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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AUTUMN ISSUE : THURSDAY 5th NOV.

Please hand in your contributions by that date — before if possible.

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 JULY, 1959 No. 2

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

This year's Parents' Cricket Match will go down in the annals as the inauguration of Cricket on the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Sports Ground. It was a happy and generous gesture on the part of the Old Wandsworthians to offer the use of their new ground for the annual cricket match, Parents v. Boys. A number of them had to work very hard to prepare this first wicket. That it could be done at all was surprising since the field was sown with grass only eighteen months ago.

Parents who took advantage of the occasion to pay their first visit to the Memorial Sports Ground were impressed with the site and its pleasant woodland surroundings, with its suitable shape and lay-out for three Rugby pitches and a cricket square, with the pavilion and its amenities, above all with the building work and field work that the Old Boys had largely carried out themselves.

Great praise is due to the smali group of enthusiastic Old Boys who had the courage and enterprise to set about this great undertaking. It is now up to all Old Wandsworthians, the School, and the Parents to reinforce the project. It has all the makings of a splendid ground: it is reasonably accessible, much more so than might have been expected; it is an increasing asset, and future generations of Wandsworthians will praise the foresight and adventurous enterprise that secured and developed it.

The cricket match was a family occasion. Apart from the game and tea in the Pavilion, the younger children had a happy excursion and enjoyed their day in the country.

Mr. Kiralfy has now succeeded Mr. Mundy as Secretary of the Parents' Association. In thanking Mr. Mundy for his willing and cheerful work for the Association and for his ready and friendly co-operation with the School and Staff, I should like on behalf of both Parents and School to extend our best wishes to his successor.

When Mr. L. C. F. Smith intimated to the Parents Council that he was resigning the Social Secretaryship, an office he has so notably filled for so many years, we were all very much concerned. Few people realise the great amount of time and energy that Mr. Smith, and I must add, Mrs. Smith, have willingly given to the onerous task of arranging and carrying through the many social events that the Parents' Association has come to expect. This is the place to record our appreciation of the work of the Social Committee. But it is upon its Secretary that the responsibility ultimately falls. Realising from long experience on the Committee that to succeed Mr. Smith would be no sinecure, Mr. G. Woodcock, O.B.E., nevertheless volunteered to be nominated for the job, which of course carried with it his election. Retrospectively we thank Mr. Smith, prospectively, Mr. Woodcock, with warm appreciation to both for their public spirit.

Thanks to the Parents' Council for the purchase, refurbishing and mounting of a ceremonial sword now designated as the School's Fencing Trophy.

The Fencing Club has enjoyed a number of triumphs this year as no doubt will appear in their report.

I should like to congratulate R. F. Perry of 3 tau upon winning the Junior Championship of the London Schools.

J. F. Atak, P. H. Everton, D. H. Mackenzie and R. H. Towers, members of Mr. S. Smith's Life Saving Group, have recently won the Award of Merit of the Royal Life Saving Society. This is an advanced test, and the boys are to be warmly congratulated.

I was interested to receive the following note from Mr. Walter Clarke, Governor of the School, and congratulate the boys concerned:

"In the Spring Meeting of the Wimbledon Park Golf Club on May 10th, 1959, Alexander Wilson won the Wimbledon Park Golf Club Challenge Cup with a 1st and 2nd round of 62 and 66 net scores off a handicap of 13, which now has been reduced to 10.

"On the following day, John Wilson won the Coronation Cup with a net score of 64 off a handicap of 10, now 8.

"Both these were major competitions and there was a field of 60 or more."

High credit is reflected upon our Cross-Country Club by the striking fact that, of the boys selected to represent London against the other S.E. Counties in the Junior and Intermediate Races, more than half were Wandsworth boys.

It will therefore come as no surprise that in a recent inter-school fixture, both the Senior Team and the Under-13 Team finished in the first eight places.

Congratulations to Pitt House on its remarkable achievements in this year's Eisteddfod. Of the six sections into which the Eisteddfod is divided, Pitt came first in four and second in two. Though second to Cromwell in Drama, it transpired that Pitt performed their House Play on the Open Day. It was a pity that unforeseen circumstances robbed Cromwell of their due but it was a happy "accident" for Pitt.

It was an innovation to transpose the public performance of the winning play from the Eisteddfod Concert to the Open Day. The advantage was that Mr. Burgess and the School Choir and Orchestra were given more scope at the Concert, much to the enjoyment of those attending.

On a later occasion, the Parents' Annual General Meeting, the School Semi-Chorus with Mr. Burgess as conductor and commentator gave great pleasure to a much smaller but equally appreciative audience.

We read with pride and pleasure in the "Church of England Newspaper," that an Old Wandsworthian, the Very Rev. J. A. H. Waddington, Provost of St. Edmundsbury, was recently invested by the Archbishop of Canterbury with the Lambeth degree of Master of Arts, and may henceforth wear, by traditional right, the red silk hood of the Archbishop's own University —Oxford.

The paper then goes on to say that the Provost has gained the reputation of being a "live-wire," and among other things has completely re-modelled the Cathedral Church Magazine, adding "the Provost's Diary" and an interesting selection of diocesan features.

A letter I recently received from Ronald Sweeting, who after a distinguished career in the R.A.F. has settled in Australia, is of such interest to Wandsworthians generally, both "Old" and present, as well as to parents in their Association, that I have had relevant passages printed elsewhere in this issue.

Another Old Wandsworthian now settled in Queensland called at the School last term. He is Conrad Gardner who, emigrating comparatively late in life ten years ago, has already made his fortune in tea.

Congratulations to Robert Massey, who left us last year from Mr. Gee's department, upon the award of the first prize in a poster competition organised by the Festival Committee of the Stevenage Youth Advisory Council.

His design is to be reproduced in colour for display.

Here is an interesting entry from our Visitors' Book—interesting because it was made by the former Minister of Education of the U.S.S.R. who is now President of the Soviet Academy of Pedagogical Science. Translated it reads:

"We were profoundly impressed with the school. Its management and equipment are extremely good and it must be one of the best in England in this respect: In the school there is a most interesting organisation to promote the standard of work. We thank the Headmaster and wish him and his staff success in their work."

For gifts to the Library I should like to thank Miss Chambers and Messrs. Chambers, Clark, Hall and Levy, and also the following boys: J. R. Bunce, M. A. Burriss, G. W. Cooper, T. J. Edmonds, P. Hope, B. Jarvis, R. J. Rolph, P. Royer, and R. Vincent-Townsend.

