that the choir and orchestra will perform a large proportion of the " Messiah " at a public concert, and practice with this end in view will begin in earnest next term.

D. T. KING. U6 Ec. Pd.

TEAM BADGES It is an honour to represent the School in a match or contest with another school, whether it be for a Junior or a Senior Team, Colts or Seconds. The Games Committee decided to provide further encouragement to boys to strive for this honour by awarding a visible badge of distinction to those that deserved it. So a scheme was thought out to supplement, not to replace, the existing arrangements for awarding First, Half and Junior Colours. Team badges can now be awarded " to those members of all School teams who by their skill, perseverance and loyalty bring credit to the School in matches and contests against other

schools." It will be noticed that to be a good performer is not enough, as perseverance and loyalty include such matters as the regular attendance at practices and good conduct on and off the field.

The scheme covers all the sports activities including Rugby, Cricket, Athletics, Cross-country, Fives, Fencing, Swimming and Chess, though the badges in some of these, though awarded, may not be worn. These badges have a 2 (for Second teams), C. (for Colts) and J. (for Juniors) embroidered in gold on a maroon background. They are worn on the School rugby shirt, which, as an additional honour, may be worn at practices only by recipients of a badge. No doubt we shall also see badges on fencing jackets and swimming trunks and running vests, but cricket, unless a cap is introduced, presents a problem.

First Colours may wear a Wandsworth Badge as a team badge.

The badges are awarded by the Games and Team Captains in consultation with the Games Master, and each has also to be passed by the Chairman of the Games Committee. Colours, of course, have still to be passed by the Committee, though recommendations are announced in advance.

A.R.H.

IMPRESSIONS OF A WALK AT NIGHT IN DECEMBER

London streets at night, still.
Buildings ghostly, coolly cut in their shadows.
The charcoal chimneys scratched across smoothest
steely sky; grey-blue.
The wind wielding axe-like into the straggler's face,
Chipping at his ankles.
No warmth he feels, in those blocks, his shoes.

ADRIAN BERGSON. U6Sc. Ca.

THE PLANET JUPITER Jupiter is the giant of the sun's family of planets. Its equatorial diameter is 88,700 miles, and its polar diameter is 83,900 miles, so that through a telescope it is seen to be distinctly oval in shape. Its volume and mass are 1,312 and 318 times as great as the earth respectively. Jupiter therefore contains enough material for complete duplicate set of the remaining eight planets.

Jupiter has twelve 'moons' or satellites. Four of them were discovered in 1609 by the great Pisan astromoner, Galileo, with the newly invented telescope. These four satellites are called Io, Ganymede, Europa and Callisto they can all be seen with a weak pair of binoculars. The largest, Ganymede, has a diameter of 3,273 miles, larger than the planet Mercury which has a diameter of 3,100 miles. Callisto also has a diameter larger than Mercury, being 3,142 miles. The other two have diameters of 2,109 miles (Io), and 1,865 miles (Europa), that of our moon is 2,160 miles.

The remaining eight satellites are exceedingly small all under 100 miles in diameter. The last to be discovered was No. XII (after Europa they have been given numbers) which was found by Nicholson of the Mount Wilson Observatory, on September 9th, 1951, using the photographic plate.

With a magnification of 30 or more there can be seen a number of dark and light belts running parallel to the equator. The rapid changes that occur in the detail prove them to be of an atmospheric nature. As in the case of Venus, the actual surface of the planet is hidden by its dense vaporous atmosphere. Instruments show us that the main constituents of the atmosphere are methane and ammonia. The temperature is some 13 degrees C. below freezing point.

Spots of all shapes and sizes are often predominant in the belts. One of them, the Great Red Spot, appeared in 1857 and is still faintly visible as an orange oval patch. It measures 30,000 by 7,000 miles or big enough to contain forty-eight earths!

It is from such spots that astromoners are able to find the rotation period of the planet. These results confirm that Jupiter has a surface of atmosphere origin, for the rotation towards the poles is five minutes longer than at the equator where it is 9 hours and 50 minutes.

For those of you who wish to see Jupiter's satellites and/or his surface markings will find Jupiter in the constellation of Germini, the twins. If you do not know where to look in the sky for Jupiter, you should consult a star map. The 'Times' prints a star chart on the first day of the month, which is invaluable. Books containing star charts and valuable information can be found at any Public Library for all who are interested in astromony.

VICTOR A. HOLT, Pd, 5b.

THE HOUSE SPARROW The House Sparrow is a very unfriendly and quarrelsome bird, although it may seem othewise to the casual observer. It is a very handsome bird but has a very bad character.

The plumage is brown on the head, neck and wings, the latter having black streaks in a barred-like fashion. The chest is greyish-white with a bib-like, black patch on the chin and neck. The beak is that of a grain eater, but it also eats insects.

