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Remember, write them out clearly on **one side of the paper only.**

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THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XLV December, 1959 No. 3

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

With this year's September entry the School has virtually completed its expansion. Lower and Main Schools together total 2,080 boys and we have a Staff of 103 together with a few part-time teachers. In the Lower School there are 14 first forms and 14 second forms; and in the Main School 15 third forms, 14 fourth and 11 fifth forms, together with some 130 Sixth Formers.

The first "complete" entry of 14 forms in 1956 has now reached the fourth year and it is clear that a very large proportion of boys sensibly intend to complete their secondary education up to the fifth year. Moreover an increasing number realise the advantage of more specialised studies in the Sixth Form beyond that stage.

No one who knows the great achievements of Wandsworth School in so many fields in the last few years would regard examination results as the sole criterion of the education it affords. Nevertheless it is pleasing to note that the July examinations showed a marked improvement in the achievement of the academic fifth forms, thus confounding the prophets who conjectured that academic standards would fall as a result of expansion. But what is most gratifying is the large number of fifth formers who gained O level certificates in the G.C.E., although the "eleven plus" examination had not prognosticated such success for them. Indeed the great majority of fifth formers gained successes either in the G.C.E. or the R.S.A. examinations.

It was always my aspiration in secondary education that opportunity should be kept open to all pupils, and equally my belief that this could only be done really effectively through a comprehensive organisation. What is patently being justified at Wandsworth is an act of common sense rather than an act of faith. Obviously when you command the whole range of resources for secondary education and organise them flexibly, you can fit the curriculum to the developing abilities, aptitudes, and interests of the pupils so as to bring the best out of each. You can organise for individual success.

The upward surge of achievement will make its impact at the Advanced Level next year and I confidently foretell a considerable increase in successes, both quantitative and qualitative, at that level in July 1960.

Confidence in ourselves is by no means only the result of subjective impressions that things are going according to plan. We are under critical and continuous scrutiny by experts from outside.

The University of Pittsburg has appointed a distinguished body of American educationalists to carry through a series of studies of foreign educational systems with a view to examining what American schools can learn from abroad. The first volume has just been published and deals with English Schools. The six schools for special study selected as "Outstanding schools," in consultation with educational experts on this side, are Harrow, St. Paul's, Manchester Grammar School and Wandsworth together with two girls' schools, North London Collegiate and Mary Datchelor.

In a later section of the book Wandsworth is again dealt with as an example of how a school can enrich its curriculum through fruitful contact with educational agencies outside the school.

Earlier this term we had a visit from Professor Federico Monjardin, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Argentina. Apart from his high political office, Professor Monjardin has held an appointment for many years in Argentina's Chief Institute of Education and, by reason of that office, has visited schools all over the world. The aims and organisation of Wandsworth made an overwhelming impression on him and during his visit and inspection he reiterated his opinion that it was the finest school he had seen. We are used to high compliments, but this might appear rather extravagant. What really roused such intense enthusiasm on his part was, I suspect, the democratic "equality of opportunity" which he found embodied in Wandsworth School in a way he had not seen elsewhere. As a Social Democrat and a possible future President of Argentina, his educational philosophy is significant.

Among the many other visitors we have had this term was Professor Schultze with half a dozen colleagues from the Frankfurt Institute of Educational Research who were in this country as guests of the National Foundation.

Still another English Local Education Authority, that of Nottinghamshire, sent the Chairman and members of its Education Committee together with the chief officials to inspect Wandsworth as a preliminary to setting up two comprehensive schools in that county. By a remarkable coincidence the Nottinghamshire teachers had asked me to speak to their annual meeting the following weekend, when my previous Wednesday's visitors again turned up as guests along with the Chairman of the County Council and others. It was obvious that Wandsworth School had made a deep impression on them.

Incidentally in the course of my visit I called on Mr. Thom at his school, Fairham Comprehensive (known locally by the irreverent as Uncle Thom's Cabin). This of course comes under the City of Nottingham and not the County Authority. It is modelled on the Coventry plan with eight "House" buildings, but shows in its Tutorial system, Parents Association, Prefectorial system, "Diligence" assessment, and many other features the pattern of school organisation that Mr. Thom generously attributes to his years at Wandsworth. Backed by the City Education Authority as their one school of this pattern, drawing its pupils from a new municipal housing estate some miles from the city, and directed with vigour and enthusiasm by Mr. Thom, Fairham has all the makings of a very successful school.

An Electronic Organ for the Grand Hall

I hope that by the time these notes appear the organ will have been installed.

The decision to go ahead with a project which we have mooted on and off for many years came at the instance of members of the Choir, voiced by Mr. Burgess, who had at last discovered a make of electronic organ that came up to the desired standard. For those interested in its details, they are as follows:—

3 manual Electronic organ to traditional pipe-organ specification—one speaker to each manual which will "read through" on coupling.
20 drawstops to Great.
20 drawstops to Swell.
9 drawstops to Choir.
9 drawstops to Pedal.
Balanced Swell Pedals to Swell and Choir Organs.
5 adjustable composition pistons to each manual.
Console of light oak—stops set in ebony.
The cost of the organ is £1,750.

The project appealed strongly to all sections of the School and was taken up with enthusiasm by the Parents Council. The School Governors warmly welcomed the idea and the L.C.C. Education Department, though unable to contribute to the cost, assured us of their interest and willingness to maintain the organ, and in fact of their readiness to obtain facilities for payment while the cost was being raised.

Fortunately, with the help of the Parents Council to the immediate

extent of £200 and with £550 from the School's own general fund, we were in a position to commission the organ at once so that it could begin to help to pay for itself.

With a school of over 2,000 pupils and with the help of Old Boys and friends of the school we hope to raise the outstanding £1,000 during the year. The appeal circular which was sent out at half term pointed to the ways and means of raising the sum required.

We ask all connected with the School, now or earlier, to join the roll of our benefactors in an enterprise that will enhance and dignify the Grand Hall of the School and the gatherings that take place there.

The following masters have joined the Staff this term:—

M. Armstrong, B.A.(Hons.) Oxon., B.Phil.	English
T. E. C. Baker, Ruskin College, Oxford	Remedial Specialist
M. V. Canty, Loughborough College	Physical Education
B. D. O. Coxall, Goldsmith's College	English
C. P. Davies, Bournemouth College of Art	Art
I. W. Dukes, Borough Road College	Mathematics
B. E. Gant, B.Sc., London University	Physics and Maths
E. G. Gardiner, King's College, London	Maths and Physics
B. T. W. James, B.Sc., Birmingham	Physics
A. Mozley, Worcester Training College	English
E. J. Patten, Borough Road College	Mathematics
B. P. Price, Borough Road College	Mathematics
R. D. Price, B.Sc.(Special), Reading University	Biology
H. W. Saunders, Diploma in Theol. (London)	R.I. and French
M. Swords, Regent Street Polytechnic	Mathematics
E. Tomlinson, St. John's College, York	Maths and Engineering
J. D. Glasswell, B.A. Cantab.	Maths and Biology
H. Machin, M.A. Oxon.	English and History
S. Ranasinghe, B.Sc. (Temporary)	Biology
M. A. Wahhab, B.Sc. (Temporary)	Engineering

We welcome Mons. M. Y. LeLouarn who has exchanged posts with Mr. Austin for this school year and Herr Klaus Hagen who is this year's German "assistant."

We bid farewell this term to Mr. G. Elms who has joined the Staff of Wandsworth Technical College after serving here since 1930. Well earned tributes were paid to him in School Assembly, Gibbon House assembly, and in the Staff Room. He was the sole remaining member of the staff appointed by my predecessor, Dr. Waite, the first headmaster of the School. His departure may be said to break a link that goes all the way back to our beginnings.

We are sorry too to lose Mr. Robson who with his colleagues has built up a strong Engineering side since his appointment in 1956. We shall also miss Mr. Shilliday whom we were fortunate to have as a temporary master before his return to Australia at the end of the year.

Of our non-teaching staff, we very much regret the departure of Mr. Thew, our administrative officer, though we congratulate him upon his promotion to a higher post in the L.C.C. Service. And earlier in the term, Miss Chambers left us to enter Huddersfield College for a course in preparation for taking up the teaching profession. We have been exceedingly fortunate in the quality of our secretariat.

We welcome Mr. Bristowe and Mrs. Assinen who have been appointed to the vacancies.

As a tribute to the splendid service of Mr. L. C. Smith as Social

Secretary and of Mrs. Smith on the Ladies Catering Committee, the Parents Council have provided a seat to be placed in the School grounds and suitably inscribed.

Denis Brass (1925-32) has presented a volume of his own translations from the Portuguese to the School Library.

Dr. Hans-Joachim Rass who spent a month with us this term also presented two volumes as souvenirs of his stay.

Gifts of books to the Library have also been received from Mr. Acland, Mr. Elms, Mr. Levy, Mr. Tovell, B. Jarvis, S. G. Keen, R. J. Rolph, C. Smart, R. Vincent-Townend, R. Weymouth, S. P. White, R. A. Young.

D. H. Mackenzie, R. H. Towers, and J. F. Atack gained the coveted Award of Merit of the Royal Life Saving Society.

An interesting sequel which should certainly go on record is that during the holidays Mackenzie saved a 15 year old girl from drowning in Babbacombe Bay—a courageous feat as well as a credit to Mr. S. Smith to whose instruction he owed his prowess.

We congratulate John Moore and Terence Coglan upon being selected as members of the London Schools team to take part in the English Schools National Swimming Championships at Hornchurch on 29th October.

I am able to add that Coglan and Moore along with Geoffrey Bridges and Brian Jones won the All England National Schoolboys Team Championship for the Under 15 event. Gerald Cramp swam as a member of the team in the qualifying round. Congratulations to all of them on this brilliant and quite outstanding performance.

I trust that elsewhere in this number you will read an account of the Fencing triumphs that have brought Wandsworth to the forefront of English schools in this field. Our Fencers have been matched against some of the most famous schools in the country, and next term have a fixture against Cambridge University.

Our Cross-Country teams, too, have greatly distinguished themselves. I might particularly mention the match against Wallington and Sutton Grammar Schools both with high reputations in cross-country, on which occasion our under 16 team filled the first seven places home to give a minimum score of 21 points against 73 by Wallington and 99 by Sutton. In the same match the Senior Team had 6 scorers in the first 10 home.

We congratulate J. C. Joiner, R. P. Jackson and A. W. Curtis on being selected to play for the Surrey team at Chess in the county match with Kent, and the first two upon their convincing wins.

A new award has been instituted this term for services to School Music in the Choir and as instrumentalist. The following boys are to be congratulated upon Music colours:

I. A. Cobb
B. V. Sandford
M. G. Coysh
R. Evans
D. G. Crosthwaite
D. A. Stewardson
B. Farrow
F. J. Shaub
J. Lally
R. H. Jones
K. Gerry
R. Pritchard
G. Ryan
M. Hall
K. Stratford

Two distinguished Old Wandsworthians renewed contact by paying us a visit last term: S. H. Cair, who is Senior Resident Tutor in Somerset of the University of Bristol Extra-mural Department, and A. J. Parrott who is the Gloucester City Librarian and secretary of the S.W. Regional Library Bureau, of which Cair is a member. Both keenly appreciated the educational developments here.

On U.N. Children's Day a small exhibition was held in the Library,

at which the sum of £5 12s. 10d. was collected for Unicef. This included a special collection of £1 made by Form 2 omicron.

Mention should also be made of the work throughout last year of 2 epsilon in producing a magazine from the sale of which they were able to send a contribution of £3 6s. 6d. to help child refugees under the Ockenden Venture.

The Ponsonby Handwriting Trophy for 1959 has been won by the Cromwell team. The individual winner, however, was J. Bankhead of Morley.

" Shall I vote the same way as Dad? " was one of the questions discussed by boys representing Forms 3, 4 and 6 with the parental body at the terminal meeting of the Parents Association.

Apparently not, if the results of our Mock Election are any indication. Treating forms of the Main School as constituencies, the members elected to a House of 42 represented 25 Labour, 16 Conservative and 1 Communist. Liberals and Independents failed to secure a seat. Over 1,000 votes were cast.

The pattern of prefectorial authority has been somewhat altered this year.

The *Head Prefect* for the year is A. J. R. Berry.

Three *senior prefects* act as deputy head prefect each for one term: M. Adiseshiah, P. M. T. Gillingham, D. A. Stewardson.

The four Houses have appointed *House Captains* as follows:—

Cromwell: N. C. Bishop and R. C. Newman (Joint).
Gibbon: L. S. Woodcock.
Morley: D. M. Holdich.
Pitt: J. H. Cousins.

Full Prefects:

Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
A. Bari	R. J. Pooley	J. C. Joiner	V. C. Ruff
N. A. Ratcliffe	F. R. Shons	M. P. Golding	J. S. Young
R. A. Peacock	J. S. G. Tilley	G. Freeman	R. Hancock
		P. T. Libby	D. R. Crosby
		A. Moorhouse	J. W. Tarkowski

Sub Prefects:

Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
K. L. Aziz	G. W. Cooper	P. E. Francis	R. E. W. Grant
D. J. Morrison	W. F. R. Fuller	J. A. Lally	P. C. Moss
A. E. J. Styles	K. L. Markham	R. Knight	J. E. Pinnock
A. C. Hillyard	J. B. Dawkins	B. A. Jarvis	R. H. Pritchard
E. G. W. Slater	P. L. Elliot	R. Burt	J. H. Reynolds
W. G. Scott	D. P. Flint	M. G. Coysh	C. E. Smart
M. A. Burriss	C. M. Fogg	R. Lansdell	R. P. Jackson
W. R. Austin	D. C. Lloyd	P. Leverick	A. R. Nicholl
M. J. Halsey	B. A. Eadie	J. C. Speller	L. B. Levene
M. T. Brian	G. J. Filbey	B. J. Martin	C. J. Skinner
D. Titheradge	G. S. Ryan	J. H. Adams	P. H. Everton
M. G. Vaters	P. L. Friedlander	D. J. Moss	R. J. Rolph
S. P. White	B. C. Brind		
	B. Mandry		
	J. R. Ollerenshaw		
	R. E. Newark		

Pro-prefects—appointed from the Fifth Forms:

Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
B. H. Coleman	E. V. Elliott	M. F. Kyte	B. V. Sandford

J. H. Carter
D. P. Nathanson
S. C. Goddard
K. J. Hinson
A. R. Greene
A. D. Beecroft
M. J. Eagle
K. P. Nebbett
D. F. Hanham
M. C. Halfacree
R. B. Newing
C. B. Newing
A. J. C. Dudley

R. C. Dirs
I. F. Falconer
D. B. Newark
M. C. K. Kane
G. S. Jones
R. H. Dawson
P. R. A. Aplin
T. R. Farebrother
D. R. Goddard
F. R. Spooner
A. R. Knight
D. R. Hill

A. Thorpe
J. A. Morris
I. P. Evans
A. J. Laws
J. M. Pocock
R. F. Alder
D. W. Golding
J. F. Oates
A. Dailey
P. J. Garrett
P. R. Knightley
D. W. Richards
T. C. Porter
J. G. Moore
D. M. Snare

J. K. Robertson
C. M. Bird
D. T. Snell
C. A. J. Corio
D. R. Askew
J. T. Slatter
H. R. Moore
C. J. Smith
S. L. Brown
K. P. Baldock

Other school officers are:

Cycle Marshals:

Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
R. G. Twyman	F. J. Martin	H. C. Shivers	M. V. Hamp
N. A. Dowle	D. A. Brown	B. D. Jones	R. A. Young
J. W. Ryan	C. G. Salmon	R. H. Jones	F. A. Love
R. P. Clist	D. J. Wilson	J. F. Michaels	P. F. Padginton
G. A. Cramp	A. M. Bastick		R. W. Vincent
J. Condon			

Library Prefects:

Cromwell	*Gibbon*	*Morley*	*Pitt*
R. E. Weymouth (Senior Library Prefect)	M. G. Halsey	B. Thomas	D. J. Guy
	D. M. Beer		M. V. Hamp
			R. A. Young
M. J. Bonnett			
P. Davis			
N. Hillyard			

EDITORIAL

Nothing succeeds like success, and already this term we have some spectacular successes behind us. As I write, the Headmaster has been able to announce that the School swimming team have won the English schoolboy relay event, that the Junior Rugby teams have returned from a most successful tour of Cornwall, that representatives of our Chess Club have been playing for Surrey County, that the Fencing Club have beaten first Marlborough and then Harrow Schools and that our Under 14 Rugby team have soundly beaten Dulwich College in their first ever fixture. In our swelling pride we begin to wonder if we do not rival some of the very best schools in the country—and not only in size.

To those who doubted whether the great enlargement of the old grammar school would ever justify itself, these results speak for themselves. But they are still the results of the efforts of a relatively small number of boys. With our numbers now at full strength, we believe that there are many more boys who want to serve the School, if they are only given a chance. With a School play cast of over fifty and a choir of over a hundred, many of them can. But one way in which every boy in the School can help is with the School Organ Fund. Here is a chance for every member of the School to have the satisfaction of knowing that the School has improved a little more, through him. From my own experience I feel sure that most boys are willing to help when there is someone to give them a lead, and success in this venture could also have its repercussions throughout the whole life of the School.

Further, a few words to new boys who have joined the School this term. This School has already a long and distinguished tradition, set by the boys who came before you. It is now up to you to develop your abilities, use them to the best possible advantage, and continue these traditions. Take every opportunity you are given, and you will find that you will succeed.

With three new representatives and a new member of staff, your "Link" Committee hope to make the magazine as good as, if not better than in previous years. We have, too, the useful experience of last year's Editor, J. W. Tarkowski, still at our disposal, and I can only hope that my editorials will come up to the very high standard set by him last year. But the quality of this magazine can only depend in the end on you. We want to see more and better contributions from throughout the School.

