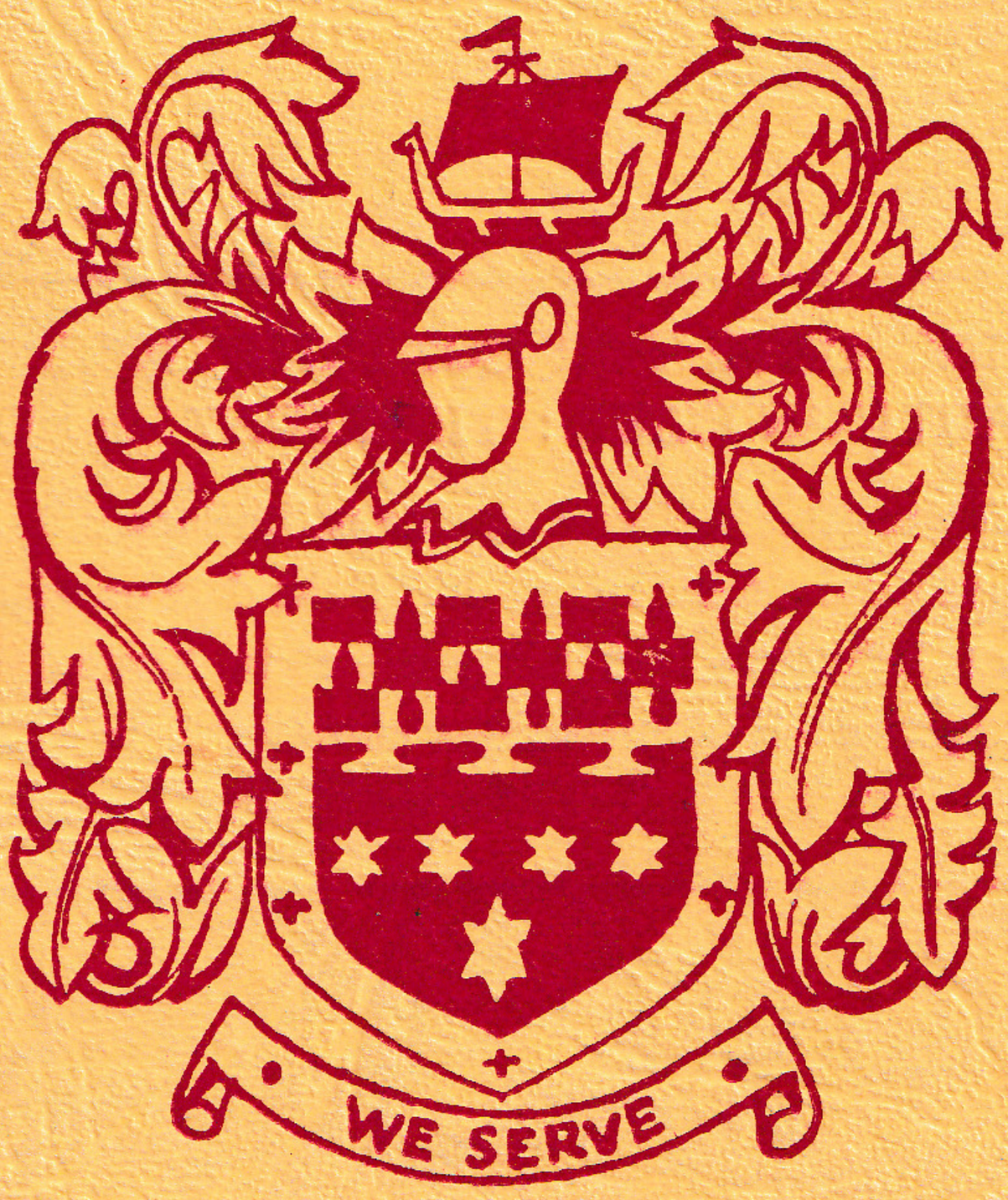
THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

JULY 1957

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

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House Representatives : P. Cassidy, J. Sharp, J. T. Francis, P. Foulds.

Business Manager : Mr. W. H. George.

Treasurer : Mr. G. Elms.

Art Advisor : Mr. A. Hodgkinson.

CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AUTUMN ISSUE : THURSDAY 7th NOV.

This is the last date on which contributions will be accepted for consideration— NOT the date on which nine contributions out of ten are to be handed in. The majority of contributions should be in at least ten days before the closing date.

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THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XLII **JULY, 1957** **No. 2**

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

Looking back over the past six months one is struck by the smoothness and orderliness with which the great changes have been carried out. Occupation and settling down in the new building caused no noticeable interruption in the normal routine of school life.

The main reason for this is not far to seek. We are fortunate in being able to make the transition from the old to the new gradually. Much was done in anticipation during the years before the change-over, and the final shape of the new school will not be reached for another few years when the present Forms 1 and their successors have moved up the school to fill it to its potential capacity. So we shall continually be engaged on planning, adapting, and I hope improving during the remaining years of expansion. We have not had to meet our problems all at once. Many were thought out during earlier years and others remain for the future. But the whole plan is taking shape and so far is working out along the lines we had anticipated. It has been my purpose in these notes in recent years to keep everyone "in the picture".

The series constitutes a record of our aims and plans. Now we begin to see how they are working out.

The problems are not only internal but external. Internal problems are largely within our control. External problems are far less so. One very difficult external problem is that of recruitment. Unfortunately, for those concerned, it is chiefly a problem of exclusion. So many parents naturally wish to send their boys here that the flood has somehow to be stemmed. Last year it was done by drawing a line round a "delimited area": this year by restricting admission to certain schools within an area common to Mayfield, Elliott and Wandsworth.

Neither plan worked out very successfully. It is difficult to find grounds for exclusion that satisfy parents.

After the lapse of several years we are revising the Annual Summer Fête. At one time we had three such summer occasions, one with the Old Boys, one with the Parents and one with the Skeena Hill Allotments Association. These three coalesced first into two, and finally into one, a grand joint affair.

This year we are joining with the Parents and the Old Boys. Opportunely a particularly appealing and important object presents itself, since a successful fête needs to have an object. The Wandsworthian's Memorial Committee has assigned its funds to the Old Wandsworthians for the purchase of a Sports Ground but these funds need supplementing. Hence all the proceeds of the Fête will go towards the purchase of a Sports Ground, the use of which will be for Old Boys of the School. All boys become Old Boys in time. So active help to secure the means to purchase will benefit everybody here.

This term we have had the unusual experience on two occasions of visits by Russian educationalists. The first was a cultural Attaché from the

Russian Embassy who spent an afternoon in the School, and the second was Mr. Chingiz Dadashev who was our guest for a week and the guest of members of the staff for the following (Whitsun) week. Mr. Dadashev is Deputy Director of the Pioneer Palace at Baku and an expert in phonetics.

The Parents' Council most regretfully accepted the resignation of Mr. Green, Hon. Secretary of the Parents' Association. He is being succeeded by Mr. Mundy.

Mr. Green belongs to the fine tradition of secretaries of our Parents' Association like Mr. Beck and Mr. Scott, who over the years have brought not only zeal and enthusiasm but unusual gifts of organisation and imagination to a job that requires these in a high degree.

Generous donors have presented a number of gifts to the School. We thank Colonel Matthews, Chairman of Governors, for the gift of two copies of "Virginia 1854-1607" a commemorative volume for the 350th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. Messrs. Babcock & Wilcox Ltd., have given us a wonderful coloured lithograph of Calder Hall.

The Parents' Council have presented a second tape-recorder, 10 Fencing Jackets, and a Photographic Enlarger, and have again made it possible for selected boys, senior and junior to get winter cricket practice. They have also made the usual Fencing bursaries available.

I have seen an interesting cutting from the *New York Times*, which devotes a whole column to the broadcast discussion in the New York Times Forum between British and American students on "Partners for Peace" in which Ian Simons was one of the two British representatives and Richard Hore took part as member of the panel of questioners.

Congratulations to R. B. Lloyd and D. J. Liggitt who have been awarded R.A.F. Scholarships during their time in the Sixth Form, carrying admission to the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell on completion of their Advanced Level qualifications. Last year only 40 of these valuable and much sought after scholarships were awarded to pupils of grammar and public schools throughout the whole country.

Professor Philip Bell of the University of California writes after a visit to Wandsworth School: "You have both wonderful facilities and a wonderful philosophy at your school. I wish you the very best of luck in your endeavour". That coming from such a quarter should encourage all of us.

I am happy to see that the new Engineering Society, sponsored by Mr. Robson and Mr. Gush has made a most enterprising and promising start.

The School thanks the Firms concerned for the following gifts to our Engineering Department:—

10 h.p. Petrol Engine: Ford Motor Company, Ltd., Dagenham.

Castings and Patterns: F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury, Staffs.

Display Cabinets of Valves and Tubular Fittings: Stewarts and Lloyds, Limited, London.

A number of parents have expressed their very great enjoyment of the programme "Talking about Music" given by Mr. Burgess at the Annual General Meeting of the Parents' Association earlier this term. If Mr. Burgess can be persuaded to give a similar illustrated recital some time in the future, with his collaborator Mr. Keyte, I commend the occasion to all parents.

I should like to record my great appreciation of the services on the Staff of Mr. Louis Fenn, who came originally at short notice in 1949 to help us out of a difficulty in finding a master competent to take charge of Chemistry. He originally offered his services for one year but was persuaded to stay longer, even beyond the usual age of retirement. He leaves us at the end of this term.

I thank him for the great help he has given and for the ideas and ideals he has brought into the teaching of Science in the School.

We also bid good-bye to Mr. Gibson, who has accepted a post as Lecturer at Coventry Training College, and to more recently joined members of the staff:— Messrs. Holley, Cockerill, Trinder and Hobbs. Mr. Waters is to be seconded as a Lecturer in English to Goldsmith's College for a year, but we look forward to his return in 1958 and to seeing him here from time to time during his secondment.

EDITORIAL An Editorial, I suppose, is intended to express the views of an Editorial Board. As The Link does not really possess one, I intend in this, my first and last Editorial for The Link, to associate the conventional report with some personal reflections.

The School year 1956-57 is at an end. An era in the School's history has concluded and a new one begun. Having had the honour of being Head Prefect at the close of the old era and the beginning of the new, I have been able to view the scene from "lofty heights".

The compactness of the old building and its environment meant far more to me than the gigantic new building we now inhabit. The old building with its glorious playing fields made a delightful picture. But I am being unfair. My own outlook, as one brought up in pre-Comprehensive surroundings, is naturally different from that of a present First Year boy. Whichever way it is regarded, the School is now comprehensively organised, and has to be treated as a new and challenging experiment in education.

A. E. Preston, former Editor of this magazine, left School earlier in the term and will be continuing his studies at the University of North Staffordshire. Head Prefect R. S. Hore proceeds to Oxford, Third Prefect C. M. Burnett to Battersea Polytechnic in company with other Sixth Formers. Rugger Captain (and Cricket Vice-Captain) C. M. Newson is also leaving this term, having rendered true service to the School. All possible success and best wishes for the future are extended to all who bid farewell to Wandsworth this term.

What emotions fill one on leaving School? For my own part they are not nostalgic but rather gratitude and appreciation to those who have helped, guided and persevered with me since my arrival here from a Birmingham Grammar School five years ago. I trust others leaving now and in the future, will look back on their time here with similar feelings.

IAN SIMONS.

THE SCHOOL EISTEDDFOD

Thursday, Friday and Monday, April 11th, 12th and 15th, 1957

Generally, the very high standards of past Eisteddfods were maintained this year, and some of the effects of the widened facilities in the School and the wider interests of the boys were already apparent. Much of the work was imaginative and ingenious; all of it showed tireless effort and enthusiasm; and the co-operative labour that goes into the larger House activities is a source of renewed wonder every year.

DRAMA

Mrs. V. W. Walsh, of Mayfield School, this year joined the panel of judges. Their task cannot have been easy with such very different

productions, each in its own way highly successful. First place went to Morley House with Act 5 of James Elroy Flecker's "Hassan". The producers, R. S. Hore and G. W. C. Wort, had been ambitious, imaginative and expansive. Music and lighting, well timed, built up the tension rapidly and reinforced a fine climax. They used the whole large stage, a cast of 48, including many younger boys, ambitious and effective scenery and costumes, and indeed brought in the whole Hall, by bringing a caravan of merchants down the aisle, up on to the stage, and out through the "gates of the city", into the rear hall behind the actual stage. The leading actors A. E. Preston and P. J. Drain were excellent, and finely supported by all the enormous cast.