The flight is strong and swift. The House Sparrow hops but does not run.

It is distributed over the entire Old World except Australia.

The House Sparrow kills and eats some destructive insects but this does not make up for the enormous damage it does to seeds.

Thriving best in the neighbourhood of man, this bird is common throughout the northern parts of Europe and Asia and has been introduced to North America and the British Colonies.

They increase in number very fast, for they generally have three broods every year.

They are very clean, not only taking frequent water-baths, but also in the summer, enjoying dust baths.

The London dwelling ornithologist has observed the perky, cheeky, friendly-towards-humans sparrow and compared it with the 'London Cockney,' the former being friendly towards people in general yet bickering between its own kind and the latter very much the same.

The Londoner can see House Sparrows anywhere and can observe the difference between its friendliness towards humans and their ferocity towards their own kind even though the gain may be a small piece of bread.

N. POTTER, 5c, C.c.

THE MOON The moon is our nearest neighbour being a mere 239,000 miles away. It is a quarter the size of the Earth. The dark patches that can be seen with the naked eye, were misnamed "Seas," by the ancient astromoners. There are 30,000 mapped craters, some up to 150 miles across. The pull of gravity is only one sixth of that on Earth, and a 20 foot jump could be done with ease. Most people

believe that there is no life on the moon, but there is believed to be a form of lichen growing. The moon takes 27 days to go round the earth. The moon's surface is covered with a thick layer of reddish-brown dust.

M. SYMES, Gd, 2b.

CLUB CRICKET IN ENGLAND In cricket today it is only the publicised games, such as test matches and county championship matches, that are keenly followed by the average man.

Yet these contests are by no means the backbone of the game. The foundation of cricket is surely the village green and club matches. All over England, small clubs play in the weekends. Many of these use rough pitches, and have very little equipment and gear, but this does not damp the enthusiasm of the players. Many famous test cricketers, including Harold Larwood were discovered while playing with small clubs.

Hambledon, a village in Hampshire is said to have been the birth-place of modern cricket. Richard Nyren, whose son, John was a poet, is said to have been the captain and main stalwart of the club. He was also the host at the Bat and Ball Inn, where the club played. The Inn still stands on Broadhalfpenny Down in Hampshire today.

The Hambledon Club was established in 1750, but cricket existed early in the middle ages. Edward III tried to suppress the game when he found that it was interfering with archery, and Edward IV imprisoned and fined anybody found playing cricket, but Oliver Cromwell was said to be a keen supporter of cricket.

The first official code of cricket rules was made in 1774. There were five men on each side. Two stumps were used, and only one batsman was in at the time, and to score a run he ran down the pitch and broke the wicket at the bowler's end. There were no boundaries, and overarm bowling was not used until 1865. When a run was scored, the scorer made a cut in a piece of wood, with a deeper cut for every tenth run.

Many other clubs were playing at about the same time as Hambledon. Among them were the Band of Brothers founded in 1857, Twickenham, North Devon, Thames Ditton, and High Wycombe. Many clubs of those days still exist, and many more have been established. Some clubs have special distinctions. Manaton cricket club at Dartmoor play on matting over a concrete strip. This is said to be the only pitch of its kind in England. Some teams have no grounds of their own and play all their matches away. These teams are known as wandering sides. Examples of these are the "Free Foresters," "Incogniti," and the "Wanderers."

All the clubs belong to the Club Cricket Conference, and the Marylebone Cricket Club is the mother of them all, and it is every cricketer's ambition to play on the turf at Lord's, which is the M.C.C's ground. In the past, these small clubs have produced many famous cricketers, and if they continue to do so, English cricket will remain in capable hands.

R. J. CARR, Pd, 5a.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL We have many reasons for congratulations this term in various fields of activity, sporting and academical. First of all in the world of sport to our Rugby teams for once more gaining the Rugby Championship under the able captaincy of J. B. Smith. Although we only came second in the School Cross-country championship, we did win

the junior event, which leaves us with bright hopes for the future. Congratulations to S. G. Whitesman for gaining a place in the School Fives Team and to J. W. F. Boreham for being first reserve.

Again, in the academical world we offer congratulations to H. I. Butnick and J. W. F. Boreham for gaining L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarships in French. Four members of Cromwell have been accepted for Universities, namely, K. Gugan and A. Bergson for London, and D. J. Livingstone and R. W. Griffiths for Cardiff. Diligence is still a happy talking point among all Cromwellians for we are again the leading House and Cromwell B is still top set—although for the last diligence period last term they were ousted from that happy position by Cromwell D. But Cromwell C are still letting us down and preventing us from racing even further ahead, so pull your socks up Cromwell C.

