THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

MARCH 1956

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE :

Editor : A. E. Preston.

House Representatives : H. I. Butnick, J. P. Fox, I. H. Simons

Business Manager : Mr. W. H. George.

Treasurer : Mr. G. Elms.

Art Advisor : Mr. A. Hodgkinson.

CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE: THURSDAY 14th 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.

C. EVANS & Son. (Printers), Ltd. 110 Douglas Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XLI **MARCH, 1956** **No. 1**

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

Anticipations

In the last seven numbers of The Link, commencing December 1953, I have endeavoured to familiarise you all, boys, old boys, and parents, with the main features of the future School.

In all departments, but especially in Gymnasia, Library, Workshops, Laboratories, Art Rooms, Medical Rooms, and special subject rooms, such as the large fully equipped Geography and History Rooms, it will afford provision far in advance of anything we have at present, though our present premises are admittedly superior to those of the majority of schools. It will not be long now before you will be able to see for yourselves what the best modern provision for secondary education is like, as a preliminary to taking it over in actual use.

You will find three new Gymnasia, each considerably larger than the present one, and each equipped with its own range of showers and changing room with kit lockers. The new Library, which will be in charge of a fully qualified professional Librarian, will be properly designed as such, commodious and well-stocked, and there will be in addition a separate Reference Library and a Library Classroom.

In the wide range of Workshops, we shall have two Engineering Workshops, four workshops for the various Building crafts, handicraft rooms for Woodwork and Metalwork, and special rooms for a variety of light crafts. Similarly the Art rooms will offer a far wider choice of media than a smaller school could afford.

We shall at last have suitable Biological Laboratories and an Engineering Laboratory, as well as General Science laboratories. A range of Medical Rooms, which will virtually make the School its own clinic, will be a vast improvement on our present improvised arrangements. Nor shall we fail to appreciate such smaller items as a Kiln Room, Greenhouse, and Music Practice Rooms.

External features will be the Open Air Theatre in the Quadrangle and the Roof Terrace on the Classroom Block.

Internally, the School will be delightfully furnished and equipped, and will enjoy the new standards of lighting and radio in every room.

In surroundings such as these it will be up to us to see that our standards and our performance come up to a similar high level: our standards of conduct, courtesy, responsibility, enterprise and service, not forgetting our standards of personal appearance, speech, and manners.

Educational Advantages and Opportunities

Our plans for the new School not only add to the opportunities and advantages of present members, but extend these opportunities to a larger number and to a wider range of talent and ability than we have hitherto recruited. I hope none of you subscribe to the purblind view that the more strictly academic courses of our tradition will suffer from the parallel existence of courses of other types, goals, and interests within the same school community. A far wiser view would be to see them as an enrichment of our life and work as a school, an opportunity to appreciate excellence in

other fields perhaps than those of our particular best and choice.

There is no reason why at this point our academically abler boys should turn into intellectual or social snobs. It has not happened so far, though in the nature of things the majority of their fellows have been only average or below. Let us accept with gratitude any special talent we may possess. It should not puff us up with vanity or a sense of superiority. Likewise there is no reason why at this point any of us, whether more or less able, should harbour a curmudgeonly resentment against the extension of opportunities such as we possess to a wider field of our fellows.

The future School offers its opportunities to all, and with them improved facilities for any and every type of course. Obviously the younger you are, the more you will benefit, for you will have the advantages over a longer period of your school life.

The fullest opportunities lie with the first and second forms, and it is to them and their parents in particular that the following notes are addressed.

The Choice in the Second Year

The Lower School (ages 11-13) affords the period of orientation towards a suitable course in the Main School (ages 14-19). In essence the process is one of self-selection through the pupil's response to a wide and varied curriculum, the core of which is the same for all. He reveals his abilities, bents, and interests. Objective assessments are made over the whole course: attainment tests, intelligence tests, and special ability and aptitude tests. In the light of these and his general performance in class, he is recommended for an appropriate course in the Main School.

What courses are open to him?

For the intellectually ablest, the academic courses, P and A, are the right choice. These are designed to lead through the Sixth Form to the University.

For boys of sufficient ability, with an interest in Mathematics and Science and their applications, there are the various technically biassed courses: the Technical High (TH) course for able boys who hope to go on to Technological Colleges: Engineering-centred courses (E and e) for student apprenticeships at 16-18, or craft apprenticeships at 16: Building-centred courses (O and R) for preliminary professional qualifications or craft apprenticeships at 16.

Apart from TH, these technical courses are not higher or lower but a matter of choice for boys of comparable ability. If, however, a particular course is over-subscribed, selection for it will go by standard of performance. Some boys therefore will have to take their course of second choice.

For other boys there will be an intermediate course, N, modified academic with some technical study.

Many boys need general secondary courses that are neither strictly academic nor technical. But even with these general courses there will be a choice of some bias, e.g. T with a practical bias, I with literary bias, K with Art bias, etc.

But in all courses the aim will be a full secondary education founded on the basic subjects which all must take, and this will facilitate transfer, if need be, from course to course at any age in the light of progress, ambition, and choice of career.

The future School offers what has never previously been achieved in English education: it keeps open the door of opportunity to all throughout the whole of school life.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read the summary of a speech at the Old Boys' Dinner by Denis Ferne, late Secretary, O.W.A. He sees the New School from an uncommon angle, but the validity of his perspective cannot be gainsaid.

On the same occasion the Head Prefect, P. L. Eastwood, made an able and impressive speech in responding to the toast to the School.

During the Christmas vacation I was invited along with a few other heads of grammar and public schools to discuss with the Rector of the Imperial College of Science, with my old fellow-collegian, Professor P. M. S. Blackett and other members of the Staff of I.C.S., a plan to offer places to suitable Arts pupils who wished to study for degrees in Science. This plan will be first put into operation in a small way this year and will be fully developed next. To base a university science course on a basis of Sixth form humanities should help to solve the problem of the "illiterate" science student.

Since it is our responsibility this year to organise the activities of the Inter-Sixth Society of the nine local grammar schools, it is all the more gratifying to record the success of a half-day conference on the Film, at which the Sixth Forms were instructed and entertained by Dr. Roger Manvell, Director of the British Film Academy, and Film Directors Anthony Havelock-Allen and Peter Jackson.

Next term we hope to arrange for the Society a talk on E.S.P., and the clue to what that means may be gathered from the fact that the speaker will be some authoritative expert from the Society for Psychical Research.

Simons, (Chairman of the South London Inter-Schools Group of the CEWC), was lucky enough to persuade Sir Richard Acland to talk to the Group on his personal impressions and experiences as an M.P. One of the liveliest addresses I have heard in years.

Congratulations also to Simons on being one of the four students chosen from over 2,000 participants as reporters of group discussions to the plenary session of the CEWC Christmas Holiday Lectures at the Central Hall, Westminster. Further, upon being asked to broadcast his report by the B.B.C., and again upon the able address on the same subject he gave to the Putney Rotary Club.

Such enterprise and public effectiveness brings many tributes to a boy's school.

I think it should also go on record that, on the national and international level of the work of the U.K. National Commission for Unesco, Mr. Payne is representing this country at an important conference of experts from all over the world in Paris in May to consider problems of Western European—Asian relations as reflected in school textbooks and teaching programmes. I congratulate him—and his School—on this distinction, a result of the excellent work he has been doing in this field, for some years.

Though it is to our loss, and in many ways to our keen regret, Mr. Keyte's appointment to the Head of Department post in Geography at the new Putney Park Lane (Elliott) Comprehensive School is a well deserved tribute to his qualities as a man and as a teacher. He has our warm gratitude for all he has done here over the last dozen years and our best wishes in his future responsibilities.

Every fourth year or thereabouts we have the privilege of nominating a boy to take part in an educational tour of Canada under the W. H. Rhodes Trust. The standards of scholarship, personality, character and responsibility that we look for in this "ambassador" of the School are high and exacting, and unless we have just the right boy we postpone our turn to choose until the following year.

This year the Staff have chosen R. S. Hore, Head of Morley House. The honour of this unique opportunity puts upon him a great responsibility which we are confident he will discharge with credit.

This year the credit of winning an L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarship for a three months visit to France goes to B. R. Harding. Congratulations.

I am pleased to record that R. Williamson and J. C. Vallé-Jones were appointed School Sub-Prefects at the end of the Autumn Term.