Second place in the competition also went to an ambitious and imaginative production on a large scale. D. Ayshford and B. J. Coleman produced for Cromwell House the rehearsal scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream", using all the stage with a large cast including many first-formers as delightful fairies. This was again ingenious and showed the same tireless attention to detail of costume and set, lighting and music, but was less well rehearsed and the leading actors were less experienced. J. Bull made an outstanding Puck, and M. J. Halsey was superbly comic among the "mechanicals", while R. J. Ashall spoke Titania's lines beautifully.

Third place was given to a production that was ambitious because experimental. With a small cast and no scenery, P. N. Cassidy produced and took the lead in Thornton Wilder's "The Happy Journey", for Pitt House. His portrayal of a talkative American mother was outstanding, and the rest of the cast supported well, especially in the miming that took the place of actual properties. In some ways the last play, Gibbon House's production of part of "Journey's End" (R. C. Sherriff), was the most conventional and yet not necessarily the easiest of the evening. G. P. Douel and J. T. Francis produced, and in the cast, mainly of senior boys, G. W. Willis was outstanding among excellent representations of the mood and behaviour of officers in the trenches in the First World War. These scenes offered little action, but fine opportunities for characterisation, which were well used. Gibbon were therefore a close fourth place.

MUSIC

The entry this year was encouragingly larger than hitherto. B. Sandford won the elementary violin section easily, but there was keen competition here for the other places. Similarly in the intermediate violin competition, I. Cobb, with assured technique and good tone, won without difficulty.

Among the seniors, G. W. Willis won the 'cello section and B. Johnston the violin as expected, and D. Snell's performance on the cornet in the miscellaneous instruments category was a rare one. In the unbroken voices contest, competition among 40 competitors was close and intensely interesting. The broken voices section was disappointing—perhaps through self-consciousness. The examiners recommend a more relaxed, open mouth, with more attention to vowel sounds, to contestants in future years.

SPEECH

The School's standards in this field are now very high, and the winners again achieved sensitive, well-timed readings, clear and with intelligent interpretation. The speech choirs had a musical quality of verse speaking that was most commendable. In the solo readings the keen competition of a very large entry helped to ensure high standards. In the intermediate group J. Bull once more set an exceptionally good standard, while it was particularly pleasing to see the junior group won by a first-former, G. R. Davis, with a most promising performance. For the public speaking, I. H. Simon's party political broadcast about Suez was assured, fluent, incisive and credible. A. E. Preston's sermon (2nd place) was in strong contrast, but just as thoughtfully presented.

ART

In the painting section a good number of entries were received from all

parts of the School. R. Baker deserves special mention for his imaginative and sensitive compositions in the senior section. The judges were pleased to see the increased popularity of oil painting in the intermediate section, but the small quantity and poor quality of work entered by juniors was in puzzling contrast to their work in the classroom. In drawing there were a lot of entries and they showed that great care and effort had been put into them, and real thought had gone into choice of media other than pencil.

MODELS AND CRAFT-WORK

As everywhere in the Eisteddfod, the judges in these sections lay great stress on unaided and original individual effort; but even kits may require real skill in putting together: of this R. Baker's beautiful, tiny representation of Old London Bridge (1st place in the senior historical models section) is an outstanding example. J. D. Carr's model of an articulated van, D. C. Lloyd's hand-made rugs and R. A. Parker's tall model of a pylon were all original and striking in the miscellaneous section. A striking historical model was E. C. Thomson's neolithic hut, made out of leaves and twigs as the original huts were themselves. The model aeroplanes included models made from kits and original work, both powered or gliding flying models, and solid ones. The array at the final exhibition was most impressive and well up to the standard expected, indeed better. Similarly, there were sufficient working model boats to justify another class by themselves, and many of these represented patient and skilful effort.

LITERARY COMPOSITION

Although the entries in the senior section—prose and verse—were disappointingly few and restricted, those in the intermediate and junior age groups were encouraging. The intermediates were particularly strong in verse composition, and "The Battle" (R. A. Peacock) and "Sunset" (W. Austin) were noteworthy, while juniors took full advantage of the range of subjects suggested for prose composition, and were creditably adventurous in verse. Some factual impressions of the new school were especially good.

STAMPS AND OTHER COLLECTIONS

The adjudicator of the stamp collections wisely says, "The boy who ponders over one is a collector, the boy who rejoices over hundreds is not". H. J. Russell took first place in the senior group of stamp collections for his mature and well-presented Queen Victoria issues, though J. W. Kaminski's collection was in fact larger: this came a close second. Among the juniors, M. C. Hudson's simple but most carefully arranged collection of British stamps again took a first place: mounted on plain paper, it was still far more impressive than haphazard collections in fine new albums. Similarly among the miscellaneous collections, presentation was important, and arrangement made valueless items interesting and impressive.

K.N.N.

SCHOOL EXHIBITION OF WORK

Friday, 12th April, 1957

It has become customary to treat the occasion of the Eisteddfod exhibition as a time when the School is at home to parents and friends, and this year the former Technical Branch exhibition of work was included. Some impressive work was on show in the practical technical and building shops, even though these departments had had less than a term to settle into quite new surroundings. Indeed to see and do justice to all that was presented for public inspection that evening was more than any one visitor could do.

The Fencing Club display on the stage of the new Hall, where it could be watched in comfort by a large audience, took the form of the exciting final rounds for the individual championship for this year. We followed the five judges' decisions, hit by hit, on special score-boards, until,

in a most tense final bout, J. W. Tarkowski received four hits and N. Bishop only three, and so Bishop received the Simpson Cup for this year. The fine influence of Professor Nino Cipolla of the London Fencing Club is clearly already being felt in the School.

Two excellent gymnastic displays were then held, for which the sliding doors behind the stage were thrown back, doubling its size and providing ample space for the groups from the junior and senior parts of the School respectively to show their skill in drill and with the box. The younger boys were enthusiastic, agile and worked well as a team, the older boys were graceful and accurate.

The science laboratories of the new school were crowded all evening with excited boys and fascinated adults for whom there was a large array of exhibits and of working demonstrations. Visitors were invited to test their health by weighing themselves against a column of School ink, to see a wind-tunnel demonstrating the principles of flight, and to try their strength against powerful magnetic forces. Examples of the many and varied activities in the next laboratory were a lung-pressure test, an ingenious octave played on scaffolding pipes by convection currents, and a demonstration of crushing petrol cans by atmospheric pressure. Chemistry provided quieter but not less wonderful demonstrations, including one that showed how chemical changes are basically electrical in nature, and in the biology department some fascinating dissections were actually in progress. Not only were senior boys like C. G. Christadoulou and C. T. A. Bowyer skilfully at work on rabbits and frogs, but boys from 1 Tau and 1 Upsilon were competently dissecting the eyes of pigs for demonstration. Others were inflating the lungs of a sheep and testing visitors' lung capacity, and boys from 3 Alpha had collected the flowers of common trees.

In the woodwork and metalwork shops boys were at work on the benches and the lathes, although the metalwork and engineering departments were two which necessarily confined themselves to exhibiting examples of the sort of work that will be done, practical and theoretical, as they expand to take a full part in the School. The Ford Motor Company have presented an engine to the School for use in the engineering laboratories, and this was on view.

Painting and decorating work included fine decorative colour schemes, stencilling and lettering. Work here, by senior boys who have recently left and gone on to the Brixton School of Building, to take the advanced course for the National Diploma in Design, was especially impressive. In the brickwork and carpentry shops, too, there was enough work of a very high standard to illustrate how well these departments can teach boys the principles of true skilled craftsmanship. There were examples of both ornamental and practical brickwork, and work on roofing and the making of doors and gates was especially good in the carpentry shop. Technical drawing made another fine display of school-work, with drawings dealing with numerous aspects of building construction and geometry as applied to building problems. The surveying instruments used for that course up to G.C.E. level were also on view.

As always, the art-rooms displayed a bewilderingly extensive range of work done in school, in addition to the Eisteddfod winning entries, but it was interesting to notice the changing styles as one passed through the four rooms, each with its own emphasis and atmosphere. In future years pottery will be added to the already wide range of art and craft-work in this exhibition. Yet other displays for those so inclined, were the traditional working model railway lay-out, a fascinating tangle of lines admirably well organized, and also a display of Rugby Fives at the School courts, put on by the Fives Club.

K.N.N.

CAREERS During the latter half of the Spring Term, Mr. Clode and the Careers Master, Mr. Aubrey, interviewed all the boys in Forms IV pi, alpha, nu and theta with the object of helping them to make a suitable choice of subjects for their fifth and sixth form courses, and

generally to supplement the information given in the current series of careers talks. It is thought that the following extracts taken from the report of the interviews will prove useful both to senior boys and their parents.

"The boys had received previous notice of the interviews and had obviously given the problem some thought, as well as discussing it with their parents. The majority had already made up their minds, if not on a specific career, at least on the kind of field in which they wished to work. In most cases the choice was a sensible and suitable one; but again and again it was found necessary to persuade boys of good intelligence and personality to set their sights higher and have more confidence in their abilities. The opposite was sometimes equally true with boys who had assessed their own abilities too highly, e.g. a boy with a pronounced weakness on the science side who wished to qualify as a doctor.

"Most of the boys appeared at the interview neatly dressed, spoke with confidence, and generally gave a good impression of themselves. A minority however were slovenly both in appearance and speech, and will certainly need further practice before they can hope to impress prospective employers.

"It was found that the amount of time spent on homework varied greatly from form to form, and within a form from boy to boy. In IV pi the average per night was about 1½ hours; in IV theta, although most boys claimed to do all the homework set, when pressed for details, they admitted it rarely exceeded half-an-hour per night. If this meagre allocation of time devoted to homework continues into the fifth form, very few boys of this latter group aiming at some form of student apprenticeship, which normally requires four 'Ordinary' Level passes, will achieve their aim. A number, however, said that they would be prepared to stay on for a sixth year to obtain the required number of passes, but this assurance was generally given on their own responsibility without previous consulation with their parents. Some boys remarked that they were obliged to do their homemork in the sitting-room at a time when other members of the family were watching the television; often the only other room available was the bedroom. The sensible parents strictly ration the amount of time allowed to be spent on television, but some boys when given a free hand were addicted to quite unselective viewing; 'wild western' films, panel games, music hall, were all grist to their mill.

"A surprisingly large number of boys from the fourth Forms are members of Youth Clubs, some of which make considerable demands on their time—two evenings a week were not exceptional. There was evidence that homework was scamped or entirely neglected because of the rival attractions of these clubs. The most popular, as one would expect, were the mixed clubs, where the evenings seem to be spent rather aimlessly, playing table-tennis, billiards and dancing. It appeared that some of the club members had already left school and possessed rather more pocket-money than normally allowed to schoolboys. It was felt that the example set by these boys would tend to have a disturbing influence on boys still at school.

"It is surprising to find Youth Clubs making so strong an appeal to boys of the Fourth Forms, especially in a school where so many creative and interesting out-of-school activities are organised, and during a term when the Eisteddfod should have made a considerable demand on any leisure hours.

"The fourth year at school obviously presents special problems of its own; the initial enthusiasm and impetus have long been spent, and the new environment of the fifth form with the definite objective provided by the G.C.E. is still some distance away. The result is that many boys are inclined to drift rather aimlessly through the fourth year, looking for some form of interest and activity outside the school itself. It is the time during a boy's career when the influence and guidance of the Tutor can do most good.

"It was found that only few boys who had selected some form of apprenticeship in engineering had any real idea of the amount of work and study required of them after leaving school. Some seemed appalled at the prospect of spending at least two evenings a week in a technical college

preparing for the Ordinary National and the Higher National Certificates. Some still entertained the hope that if they failed in Mathematics or English at school, the magic of evening classes, which transforms dull boys into bright boys almost overnight, would compensate for any deficiencies discovered at school.

"A small number of boys were genuinely concerned with the social significance and usefulness to the community of their proposed career; but an important determining factor is still the wage offered, which would supplement the family income, rather than the suitability of the work or the prospect which the job afforded of employment continuing into adult life.

"It was pointed out to many boys that there had been in recent months a slight but noticeable hardening of employment prospects among school-leavers, and this tendency had been accentuated by the decision to abolish national service. Employers are now in a position to be much more selective, and this competition for the more attractive and lucrative posts is likely to increase in the future.

"It was observed that London boys are inclined to be very conservative and parochial in their approach to this important problem of a choice of a suitable career. Many prefer to accept an uninteresting clerical job in the immediate neighbourhood of their homes rather than a more profitable and exciting career but one which would involve living away from home, e.g. a career in one of the new Atomic Power Stations which are sited away from the densely populated areas of the country. The National Coal Board, too, awards every year a number of most attractive University Scholarships, which are much more liberal than State Scholarships, in that they do not require a statement of parental income, and leading after graduation to highly paid positions as mining engineers; yet in the last ten years only one boy from this School has applied for and been awarded one of these scholarships."