In addition, Mr. Batts has made a "permanent loan" of over 70 French books.

May I suggest that all boys should have the idea of leaving a permanent memento of their schooldays in the shape of a gift to the Library before they leave.

We shall all be exceedingly sorry to say good-bye to Sir Richard Acland when he leaves us at the end of this term to take up his appointment as Lecturer at St. Lukes College, Exeter. He has been at Wandsworth during the most eventful five years of its history and his contribution to its scholastic and social life, its applied humanities and pastoral work, its confraternity and fellowship, have been a good deal more than he would claim and, I venture to say, far more than he is likely to imagine.

We are also losing a valuable colleague in Mr. Gush who has received an attractive appointment in Ghana. Mr. Gush has worked with great energy and enthusiasm to help build up a fine Engineering Department during his three years here. Promotion to a responsible post at the Royal Masonic School has come the way of Mr. V. C. Matthews, of whose prowess in the field of international athletics boys and parents are doubtless aware.

We wish all three masters well in their new spheres. They will all be much missed. With a staff of almost one hundred we must expect that professional advancement will take a noticeable toll each year.

A word of appreciation to Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Mathew, and Mr. Crawford who came temporarily at short notice to fill the serious gap in our Mathematics Department left by the departure of three mathematics masters last Christmas.

In spite of the scarcity of Mathematics and Science teachers, we have been able to add 5 mathematicians, 3 physicists, and a biologist to the permanent staff for September.

The following have been appointed Library Prefects: D. Alison (Mb), P. Francis (Ma), S. Keen (Pb), J. Lally (Ma), L. Levene (Pc), R. Rolph (Pg), G. Ryan (Gb), M. Turner (Mb), K. Veal (Ma), R. Weymouth(Cd); and the following have been appointed Cycle Marshals this term: W. Austin (Cd), G. J. Filbey (Ga), and M. Morgan (Gb).

EDITORIAL This is the last editorial I shall write for The Link: indeed, my school career will just have ended as you read these lines. After six years spent at Wandsworth I find myself full of memories, mostly pleasant, for they are the ones that stay most vividly in the mind. Other memories, although rather painful at the time, now turn out to be incidents which were not so disagreeable after all, and which were absolutely essential in the life of a schoolboy. Nostalgia and sentimentality are emotions which are abused by many people, but I find that life is so much more enjoyable if one occasionally indulges in them. In any case, how could I brush aside these memories, and make myself believe, for example, that the first night of a School Play is no longer important to me? How could I possibly forget the satisfaction of standing amongst the cast at the end of the play, basking in the applause which was being showered on us all? Is the feeling of terror and panic upon missing a cue and standing there on the stage in the full glare of the lights waiting for the prompter, an event which should be pushed back into the deepest corner of the mind and never brought to light again? I do not think so, for I cherish every moment of my school career,

realising that it will never be repeated.

Wandsworth has been to me a second home. I say this with my chin up high and with no other feeling but pride. If some boy reading this should sneer, saying that the School is rather a counterpart of another famous institution, also situated in Wandsworth and clearly visible from the top corridor in the main block, then I advise him to leave as soon as he can, for his memories will be bitter ones.

Perhaps I may be allowed to tell you a little about my life before coming to this school. I arrived in Britain in 1948 as a displaced person, after years of wandering around the world. Soon after the outbreak of war in 1939, the Russian forces descended upon Poland with the purpose of liberating it from the Germans. They came to our house at 3 o'clock in the morning, and with a considerable brandishing of rifles, gave us an hour to pack our belongings. We were to be " liberated "—to Siberia.

After some months of travelling by lorry, train, but mostly on foot, together with countless others, we arrived near the Mongolian border. The Russians, firm believers in the equality of the sexes, promptly made the women work on the building of railways. There were no tea-breaks during the sixteen-hour day, and the mid-day meal was barely enough to stave off the pains of hunger.

It would be difficult to give a short account of all those years of misery, tears and death. One thing, however, must be mentioned, and that is the kindness of the Russian peasants. They were no better off than we were, and yet their kindness and their understanding about the things that we had lost, and they had never possessed except in their dreams, was very touching. There was no greed and selfishness, nor the feeling that because they were suffering, we ought likewise to suffer!

After two years in Siberia, my family was taken across the Caspian Sea to Persia; from there to Iraq, then India, and finally to East Africa, from where, after a stay of seven years, we came to Britain. We had lost all we had possessed, and now we were to rebuild our lives, and adapt ourselves to new customs. In that rebuilding, for me personally, Wandsworth School has played no small part.

That sums it all up, I suppose. The details I cannot possibly include, and can only leave them to your imaginations. Millions of people died there in Russia, from disease, starvation, exposure, and from over-work. Others survived, physical wrecks for the rest of their lives. The only thing that has kept many of them alive is their fervent belief in God.

Most boys at Wandsworth, if asked, would say that they believe in God, but few have ever thought seriously about this, and even fewer follow the teachings of a religion. It is very surprising, and, in my opinion, extremely regrettable that this should be so. I admit that nearly everyone goes to Assembly, sings a hymn, and mutters a prayer. The majority do this because it has become a convention, and not because they believe in it. If more thought were given to religion, particularly at school (because the effects are far more lasting there) I feel sure that the citizens of tomorrow would be a vast improvement on the citizen of today. Hooliganism and crime in general would be on a far smaller scale. Racial hatred and colour discrimination would be non-existent. It is a terrible thing that man should hate man because of the colour of his skin.

My days at Wandsworth have been happy ones, and I would like to thank every master that I have come in contact with, particularly my tutor, for the help that I have been given. It is not possible to calculate the benefit that I have received from them, and I can only extend my sincere "thank you."

There will be many things that I will be able to reminisce upon in my years ahead, not the least being Editor of The Link. Or the occasion when the now retired Mr. Ascher, chasing a boy in the old school during a French lesson, got stuck in a desk . . . Or the time when, having made a sarcastic remark in a Latin lesson to a certain master still at the school, I found myself dazed, very much shaken about, and completely mystified as to how I had come to be in the corridor outside . . .

I am looking forward with great enthusiasm to the new life which I am about to begin. But at the same time I am sorry, very sorry, to be leaving Wandsworth School.

J. W. TARKOWSKI, Pa, U6 Sc.

EISTEDDFOD, 1959 Once again, with a welter of activity, Wandsworth School has shown itself to the public. And, once again, the visitor was left with an overwhelming impression of enthusiasm and skill.