By the time these notes are read, the Eisteddfod will be over and we would like to thank our organisers for the hard work they have put in, namely, P. Bates for Speech, K. Gugan for Music, R. G. Hall for Drama, and D. J. Livingstone the general co-ordinator.

H. I. BUTNICK and R. W. GRIFFITHS.

GIBBON Two trophies have been competed for since the last edition of "The Link," the Rugby shield and the Cross-country trophy. In the rugby competition we were unable to hold our own and as a result we finished fourth. On the whole the Junior side, captained by Coppock, was more successful than its senior counterpart and all the team played well. In the Senior games, from a weak team only D. B. Cross, the captain, G. R. Williams and P. L. Eastwood shone.

In the cross-country once again we were fourth although in the senior race we finished third. Taking the senior race first, we were unfortunate to lose four of the team owing to illness and this upset the chances of the team. Cuffley was first to score with Eastwood next. The junior race showed us that our young team, though not strong enough this year, should do well next year. J. A. Williams was the first "Gibbonite" home in this race.

The Eisteddfod will have been won by the time this is read and at the time of writing we are working hard for our fourth successive win. Willis, a young though very capable choir-master, is getting our voices into shape, while Gorman is training our speech choir. Fox is coping very well with the arduous task of producing the House play and Donovan and Cuffley are joint co-ordinators.

For the first time ever, there is a Fencing competition, which Gibbon should win with Warren and Kreuchen both very good swords.

We were all pleased to hear that W. Stanley, one of Gibbon's great members, has been accepted by Wadham College, Oxford, and we send to him our warmest congratulations and best wishes.

W. F. CUFFLEY. L6G. Gc.

MORLEY We feel sure that all members of Morley House and, indeed, of the School, will join with us in wishing Mr. Benyon every success in his new post in Germany. Although we are sorry that Mr. Benyon has left, we feel that in Mr. Bacchus we have a very able successor as Housemaster. We would also like to welcome Mr. Thom to Morley House. He has taken Mr. Bacchus's place as Set Master of Morley D.

Turning now to the more usual business of these notes, we regretfully record the fact that we did not win the Rugby Shield. Both teams, however, should be congratulated on good performances. This particularly applies to the Senior XV, who, under the captaincy of J. M. Gooders, gave an excellent display of fast, open Rugby, to beat Gibbon by 35 points to nil. We congratulate the whole team.

things were expected of the first Junior team but I am sorry to say they did not materialise. The Senior team, however, was placed sixth of the twenty-three teams which competed.

For the third successive year we won the Cross-Country Shield, under the captaincy of J. S. Edwell. This was due mainly to some superb running by the Senior team. The race was won by P. Duggan, a particularly commendable performance as he was only just ineligible for the Junior race. Besides Duggan the House had five other boys placed in the first nine, these were J. S. Edwell, F. Pavitt, R. Polley, C. Irving and G. Croombs. In the Junior race R. Knight, M. L. Haley and M. P. Golding ran well. The first two of these are only in the first form and should develop well, a good omen for the future of Morley House.

Finally, we call for a special effort next term, when the Athletics, Swimming and Cricket Trophies will be competed for.

J. S. EDWELL and J. M. GOODERS.

PITT Our congratulations are extended to D. G. Nye on gaining admission to University College, Cardiff; to D. T. King on being awarded a place at the London School of Economics, and I. H. Simons on gaining an L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarship for twelve weeks travel in France during July, August and September.

The House Rugby team, under the able captaincy of D. G. Nye, beat Gibbon and lost to Morley and Cromwell.

The House Fencing and Chess teams lost to Morley in both activities.

We were third in the combined Junior and Senior results of the Cross-country race, held on January 28th. G. Wilson and R. Hancock were first and second in the Junior race and R. W. Hancock was second in the Senior race.

Eisteddfod preparations are well under way, and at a House meeting earlier this term the following people were elected: Music Organiser, C. Christadoulou; Drama, P. N. Cassidy; Speech, I. H. Simons and House Co-ordinator, J. R. Tickner.

I. H. SIMONS and D. G. NYE.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

CHESS This season the membership of the Chess Club has greatly increased with strong support coming from the first form, though boys from any part of the School are welcome. Anyone who plays or wishes to learn to play chess should enter the Chess Club which, during the winter and spring terms, meets in room " N " each dinner-hour and on Tuesdays and Fridays after school.

It is hoped that it will be possible for the Chess Club to continue its activities in the summer term this year for at least one evening a week as well as in the dinner-hour each day.

The School Chess team has been quite successful this year, having won seven matches, drawn one, and lost four, up to the time of going to press. We have not done so well in the London Schools' Chess League having won only two matches, drawn one and lost four. Great improvement in play has been shown by P. L. Eastwood and J. W. F. Boreham during the year on " boards " five and seven respectively.