BRUNATE—WHITSUNTIDE, 1957

For thirty lucky boys the name of Brunate, situated 2,000 feet above Lake Como and reached by the fastest funicular railway in Europe, will always be associated in their minds with a panorama of breath-taking beauty over the distant Alpine range, a most hospitable hotel providing delicious Italian meals, sudden thunderstorms, church bells which seemed to toll at all hours of the day—in fact the ideal setting for a most enjoyable and memorable Whitsuntide holiday.

The journey outward was completed without incident and reflected great credit on Mr. Moss and the School Travel Service. We set out from Victoria on Thursday and travelled via Folkestone, Calais and Bâle, where a continental breakfast awaited us at 5.30 a.m. We were soon speeding across Switzerland to Lucerne, Lugano and the frontier station of Chiasso, arriving at Brunate almost exactly twenty-four hours after leaving Victoria.

Our first excursion was a circular steamer trip of Lake Como, visiting such famous beauty spots as Tremezzo, the Villa Carlotta, of which the Italians are justly proud and Cadenabbia, where we stoped for lunch at a fine hotel overlooking the lake. On the return journey we soon saw the conspicuous memorial to Volta, one of the first men to discover electricity.

Three further excursions had been organised, which proved to be most enjoyable—a visit to Switzerland and the fashionable resort of St. Moritz over the Maloja pass, during which the incredible skill of the Italian coach-driver, as he navigated numerous hair-pin bends, had to be seen to be believed, but he soon established himself as a firm favourite with the Wandsworth party. On the return journey we passed through the picturesque lake-side village of Dongo, famous as the spot where Mussolini was seized and shot by the Italian partisans in the last war.

On Wednesday we drove in torrential rain to the great industrial centre of Milan with its beautiful Gothic Cathedral and remarkable cemetery. One bronze memorial showing a mother gazing in longing at her three sons killed in the first world war was especially moving. We also saw the urn containing the ashes of Arturo Toscanini, the great Italian conductor. It was an unforgetable experience to stand and gaze at Leonardo de Vinci's wall fresco

"The Last Supper" which had been miraculously preserved from damage when the rest of the building was completely destroyed by a direct hit in 1943.

On Thursday we crossed the border again and visited the beautiful Swiss resort of Lugano, when fortunately the sun shone brilliantly in a cloudless sky. An afternoon ramble to the highest point of the surrounding hills organised by the prefects was much enjoyed by all, except by one boy, who was later fined fifty lire by the Prefects' Court for leaving the party without permission.

It was disappointing to find some boys unwilling to try the Italian food; instead they were continually praising the virtues of bacon and eggs, fish and chips and even baked beans on toast.. It was equally as refreshing to see quite junior boys, with only a few Italian words to help them, bargaining with the shopkeepers in Como and beating them down from a thousand lire to five hundred in a few minutes.

Yes—Brunate will long remain in our memories as a name to conjure with and we are greatly indebted to Mr. Moss who spent a great deal of time in organising the holiday, and to Mr. Aubrey who looked after our pocket-money and succeeded in teaching us two new songs "Three Blue Pigeons" and "We pushed the damper in". Roll on next year.

M. E. Duck, Pe, 5 Omega.

WATER BOY

Just before Easter I started taking swimming seriously. I go to Wandsworth Baths every Sunday at 8.30 a.m. and sometimes I go after school and Saturdays.

At first swimming seemed very hard to learn. I was afraid of opening my eyes under water, so I bought a paid of goggles which helped me a great deal.

I often went to the library to get books about swimming. I started off with holding on to the bar and practised my leg movement. I not only practised my leg and arm movement in the water, but I also practised at home on a chair.

Soon I found that I could take my feet off the bottom and swim two strokes before I sank again. Then I found that breathing was very important. At first I just held my breath and swam as far as I could, and then stopped swimming to get enough air to last out another six or seven strokes at least.

Just lately I found a book in which it showed you how to open your eyes under water. It was to fill a bowl with water and place a mirror at the bottom of the bowl. After that put your head in the water with eyes open.

I can now swim just over two widths and I hope to improve a great deal.

J. Neaser, 1 Iota.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Collector desires a Genoese cross-bow with automatic arrow feed, telescopic hair sights, long-range range finder, foam-rubber shoulder rest, built-in automatic scoring device and light-metre, complete with flash attachments. Box 7182/3.

Lady going abroad seeks to dispose of an 1817 steam-traction engine, with caterpillar tracks, zebra-skin upholstery, six wheels, steering wheel and other luxuries. Apply to Miss Rosetta Stone, Box 7984/1.

Alberto, hurry home, dinner at six.—Deidre.

Collector desires white rhinoceros's horns, with or without the rest of the rhinoceros.

Gentleman wishes to hire a motor launch, guaranteed to go faster than any French or British Customs' boats, carrying a quick-firer and searchlight in case of pirates. Apply to E. Toleado, Post-box 19, Tangiers.

F. R. Shons, Gc, 4 Alpha.

THE RIVER

The River with its water clear,
Has wandered on for many a year,
Silent banks it swiftly passes,
Through the fields of wind bent grasses.

O'er the stones and little pebbles,
Sounding like a thousand trebles,
Singing gaily on its course,
Rushing past the fields of gorse.

Through the woods where willows weep,
Silent now through pools so deep,
Here and there some leaves are sprouting,
For the summer they are shouting.

R. E. WEYMOUTH, Cd, 3 Theta.

A VISIT TO MADAME TUSSAUDS

During the last Christmas holidays my friend and I paid a visit to Madame Tussauds. It was quite a long time since I had been, so I was very much looking forward to it. As I got off the bus I saw a notice saying that the latest attractions were Peter May, the cricketer, Joroslav Drobny, the tennis player and Ingrid Bergman, the actress. We paid 1/6 to get in and first we went into the Amusement Hall. I enjoyed the Magic Mirrors very much. I spent 7d. on the machines. Luckily, I found a guide which saved me 1/-.

As we went up the stairs to go to the Grand Hall I thought at first that the attendant waxwork was a real attendant. When we got into the Grand Hall I was amazed to see how life-like the wax models were, especially with Sir Winston Churchill and King Frederick of Denmark. In here we saw the Conservative and Labour Party Cabinet Ministers, the Royal Family and European Sovereigns, Famous Warriors and American Presidents. Afterwards, we went into the Halls of Tableaux where we saw Sleeping Beauty, Madame Tussaud, Guy Fawkes and Poets. I was not very much impressed by these because the place was so dark. My attention was very much attracted in the Hall of Kings. In there we saw all the sovereigns from William the Conqueror to George VI (including the Duke of Windsor). Next, we went into the Celebrities Hall. At first we saw radio celebrities, next celebrities of Stage and Screen and lastly Sporting Celebrities. Finally, we went into the 9d. Chamber of Horrors. I thought that the model of Adolf Hitler was excellent.

After the Chamber of Horrors I went home, having had an exhausting but enjoyable morning.

DAVID BATEMAN, 1 Theta.

THE OLD ATTIC

The old attic was a shambles. It was heaped about with all sorts of things ranging from old rugs to broken forks. In one corner a battered, much-worn trunk stood agape to display an assortment of old, dilapidated, dust-covered books. Near the trunk there was a smallish pile of sticks, a paradise for the spiders. An old horn lay half hidden in a pile of dust. In another corner stood two piles of pictures with split frames and broken glass, thickly covered with a layer of grime. On a nail projecting from the wall there hung a rusty sword with half its blade missing. In the middle of the attic there was a heap of flea ridden, much patched rugs. Only the contents of one stoutly made oaken chest lay undiscovered, for it was securely locked, and there was no key.

R. TOBIN, 1 Theta.

AN EARLY MORNING WALK

I set off from the house at eight o'clock in the morning. A train was just going out of the docks. I stood and watched the clouds of white smoke curling into the air in the early morning sea breeze. It was quiet except for the continual noise of the waves lifting the coal chippings which had been dropped when the coal was being loaded into the ships which take it to London and other places.

I started to run as I had been dreaming. I paused at the corner as two dogs were chasing one another because there was only one bone between them.

I met a miner who was going to the mine on the morning shift. I turned another corner and walked beside the gutter which has been worn by the spring running over it. That is how Springfield gets its name, and field because there is a field in the centre of the square of houses.

By now I was walking through the dene which has been the home of many a fox. The foxes used to steal chickens from the farmers' barns so they had to kill them.

I had brought some bread to feed the retired pit ponies. One of them was black and the other was brown and shorter than the first. I fed the ponies then I started walking home for my breakfast.

Grandad was feeding the hens when I got back to the house, and my Mother was just coming down the stairs as I entered by the garden door. I now felt very hungry and Grandad let me choose an egg for my breakfast.

MICHAEL BELLAMY, 1 Theta.

A GLIMPSE OF ROMAN BRITAIN

St. Albans in Hertfordshire, is a delightful town near where once stood the Roman town of Verulamium. During the Easter holidays, Mr. Hodges took the History Society to see the remains and also the Abbey, built on the hill where St. Alban, said to have been a Roman soldier who sheltered a Christian priest, was martyred and from whom the modern town takes its name.

The Abbey, now a Cathedral, is the landmark that first strikes you. It towers above the rest of the town. Its tower is the oldest part, and was built from the remains of the Roman town which fell into decay when the Legions left Britain for Rome in 410 A.D.

The town has a very pleasant park and it is in this that the remains of Verulamium are to be seen. There is a very fine stretch of wall left, although greatly reduced in size from the original. The Romans were very fond of bathing and they used to have lavish buildings for bath houses. These houses contained many rooms and the floor which can be seen in the park is of the hot room heated by a hypocaust, the Roman central heating system.

Perhaps the most interesting remains of all are those of the amphitheatre. The tiered circle is practically complete, and you can almost imagine the Roman people sitting there.

A fine mosaic from the bath house and many smaller articles from various sites in the park, are in the museum.

We visited the Saxon Church of St. Michael, where Francis Bacon has a statue and is buried. His seat, the Gorhumbury estate, contains the Roman theatre. The Church has a fine carved Jacobean pulpit, on the ledge of which stands an hour-glass. We also climbed the Mediaeval Clock Tower in St. Albans, and found it far more uncomfortably narrow (although it is not so high!) than the Monument.

After amusing ourselves for a while on the grassy hills in the great shade of the Cathedral, we journeyed home, a little humbled by what people had done so long ago.

ALAN MORRIS, 1 Iota.

WEST MEETS EAST!

On the 15th May last, the Lower School History Society were taken by Mr. Hodges to the London Mosque. Mr. Humphreys also attended, and an open invitation made our

party thirty-six.

We assembled outside the School gate immediately at the close of afternoon School, and did not have to walk far. We found the Mosque set in a pleasant garden, adjoining the Imam's (or Leader's) house. In Eastern dress, he came out now to welcome us.

First he took us to see the inside of the Mosque, visible from the railway as a white building with a green dome. We stood at one end and saw a very simple place of worship. It has a large blue prayer mat on which we were not allowed still wearing our shoes. The Mosque faces the holy city of Mecca, and on the mat Moslems prostrate themselves three or five times a day The Mosque has neither pictures, engravings, images nor altar. It is just meant for whole-hearted prayer to God.

Mr. Khan, who is the Imam, took us back to his house for a lecture, and to begin with, one of his companions chanted from the Koran, which is their holy book, to give us an idea of their service. Mr. Khan then spoke on many interesting points. "Moslems" is the correct term rather than "Mohammedans", for they do not worship Mahomet in the same way as we worship Christ; Allah being the one true God. Jesus is still regarded by them as a holy prophet, and before his name the Imam, and all Moslems, say "Peace be to him". We took the opportunity of asking many questions.

We were served with a charming tea, and little booklets were distributed entitled "Islam: The Misunderstood Religion." Photographs were taken of us in the grounds, one of them showing our group before the Mosque together with the Imam and his children.

After these most enjoyable and instructive two hours we went home, but shall remember long such ready and warm hospitality.

DAVID A. LOWMAN AND GEOFFREY GRANGER, 1 Iota.

WASHING DAY

It is Monday, the first day of the working-week; the time is seven o'clock; the sky is overcast; and to the housewife it is washing day.

By half-past eight the mangles are turning and the washing line drooping with cold, damp clothing. Somehow Fate has arranged a small rainfall for nine o'clock. Down comes the rain—out rushes the frantic housewife like a mouse making a sudden dash to get a piece of cheese, knowing that the cat is about. The lines are now empty, and the clothes-horses full to overflowing. Half-an-hour has passed; the sun begins to peep from behind the clouds; the washing begins to reappear; and the housewife is back at the kitchen window, dividing her attention between looking for the slightest drop of moisture and doing the washing-up.