Through the initiative of a committee of the Parents' Council, a Careers Evening was arranged for February 24th, and both parents and senior boys had the opportunity of hearing a number of distinguished industrial and commercial leaders and of asking them questions.

Congratulations to Jerzy Dobrowolski, formerly of Cromwell, who has obtained a Post-Doctorate Research Fellowship awarded by the National Research Council of Canada at the University of Ottawa. From Wandsworth School he went to Battersea Polytechnic for two years and then for three years to the Imperial College of Science where he obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D degrees.

AVETE ATQUE VALETE

NEW BOYS SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF THE LINK :

I. P. Blaney, A. B. Carter, P. D. Harrington, B. A. Johnson, P. Mansfield, R. E. Newark, D. B. Newark, B. A. Peapell, J. H. Playle, D. W. Rotchell.

BOYS LEFT SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF THE LINK :

O. W. H. Bright-Taylor, A. P. Byrne, G. H. Croombs, R. S. Davien, A. J. C. Flind, W. F. Goddon, A. L. Goodyear, C. R. Hardcastle, A. J. Hill, C. W. Lane, M. G. Naden, D. G. E. Nebbitt, R. J. Orrow, K. F. Old, I. K. Redmond, T. J. Ryan, K. J. Stephens, J. M. Taylor, R. Thompson, E. T. Webster, S. G. Whitesman.

PERFORMANCE OF "TWELFTH NIGHT" A gay, sparkling, colourful production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" took place at the School on the 8th, 9th and 10th December, when the annual play was presented. The high standard of production set by the School in past years was more than maintained. The spirit of Shakespeare's light-hearted and lovely play was beautifully caught and the whole presentation had an accomplished air of speed, sparkle and fun.

The tone and temper of the play was skilfully set from the first words spoken by Orsino, and, as the scene shifted from the Duke's palace in Illyria, to Olivia's house and garden, to the street and to the sea-coast nearby, it was evident that the players had been infected by the gaiety and beauty of the world in which the romantic Orsino, Viola and Olivia could co-exist with the boisterous Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek and the serious-faced, black-habited, puritanical Malvolio.

There is, indeed, in this play a delicate balance held between these romantic and humorous elements, and this production held the balance well. The love-sick Orsino was played with dignity and poise by N. Smith and his lines were spoken with beauty and rare timing. Viola, played by N. C. Bishop, acted consistently and spoke clearly, although perhaps a little more of the poetry of the part might have been conveyed. Altogether, however, he made a courageous attempt at one of the more difficult parts in Shakespeare's plays.

P. N. Cassidy showed his considerable stage experience and was a convincing and delightful Olivia. He showed ability in conveying to the audience his love for Viola and he excelled in the dramatic nature of his entrances and exits.

Many performances of this play have lost equilibrium by over-emphasis on the foolery and the boisterous drunken scenes. This production avoided such excesses, yet gave a strength and maturity of performance that was remarkable. Sir Toby was a human and likeable character most ably played by J. W. Sharp. He spoke his part with real appreciation of its significance and gave a vivid characterization of the roistering, hard-drinking rogue without losing the likeable traits of his character. His acting showed masterly timing and his facial expression added much to an outstanding performance.

As a foil to Sir Toby nothing could have bettered G. W. C. Wort's Sir Andrew Aguecheek. His characterization was consistent throughout and his antics made the play richly humorous. At no time did he overplay his part and his fantastic behaviour was always within the bounds of credulity, so that, despite his folly, his part was yet full of sympathy and understanding. It was no mean achievement to make the audience roar with laughter and yet feel the pathos of the foolish knight who was not without his own unfulfilled longings and aspirations.

One of the successes of the production was the playing of Feste by J. A. Bull. This very young actor has rare talent and a fine flair for the stage. He played with wit and sparkle, acted with intelligence and sang-froid and sang his songs with natural simplicity.

Of the other roistering characters Fabian, played intelligently by P. J. Drain, and Maria, pertly and amusingly portrayed by J. H. Cousins, gave enjoyable and happy performances.

The outstanding performance of the production, however, was given by J. P. Fox, as Malvolio. He conveyed subtly and delicately all the nuances of the self-loving, puritanical steward; and his sense of the dramatic, his timing, facial expression, economical use of gesture and generally controlled technique made his Malvolio well worth watching. His oddities, like those of Sir Andrew Aguecheek, never got out of hand, and he was able to create sympathy for the character. This was a mature and memorable performance.

Other parts were competently played by R. S. Hore as Antonio; J. G. F. Parsons as Curio and the Second Officer; B. R. Harding as Valentine and the Priest; and A. E. G. Paxman as the Sea Captain and the First Officer. A special word of praise is due to G. P. Douel for the clarity of his speech and his forthright playing of the part of Sebastian.

The set were simple and appropriate and the lighting particularly well-handled and effective. The costumes were almost uniformly appropriate. The make-up was extremely effective. A special feature of the production was the skilful handling of the music.

The Producer, Mr. E. E. Bacchus, and the Assistant Producer, Mr. R. W. Waters, are to be congratulated on an outstanding production. They were ably backed up by a team of helpers. Mr. J. E. Austin acted as Business Manager; Mr. H. C. Hall as Stage Manager; Mr. G. M. Evans and Mr. G. R. Gibson were in charge of make-up; and Mr. R. B. Burgess, assisted by B. C. Johnston, was responsible for the music. J. W. Sharp designed the programme cover. Mr. A. Hodgkinson was responsible for the programme and properties. The Stage Manager's team included D. Ayshford, C. R. Hardcastle, J. A. Lawrence, R. A. Scripps, D. A. Spooner, J. M. Taylor, and M. W. McDonell. Altogether this production of "Twelfth Night" reflected great credit on all who took part in it.

R.J.T.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT On the evening of the 19th December, the School Choir and Orchestra gave a concert. The works played and sung varied from the Elizabethans, Morley and Gibbons, to Vaughan Williams and Peter Warlock.

The first part of the programme was composed of " O come all ye Faithful " and " Jerusalem," sung by the choir and audience; " And the Glory of the Lord " from Handel's Messiah; the Chorale " Sleepers Wake " by J. S. Bach and five more carols; " Captain Stratton's Fancy " was sung by the baritone soloist; the School Orchestra played the Earl of Salisbury's Pavane, a movement from Peter Warlock's Capriol Suite, and the Double Violin Concerto by J. S. Bach. This was played by Brian Johnston and Donald King, standing in for Gerald Williams who had dislocated a shoulder. The first part ran smoothly, and quickly. A short interval was then taken.

The second part of the concert opened with the boisterous "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen ". This was followed by the main work in the programme, R. Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols for Baritone Solo, Choir, Piano, and Tubular Bells. The soloist and the choir rose to the occasion and gave an extremely polished, and well-balanced performance. Two duets for piano followed, played by Mr. Keyte and Mr. Burgess, the second one being Bach's Choral Prelude to " Sleepers Wake ". Two Elizabethan songs, " My Bonny Lass She Smileth," and " The Silver Swan," continued the programme. Then the Elizabethan scene changed to the gay north-country of " Bobbie Shaftoe " which had to be repeated.

Donald King then played the Fantasia on Greensleeves for Violin by Vaughan Williams. A German, English, and a delightful Basque Carol, brought the Choir to the last work, Purcell's Anthem " Rejoice in the Lord Always ".

To round off the evening the Choir, Orchestra and Audience sang " The First Nowell ".

It was an excellent performance, and was well attended, in spite of the poor weather. The Headmaster addressing the Audience at the close, said that the School should be extremely proud of its Choir and Orchestra, trained by Mr. Burgess, and that their efforts should be highly commended.

B. JOHNSTON, L6Ec, Mc.

THE NEW SCHOOL

(Addressing the Old Wandsworthians Association on the occasion of their Annual Dinner the former Secretary, Mr. D. Ferne, made interesting reference to the New School. We are glad to print a summary of what he said.—Ed.*)*

It is common knowledge that the plan to create Comprehensive High Schools has been the subject of much controversy. The application of the scheme to our own school in particular has been commented on with " pained surprise," " hostility," and " bitter feelings " of varying intensity.

I hold no special brief for this latest trend in educational theory: I am neither disciple nor sceptic, but I do regard it as important that we should make an honest attempt, not only to take an objective view of the plan, but also perhaps to change the lens to a wider angle in order to see it set against a wider landscape.