The annual Eisteddfod has grown out of the earlier hobbies exhibition. It has become a successful combination of house competitions in nearly every cultural activity in which schoolboys indulge; a public exhibition of the work of the school; and an opportunity for the famed school choir to perform again before school and public.

MANY ACTIVITIES

On the evening of Thursday the four Houses acted their plays in the grand hall. On Friday there was an exhibition of the work and activities of the school. On Monday the winning items in many of the sections of the Eisteddfod merged with the choir to produce a very stimulating concert.

For weeks before this hundreds of boys, out of normal school hours and with no direction from staff, were preparing entries. Plays, music and public speeches were rehearsed; poems and stories were written; models were made and paintings painted. Parents suffered interminable requests for costume material, props, advice and criticism. Inter-house rivalries became acute. Even members of staff became more explicit and emphatic in the infusion of their house loyalties.

HIGH STANDARDS

The standard of entries was surprisingly high. In almost all sections the adjudicators had difficult tasks in deciding winners. The art department was flooded with entries which took hours to judge, and the models section was equally popular. Where quantity was less, quality compensated. The senior public speaking attracted about a dozen entries, but the winners would have shamed many of our professional public speakers.

A very encouraging feature was the fact that entries poured in from all sections of the school. The grammar school tradition and enthusiasm has been absorbed and expanded by the comprehensive school; its spirit survives, enhanced and strengthened. It has lost nothing and gained a great deal because it is shared by so many.

THE CONCERT

Russell Burgess, the school's senior music master, scored another triumph; the school choir once again excelled itself. The two major items, Parry's "Blest Pair of Sirens" and Vaughan William's "Te Deum," were performed with genuine skill and understanding. "Bobby Shafto," sung twice, the second time at a really cracking pace, nearly brought down the roof.

Ian Cobb, senior violin winner, played with sensitivity, and George Willis was most impressive at the piano. A minor triumph was scored by the third former Crosthwaite who, after only a year's training, gave a sincere rendering on the trumpet of "Where'er you walk." The concert was enlivened by a repeat performance of Cassidy's humorous prize-winning speech about nothing in particular or in general.

Mrs. H. R. King, wife of the headmaster, presented the headmaster's trophy to Pitt, the winning house, and the Mayfield Cup to Cromwell, the winners of the drama competition.

FENCING

The fencing club gave a thrilling demonstration of its skill, and in gymnastics the following is a fourth former's impression of the display: "Flying angels, short arms and long legs over the box; human pyramids which collapsed at a signal, hand springs and head springs, through vaults and astride vaults."

Science demonstrations included the striking back power of a bunsen burner, the extraction of argon from the air, the making of pure alcohol from yeast, the extraction of dye and the use of static electricity to light a bunsen.

Exhibits in the biology section included germs and dissections. Engineering machinery and equipment of the department was seen in use by boys who handled the complicated and rather frightening apparatus with ease and ability, and the intricate and immense model railway attracted its usual quota of enthusiastic fathers and sons.

ENGLISH

A fascinating exhibition of the work and activities of the English department attracted much attention. Tape recorders, records, coloured slides, form magazines, model theatres and a mass of other materials representative of more solid achievement paid tribute to the enthusiasm and enterprise of this department in all parts of the school.

P.G.S.

RESULTS

SECTION I: MUSIC

Violin (elementary): P. D. Hodges, M. C. Bellamy, G. R. Davis. Violin (intermediate): R. H. Jones, B. V. Sandford, M. G. Coysh, F. J. Shaub. Violin (advanced): I. A. Cobb, K. A. Gerry.

Piano (elementary): B. V. Sandford, R. D. Clarke, M. A. Lee, P. Rainer, R. R. Hughes. (Intermediate): T. Davies, K. A. White, I. Cross, B. L. Sawyer. (Advanced): I. A. Cobb, P. B. Adams. (Special): G. W. Willis.

Broken voices: P. N. Cassidy, G. W. Willis. Altos: B. V. Sandford, M. C. Coysh, J. A. Lally. Bass: D. G. Crosthwaite, M. P. Mitchell, D. T. Snell, B. L. Sawyer. Unbroken voices: M. A. Viner, E. Smallbone, K. Stratford, R. Martin, D. T. Snell. 'Cellos (Elementary): C. M. Fogg, C. Brightley. (Intermediate): J. Lally.

Miscellaneous: J. Breuilly, P. D. Hodges, D. M. Eden, K. A. Gerry, A. L. Hasson. Trio: B. C. Brind, G. W. Willis, L. S. Woodcock.

SECTION II: LITERARY COMPOSITION (JUNIOR)

Short Story: J. C. J. Sobczak, N. Berry, K. Lewindon. Poem: J. Hart. Intermediate: Essay: M. C. Bellamy, J. R. Smith. Story: E. T. Pettengell. Poem: R. C. Pearson. Senior—Poem: G. L. Rowe, R. J. Fennell, A. Reisman.

SECTION III: SPEECH

Speech Choir: Morley, 20; Pitt, 15; Gibbon, 10; Cromwell, 5.

Solo Reading (Senior): M. Adiseshiah, A. W. Atkinson, P. N. Cassidy, L. B. Levene. (Intermediate): M. C. K. Kane, G. R. Davis, A. J. Laws, E. T. Pettengell. (Junior): I. Cross, R. T. Poturicich, M. Wizla, G. Sylvester-Evans.

Solo Reading (French): D. A. Bateman, S. Harper, P. D. Hodges, I. Donno, D. P. Nathanson, D. T. Snell, R. C. D. Simons, R. C. Pearson, R. C. Newman, P. M. T. Gillingham, P. N. Cassidy, N. C. Bishop.

Solo Reading (German): K. Martin, R. Martin, M. McNelly, K. Faithfull, S. Harper, K. F. Brown, R. W. Matthews, M. D. Ruben, D. P. Nathanson, T. J. Easton, R. W. Vincent, P. M. T. Gillingham, Friedlander, S. R. Kneebone, R. Van Goethem.

Public Speaking (Senior): P. N. Cassidy, S. J. J. Tyson, J. A. Bull, A. W. Atkinson.

SECTION V: ART

Junior: Painting: P. Hardy, N. J. Lee, C. Wyborn, R. Malcher, K. Barker, S. B. Pooley, R. Morris, A. Payne, C. Cowles, R. Harris, C. Rowling, C. Rollason, R. Sullivan, R. Pain, S. Mills, J. Robinson, I. Tilley, E. Nall, A. Sieracki.