But in this age of inventions, the washing part of washing day has been made much easier for the overworked housewife. The "Forward Bagwash" has solved her problems. Round about nine o'clock short fat sacks begin to appear on the door-steps; by ten or eleven they have gone and joined others of their kind piled up in the back of a van. Next day the same van returns with your sack all white and damp. But still the intricate process of drying the damp clothes has to be carried out.

The copper and the old iron mangle have now been replaced by the all-in-one gas or electric washing-machines, while if you cannot afford one of these you can go to one of the numerous "Washettes" which have about twenty machines in each shop. Hot water and detergent are free, but if you wish, you can bring your own pet "Dazzlone" washing-powder. If you do your washing this way, you save a whole day; that is if you have an hour to spare to go and watch the washing washing.

The only thing left to do now is to iron the pile of dry washing which has accumulated. This is one of the most tiring and back-breaking chores that the housewife has to do.

Nevertheless, in the last twenty years much of the strain of the weekly wash has been taken off the shoulders of the housewife and she can now look forward to a comfortable hour "looking-in."

R. M. VINCENT-TOWNEND, Gb, 5 Alpha.

A "SIR" IN TIME To Peter Lawrence, of the A.T.C., attached to Tedworth Grammar Boarding School, who was creeping stealthily through the scant cover of the bushes, the sun seemed uncomfortably hot. Shifting his grip on the rifle in his hands, he halted a moment and crouched listening intently, but nothing broke the silence.

Resting easily on his haunches, Lawrence thought rapidly. He could only hope the show hadn't started yet. That he must succeed in his mission was obvious for his was a worthy cause—the cause of freedom, and he valued freedom more than anything else in the world.

Suddenly the air was filled with ear-splitting yells and Lawrence, galvanised into action and having no longer any need for silent progress, hurried, still keeping low, in the direction of the noise. From the vantage point of a healthy bush he peered cautiously out into a clearing, where a group of boys, all with their backs to him, were standing absorbed in some object in front of them. Realising that things were really moving, Lawrence measured the distance between himself and the nearest boy, and gripping his rifle more firmly, ran faster than he had ever run before. Gaining a point on the left flank of the group of boys he straightened, and in a voice a little shaky, but full of success, shouted, "SIR," in answer to his name and at the same time thanking heaven that his name was at the end of the roll call and that his freedom for the next half-holiday was safe.

MICHAEL SMITH, 2 Iota.

TRAVEL BY RAIL IN COMFORT You are in a hurry. "Late, late," you mutter as you run to the station. Bumped and battered you run through a foggy Saturday "rush hour." The station in sight, you go to cross the road, and, after a gallant attempt, retreat to the crossing. For an age the cars go streaming by, until at last the lights change. You are first at the middle, but you are pushed back by a rush from the other side. At last a quick run and you are at the station.

Now for the ticket. Look at that queue! You are on the end, panting and gasping. You feel for your money and your heart misses a beat as you think you have left it behind. But no! here it is. You're next. "Moorgate, please. Eightpence." You run for the barrier. "Bother, this is the wrong place. Perish the fog. Where is it? Ah! here it is." There is someone there who has lost his ticket, and is arguing about it. He's gone, and you grope your way on to the platform.

It is dark and murky with fog and smoke. A mumble and buzz of voices. Clanging and snorting of locomotives. A train comes in. The man on the loudspeaker says, "The train now standing on plat . . . ". The rest is drowned in a whistle from the train. You realise that this one is yours and jump into the nearest carriage. It is for ladies only. Glowing red, you get out and into the proper one.

In the train you relax and slip your hand in your pocket. Your money and ticket are gone! You hunt everywhere for them. Then sit and think out an excuse for the other end of the line.

G. THORNE, 1 Eta.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE NEW SCHOOL My first impressions of the new School were not of the outside but of the inside. I was not at all surprised at the immensity of the buildings, because I live quite near and had seen them under construction.

When I first went inside I wondered who must have the marvellous brain to plan such a building.

What I liked and still like best were the woodwork rooms, I liked them mainly because everything was new and there were two woodturning lathes.

I also liked the science rooms for they have many adjoining rooms such as the photography dark room.

Everything to my eyes was wonderfully laid out and decorated. The great hall was to me first of all just like a theatre with the large stage where

all the masters stood.

One thing I did not like were the changing rooms; they are too small for a form of thirty-two like mine.

Another thing I don't like now is that there are too many stairs.

JAMES ENGLAND, 1 Gamma.

THE NIGHT

Dark demons of the night so still,
Can ye but help me in my plight?
For 'gainst this life I have a will,
And I fear not the night.

Your whisp'ring messenger, the wind,
Hath dragg'd me unto death's own sight;
Where torment may o'ercome my mind,
But I fear not the night.

O Night, devourer of all life,
Canst thou but gain my soul from flight?
For dauntless am I in such strife,
As I fear not the night.

Death's eager grasp once seiz'd my heart,
When I was lacking life as light;
But each dawn loses grief in part,
For I fear not the night.

J. FRANCIS, Ga, L6a.

PICTURE THIEVES

Yesterday was most exciting, and I will relate the events to you in the order that they happened. As you know, I am staying in a very old house opposite the River Seine. Underneath this house there are some cellars. Here it was, according to legend, that smuggling had gone on in days gone by.

Well, yesterday morning I woke up at about 5 o'clock. For a moment, I listened, because I had been woken up by a noise, and I waited till it would come again. Ah, there it was! It sounded like a systematic hammering underneath me.

I got out of bed and went to the window. Looking out I saw the familiar view of the river and the towers and pinnacles of Notre Dame. It looked the same as usual, and I dismissed it from my mind.

However, at breakfast, I read in the papers about the mysterious disappearance of the "Virgin and Child" by Raphael from the Louvre. This picture is worth about eleven million francs (eleven thousand pounds). As only a few months before the "Roman Landscape" by Lorraine had disappeared, obviously a gang was at work.

As I had been meaning to go to the Louvre sometime during my stay in Paris, I thought that it would be a good idea to go to-day and visit the scene of the crime. I took a taxi and as we passed over the Pont Neuf, I saw a large barge outside the Quai de la Tournelle. It had not been there the night before, and I wondered about it.

When I reached the Louvre, I noticed the gendarmes bending over what looked like some soil. I got a shock as I recognised it as soil which only grows near the island.

It struck me like a flash. The noise, the barge and the soil all pointed to the fact that the pictures were being taken to the cellars and then to the barge. I decided to go back and investigate near the Quai.

Once back, I had a look at the barge. It looked perfectly ordinary, and I thought that I must be wrong. But then I saw a man going ashore. I decided to follow him. He walked along the Quai. Suddenly after a quick

look behind him (I immediately hid), he slipped down a manhole.

I realised that this would lead to the cellars, so I went into our house and descended the cellars. Here I hid behind a barrel, and before long the man accompanied by a well dressed gentleman came into the cellars. The latter was the boss and he was giving orders. He said, "Hurry up man, have you got the pictures?".

"Here they are," replied the other, "I have taken great care with them".

"Good," said Boss, "Now carry them up". They went out and I followed them. In due course we arrived at the barge, and while I hid, the Boss gave orders to cast off.

I had already decided to get the crew on my side as the Boss would not have told them about the pictures. We were trying to think of a way to foil them, when I hit on a brainwave. It was the plan that during the night we should turn back and sail up the river to Paris again.

This was successfully accomplished and in the early hours of the morning, we stopped outside the Louvre and I went ashore and told the gendarme on duty there, my story. He blew his whistle and we went back on board with five gendarmes. They found the pictures and arrested the thieves. Said the sergeant, "We will see you get the reward, sir".

N. R. E. FISHER, Ga, 2 Gamma.

THE HOME-COMING

Lean, white walls, standing stark against the sky,
With windy gusts and whorls slipping noisily
Through its rough-hewn stones.
Which now scarce hang together,
And at a single touch,
Crumble to dust.

I knew this house, bleak, all alone.
I knew this house, it was my home
For many a year. Those days have long since gone,
But I have now returned at last
To view this wreck, this shadow of my past.

Parents, loves, yea, all my ken
Conjured strangely up again
Within this shell of stone,
Once, house of men.

Shadows, whispers, thoughts of evenings gone
Clustered round the fire at home,
Well up inside me.

O God! Take me back!
Let me not tread another track.

BRIAN C. JOHNSTON, Mc, U6Ec.

EARLY MORN

My mind wondered, as by fate,
I rested on the farmhouse gate.
Across the fields of waving corn,
Through the forests cool in early morn,
Down the valley and up the hill,
Of clean sweet air I drank my fill,
Across the sea to friendly coast,
I wanted my homeland as my host.

Once there I feel my mind at rest,
My heart no longer ill but blessed.
In Swansea Vale and Brecon Beacon,
Land of my fathers, weather beaten.
The valleys echo countless voices,
For one returned the town rejoices.
Soon I will return and be
Happy in my own country.

I shall return one day e'er long
To the land of mountain song
Where my heart in spite of all
Will answer to the patriot's call.

R. Moody, L6Sc.

"BATTLE"

So at last the day was gone,
The sunset had pass'd by,
And the moon was full, and the battle won,
And the wounded left to die.
Silently, silently, twinkled the stars,
Smiling on where death stood,
And the night was cool, and the moonlit bars
Of light shone through trees in the wood.
The hedgehog crept furtively through the dead,
And the fieldmice came out to play,
Nocturnal creatures rous'd from their bed,
For night was their time for day.
Then began the battle royal,
For animals fight at night,
Unknowing of the bitter toil
Which has pass'd in another fight.
For conflict goes on all the while,
By the night, and by the day,
Till all the bodies that are kill'd do pile
O'er the earth, to make earth's clay.

Dawn came, and the shining golden sun
Above the earth appear'd,
And started on its course to run;
While down below the humans leer'd,
And fought, as 'tis human to do,
For conflict reigns both day and night,
And battles are nothing new.

R. A. Peacock, Cd, 4 Pi.

TRAVEL During our lifetime the great majority of us pursue so many varied activities, that the prospect of having to confine our energies to only one, if it arose, would certainly concern us. At first, I would be very apprehensive about devoting all my time to one particular pastime, and I should choose the pastime, only after much careful thought and consideration. The final choice would have to provide plenty of variety and interest, and for this reason, I think, I would choose travelling as my single activity.

My mind has always had a habit of shifting quickly from one line of thought to another, but I do not think that this would matter too much if I were to spend my time travelling, but if I devoted my time to the game of chess, gardening, collecting stamps or to a likewise narrow activity, I am sure that I would soon become extremely bored.

Naturally, I would have to be granted certain facilities to pursue my hobby of travelling to its end, and the most important of these would be, of course, the necessary money to enable me to pay the ever-increasing fares of modern-day travel. Other facilities I would need, I suppose, would be freedom to wander around the world, irrespective of my creed, politics or nationality; health, good enough to enable me to undergo the rigorous fatigue caused by continuous travelling, and a far wider knowledge of world languages than I have at the present moment.

I have many reasons for desiring to travel, and the first of these is that the pastime could never be completely exhausted, for although it is often exclaimed that the world is small, this planet of ours is, in fact, large enough to enable nobody to examine every mile of it in a human lifetime, despite all the advantages of modern travel.

My second reason for my choice of hobby is the political value of it, for I think that actually seeing foreign lands would stand one in better stead to understand their problems and to learn how the other half of the world lives. Seeing foreign systems of government in action would greatly increase our understanding of them in my opinion.

Another of my reasons for seeing the world would be the cultural and economic value of the experience, for I would be able to study the arts, crafts and customs of foreign countries, and also to see famous places of historical interest. I should find this particularly satisfying since I have always had a passion for the subject of history. Another factor of travel which I would find extremely informative would be the study of foreign industries and ways of life. What a thrill it would be for me to go over a large coffee farm in South America or to visit a gold-mine!

I suppose my last reason for continuous travel would be the mere pleasure of it, and the satisfaction gained by seeing nature in its real beauty. No other hobby could provide spectacles equal in splendour to the snow-covered Alps, Table Mountain, the Niagara Falls or the magnificent sight of the Taj Mahal.

As yet I have not left the country where I was born, and perhaps this increases my desire to travel all the more, although I love my native England dearly. I think that the pleasure and interest provided by travelling would more than compensate for any grief caused by having to confine ones interest to a solitary activity.

People often say that life is too full, and as we cannot increase human life to any great length, despite modern science, I think it might be an excellent idea in some ways to deny ourselves some activities and not try to accomplish too much.