N. C. BISHOP, Cb, U6A.

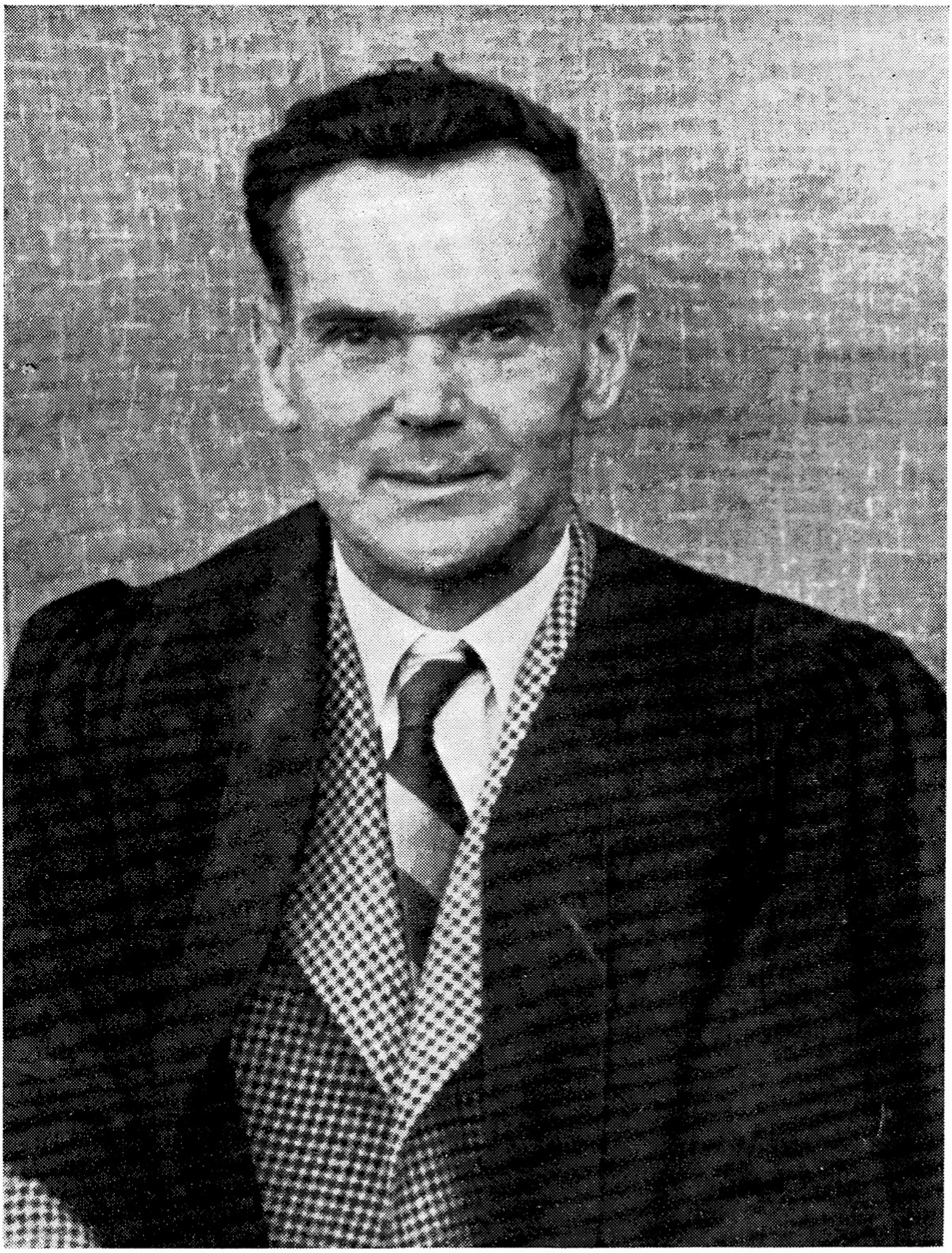
GEORGE ELMS

It was with very mixed feelings that all of us, staff and boys, said farewell to Mr. Elms at half-term. We were naturally very gratified to learn that he was leaving in order to take up more responsible duties in the mathematics department at Wandsworth Technical College, especially as it is not far away and as the original Technical Institute was the milieu in which Wandsworth School as a grammar school had its beginnings. It was a sad moment, however, when we remembered, more especially perhaps in Gibbon House, that we would no longer be able to look to Mr. Elms for so much kindly guidance and for so many forms of efficient but unobtrusive service to the School, in and out of the classroom. After 30 years as a master here, Mr. Elms leaves us with nothing but agreeable memories of the many traits of character and personality which endeared him to us all. We are sure that we shall see him back with us very frequently, taking an undiminished interest in the many School and House activities to which he so readily gave of his time and energies.

Mr. Elms, who came to the School after some years at Elliott, was before the war for many years in charge of Physical Education and Athletics, a role in which he will be remembered with affection by many Old Boys. Not all of them will be aware, perhaps, that in his younger days he made a thorough study in Denmark of the special methods of physical instruction being developed there and was able to adapt his knowledge for the benefit of his classes here. Always interested in the human and social side of education, he also played a leading part in helping Mr. King to develop for some years an active interest by many boys in country dancing. Despite increasing years, Mr. Elms long continued after the war to take a very personal interest in Sports Day and in Cross-country running, and to serve actively on the Sports Committee, as well as to do much by his stimulus and encouragement to help maintain the high tradition of sportsmanship in the School.

Mr. Elms will also always be associated in our memories with the annual Eisteddfod, which under his guidance developed from being the traditional Hobbies exhibition into the comprehensive cultural week at the end of the Spring term with which we are all familiar. He himself set a notable example in School musical life. A founder member of the School Orchestra, he was for a long period the First Violin under the direction of Dr. Wardale. As chairman of the Eisteddfod Committee Mr. Elms's tenure was remarkable for the efficient way in which he ensured the smooth running of the many competitions and performances or displays which came to be organised over the years in an ever-changing pattern.

It is not for a colleague to comment on his many gifts as a teacher, but I am assured by many whom Mr. Elms taught since the war as a teacher of mathematics and science, and certainly by some of his former pupils now with us on the staff, that he was always most patient and pains-



Mr. George Elms

Photo : Mr. H. Nickolls

taking. Under him the humblest pupil could feel that he had a master who took a really personal interest in his progress. His kindly virtues and the human touch he exhibited in his relations with the boys, as well as his organising powers, were justly recognised when, following the expansion of the School, Mr. Elms was appointed to assist Mr. Bacchus in the administration of the new Lower School.

As a colleague he was, I always found, most helpful and co-operative in every way. His friendly smile might conceal sometimes a constitution whose health was far from perfect, but it was unfailing; consideration for others was at all times his first care, and the cheerful performance of duty was for him its own reward. Rather than inconvenience others he would ungrudgingly undertake an additional or unexpected duty himself. He was

always long-suffering and understanding of the weakness or foibles of others, and ready at all times to make allowance for their difficulties or preoccupations. He combines strong convictions in his own personal philosophy of life with very wide sympathies, and in the realm of ideas there can be few men so broadly tolerant and free from narrow prejudices as Mr. Elms.

On the occasion of his last Friday morning talk to the School he was able to sum up for us the values and ideals and the traits of character he rated most highly. In so doing he was able to reveal to us some of the inner Christian strength of his own resources of character. In his relations with such a master no boy, however recalcitrant, could ever feel that he would get any but the fairest of deals, following the most considerate, but just, appraisal of his case.

It was as Housemaster of Gibbon House for over 10 years that Mr. Elms, I think, found life at Wandsworth School most rewarding. Many Old Boys and some colleagues have known him much longer than I have, but my own outstanding memory of Mr. Elms will always be in his capacity as head of the Gibbon family, a paternal role which gave scope for his finest qualities. "Take care of the House" would be his deepest-felt request of his successor. He took a most positive interest in everything affecting the House and religiously followed all activities involving the prowess of its members, cultural and athletic, as well as their record of work and conduct. He took pains to know something, always including something in his favour, about every member of the House, old and young, and took great care to comment encouragingly on every report he signed at the end of term, as well as to make every allowance for the shortcomings of any miscreants perforce paraded before him. He valued our well-tried tutor set system and took a personal interest in enthusing life and vigour into his House by his gifts of leadership, and especially his own example. In many little ways, I think, he set an example, too, to other Houses. The carefully kept Gibbon House records have, I believe, a longer history than those of any other House, and are a tribute to his enterprise, while Gibbon House was the first in our new buildings to have its own notice-board. The pattern of House Assembly which he set was noted favourably by the Inspectors when they visited the School, and many a senior pupil owes much in his powers of discourse to the opportunities he has found for practising public speaking at Gibbon House meetings under the inspiration of his housemaster. In the selection of House prefects, too, no one could have shown greater knowledge of his boys than did Mr. Elms. The affection which the whole House showed for him on the occasion of his departure was, like that of the whole School generally the next day, spontaneous and well-earned. His successor as housemaster will have no easy task in trying to live up to the high standards he set himself in devoted service.

It should not be overlooked that Mr. Elms took a very real interest at all times in the activities of the Old Boys, both individually and in the Association, and through his long association with the business side of the "Link." I am sure that the Old Boys will be glad to know that his new appointment will not take him away from the district, and that in joining them as an "Old Boy" himself he will, no less than in the past, be able to keep in touch with the many friends he has made among former members of the School.

We who remain wish Mr. Elms good health and every success in his new duties and look forward to seeing him with us again whenever he can find the time to visit the School to which he gave so many years of steadfast service.

W.E.P.

We are indebted to Mr. Elms for two splendid volumes which he presented to the School Library upon leaving. These are "Mathematical Recreations" by Maurice Kraitchik and "Mathematics, Its Magic and Mastery" by Aaron Bakst—both, characteristically, concerned with the amusement mathematics can provide for the interested but inexpert reader.

SUMMER RAGTIME

The temperature in the Open Air Theatre on the Saturday of the School Fête was almost 80 degrees. Looking back from cold fog of November, those long, hot days of the Summer already seem very remote, but this year's effort, bigger and better than ever, must not go unrecorded.

Excellent publicity for the event was provided by the now traditional prefects' rag, which was this year a long, colourful, tireless and surprisingly musical procession of curiously distorted advertisements. Two circuits of the district ensured a crowd of over 3,000 visitors, which in turn provided a profit of over £370 towards the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Sports Ground fund.

The opening ceremony was performed most gracefully for us by the charming Mrs. Anne Clark, L.C.C., and a bewildering variety of amusements and entertainments was then offered to the public. The staff matched the School in fencing, and the Old Boys challenged the School in swimming. In the shade of the Grand Hall there was an agile gymnastic display and in the broiling heat of the Open Air Theatre the clowning of the light-hearted Prefects' Revue. Among the many side shows one had the chance of operating a famous ducking-stool, shying coconuts and popping off ping-pong balls. In the gymnasium there was basket-ball and in auxiliary hall 1 the fasciinating model railway lay-out.

Such a successful fête depends of course on the united efforts of a great number of boys, Old Boys, parents and staff. It would be unfair to mention some without doing honour to all. But a special word of thanks is perhaps appropriate to those parents who worked tirelessly in the kitchens to provide us with the tea and other refreshments so particularly welcome on that glorious July day.

K.N.N.

DEBATING SOCIETY—MOCK ELECTION

The main activity of the Debating Society this term has been the organising of a Mock Election, in association with the Masters in charge of Form periods, on General Election Day. Each form had its own candidates, but there were common candidates in the case of the whole of the VIth Form and Forms 5 pi and 5 alpha. The results are summarised below (exclusive of figures for abstentions, spoiled papers and absentees).

Few conclusions can be drawn with certainty. It is clear that the results for the VIth Form more clearly reflected those of the national result than did those of most forms. It is also clear that on a basis of proportional representation the balance of party victories would have been a little different, and that smaller parties might have fared a little, but not much, better. How far other factors than those which affected the adult voting public at large affected the outcome here is also a matter for speculation, and no doubt the influence or otherwise of the personality and persuasiveness of the candidates varied from form to form. Interested readers may find it entertaining to draw comparisons between the outlook of boys at different ages and in different courses, in the light of the figures, but perhaps precise psychological prognostications about future political trends would be premature.

Results in Detail

	Con.	*Lib.*	*Indep.*	*Lab.*	*Comm.*
3 sau	5	0	0	*10*	0
3 sigma	2	0	0	*14*	1
3 omicron ...	1	3	0	*18*	1
3 kappa	*11*	6	0	9	1
3 iota	11	2	0	*13*	0
3 tau	4	2	0	*12*	7
3 eta	*14*	3	0	8	0

3 rho	14	0	0	*15*	0
3 omega	5	0	0	*20*	0
3 epsilon ...	*13*	1	0	12	2
3 theta	*17*	0	0	8	0
3 nu	9	0	0	*16*	5
3 alpha	12	5	0	*15*	1
3 pi	8	4	0	*16*	0
3	9	2	0	*16*	2
	135	28	0	202	20

	Con.	*Lib.*	*Indep.*	*Lab.*	*Comm.*
5 kappa	6	1	0	*8*	0
5 iota	*12*	3	0	5	0
5 tau	3	0	0	*5*	0
5 eta	5	2	0	*14*	2
5 omega	*10*	2	0	9	0
5 rho	3	1	0	*9*	0
5 epsilon	5	0	0	*8*	4
5 theta	8	4	1	*11*	0
5 nu	*8*	3	0	0*	0
5 pi, alpha ...	*24*	0	6	20	0
All 6th Forms ...	*53*	0	11	32	0
	137	16	18	121	6

* *No candidate.*

	Con.	*Lib.*	*Indep.*	*Lab.*	*Comm.*
4 sigma	4	0	0	*14*	0
4 omicron ...	8	0	0	*13*	0
4 kappa	4	3	0	4	*7*
4 iota	5	1	0	*14*	0
4 tau	*15*	0	0	*15*	0
4 eta	*14*	3	0	12	0
4 rho	*12*	3	0	10	1
4 omega	*12*	1	2	*12*	1
4 epsilon	2	1	0	*19*	0
4 theta	10	2	0	*14*	0
4 nu	*15*	2	0	9	3
3 alpha	13	2	0	*14*	0
4 pi	*13*	6	0	10	0
4	11	0	0	*15*	0
	138	24	2	175	12

TOTALS

PARTY VICTORIES

	Con.	*Lib.*	*Indep.*	*Lab.*	*Comm.*
Forms 3	4	0	0	*11*	0
Forms 4	5	0	0	*8*	1
Forms 5	5	0	0	*6*	0
Forms 6	2	0	0	0	0
	16	0	0	25	1

TOTAL VOTES CAST

	Con.	*Lib.*	*Indep.*	*Lab.*	*Comm.*
Forms 3	135	28	0	202	20
Forms 4	138	24	2	175	12
Forms 5	84	16	7	89	6
Forms 6	53	0	11	32	0
	410	68	20	498	38

P. T. LIBBY, U6Sc, Mi.

W.E.P.

BACKGROUND TO THE BALLOT

A Link Survey

A full report on the School's Mock Election, together with an analysis of the results, may be found in the Debating Society Notes. That report should be read in conjunction with this present article, which is an attempt to add a few details to the picture.

232 boys of ten forms (an academic, an engineering and a practical form from each of the Third, Fourth and Fifth years, together with 20 boys from the Sixth) were asked to write down answers to four questions. These answers were unsigned, and the questions were so arranged that even if the writers had been identified (none were) it would have been impossible —with the exception of a few boys who decorated their forms with exhortations to vote Tory or Labour—to discover their political affiliation.

Voting Like Dad

I voted for the same party as my father	61%
I voted for a different party from my father's	16%
I, or my father, abstained from voting	3%
I do not know how my father voted	20%

It is interesting to note that although boys reject violently the idea that they *ought* to vote in the same way as their father, most of them, in fact, do so. In every form, the highest proportion of boys gave this answer, though the percentages varied. Fewest voted like Dad in forms 3 Omicron and Six—possibly because these are the forms taking the least and the most serious interest in the election. Apart from 3 Omicron, the number of boys voting like Dad declines fairly steadily as the age of the boys increases.

Also of interest is the number of boys who do not know how their father voted. There is no pattern easily discernible either within or between the years, and fewest boys not knowing were in forms 3 Theta (7%), 5 Pi (9%) and 4 Omicron (10%), while the most not knowing were in 5 Epsilon (37%), 4 Theta (33%), 3 Omicron (31%), and 6th (25%). From this it does not seem that younger boys are excluded from political discussion at home any more than older ones. It is perhaps surprising that so many of the 6th form—boys of 17 and 18—do not know how their father voted. This suggests that in many cases there is little political discussion in the home.

The Perfect Party

The party I voted for is perfect, or almost so	17%
My party is very good, but has serious faults	41%
They are all poor; mine is slightly better than the rest ...	15%
I don't know enough about it to decide	27%

The percentage of those not knowing enough about it to decide decreased steadily from the younger forms to the older, the largest number occurring in 3 Omicron (52%), and the smallest in the 6th (0%).

In every case except two (in which the "don't know enough about it" group won), most boys thought that their party was very good, with some serious faults. The highest total of these occurred in the sixth—75%. Of the remaining alternatives youthful idealism ("my party is almost perfect") only just managed to beat experienced cynicism ("they are all poor") by 17% to 15%. Forms in which cynicism prevailed were: 3, 4 Theta, 5 Pi and 6th.

Votes at Eighteen

56% want the vote at eighteen, 31% at twenty-one, and 13% have no opinion. The interest in these answers lies in the fact that on the whole, the older the boys the less they want to vote at eighteen. In the Sixth, for example, where several boys would already be eligible to vote if the age were lowered to eighteen, only 35% wanted it lowered, 55% preferring twenty-one, and 10% with no opinion.