If I have interpreted correctly the remarks of other Old Wandsworthians, the predominant reaction to the scheme has been surprise at what is considered a deplorable and revolutionary change, but should we really be so surprised at this development in these swiftly changing days? This innovation in educational method is a small thing in comparison with the sweeping changes that have taken place during the lifetime of the Old Wandsworthians Association.

A little more than a year before the Association was founded two men at the lonely site of Kitty Hawk Field in North Carolina succeeded in persuading a queer contraption to rise from the ground with the aid of a twelve horse-power engine and stagger for 840 yards at an altitude of 34 feet. To-day we are annihilating space with the Comet and the Britannia.

When the inaugural meeting of our Association was held in the Winter of 1906, construction was beginning of the first sky-scrapers in New York.

Some people expressed the opinion that they would prove unsafe and impracticable, but think of the sky-line silhouette of Manhattan to-day.

In 1906 the gold sovereign was common currency and pound notes were not to be thought of for another nine years, and yet a few weeks ago at Christmas time an Old Wandsworthian, the Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, saw his signature reproduced 180 million times on pound and ten-shilling notes in order to cater for our spending spree, while the gold sovereign has become a collector's curiosity.

Many other far-reaching changes have taken place within our own lifetime in Science, in our social and political life, in industry and commerce, and yet we accept without lifting an eyebrow the inevitable revolution in our way of life. We do not always find the alterations in the pattern to our taste, but what we can and should do is to " learn to live at peace with change ".

Is it reasonable to expect that our educational system alone should remain unaffected by the march of events? It would be a pity if it were so. As human affairs become daily more complex, as life makes greater and more varied demands upon the generations growing up, our system of education must inevitably be reorganised to meet the challenge. To think otherwise would be unrealistic.

In the last fifty years the march of progress has broken into a jog-trot, and may well soon accelerate into a gallop. It is not inconceivable that in the not far-distant future the Comprehensive High School will be the rule rather than the exception, and we may then feel proud that Wandsworth School was one of the successful pioneers. It is our hope that it will find greatness and dignity and fair renown. May it prove worthy of that which has gone before, and above all else may its pupils come to find a love for it at least equal to our love for the school of the past. We cannot wish them more, and more than that they have no right to ask.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Editor,

It is just over a year now since I left Wandsworth and high time that I wrote and told you something of what has happened to me since then. But before I do that, I must say how delighted I have been to receive regularly a copy of The Link. It has brought me news of pupils whose futures I was interested in, news of the developments at the School, so soon to reach their climax, and above all the atmosphere so familiar for so long of the corridors and classrooms, clubs and societies of Wandsworth. I have, of course, noted specially how well Morley House has been flourishing since I left!

I think the first thing that struck me about Germany when I arrived here was its " foreignness ". I was no stranger to foreign parts and was already able to take for granted big differences between our own ways of life and those of other people, but somehow I was fascinated to find that windows, for instance, are constructed and fastened in a way that is totally different from our own, that one has to turn a key twice to undo a lock—some people have had moments of horror finding this out!—that the washing is done in the cellar, and that trams, in strings like sausages, have the habit of coming at you on the wrong side of the street, even when you have got used to driving on the right side, or should it be the wrong side? Then the art of combining central heating with a little fresh air had to be learnt. German food too is excellent, but very very different from our own.

I was fortunate in that my first days in Germany were spent in the great outward-looking city of Hamburg with its centuries of international trade and commerce to give it ease in welcoming foreigners. I was able to see here in dockyards and slipways the extent to which Western Germany has recovered from the war. The elegantly dressed windows, the swirling traffic, the busy folk, the new buildings more than offset such ruins as

remained. Bismarck, high on his pedestal, seemed to look on it all with satisfaction. The Alster, the artificial lagoon which gives distinction and charm to the centre of the city was frozen, and a bitter wind swept through the streets, but there was no mistaking the energy and confidence with which Hamburg, a few kilometres from the eastern frontier of the Federal Republic, was going about its daily work. Relations between the British and the Germans were evidently easy and friendly and when my few words of German failed, goodwill and gesticulation usually supplied the want.

I have travelled about in Germany a fair amount since then and have found these first impressions to be quite accurate. Of course, there is one very important respect in which Germany differs from Britain which I have only become aware of through time. You hear of the great industries of the Ruhr, of the commerce of the cities, of Germany's ability to compete with us in world markets, and you think of Germany as a country of city dwellers and factory workers, but by comparison with Britain, Germany is a spacious country. The congested areas are small, and much more of Germany is village and field and isolated farm, and above all—strange to the English eye—forest, mile upon dark green mile of it.

I live in the middle of a small forest, walk out of my garden gate into the pines and can go for miles without emerging except to cross a road here and there. In the forests of Germany one realises why so many woodcutters and charcoal burners have got into the fairy tales. Julius Caesar camped here, so did Marlborough, and I often think how right Caesar was to go into winter quarters when the wind whirled the snow devils through the dark forest as it is doing at this moment outside my window. How far from home his sunbred legionaries used to the luminous skies of Italy must have felt, when impenetrable forest darkness closed round them on a winter's night as they armed for their watch on the Rhine. With their genius for road building they would have felt much more at home on the autobahns which span the distances in Germany, on which one can drive three or four hundred miles in a day with less effort than it takes to go from London to Brighton. These distances too make for variety in the people as well as the landscape. One leaves the Rhineland in the morning with an "Auf Wiedersehen" and at the end of the day one is greeted in south Germany with a "Grüess Gott". The regional spirit is strong still in spite of the mix-up of people caused by the war and the still steady stream of refugees from the east. When a German speaks of his "homeland" he means the particular part of Germany he thinks of as his own.

You would think from what I have written that I lived in a German town. Unfortunately, since I like when in a foreign country to share the life of its citizens as far as possible, I live in a British town of over ten thousand inhabitants, though I have daily contact with Germans in the running of the School. You would, I am sure, feel quite at home in Queen's School once you had got used to seeing girls and having perhaps a form mistress instead of a man to tutor you. We have a pleasant new building and there are technical and modern forms as well as a full grammar school course, because we take all the boys and girls over eleven in our area. Half come from the Joint Headquarters of the Northern Army Group and the Second Tactical Air Force, half by bus from neighbouring airfields and installations. Most of them will stay with us a maximum of two to two and a half years, because their soldier and airman fathers are constantly on the move all over the world. Many have attended up to twelve schools and you can imagine how hard it is for them to keep up with their school work against such difficulties. However, very few of them lose heart, and you would be surprised to see them fitting into the life of a new school and getting on with their work within a day of two of joining. Our Geography teachers can usually count on having people in every class who have been to the particular part of the world that the class is studying. They do not always seem to have learnt much about it!

We play Soccer, because there are no Rugger teams to play in our area, and Hockey in the winter, with basketball and netball as minor games. In the summer we demonstrate the greatest mystery of English life to the

astonished Germans in the garrison—Cricket. Rounders and Tennis they can take us on at—but Cricket! We have an Olympic openair swimming pool and the use of a good track. A recent report in a German paper on a match between our boys and one of the nearby German grammar schools quoted one of the German players as saying it was the first time he had played as an international!

There are lots of interesting places to visit. Most of Holland is within a day's car journey from here. We can get into France and Belgium similarly and the river Rhine is a few miles away with the cities of Duesseldorf, Cologne and Bonn within easy reach. Moenchen-Gladbach, twelve kilometres away, is a fair-sized provincial city with a good deal of industry and commerce. At the moment it is Carnival time in the cities on this part of the Rhine and in Cologne especially people flock to see—double in a good many cases—the processions of decorated vehicles, brass bands, people in carnival costume, grotesque figures on stilts—Germans are fond of the grotesque—and satirical tableaux. Herr Blank and the new German Army have come in for a good deal of banter this year. All this in spite of a foot of snow and temperatures well below freezing. However, I am told this winter and last have been unusually severe for the Rhineland, which grows wine as well as picture postcards of castles.

We are snug enough in our houses and other buildings for the whole township is well heated from only four boilerhouses and it is strange to see lanes of bare grass through the snow where the underground heating mains have melted it. Here and there a wisp of steam plumes from a manhole cover giving the impression of some diabolical underground kitchen at work.

Soon now the spring will come with a burst of flowers and new leaves on the trees and we shall see the Headquarters town with its wide grassy open spaces, its clumps of trees and its flowering shrubs to full advantage for the first time. It is only now what one could call "finished," having been forest four years ago. Its construction in such a short time must be one of the most remarkable feats of townplanning and building since the war.