The School was strongly represented at the London Schools' Chess Chess Rally which was again held at Sloane School this year. Three teams, each consisting of four players, were entered for the Inter-Schools' Lightning Chess Tournament, one in the Senior section and two in the Junior. Great

The results of the two Inter-House Chess Competitions played are:— Morley beat Pitt 4—0; Gibbon beat Cromwell 4—0.

Our grateful thanks go to Dr. Solomon and Mr. Mercer for their continued interest and encouragement in the activities of the Chess Club.

R. S. HORE. L6Sc. Mc.

CROSS-COUNTRY Since the last edition of the Link we have had four races. Firstly there was a Sloane School invitation race over three and a half miles, held on Wimbledon Common. In this race, the School came first out of the four competing schools and this was mainly due to some fine packing by Nabi, Duggan, Riley and Hancock who finished in sixth, eighth, ninth and eleventh places respectively. Lydiat ran extremely well to win the race and Mellish, sixteenth, made up the team.

In the Cambridge Harriers inter-schools race, Lydiat again ran brilliantly to finish first and the School finished third out of twelve teams. Duggan ran extremely well; though still a Junior, he finished ninth with Mellish eighteenth and Hancock twenty-third.

Then came the Wandsworth Championship in which last year we won both Senior and Junior events. This year, however, though we won the Junior race we were second in the Senior event. Firstly, the Junior race. Duggan and Hancock ran well to finish second and third respectively over a very tough and slippery course and fine packing by Pavitt, Polley, Pain and Wilson brought the School an easy victory. Our score was twenty-eight and the second team to finish had one hundred and twenty-eight. After this heart-warming win the Senior team ran quite well to finish second. Once again Lydiat strolled home an easy winner with Mellish fifth. Riley, Nabi and Cuffley made up the School team.

Altogether the results are fairly good but Lydiat must be singled out as an athlete of exceptional promise.

W. F. CUFFLEY. L6Gen. Gc.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY At the last meeting in the Autumn term, on Friday, November 26th, the motion was carried that: "This House supports Commercial Television." It was proposed by I. H. Simons and A. S. Wilson and was opposed by D. King and A. Preston. On Friday, January 21st, Impromptu Debates were arranged. On Friday, February 4th, the motion of D. King and C. Irving that: "This House has no confidence in the present Government," was carried despite the opposition led by D. J. Livingstone and A. Preston. On Friday, February 25th, however, D. King and R. Griffiths were unable to persuade a majority that "Too much emphasis is placed on sport in this country." The opposition to the motion was led by J. Gooders and P. Eastwood.

The Society appears this year to have been more successful as regards attendance, especially from the Sixth form, while the standard of speaking of leading members is much improved. It is proposed to engage in debates with other schools as soon as possible. This should prove an added impetus to other members of the senior school to attend and help to enliven our meetings, as well as gain much of value to themselves.

I. H. SIMONS.

FENCING Captain: G. P. Squires. Vice-Captain: K. S. Kreuchen. Hon. Secretary: A. R. Warren.

The Club has been meeting regularly during the term on Tuesdays and Thursdays with an average of 18 fencers a night. The main object this term has been to make as many "senior fencers" as possible in order to start really competitive fencing. This year we have made 8 new senior fencers, bringing our total up to 12. They are G. P. Squires, K. S. Kreuchen,

A. R. Warren, C. Green, J. Tarkowski, D. Milward, P. Stretch, R. Baker, M. P. Sanders, P. T. Libby, J. Parsons and M. J. Burton. As we now have enough senior fencers we can hold a House competition for the first time. This House competition will take place on Tuesdays, 1st, 15th and 29th March, and will consist of teams of 3 fencers each. The House captains are: Cromwell, Green; Gibbon, Warren; Morley, Squires; Pitt, Tarkowski.

This year we are not holding our usual Eisteddfod display but are having the final of our School individual foil competition instead. The competition will be exceedingly keen as Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have very generously presented the Club with a silver cup to be held by the winner until the next competition takes place.

Due to these arrangements we are not having many matches this term. However we have 4 fixed up against West Square, King's College, Brentwood and Chapel End School. Both our Senior and Junior teams will fence in these matches, giving an opportunity for the younger boys to gain useful fighting experience. Next year we hope to have a complete fixture list with matches against the best fencing schools in London.

We must congratulate Squires, Kreuchen and Warren on their efforts in the London Schoolboys Competition, of which a fuller report has been written elsewhere in this issue, and on the award of a Full Colour to Squires and Half-Colours to Kreuchen and Warren. Squires is also to be congratulated on being chosen to fence for Salle Behmber against Dulwich College —a sign of how well our fencers are progressing at the Salle, thanks to the generosity of the Parents' Association.