Election Issues

A list of issues raised during the election was put to the boys, and they were asked which one, if any, most influenced their vote. This is a guide to general topics of interest only, since in the case of "Nationalisation", for example, it was not clear whether any individual was for or against, and in the case of "Disarmament" it was not clear which party was thought to achieve it most effectively.

No issues (33%); Disarmament, including Nuclear Disarmament (13%); Pensions (12%); Housing (11%); Nationalisation (8%); Prosperity (6%); Summit Talks (4%); Employment (3%); Education (2%); Foreign Affairs (1.5%); Underdeveloped Countries (1.5%); Colonial Problems (1%); Wild Promises of Opposite Party (1%); Roads (0.5%); Minister of Science (0.5%). 3% treated the question flippantly—all, it might be noticed, from form 4 Theta.

The proportion of "No issues" decreases with the older forms. 24 boys in Form 4 claim that no issue influenced them, but only one boy in 5 Pi. In view of the active interest taken by many London sixth formers in the Nuclear Disarmament campaign, it is perhaps surprising that the proportion of boys selecting this issue decreased in the older forms. In 5 Epsilon where a Labour candidate was elected, most votes went to Pensions (7 out of 19), and in the 6th, where a Conservative won, most votes went to Nationalisation (5 out of 20) and Prosperity (3 out of 20).

It will be seen that topics relating to Foreign Affairs took 21% of the votes, and Home Affairs 46%, "no issue" accounting for the rest. The interest in foreign affairs is relatively high in the third year (26%), low in the fourth (9%), highest in the fifth (30%) and down again in the sixth (20%).

The group of sixth formers included in the survey was not large, and perhaps not altogether representative. Nonetheless it is interesting that in so many respects this sixth form group paralleled the pattern of voting of the nation as a whole. From the results in the Debating Society report it will be seen that like the bulk of the electorate, but unlike the rest of the School, the Sixth elected a Conservative. Moreover, foreign affairs played little part in their decision, Nationalisation and Prosperity being most important. The party they support seems to them neither perfect nor particularly unsatisfactory; a quarter of them did not discuss the matter seriously with their parents; and finally, they are not particularly anxious to take part in an election themselves.

Whether this picture seems to be a satisfactory one or not in a healthy democracy, it must be left to the reader to decide.

R.W.W.

CHRISTMAS TIME

Christmas Time is a time to rejoice,
To shout and yell and raise your voice.
Christmas Time is a time to sing
And give your presents tied with string.

Christmas Time is a time to receive,
To thank the Lord and not to grieve.
Christmas Time is a time to pray,
And thank the Lord for His Holy Day.

For Christ was born on Christmas Day,
That's why we should be good and gay;
Reverent and clean in all we do;
Helpful, obedient, honest and true.

B. McNIE, 2 Nu, Cf.

TRIP TO AUSTRIA

On July 24th, a party of 32 boys and two masters, Messrs. Holmes and Makin, left the sunny skies of England for the more doubtful weather on the Continent; in fact, some members actually hoped for rain—and got it! It arrived in the form of a heavy storm on the autobahn near Ulm in Bavaria and thence accompanied the party, off and on, until the return crossing to Dover.

But it didn't spoil the holiday, which was most enjoyable, and the motor coach put at our disposal for the whole of our continental journey enabled us to visit Belgium, Germany, Austria and Northern Italy with a quick peep at Holland on the return.

The first overnight stop was at Han-sur-Lesse but it was impossible to visit the grottoes as we arrived too late in the evening and set out too early the next morning—first of all to Luxembourg, then along the Moselle to Saarbrücken, finally stopping for the evening at that quiet, truly-delightful, old German town, Heppenheim, on the Rhine.

The next morning being Sunday was heralded from every church tower at a most unchristian hour with the result that many of the party, especially as it was sunny, were out before breakfast taking photographs. Then once again in the coach, journeying South, the skies began to cloud and just outside Ulm, on the Danube, we ran into a heavy storm, escaping the worst part of it fortunately.

Shortly after leaving Ulm, where we had lunch, one boy suddenly discovered that he had left his camera on a shop window-ledge; so we went back and found it still there! Might it still be there if we had not gone back for it? I wonder.

The remainder of the journey that day to Seefeld, our principal centre in Austria, was unforgettable, the steep, twisting, narrow, mountain roads, made slippery by the rain and mist, occasionally creating a few anxious moments. However, we eventually arrived safely at the Hotel Jägerheim where we were warmly received. It was a clean, homely place and the food was ample and varied.

We spent the next day exploring the village and in the evening invaded the casino to watch some typical Austrian Schuhplättlering and listen to some yodelling, both given by local, and certainly vocal, young people.

The next day even dawned warm and sunny, and we set out early in the coach for Bolzano via the famous Brenner Pass, where after the usual customs hold-up, we were allowed to proceed on our journey. We arrived in Bolzano just before midday; that is, just as the usual three hour siesta was starting and all the shops were closing. As we could only spend two hours there and we had no time, or desire, to siest, we ate a hurried lunch and wandered round to see as much of this centre of the Dolomites as possible.

The next day we visited Oberammergau, but the dull, showery weather lightning illuminating, and peals of thunder echoing, through the mountain ranges encircling Seefeld. And the rain came down in sheets. I watched it until I was tired, then went to bed and slept through the rest.

The next day we visited Oberammergau but the dull, showery weather and an enforced detour due to the main roads being closed to traffic rather spoiled the outing. One interesting feature of Oberammergau was that all the men wore beards, which they fingered lovingly, possibly in anticipation of the part they were going to play in next year's Passion Play, for which the village is famous. This play is performed in an open-air theatre and takes place every ten years.

After a free day in Innsbruck, chiefly for shopping, we set out on the return journey and made our first stop at Munich, where we heard the carillon in the Town Hall tower and watched the animated figures waltzing round and striking the bells, as is their custom, at eleven o'clock every morning. We also gazed round appreciatively in their newly-designed and decorated Cathedral interior and, after quenching our thirst at the Hofbränhaus, continued on our journey.

That night we stayed at Coblence on the Rhine and set out early the next morning for Blankenbergh on the Belgian coast, via Cologne, Maastricht (Holland) and Brussels, where we spent some time in the Exhibition grounds and sampled some monster ice-creams.

The hotel at Blankenbergh was on the sea front but the sea was rough and bathing was not possible until the early evening, when a number braved the elements to either test their stamina or work up an appetite for the evening meal.

The next day was the last day of the holiday—and still raining!—but the nearer we got to Dover, the better the weather became. Eventually we reached Victoria—the train late, of course—where our parents eagerly awaited our return and brothers and sisters wanted to know what we had brought them!

J.M.

ENGLISH CLUB

The former Literary and Dramatic Society has been re-christened. We have discarded our old and rather pompous name for a more simple one, and we like to think that this represents a slight but significant change of emphasis in our activities. Over the past few terms we have been trying to keep in touch with new and interesting developments of the drama in English, at the same time as providing opportunities to read, see or hear the established literary classics of the theatre. In this year's programme we are also seeking to include a certain amount of poetry and prose, though visits to the theatre and dramatic readings at School are still our most obvious and our most popular activities.

The last theatre visit of last term was to the new Mermaid Theatre, to see the musical play "LOCK UP YOUR DAUGHTERS." The design of this new theatre, with a single, rectangular ramp of seats sweeping down to a plain platform stage without front curtain or wings, clearly offers most interesting possibilities to an adventurous producer. We felt that this production made good use of the facilities, and was enjoyable as a musical, but we look forward rather impatiently to the fulfilment of Bernard Miles' promise that he will use his theatre to put on a variety of interesting and unusual plays.

"THE HOSTAGE" is perhaps the most significant, and the most brilliant, play on in London at the moment. This we made our first visit this term. To say that Brendan Behan's play is about the I.R.A. in Dublin and is a mixture of broad, even coarse humour with a deeply serious theme, really does no justice to it. Senior boys who missed this visit ought to go and see for themselves.

Congreve's "THE DOUBLE DEALER" is a fast, intricate, artificial Restoration comedy of manners. We saw the Old Vic Company's production with Miles Malleson, Ursula Jeans and (rather miscast as a villain) Donald Houston, and found it most enjoyable. It was fast enough, without being either too intricate or too artificial.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST", the Old Vic's next production, formed an interesting comparison, since it required a slower, more deliberate kind of artificiality. The rather small party of members who saw this during the half-term holiday found that Oscar Wilde's comedy wears very well, and that this production was very amusing in spite of some slight miscasting.

"COCK-A-DOODLE DANDY" at the Royal Court Theatre was by another irreverent Irish playwright, Sean O'Casey. A small party very much enjoyed this outrageous comedy, which had previously been at the Edinburgh Festival.

Club meetings at School made an excellent start by overflowing out of room 9 and into auxiliary hall 3 for Mr. Waters' dramatic readings under the title "Tennessee Williams and all That." With an astonishing variety of voices, he illustrated some trends in modern drama and experimented with surrealist reading to a background of electronic music. Then followed the first of a series of play-readings: a reading of Ben Jonson's comedy "The Alchemist" spread over two evenings. Mr. Newson's lunch-time talk on Dylan Thomas's verse and prose, consisting mainly of illustrative recordings, was extended by popular demand to cover a second lunch-hour. At the moment of writing we have just begun a reading of "The Cherry Orchard" by Anton Chekhov.

Further plans for this term include visits to see "The Aspern Papers" and "One More River." These will be reported in next term's magazine. Attendance at meetings so far this term has been encouraging, but we would welcome more members from fourth forms upwards. We would also urge all those interested in our activities to consult the English Club notice in the Foyer *regularly* to keep in touch with our programme.

J. A. LALLY, Ma, L6Ec.

DOCKYARDS

Smoky docks and big black steamers,
Children waving paper streamers,
Carrying cargoes far and wide
Liners leaving with the tide,
Busy dockmen here and there,
Little tugs the worse for wear,
Fussy women with big hats,
Children chasing dockyard cats,
The hustling bustle of the crowd,
The vessels hooting rather loud,
Fishermen catching wriggling trout,
People rushing in and out,
Gloomy warehouses in a row,
This is the dockyard that I know.

B. BORRETT, 1 Delta.

LETTER FROM AUSTRIA

(*The following are extracts from letters sent by George Willis, during his three months in Germany and Austria with an L.C.C. Travel Scholarship.*)

There can be no doubt that I have experienced a series of contrasts, from district to district, which have perhaps been useful in trying to gain

a true picture of German life. The first three weeks in Bingen on the Rhine were spent in the typical atmosphere of lighthearted joviality which has always been attributed to the Rheinlander. As I was staying with a wine merchant and his family, you can imagine that this "joie de vivre" was brought home with full force! In addition, it is easy to make friends in such a town and, by attending the local Grammar School for the last fortnight of the German School term, I was fortunate in being able to make several firm acquaintances. The English master put me to good use, reading aloud, commenting on pronunciation, and even allowing me one complete period in which to attempt to describe (in English) the English Educational System. Judging by the loud thumps which greeted the conclusion of the short talk, it had been appreciated, although I hadn't dealt with half of what I should have liked.

A sharper contrast would be hard to imagine than when I arrived at the second address on the Hunsrück, at a village called Longkamp, the epitome of peace and quiet. The villagers were entirely dependent on the Post Bus to descend the seven kilometres of steep winding road into Bernkastel on the Moselle. This of necessity isolates them after six o'clock. The only contact then with the outside world is the Television, into which the inhabitants stare, entranced. My hosts were retired peasants, with quite a pleasant home, and a number of children who worked during the day. To pass the hours of solitude I tried to use the time best by writing or reading, and, with several hitch-hiking expeditions, including a visit to the Holy Robe in Trier, the three weeks passed somehow.

News of the floods in the northern Austrian provinces produced a series of frantic communications with my hostess there. Fate took a turn and, as if by magic, railway connections fell back into organisation in order to allow me to travel to Austria on time. The possibility of three weeks on a raft was thereby avoided, and I arrived in Hallstatt to find life restored to normal, after the torrential floods.

* * * *

This house is the seat of the Countess Wilczek Almáry, one of the last vestiges of the Hapsburg dynasty, and is an elegant, though neglected manor situated at the extreme southern end of the Hallstatt lake, approximately one kilometre from the village. It commands a wonderful view over the length of the lake with its steep pine-covered mountain slopes, while at an oblique angle across this large bowl-shaped end of the lake one can clearly see the village, sprawled out in a long line on the narrow width of flat ground, which cowers beneath a soaring slope of furze and pine. Please forgive me for sounding like a hackneyed travel brochure, but the view is possibly the most striking feature of this part of my visit. It greets me each morning as I raise my head to catch a glimpse of the village clock through the window, and never loses its attraction.

The countess herself is somewhat antique, and has been living alone in this house since the end of the war, with a family occupying the small lodge, who act as all-round domestics. The atmosphere here is a considerable improvement on Longkamp, since the Countess has a wealth of friends, all of whom speak intelligible German, and together with the pastimes of swimming, rowing, and mountaineering, I am never at a loss for something to do, or for people to talk with. A small eighteenth-century "castle" stands on the opposite side of the lake to Hallstatt, and here lives an eminent archaeologist of the locality, who has just published a novel inspired by recent excavations in the mountains. I had the pleasure of going to tea in the Castle the other day and listening to an account of some of the history of Hallstatt which he has literally unearthed in the course of his work.

While the older Austrians enjoy reminiscing in the past, and reflecting on the splendour of the old Empire and the Kaiser, German eyes are fixed intently on the future and what it holds in store. In the present situation the American influence is no longer regarded as an intrusion, but the "Amis" as they are called, are symbols of the liberty and the power which forms their security. One cannot help being struck by the visible reduction of national pride among many younger Germans (which may just be an

illusion on my part) in their eagerness to accept the customs imported by our " cousins " from overseas.

* * * *

Austria was pushed firmly into the past after a somewhat gruelling train-journey in the height of the " return home " by thousands of Germans from Southern Europe.

Modern German cities like Düsseldorf—that is, those built after the war—look their best at night. Not that the neon brilliance of the wide avenues compares very favourably with Salzburg, where the stress is on illumination. Here the imposing " Burg " up on the hill, and the numerous monuments, seem part of an everlasting " Son et Lumière " presentation, as the city echoes with the force of its cultural Festival. Düsseldorf rocks with the typical gaiety and laughter of a prosperous West German town.

Life by day is a continual surging, mechanically-geared inferno of activity. There is little time to " stand and stare "; each morning, promptly at half-past-seven, I am rushed off with my host's children to the Grammar School. In this case the school is a modern building, and I am able to compare it in most ways with Wandsworth. The absence of uniforms with German schoolchildren may help to explain the love of official dress amongst Germans later on in many walks of life. In any case, German schools seem to lack that internal unity, developed in our schools by full participation in their life, their clubs and societies. Uniform symbolizes our belonging to that unique form of school society, which exists only in our country. I think we have every reason to be proud of it.

A SCHOOL HOLIDAY IN SWITZERLAND

Switzerland is a very beautiful and exciting country. Before we went, some of us imagined a land of snow and ice, but we soon discovered that even in Summer, when you have to climb a long way to find the snow, it has its own particular beauty.

Our party left Southfields and our parents on a sunny August afternoon, caught a late evening boat from Folkestone to Boulogne, and from there took a night train across Europe to Switzerland. Our destination was a small hotel in the hills around Gsteigwieler, a mile or so south of Interlaken. We found that this was quite a mountainous area, and that some of us could look up from our bedroom windows to the second highest mountain peak in Europe, the Jungfrau.

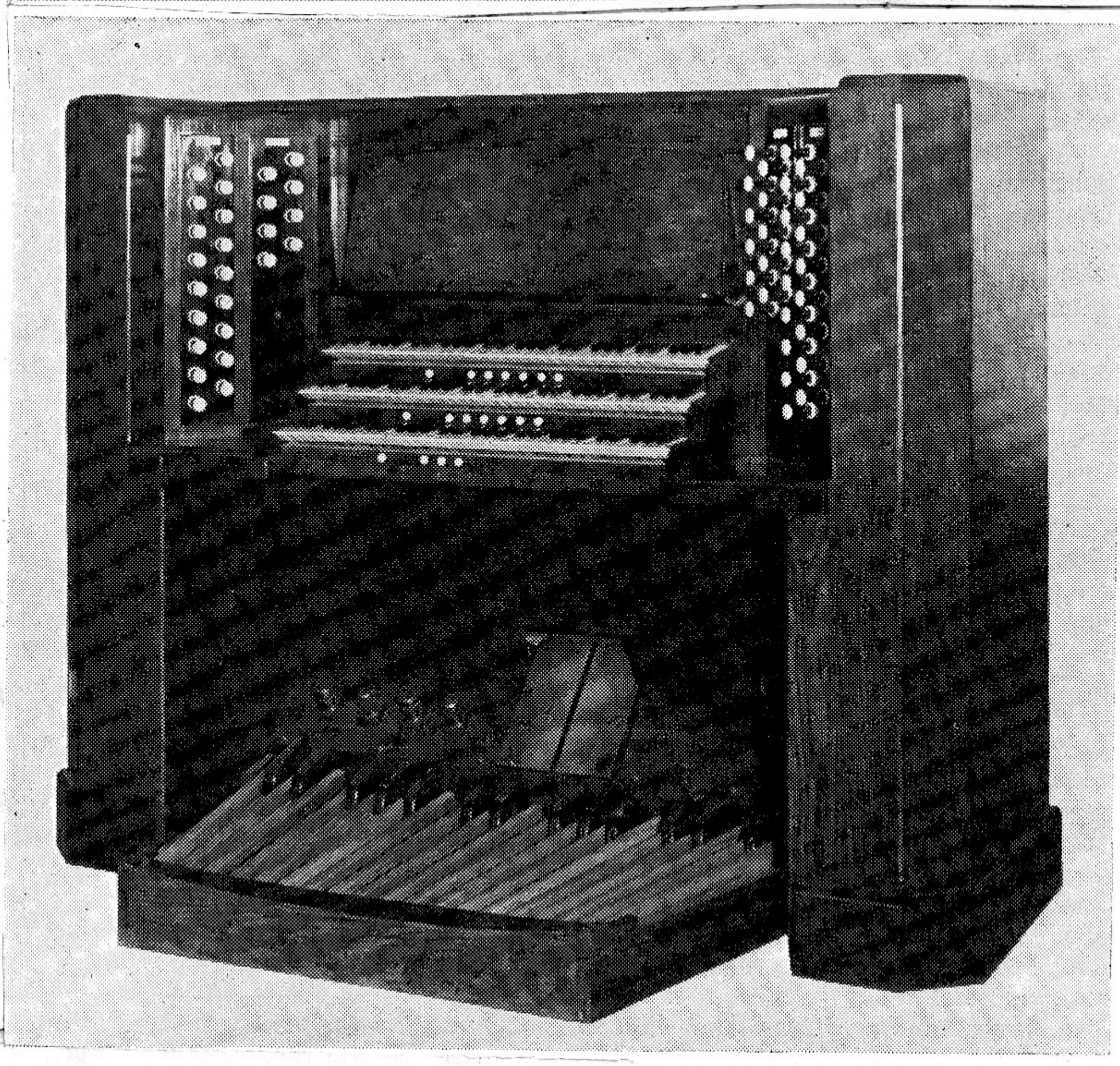
One of our most exciting excursions was the ascent of Grindelwald by the longest and highest chair-lift in Europe. We reached Lauterbrunner just before ten, walked up to the chair-lift station, and from there were " swooshed " up the mountain side, with a sharp jolt every so often as the chair went over one of the pylons, At a boost station on the way the chairs were changed from one track to another, and in an hour or so we rose several thousand feet, until we could see the Eiger and Jungfrau mountains. At the chair-lift station we were able to view these more closely through a powerful telescope. On top we walked through pastures where there were cows with jangling bells tied round their necks to prevent them from getting lost.