R. J. Carr, Pd, U6A.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL In spite of valiant efforts made by a few boys and in spite of the appeal made in past issues of The Link for greater co-operation in the House, we only managed to get third place in the Eisteddfod—and a pretty miserable third place it was. R. Baker must be congratulated on his triple success. He came first in Art, Literary Composition and Scientific models. Needless to say we could have done with a few more results such as his.

Derek Ayshford also merits our warmest congratulations on his production for the Drama Section. He chose two scenes from " Midsummer Night's Dream " which had great contrast in comedy and setting. The judges particularly praised the setting for the fairy scenes. Surprisingly his colourful and well produced presentation gained only second place.

R. Baker of Cromwell D found an outlet for another of his gifts in the Ponsonby Handwriting Trophy. His entry was given first place and D. W. Andrews of 1 Gamma was second. Out of twenty-four places, Cromwell gained eleven and consequently gained the trophy.

The last two terms have shown Cromwell to be in superb condition both on the field and in the courts. Both our teams in the Fives Championship showed themselves to be in fine fighting trim. The first team won—easily—every one of its matches. The second team, but for one narrow defeat by an extremely fatigued Morley team, also had the same success. Praise must be extended to the Captain, J. W. Kaminski, and also to D. J. Liggitt, who showed themselves skilful masters of the game.

The Inter-House Rugby Championship was another field in which Cromwell's richly talented sports enthusiasts brilliantly shone. Both our Junior and Senior Teams under the well-proved supervision of C. M. Newson won all their matches often by enormous margins.

Basket-Ball is an innovation made possible by the spacious facilities of the new gymnasiums. So quickly did interest in this game grow that it was decided to have an Inter-House Basket-Ball Championship. Briefly to relate our success in this—we won.

The Diligence Average for the House has mounted steadily this year and we stand a good chance of winning the diligence shield in July. Cromwell B have as usual shown their academic aspirations by having the highest Diligence average for every award this year. In the last few years they have retained this admirable position with comparative ease, suffering only one defeat.

Apart from the disappointment of the results of the Eisteddfod it has, this term, be ena real pleasure to review our successes of the last three months. Let us hope this augurs well for the future and especially for the results of future Eisteddfodau.

JOHN SHARP, Ca, U6a.

GIBBON Since the last issue of The Link our first Eisteddfod in the new building has been contested, and we congratulate all the loyal members of the House who gave their untiring support. Although we finished fourth in the whole competition, nevertheless some individual results show much promise for the future. In several sections of the Eisteddfod we gained second place—Music, Speech, Art—and second equal in Hobbies. But, really, these should have been firsts! The organisers worked hard enough but hardly got the support necessary for success.

The House Play, R. C. Sheriff's " Journey's End ", produced by J. T. Francis and G. P. Douel, and aided by a vast and enthusiastic stage team, was a great experience for all concerned, performers and audience alike. We were very unlucky to be placed fourth, and will indeed try to secure a higher position next year. G. P. Douel took the main rôle of Stanhope and portrayed the character to the best of experienced ability. Mention should also go to G. W. Willis as Osborne and S. J. J. Tyson as Raleigh. The rest of the cast included D. J. Birkenshaw, D. Rotchell and C. T. A. Bowyer. The stage management was in the most capable hands of P. G. Lewis, who gained great success in the difficult task of a dug-out on the stage. Thanks go also to A. A. Oldall for his tireless work concerning the numerous properties needed in such a play.

Gibbon fared extremely well on Sports Day, coming a well deserved second. The most outstanding feature of Gibbon's success was that of D. H. Pentecost, who won the Senior Pole Vault, Hurdles and High Jump. The Athletic team, under the captaincy of A. A. Bonner, did work together as a team, and congratulations are due to all who competed.

Continuing the happy note, Gibbon's cricketers so far have registered two victories out of two on the field. Against Cromwell we won convincingly by 38 runs. In our total of 97, B. Eadie and P. R. Coppock, scoring 33 and 16 respectively, were our most successful batsmen. P. Rees, who took 6 for 22, helped greatly to dismiss Cromwell for 59. For the second time this season, cricket captain P. R. Coppock led Gibbon victoriously from the field. In this game against Pitt, we batted first and made 70 runs. D. Hollowell 20, P. R. Coppock 13 and P. Rees 11 not out, were Gibbon's main reasons for our total. In replying to our score Pitt amassed the total of 61 runs; Gibbon winning by 9 runs. P. Rees, P. R. Coppock and M. J. Dries shared Pitt's

wickets between them.

In conclusion, on behalf of the House I would like to offer best wishes to many of our seniors who are leaving this term, and wish them the best of luck in their future careers.

J. T. FRANCIS, Ga, L6a.

[I am very grateful to J. Francis for the splendid way in which he has recorded all House activities in the House Records Book.—G.E. (Housemaster).]

MORLEY

During the past few months Morley has once again been revelling in success. As last term's notes had to be in before the end of the term an athletics victory could only be forecast. As you all know, we were once again successful in this major event, due largely to the hard work of R. Evans, and the willing co-operation of the people taking part. This is the second time that Evans has captained the athletic team to victory.

As the swimming gala is at the end of this term it would be rather presumptuous to report on a victory at the time of writing. However, as this year we have got a team which is just as strong as the one the year before, there should be no doubt that by the time this is being read, P. G. Libby will have led his team to victory for the second time in succession.

In cricket this year we have not been so successful, and up to the time of writing we had gained no victories.

Last but by no means least comes the Eisteddfod competition. To mention everybody who took part would be impossible, but special mention must be made of our House Play, Flecker's Hassan, produced by R. Hore and G. Wort. It must have been one of the most lavish productions ever seen at a Drama Competition. Hore and Wort and the rest of the cast must be congratulated on a fine performance. Incidentally, this is the first time that Morley has won a Drama Competition for many years, we hope it will not be the last.

It seems a shame to put a report on Diligence underneath one of such merit as the Eisteddfod. Judging by our successes in other fields it seems almost unbelievable that Morley could let such inferior Houses such as Gibbon, Cromwell and Pitt come before us. For the past three years Morley has come last in Diligence, and will continue to do so unless sets like Morley C and others do their best to pick up. It only needs a little extra effort to score a good mark, and unless something is done, we might find that "Joey" has been "loaned" to some other House.

We congratulate J. T. Davies, who has been awarded a travel scholarship and will be spending three months of his holiday in France.

Regretfully we must bid farewell to two members of the Staff who are leaving us at the end of this term. Mr. Cockerill, who is emigrating to Canada to take up a teaching position, and Mr. Gibson, who is leaving us after a "return visit" of only two years. Mr. Gibson's set is being taken over by Mr. Gouldstone.

It is always sad to say good-bye to senior members of the House, who inevitably have to leave at this time of the year. We must congratulate R. Hore, who is about to start what I am sure will be a distinguished career at Wadham College, Oxford; A. E. Preston, who unfortunately had to leave before the end of the term, but is going to the University College of North Staffordshire; R. Evans and P. G. Libby, who have done so much for the House in the way of sporting activities; B. Johnston, P. Foulds, and finally R. Lloyd who has been provisionally accepted for the R.A.F. College at Cranwell.

Finally to all others who may be leaving we wish the best of luck in their future careers, and to those who are returning next year we wish a very enjoyable holiday.

P. FOULDS.

PITT In this issue of The Link we are able to survey the achievements of the House in the Eisteddfod. We were placed second. It just needs that extra effort! We would like, however, to congratulate those members who managed to gain valuable points for the House, especially the following: I. H. Simons and P. D. Hodges in Speech, I. A. Cobb and D. T. Snell in Music, and G. E. Dunmill and R. Massey in the Art Section. We offer encouragement to those boys who did not fare so well. Turning to our placings in the various sections of the Eisteddfod, we came first in Music, thanks to the excellent leadership of C. G. Christodoulou, first also in Literary Composition and Art, third in Drama, third equal in Speech and last in Hobbies. Special praise must go to R. T. J. Moody and F. M. Carter for their arduous task as House Co-ordinators.

In the individual Foil Championship of the School, J. W. Tarkowski reached the final. There the standard of play of both contestants was very evenly matched. The result of the fight, in fact, was decided on the final hit, which Tarkowski was most unfortunate not to win. We extend to him, however, our heartiest congratulations.

In Chess, the House repeated last year's performance by coming third. Our team was unfortunately beaten by Morley, but drew against the other two houses. Had the team not been dogged by absences, however, this performance would, no doubt, have been bettered. Nevertheless we can take heart in the fact that the team is a young one which is a very promising sign for the future.

Our Fives team recorded one victory (against Gibbon) and two losses in the Inter-House Championship and thus finished third in the final placings. The team was captained by A. J. Conetta. The following boys played for Pitt: A. J. Conetta, J. E. Bussien, G. C. Miller, J. McD. McClure and P. N. Cassidy.

In Athletics the House were fourth. We could have finished in a much higher position if J. McD. McClure and R. W. Hancock, our able captains, had received the full co-operation of Pitt House. Nevertheless we congratulate McClure and Hancock and the rest of our team for their very worthy efforts. We offer our heartiest congratulations to G. L. Wilson who, in a scintillating race, succeeded in winning the Shapcott Cup.

At this term's House meeting F. M. Carter was elected Cricket Captain, with J. F. Palmer as Vice-Captain. B. M. Cullum was made Swimming Captain, with J. McD. McClure as Vice-Captain.

At the present time only one cricket match has been played—against Morley. Contrary to expectation we recorded a handsome win, which indeed boosts our morale.

It is hoped that the high standard of Diligence, which we attained at the first award this term, will be maintained.

To all those members of Pitt House who are leaving this term we offer our best wishes for success in their future career.

PATRICK CASSIDY, Pc, L6a.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ATHLETICS

Captain : G. W. C. Wort.
Vice-Captain : R. W. Hancock.

This year's Sports Day was a great success and the standard of performance was very high, resulting in the breaking of several long established records.

Under 12½ High Jump—4ft. 2ins., J. A. Rich (M). Under 14 High Jump—4ft. 8ins., R. G. Twyman (C). Under 15 220 yds.—26.4secs., M. K. Howe (M). Under 15 Mile—5min. 5.6secs., R. H. Mitchell (M). Under 15 Hop Step and Jump—32ft. 4ins., M. P. Golding (M). Under 15 Long Jump—16ft. 2½ins., J. H. Martin (G). Under 15 Discus—97ft. 7ins., D. P. Brennan (C). Under 16 440 yds.—56.8, A. A. Bonner (G). Under 16 Hop Step and Jump—34ft. 4ins., A. C. Staig (G). Under 16 Javelin—106ft. 6ins., L. N. Congdon (C). Over 16 High Jump—5ft. 6ins., D. H.

Pentecost (G). Over 16 Pole Vault—11ft., D. H. Pentecost (G).

As last year the battle for first place was between two houses, Morley and Gibbon, but eventually Morley showed themselves to be the superior team and emerged the victors for the second year running. The final result was Morley 1st, Gibbon 2nd, Cromwell 3rd, Pitt 4th.



(Photo by Fox Studios)

D. H. Pentecost clearing 11 ft.

SOUTH LONDON GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

The South London Grammar Schools Athletics Meeting was the first outside school function of the year and was held at the White City on Monday, May 20th. At this meeting the high standard of performance which was seen at the school sports was very much dwarfed by the performances of boys from other South London Schools. This shows that although our school standards are improving they need to improve a deal more for the School to gain success in such meetings. Nevertheless there were boys who were very successful at this meeting and should not go without mention.

Under 14 Hurdles—A. K. Jeffries, 4th. Junior Relay—P. A. Constantine, D. P. Brennan, B. A. Eadie, P. A. Lewis, 5th. Under 16 100 yds.—P. A. Lewis, 5th. Under 16 220 yds.—P. A. Lewis, 4th. Under 16 440 yds.—A. A. Bonner, 2nd. Senior High Jump—D. H. Pentecost, 1st. Senior Javelin—D. H. Pentecost, 5th. Senior 440 yds.—G. L. Wilson, 2nd. Senior 880 yds.—D. F. Frost, 6th. Senior Relay—D. J. Liggitt, R. Evans, D. J. Birkenshaw, J. W. Kaminski, 5th.

WANDSWORTH DISTRICT

In the Wandsworth District Sports we had no fewer than 68 boys competing. The meeting was held at Tooting Bec Track on Friday, May 24th.

The meeting began at 10 a.m. and it rained throughout the meeting. However, all the competitors were in the best of spirits and were not seriously affected by the appalling conditions, and as a result the School once again distinguished itself by winning both the Senior and Junior Trophies for the ninth successive year. The boys who were placed in their events are far too numerous to mention in this report so I will only mention those boys who gained either first or second places.