As regards the summer term the Club will continue only on Thursdays, when Mr. Lovelock will be giving lessons to keep the Club in training for fixtures next September. Fencing in the second and third forms organised games programme will also stop during the summer term. However, we are very pleased with the progress made by the second and third forms, and fencing will definitely be included in their games programme next year.

The first House match and School match has just been fought. In the House match Gibbon beat Cromwell by 6 fights to 3, and Morley beat Pitt by 5 fights to 4. In the School match against West Square the Senior team won by 5 bouts to 4, and the Junior team, fencing for the first time, drew 8 bouts all but won on hits. Milward and Baker did particularly well for the Junior team, each winning 3 of their bouts.

A. R. WARREN. 4b. Gc.

FIVES Captain: J. S. Edwell. Vice-Captain: P. L. Eastwood.
Secretary: A. C. Savage.

This season the School Fives Team has done much better in the Marchant Cup Competition than was hoped. We expect to finish fourth in the League, which consists of seven teams. The School team is made up of P. L. Eastwood, J. S. Edwell, A. Savage and S. Whitesman with J. Boreham first reserve.

Our results to date are as follows:—

Opponents	*Venue*	*Points*	*Games*
v. Sir Walter St. Johns ...	H	133—100	8—4
v. Strand	A	177—77	10—2
v. Marylebone	A	75—132	1—8
v. Hackney Downs ...	A	92—145	3—9
v. Sloane	H	92—174	2—10
v. Hackney Downs ...	H	98—154	3—9
v. Marylebone	H	153—97	8—4
v. Sloane	A	140—152	6—6
v. Sir Walter St. Johns ...	A	170—125	9—3

Two points are awarded for a win on points and two points are awarded for a win on games. Thus, so far we have scored 17 points.

The Individual Fives Championship is now under way and the first round has now been completed. It is also hoped that the House matches will be played this term.

J. S. Edwell and P. Eastwood are to be congratulated on being awarded Full Colours, and we would like to thank Mr. Tremayne for the work he has done as master-in-charge of Fives.

A. C. SAVAGE. U6. Ma.

THE GYM CLUB The Gym Club began its annual meetings this term much weakened by the loss of J. Lothian. Lothian, who was captain of the Gym Club, also held the office of Prefect. He is a fine gymnast and athlete, and now that he has left school, he hopes to train and make his career that of a Gymnastic Instructor.

At the moment we are about to start our preparations for the Gymnastic Display at the end of the term. This display is planned to last ten or fifteen minutes, and will show the parents and boys that belonging to the Gym Club will keep you fit and is also good fun.

The general attendance is rather weak, and the bulk of the Club consists of mainly juniors; I therefore urge all seniors who are interested to attend.

J. MCCLURE. 4b. Pc.

THE LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY Under the auspices of Mr. Thom the Literary and Dramatic Society has been formed.

The main activity of the Society will be to read through Shakespeare's plays, and a start has already been made with the reading of "Othello." As well as the reading of plays it is proposed to devote some time to the criticism of plays, books and films.

The Society is open to keen members of the Senior school. Details of the dates of future meetings will be posted well in advance on the appropriate notice board.

I. H. SIMONS.

RAILWAY CLUB Since the last issue of the Link there have been three meetings of the Railway Club. At the end of last term, T. Gant gave an interesting talk on the Isle of Axholme Joint Line. Meetings this term have been held after school on Mondays. The first took the form of a discussion on the Modernisation Proposals for British Railways. This was well attended and provoked a lively argument between protagonists of diesel and electric traction. At the next meeting P. Drain gave a talk on the History of the London Transport Railways. Future meetings will include illustrated talks on "The Lambourn Valley Light Railway," "London's Vanished Railways," "The Westerham and Hawkhurst Branch Lines" and "The Snowdon Mountain Railway." Finally, there will again be the Model Railway Display at the Eisteddfod, which will include an unusual model overhead collection railway.

B. HOMEWOOD. 5b. Ga.

RUGBY

FIRST XV

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

The First XV has had what must certainly be the worst season ever.

The record to date is:—

Played	*Won*	*Lost*	*Drawn*	*For*	*Against*
17	1	16	0	58	396

Indeed by most of the teams we have played we have been outclassed. The root of the matter is that of last season's team only four are still with us. We are therefore obliged to field a very young team. We have, too, been seriously depleted by injuries, particularly in the case of the captain, J. B. Smith, who was out of the game for several weeks owing to a knee injury.