Drawing: R. Weeks, L. G. Walker, P. de Ritis, J. Gaze, D. Moorhouse, R. Sullivan, K. Whiddett, M. Hutchinson, D. Poturicich, R. Holloway, B. Elmes, P. Tassinari.

Handwriting: J. Thoday, M. D. Peachey, B. Bradley.

Intermediate (Painting): R. E. Benting, D. Baulk, D. R. Botson, L. Quilter, P. H. Champness, R. Gilles, D. Andrews, M. J. Wherrett, S. J. Miller, G. Paul, R. E. H. Barnes, M. Maule, P. Mansfield.

Drawing: J. Smith, C. Brightley, D. Hillman, A. Hillyard.

Handwriting: D. Thorne, D. Halsey, C. Bird, R. C. D. Simons, E. V. Elliott, S. Nandanwar, I. A. Newman.

Senior (Painting): S. E. Tilly, D. Crook, B. Jarvis, L. S. Woodcock, D. E. Firth, P. Proops, R. H. Towers, S. J. J. Tyson.

Drawing: M. H. Passmore, R. A. Young, D. Parker, B. A. Jarvis, D. H. Ball.

Handwriting: R. L. Jones, J. E. Pinnock, S. Rowe.

Paper Mosaic: D. Sutehall, P. Burton.

Section VI: HOBBIES (MODELS)

Geographical: P. Fletcher, I. Peters, D. Hunt. Historical (Junior): J. C. J. Sobczak, R. Morris, R. Lamb, R. Malcher. Intermediate: D. A. Stagg, F. Verazzo, B. J. Townsend, T. C. Vooght, T. L. Baily. Scientific: M. Jacobs, M. Ogilvie.

Miscellaneous (Senior): R. A. Van Goethem. Intermediate: K. P. A. Newcomb, I. F. Falconer, D. Baulk, C. J. Smith, F. Spooner. Junior: P. Burton, J. Bell, M. S. Thomas, D. J. Whettett.

Boats (Junior): A. Mole, R. J. Smith, J. McCardle, D. Thacker, J. Clifton. Intermediate: I. Falconer, E. C. Thomson, D. Richards. Senior: B. Jones, L. S. Woodcock.

Aeroplanes (Junior): P. M. Wingate, H. Stilwell, A. Locke, J. Metcalfe, D. Askley. Intermediate: P. Champness, C. Corton, S. G. Chapman, D. J. Bryan, H. Brocklebank, P. M. Etgart, A. M. Howard, R. D. Bell, M. Taylor. Senior: B. W. Jones.

Photography (Senior): R. M. Vincent-Townend, D. E. Reeks, C. J. Roach, P. R. Leverick, P. D. Haydon, R. E. Baker. Intermediate: D. W. Richards, J. K. Robertson, J. E. Elson, K. R. Moore, M. C. Hudson, D. R. Brown, T. R. I. Haynes. Junior: M. North, C. Smith, C. Pearson, R. J. Perry, R. E. Brooks, G. Hills.

Stamp Collections (Senior): R. Muller, L. R. Levene. Intermediate: L. D. Parry, B. M. Farrow, Adhami, M. C. Bellamy, C. M. Fogg, J. G. Harris, D. R. J. Ainscough, D. A. Stagg, E. V. Elliott, McQuillan, J. M. Neaser. Junior: P. Goldsmith, K. Lewindon, F. G. Best, R. W. Carter, G. R. Williamson, G. Wood.

Stamp Collections: Thematic or Specialised (Senior): Grant. Intermediate: P. J. Strangeman, J. E. House, H. P. Wendland. Junior: G. J. Russell, E. M. Muller.

Drama: Cromwell, 40; Pitt, 30; Morley, 16½; Gibbon, 13½.

Total points: 1, Pitt; 2, Morley; 3, Cromwell; 4, Morley.

WANDSWORTH BEAUTIES

In the highlight of their three-day annual Eisteddfod, the Inter-House Dramatic Competition, Wandsworth boys once again showed their talent for assuming feminine charms.

Each House puts on an Act or Scenes, without help from any adult, and a visiting team—this year, Miss U. S. Brodie of Whitelands College, Mrs. H. R. King and the Rev. F. A. Preston (an Old Wandsworthian)—pronounce judgment. The marvellous resources of stage and lighting in the Great Hall were exploited, and the general effect of sets and period costume was colourful. There was nothing half-hearted about this dressing up.

Shaun Tyson and Roger Vincent-Townend produced Gibbon's "The Deception of Mrs. Malaprop" from Sheridan. Unfortunately, Geoffrey Ryan's no-bosomed Mrs. Malaprop failed to gain many laughs. She was played with our national understatement, whereas she is a figure larger than life. Robert Dirs's Lydia Languish was distinguée enough to turn any young

man's fancy in Spring! Also in the cast were Tyson playing Captain Absolute, Roderick Pooley, a Manservant; and John Dawkins, Sir Anthony Absolute.

For Morley, Robert Knight gave us an attractive desert island complete with palm-trees, out of Act Two of "The Admirable Crichton." Too attractive, for although clothes were ripped, legs were clean. Keith Robins as Crichton made a famous entry with black waistcoat over his naked torso, yet later he was sadly to fluff his lines. The Ladies Mary and Agatha Lasenby were embodied with pretty veils and torn petticoats by John Lally and Gilbert Edgeley. Julian Neaser was sufficiently sulky as the Hon. Ernest Woolley. Anthony Laws played Lord Loam, John Morris—the Rev. John Traherne, and Leonard Hayes—Tweeny. Barry Wagstaff was responsible for this scenery.

Nicholas Bishop (also Gadshill) and Roger Newman, produced for Cromwell "The Gadshill Robbery" ("Henry IV: Part 2"). Ronald Bone's Falstaff grew solidly with the play. Anthony Atkinson's Prince was clearly enunciated if too mobile. Poins was John Bull, who gave an admirable demonstration of spitting, so popular that it was twice repeated. This production had many little touches which peopled a world, such as the fire being lit unobtrusively by the Hostess (Robert Ashall) and the sack being served. Shakespeare did not lose his humour in the hands of these players. Mohan Adiseshiah played Bardolf and Stephen Bush, Peto. Also in this cast were: Stephen Mehlmann, Stephen Kneebone, Daniel Nathanson, Geoffrey Clarke, Richard Ward, Malcolm Bessent, William Bowles and Alan Peacock.