Under 13 220 yds.—R. E. Griffin, 2nd. Under 14 Hurdles—A. K. Jeffries, 2nd. Under 15 100 yds.—D. P. Brennan, 1st. Under 15 220 yds. —M. K. Howe, 2nd. Under 15 440 yds.—R. H. Mitchell, 1st. Under 15 Hurdles—M. J. Dries, 2nd. Under 15 Hop Step and Jump—M. P. Golding, 1st. Under 15 Long Jump—P. L. Friedlander, 2nd. Under 15 Discus—R. Knight, 1st. Under 15 Shot—B. A. Eadie, 1st. Under 15 Pole Vault—J. Bullingham, 1st; J. W. Bankhead, 2nd.

Under 16 100 yds.—P. A. Constantine, 2nd. Under 16 220 yds.—P. A. Lewis, 2nd. Under 16 440 yds.—A. A. Bonner, 1st. Under 16 880 yds.—B. W. Calder, 2nd. Under 16 Hurdles—J. A. Phillips, 2nd.

Under 17 220 yds.—D. M. Holdich, 1st. Under 17 440 yds.—G. L. Wilson, 1st. Under 17 880 yds.—D. F. Frost, 1st. Under 17 High Jump—R. C. Newman, 2nd. Under 17 Mile—P. A. Duggan, 1st. Under 17 Hurdles—G. M. North, 1st. Under 17 Long Jump—I. Thirlwall, 1st. Under 17 Hop Step and Jump—R. W. Hancock, 1st. Under 17 Javelin—L. N. Congdon, 1st. Under 17 Shot—R. Wall, 2nd. Under 17 Discus—K. Robins, 1st; K. H. W. Denyer, 2nd. Under 17 Pole Vault—A. R. Barratt, 1st; H. L. B. Lee, 2nd. Under 17 Relay Team—P. A. Lewis, P. A. Constantine, G. L. Wilson, A. A. Bonner, 1st.

Owing to their success in the Wandsworth District, we congratulate all the above mentioned boys on being chosen to represent Wandsworth in the London Championships.

Before the end of this term I hope that we will be able to form an Athletics Club, which will continue to function throughout the Winter so that our boys may achieve a higher standard of performance and thus have greater success in meetings such as the South London and the London Championships.

G. W. C. Wort, Md, U6Sc.

CHESS This season the membership of the Chess Club has increased considerably due mainly to the enthusiasm of the second and third forms. As a result many promising young players have come to light. We hope this will continue. Our advice to enthusiasts is to practise and never stop practising.

Out of the forty members of the London Schools' Chess League we have come only twenty-third. We sincerely hope that this will improve in years to come. The results of some of the League matches are as follows:—

v.	St. Clement Danes	...	Won 4 —2
v.	City	...	Won 4 —2
v.	Beulah Hill ...	...	Won 4 —2
v.	Strand	...	Lost $2\frac{1}{2}$—$3\frac{1}{2}$
v.	Wallington ...	...	Lost $\frac{1}{2}$—$5\frac{1}{2}$
v.	Sloane	...	Won 4 —2

The Junior team has been quite strong this year having won many of their games. For the next season the London Schools' Chess League is proposing to form a Junior League. If this materialises, we will undoubtedly enter a team.

We should like to congratulate Doctor Solomon on being re-elected Chairman of the Chess League, and to thank him and Mr. Mercer for the invaluable support and encouragement that they have given to the Chess Club.

Congratulations to A. D. McNeill and A. E. Preston on their awards of half-colours.

The results of the Inter-House Chess Competition is a win for Gibbon, with Morley second, Pitt third, and Cromwell fourth.

The Captain and Secretary of the Chess team for the year 1956-57 have been R. S. Hore and G. P. Douel respectively.

Meanwhile to all non-players my advice is to start learning now. It's a grand game.

G. P. DOUEL.

CRICKET School cricket suffered a most severe blow when the playing field attached to the Grammar School was taken for the building of the present Wandsworth School, but even the most enthusiastic of cricketers would have to admit that the new building with its magnificent amenities and equipment is fine compensation. The installation of the multiple " nets " has made coaching and practice possible on a much larger scale than previously.

The playing fields at Wimbledon Park have proved most accesible and the quality of wickets for House Matches and School Matches has been very good, bearing in mind the very dry weather experienced this June. In a different kind of way, the fields at Beverley Meads, which have been used for 1st and 2nd XI matches have proved equally satisfactory. Our opponents have on a number of occasions admired the rural surroundings of Wimbledon Common which flank the " meads ". Our greatest need, however, is a private pavilion with facilities for entertaining our guests. Deck chairs and a " telegraph " would also be greatly appreciated. Our aim is to make the Saturday cricket field a meeting place for all School members and friends.

I would like to add my personal admiration to Peter Foulds, the Cricket Club Secretary. He has worked most diligently behind the scenes, apart from on the cricket field! And lastly I would like to pay tribute to Agha Amir Ali, the first team " Skipper ", " A very great young cricketer ". His 87 against Spencer C.C. and his 48 against Sutton, and not to mention his many fine bowling feats will be long remembered by the team. " Well played, Skipper ".

H.S.

FIRST XI

Captain : A. Amir Ali. *Vice-Captain :* C. M. Newson.

Hon. Secretary : P. W. Foulds.

The 1st XI have so far enjoyed what must be the most successful season for many a year. Out of nine played, only one was lost, while three were drawn and the remaining five were won. With only four of the last year's eleven remaining, such a result could not have been foreseen by even the most optimistic. It is encouraging for the future that the successes were achieved by so young a side, which will need to replace a few players for next year.

Many promising young cricketers were sent during Winter to indoor Cricket School to receive expert coaching from ex-England players. Fifty per cent. of the cost was shared by the boys while the other half was met from the generous grant made by the Parents' Association. The wonderful results of the School teams are a true measure of the success of the scheme. It is hoped we will be able to continue with the scheme in the future years.

Here I would like to record our gratitude to Mr. Thom for all the work he did during Winter in organising indoor cricket and making it such a success. Encouraged by Mr. Snell's enthusiasm, members of the 1st XI were on many occasions inspired to give their best in a crisis.

Special mention must be made of B. Cox and D. Simpson, whose bold and enterprising batting against Hammersmith, after we had lost a wicket in the first over of the match, added no fewer than 91 runs in 54 minutes, with Cox reaching the well-earned, coveted half-century and Simpson narrowly missing it by 6 runs.

W. Fuller has been a very consistent performer and many times laid the foundation of our victories by giving sound starts. His technique as an opening batsmen could hardly have been bettered.

Of our other batsmen P. R. Coppock, a natural cricketer, has been very unlucky not to have scored more runs. A. E. Stewart, J. H. Cousins and B. A. Eadie have not had many chances but they can always be relied on for useful runs, while J. T. Davies, P. W. Foulds and C. M. Newson are no mean performers with the bat.

Newson's wicket-keeping has been sure and businesslike, any snicks within telescopic sight have been readily accepted. Our attack, consisting of J. T. Davies, A. A. Agha, P. R. Coppock and D. Simpson, though less dangerous than of recent years has never failed to take wickets.

The competition for a place in the 1st XI this year has been very keen, and gaining a regular place in the 1st XI by last year's juniors must be considered quite an achievement. The competition, it seems, for next year will be even greater, which is all the better. Wandsworth can really look forward with great confidence to the future.

A. AMIR ALI.

Results to date: Played 9, Won 5, Drawn 3, Lost 1.

Scores :—

v. Mitcham G.S.: Mitcham 113 (J. Davies 4 for 22, A. Amir Ali 5 for 45); Wandsworth 56 (P. R. Coppock 14).

v. Walter St. John's: St. John's 39 (A. Amir Ali 7 for 9, D. Simpson 2 for 11); Wandsworth 40 for 9 wkts. (J. Cousins 11).

v. Surbiton G.S.: Surbiton 105 for 6 wkts. dec. (A. Amir Ali 3 for 22); Wandsworth 65 for 6 (A. Amir Ali 22).

v. Spencer C.C.: Spencer 150 for 6 wkts. dec. (P. R. Coppock 3 for 30, J. Davies 2 for 12); Wandsworth 147 for 9 (A. Amir Ali 87, W. Fuller 22).

v. Windsor C.B.S.; Windsor 93 (G. C. Miller 3 for 11, P. R. Coppock 3 for 20); Wandsworth 96 for 3 (A. Amir Ali 42, W. Fuller 24 n.o., B. Cox 18).

v. Raines Foundation: Raines 85 (A. Amir Ali 6 for 30); Wandsworth 69 for 6 wkts. (W. Fuller 22, B. Cox 13, B. Eadie 14).

v. Hammersmith: Wandsworth 158 (B. Cox 50, D. Simpson 44, A. Amir Ali 21); Hammersmith 82 (A. Amir Ali 7 for 24).

v. Sutton: Sutton 107 (A. Amir Ali 5 for 39, D. Simpson 4 for 24); Wandsworth 108 for 8 (A. Amir Ali 49, P. Coppock 23, J. Cousins 9 n.o.).

v. Sloane: Sloane 64 (A. Amir Ali 6 for 24, P. Coppock 3 for 14); Wandsworth 66 for 4 (W. Fuller 19, B. Cox 18, J. Davies 10 n.o.).

SECOND XI

Captain : P. G. C. Libby. *Vice-Captain :* J. T. Francis.

At the time of going to press the second XI has played six matches. It was impossible to play the first two games as proper School matches, because the School did not field a complete team. Of the next four matches, three were lost and one won. Not a good record on paper, but in the circumstances of continually changing team selection it could have been worse. Two of the games against Windsor and Sutton, were lost by wide margins, the School's batting collapsing twice against the opponents' fast bowling. The match against Surbiton was lost by a narrow margin, after the School had gained the upper hand. Surbiton at one time being 23 for 7 towards a total of 55, but still winning by three wickets. The game against Sloane ended in a convincing win for the School by 24 runs.

The strongest department has been the bowling, P. Rees being the most successful, even though he has not played in all the games. M. J. Dries,

L. N. Congdon, A. Bari and G. C. Miller have all bowled will. The batting has been brittle against fast bowling, but a good score was registered on a hard wicket against Sloane. The most reliable batsmen have been A. A. Oldall, J. T. Francis, M. J. Dodd, I. Thirlwall, J. W. Dunstone and P. G. C. Libby. At the beginning of the season the fielding lacked confidence but has improved as the team played more and more together.

Results :—

v. Surbiton: Wandsworth 54 (Francis 10, Dunstone 13 n.o.); Surbiton 55 for 7 wkts.

v. Windsor: Windsor 97 for 9 wkts dec. (Bari 5 for 41); Wandsworth 33 (Francis 9).

v. Sutton: Sutton 81 (Rees 7 for 14); Wandsworth 38.

v. Sloane: Wandsworth 90 (Oldall 16, Thirwell 13, Libby 12); Sloane 66 (Rees 5 for 17, Dries 5 for 30).

COLTS XI

The Colts have so far won three matches, against Mitcham, Windsor and Sloane, tied with Surbiton and lost to Sutton and Walter St. John's.

They are potentially the strongest third-form side for many seasons, but the batting has on occasion collapsed badly. This has not been due to any lack of ability, as the side can bat down to number eleven, but to a certain lack of concentration and determination.

R. H. Pritchard and M. A. Burriss have been the most consistent batsmen, while G. Dawber, B. A. Burge and M. L. Haley have done best with the ball. The fielding has, in general, been quite good. Colts' badges have been awarded to Burge (captain), Dawber, Pritchard and Haley.

JUNIOR CRICKET TEAM

So far the Juniors have had a most successful season. Of the six matches played against Under 14 teams they have won four, had the best of a draw against St. John's and lost narrowly by 5 runs against Surbiton.

The bowling has usually been steady and has been supported by keen fielding and safe catching. K. Bindon with 24 wickets has been quite outstanding while B. F. Jewitt, K. P. Nebbett, H. C. Latchman and R. W. Buckland have all had their good days. The wicketkeeping of D. M. Snare has been consistently neat and efficient.

As with most young teams the batting has been patchy, but as there is no tail we have usually found one or two boys who have made sufficient runs to enable us to win. We have seen some fine, hard-hitting innings by Jewitt, David Skinner, Nebbett and Snare. J. K. Robertson and H. C. Latchman are the most fluent orthodox batsmen but a number of others, who at the moment are handicapped by smallness of stature, will still be eligible for the Junior team next year.

This question of size was a sore point in one of our matches where the opposition (nominally a Junior team) included only two boys who were under 14 and three who were already 15! Such matches will continue to be rather pointless affairs until all schools keep to the same age regulations and adopt a standard length of pitch.