There is much more I could tell you about our life and work here, about Queen's School and about the boys and girls who attend it, but I must content myself with sending you now warmest greetings from Germany and best wishes for success and happiness at Wandsworth especially in the coming year of change. Yours very sincerely,

T. G. BENYON.

A DAY AT BROADCASTING HOUSE I walked into Broadcasting House at 10.30 on a cold morning, (a very nice time to start work), stepped into a lift and pressed a button. The lift shot up to the eighth floor and I went straight to the studio. This like many others had padded walls and half the floor covered with a once-thick pile carpet. By far the most important object was a large glass panel at the end of the room, behind which the producer and his technical staff sat and directed the programme.

I went straight to a comfortable armchair took out my script and started work. We (the cast and myself) put in all the necessary cuts, special effects and flicks, which are flashing green lights that tell you when to start your line. Next we had a complete run through, and after that, lunch. We were given two hours for lunch most of which I spent going up and down in the lifts. This was great fun.

The afternoon went fairly easily. I read a book for most of the time except when my part came up in the script. At four o'clock there was a tea break. Every one made one rush down to the canteen, had a cup of tea and then made another rush up again to be in time to start.

We finished the day by doing the final recording and then we all went home. I must say I did not feel very tired after my strenuous day in a comfortable chair but it was nice to get home again.

J. BULL, 2.G, Cb.

LONDON SCHOOLBOYS' FOIL COMPETITION—1956

Last year we entered three boys in this competition, one of whom reached the second round. However, this year there was a completely different picture. Six fencers were entered in the senior and eight in the junior.

In the junior competition Burton, Mason, Stretch, Libby, Bishop and Sanders were all promoted to the second round. Easton and Bari were unlucky not to be promoted. As always, the stylish fencing of Sanders won great credit for the School. In the second round experience began to tell, and only Libby (who topped his pool in the first round) was promoted. Libby, fencing very well and gallantly, was only knocked-out in the semi-final. We must congratulate this plucky and successful fencer.

The senior competition was of a very high standard, but our fencers fought with great skill and courage. Kreuchen, Green and Parsons were most unlucky to be knocked-out in the first round. Baker and Tarkowski did very well to be promoted to the second round. Inexperience led to Tarkowski being knocked-out in the second round and Baker in the third. Squires, as we all expected, was very successful. He topped his pools in the first three rounds and reached the final with ease. Slightly dispirited after an attack of cramp in his legs, Squires fought extremely well in the final and finished fourth.

This most satisfactory result shows the increasing quality of Wandsworth fencing and causes us to expect even greater honours in the Schoolboys' and other competitions in future years.

R. BAKER, 4Pi.

THE LIMITS OF TOLERATION

If we are to live peaceably among our fellow men we must be tolerant, we must carefully avoid interfering with or attempting to destroy things or ideas with which we are not in agreement, or of which we do not entirely approve. We must often put up with things, often just make the best of circumstances and people we find unpleasant. But where does toleration stop?

We might first consider just what toleration is. A man does not tolerate his friends, he welcomes them: but he tolerates his political opponents—if he is a good democrat. The musical do not tolerate good music, they enjoy it: but they may tolerate jazz or " tea-shop " music, or the blundering efforts of small boys on the piano or the violin. Toleration, then, although related to acceptance, is not the same, since it implies a division of things into those which a man welcomes, the things he loves and gladly accepts, to which he gives whole-hearted approval, and those which he merely tolerates, which he does not accept at all gladly, which, in fact, he can accept only with an effort. A third division in this descending classification comprises those things which a man cannot stand at any price, which he cannot tolerate. The humane, educated man does not welcome the murderer; he would be somewhat unwise to tolerate him; he must destroy him, or, at least, destroy his liberty to take human life.

Some things may be welcomed sometimes and tolerated at others, whilst in a third set of circumstances they may become intolerable. A lion in a zoo enclosure may be a source of instruction and interest to the ordinary spectator and to the naturalist. To that same naturalist a lion near his camp in the African jungle is less welcome: he must perforce tolerate it, but he takes precautions against attack on himself or his animals and servants; and a lion running loose in the streets of London is quite intolerable, and must be captured or destroyed.

Toleration, therefore, implies selection. It is negative, in that it is not something that one does, but something that one refrains from doing. So the man who is all toleration is all negative. In fact, the man to whom nothing is intolerable can hardly exist. If he did exist he would be guilty of a most dangerous apathy. The man for whom toleration is an end in itself

surely finds his impatient and intolerant opposite number very hard to tolerate.

Toleration implies restraint upon one's reactions to unpleasant and unwelcome things. But some things are unpleasant only because they are different from what we should like them to be, or from what we are used to, and not because they are positively evil. A religion which differs from our own so greatly that it denies the values which we are at pains to affirm, the political party which pursues aims different from our own, music which is not to our taste, fellow-travellers with unpleasant personal habits: these are differences which a right-thinking man may be expected to tolerate within quite wide limits, this is the field to which civilised toleration may fittingly apply. But the field is not limitless. There is, no doubt, a border country where to tolerate or not to tolerate is a matter for nice judgment, where the balance may tip as easily one way as the other, but beyond this no-man's land intolerable things exist, and must be recognised and faced as such.

Is the man who tolerates dirt, disease and misery a desirable citizen? Or the man who tolerates gross political corruption or child labour? The man who does tolerate these things is not blind to them. If he were, there would be no toleration in question. They are unpleasant to him, but he restrains his natural dislikes and tolerates them, possibly excusing his action in the way of the factory-owners of the nineteenth century who regarded child labour as "a necessary evil." Would the world have been a better place if Wilberforce and Lincoln had tolerated slavery?

An educated man, by any definition, is a man who sees clearly, dispassionately and far. It follows that he sees much that is hidden from the uneducated. So that he carries a heavy responsibility towards his fellows, and must show them by his own example which things are to be tolerated and which not. Toleration is an absolute evil when it refuses a man the right to take action against social abuses and dangers.

The educated man must be tolerant, but only of the tolerable. His education will consist largely in learning to discriminate between that which is tolerable and that which is not. The unreasoning cruelty which boys often display towards those of their fellows who are handicapped physically or mentally, or who differ from them in some way, must be curbed, and boys taught to tolerate the differences and peculiarities of their fellows.

But in all communities institutions grow, and afterwards decay. Then it is that they must change or become diseased. The instrument of gradual and peaceful change is the citizen who finds social evils intolerable. He who accepts all things, who has restrained his emotions until no abuse or cruelty can rouse him to anger, is a danger in a democratic society, in which change must be endemic.

Toleration is needed most by the individual with great emotional sensibility: to the vital, sensitive and discriminating personality it is a restraining factor of great value. But restraint can be abused. Roy Campbell commented on a certain group of novelists, much praised for their dignity and restraint,

> "I see the snaffle and the curb all right,
> But where's the horse?"

and I, too, would plead for the horse.

R. LEVY.

RAJA THE ELEPHANT Dawn was near, and the forests which clothed the foothills of the Himalayas were blanketed with a thick fog which would presently disappear under the hot rays of the sun. Suddenly, as the light was gradually creeping lower and the sun's rays touched the tops of the trees, some infantile squeals and grunts were heard.

It was the sound of a stealthy one-week-old elephant, whose name was Raja. He was calling for his mother who was down by the stream drinking. She came to him almost immediately for it was Raja's feeding time. His

mother, whose name was Inda, was a fine she-elephant, blackish-grey in colour, and standing eight feet high, with short, sharp tusks on either side of her long flexible trunk.

It would soon be time to join the herd, which Inda had not seen for a week, because Raja had only just learnt to walk properly. When the sun was high in the sky they started their walk to the elephants' grazing lands. In two days they reached the herd, only to find that Raja's father, the leader of the herd, had been challenged for his leadership.

Now began the battle of giants. With every muscle of their mighty bodies straining, the huge beasts pushed and heaved. If one was driven onto the ground the other could easily ram his sharp tusks into its side. This way and that they went, trampling down small bushes and trees. Raja was still watching his father charge and push, when suddenly the challenger turned and fled, only to be struck on the side by the charging leader. The gashes in its side were large and blood streamed out. This was too much strain for the elephant, and his legs gave way beneath him, and he was immediately trampled to death by the leader.