Another of the many excursions that we shall all remember was to the famous Blue Lake, which seemed almost solid with trout. But the climax of the holiday was definitely the trip up the Jungfrau. We were able to get half-way up the mountain by mountain railway, a journey that took two and a half hours. Near where the railway ends we were able to visit an ice palace, made completely out of a glacier. In it there were such things as a great hall, a café and a car made completely out of ice. Here we had reached the Switzerland of our imagination, for it was bitterly cold up on the glacier—so cold that you couldn't turn on your camera after taking a photograph.

We should all like to thank Mr. Hodges and Mr. Bird for organizing such a very exciting and memorable holiday.

J. BACHELIER, Pj, 4 Eta.
D. CREAMER, Gj, 4 Eta.





Above : Prefectorial Perambulation last Summer. ***Photo. by Mr W. Meredith***

Below : Our new "Majestic" console electronic organ, for which we have set ourselves to raise £1,000. ***Photo by courtesy of Burge Electronics Ltd***

ENGINEERING SOCIETY

Chairman: A. M. Bastick. *Vice-Chairman:* D. J. Moss.

Secretary: J. J. Proops.

The Engineering Department and the members of this Society are very sorry to see the departure of Mr. Robson this term. Since he was appointed Head of Engineering over three years ago he has founded our engineering courses on sound technical lines and guided an expanding Department enthusiastically. Our Engineering Society owes its existence to his active encouragement, in pursuance of his firm belief that pupils following such a course should keep up a real and living contact with the industry and profession that they one day hope to serve.

We wish him every success in his new post at Holloway School.

ASHFORD LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

Locomotives have been built at Ashford since 1848, though of late the works have been mainly concerned with repair work. The last new locomotive to be made there was a diesel electric in 1951, and it seems likely that the works may be closed altogether in a few years' time. Nevertheless, on 9th July, eighty boys made a most interesting and informative tour of the many processes and operations undertaken at Ashford.

With every opportunity provided for us to see everything, we moved from the light machine shops, with many specialised machines, to the fitting and erecting shops, where it was particularly interesting to see engines in various stages of assembly. Above our heads were cranes capable of lifting 50 tons, while in the boiler shop we found a 200 ton hydraulic flanging press. In the smith's shop many interesting mechanical forging operations are undertaken in repairing springs, brake-rods and similar components.

Some of our members enjoyed the experience of operating a steam hammer capable of a pressure of 2,000 lbs. per sq. inch and others came near to fulfilling youthful dreams of becoming an engine-driver when they mounted the footplate to test the controls of several engines awaiting repair. Wandsworth School blazers certainly brought a touch of colour into a scene where colour was otherwise noticeably absent.

This visit was rounded off with a very pleasant afternoon spent on the beach at Hastings, in marked contrast to the excitement and interest of the morning's visit.

BATTLESHIPS AND NEEDLES

Her Majesty's Dockyard, Portsmouth, is one of the few places within easy reach of London where one can experience some of the romance of shipbuilding. No one, standing alongside the towering masses of steel that make a modern battleship or ocean-going liner, and staring up at the minute and impersonal looking workmen, each busy with some tiny part of a great master-plan of work on her, can fail to be impressed by man's achievements in this field.

Twenty-one members of the Society visited this Dockyard on 21st July and watched some of these great ships being drastically altered and reconditioned. We were first taken over the battle-cruiser H.M.S. Vigo, where we were struck by the relatively small amount of space, and especially the compact and bewilderingly complicated lay-out of the engine room, with a mass of pipes twisting and curling their way from boiler to turbine to condenser and so on. I was sad to think that no more ships of this type are being built, and many existing ones are being converted into aircraft carriers. Destroyers too, we learnt, are gradually being replaced by submarines.

Next we were taken over the shops. In the "copper shop" huge pipes were being heated, bent and welded into shape; in the machine shop massive propeller shafts, worn small by years of use, were being returned to full size by having new layers welded on to them and then being turned on lathes, one of which was 130 feet long. Large forgings were being done

in the hammer shop, and we saw ships' boilers being refitted and re-conditioned.

Finally we visited the materials testing laboratory and gauge testing shop, where it was possible to measure to one millionth of an inch. This was an appropriate reminder that the modern warship, for all its size and power, depends on the most delicate and accurate pieces of machinery, on its radar equipment and its compass needle. This was the end of a most interesting day arranged for us by the Naval authorities, who had also entertained us to an excellent lunch and tea.

THE K.L.G. VISIT

Thirty-two senior members of the Society visited the K.L.G. sparking plugs factory in Putney Vale on 17th September. Our hosts divided us into three groups, each under a separate guide, and the first group began with the " Experimental Workshop " where new designs are developed into finished prototypes. In the adjoining drawing office such new designs were being planned on paper, and the layout and equipment, both of a very high order, formed an interesting comparison with our own facilities at school.

In the Research Laboratory we found equipment for testing the more than 60 types of plug produced at this factory; and the High Voltage Laboratory, separated from the main one by a wire cage, contained some most expensive equipment, which our Sixth Formers were very envious of. We next went to the High Temperature and Chemistry Laboratory, notable for the highly important research into new metals and insulating materials for the industry that is going on there.

In the Workshops we first saw automation being applied to methods of production. The metal parts of Smith's Thermostats were here being shaped, chemically treated and assembled almost completely automatically. Automation was again much in evidence in the Spark Plug Production Shop, and of course the greater part of the factory is given over to work on plugs. The great variety of plugs was surprising, and we took special note of some for the aircraft industry, produced in collaboration with Rolls Royce, which resembled those we had seen in the Experimental Workshop. We were given a clear picture of production methods and the functions of the various assembly workers.

We moved on to the Power Press Room to see a fifty-ton press in operation, bedded on a layer of cork six feet thick, to lessen vibration. Finally we visited the Tool Room and Tool Designer's Office to learn about the design of machine tools. This concluded a visit which will surely prove one of the best of the term. We had gained a real insight into the principles of automation and the running of a highly organised factory. We were grateful also for an excellent tea provided in the factory canteen.

LUNCH-TIME MEETINGS

We have continued this Term our film-showings at lunch-times on Wednesdays. Civil engineering was the main feature of an interesting series of films by British Insulated Callendars Cables Ltd. and in addition others on foundry practice, steel making, and the testing of prototype motor lorries by Vauxhall have been shown.

PRACTICAL EVENINGS

We have continued on Tuesdays this popular and well established part of our activities. Many members have taken advantage of the facilities to work on most varied projects, and R. Twyman's efforts in providing tea and cakes for members have added much to the pleasure of the evenings.

The Committee for 1959/60 consists of the officers and: A. F. Moorhouse, R. P. Jackson, D. P. Flint, J. G. Tilly and M. Brian.

COFFEE BARS

The Background:

The post war years have seen in Britain the opening of many espresso coffee bars. The original Italian (or is it really American?) idea has taken

strong root in Britain, and an half-hour's walk through the centre of any of our cities will reveal to the casual observer many of these establishments. Coffee bars seem to be well suited to the needs of our society, if only because they provide places for the angry young men and the expresso machines to blow off large amounts of steam before an appreciative audience. The tendency among the patrons to sit and talk, with a very low coffee consumption per thousand words, has led to exorbitant prices—but the management must make a profit.

There is an interesting parallel between the mushroom growth of coffee bars today, and the widespread patronage of coffee houses in the 17th century. These coffee houses were essentially patronised by groups. There were literary, Whig, Tory, Jacobite and financial coffee houses: places where you could hear all about Dryden's latest work, or Somer's defence of the seven bishops, or any subject peculiar to the place and patrons. Group patronage is less encouraged today, though one coffee bar openly claims a political alignment; that is "The Partisan," opened to help raise funds for the Universities and Left Review. Clearly, however, most coffee bars rapidly acquire a reputation as the meeting place of some particular "set"; and there is the obvious contrast between those bars that are dominated by the juke-box, those with their own jazz band, and those where dim lights shade quiet conversation in the gloom.

For?

These ultra-modern establishments, filled choc-a-bloc with contemporary furniture, disproportioned but highly colourful murals, rambling tropical plants and the blare of the juke-box are frequented mainly by zany, hep-cat teenagers who find, on the whole, that this is their only means of escape from hum-drum everyday life. They form the forum of the beat generation: here they can talk freely and find the comradeship that may be lacking in their own homes. Here they can gain the support, moral or otherwise, which many of their parents fail to give them. It is here, over a glass cup of hot, frothy coffee that they can discuss and argue over films, politics, records, art and current girl-friends with people of their own age and tastes.

Here is the perfect refuge from a television-dominated home. Down some drab London street, past the bomb-site and the pub, and opposite an old disused theatre that is being sadly engulfed and choked by grim office-blocks on either side, you find this centre of life and light. Inside, young people feel at home. Sweaters and jeans or Italian suits, sack dresses or new tight skirts, long-haired youths or sharp crew cuts: here it is normal to be a little eccentric. The light, the warmth, the colour and the noise are a magic invitation to a world of our own.

Or Against?

The teenagers say they find the coffee bars a chance to "mix"; go to any coffee bar and you will soon see what they mean by "mixing." They don't look happy, just utterly bored. Their faces light up only when a pretty girl enters or the jazz band strikes up; and then they jive, as if they were in some sort of a trance, and not enjoying it at all. They seem to be there only because they have nowhere more satisfactory to go.

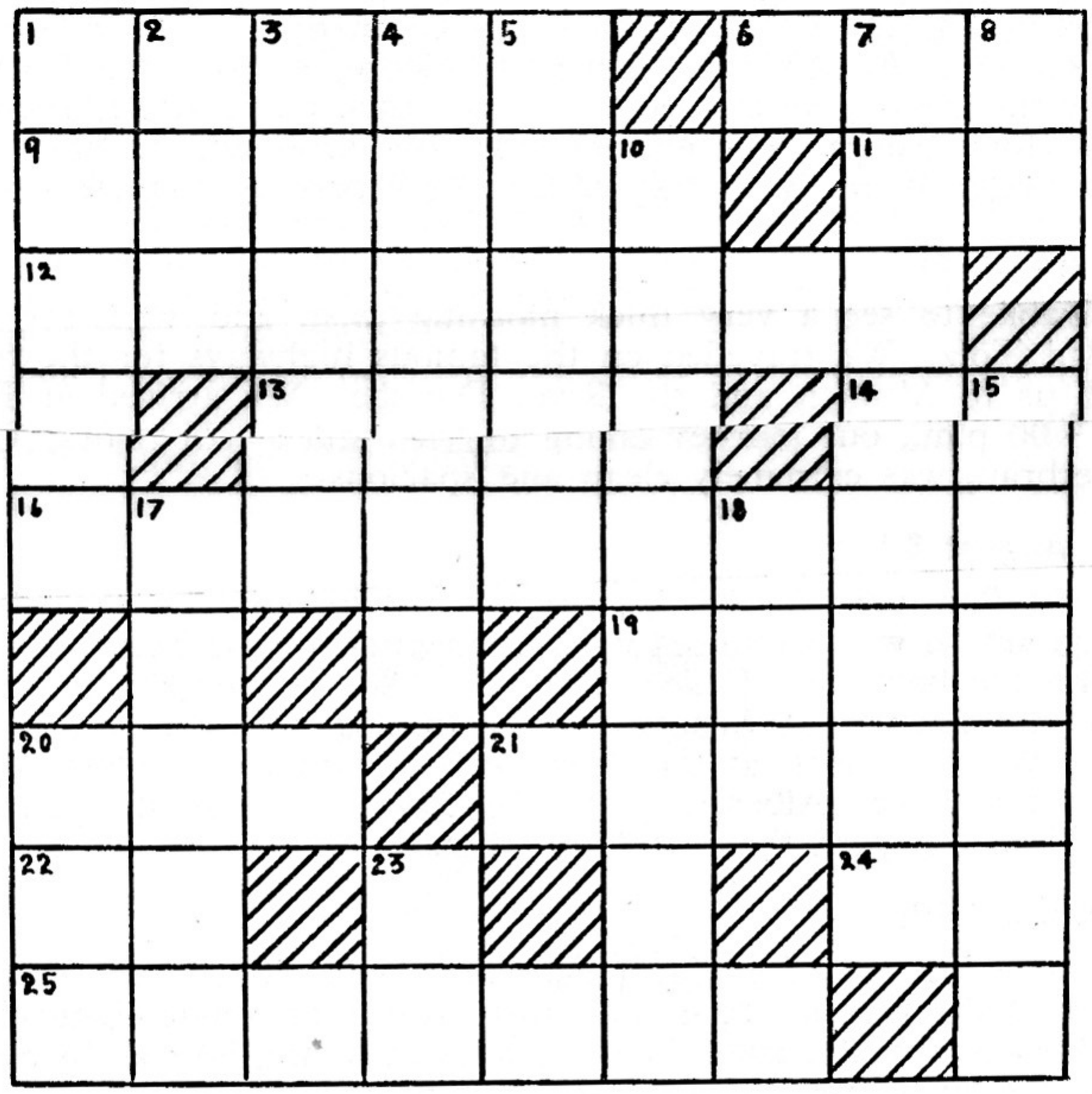
Take a typical, imaginary example: "El Capuchino." When the juke-box is not playing, the main sound is the hissing of the "Espresso Superbo Magnifico Italiano," a huge, gleaming, silver object at the back of the counter. Its shining plates stand out against the dead black of the wall, on which are painted white skeletons, their long, bony limbs twisted into all sorts of peculiar attitudes to fit between the pipes, ventilators and other protuberances on the walls. For "El Capuchino" is, in reality, the cellar of a rather grimy Victorian house, which its enterprising owner had seen the possibilities of, with a nice profit from coffee at a shilling a cup.

Look round at his customers. At one table in an alcove are two Edwardian gentlemen, their suede "winkle-pickers" sticking out sideways as there is not room for the twelve inch points under the table. In one corner is a bored-looking young lady, gloomily surveying the painted

skeletons, and experimenting with her own limbs to see if it is possible to contort them as they do. In another corner is an equally bored-looking young man disdainfully watching her athletic exercises.

It is hardly to be wondered at that the proprietor seizes any opportunity to slip out and find a nice, sociable cup of tea.

R. C. Pearson, Mb, 5Pi.
A. J. Laws, Mc, 5Pi.
G. A. D. Paul, Cb, 5Al.
D. T. Snell, Pc, 5Pi.
T. M. Keefe, Mi, 5Io.
C. C. Smith, Pi, 5Io.



Clues Across

1. To wipe out (5).
6. To join (3).
9. Willing to obey (6).
11. Concerning briefly (2).
12. Mathematical branch (8).
13. Fertile (4).
14. The master of surgery is an inverted compère (2).
16. Italian sculptor (9).
19. Aeronautical society (4).
20. Mobile milk factory (3).
21. Legitimate singular of Les Girls but of wrong gender (5).
22. One (2).
24. North east (2).
25. To cheat (7).

Clues Down

1. Rimmed (5).
2. Female deer (3).
3. Food for swine (5).
4. Ape-like (6).
5. To choose (5).
7. To clean with chemicals (3, 5).
8. Prefix meaning down, from or off (2).
10. Airy (8).
15. A religion (6).
17. An ounce followed by one gas (5).
18. Use a habitual criminal to protect the pipes (3).
20. A vehicle (3).
23. To the French (2).

B. M. Farrow, Pc, 3 Alpha.

TOUR OF THE ITALIAN LAKES

Wednesday, August 5th

Our train left Victoria, for Dover, at 8.00 a.m. Here, we boarded the King Albert, bound for Ostend. At Ostend we travelled by coach to Blankenberghe, arriving at 3.00 p.m. We had dinner at the Hotel Lucullus, after which we went out, finding that many other British people were spending their holiday at Blankenberghe, including some very nice girls from Liverpool. Blankenberghe is a very attractive place with a beautiful stretch of sand.