Finally, for Pitt, Paul Gillingham (also Lady Bracknell) and Jan Tarkowski (also Algernon Moncrieff) produced Act One of "The Importance of Being Earnest." This Algernon in yellow waistcoat was deliciously mature. Lawrence Levene's Jack Worthing would have gained from hearing the record of Gielgud in the part. It was a romp and had none of that mock gravity indispensable for the role. This Lady Bracknell was bigger than the earlier Mrs. Malaprop. It was a pity her "Handbag!" was drowned in the interviewing scene. Roger Jackson played a dreamy-eyed Gwendoline. Special mention should be made of A. R. Nicholl's Manservant, excellently played at very short notice. Wilde's dialogue was keenly appreciated by the audience.

When judgment came, Miss Brodie pointed out that the principal aim of the player should be to serve the dramatist and to be prepared to sink his own individuality in the creation. Order of merit was given as: Cromwell, Pitt, Morley and Gibbon, which won general approval. The Judges then spoke backstage to the cast, a more enlightened proceeding than last time when boys who had given their heart and soul were openly castigated!

J.H.

ROMAN HOLIDAY "Walk towards me!" cried Mr. Makin, as his camera began to whirr. And we walked: down the sun-bathed steps of St. Peter's, and up the snowy slopes of the Klewenalp; around the open corridors of the Coliseum, and along the graded banks of the Olympic stadium; into the wine cellars of Frascati, and out of the Etruscan tombs of Cerveteri; over the steps of the Victor Emmanuel monument, and under the chilly waters of the April Mediterranean . . . French, Swiss and Italian landscapes had flashed past our carriage windows, Rome had resounded to our Cockney shouts, and the white walls of the lakeside resort of Brunnen had been temporarily enlivened by splashes of Wandsworth maroon—and the splashes, too, of the boy who fell in the water . . .

It all started at Victoria Station. When I arrived there, I could not help feeling very excited at the thought of myself visiting, in a few days' time, the great historical and religious city of Rome. Nearby, a group of good-looking happy schoolgirls (later to become more than strangers to some of us) waited patiently also for the Folkestone-Calais train.

Soon our party, with many others, boarded the train, and after we had

all waved and blown kisses at our parents, the train left. The Channel crossing was rapid and enjoyable. At Calais we boarded the large continental train in darkness, and settled down in the spacious compartments to an enjoyable—and sleepless—night.

Early next morning we arrived at Basle, on the border between France and Switzerland, and stopped there for a short time to have a typical continental breakfast of rolls and coffee. After this we continued our journey through Switzerland, passing beautiful scenery of steep pine-covered slopes, dotted here and there with chalets, standing in the meadow-land which swept down into the deep valleys.

We arrived in Brunnen just after mid-day, in time for lunch at our hotel, which faced beautiful Lake Lucerne, set amongst mountain ranges. During the rest of the afternoon we bought souvenirs, or rowed on the lake at very low cost. But the most thrilling experience I had was with three other friends, when we went up a mountain in a cable car. We had a simply marvellous view of the lake and surrounding mountains. After tea, early to bed was Mr. Makin's order, for we were to catch the early morning express next day for Rome.

Soon after six I had to leave the warmth and comfort of my bed, and in no time we were leaving Brunnen, its good food and scenery. But there was so much to look at on the journey, that no-one was bored. The train was again large and comfortable, and the sun shone most of the time in a lovely blue sky.

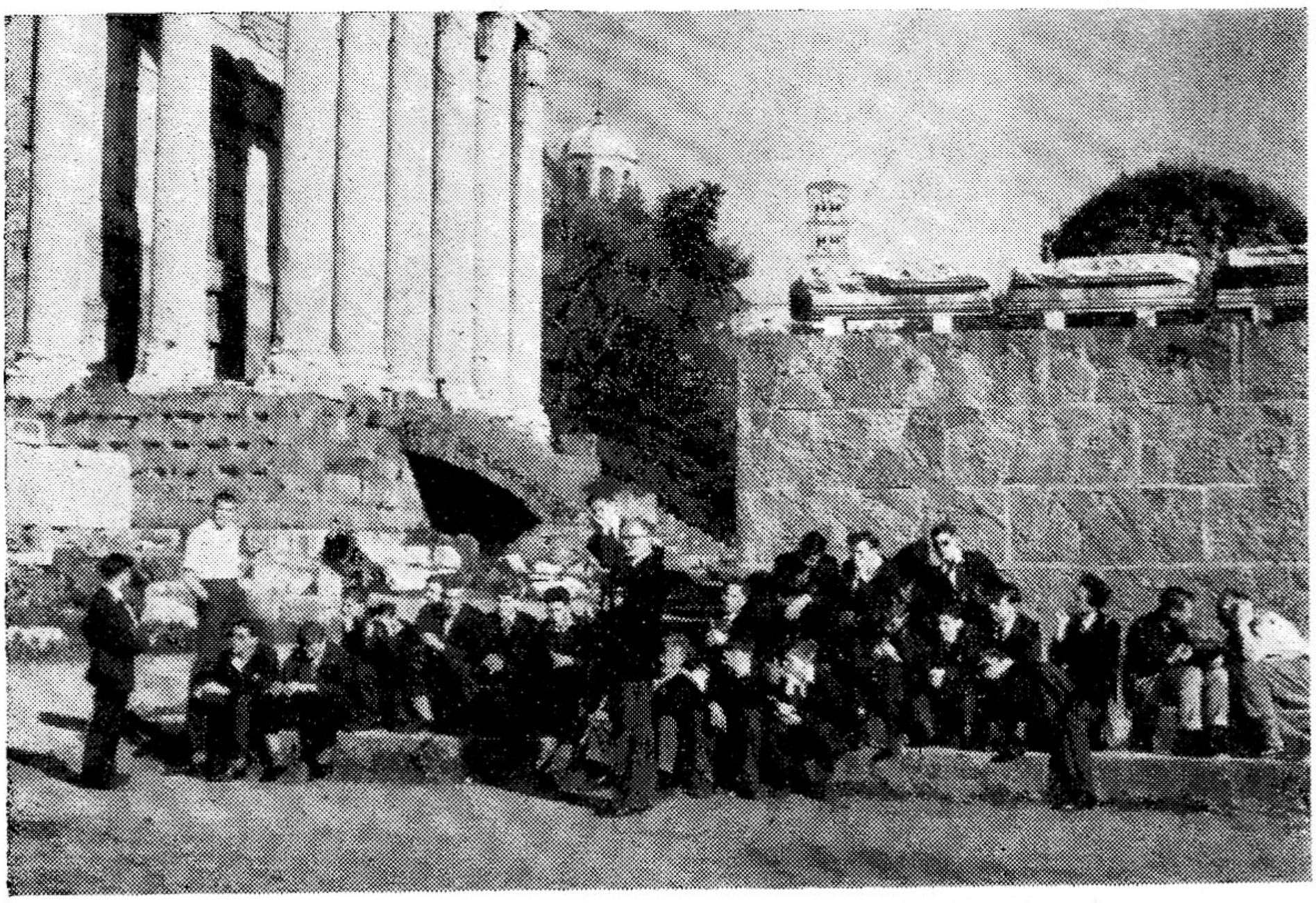
At the Italian border officials checked passports. In Italy the houses were made of brick, and appeared more solid than the Swiss chalets. Large blocks of flats and industrial factories were often seen. We stopped at Milan, one of the most important stations in Italy, and here many boys wanted to leave the train to buy various things, but the masters were afraid that the train might go off without us.