Raja never forgot this battle all his life, and he always remembered his mighty father, even when he himself became leader of the herd. Raja had many fights, some like that of his father, were challenges to his leadership, but he never lost a fight all his life.

GEORGE KEMP. M.C., 2 Nu.

THE GREEDY MONKEY In a forest, at the top of a tree, lived a brown, fat, and greedy monkey, who would sit all day cracking and munching nuts, and throwing the shells on the ground below. At the bottom of the tree lived a little squirrel, who was very clean and houseproud, and was very angry with the monkey who kept dropping his shells on his doorstep.

One day the little squirrel thought of a plan to get rid of the monkey from the tree. He set off early in the morning, and at last came to a large tree near the river. Here he collected some of the sap from the tree, and took it home. He then went off again, and collected some pebbles, and took them home too. Finally he gathered up all the empty shells from his doorstep, and took them indoors also.

He covered the pebbles with the sap, and stuck the shells round them. He then took them while the monkey was asleep, and put them with the monkey's store. When the monkey awoke, he started to eat some of the nuts that the squirrel had put there, and found them so hard he broke all his teeth. So he moved to another tree, thinking the nuts on that tree were getting very bad indeed.

ANTON HYLAND. M.B., 2 Nu.

A DAY TRIP TO A CASTLE It was a very sunny day in July when I set off to the castle at Cowes, on the Isle of Wight. It was rather hot, walking down the street, carrying my mac and sandwiches. We went by coach to Alum Bay. The rest of the party were some of my school friends who were lucky enough to be able to go.

The first sight of the castle made us very excited, but our faces soon changed when we found that we had to wait for about half-an-hour before it opened, but the half-hour soon sped by, and we were able to enter the beautiful grounds. The stairs we climbed were covered in moss, as they were very old and battered. We entered by the draw-bridge and had our first glimpse inside. It looked very ancient, as it really was, of course.

We first went to the kitchen, and we were surprised at the skeletons of real birds and crows that had probably died of starvation. High up in the wall there was a window, and on the other side was a door, while under the skeletons was a fireplace with a hand-roaster fixed across it. This consisted of a bar with a hook hanging in the middle of it, and a handle to turn it

with at the other end. We could imagine the old ladies and gentlemen, sitting round the fire, roasting a piece of mutton.

We passed on to a doorway, which led us out into a dark building. This (as we later found out) was a donkey's house, where the donkey turned a wheel to drop and raise a bucket which hung down a well 136 feet deep, with 90 feet of water. It was horrible to look down into it, but quite safe as it was covered in wire-netting. We then had our sandwiches, and then continued our way back to the castle.

Altogether we had a very interesting day at the castle, and nobody fell down the castle wall.

G. M. WILLSON. Pd, 1 Omega.

LUFTHANSA In the mèlée of modern civil flying, the world has nearly forgotten Lufthansa the once mighty German airline. But after fifteen years of exile from the skies, Lufthansa is once more preparing to take its place alongside the world's air fleets.

With the signing of the treaty restoring German sovereignty, headquarters were established in Cologne and twelve aircraft, four Convair-liners and eight Super-Constellations, were bought from America. Pilot training took place under an agreement with B.E.A. and initial proving flights inside Germany, followed by services to the nearer European capitals and finally to North America, began.

The history of Lufthansa dates back to 1917, when a group of pilots was formed to carry dispatches between Duisburg and the Crimea. Pilots gained invaluable experience in flying to a fixed schedule and the arts of navigation over long distances. At the end of the war, the bad state of railways inside Germany provided an opportunity for several routes to be opened. These were so successful that a mail contract was granted to the air transport company. But war-weary machines began to give trouble, and the company realised that new aircraft would have to be obtained, if the promising services were to be continued.

The answer came from the Junkers factory, which produced the world's first civil airliner, the F-13. It was a big success. The F-13 carried four passengers in an enclosed cabin and was easy to fly and maintain. Its appearance was followed by orders from twenty-four overseas countries and marked a new aviation boom in Germany. Services were extended to points in Russia. But at home a crisis developed, business fell off, and to counteract this, the main independent companies merged, and formed the present company, Lufthansa. Business prospered again, and soon Lufthansa was one of the busiest airlines in Europe.

The next step was to introduce a service to South America. This was done by a marvel of ingenuity and planning. Since no planes that were then flying had sufficient range to cross the South Atlantic in one hop, two specially equipped steamships were used as off-shore bases on either side of the Atlantic. The Dornier Wal flying boats landed alongside, were hauled on board, refuelled and catapaulted off to cross the ocean to the other base. By this method Lufthansa relayed air mail from Europe to South America in three days, a record which stood for many years. Encouraged by success, Lufthansa succeeded in opening a far-flung route to Peking and Shanghai, in China.

Many new aircraft appeared, such as the Junkers 52, a tri-motor counterpart of the DC-3, and later the Focke-Wulf Condor, designed for the Transatlantic service. But then came the war, and Lufthansa was disbanded, and banished from the world's airlines.

Now that Lufthansa is flying again, it will probably be some years before it pays its way and makes a profit, but if past history is anything to go by, Lufthansa may well become one of the giants of the airline world.

G. LIBBY. M.d, L6 Sc.

A THREE-PENNY BUSRIDE Suddenly, pelting round the corner, came my bus. Off got a large, bulbous woman with some cumbersome bags, her four-year-old child following. I managed to get halfway up the stairs, when down rushed the conductor, shouting, " Three in; four out."

I remounted the stairs, and at last saw an empty seat, the one just at the top of the stairs. Everybody shoved past me as I decided to open the evening newspaper. I did not like this seat so I moved forward, and managed to get an empty double one. Just as I settled down comfortably a not small woman nearly sat on me. I said, " Sorry." Not that it was my fault.

I was reading quietly, when my paper was suddenly pushed into my face. I recovered and took a peep over the top of my paper to see what caused this. Horror! A two-year-old girl was eating a large sticky toffee. It put its sticky fingers into its mouth, brought out the toffee and offered it to me. I was dumbfounded. Oh! It had dropped the toffee onto the floor. The child could not cry; it screeched in my ear instead. Its mother looked up from her woman's magazine and said, " You naughty girl, Dawn." She then proceeded to smack her. This quietened Dawn for a period. This was most embarrassing for me.

Whilst all this was happening the large lady's place was taken by a man who started to roll a foul cigarette about the size of a diary pencil. He then lit it; I immediately opened the nearest window.

The conductor had now worked his way onto the top deck, uttering that famous combination of letters, " Nee mor fuzz plees?"

By this time I was nearing my destination, Lock's Bottom. I said, " Excuse me, this is where I get off." I worked my way to the top of the stairs, and thence on to the platform.

The bus stopped with a jolt and I got off. By the time the road was clear the bus had disappeared over the brow of the hill.

R. M. VINCENT-TOWNEND. Gb, 4 Alpha.

RAINY DAYS

Rainy days aren't always sad—
Those sunny ones can make you mad.
The drowsiness, the heat, the sun,
Are all enough to anger one.

But rainy days, then time you find
To meditate, and use your mind.
I'd like to summon them at will,
Although the cold winds make me chill.

Spirits undampened, birds still sing,
Rousing cheer in everything.
Oh, for a wet but cheerful day,
When sun is gone, rain's on its way!

DAVID M. G. GRAHAM. Ga, 4 Alpha.

COLONEL BLOOD THE EXPLORER CAT

Colonel Blood the Explorer Cat,
With ear close to the ground,
Is out to hunt the bold lioness,
Alert for every sound.

His stealth is more than all the stealth
Of any human creature,
His swiftness is much swifter than
The swiftness of a cheetah.

At last he spies the bold lioness
Behind a clump of rocks,
Our hero thinks this is the time
To pull up both his socks.

He takes the rifle with both hands,
And then pulls back the breach,
He pulls the trigger with a bang,
But the lion falls out of reach.

Alas, alack, he is deprived
Of a tawny lion skin rug,
But better luck is what we wish
To puss-cat Colonel Blood.

A. K. BREWER, 2 Omega, Ca.

ON A GRAVEYARD

Casting weird shapes against a blood-stained sky,
And dwarfed by its towering pines that reach,
And pierce the painted heavens' pervaded sigh,
The church stands fast. Near by, a beech
Casts its broken shadows onto cool green,
Decked with purity of this quiescent scene.