Thursday, August 6th

We left Blankenberghe at 7.15 a.m., for Ehrenbreitstein, by coach, passing through Brussels. We crossed into Germany at Aachen, seeing some beautiful scenery. At Andernach, near Coblence, we saw the River Rhine, and a little further on, we crossed this picturesque river, into Ehrenbreitstein, and to the Hotel Hoegg. The journey from Blankenberghe to Ehrenbreitstein had taken twelve hours, with the weather very poor throughout.

Friday, August 7th

We awoke to see a very thick morning mist, and were soon on our way to Bad Tölz. We travelled on the famous highways for the first time, which led us to Munich and the River Danube. We arrived at Bad Tölz at about 9.00 p.m., our journey taking thirteen and a half hours. Our hotel, the Kolberbräu, was extremely clean and spacious.

Saturday, August 8th

We left Bad Tölz for Riva, in Italy, at 8.30 p.m. It would be a great pity if this article was published without mention of the beautiful Kochelsee Lake, quite the best view I have ever seen. We crossed the Bavarian Alps and then into Austria at Scharwitz. Continuing on we saw the Zugspitze mountain. We were soon at the Brenner Pass, where we entered Italy. We arrived at the Hotel Albergo Garda in Riva, after another twelve hour journey. Here we spent the first four nights.

Sunday, August 9th

The morning was free for relaxation. After lunch we set off for a trip around Lake Garda, It is a beautiful drive of about eighty-five miles, on a road encircling the lake. We had a swim in the lake at Sirmione. We went to bed early as we had an early start next morning.

Monday, August 10th

We left Riva at 6.15 a.m., for Venice. The journey was over virtually flat ground, mainly used for fruit growing. We arrived at noon and went for a ride up the Grand Canal to the world famous Saint Mark's Square. We left Venice at about 4.30 p.m., and when we were nearing Riva a violent storm broke out. The tales of the heat in Venice are perfectly true, but, nevertheless, we managed to get back without melting.

Tuesday, August 11th

Our free day in Riva. Most of us took this opportunity to visit the shops. Late in the evening another storm aroused us, which, this time, was accompanied by a terrific gale.

Wednesday, August 12th

We had a very clear view of Lake Garda, in spite of the pouring rain and low clouds. We soon reached Sterzing, the last village in Italy, and left the country at 12.45 p.m. Just past Innsbruck, in Austria, we reached our highest point, 3,873 feet above sea level. We arrived at Bad Tölz in good time, having dinner at the Hotel Kolberbräu.

Thursday, August 13th

When we left Bad Tölz at 8.00 a.m., the rain was still falling quite heavily. We were soon passing through busy Munich once again, the weather being a little brighter, and at 11.00 a.m., we crossed the River Danube in brilliant sunshine. We reached the Hotel Halbermond, in Heppenheim, our destination, at 4.00 p.m.

Friday, August 14th

We left Heppenheim at about 8.00 a.m., making our way to Holland for the first time, crossing the border at Aachen. This was a very short, but impressive, visit through Holland, and we entered Belgium once again at Maastricht. A little later, we caught up with another storm, which flooded part of the road. We read of floods causing bad damage in Austria, just after we had left the country. We reached Blankenberghe once again, at 8.00 p.m., saying goodbye, and thanking our driver and guide.

Saturday, August 15th

Our last day. We had an early lunch and left Blankenberghe at noon. We were soon on our way to Dover on the King Leopold II, which arrived at 6.30 p.m. Our non-stop train pulled into Victoria Station at about 9.00 p.m. The weather throughout the day was beautiful. A lovely ending to a very enjoyable and memorable holiday.

I know I can say on behalf of the whole party, that we are all extremely grateful to the three members of staff who were in charge, namely, Mr. Aubrey, Mr. Elms, and Mr. George.

R. H. PRITCHARD, Pb, L6T.

THE LAST TRAIN

The train is coming,
  Pretty fast;
I'll have to catch it,
  It's the last.
What's the time?
  It's half past one;
If I'm not to miss it
  I'll have to run.

I'll run to get my
  Ticket, quick!
It'll be gone in
  Half a tick!
Down the stairs,
  Three at a time—
Phew! I've made it—
  Just in time!

A. R. BROWN, Form 2.

CHEMISTRY CORNER

This time, more about hydrogen, the simplest and lightest of all elements. Nowadays, people are so obsessed with the terrors of the hydrogen bomb that they forget the other much more important uses to which hydrogen is put.

How many people realise that it is responsible for making margarine from vegetable oils, some of them unfit for human food and at one time only fit for soap making? Or in the manufacture of nylon and bakelite

from the carbolic acid obtained from coal tar? Or in producing an oil from coal dust from which petrol can be distilled? Then again, when heated under pressure with nitrogen from the air, in the presence of a catalyst; it yields ammonia; used not only in refrigerators but for making ammonium chloride for dry cells, ammonium sulphate for fertilisers and nitric acid for dyes and explosives (T.N.T.).

It is also used as a fuel, e.g. coal gas, used for cooking at home, contains half its volume of hydrogen; so does water gas, used for enriching coal gas and producer gas, and made by passing steam through red hot coke. By passing hydrogen through an electric arc, it can be changed into an atomic form which is extremely reactive and equally unstable, changing back into its previous molecular form with an enormous liberation of heat. This is designed in blowpipe form and used for melting and welding such metals as tungsten, m.p. 2,800°C. This blowpipe will produce a temperature of 4,000°C. and as it needs no oxygen, there is no oxidation of the metals used.

The temperature reached inside a hydrogen bomb on explosion is actually greater than at the centre of the sun but it lasts only for a few millionths of a second, whereas the sun keeps on pouring out heat—although it is difficult to realise it on a cold winter's day, isn't it? Yet the methods of producing heat are exactly the same, four hydrogen atoms condensing to form an atom of helium and the difference in mass manifesting itself as heat, terrific heat, which we can feel, especially on a warm Summer day, over 93 million miles away!

The new thermo-nuclear reactors work on much the same principle but cannot use hydrogen because it is difficult to control, so they use deuterium and tritium instead, two isotopes of hydrogen; that is, less active forms which are exactly the same chemically but show different physical properties.

There is much interesting reading on this subject in the School library and I commend it to your notice.

J.M.

THE PRINTING CLUB

Most probably a large majority of you do not know that our school has a printing press. The press is roughly two years old and is worked by hand. We have printed tickets for school plays and programmes for the school concert, cycle passes, school society membership cards and so on.

The press has several sizes of type. Type is measured in "points". A point is one seventy-second of an inch. We have 6 pt., 8 pt., 12 pt. and 18 pt. We also have compressed capital letters. These are small, heavy letters. We can print lines and rows of dots.

The club is run by Mr. M. A. Ascher and has boys of classes 3 Omicron, Sigma and Sau.

R. F. MALCHER, 3 Om, Pj.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY AT FLATFORD MILL

On Wednesday the 16th of September, a week after returning from the summer vacation, a party of sixth formers under the eagle eye of Mr. Gouldstone, set out for a Field Study Centre at Flatford Mill, on the Stour Estuary, eight miles from Colchester. This picturesque and famous old water mill, now owned by the National Trust, has been ideally adapted for the study of ecology—scientific natural history, that is, the study of animals and plants in their natural surroundings. On the ground floor we found the dining room, kitchens, library and zoology laboratory, and the other floors had another laboratory and bed-room accommodation. With us on our course were six boys from St. Olave's School in London and six girls from Harrison Barrow Girls' Grammar School, Birmingham. On a quite separate art course at the same centre we also discovered Miss Chambers, who was the Headmaster's secretary until this Summer.

The next day we were called for breakfast at eight and at nine we were

instructed to go to the laboratory where we were given a lecture on the plant life of salt marshes. After this we were split up into groups of four or five and were told to don our gum boots and old clothes, we were then supplied with vasculums, ropes, measures and canes and taken to a salt marsh not far from the mill. Having arrived at our destination we split up and proceeded to collect as many different species of plant life as was possible, and make an accurate survey.

The second day was devoted to fresh-water biology, recording scientifically the names of animals found in Barn Creek and the percentages of various species with reference to the depth and flow of water and the plants in the vicinity.

On Saturday we went to Dodnash Wood, about five miles walk from the mill. We made a survey of the vegetation down a steep, overgrown slope to a pond. In the evening we recorded this day's work in the form of graphs. These showed the incline of the slope, changes of soil and its P:H (acidity or alkalinity). They also showed the different species of plants and trees occurring, and how their frequency and height varied in accordance with changing soil conditions, light intensity and other environmental factors.

The next day being Sunday, we thought we might be given a rest from ecology, but after breakfast we were split up into groups to make our own surveys without the help of the Warden or his assistants. On Monday, however, we made a very different outing, by coach, to Shingle Street in Hallesby Bay. Here there is a vast expanse of shingle stretching for miles along the coast. This coast-line is perpetually changing due to wave action, which piles up shingle with one wind and takes it away with another. A storm will throw the shingle up into a definite ridge, and there is a series of these ridges, starting near the sea and at intervals inland. We made a survey of several of these, beginning with a recent one and moving inland across older ones, identifying plants on each ridge and their frequency. From these results we could tell the order in which plants colonize a new ridge. Then in lagoons between ridges we were able to collect samples of animal life.

Our last full day was spent in making a much more detailed stream study. As we were supposed to be competent ecologists by then, we were expected to identify everything we found. As this last day drew to a close we were all rather sorry, for, even though the work had been quite hard, we had thoroughly enjoyed it. We are all grateful to those who made this trip possible, and look forward to showing the results of this week's work at the exhibition at the next Eisteddfod.

G. J. FREEMAN, U6Sc, Mb.
D. M. HOLDICH, U6Sc, Mb.
N. A. RATCLIFFE, U6Sc, Cc.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

A very successful meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 29th September, and Hall One was fuller than we have ever had it before. We had invited senior girls and staff from Mayfield and they provided the bulk of the entertainment. We were very grateful for the carefully prepared poems and songs which they provided for us in French, German and Spanish. Our contribution took a different form this time. Three members of the German Staff (professional etiquette prevents mention of their names) gave their interpretation of a scene from the German version of the Caucasian Chalk Circle. John Lally informs me that it bore no resemblance to the polished end-of-term production in English.

At the end of the summer term some fifth and sixth formers joined with Mayfield girls in putting on a dramatic reading of Labiche's comedy "La Poudre aux Yeux" at Sir Walter St. Johns.

Record Programmes got off to a rather slow start this term, due partly to uncertainty about the most suitable time. We hope to have had at least one meeting by the time this appears.

The latest venture of the society is a study group to work in conjunction with the broadcast Russian Course. It is not yet clear how this will develop.

A. M. LINCE.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL

Cromwell House extends a warm welcome to the new boys and staff who have joined the house this term. The list of boys is too long to print but the following are the new staff: Mr. B. E. Gant and Mr. E. Tomlinson join the Main School, and Mr. A. Mozley and Mr. B. P. Price join the Lower School. To all of them we wish a happy and successful stay in Cromwell.

There are a number of issues to clarify from last term. Our Cricket Captain, Michael Dodd, has left now, but he managed to lead our cricket teams against the other houses with complete confidence, and after our initial victory over Gibbon, hope ran high in the house. We were disappointed that in the end we only tied for third place. The result of the Swimming Gala was also a disappointment; Alan Styles put a lot of work into the organisation of our team, but our final position was only third. He will still be available to train them this time and we hope for a better result. Finally came the year's diligence total, and we found that in spite of some very good averages during the year we were only placed second. It used to be a tradition in Cromwell to win the Diligence Shield. Next year we must regain the position of first.

The next term began with a new system of appointing prefects. We must congratulate Mohan Adiseshiah on his appointment as second prefect this term; this is the second time we have had a senior prefect from Cromwell B in the last two years, Anthony Atkinson being last year's third prefect. The new system of prefects is now on a house basis, Cromwell's being organised by Nicholas Bishop for the Main School and Roger Newman for the Lower School. We congratulate all the officers who were appointed this term; a list of prefects, pro-prefects, cycle marshals and library prefects appears elsewhere in the Link.

You will most probably have read the comments on the school parliamentary mock election. Cromwell too had its own election by ballot, but this was for house officers. The results are as follows. The figure in brackets shows the number of votes gained.

Rugby Captain: R. C. Newman (80), Vice-Captain M. Adiseshiah (43).
Junior Rugby Captain: P. Larking (90), Vice-Captain: R. Perry (38).
Cross-Country Captain: E. G. Slater (123), Vice-Captain: R. S. Higgins (46).
Junior Cross-Country Captain: D. E. Hale (69), Vice-Captain: R. Perry (33).
Chess Captain: A. Bari (110), Vice-Captain: S. Hashmi (65).
Fives Captain: K. P. Nebbett (98), Vice-Captain: N. Ratcliffe (84).
House Recorder: A. E. Styles (85), Assistant: A. C. Hillyard (73).
Link Representative: N. C. Bishop (158), Assistant: R. A. Peacock (43).

The Diligence this term was very bad indeed; much more effort must be put into it. At the moment we are in third position. Next time we must pull up to first position.

On the 16th October there was a meeting with the Housemaster and Mr. B. ff. Williams of the Cromwell full prefects. A number of items were discussed, and the main decision was to start a newsletter. This will have appeared already and we hope that if anyone has anything of common interest to write about, they will present it to the housemaster for inclusion in the newsletter.

Next term we look forward to the Eisteddfod, and I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas, a happy New Year, and suggest we make 1960 a year for the school to look back upon and say what a magnificent year it was for Cromwell achievements.

NICHOLAS C. BISHOP, U6, Cb.

GIBBON

It is with great regret that we must bid farewell to our ever popular House Master, Mr. Elms. After 30 years spent in the service of the school he has almost become part of the fabric, and we know that his going will leave a great gap in Gibbon House. He has taken a personal interest in every member, shared in their successes, and commiserated in their failures. I feel sure that we will never forget this inspiring master who, we hope, will still take an interest in the Gibbon fortunes. Gibbon is very lucky in that Mr. Payne is to be our new House Master. Members already know how very approachable he was in his position as Deputy House Master and it will certainly not be his fault if we are not top House. This will entail some form of effort on the part of every member of Gibbon. It is not too soon to start thinking about your contribution to the Eisteddfod. Last year's competitors did well but they were let down by too few entries. Everybody can do something, and must make an effort this time for the honour of the House.

No athletic events have taken place so far this term, but we have some very good talent to call on and should do well in this respect. By the time this goes to press the Inter-house Cross-Country Race will have taken place. We have a good team entered, led by B. C. Brind, and we hope to mark this up as the first sporting success this year.

"Joey" never feels happy away from his rightful home, and all Gibbonites must strive to bring him back.

D. C. LLOYD, LVISc, Gd.

MORLEY

Congratulatons to D. M. Holdich on his well deserved appointment as House Captain. Congratulations also to J. C. Joiner and M. Golding on being appointed Vice-Captain and Secretary of the House.

For the first time for many years, Morley has won the Diligence Trophy. Well done, Morley. The house has at last made a determined effort to shake itself free from the traditional bottom place. But a word of warning: the first diligence award this term showed a return to the original standard. Perhaps this is due to the boys who have joined us from the lower school; but we must retain that trophy.

This season the prospects of the House in the Rugby competition are very good. We should be successful and win the shield.

As usual, R. Knight is having a difficult time in raising a junior and senior cross-country team from unwilling volunteers. Once the cross-country shield was regarded as being our own particular property, now we even have difficulty in raising two teams.

As a final remark, I would like to add that there were less than six entries from the house for the magazine. It is your magazine, so see that it can be published, and does not fail because of lack of contributions.

P. E. FRANCIS, Ma, L6Sc.

PITT

Although we must bid farewell to last year's Head Boy emeritus, Patrick Cassidy (Pc), the House has once more the honour of having the Head Boy, Anthony Berry (Pa). It seems that it is becoming quite the custom to choose head prefects from the best house! Berry is doubly honoured for his

academic and sporting abilities by being sole Head Boy for this year, when in the past few years, since the school expanded, two boys have shared the office. Moreover, of the three other senior prefects, both David Stewardson and Paul Gillingham are from Pitt. The House can be justly proud of these honours.

John Cousins, that very worthy member of Pitt B, becomes House Captain, under the new system of organising prefects on a house basis. He has the job of organising the many able full, sub- and pro-prefects of the House, whose names are listed elsewhere.

Another mark of Pitt's recent triumph is our successful effort in diligence, where this term we have again started with the highest average marks. Pitt are setting a high standard to the school, and will, I am sure, continue to do so for as long as the members of the House do not relax their efforts, but remain united and worthy of the green flash.

Turning to more routine House business, a number of House officials were elected at the first House Meeting this term. R. Hancock was elected cross-country captain, A. Berry as fencing captain, J. Cousins captain of fives, and P. Gillingham Rugby captain. J. H. Reynolds and R. P. Jackson share the honour of being chess captain. N. Berry and R. Sandford were elected joint junior cross-country captains.

On the subject of cross-country, I might mention that the House cross-country is about to be run on Wimbledon Common as I write these notes. Although we only came second in the overall result last year, I feel that our present senior team, three-quarters of whom have already represented the school, should certainly repeat last year's victory, and that it will depend only on a little more effort from our junior team to let us add the cross-country championship to our many honours.

In yet another sphere, that of the school play this term, I am pleased to see that Pitt House is well represented, and this certainly brightens the outlook for us in the drama competition of next term's Eisteddfod. We very much hope that newcomers to the House will be inspired by these past successes and hopes for this year to play their part in maintaining our high standards in sport and work and social activities.

P. M. T. GILLINGHAM, Pb, U6A.

SOME TALL STORIES

"It was so cold where we were," said the arctic explorer, "that the flame of the candle froze and we couldn't blow it out!" "That's nothing," said his friend. "Where we were the words came out of our mouths in pieces of ice, and we had to fry them to hear what we were talking about."