DEBATING SOCIETY Since the last notes of the Debating Society two meetings have been held. The motion of the first debate was: "This House favours the censorship of films", proposed by P. J. Drain, seconded by P. T. Libby and opposed by A. A. Oldall, seconded by B. R. Harding. The motion was carried by six votes to four, with two abstentions.

At the second meeting the motion was "This House considers that Britain is the best country from which to emigrate". This was proposed by G. W. Willis, seconded by C. J. Blackman and opposed by R. Baker, seconded by P. T. Libby. The motion was defeated by twelve votes to six,

with five abstentions.

In conclusion, we should like to express our sincere thanks to Mr. W. E. Payne who, as Chairman, has devoted so much of his time to the interests of the Society.

PATRICK CASSIDY, Pc, L6a,
Hon. Secretary.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY The first half of the Summer term has proved both eventful and interesting for boys with engineering interests who are members of the Society.

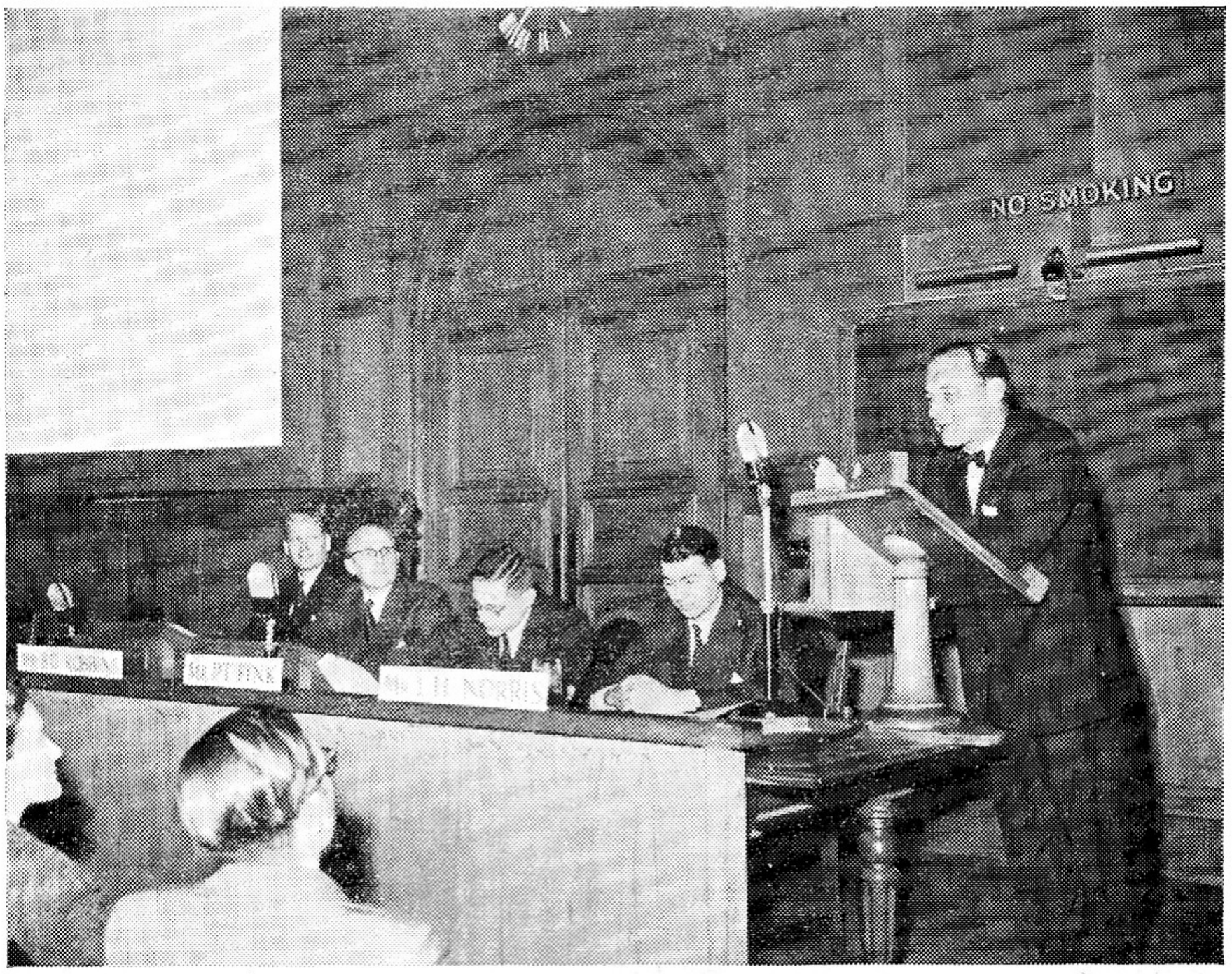
Proceedings opened on the very first day of term with a film show. Nearly 50 members saw an excellent screen account of the various methods that engineers have employed over the ages to transfer power from their prime movers to machines of all kinds. Shots of very early toothed wheels in wind and water-mills aroused considerable interest. The film showed very clearly by diagrams how the modern involute gear tooth form evolved, an early example of the engineer's debt to the mathematician. Another film showed the incredible performance of a six-wheeled articulated army vehicle with independent suspension on all six wheels! Over a testing ground of really rough country, much of it waterlogged to a depth of over four feet, this monster truck ambled unconcernedly, keeping a fairly even keel while opposite wheels on the same axle beam frequently rode the ground with one three feet above the other.

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers held the second of its annual series of Leonardo da Vinci Lectures during April and a group of boys were fortunate in being present. It is interesting to note that the name of Leonardo da Vinci had been chosen rather than that of one of the great British engineers such as Watt or Stephenson. Leonardo was not only a famous painter but he was also interested in Science and Engineering. "The Hydroplane Bluebird" was the subject of this year's lecture. Mr. Donald Campbell, C.B.E., introduced his team of experts and then gave a very interesting illustrated lecture dealing with the many attempts on the water speed record. These culminated in the attempt last September when Bluebird achieved 286.78 m.p.h. on the first run and 164.63 m.p.h. on the return, an average of 225.63 m.p.h. Mr. L. Norris, A.M.I.M.E., one of the consultants responsible for the boat's design gave an explanation of the principal problems met with in the design of "Bluebird" and the ways in which these were overcome. Mr. P. Fink, B.E., Reader in Aeronautics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, who was responsible for the wind tunnel tests, described the tests which were made with an eight-scale model and Dr. D. Smith, M.I.M.E., F.R.S., described the development of Beryl turbo-jet engines for aircraft and their application to Bluebird. Mr. Leo Villa, Chief Mechanic both to Sir Malcom Campbell and his son, added a touch of humour with his anecdotes and reminiscences of many record bids on land and water. Altogether this was a most instructive and memorable occasion, and we are indebted to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers for their invitation to attend.

On the 27th May, Mr. Lewis, a member of the Five Fathom Club, gave an insight into the art of Underwater Swimming to 150 members and friends. His lecture began with an account of the working of the "Aqualung" and its all-important supply valve. He explained how, in this device, the pressure of air delivered to the diver is regulated by the pressure of water at the depth at which he is operating. The equipment is so reliable and simple to use, he explained, that one enthusiast had rigged up a kit for his dog! However, the dangers due to a lack of pressure balance when working even a few feet down can be very serious in their effects and we heard something about this side of the picture that increased our respect for the professional diver. A film was then shown on the uses of this apparatus for commercial purposes and we saw the vessel "Calypso" of the French Navy and her famous Commandant Cousteau carry out a survey of the floor of the Adriatic in search of oil-bearing shale. To round off a fine

programme, Mr. Lewis then demonstrated his apparatus in the School pool. At the conclusion of this very interesting part of the meeting, J. D. Carr, Chairman, thanked Mr. Lewis for all the time and trouble he had taken to produce such a good show.

The last meeting this term consisted of a lecture given by Mr. Taylor, Area Training Officer for Stewarts and Lloyds, the firm of tube-makers. This speaker came down from Kettering on our behalf and very ably described the growth of his firm and the manufacture of its products. He also threw much light on that secret war-time triumph known as P.L.U.T.O. —Pipe Line Under The Ocean. Few members had realised the importance



Mr. Donald Campbell, C.B.E., giving his lecture.

(Reproduced by permission of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.)

of this achievement and were astonished that such an undertaking was found possible, in that 80 miles of 4 inch diameter steel pipe could be not only wound on to the "Conundrums" (like huge cotton reels), but also laid across the Channel bed in one night in time to supply the D-day forces with their petrol on the following morning. Our visitor also described the world's largest dragline which his firm constructed to facilitate the removal of over-burden from the deposits of ironstone in their quarries. Mr. Taylor concluded with some comments on the life in a big works and pointed out how different jobs called for completely different talents and temperaments. He particularly contrasted the work of the research metallurgist, whose problems are long range and not usually vitally urgent, with the harassed life of a production engineer when faced with breakdowns or delays which need immediate attention. A vote of thanks for the speaker was proposed by the Vice-Chairman, B. H. Coatsworth.

The practical work of the Society has now begun with a project undertaken by some of the Sixth Form members who are constructing a model Beam Engine. We hope to have many more project groups under way shortly and anyone keen to start should come along and discuss their ideas.

THE FENCING CLUB

Captain : K. S. Kreuchen.
Vice-Captain : J. Tarkowski.
Secretary : R. Baker.

The House Fencing Championship was much closer than in previous years. Cromwell was once again the winning house and beat Pitt 5—4, Gibbon 6—3 and Morley 6—3. The Cromwell team was C. Green (captain), R. Baker and N. C. Bishop. Gibbon came second by defeating Pitt 5—4 and Morley 5—4. The Gibbon team was K. S. Kreuchen, B. J. E. Easton and M. J. Mason. The Pitt team, consisting of J. W. Tarkowski, J. G. F. Parsons and A. J. R. Berry, finished third by beating Morley 5—4. The Morley team, P. T. Libby, P. H. Stretch and D. G. R. Poole, was fourth. The keenness of this competition is well shown by the match results which were due to the excellent teams produced by all four houses.

The School Individual Competition was also held recently and proved to be the finest that has so far taken place. After the hard-fought preliminary rounds the six finalists were K. S. Kreuchen, J. W. Tarkowski, R. Baker, C. Green, N. C. Bishop and A. J. R. Berry. Bishop and Berry, who are in the fourth form, did particularly well to reach the final. Indeed, the high standard of fencing shown by the younger fencers was one of the most pleasing aspects of this year's competition. The Secretary of the Amateur Fencing Association, Mr. R. Hogg, presided over some of the bouts in the final and was very impressed by the fencing. The final was held on Eisteddfod night in the School hall. It was very exciting. Bishop and Tarkowski were leading and had the same number of wins. They had, therefore, to fight an extra bout to decide the winner. Bishop scored the last hit which gave him victory. Thus Bishop, one of our most promising young fencers, became the 1957 School fencing champion—a most worthy achievement. Mrs. Hogg presented the Simpson Cup to Bishop amidst great applause. The order of the other finalists was: Tarkowski 2nd, Kreuchen 3rd, Baker 4th, Berry 5th, and Green 6th.

The School had a fine victory of 27 bouts to 21 in a recent match with Dulwich College School. The Old Boys avenged their previous defeat by beating the School by 10 bouts to 6. The Club was unlucky to lose a match against Brentwood School by 20 bouts to 14. With the invaluable help of Professor Cipolla the Club is building up strong Epée and Sabre teams for a large number of fixtures next term.

Fencing has continued during the Summer Term in organised games and at dinner-time. The very large numbers of beginners attending the Club is very encouraging and we extend a warm welcome to all boys who wish to learn to fence.

R. BAKER, Cd, 5 Pi.

FIVES CLUB

Captain : R. S. Hore.
Hon. Secretary : G. W. C. Wort.

Since the last issue of the magazine both the Individual and House Championships have been started. The Individual Champion for 1956-57 is as yet difficult to foresee, but the House Championships have been completed and the results are as follow:—Cromwell beat Gibbon 8—0; Cromwell beat Pitt 8—0; Cromwell beat Morley 6—4; Morley beat Gibbon 8—0; Morley beat Pitt 8—0; Pitt beat Gibbon 5—4.

The final House positions were:—1st Cromwell; 2nd Morley; 3rd Pitt; 4th Gibbon.

The School team this term was basically the same as last, but D. J. Liggitt and R. B. Lloyd have played as reserves and whenever either has played he has more than justified a place in the School team.