Towards the end of the season, however, we are developing an excellent fighting spirit. We held Wallington—one of the strongest rugby schools in Surrey—to 16—0. In the case of Surbiton, after losing 20—5 last term, we held them to a pointless draw until half-time in the return match and in the second half they were lucky to cross our line twice to win by 8—0. The score in the Bec match was cut from 64—0 to 6—5. Bec received the shock of their lives to see J. M. Gooders cross the line from a three-quarter movement early in the game, and convert his own try to give the School a lead of 5—0, which was retained until half-time. After Bec had scored two unconverted tries, the lead was almost snatched back for us by G. R. Williams, who narrowly missed a difficult penalty in the last minute of the game. After 13 consecutive defeats we beat Mitcham 6—3.



Most of the team have played well this season in spite of the discouraging results. We have a reliable full-back in A. Bishop, a useful centre in J. Davies and a determined runner, not to mention an able Captain, in J. B. Smith. J. M. Gooders has played equally well at fly-half and wing-forward, and D. G. Nebbitt at scrum-half, excelling at short dashes for the line from the base of the scrum, seldom has a bad match. P. Davey is a tower of strength in the second row and useful in the lineout, while G. R. Williams is a good, fighting wing-forward, though sometimes fitting this description a little too literally, and a valuable place-kicker. J. R. Marshall

has hooked well, most of the time against heavier scrums. He and C. Newson are among the most promising of the young forwards.

We look forward with some optimism to the Surrey and Wasps seven-a-side competitions, since in a team of seven, we can include mainly the more experienced players, so eliminating one of the disadvantages which has made this season so unsuccessful.

Finally, we record our thanks to one of our most consistent supporters, the Headmaster.

D. G. NYE. U6a. Pa.

(Nye is properly a second row forward. Necessity has made him into a full-back, scrum-half and centre-threequarter. One of the main factors in our recovery has been his versatility, determination and example.—A.R.H.)

SECOND XV

At times it has been difficult (and once, impossible) to get a Second XV together at all, but we discovered some unexpected talent and several matches have been played. The first victory was won by 8—6 against Mitcham on March 5th. Play has been scrappy and unskilful with the forwards not combining and the three-quarters dropping their passes and getting out of position. But the games have been hard fought and enjoyed, and the team is gaining in experience.

The team has included: J. E. Edwell, D. Cross, M. Stemp, D. Edmonds, V. Ronald, R. Evans, J. Thorn, K. Mattafice, T. Ryan, J. Tickner, J. Hutt, A. Hill, R. Halfin, R. Jones, B. Swaine, V. Alvey, V. Holt, P. Cornish, P. Eastwood, S. Whitesman and R. Worrall, also the Colts: D. J. Birkenshaw, A. J. Thrower, D. Hogg, and D. Liggitt.

COLTS XV

Captain: D. J. Birkenshaw. Vice-Captain: R. Eeles.

Results:—

v. Tiffin (lost) 45—6.
v. Surbiton (lost) 12—5.
v. Bec. (lost) 9—3.
v. Mitcham (lost) 6—0.

This term the Colts have had very bad luck. Half the fixtures were cancelled while the others were lost.

Against Tiffin the score, 45—6, pointed to an easy victory for Tiffin but it was not so. The Colts held Tiffin in theirr own twenty-five for most of the first half. In the second Tiffin ran riot and the gallant Colts fell after a great struggle.

On a pitch treacherous with mud and water, the Colts narrowly lost to Surbiton by 12—5. At half-time Wandsworth, full of confidence at their 5—0 lead, slacked off a little and became careless. Two penalties were given away which proved our downfall. We were the first team this season to score against Surbiton on their own ground.

In the match against the Bec School we put up the best performance ever. Unfortunately, two bad lapses gave the game away 3—9. For the first time the whole team showed a really strong fighting spirit and they marked, tackled and broke away with tremendous determination.

In J. Carr we have at last found a reliable and thrustful scrum-half. When he learns to pass from the scrum he will be really useful. In R. Polley and R. Moody (recently from Wales) we have two new and highly energetic forwards. D. Hogg and J. Tudgay are both useful heavy-weights. R. Eeles, fly-half, has been playing for the Surrey Junior Colts. D. Liggitt,

J. McClure and D. Mann have done excellent work outside the scrum with great improvement in their tackling, and R. Lloyd has successfully taken over the position of full-back. Of the "old" forwards we have left, we have A. Thrower with his height and strength in the loose and the line-outs, A. Claydon who hooks well and K. Hudson, P. Bennett and B. Hitchins in the back row. Loyal reserves who have played are C. Bowyer, A. Oldall and J. Williams, who with M. Smith have given much vocal support from the touch line.

The team owes much to its Captain, D. J. Birkenshaw, whose example, encouragement and conduct both on and off the field has been its biggest asset.