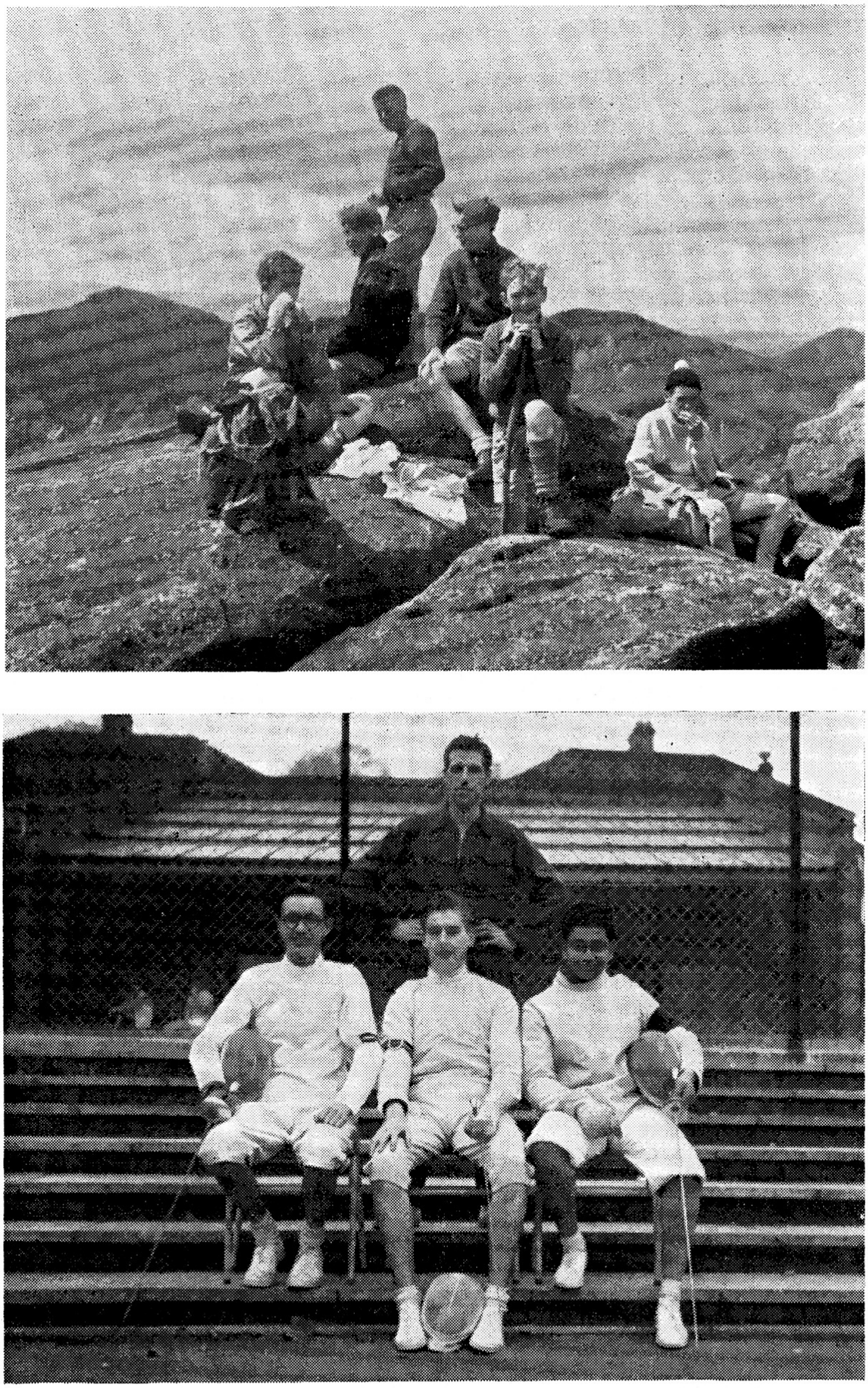
A sailor was once talking about his war-time adventures: "My destroyer was in the Green Paint Division," he said. "On deck we carried a stock of green paint, and whenever we suspected the presence of a submarine, we would circle round, pouring the paint on the water above it. Hearing our engines, the submarine would come up for a look; but, as soon as the periscope broke the surface, it would get a film of green paint on it, and the Captain wouldn't know he'd reached the surface. So the submarine would keep on rising. We used to wait until it was about five hundred feet up, and then shoot it down with our anti-aircraft guns."

M. CLOSE, 1 Delta.

FISH

Haddock are caught in a trawl,
Which in fact is surprisingly small.
They put out the nets,
And then they have bets
On which ship will get the best haul.

J. C. GRANT, G, Form 1.



Above : At the Summit — Some of this year's "Week in Industry" party in Scotland, on top of Goatfell in the Isle of Arran. *Photo : A. J. Laws*

Below ; First Foil Team, 1959. Standing : Prof. A. T. Simmonds. Seated ; A. J. R. Berry, N. C. Bishop (Capt.), A. Seniviratne. *Photo : R. Grant*

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Already this term we have had three meetings at school and one outing. We have been shown some very interesting slides by Mr. Marchington and Mr. McGill of the school journey to Saanen, and seen some fine pictures taken in Spain by Mr. Hall. A film about the boatmen of South China has also been shown.

The outing was by an unexpectedly small party, six boys and two masters, to Oxshott, on the 27th October. The sombre sky at Wimbledon was rather disheartening, but we caught the train to Esher, via Surbiton, in high spirits. From Esher Station we took a short cut through a narrow lane which led us towards Oxshott by way of a muddy brook and a level crossing. As we made the heavy climb up towards Oxshott and our lunch, we were delighted to find that the sun was shining. In the afternoon we walked across country (not without its hazards, in the form of angry dogs and fields of cattle), and crossed innumerable stiles, on our way to Effingham Junction, from where we headed for home after a surprisingly pleasing excursion.

R. D. CLARKE, Ga, F4.

1 E	2 R	3 A	4 S	5 E	▨	6 A	7 D	8 D
9 D	O	C	I	L	10 E	▨	11 R	E
12 G	E	O	M	E	T	R	Y	▨
E	▨	13 R	I	C	H	▨	14 C	15 M
16 D	17 O	N	A	T	E	18 L	L	O
▨	Z	▨	N	▨	19 R	A	E	S
20 C	O	W	▨	21 L	E	G	A	L
22 A	N	▨	23 A	▨	A	▨	24 N	E
25 B	E	G	U	I	L	E	▨	M

Solution to Crossword

HISTORY SOCIETY

We began this term with a full-length feature film: "The Winslow Boy," starring that great actor, now dead, Robert Donat. This film is faithfully based on Terence Rattigan's play which has in turn a basis in historical fact.

During the half-term holiday, a party braved downcast skies to visit St. Alban's and the Roman remains of Verulamium. We looked at everything one should look at, and borrowed the key from the stationer's to ascend the medieval clock-tower in the High Street.

At our next meeting, Mr. Lawrence E. Jones, the honorary lecturer of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, brought a selection of beautiful and instructive slides; we are always very grateful for such contacts with the world outside the classroom.

Though mainly a Lower School society, we shall again start our poster in the Main School to attract those boys there who would like to see our films and listen to our speakers.

J.H.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

At the end of last school year, we were sorry to have to say goodbye to R. M. Vincent-Townend, who had run the Society most efficiently for over a year, and brought us out of a somewhat large debt. His office has been taken over this year by P. R. Leverick, who has also been helped a great deal by three senior members: D. Richards, A. J. Laws, and A. Thorpe. The Society is still, of course, under the watchful eye of Mr. Hollis, whom we wish to thank together with Mrs. Hollis for their help throughout the term.

Up to the time of going to press, meetings have been based entirely on the theoretical side of photography. The emphasis has been mainly on simple cameras, flash photography and composition. These talks were followed by an outing to the Royal Photographic Society's Exhibition at Prince's Gate, to see how expert photographers put the theory into practice. During the second half of this term we shall be concentrating on the practical side of photography, and on portraiture. We hope to have a set of floodlights available for a practical portrait session.

Finally, I am glad to see the increase in membership this term—it shows that the Photographic Society is still " enlarging " !

P. R. LEVERICK, Mc, L6Sc.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY

Of the four schools affiliated to the society, Mayfield, Putney High, Sir Walter St. John's and Wandsworth, the turn has come for us to have the privilege of being the host school. Thus we must not only provide representatives, but also a chairman and a secretary. Earlier on in the term, P. Gillingham was named as chairman, M. Adiseshiah as treasurer, and D. Stewardson and M. Halsey as the two representatives.

At the committee meeting, held at Wandsworth, an interesting programme of events was drawn up for the current year. The pattern was much the same as last year, with two meetings a term, consisting of a social and a debate for this term; a half-day conference and a theatre visit for the Spring Term; and a lecture and a closing social for the Summer Term. It was also decided that, as the Society's funds were running low, the annual subscription for each member would be raised from 1/6d. to 2/-; but membership still is, I think, worth every penny of it.

The opening meeting, a social and dance, has already been held at Sir Walter St. John's School, and undoubtedly proved a success. I only hope that the good example of high attendance by our boys, will recur throughout the coming meetings, and that all these meetings will be equally as successful as last year's.

P. M. T. GILLINGHAM, Pb, U6A.

STAMP CLUB

It is very pleasing to report that the Stamp Club is becoming more and more popular, and we have now a larger membership than we have had for some time. A number of slides have been purchased from a photographic agency, on stamps from New Zealand and the United Nations, and on postmarks and the history of postage stamps.

I am glad to say that our loyal supporters from the lower school come regularly every Wednesday evening to room thirty-three, and we even have a few more collectors joining us from the main school. But I still hope to see many more faces coming to the society in the near future.

L. LEVENE, Pi, L6Sc.

THE RAILWAY CLUB

We rounded off last term with a very successful lay-out at the fête, which was once more larger and—we hope—better than previous lay-outs. This was made possible by the kind assistance of the Southgate Hobbyshop who loaned the track and some of the rolling-stock.

So far this term the club has met fairly regularly and attendances have been good. At the first meeting we showed two films of French Railways and outlined our plans for the year. The second meeting a week later we heard a short talk by R. C. Passenger on "Branchlines" and discussed the problems of a permanent lay-out for the club. The third meeting was filled by a quiz on railway and model-railway subjects. It proved to be very popular and successful although it ended in a near riot. The last meeting to date was addressed by Mr. Bacchus on "The Cornwall and South-Wales Branch."

With regard to the future, we hope to start our permanent lay-out within the next term and we are planning some visits to places of railway interest.

M. TAYLOR, 5Io, Gh, *Secretary*.

SIXTH FORM LECTURES

In conjunction with "The London School of Oriental and African Studies" the Sixth Form is having this term a series of three lectures the first of which took place on November 5th.

The talk was given by Mr. Gray, his subject being the causes of the Chinese Revolution. Starting with a brief description of the pattern that Chinese History had taken before the revolution, Mr. Gray explained how trade started between Europe and China and how opium had been introduced to the Chinese as a means of payment. After enumerating the difficulties China faced during the First World War, the speaker spoke of the rise of Sun Yat Seng and of later on, Mao-Tse Tung and Chiang Kai Sheck, ending the talk at the final overthrowing of the Nationalist Army.

This lecture made it clear that the Chinese Communist Government was not the result of sudden Russian intervention but the effect of a series of causes culminating in a convincing defeat of the Nationalists. What the future holds for China and how Chinese policy will affect us is something we wish to hear about in the coming lectures. We should like to thank the London School of Oriental and African Studies for giving us the opportunity of having these lectures.

P. T. LIBBY, UVISc, M.I.

CHESS CLUB

The promise displayed by last year's junior members of the Senior team has been fulfilled. They now look forward to a very successful season under the sound captaincy of J. C. Joiner. Already they have defeated handsomely Beulah Hill, 6—0, and Wallington Grammar School, $4\frac{1}{2}$—$1\frac{1}{2}$, and were unlucky not to beat Latymer Upper School (who were last season's London League semi-finalists) with whom they drew 3—3. Even greater things are expected of our Seniors, four of whom, J. C. Joiner, R. P. Jackson, A. Bari and A. W. Curtis have already been chosen to play against Kent in the Surrey County team on November 7th.

The Junior team has been unlucky to lose against Latymer and to draw against Wallington and we hope that they will produce a win in their next match. At the moment, however, nearly every Junior is prone to extreme carelessness and several games have been lost through foolish moves; this fault must be eradicated as soon as possible.

New members are always welcome at the club's headquarters in Aux. Hall 1, every Friday evening.

P.M.R.T.

COLTS CRICKET TEAM

In our last report of the Colts Cricket Team we had only played six matches, but so remarkable was the remainder of the season that it is well worth recording in some detail. It may be many years before we field a Colts Team of such quality as this again. In every department it was impressive, the excellent team spirit owed much to its modest, intelligent captain N. J. Haley, a prolific if unlucky batsman.

The team was never beaten, winning 11 games and having much the better of 3 draws.

Our own school Second XI was most soundly beaten in both matches that we played against them, even when they included several of the regular First XI players in the replay. Scores of 276 for 6 in only 2½ hours against Wimbledon Junior Technical College and 189 for 7 in 1½ hours against Wallington show how ruthlessly the opposing bowling was dealt with.

Only twelve boys played throughout the whole season and each made his own contribution to the performance of the team as a whole. J. K. Robertson not only made over 300 runs but switched to keeping wicket and was brilliantly successful at it. The most consistent of our battery of fast bowlers was S. England. Rarely does he give anything away and so aggressively and sensibly does he bowl that, given reasonable luck, he must improve his total number of wickets. C. Davison is one of the neatest, soundest batsmen that we have ever had—powerful off the back foot and fast between wickets. He was always terribly difficult to dislodge especially when things weren't going very well. B. V. Sandford's 30 wickets was a remarkable performance; he bowled innocent-looking spinners which everyone was convinced were so easy to hit out of sight until they actually tried to do so! He has a natural flight, fine control of length and consistently bowls to his field. Both as a bowler and as an opening batsman towards the end of the season, he improved with every match.

It is significant that these last three are not only the most improved players but also those who take their practice most seriously throughout the winter—cricket, more than any other game, leaves no room for complacency.

T. Smith and G. Waterhouse have great potential as all-rounders, the former still bowls his spinners too quickly to be effective and would do well to concentrate on his viscious leg-breaks, but his batting is built on such polished lines that he will soon become a prolific run-maker. Waterhouse will find that his intelligent swing-bowling will become a match-winning factor, although his batting style is still fraught with many hazards.

K. Bindon's bowling is very fast but often uncontrolled—if he would only practise enough to harness his great natural ability, he would be superb. J. Moore valiantly filled the rôle of opening batsman and rarely lost his wicket before a healthy total was reached. Latterly, with Sandford and Davison, he was forced to run hitherto ignored sharp singles and his scores increased accordingly. He hits the ball in the air rather too often but practice in getting his left foot nearer the pitch of the ball would cure this.

R. F. Alder can be a fine bowler, his final burst against Wallington won the match against the clock, although England started the rot by hitting the stumps three times in the first over! Incidentally this was the only bad declaration of the season and only superlative bowling by these two saved the day.

In his usual dependable manner R. Evans was scorer in every match and also made himself responsible for the baggage—an unpleasant task that he did with characteristic cheerfulness. We are all most grateful to him for relieving the rest of the team of this burden.

This was a wonderfully loyal team to work with. They played hard and practised conscientiously; there were no swelled heads and conduct and personal appearance both on and off the field were of high order.

What more could one ask for?

R.B.

RESULTS (*continued from Summer Magazine*):—

v. Sutton. Colts won by 111 runs.
Colts 120 for 8 dec. (Robertson 44, Waterhouse 25, England 26).
Sutton 12 (Binden 5 for 6, Waterhouse 3 for 1).

v. Elliott. Match drawn.
Colts 100 for 7 dec. (Davison 33).
Elliott 65 for 8 (Sandford 6 for 25).

v. Second XI. Colts won by 8 wickets.
Seconds 47 (Waterhouse 6 for 27).
Colts 49 for 2.

v. Mitcham. Colts won by 4 wickets.
Mitcham 36 (Sandford 4 for 12, Waterhouse 3 for 6).
Colts 39 for 6 (Robertson 20).

v. Second XI. Colts won by 26 runs.
Colts 101 (Pierce 22, Bindon 15).
Second XI 75 (Bindon 4 for 10).

v. Henry Thornton 2nd XI. (Rained off.)
Colts 102 for 2 (Moore 25, Sandford 20, Pierce 29, Davison 20).
Henry Thornton 46 for 4.

v. Wimbledon Junior Tech. 2nd XI. Colts won by 239 runs.
Colts 276 for 6 dec. (Moore 46, Davison 49, Robertson 54).
Wimbledon J.T. 37 (Sandford 3 for 7, England 2 for 13).

v. Wallington. Colts won by 140 runs.
Colts 189 for 7 (Haley 32, Robertson 40).
Wallington 49 (England 4 for 9, Alder 4 for 5).

R.B.

UNDER 14 CRICKET TEAM

The first team we fielded this season consisted mainly of 2nd formers and our opponents, Sir Walter St. John's, were all 3rd formers. They won by 8 wickets, after we had only scored 18 runs. However, in the second match our team was reinforced with more 3rd formers and we won after a really exciting finish. We scored 66 and Spencer Park had 58 for 9, the last ball of the match was to be bowled by J. F. Ellyatt, the batsman hit high and A. W. Curtis took a good catch. Curtis also scored a fine 26.

Versus Raynes Park we lost by 9 wickets. Against Sutton on June 6th we scored 91 for 8 declared and the visitors were 70 all out, T. Davies taking 4 wickets in 9 overs. At Raynes Park we played Elliott and lost by 8 wickets, with T. McNelly scoring 14.