The soothing of its cold grey, mossy walls,
Allays the anger of these heartless stones.
From haunts of far epochs, a dead man calls:
" See, our reward." His hand thrust up, he moans.
Was it their blood that flushed the sky so red?
We shall not know, till summoned by the dead.

Their sepulchres, amid the verdant flow,
When disinter'd, defy the hand of God.
He did evoke them, give up life and go;
And so we dream of Utopia with God.
We dread this after-life, when we are raw,
Where death's deep fangs, shall tighten up no more.

O'er their graves the grass grows green in hue,
This verdure covers tombs as well as church.
When day doth dawn their thirsts are quenched with dew,
Fresh from the fragrant world, high on its perch.
But here, bones do rot, and grass doth steam in the sun,
And stones decay; and so the day doth run.

At night, the decadence gives way to awe,
And devious paths lead to the unkempt graves.
Their shadows creep with boney outstretched claw.
Morassed with fear, and swept by its raging waves,
We drown. These deluding horrors of the night,
Do part asunder every will from fright.

J. FRANCIS, 5Pi, Ga.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL After retaining the Rugby Shield we look forward to equal success in the coming season of athletics and cricket. Our prospects in the cricket field are quite promising as we are fortunate in still having J. B. Smith as captain. In athletics last season, for the first time in many years, Cromwell failed to retain the Athletics Shield. We urge the House to give Liggitt full support in the coming season in which we hope to regain this trophy. The House should not be discouraged by last years swimming results and we should have better luck all round. Congratulations to Boreham and Butnick on gaining regular places in the School Rugby Fives team and we wish them luck in the House matches.

By the time these notes are read the results of the Eisteddfod will be known, and let us hope through the work of your co-ordinators J. B. Smith, C. M. Newson, J. W. Sharp and C. M. Burnett the result will be in our favour. This much coveted trophy has not been amongst our laurels for the past few years.

In conclusion, the House should pay particular attention to its diligence which has waned in the past term. Only Cromwell B has reached the required standard.

H. I. BUTNICK, U6a, Cd.
J. B. SMITH, U6a, Cd.
C. M. BURNETT, U6Sc, Cb.

GIBBON It is indeed gratifying to report that Gibbon fared extremely well in Senior Rugby, although losing first place to Cromwell. Our heartiest thanks to P. L. Eastwood for the great amount of effort he put into his work as captain, while special mention should go to B. G. Swaine, D. B. Cross, M. J. Stemp, D. Birkenshaw and in particular G. R. Williams, who was unfortunate in injuring his collar bone during the final match against Morley, when we were forced to complete the game with 14 men. The Juniors, more than ably captained by P. Rees, won first place after an encouraging season of two wins and a draw. W. Fuller, B. Eadie, B. L. Hitchins, M. Fairbrass, R. J. Pooley and A. P. Byrne proved to be an excellent backbone for this uniformly well-trained team. After postponement, resulting from our obnoxious English climate, the Cross-Country Runs were finally held, in which the two Gibbon teams both secured second place. S. R. Abercrombie, as captain, gave the runners a first-class training, which he followed up by magnificent inspiration, through coming in fifth in the Senior race. M. J. Dries, P. Rees and J. K. Brown also ran well in the Junior. The House Fives team has made an encouraging start in their bid to retain the Fives Trophy which Gibbon won last year. The team are P. L. Eastwood, the School Fives Captain, and B. V. Norton. So far they have beaten Pitt by 75-14 and Morley by 73-28.

Preparations for the Eisteddfod are now under way, and the festival will have been contested and won by the time of publication. G. W. Willis is in charge of music, P. L. Eastwood Speech, while J. P. Fox and M. Douel are co-producing the House play "King Lear," to which a vast number of Gibbonites are contributing loyal support. N. Smith is filling in the all-embracing job of co-ordinator to perfection. This last Eisteddfod prior to the Comprehensive invasion may well prove to be the most exciting ever. Meanwhile, D. Cross is gathering together likely material for the forthcoming events on the athletics field.

The best of luck and a Happy Easter to all supporters of Gibbon House.

J. P. Fox, U6a, Gd.

MORLEY Shortly after the Autumn half-term Morley House achieved a great success in the annual Cross-Country run. The House not only won the combined Senior and Junior competition but was first in each section. One reason for our noteworthy win was the zeal with which our very able captain, G. H. Croombs, encouraged likely competitors to turn out for trials. Our practice runs started a fortnight before those of any other house and this was a decisive factor in our final success. Our sincere thanks to Croombs and all others who represented the House.

We offer our congratulations to G. P. Squires our Vice-Captain, on his success in the London Schoolboys Fencing Championships. In these he fought brilliantly to win fourth place, the highest position reached this year by a boy not coming from a public school. We congratulate G. W. C. Wort also, on being awarded a prize for his performance of Sir Andrew Aguecheek in the School play.

Unfortunatelly Morley came last in the Inter-house Rugby Competition; let us hope that this will be remedied next year!

I regret Morley has not improved in diligence yet, inspite of the encouragement and admonition given by our House-Master. I hope our "awards" will greatly improve next term.

By the time this is read the Eisteddfod competition will be over. We wish the result to be as encouraging as it was in 1950, when Morley came first.

During the coming term the Swimming, Athletics and Cricket competitions will take place. Last season the first two of these were won by Morley. I hope we shall retain these two shields and also add to them the one awarded for Cricket.

R. S. HORE, U6, Mc.

PITT We offer our congratulations to B. R. Harding who has been awarded an L.C.C. Travel Scholarship to France, which he will enjoy during the coming summer vacation. It is a distinction to gain the award in the first year of the Advanced Course.

In the realm of sport we have the following Rugby, Fencing and Fives results to report. The Senior Rugby team, captained by J. R. Tickner, beat Cromwell 15-11 and Morley 9-8 and lost to Gibbon 0-14. As a result of some fine playing for the House, E. C. Demetriou earned himself a place in the School XV. The Junior team beat Morley and lost to Gibbon and Cromwell. On the combined result we finished third in the House Championship. The fencing team beat Morley in the only match they have played so far this term. The Fives team lost rather badly to Gibbon. In the Cross-Country run, both Senior and Junior teams came in third.

The diligence awards this term, have been most pleasing, and we are, at the moment, the leading House, Pitt C being the leading set.

We welcome to the House Mr. McKinley who is attached to Pitt D in the place of Mr. Moore-Lewy who left us to take up a University post in Ireland.

Eisteddfod preparations are well under way and by the time this report is read we are confident that Pitt will have done its best to win the competition for the second successive year. The following were elected to supervise the arrangements: J. R. Tickner is co-ordinator—P. N. Cassidy speech organiser—E. C. Demetriou and C. G. Christodoulou music organisers and B. R. Harding and R. P. Middleton play producers. The last named have chosen to produce the first act of Bernard Shaw's "St. Joan".

The reference to drama reminds us that at the end of the Autumn term, P. N. Cassidy, J. G. F. Parsons. J. H. Cousins and B. R. Harding had parts in the School play; and the House was reasonably represented in the musical activities that marked the Prize Distribution and the Christmas Concert.

I. H. SIMONS, U6a, Pc.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

CHESS CLUB The Chess Club meets in room N every Tuesday and Friday during the Winter and Spring Terms and is open to all boys who play or wish to learn to play. It is also open to a limited number of boys every dinner hour throughout the year.

The School Chess team has not been so successful this year as we sadly lack the support of members who have left in the last year. We started last term very well, winning three out of our first four games but, perhaps through being too confident, we lost three more games before securing another victory. This term we have lost two and drawn one game. Up to the time of going to press we have lost six, won five and drawn one. Our victories have been achieved largely by improved play from the captain, R. S. Hore and J. W. F. Boreham.

The School team is still very young and shows great promise for future years. So far no inter-house competitions have been held, but will start early next term.

I am sure that all members of the School team and also other members of the Chess Club will join with me in thanking Dr. Solomon and Mr. Mercer for their continued interest and encouragement in the activities of the Club.