J. A. WILLIAMS. Ga. 4b.

JUNIOR XV

The second half of the season has seen a considerable improvement in the play of the Juniors, with corresponding success on the Rugger field, but the team has still much to learn. No criticism can be made of their keenness and hard work, which are always of a very high standard, but we have yet to see these two excellent qualities being directed into one regular, disciplined and, above all, unified effort, which should bring success even against a much heavier team.

The loose play of the forwards is still weak, and their repeated failure to obey immediately and as one man their leader's orders to "take" or to "heel," as the case may be, in a loose scrum has lost valuable points for the side. Better use could also be made of short, quick passing in a frontal attack. The three-quarters are working together now and with more intelligence, varying their method of attack with some success; they still need much practice in learning how to pass the ball correctly and speedily.

Tackling, apart from one or two individual efforts, is not good, chiefly due to the deplorable tendency to try and "scrag" a man, instead of going in low and using the shoulder.

As for the future, if the team continues to show next year the same enthusiasm, and is prepared to correct these faults, then there should be no lack of victories to announce in the Hall on Monday mornings, as far as their team is concerned.

Matches this term have been played against Tiffins (Lost 0—6); Surbiton (Won 9—0); Bec (Won 6—0); the team has thus avenged their defeat of last term by Surbiton and Bec, and has reduced the score against Tiffins. Matches against Marylebone, Brockley and Selhurst had to be cancelled because of bad weather. The latest match, against Mitcham, was won 25—0.

The following boys have played in the Juniors this term: K. Denyer (Capt.), B. Grainger, R. Mason, C. Tupper, R. Robins, R. Andrews, J. Palmer, M. Murrell, A. Atkinson, P. Mills, M. Halsey, G. Wilson, R. Cox, A. Dennis, R. Hammatt, P. Scott, A. Bonner.

UNDER 13 XV

This year the School has had a fairly successful Under 13 Team. Results are as follows:—

v. Honeywell	(A)	Drawn	6—6
v. Surbiton	(A)	Lost	3—9
v. Chartesey	(H)	Won	9—6
v. Surbiton	(H)	Lost	3—9
v. Bec	(A)	Drawn	3—3

The following boys have played for the Under 13: P. Gillingham, M. Dries, A. Byrne, P. Lewis (Capt.), M. Howe, D. Simpson (Vice-Capt.), W. Fuller, P. Rees, M. Levy, R. Bone, D. Holdich, J. West, A. Wade, F. Shons, L. N. Congdon, A. Jales, V. B. Hayter, J. Atack.

The team has several strong runners outside the scrum, but the forwards, though fast and hard-working, have too often adopted soccer tactics and failed to give them the opportunities they deserve. The team is good in defence, and has the makings of a very good Junior side next year.

Rugby Football Colours

AWARDED LAST YEAR:

1st XV Colours: J. B. Smith, J. M. Gooders.
Half-Colours: D. G. C. Nye, D. J. A. Livingstone.

1ST XV COLOURS RECOMMENDED:

9th November, 1954: D. G. C. Nye.
27th January, 1955: G. R. Williams.
14th February, 1955: D. Nebbitt.

2ND XV BADGES AWARDED:

9th November, 1954: J. S. Edwell.
11th November, 1954: A. E. Bishop.
27th January, 1955: C. M. Newson, D. M. Cooper, D. B. Cross, K. Mattafice, R. Worrall
8th February, 1955: P. Davey, J. Marshall.

COLTS BADGES AWARDED:

9th November, 1954: D. J. Birkenshaw.
15th November, 1954: R. W. Eeles, D. J. Liggitt.
23rd November, 1954: K. W. Fendt.
8th February, 1955: J. D. Carr, D. G. Hogg, R. T. J. Moody.
14th February, 1955: A. Thrower.

JUNIORS BADGES AWARDED:

9th November, 1954: K. H. W. Denyer.
15th November, 1954: B. A. Cox, K. Robins.
23rd November, 1954: P. A. Mills, R. W. Mason.
28th January, 1955: C. D. Tupper.
8th February, 1955: A. W. Atkinson, L. G. Wilson.

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS ASSOCIATION Yet another Association year will soon have drawn to a close and it is pleasing to be able to report that it will have been marked by successes in several fields and by important advances in the implementation of the Memorial Fund. Although it appears that total membership may close a little lower than last year, it is particularly gratifying to note that new members are joining our ranks direct from school in increasing numbers. This influx of young blood is especially welcome as it is, of course, essential to our existence.

Our TABLE TENNIS teams have again competed in the Wandsworth and District League. The 1st team holds its own in Division 3, whilst the 2nd team plays in a lower sphere where its results are by no means commensurate with the enthusiasm with which it participates.