The Italian farm land is well irrigated and looked after. It is mostly flat in the central plain, and of good quality for growing main crops. We eventually arrived in Rome at ten o'clock that night. It had clearly only recently been built, and was very impressive. Our coach driver got lost on the way to the hotel, but at last we arrived, and after a quick meal, we were in bed.

On our first day in Rome we went for a coach ride to many places of interest. The vast Coliseum was most exciting, with its massive stone walls, with tier upon tier of seats, and the great arena, in which we could imagine the gladiators fighting, and the Christians thrown to the lions. We moved on to the Catacombs on the famous Appian Way, where, by legend, St. Peter is said to have had a vision of Christ when fleeing from Rome. The catacombs were made by the early Christians, tunnelling into the soft volcanic rock. Here they met in secret to avoid persecution, and buried their dead in specially made holes in the walls.

The next morning we were more or less free to do what we wished. Many of us bought souvenirs. We had all had by now a taste of Italian food, macaroni and spaghetti being the two most popular Italian dishes, with a glass of good red wine. We also tasted several different soups, and when out in a party our boys often bought some scrumptious Italian ice cream while walking beside the Tiber, Rome's river, which we often crossed. We also discovered that Rome's Expresso coffee bars are not so very much unlike our own, juke boxes and all. Soon some familiar recordings were echoing along the Roman streets and we felt quite at home.

In the afternoon we went for a walk to some of Rome's principal monuments. Our route first took us to the fountains of Trevi, and if the legend of the fountain is true, we will all return to Rome one day, for we all threw coins in the fountain. We then moved on to the Pantheon, which was once a heathen temple, but was converted into a Christian church by the Emperor Constantine. Next we visited the imposing monument to King Victor Emmanuel II, a vast white façade, with a lofty colonnade dominating the city. Here is situated the tomb of Italy's Unknown Warrior, guarded by a



Haranguing the Plebs

(Mr. Aubrey addresses the Wandsworth Party in the Forum)

uniformed soldier. Finally we went to perhaps the most famous of all Rome's antiquities, the Forum. Mr. Makin hoped to have a guide, but he found that they were too expensive, so Mr. Aubrey gave us a very interesting talk on the place. It was an area of ancient Rome set apart for ceremonies, meetings, and various discussions. Caesar's body was burned here, and the old roadway can still be seen running through the white columns of what was once the centre of a great civilisation.

It was a great surprise when we were told that we were going to have an audience with the Pope, because we had been told earlier that this was not possible. Anyway, at ten o'clock that Sunday morning we were sitting not far from the High Altar in St. Peter's, the largest Christian church in the world.

It really looked magnificent beyond description when the Pope was carried in his high processional throne down the centre of the nave, supported by the Swiss Guard in their gay uniforms, chandeliers blazing, and bringing out the full beauty of the place. Marble pillars loomed around him, with carvings of cherubic faces and huge statues of past Popes, and marble angels gazed down from the roof, many feet above.

The vast crowd of people in the church greeted the new Pope with enthusiasm and joy, and he blessed them as he came along. He gave his main benediction from his throne in front of the High Altar, above which is hung a huge canopy. The Pope spoke mainly through an interpreter, and then later he spoke again from a balcony high up in the Vatican to the extraordinary crowd gathered in the square below, while the fountains played, and the sun shone, and St. Peter's looked more imposing and majestic than ever.

We then drove out to the ruined city of Ostia Antica, where one could imagine what the town had once looked like, for so much of it is still preserved. It had been the port for Rome, but now the sea is two miles off. We were anxious to reach the sea, and to take our first swim. The water could scarcely be described as hot, but most of us braved the cold, and even Mr. Waters stepped gingerly in, hotly pursued by a crowd of boys—and Mr. Makin's ever-present candid camera!

Another free morning, and then a tour of the Alban Hills, including

Castelgandolfo, the Pope's summer residence (rather a poor town, but picturesquely situated above a volcanic lake), and Frascati, a town famous for its wine. Many boys sampled it, and brought back bottles as gifts.

And so the last day in Rome was upon us. Mr. Aubrey led a party in the morning to the Vatican Museum, and I am very glad I took the opportunity to go with him. We saw some wonderful paintings and tapestries, and a guide explained to us how painting had developed, and thus the pictures got more interesting as we went along. There were several people copying the originals for small lockets, and it was surprising to see how alike they were. The Sistine Chapel was a great attraction, but I am afraid I was a little disappointed. The colour of Michelangelo's masterpiece on the walls has been considerably dulled by the smoke of the constantly burned incense.

In the afternoon we went for a coach ride to the outskirts of Rome, and saw the fine new stadium for the Olympic games. We also saw the Forum of Mussolini, which accommodates 20,000 spectators. Then we went on to Cerveteri. Bathing was impossible, for great breakers were rolling in across the sea. We stayed on the beach for a while, and then drove a short way inland to the Etruscan tombs. The tombs, half under the ground, were built in imitation of these people's houses, and we were able to go into many of them. One, that of a chief, buried there 2,000 years ago, was in fine condition.