R. EDWELL, 5Pi, Md.

C.E.W.C. The Christmas Holiday Lectures 1955, were based on the 10th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter. I was fortunate enough in having the experience of broadcasting on January 2nd, a report on the conference. Here, verbatim, is the script:

"It may seem odd that two thousand students from Grammar Schools should give up nearly a week of their Christmas holidays to attend a course of lectures. It sounds a bit like hard work. But there wasn't a trace of reluctance on the faces of all those who crowded into the Central Hall Westminster last Tuesday. The majority I suppose came from the London area, but there were many from much further afield, as far north even as the Shetlands. They came duly equipped with note-books and pencils and crowded round the stalls supplying free literature on such subjects as the World Health Organisation and the Colombo Plan. But perhaps the excitement was not surprising because during this week we were to be given the opportunity to see, and even ask questions of, some of the most eminent men in the country to-day. The president of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, Dr. Gilbert Murray, was due to be there, incidentally it is his 90th birthday to-day, but at the last moment he was unable to come. However we heard Mr. Selwyn Lloyd give his first public speech since his appointment as Foreign Secretary. He told us about the work of the United Nations Organisation and about his own duties when he was British representative at the United Nations Assembly. He told us something that perhaps we'd suspected, that they talk too much at these Conferences, but he pointed out that talking is after all much better than fighting. And then to keep the political balance we heard Lord Attlee, this again was his first speech since he became a peer. He received a tremendous reception but the interest we had in his appearance was more in seeing in the flesh a Prime Minister and Statesman, rather than in his address which contained little that was definite or concrete.

"On Wednesday there was a discussion between two M.P's., Arthur Blenkinsop and Nigel Nicholson, mainly on disarmament. It was interesting for us to see the clash of the two extreme points of view and to make up our own minds on the merits of each case. But this was followed by rather a tedious lecture on social discrimination during which the enthusiasm of the conference waned considerably. But fortunately Thursday brought new life

and interest. This was the day devoted to social problems and we had lectures on the difficulties of feeding the population; on the problems of increasing birth rate in the poorer countries; and the efforts being made to combat social distress. We also had a brilliant lecture by Mr. Ritchie Calder, called 'Men against Ignorance'. The last day we devoted mainly to the work of the Council for Education in World Citizenship and the United Nations Association, and there was also a most interesting lecture by the wife of the Pakistan's High Commissioner. Each day after the lectures we divided up into groups and discussed or perhaps argued would be a better word, the points raised by the speakers. Then on the last day reports on the work of each group were submitted to the whole conference. I was one of those selected to report and you can imagine it was a pretty difficult task to get all the points of view expressed into one short speech—especially as I was doing it in the small hours of Friday morning.

"One of the most popular people at the conference was Mr. Terence Lawson, the Secretary of C.E.W.C. He had of course been largely responsible for the Organisation of the whole thing. During the conference he frequently had to make announcements about lost property and so on, and he did this in such an amusing manner that he was always greeted with a deafening ovation. Indeed, on the last day paper darts were thrown at him from all over the hall, and one unfortunately landed on the neck of a reporter.

"In addition to the lectures, there was ample opportunity for informal cultural activities. A most successful dance at St. Pancras Town Hall, was held on the first evening of the conference, and films and musical discussions took place in each lunch break. There was also an International Concert on Thursday evening.

"To say that the conference was a success is an understatement. There was every opportunity of making friends, hearing excellent speakers and above all, I feel, hearing about the magnificent work of the United Nations Organisation, and its many welfare groups. It inspired us all to do all we could to further this work."

The South-West London group of C.E.W.C. held a very successful meeting here at Wandsworth School, on January 30th. Sir Richard Acland spoke on "Some personal impressions of the House of Commons". The Headmaster was in the chair.

I. H. SIMONS, U6a, Pc.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY Since the time of writing last term's notes, three meetings of the Debating Society have been held. The first of these was on Monday, 14th November, when the motion was that "In the Opinion of this Society, the British Monarchy should be abolished," proposed by C. D. Irving and P. G. Libby and opposed by B. R. Harding and C. Burnett. This motion was narrowly carried by eleven votes to ten.

The final meeting of last term was held on Monday, 28th November. The motion on this occasion was that "In the Opinion of this House, Honesty is not always the best policy" It was proposed by B. R. Harding and A. S. Wilson and opposed by R. Baker and P. G. Libby, and after an interesting debate the motion was carried by eleven votes to six.

The only meeting to date of this term took place on Friday, 20th January, when the motion was that "This House considers that the influence of American films on Britain has increased, is increasing and ought to be diminished," proposed by I. H. Simons and R. Williamson and opposed by H. I. Butnick and A. E. Preston. After a lively discussion the motion was narrowly defeated by thirteen votes to twelve. Another debate on this

subject was later held, under the auspices of the Lambeth Civic Council in the Lambeth Town Hall, where our four speakers distinguished themselves with their high standard of public speaking.

The Debating Society generally meets fortnightly on Mondays, and provides an excellent opportunity for senior boys to learn the art of public speaking. Recently attendances have increased slightly, but I feel sure that many more boys would enjoy the meetings if they attended.

Finally, the Society would like to record a vote of thanks to Mr. Payne, whose assistance is tirelessly and enthusiastically given as Chairman, and to the other members of the staff, who frequently attend meetings and assist in our proceedings.

R. J. CARR. (Hon. Sec.). L6a, Pd.

FIVES CLUB Captain: P. L. Eastwood. Secretary: J. W. F. Boreham. At the halfway stage in the League for the Merchant Cup, the School Fives Team were lying in third place, behind Sinjuns and Hackney. The team are unlikely to catch the two leaders, but, if they maintain their present form, should finish in third position.

Unfortunately, this term we lost S. G. Whitesman, who has now left school. The School Team now comprises P. L. Eastwood, J. W. F. Boreham, H. I. Butnick and R. A. Edwell. Edwell should be congratulated on achieving a place in the School Fives Team, as he is only in the fifth form.

The Team has so far played 7 matches, winning 4 and losing 3. Five matches have yet to be played. The results to date are as follows:—

v. Marylebone (Home)	Won	125—116
v. Strand (Away)	Won	169—79
v. Sloane (Home)	Won	154—89
v. Hackney (Home)	Lost	87—161
v. Sinjuns (Home)	Lost	61—163
v. Henry Thornton (Home)	Won	157—76
v. Sinjuns (Away)	Lost	110—166

In the House Fives Competition up to the time of writing, three matches have been played. The results are as follows:—

Gibbon	75	Pit	14
Cromwell	72	Morley	52
Morley	28	Gibbon	73

The Individual Fives Cup Competition this year has a record entry of 41. The present holder, P. L. Eastwood, is attempting to retain the Cup for the second year. The Competition is well under way, and has reached the quarter-final stage at the time of writing.

We have had some newcomers to Fives this year, who have been doing very well in the Individual Championship, and it is good to see such keeness in this comparatively unknown, but excellent game.

P. L. EASTWOOD. U6Sc, Ga.

H. I. BUTNICK. U6a, Cd.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY NOTES Since the last issue of "The Link" the Inter-Sixth Society has had two meetings taking the form of a debate and a half-day conference respectively.

The debate was held at Rosa Bassett School on 5th December, 1955, on the motion that " This house considers that Woman has lost her claim to Chivalry." The motion was lost. This meeting was a most successful meeting and augurs well for future debates.

The half-day Conference was held on January 30th, at Sir Walter St. John's School under the Chairmanship of Mr. Raymond King. The Conference had as its subject the Art of the film and its implications in modern society. We were lucky to obtain as main speaker, Dr. Roger Manvell, Director of the British Film Academy, who gave a most interesting lecture. This lecture was made even more interesting by the excerpts from films used by Dr. Manvell to give emphasis to his points. After this lecture the meeting broke up into discussion groups, which were followed by tea. A Brain's Trust was then held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Presswood, Headmaster of Sir Walter St. John's School. The members of this Brain's Trust were Dr. Manvell, Mr. A. Havelock Allen, the noted film producer, and Mr. Pat Jackson, the well-known Director, who answered questions put by the discussion groups in a lively and interesting manner. The thanks of the Society are due to all who contributed to the smooth running of this meeting. The two hundred and fifty sixth-formers who attended felt that they had gained considerable knowledge of the influence of the film in modern life, as a result of this most interesting meeting.

Three other meetings have been arranged during the present school year, a concert, a lecture, and a Tennis Tournament. The concert will be held at Battersea Grammar School on March 8th, and will consist of items provided by members of the Inter-Sixth Society. The lecture will be held early in the Summer Term, at Wandsworth School; and the Tennis Tournament, and Annual General Meeting at Putney High School in the late Summer Term.

The Society has had a most successful year, up to the present, due largely to the untiring efforts of Mr. Thom. We hope that the activities of this Society will continue to be of interest to Sixth-formers.