CHESS matches have again been played against the School this winter and the results appear once again to divide the spoils evenly. These encounters are greatly enjoyed by our players and our thanks are due to the School team for making these fixtures possible.

It is to be regretted that the WHIST DRIVES which we have run this winter with the assistance of the helpers of the Parents' Association have not been better attended. We had hoped to build up a regular band of supporters for these functions, but although they have proved undeniably friendly social affairs the sparse attendances have precluded them from being financially rewarding.

The RUGBY CLUB are enjoying a good season as the following results will show. The 1st XV under the very able captaincy of Derek Finch are having the better of things notwithstanding that the calibre of the opposition grows each year. Indeed, it is a matter of great satisfaction that the Club's fixture list now extends to clubs that a few seasons ago would have seemed quite outside our standards. The measure of a club's standing in the rugger world may of course be gauged by the strength of its fixture list and it is good to note therefore that many noteworthy clubs are now pleased to offer opposition. Results at the time of going to press (1.3.55) are as follows:—

	Played	*Won*	*Drawn*	*Lost*	*Points For*	*Points Against*
1st XV ...	22	12	2	8	192	146
"A" XV ...	20	8	5	7	213	93
Extra "A" XV	18	7	—	11	—	—

The points shown against the "A" XV results are especially worthy of note and are explained by three particularly good wins, 26—6, 27—0, 56—0.

It has been possible to field three XV's regularly this season and over 70 playing members have been called upon during that time.

MEMORIAL FUND. As final decisions have yet to be taken on this connection it would be imprudent to enter into details at the moment, but it may be recorded with pleasure that plans are afoot at last to implement the discharge of the Fund. After so many years of enforced inactivity everyone who has the Memorial Fund at heart will welcome the news that definite efforts are being made to raise a Memorial worthy of the cause. We hope that by the time the notes for the next issue of the Link come to be written these present plans will have assumed a more concrete form, both literally and metaphorically.

D. C. FERNE.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION For parents to take an interest in the welfare, education and future of their children is surely one of the most natural and commendable of human characteristics; and, for this reason alone, it is fitting that parents should be interested in their childrens' schools and activities associated with them. Everyone, and more especially those who are parents, should concern them-

selves with the broader aspects of education, and to this end, Parents' Associations like our own have been formed at many schools. They provide a vital link between parents and teachers: between home and school. The importance of this relationship has been emphasised recently by those in the educational world whose opinion should not be ignored, and the following instances are well worthy of our thought and consideration.

The "Manchester Guardian" of 30th December last reported that at the opening of the conference of educational associations in London, Sir Charles Morris, Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University, in his presidential address said: "We are beginning to hear much more of the partnership between the home and the expert, and in particular of partnership between the home and the school: and all this is very much to the good. It is ridiculous, and in some matters for some children disastrous, when home and school pull in different directions."

At the same conference, one day took the form of a symposium on "Parent-Teacher Associations—Taking Stock," and according to the February News Letter of the English New Education Fellowship (an organisation to which we are affiliated), the Chairman, Mr. G. A. Lyward, in his summing-up, stated that the "prime importance of Parents' Associations rested not upon numbers, but upon 'the particulars,' upon the real awareness of parents for what went on within the school."

The report of another presidential address appeared in "The Times Educational Supplement" for 31st December, 1954. This was by Mr. A. G. Russell, of the Holt School, Liverpool, and he was speaking to the Incorporated Association of Head Masters, at the County Hall, London, on the theme of home and school. According to the "Times"—the quotation is not verbatim—Mr. Russell indicated that in preparing the young for society the home had responsibility besides the school. The greatest impediment to equality of opportunity was not to be found in the schools, but from the vastly differing attitudes to education in the homes of the pupils. Mr. Russell referred to the necessity for the full sympathy of the parents, an adequate understanding by them of the purposes of the school, and an emotional warmth of co-operation which would animate and enliven all contacts between home and school.

Surely these recent remarks by authorities on education, all stressing the importance of a link between home and school, should provide us with ample food for thought. Surely they should spur us on to ensure that our Wandsworth School Parents' Association is fully playing its part, and that all its members—which in effect means all parents of boys at the School—are taking a live interest in its affairs.

One important event in which parents can participate, and quite definitely should participate, in the near future, is the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held on 20th May. Come along and join in the meeting and in the pleasant social hour or more which, we hope, will follow. A new Parents' Council will be elected at this meeting and it is hoped that they will give a lead to the Association, for without a live and keen head we cannot have a virile and active body. Full details about the Annual General Meeting will be found in the terminal letter.

The Parents' Council have decided to donate a further £30 towards the cost of the School tape-recorder. This means that the Association has paid for it entirely, and the Council is confident that all members will approve of this expenditure.

E. G. GREEN.