Next day we left Rome early in the morning. It was the end of a most enjoyable visit. We had often been pestered by Italian street pedlars, and had risked our lives every time we crossed the road, but the people were extremely friendly at heart, and if we stopped to talk to someone in the street, we soon found ourselves the centre of a gesticulating crowd. It was astonishing how much we were able to communicate with the people in the coffee bars and shops, and they were all pleased to talk with English schoolboys.

The journey back to Brunnen was uneventful—apart from a temporary panic when the train pulled out of Milan Station, leaving a party of Coca Cola fans stranded at the buffet. Fortunately it was only changing platforms. Back in Brunnen we were soon in bed asleep—after a return to the more familiar cooking of the Swiss. Second helpings of chips were greatly appreciated by some members of the party.

Our last full day of holiday was one of the most memorable. A cloudy sky, soon sending a drizzle of rain down to dampen our spirits, did not promise well, but nothing daunted we set out across the lake for the Klewenalp. The ride up this mountain, thirty at a time in the cable car, was a great thrill, and at the top—snow! While the masters hurried into the Restaurant to warm their spirits with spirits, snowfights started on all sides. Then the packed lunches came out, and the restaurant began to echo to a number of songs usually confined to the Rugby coach. Mr. Davies and Mr. Aubrey gave evidence of unsuspected vocal talents . . .

Next morning we toured our corner of the lake in a launch, passing some wonderful mountain scenery, and also the monument to William Tell. After lunch we embarked again, this time with our luggage. We had the afternoon to explore Lucerne—where everyone spoke English—and last-minute souvenirs were bought, including a few cameras and watches which caused some hearts to miss a beat as we filed past the stern gaze of the customs official at Dover.

Our train left late at night. The compartments being stuffy and hot, thirsts developed. Would Father really want to drink all of that bottle of wine we were taking home specially for him . . . ? We slept very heavily indeed that night, as the train rattled across Switzerland and France.

Calais, Dover, London. It was all over. All over, that is, except for the excited accounts gabbled to questioning families over English high teas. And then bed. Now, all that is left are the photographs, and the memories. They are very happy ones, and Mr. Makin and the rest of the staff, together with Educational Tours Ltd., who took the responsibility of leading 62 Wands-

worth boys half way across Europe, can be sure that their hard work was worthwhile.

C. C. SMITH, Pi, 4 Iota.



In Paris in the Spring

Photo : R. M. Vincent-Townend

(A report of the French visit will appear in our next issue)

THE SCHOOL JOURNEY TO THE LAKE DISTRICT April 1st-11th, 1959

The trip began outside East Putney Station where 23 boys and two masters, Mr. Finbow and Mr. Norris, met to take the long journey to Windermere (253 miles approximately). Our train, the " City of Bristol," left Euston Station at 10.30 a.m. and proved capable of travelling with 13 coaches at the speed of 80 miles per hour. By the time we had reached Oxenholme, our train only had two carriages left to go on the branch line to Windermere. Here a coach was waiting to take us to the Youth Hostel at Ambleside. What a disappointment! It was quite big but overcrowded, drab and dirty. Six boys, including myself, were unfortunate enough to share what must have been the worst room in the house—there was no water and it was about the size of an average single bedroom. Nobody got very much sleep that night.

The next day we walked cross country to Esthwaile Water, where we had our packed lunches. After lunch we travelled on to picturesque Hawkshead which still resembles a page from a history book. The following day we visited " Dove Cottage," the home of William Wordsworth. Our hostel at Hawkshead was much better than the one at Ambleside, for here there were saucers to go with the cups and more than one teaspoon per table.

The hardest and most strenuous part of the holiday was yet to come, for the next day we were told to go to a far-off village and get the post office stamp, also to find out who had lived at Brant-Wood House (it turned out to be John Ruskin), and continue to Coniston. The time given to reach Coniston was 2 o'clock. The first group to arrive at the given destination was $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours late, the second group 3 hours late, the third group were not far behind but the last group got hopelessly lost and arrived at the hostel

six hours late—by taxi.

On Sunday we went to Church and afterwards climbed the " Old Man " (2,600 feet high). It was a stiff climb and one of the boys was frightened to climb to the top. Another boy who wanted to climb to the top was forbidden to do so because he had blisters on his feet. Descending was easy because once you started running you could not stop. It took three times as long to get to the top of the " Old Man " as it did to get down. We stayed at Coniston for the night.

On Monday we had the morning free, as there were more shops in Coniston than Hawkshead, but unfortunately the weather spoilt our free morning. The rain cleared away just in time for us to walk back to Hawkshead. It was not very far and part of the route was cut off because Mr. Norris knew a quicker way across-country. When we arrived at Hawkshead we were very tired and didn't take very long going to sleep.

The next day was tough going. We walked to Tarn How. We went at a slow pace as Bradshaw was suffering with blisters. On our way we saw a ewe who had just become the proud mother of twins. The two lambs were not 10 minutes old when we saw them; one of the lambs appeared to be very weak and did not seem to have the strength in its legs to be able to stand. After watching for a quarter of an hour we continued our journey. We met a farmer who told us all about his flock of Herdwick sheep; then we went on to Langdale, and returned by bus to Troutbeck for the night.

We were very excited the following morning because we were going to visit a Steel Works at Barrow-in-Furness, also Barrow Docks. At Barrow Docks we saw a diver at work, we also visited an iron ore carrying ship, the " Duncraig ", and had photographs taken by a reporter. One of the photographs appeared in " The Wandsworth Borough News." We visited two Steel Works, one, at Barrow-in-Furness, using the Sieman's Open Hearth Process, and the other the Bessemer Process at Workington. At Barrow the metal was put into machines by men. The process we saw was the metal



Lake District Tour. Barrow-in-Furness Docks

Photo by courtesy of Wandsworth Borough News

coming out of the casts, stretched and cut into strips. At Workington we saw scrap metal being thrown into the furnace and it comes out molten and is put into moulds, and stretched. The machines did this work instead of men. Workington also make all the rails for British Railways. We also visited the "Cumberland Cloth Company", where we had a very instructive tour of the works. We saw all the different fibres from which material is made, and saw all the processes up to where the material leaves the factory, and then we returned to Keswick.

The trip had its laughs and we were all sorry it was nearly over. Mason had amused us all by jumping fully clothed into the River Derwent, Bradshaw fell into Coniston Water, but only a few of us saw this happen.

We returned to Euston via Keswick and Penrith. The cost of the journey was £7, not including pocket money. The scenery was wonderful and well worth seeing. May I thank Mr. Norris and Mr. Finbow for accompanying us on the trip.