Archbishop Tenison really gave us a surprise. After scoring 111 for 4 declared, we could only get one of their wickets for 112. Brown scored 32 and McNelly 42. Mitcham were fairly easy meat when they scored only 25. Three of our wickets fell for 25 and on the bowling side K. M. Bennett took 5 wickets. The next match was over in Essex on a boiling hot day. After scoring 64, our bowlers started but we were beaten with one minute to go, Ellyatt, Bennett and Brown took 2 wickets each, Bennett was top scorer with 17.

Henry Thornton beat us by 2 wickets after we had scored 34. The last match of the season, against Wallington, was drawn. We scored 115 for 7 declared, and the visitors were 91 for 8 at time. Ellyatt scored 56 and M. D. Bland took 4 wickets.

The team would not have had so much success without the help of our coach, Mr. McGill.

T. McNelly, F3, Mc.

FENCING

Captain: N. C. Bishop. *Vice-Captain:* D. Titheradge.

Since its last report the Fencing Club has had ten matches, of which all but one have resulted in victories for Wandsworth. Of these ten matches, four were against Public Schools, all of whom were convincingly beaten by a combination of 1st, 2nd and junior foil teams with assistance from the as yet newly tried, but extremely promising, 1st sabre and 1st epée teams

The last, and perhaps most important match of the summer term was against St. Paul's School, which Wandsworth beat for the first time in many years with the convincing score of 23 bouts to 14. In this match all three of the foil teams, i.e. 1st, 2nd and junior, won with the mutual score of 7 bouts to 2. However, the sabre team, having its first outing was severely beaten by 7 bouts to 2.

The first match of the autumn term, against St. Clement Dane's Grammar School, was the only match lost. Due to a miscalculation of the opponents' strength, a 2nd foil team was sent in place of a 1st. The result was thus an understandable defeat for the school by 8 bouts to one.

On the 17th October, five of the club's best teams travelled the 90 miles to Marlborough College for 1st, 2nd and junior foil matches, together with those of 1st sabre and 1st epée. The 1st and 2nd foil teams both won with the scores 5—4 and 6—3 respectively. However, the junior foil, 1st sabre and 1st epée all lost with the same score of 4—5. Due to the efforts of the 1st and 2nd foil teams, however, the overall result was a very narrow victory for the school by 23 bouts to 22.

A foil match against Brentwood was the next major victory for Wandsworth. The Club fielded 1st, 2nd and junior foil teams, all of whom won with the scores 9—0, 7—2, 7—2 respectively. The final result was thus a victory for Wandsworth by 23 bouts to 4.

The resounding victory of 29 bouts to 7 over Harrow School on the 27th October, marked the peak of fencing prowess so far attained by Wandsworth School. The teams fielded were 1st and 2nd foil, 1st sabre and 1st epée. All four won with the scores 7—2, 8—1, 7—2, 7—2 respectively. This match is especially notable as the 1st sabre and epée teams, having only their fourth match, inflicted heavy defeats on Harrow by both winning by 7 bouts to 2.

On the 24th October the school entered eight fencers in an open tournament at Harlow. Being the only school to enter, our fencers were faced entirely by adults, and thus we were lucky only to lose six of our members in the early pools. D. Titheradge and R. Butler did well to reach the semi-finals and finals respectively. R. Butler finally took 5th place with Mr. G. King, a member of our fencing staff, coming sixth.

Boys who have fought well and consistently in matches throughout the term, and who thus deserve special mention are: N. C. Bishop, A. J. R. Berry, D. Titheradge, R. Burt, R. Seneviratne, R. Butler, D. Pratt, M. Burness, R. Young.

In recent months the captaincy of the Club has twice changed hands. The former captain and vice-captain N. C. Bishop and A. J. R. Berry, decided in collaboration with Professor A. Simmonds, to vacate their positions in preference to younger Club members. These positions were then assumed by D. Titheradge and R. Burt. However, it was soon felt that D. Titheradge had not been given sufficient training that would enable him to assume such a responsible position, he therefore suggested that N. C. Bishop should once more resume the post of captain, and that he should go into a period of training as vice-captain. R. Burt continued in his capacity as secretary.

For next term we have made tentative arrangements for a triangular match between Wandsworth, Harrow and Marlborough, and for matches with Cambridge University, the County of Kent, Sandhurst Cadets, Camberwell and R.A.F. Hulton. We hope that, if we are as successful in our matches next term as we have been this, we will be able to claim that we are one of the strongest fencing schools in the whole country. If this

comes about it will be entirely due to the teaching and efforts of Professor A. Simmonds and fencing staff.

The Club as a whole would like to use this opportunity to formally welcome Mr. J. D. Glasswell, a Cambridge fencing blue, to the school staff as a whole, and particularly to the Fencing Club, where his advice and experience have already proved most valuable.

R. BURT, L6Ec, Mb.

ATHLETICS

We must apologize for the omission of any athletics report from last term's " Link." This report now covers the whole season.

South London Grammar Schools:

The preliminaries for this meeting were held on 5th May at Tooting Bec, and as usual we were well supported by our middle distance runners, and rather let down by field events and sprints. The following performances deserve mention: *Junior section*—E. M. Müller, 2nd 100, 1st hurdles; S. W. England, 2nd 220. *Intermediate section*—A. K. Jefferies, 2nd hurdles; J. Halliday, 2nd 440; A. Dailey, 1st 880. *Senior section*—G. L. Wilson, 1st 440; E. Slater, 2nd 880.

The finals were at White City on 11th May. In spite of our hopes, we did not win the Gibson Shield, though the performance of the Under 14's, who came 2nd, was more encouraging. The Under 16's came 9th and the Over 16's 8th, giving us an overall position of 5th, which was an improvement of three places on the previous year. The best single performance of a Wandsworthian was G. L. Wilson's equalling of the senior 440 record (52.9 secs.).

The following other boys gained placings:—

In the *U14 section:* E. M. Müller, 1st hurdles, 2nd 100; S. W. England, 3rd 220. In the *U16 section:* A. Bailey, 2nd 880; R. Newark, 4th high jump. In the *O16 section:* P. L. Friedlander, 2nd long jump, P. Gillingham, 3rd javelin; E. Salter, 2nd 880.

We also congratulate other boys who were not placed but gave a good performance.

Holt Cup:

This was the seventh meeting of six London schools, held at Tooting Bec on 13th May. In the end we came 2nd, runners-up to Purley by 31 to 25. The following gained individual placings: R. Newman, 2nd long jump; P. L. Friedlander, 3rd long jump (these two combined gave us 1st position); J. H. Reynolds 6th, L. Woodcock 7th and B. C. Brind 8th in the mile team race (good packing here made us 2nd overall); and we were 2nd in the Continental relay (660 E. Slater, 440 G. L. Wilson, 330 H. Shivers, 220 P. L. Friedlander, and 110 A. R. Nicholls).

Wandsworth District Sports:

This meeting, an annual meeting of about 22 boys' and girls' schools from the Wandsworth area, was held on 29th May. Our school, I am sorry to say, lost the Junior Cup for the first time in the history of this meeting, though we managed to retain the Intermediate. The most outstanding performance was D. B. Newark's high jump of 5ft. 3ins., putting him first and breaking the U15 record. The following were placed in this meeting:—

Junior U13: M. J. Byers, 2nd 220. *Junior U14:* P. Larkin, 2nd 100; S. W. England, 1st 220; N. Berry, 2nd 440; E. M. Müller, 3rd hurdles. *Junior U15:* V. Hancock, 2nd 440; R. Vincent, 2nd hurdles; D. B. Newark, 1st high jump; K. Bindon, 2nd javelin; B. P. Jones, 1st discus; R. H. Brennan, 2nd shot.

Intermediate U16: J. Basham, 2nd 220; A. Dailey, 2nd 440; J. Halliday, 1st 880; A. K. Jefferies, 2nd hurdles. *Intermediate U17:* A. R. Nicholls, 2nd 100; P. L. Friedlander, 2nd 220; H. Shivers, 2nd 440; E. Slater, 2nd 880; H. Reynolds, 2nd mile; M. Norman, 2nd long jump; M. Golding, 1st

H.S.J.; R. Knight, 3rd discus; J. Bankhead, 1st pole vault; T. Harnley, 2nd pole vault.

As a result of this meeting, the following boys were picked to represent Wandsworth in the All-London Schools Athletics Match: U15—V. Hancock, D. B. Newark, R. Vincent, K. Bindon, B. P. Jones, R. H. Brennan; and U17—A. R. Nicholls, P. L. Friedlander, H. Shivers, E. Slater, H. Reynolds, M. Golding, J. Bankhead and T. Harnley. We must especially congratulate R. B. Lambert, who, after his fine effort in coming 2nd in the U16 mile in the London Schools match, was picked to represent London in the All-England Championships.

Match v. Elliott:

For this match on 24th June we joined with Mayfield against the boys and girls of Elliott. Mayfield lost against the girls, but we had a resounding victory over the boys' team, by 262 to 204.

Inter-House Sports:

This year's Sports' Day was a great success, partly because of the warm, sunny weather. Standards of performance were good, especially in middle distance races, where four well-established records were broken. First places in the main events were gained by:—

K. Munday, U15 mile; K. Munday, U15 880; M. Sullivan, U16 mile; J. Halliday, U16 880; H. Reynolds, O17 mile; G. L. Wilson, O17 880; P. Friedlander, O17 100; R. Newman, O17 long jump; D. B. Newark, U15 high jump.

Outstanding performances were put up by Friedlander, who ran the 100 yards in 10.4 seconds, breaking the oldest school record, and Wilson, who won the Shapcott Cup for the third time in succession. In the battle between the houses, Pitt finally emerged the victors a few points ahead of Gibbon, with Morley third and Cromwell fourth.

E. SLATER, Cb, L6Sc (*Capt. Athletics*).

JANUARY

January, middle month of winter,
How aloof in cold neutrality you seem.
Nature dead, lies sleeping.
To neither Spring nor Autumn do you lean
And yet if sun should dare to beam,
All is alive in memories of Summer.

E. J. PETTENGELL, 5Th, Mh.

TENNIS

The season finished at the end of the Summer Term with a match against the masters, and an enjoyable afternoon's tennis resulted in a win for the masters by 6 events to 3. The school team was: A. Bari and R. Müller, R. H. Jones and B. A. Jarvis, A. W. Liszka and A. C. Hillyard, and playing for the masters were Messrs. Guttridge and B. M. Williams, Jonathan and B. F. Williams, Coate-Bond and Birch.

Several matches were played towards the end of term and better form was displayed than in earlier matches. The game against the Elliott School resulted in a win for Wandsworth, and the team only lost by a narrow margin in matches with Raynes Park and Henry Thornton.

The following boys represented the school during the past season: P. Cassidy, R. Müller, A. W. Atkinson, A. Bari, H. C. Hillyard, B. A. Jarvis, C. M. Fogg, B. A. Jones, R. H. Pritchard and A. J. Liszka.

FIRST XV RUGBY

Captain: D. M. Holdich. *Vice-Captain:* B. A. Eadie.
Hon. Secretary: D. A. Stewardson.

The sun and warm weather may have pleased the cricketers, but it upset the opening of the 1st XV season; the ground has been like a rock, and the first three fixtures were cancelled. The team has, however, trained hard, gaining enthusiasm and skill. The chance came on Saturday, 10th October, when we waged our annual battle against Bec School. This proved a very good match indeed. The school played well, but lacked cohesion between the forwards and backs. This weakness proved fatal and the school lost this first game.

The following week the same team was fielded against another traditional opponent, St. Olave's School. This also proved a very hard game, with scoring rather slow. Although the pack had the upper hand in the tight scrums, the three-quarters did not see enough of the ball. This, I am afraid, also resulted in a loss, by five points to six.

Now to turn to more encouraging news. Earlier in the term, D. M. Holdich, B. A. Eadie, W. F. R. Fuller and A. R. Nicholl were selected to take part in the trial for the Surrey Schools XV. This in itself deserves a great deal of praise. More than praise is due to Fuller, who succeeded in receiving a place in the county side. His hard and diligent performance, as scrum half, has not only given him personal glory; it has help to enhance the name of the school in the rugby world. I mentioned earlier a lack of combination between forwards and backs, but I think that we have no doubts for the future, now that we have the Surrey scrum half in our team. This, combined with the team's enthusiasm, and the devotion of Mr. Birch to the task of training it, augurs well for the rest of the season.

Finally, I would like to announce the details of a combined 1st and Colts XV tour of the Thames Valley during the last week of the autumn term. The teams plan to play three matches as follows:—

Monday, 14th December v. Windsor G.S.
Tuesday, 15th December v. Maidenhead G.S.
Wednesday, 16th December v. Lord William's G.S.

D. A. STEWARDSON, Pa, U6Sc.

JUNIOR RUGBY: PENZANCE TOUR

Our Under 14 and Under 13 Junior teams left for Penzance this half term with a fine, growing reputation among London schools for fast, open Rugby. Both sides had been training vigorously and it was their superb fitness which enabled them to complete a tough programme of four matches each in five days.

Against Newquay Grammar (Won 54—0) and Truro Public School (Won 37—0), the forwards of the Under 14's were soon on top and allowing the backs to give a wonderful exhibition of running and passing. In the other two games the pack were faced with much stronger opposition, and were not able to give the same chances to our strong back division. The Under 14 game with Penzance Grammar (Lost 3—17) was made very tough by a gale with hail, a pitch sloping in three directions, and the inclusion of some of their Under 15 team in Penzance's side. Our team were holding on well to be only 12 points down at half time, and kept the Penzance boys on their 25 line for much of the second half, but with the exception of a typical try by P. Larkin, we could not break through. Our Team learnt from this match how slow they were onto a loose ball and how dangerous a fast, determined runner could be if not strongly tackled. The final Under 14 match against Falmouth Grammar (Won 14—0) was another tough fight against a strong, fresh pack. Our forwards played superbly and later their

superior fitness put them well on top. They fiercely seized opportunities to score and endeavoured to provide our backs with the ball, though an injury to E. M. Müller and some suspect tactics by the Falmouth wing-forwards prevented many three-quarter movements. The first and last tries came as the result of strong running, first by M. D. Bland, then by E. M. Müller, who sped along the wing, ably supported by M. W. Flower at the crucial moment. This was a fine try and a fitting climax to the Tour.

It might appear unfair to mention individuals in this team, when all who played had their moments of glory and had played themselves to a standstill by the end of the fourth match. But the others in the team would readily agree that it is upon Larkin among the forwards and Müller among the backs that the success of the team is really based.

The Under 13 team, though unbeaten in their first year and a half at Rugby, had really only a potential reputation. But their fitness, quickness on the ball and deadly tackling proved themselves in each of four victories. Against Newquay (Won 35—3) the forwards quickly established their superiority, and won nearly every set scrum, while the three-quarters saw plenty of the ball, even if their inexperience prevented them from using every opportunity. Against Penzance (Won 14—3) they were contending against dreadful weather and a sloping pitch, which accounts for their being 0—3 down at half-time; but in the second half, in spite of some rather partial refereeing, they crushed their opposition, aided by attacking diagonal kicks. Against Truro (Won 17—6) the pitch was perfect and the referee impeccable, and this was really the highlight of the tour. We just deserved our lead of 8—3 at half time, but the Truro pack were playing hard and their backs kicking well in defence, so that even at 11—6 the game could still have gone either way. However, Wandsworth's speed in snapping up a loose ball told, and two quick tries clinched a most enjoyable game. The whole team crashed into their Falmouth opponents for the last game (Won 14—6), and had scored all their points before half-time. There might have been an even larger score had the off-side rule been more strictly observed. In the second half our boys were obviously tiring, but they held their opponents down to two tries, while their first-half lead had given them the victory they deserved.

The Under 13's tremendous team spirit has been the main foundation of their success. All played their part, but G. Wood, who led his steam-roller pack magnificently, and A. Christou, who place-kicked and ran superbly, deserve individual mention.

At the celebration dinner which marked the end of our visit, the Mayor of Penzance and members of the Rugby Union Committee paid due tribute to the excellent standards displayed by our boys both on and off the field. The Kenegie Hotel and Country Club, which was our headquarters, gave us an excellent reception, and its management and staff deserve as much praise for the attention they gave us as does Mr. J. G. Morris for his first class organisation of the whole tour.

The Under 13 party was composed of: G. Wood, J. Snell, D. Marshall, C. Williams, M. Coward, M. Mundy, M. Atack, A. Nash, A. Thompson, J. Tizzard, A. Boyd, R. Weeks, G. Shaw, R. Whanslow, R. Brunger, P. Dodd, A. Thomas, B. Powell, A. Christou, J. Bookless and C. Haupt.

The Under 14 party was composed of: P. Larkin, E. Müller, E. J. Kaley, D. W. Gentle, P. R. Warnham, R. Barrett, M. D. Bland, M. Flower, B. L. Flanders, R. W. Scrivens, M. Whitmarsh, P. Fletcher, M. R. Bender, R. J. Holden, R. Taylor, R. F. Perry, P. F. Comer, J. R. Poole, R. C. Herbert, C. J. Lewis.

P.M.R.T.

Footnote

Since the above report was written, our Under 14 team have gained further honours by beating Dulwich College handsomely, in our first ever fixture, by 41 points to nil.

SWIMMING

Success was achieved throughout last year's swimming programme. We finished first in both senior and junior sections of the Wandsworth District Schools' Championships and second in the London Grammar Schools' Championships. Towards the middle of our programme, we, as Wandsworth District Champions, challenged Pelham, Wimbledon District Champions, to a match in which we finished decisive victors, losing only four out of the eighteen races. In the Wandsworth Borough Gala, the school members did well in securing three cups and many medals. During last term's Summer Fête, there was a three-sided swimming contest between the school's senior team, the school's junior team and an Old Boys' team. After a keenly fought match, the results showed a win for the school's senior team, with the school's junior team second and the Old Boys' team third.