I am now in a position to give you a complete set of results for the Marchant Cup Competition:—

First Round—Wandsworth v. St. Marylebone, Lost 9—3; v. Hackney, Lost 9—3; v. St. John's, Lost 12—0; v. Sloane, Won 8—4; v. Henry Thornton, Won 10—2; v. Strand, Won 7—5.

Return Matches—Wandsworth v. St. Marylebone, Lost 8—4; v. Hackney, Won 12—0; v. St. John's, Lost 12—0; v. Sloane, Won 10—2; v. Henry Thornton, Won 11—1; v. Strand, Won 12—0.

The standard of play improved throughout the year and the School team finally finished 3rd in the Marchant Cup competition, thus retaining the position gained last year.

G. W. C. WORT, Md, U6Sc.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The Society has now been in existence for almost two terms. It has attracted a small group of keen boys. Membership has been limited to first year boys, but the Society will now begin to " grow up " year by year, and second year boys will be eligible next term.

Activities have included illustrated talks given by Society speakers. Subjects have ranged from " Cocoa Production " to " Looking for Early Man in East Africa ". Some map work has also been done. The most enjoyable meeting of the Society, however, was undoubtedly the excursion to the North Downs in the Whit Holiday. We caught an early train to Dorking and began by exploring a disused chalk quarry in the scarp face of the North Downs. To the east we had a fine view across the Mole Gap to Box Hill. After finding a good variety of fossils in the quarry we climbed under a hot sun up the steep road onto Ranmore Common. Here we spread out on the grass to eat ice cream from a nearby shop. Feeling a little cooler we continued on our way, turning north for several miles down the gentle dip slope of the Downs. The track was shaded by overhanging trees, and made pleasant



(Photo by T. Marchington)

En Route to Fetcham

walking. We lunched in a clearing in the woods at midday, and afterwards continued northwards to Fetcham Downs. Here the Ordnance Survey Map marks a " Field System ". As the area is thickly wooded and protected with barbed wire and " Strictly Private " notices we passed-by none the wiser.

About a mile south of Leatherhead we stopped in a road cutting through the chalk, and again found many fossils. It was here that several members of the party discovered that the quickest way down a steep chalk slope is to slide on the seat of the trousers. A short walk by the river—for we had swung eastwards back into the Mole Valley—brought us into Leatherhead, where we descended on a café for more drinks and ice cream. When the

party could be coaxed from the café we hurried to the station for our train home—hot, tired, sunburned, and well pleased with our day. Since our return to School a display of all specimens collected has been made in the Lower School Geography Room.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY NOTES The last meeting of the Society was held at Putney High School, and took the form of a lecture by Professor Massey, Quain Professor of Mathematics at London University, on the subject of " Scientific Exploration with Rockets and Satellites ". The meeting was very successful and was well attended. We must thank all headmasters and headmistresses of the member schools for their willing assistance which they continue to give to the Society. We must thank the Headmaster especially for the willing help be has given us.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on the 22nd of July at Sir Walter St. John's. Thanks are also due to Mr. Thom for the untiring effort which he puts into the Society. The sixth form of the School have supported all the functions well and we hope that this enthusiasm will continue.

J. FRANCIS, Ga, L6a.
G. DOUEL, Gd, L6a.

THE LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY The Literary and Dramatic Society has continued its meetings this term, and full use has been made of the gramophone, now available for Society meetings.

As well as " Under Milk Wood ", the Society has heard a recording of " Macbeth ", and in the near future it is hoped to hear T. S. Eliot's, " Murder in the Cathedral ".

Visits to the Old Vic Theatre have continued, with parties attending performances of " A Comedy of Errors " and " Titus Andronicus ", as well as " Richard III ".

At half-term, we reluctantly said good-bye to Albert Preston, who was our Hon. Secretary for so long, and who worked so enthusiastically for the benefit of the Society. On behalf of the Society, I would like to register a vote of thanks to him for his services and to wish him every success for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the staff, who assist in the proceedings, and to whom we are continually indebted.

R. CARR, Pd, U6a,
Assistant Secretary.

THE RAILWAY CLUB During the second half of last term the Railway Club held a meeting each Thursday. On the 21st of March we began with a rather juvenile film on the " History of Railways ". This was followed by a talk on the G.W.R. by P. Townson and R. M. Vincent-Townend, speaking on electrical pick-ups.

Next week a lecturer from Southern Region showed us a film and gave us a talk on railway careers.

The last meeting of the term began with a talk by P. G. Lewis on a journey he made in the Kettering region.

At the end of term we held the usual model railway exhibition. For the first time in living memory the " OO " layout worked perfectly (well, almost!).

The " O " gauge layout was less successful. The clockwork engines moved round the track at alarmingly fast speeds and generally came off. The steam engine, on the other hand, had a habit of bursting into flames, which, although it provided some excitement, was not what was expected.

The only activity this term has been a rail trip, a report of which is given below.

P. J. DRAIN.

THE RAILWAY CLUB RAIL TRIP

A small party of members of the Club met on Saturday, June 22nd, at Clapham Junction. We caught the 10.32 train to Waterloo where we descended by escalator to the Waterloo and City tube, which goes from Waterloo to the Bank. At the Bank we boarded a Northern Line tube to Moorgate, where we had to wait half-an-hour for our next train. After boarding the wrong train we at last left on the next stage of our trip.

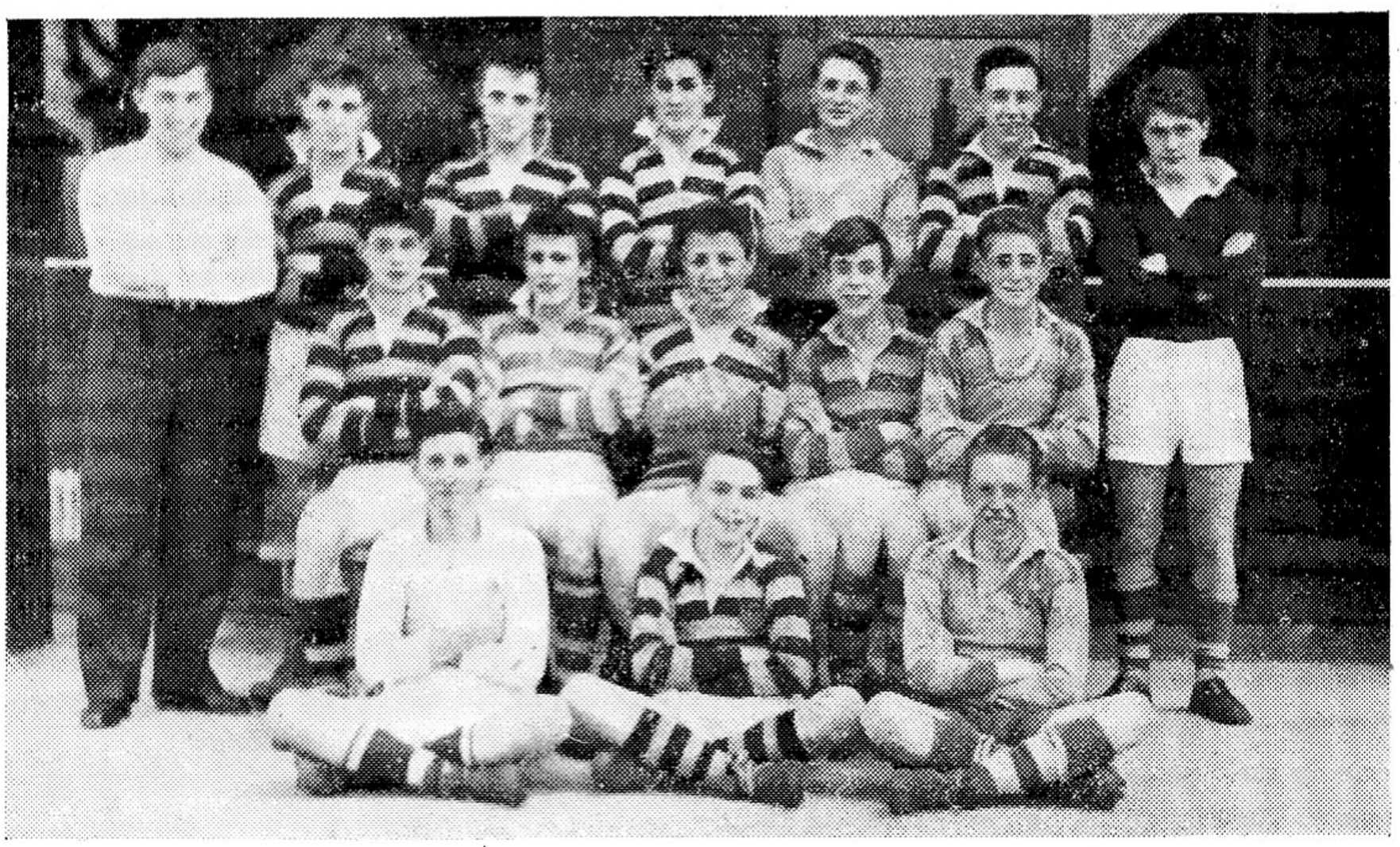
This stage was the dirtiest, as most of the time we were in tunnels, and only for the last mile were we in the open air. As we arrived at Wood Green a 2-10-0 locomotive was passing through with a goods train, so cameras were brought into action. From Wood Green we walked sixty yards to Palace Gates Station where our next train awaited us.

This was the last train of the day and we were pleased we did not miss it. On this section of the trip we had our sandwiches. As we approached Stratford every boy had his head out of a window because we were going round the perimeter of a goods yard and engine sheds. We saw a few diesel sets and a number of engines. We arrived at North Woolwich at 1.15 and we set out on foot for the Woolwich free ferry. When we had crossed to the other bank some of the boys wanted to cross again so we walked under the Thames by a pedestrian tunnel and crossed back on the ferry.

We then walked to Woolwich Arsenal Station and caught a train to London Bridge where we changed for Waterloo Junction. At Waterloo we caught a train back to Clapham Junction, where we arrived at 3.25 p.m. after a very interesting trip.

D. A. Hyde, Mb, 5 Alpha.

Colts XV 1956-57



(Standing) : R. M. Bone, L. N. Congdon, D. P. Brennan, K. Robins, D. L. Simpson, D. M. Holdich, R. J. Pooley,.
(Middle row) : P. M. Gillingham, P. A. Lewis, M. J. Halsey (Captain), C. A. Mulligan, M. W. Dodd.
D. A. Stewardson, W. F. Fuller, R. F. Hitchins.

COLTS RUGBY XV—FINAL REPORT

" A remarkable and spectacular achievement " was the phrase used by the Headmaster at the end of last term in announcing team badge awards to the whole of the Colts Rugby team.

With only one defeat out of 24 games during the season it has been a splendid year's rugby. However, the team has not been without its disappointments especially in the Surrey Seven-a-Side competition where the " A " team were knocked out in the first round by Mitcham; the " B " team with D. L. Simpson as captain played very well indeed and were

only narrowly defeated by Tiffin ' B " team in the third round. In a London Schools Sevens Tournament the team won after beating Dulwich College in the final.

With such an impressive record it is difficult not to mention every player by name but D. P. Brennan* and later P. A. Lewis were outstanding as three-quarters ably fed by W. F. Fuller at scrum-half and well supported by R. F. Hitchins on the wing. Of the wing forwards P. Rees* was particularly outstanding, and L. N. Congdon hooked particularly well. As full back P. N. Gillingham rarely failed to get his man, and his speed frequently outwitted the attacking forwards.

Mention must be made of the reserves R. J. Pooley and D. A. Stewardson, who were always willing to support the team and their encouragements from the touchline with their efforts in the field did not go unrewarded.

*Awarded Surrey County Cap.

THE STAMP CLUB Last term the Club visited the International Stamp Exhibition which was held at the Central Hall, Westminster. There were a number of very interesting and rare pieces on view, the most valuable being an 1847 1d. orange Mauritius valued at £5,000 which later fetched £4,500 at auction. There was also a curio corner where oddities were exhibited—a screen completely covered with Victorian stamps and a picture in stamps of a garden complete with butterflies, flowers, trees and a fountain. On show were also the recent British imperforated errors over which there has been so much publicity.

At the end of last term we held an exhibition as part of the Eisteddfod Festival which was visited by very many of the parents, friends and old boys. It was pleasing to see that most of the prizewinners in the Stamp section of the Eisteddfod competition were members of the Club.

During the latter part of the term Mr. Lewis gave an interesting talk on the Stamps and Postal History of Cyprus. We have had a quiz, seen a film strip on the production and issue of stamps and held two auctions which have proved to be very popular. . We now have a large picture frame in the Library Classroom and there is always part of someone's collection on show.

H. J. RUSSELL, Mb, 5Nu,

Secretary.

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