A. E. PRESTON, (Hon. Secretary).

THE LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY The Society has been meeting regularly throughout this term. Two of Shakespeare's plays " As You Like It " and " Hamlet " have been read. Our thanks are to due to Mr. Lincé who read us some delightful light and humorous prose and verse.

Members of the Society visited the Old Vic twice during the Christmas vacation to see " Henry V " and " Julius Caesar ". This term we have been to Lambeth Town Hall to see Laurence Olivier's film " Hamlet," and will be going to the Old Vic again, this time to see " Othello ".

We cordially invite senior students to come to our meetings and join parties to the Old Vic.

I. H. SIMONS. U6a, Pc.

RAILWAY CLUB A small group of enthusiasts has been meeting every Tuesday this term under the leadership of Mr. Bacchus, who has given talks on the railways of East Anglia and the Lickey Incline. We have also had an interesting talk on model railways by Drain, whilst P. G. Lewis has spoken on branch lines of the Midland Region.

At the time of going to press we are expecting that British Railways will send us some films from their loan collection. There will be the usual model railway exhibition at the end of term, and we are hoping that during the Summer Term it may be possible to arrange a trip on some of the lesser-known lines in and around London.

P. G. LEWIS, (Hon. Secretary).

RUGBY

FIRST XV.

Captain : J. B. Smith. Vice-Captain : G. R. Williams.

Hon. Secretary : R. Worrall.

The results since the last issue of the "Link" are:—

v. St. Olaves (Away)	Drew	9—9
v. R.A.F. Halton (Away)	Won	3—0
v. Old Grammarians (Home)	Won	53—3
v. Upper Latymer (Home)	Won	10—5
v. Harrow County (Home)	Drew	3—3
v. Old Wandsworthians (Away) ...	Lost	0—5
v. Selhurst (Home)	Lost	16—17
v. Moseley (Home)	Lost	3—22
v. Wallington (Home)	Lost	3—15
v. Swansea (Home)	Lost	5—19
v. R.A.F. Halton (Home)	Won	11—9

The improvement in the standard of rugby played by the 1st XV has continued. Win or lose, they are playing good open football, even in muddy conditions. Unfortunately our run of injuries has continued, as soon as C. M. Newson and A. J. Thrower returned, after being absent for several weeks, we learnt that G. R. Williams would not be able to play again this season. G. R. Williams has been sadly missed in the pack, where his fine leadership and forceful play could have altered several results, notably against Selhurst and the Old Wandworthians.

The forwards are now combing better, but they are still outplayed in the line-outs. J. R. Tickner and J. W. Kaminski have found their true form, and both have played a big part in the improvement. R. J. Moody seized his chance on his debut and has now become a regular player, his fire and energy putting spirit into the pack.

The backs are continuing to combine well in attack, even after the departure of D. Nebbitt which was a sad blow, but in defence they appear uncertain, although they are all excellent tacklers.

Our game with Swansea once again provided good entertainment. The School fought hard from the start, but the heavier and bigger Swansea pack began to dominate the game, and in the second half they increased their lead from six to nineteen points. Then in the last ten minutes the School drove the tiring Swansea boys into their own half and were rewarded with a try by D. Nebbitt.

Finally I must congratulate J. R. Tickner, J. T. Davies, and D. Liggitt, who have all been recommended for School Colours, special praise going to the latter for it is a great achievement for a fifth-former to gain the distinction.

SECOND XV.

The latter half of the present Rugby Season has been seriously curtailed by cancellation of matches due to frozen grounds. However, in the few matches that have been played since the last issue of the Link, the 2nd XV have given some good performances. Only two more games have been won, but several of the others have been very close. The two victories were against Latymer Upper by 22—6 and St. Olaves by 15—9. The matches against Swansea, Wallington and the Old Boys resulted in narrow defeats, but the School 2nd Team played excellent Rugby in all of them.

The record this season is an improvement on last year's efforts, but is still far from good. However, the team this year has been a very young one, being mainly composed of ex-Colts. If the present rate of improvement is maintained, the standard of Rugby should be very good in a few years time.

P. L. EASTWOOD.

OLD BOYS' NOTES With more than half the season over the Rugby Club shows a respectable record with a gratifying credit balance as regards both " wins " and " points ". Indeed, the fortunes of the Club, financial and playing, have increased over the last few seasons to a very marked degree, and whilst we rejoice in this state of affairs we are conscious that it is only by a regular recruitment of school-leaving rugger players that we can continue thus. A warm welcome awaits all boys who wish to continue their game in club circles, and an understanding consideration is afforded to them financially during their initial years with the Club. A line to W. A. Forrester at 12, Hurlingham Court Mansions, S.W.6, will put you in touch.

The Table Tennis Club continues to enjoy success in the local League, whilst in a month or so the Rugby Netball Club will commence its summer programme. Senior boys who are interested in this sport should contact J. Lyon at 8, Twilley Street, Wandsworth, S.W.18.

The Annual Dinner was held in January and this year we used this occasion to celebrate our 50 Anniversary Jubilee. It was a most enjoyable social function and we were pleased to welcome among our guests the Mayor of Wandsworth, the Chairman of the L.C.C. Educational Committee, Mr. Green of the Parents Association, and P. Eastwood the Head Boy. Over 60 sat down at this, the best patronised Dinner since the war.

The weekly Social Evening on Wednesdays during term offers a variety of sports and past-times to members, and we are pleased to note that a few boys of the School patronise these occasions also. Members of the Senior Forms are welcomed to share our facilities, but the interests of our own members compels us to restrict this invitation to the Upper Forms only.

In a constant endeavour to provide fresh interests for members the latest innovation has been to hold a Car Rally. The first of these was on quite a modest scale and was well within the scope of both drivers and vehicles. Such was the success of it, however, that the organiser Mick Munton intends to provide stiffer tests in the future. If sufficient experience can be obtained in time the Old Wandsworthians Association may enter a contingent for the next London to Brighton Veterans' Rally.

Any information concerning the Association will gladly be furnished by the Secretary, R. W. Finch, 10, Egerton Road, New Malden, Surrey.

D. C. FERNE.

THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION Since the last issue of this magazine, several functions for our members have been held at the School. In November last, and also in February of this year, the terminal Tutorial At-Homes were followed by Association meetings. A Social Evening, with a touch of Christmas festivity, was held early in December; an Old Time and Modern Dance early in February; and at the end of the same month a " Careers Evening ".

The Parents' Council met twice during the Winter Term, and at the time of writing has met once since. There will be another meeting of the Council before the Spring Term ends.

On Friday, 4th May next, the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the School. Annual Meetings are important for all associations as they present an opportunity for members to see the work of their organisation as a whole. They are normally occasions when new Councils or other executive bodies are elected for the coming year; they are times for questions and the "airing of views"; and finally members can complain and criticize if they feel so inclined. It is hoped that with these thoughts in mind our Annual General Meeting will be no exception to the general rule.

At this time it is opportune to think introspectively and to consider our own Association. It is well to remind ourselves that Parents' Associations should be primarily concerned with educational matters, both generally and with emphasis towards their own particular school. Other activities, if not actually educational, should come within the objects for which the body is formed. Our objects are set out in the Constitution of the Association which will be found in the Handbook. This little book, which contains other information besides the Constitution, is available free to all parents, and those who do not possess a copy and would like one before the A.G.M., should apply to either myself or the their boy's Tutor.

It is most important that home and school should pull together, so that youth still at school may fully gain from both spheres, and nothing is more likely to be conducive to this end than a lively Parents' Association. An interest in our own Association and attendance at its functions by as many parents as possible will give us this lively organisation. I would make a very special appeal to all those parents who attend the Tutorial At-Homes, but not the Association meetings that always follow, to consider the potential value that lies in taking a wider view of our affairs. A wider interest embracing the whole School community can only result—perhaps indirectly—in benefit to all the boys. In addition, parents will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are playing some small part in the preparation of youth for its difficult and responsible role of adult citizenship.

Finally, a reminder that certain educational publications are available on loan to our members. A list will be found in the July, 1955 issue of The Link.

E. G. GREEN.

The LINK is published three times a year and can be obtained for 1/6d per copy, or 4/- per annum (three issues) Post free, from The Treasurer, The Link, Wandsworth School, Sutherland Grove, S.W.18

Subscriptions to cover the cost of any number of copies can be forwarded.