During October our junior relay team, consisting of J. Moore, B. Jones, T. Coglan and G. Cramp, qualified for the final of the All England Schools Championships. They had done well to reach the last six out of the fifty-eight schools from all over England that entered the trials, but they did have the slowest recorded time of the final six. For the final we replaced Cramp by G. Bridges and eventually won the hard-fought final, which was a really magnificent achievement for our school.

Throughout the year, Moore, Jones and Coglan have been very successful individually and, with Cramp, as a team. Cramp and J. E. Pinnock, although not so successful with their swimming, have been very successful with their spring-board and firm-board diving respectively. Cramp finished second in the London Schools Spring-board Diving.

For their performances in the Wandsworth District Schools' Gala, Jones, Moore and Coglan were picked to represent Wandsworth Schools' junior team, whilst P. Everton, D. Goddard and Pinnock were picked to represent Wandsworth Schools' senior team. This is a good achievement to have six from our school in the possible twelve.

Other boys who have been loyal to the school's swimming teams are B. Mandry and J. H. Reynolds for the seniors and Cropper, Pattinson, Atack, Herbert, Fletcher, Bellamy and Harris for the juniors.

In the Royal Life Saving Society's Examinations we were successful in obtaining 33 bronze medallions, 12 bronze crosses and 4 awards of merit.

J. PINNOCK, L6Sc, Pb.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Match v. Kingston Grammar:

The 1959-60 season commenced with a convincing victory over Kingston Grammar School at Tattenham Corner on September 19th. First to start, in excellent weather conditions, were the juniors; and we were pleased to see that on the first lap of the 1 mile circuit all our scorers were well up. On the second lap, K. Munday the eventual winner, put on the pressure and passed V. Hancock and P. Beard, both of whom had previously been leading and who finished 2nd and 3rd respectively. The senior race of three times round the 1 mile circuit followed. Although the seniors did not have the first man home, they nevertheless ran very well as a team and had the scoring five in the first six. The first three seniors home were B. Brind, J. Halliday and L. Woodcock finishing together in joint second position.

Road Relay:

The school entered a team in an under sixteen 4 x $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles road relay at Finsbury Park on October 3rd. The team, consisting of K. Munday, P. Beard, V. Hancock and J. Halliday, running in that order, all did well, but they were forced into third place by Luton Hare and Hounds and Queen's Park Harriers, two strong athletic clubs. We were, however, the first school home and beat no less than thirteen other clubs, including

Mitcham and Belgrave. P. Beard, who is still under fifteen, ran an excellent time of 7min. 8sec. which was only 2 seconds behind J. Halliday, who did the fastest time for the school.

Triangular Match:

The most important fixture of the season, so far, was against two strong cross-country schools, Wallington and Sutton County; this was held at Wallington on October 21st. The 2½ mile junior course was along ¾ mile of road then one lap of a park, on grass, including going once through a stream. The juniors started first and after the ¾ mile of road, our scorers were already dominating the race. The team, captained by J. Halliday, led the field for the remainder of the race and finished with the first seven home out of 24 runners, an excellent performance of which they can be proud. The individual positions were: 1 J. Halliday, 2 D. Hale, 3 K. Connor, 4 P. Beard, 5 K. Munday, 6 V. Hancock, 7 N. Haley.

Meanwhile the 4 mile senior race, consisting of ¾ mile of road, then twice round the park and twice through the stream had already started. R. Hancock had got away to a good start and was with the leaders on the first lap of the park. A. Dailey, making up a lot of ground on the second lap, ran very well to finish second to the Wallington Captain. The seniors again running a good team race, filled the following six scoring places, thus gaining a well deserved victory. The individual scoring positions were: 2 A. Dailey, 3 L. Woodcock, 4 R. Knight, 5 B. Brind, 6 H. Reynolds, 7 R. Hancock.

Inter-House Cross-country

Training for the School Cross-Country, under the house captains, was carried on enthusiastically by those who made the effort to turn out to practices, but the house spirit of previous years seemed lacking among many boys. The race was held over Wimbledon Common on Friday, November 6th, in rather cold but pleasant conditions. The junior race made a fast start with D. Hale (C) and P. Beard (M) in the lead. The pace being too fast up the long climb to the lodge, for some runners, put them well in the rear and the leaders were able to further increase their lead on the fast stretch to the Windmill. P. Beard (M), running very strongly, entered the playing fields with a comfortable lead over D. Hale (C) and ran on to win in fine style. There was a short gap and then a string of runners led by R. Lambert (P) were seen making their last effort to gain an extra position. R. Lambert held his position through the water-splash and finished third followed closely by F. R. Nicholls, T. McNie and R. Hobbs (all of Cromwell) and R. F. Sandford (P), still in the third form, a fine performance.

The senior race started at a brisk pace and straightaway E. Slater (C) went into the lead along by the brook closely followed by A. Dailey and R. Knight (M), R. Hancock (P), J. Halliday and B. Brind (G). The lead changed on the hard climb to the lodge, where H. Reynolds (P), A. Dailey and R. Knight (M) had applied the pressure. On the fast stretch to the Windmill, L. Woodcock (G) caught up with the leaders and also J. Halliday (G) started to move up. The assault on the " defile " by R. Knight (M) followed by L. Woodcock(G) gave them a slight lead and they continued to " battle it out " for first position, but L. Woodcock (G), putting in a tactical burst at the right moment, came through the water-splash the winner for the second year in succession. J. Halliday (G), last year's junior winner, continuing to move up, finished third, an excellent performance in his first school cross-country as a senior. A. Dailey, finishing 4th, also ran extremely well.

RESULTS

Junior: 1 P. Beard (M), 17min. 44secs.; 2 D. Hale (C), 17min. 54secs.; 3 R. Lambert (P), 18min. 22secs.

Senior: 1 L. Woodcock (G), 18min. 38secs.; 2 R. Knight (M), 18min. 42secs.; 3 J. Halliday (G), 18min. 51secs.

HOUSE RESULTS

Junior: 1 Cromwell, 96pts.; 2 Morley, 115pts.; 3 Gibbon, 167pts.; 4 Pitt, 168pts.

Senior: 1 Morley, 98pts.; 2 Gibbon, 110pts.; 3 Pitt, 130pts.; 4 Cromwell, 216pts.

Combined Results :

1 Morley, 213pts; 2 Gibbon, 277pts.; 3 Pitt, 298pts.; 4 Cromwell 312pts.

Gibbon thus relinquished the championship to deserving champions Morley, trained expertly by R. Knight.

I would like to add that in the senior race the first seven boys, all of whom are in the school team, beat the course record. The results of the school cross-country are most pleasing and I hope that the school team will continue with the winter's hard gym training ahead and have an even better season than last year.

L. S. Woodcock, U6Ec (*Captain*).
P. Beard, 4Rho (*U15 Captain*).

FIVES REPORT

Although three of last year's fives team left last term, replacements have been found and the team has already obtained eight points towards the Marchant Cup. Under the captaincy of N. A. Ratcliffe, a member of last year's team, various combinations of players were tried, the final pairings being Ratcliffe and C. M. Fogg, and J. H. Cousins and P. T. Libby.

The first match was played at Henry Thornton where the School did well to win six games to two, Ratcliffe and Fogg winning all their games. Then the following day we had a home fixture with Stroud School. This resulted in a convincing victory for Wandsworth, the School winning all the games with a points total of 120—19.

I should like to take this opportunity of encouraging younger members to take up fives. It is often forgotten that Wandsworth School has some of the finest fives courts in London.

P. T. Libby, UVISc, MI.

BASKETBALL

Captain: R. Hancock. *Vice-Captain:* M. Golding.

Scorer: D. Stewardson.

Up to the writing of these notes, the school Basketball team has only played three matches, not, I am afraid to say, with much success, having only been able to win one.

The reasons for the two defeats are not very hard to find: the loss of five of last year's team was a great drawback, and after having to get a team together in a week, it is not surprising that the first game was lost. Then, with the lack of time to practise, the second fell through. But after this the team were able to come together in their dinner hours and the results of their efforts were seen in the third match, in which they defeated a strong team from Spencer Park.

The team consists of: R. Hancock, M. Golding, A. Nicholl, B. Jones, R. Jones, M. Grant, D. Goddard, D. Snare, and R. J. Pooley.

Several more fixtures for this term have been arranged, and I have hopes that we may be able to win a great proportion of them.

RESULTS:—

Glynn County School (Home)	11—48	Lost
Sutton Grammar School (Home)	42—57	Lost
Spencer Park (Home)	46—29	Won

R. H. Jones, L6G, Ma (*Secretary*).

THE THREE WITCHES

There is a house upon the hill;
Three witches live there still.
They all have cupboards full of bats,
And many green-eyed cats.

They had a cauldron and some rice,
In which they mixed two hundred mice,
They also mixed eight wings of bats,
And eyes and heads of forty cats.

J. STURGESS, 1 Nu.

BOAT CLUB

Splash! and on a fine June day last term, history was made by the first crew of the newly-founded Wandsworth School Boat Club who floated on the far from inviting waters of the Thames in their boat for the first time, and struck out bravely in a vague attempt to copy their superiors in the art of rowing.

Up to the time of writing this report we have concentrated on seamanship, boatmanship and learning the basic skills of rowing. In the future we hope to become accomplished enough in the art to be able to compete against other schools and, we hope, maintain Wandsworth School's reputation.

Amongst sax-boards, riggers, buttons, stretchers, slides, thumb-screws and all the accoutrements of rowing, Mr. Fagan and Mr. Hanson reign supreme! We note their anxiety to spare our feelings on the water, and if we are sometimes tempted to think that their added weight in a light boat adds not a little to our already hard work, we could never dream of voicing our opinions!

Already we are learning to recognise familiar landmarks on the river: Fulham Football ground, opposite the splendid new boathouse, Hammersmith Bridge, Chiswick Eyot, Barnes Bridge. The surprising thing is that they appear to be differently spaced on the row home; and Hammersmith Bridge itself, I am convinced, can actually move!

We look forward to the day when, with increased skill, we will be able to view more distant bridges from our new vantage point; and, too, to the day when we first turn our thoughts to reaching one of these bridges faster than another crew!

The members of the Boat Club are: R. Cleall, M. Eagle, R. Francis, D. F. Hanham, M. C. Halfacree, D. Lufflum, J. A. Morris, A. Mason, B. Clarke, G. Clarke, P. Godden, K. R. Moore, D. Angier, R. Ward, K. White, G. Cramp, P. Royer, P. Walker, R. Rothschild and K. Lund.

J. MORRIS, Mb, 5Ep.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

I was very pleased to have the opportunity of welcoming the parents of the new boys at the Tutorial "At Home" on the 2nd of October. The attendance was very good indeed, and the enthusiasm that was shown, apart from evidencing the very keen interest of modern parents in the various facets of their children's education, must certainly have been an encouraging demonstration to the School Staff. The association of the "eternal triangle" of parent, school and child must obviously be based on the goodwill and enthusiasm of each of them. The child looks to the school for his education and to the parent for encouragement. He expects his parent to take a lively interest in his educational progress and also to support and attend the various functions of the School itself, and of the Parents' Association. Where this natural interest is lacking it takes a strong-charactered boy indeed to maintain

that hundred-percent keenness that is so necessary if he is to enjoy his own association with the School to the full.

However, from the way in which the new parents responded, I feel certain that a really worth-while link has been forged between themselves and the School Staff. Unfortunately, the demand for the "National Parent-Teacher Bulletin," offered for sale after that meeting, was so great that a number of parents were disappointed.

I was also very pleased that my appeal for "new blood" in your Council was taken up, and I was approached by several interested parents who wished to be nominated. Your Council consists of fellow-parents who feel it their duty to do a little more than just send their children to school. They want to take a more active part in their Council's activities, to have a say in the manner in which our funds are allocated for the children's benefit, and to help organise and assist at our various social and other functions. In due course forms for "self-nomination" will be circulated to all parents, and I confidently look forward to a good response.

The second Tutorial "At Home," on the 9th October, for the parents of the other boys, was also a success, and the "Brains Trust" which followed made first class entertainment—as well as food for thought. The sage responses of the older boys contrasted with the impish views of the younger one. Amidst all the good humour various points for reflection emerged and one felt that the boys' answers to the very pertinent questions were sincerely, if often naïvely, made, and I, for one, see no sign of "decadence" in the younger generation.

The catering arrangements during the two Tutorial "At Homes" were very capably marshalled by Mrs. Finch, supported by the ladies of her catering team. It is very easy to vote our thanks on paper, but in sincerely thanking these ladies we must all remember that they work very hard to provide us with refreshments at these and other functions, and this very necessary chore is very often taken for granted.

In my terminal letter at the close of last term I paid tribute to the long and loyal service of Mr. L. C. F. Smith. As this old comrade adamantly refused to accept a personal presentation, your Council has unanimously agreed to purchase a teak garden seat, have it suitably inscribed and present it to the School so that our acknowledgment of his service may be perpetuated.

We were very pleased to hear of the recent marriage of our fellow Council Member, Mr. T. Carr, and we wish him and his wife every happiness.

How large a school should be before its Parents Association decides that it needs an organ is a moot point. Certainly the bigger the establishment the "bigger" one should think. The acquisition of such an instrument is something that your Council have considered for some time. Now they feel justified in commending the project and ask you to view it in the light of its merits. Those of you who have heard the School Choir will readily agree that the string and piano accompaniment, although cleverly rendered, is far from being the perfect foil to the quality and power of the singing. An organ has majesty and authority, and the particular instrument that has been selected, although reasonably priced, has a very wide range of tone mutations. The occasions on which an organ may be played and the educational uses to which it may be put are many and, after great deliberation, your Council have agreed to support this really worth-while project in a practical way.

K. G. KIRALFY (*Hon. Secretary*).

OLD BOYS' NOTES

Rugby Club

Whatever may be the state of affairs when these notes are read, at the moment of writing them the 1st XV are enjoying good fortune at the begin-

ning of the season. Those who follow our results in the National Press will have seen that, as in several seasons past, we have a respectable credit balance as regards both points and wins. Four XV's are now fielded regularly, and a particularly pleasing aspect is that more boys still at school are playing with us than ever before. We are glad to be able to offer games to keen school players from time to time, and we hope that this early contact with us may lead them to adopt regular membership when their school days are over.

Weekly Club Night

It is a real pleasure to be able to report that our attendances at the Wednesday evening club night are now considerably greater than a year ago. In addition to the increased use of the facilities of a Wednesday, our Badminton Section enjoys the School on Friday evenings. For the fact that, in spite of the L.C.C. Evening Classes now held at the School, we are still able to continue these amenities, our thanks are due to the Headmaster and L.C.C. authorities for so safe-guarding our interests.

Annual Dinner

The date of our next Dinner has been arranged for Friday, 22nd January, 1960, and it will be held, as before, at the "Victoria" in Buckingham Palace Road. Association members will be advised further in this connection in due course, and it is hoped that attendance will live up to last year's record figure. Members of the School Staff, please note.

A New Venture—The Drama Group

Due to the efforts of a few enthusiastic members, an embryo dramatic group has come into existence, and we commend this to all Old Boys who may have interests in this direction. With the keenness and imagination that has already been shown, it only requires suitable backing from prospective performers, stagehands and other technicians to make this latest activity flourish. There has long been a need for such a section as this within the Association and we do hope that it may find the necessary support. All enquiries, please, to: J. St. C. Chafen, 8, Chillerton Road, S.W.17.

Old Wandsworthians Prize for Academic Achievement

It is a recurring pleasure to feel that the Association is able to provide some small tangible reward to a boy whom the Staff select as having accomplished an outstanding piece of work, and this year our warm congratulations go to G. W. Willis for gaining this distinction.

The Sportsground

It is to be hoped that these Notes are read by all subscribers to the Link, and not only by Old Boys, for they provide an ideal means of notifying our friends in other branches of the Wandsworth School "family" as to the latest position at the Ground. Throughout the summer work has gone forward at Claygate and the pavilion and out-buildings are nearing completion. A determined onslaught is to be made well before Christmas on the interior painting of the pavilion, after which it will be ready to receive the soft furnishings which are already lined up. Working parties are still needed on Sundays and anyone who is able to get along will greatly assist this final spurt to "put our house in order." Although much fuller details will, of course, be made public at a later date, it is perhaps not out of place here to give preliminary news of the formal Opening Ceremony to be held next year. Although by the time this takes place the ground will have actually been in use for more than a year, the Association wishes to assure its friends that the deferment of this great occasion has been absolutely necessary.

By virtue of its very nature (and the title is, of course, The Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Ground) and in consequence of the several organisations connected with the School which have been jointly instru-

mental in making the ground a reality—the Association wish the opening to be worthy of the occasion, and to embrace all interested parties. It has therefore been felt that, although use has been made of the ground in its raw state, the Opening Ceremony should not be contemplated until both buildings and ground are in a proper condition for such a function to be held there.

A sub-committee is now engaged in formulating plans for the Opening, which will include a Dedication act by a distinguished Old Boy, and in which the School, the Governors, the Parents Association, the Lodge and the Association can join together. To emphasise the "family" nature of the sportsground it is intended that the Official Opening will be followed by rugby matches between the O.W's and the School, and in order to allow for this the date envisaged for the Opening will be early in September, 1960.

We sincerely trust that in the light of these remarks the other parties to this great venture will appreciate just why this ceremony is so necessarily delayed.

All enquiries concerning Membership of the Association should be addressed to D. C. Ferne, 124, Sutherland Grove, S.W.18, whilst information regarding the Association at large may be obtained from D. D. Grant, 2, Conway Road, West Wimbledon, S.W.20.

D.C.F.

The LINK is published three times a year and can be obtained for 1/9d per copy, or 5/- per annum (three issues) Post free, from The Treasurer, The Link, Wandsworth School, Sutherland Grove, S.W.18. We regret that rising costs have made this increased subscription unavoidable.

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