J. R. CRAMP, Pe, 3 Omega.

UNDER 14 & UNDER 13 XVs RUGBY TOUR SOUTH WALES, 1959

On February 14th a party of Wandsworth School boys comprising of the Junior and Under 13 rugby teams assembled at the school to begin their tour of South Wales. They left Southfields at 9.30 a.m., taking with them their own coach and driver. In charge of the party were Messrs. J. G. Morris and J. G. Bourton.

Lunch was had en route at Gloucester and the border was crossed at Chepstow at 2.30 p.m. The party arrived at Kilvrough Manor, Gower, at 5.30 p.m., just in time to wash and rest before having high tea. What was left of the evening was spent exploring the Manor and settling in generally.

On Sunday the morning was spent at Rhossili Bay training on the sands and after lunch there were rambles along cliffs with time for examining caves and some cliff climbing.

Monday brought us to the first game, both teams playing against Bishop Gore School. It was an occasion for the Under 13 XV, who were playing for the first time in their newly-acquired school shirts. The juniors had a comparatively easy game, winning by 45 points to nil. The Under 13 XV narrowly won by 15 points to 14 points, their final try coming in the dying moments of the game. The afternoon was spent touring the massive Llandarcy Oil Refinery.

On Tuesday both teams played Penlan Comprehensive School and felt much more confident on taking the field. The Juniors won comfortably by 14 points to 6 points and the Under 13 XV won a little more convincingly by 8 points to nil.

In the afternoon a visit was planned to the N.C.B. Training Centre where we were shown films and taken over workings, including a realistic pit face. On returning we called in at Black Mountain Colliery and were fortunate enough to be taken around the surface workings.

Wednesday morning was spent in casual training and visiting Swansea. In the afternoon our opponent was Neath Grammar School, one of the premier rugby schools in South Wales. The Junior XV successfully completed their 100 per cent. record, winning by 14 points to nil in a most exciting and hard-fought game. The Under 13 XV narrowly lost by the smallest possible margin, 3 points to nil. These were to be the last games played and brought the combined scores to a total of 96 for and 26 against.

On Thursday morning the party visited Pibwr-Iwyd Rural Technical College, where we went round a model farm, examined various types of vehicles and generally had a most enjoyable time.

Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon were spent touring Velindre Tin Plating Works. Two afternoons were devoted to this visit as only small parties could be taken around. This was an excellent visit and it was an introduction to automation for many of the party.

On Friday evening a small presentation was made to Mr. G. Jewell of Swansea Grammar School. Mr. Jewell was responsible for our fixtures in South Wales and many of the visits. There was a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Lovegrove, our hosts, and to Mr. Baily, our very understanding coach driver. After a special dinner the party packed and amused themselves having a final look around the hostel.

Saturday saw the party assembling by the coach for the long trip back to London. By this time we had learnt many new songs and the journey home passed amazingly quickly.

This tour was most enjoyable and a second tour is being organised for next October to Cornwall and Devon.

M. BLAND, 2 Nu.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

It must be at least 10 years since I have written to you, although something less than that since I have seen you; the last time for any sort of conversation would be I recollect at the last Old Boys' dinner prior to the expansion of the old School taking effect, when I think you were having a hard time convincing all Old Boys of the essential rightness of the decisions that had been made. I wonder now whether your forecasts of that time have been proved satisfactorily? I do hope so; and also that the great spirit we had at Wandsworth still persists. Without a doubt, as far as I am personally concerned I could never thank the School enough for what it gave me and if it gives that same broad basis to a much greater number now, then the expansion plans were very obviously right.

I have, as you probably know, four boys. It will always be a regret to me that they cannot go to Wandsworth. Now however they will grow up out here in Australia.

After continuing after the war as a permanent R.A.F. Officer, serving on the planning staff of Combined Operations H.Q., C.O. of a jet squadron, an instructor in war studies and air strategy at Cranwell (you will find some publicity given me quite gratuitously in Philip Gibbs' book "The New Elizabethans" in a picture on page 36 and also as leader of the War Studies team in the present R.A.F. Cranwell pamphlet) and finally as O.C. Flying of a Joint Services Trials Unit testing the guided missile, the de Havilland "Firestreak", I have retired and gone into business here in Australia. I came home for three months last February-April (1958) and found a firm who were willing to come here in partnership and am now Managing Director. We have just built a new factory at the new town of Elizabeth near Adelaide. Things went well and at present I am also Governing Director of National Foam Rubber Ltd., an associated company which we have recently bought. Australia is a wonderful country, full of opportunity and with a very fine climate here in Adelaide.

The three elder boys are in the choir at our local church, St. Michael's, where I am a sidesman (very new I'm afraid) and all four boys are at Pulteney Grammar School, an independent C. of E. school in Adelaide, with a fine and growing reputation; due mainly to two things—an outstanding headmaster, Rev. Rufus Rae, and a strong and virile parents' association; the whole school, boys, staff and parents march in unison and it is wonderful to feel the spirit there. We wished to build a chapel and it was decided to have a 3-day carnival Fete and aim for £5,000!! In the event it raised £9,700!!! Then a small group of parents carried on fund raising and made another £500 to top £10,000. It is a wonderful community effort. Illustrates the spirit.

I believe Rufus Rae will be writing to you to see whether he could use the Wandsworth School Song and Hymn for Pulteney. He was most impressed with the words and the tunes, and also by the fact that they were written by School Staff. For me personally it would be the greatest pleasure to have such a link between my old School and my sons' new one. In spirit the two Schools have a great deal in common. A link too, between one of the young

but strong Commonwealth countries and the Mother country; after seeing the basic one-ness of all peoples in my travels across the world, a philosophy started by the continental travels at Wandsworth, the more direct links there are the sooner we shall all realise how alike is the whole world; peace must follow.

My best wishes to Wandsworth,

Yours sincerely,

RONALD F. ST. J. SWEETING.

The Old Rectory, Rectory Walk,
Springfield, South Australia.

DUST AND ASHES IN THE MOUTH
A Link Survey

The boys of the Fourth Year at Wandsworth smoke one hundred and nine thousand, six hundred and eighty-four cigarettes per year—an average of $8\frac{3}{4}$ per week for each of the 242 boys of 15+ who were questioned. This is one of the striking facts revealed in a survey recently carried out.

The eleven forms of the fourth year were all questioned on the same afternoon, and their answers were written on unsigned paper. Strict anonymity was preserved to avoid any fears which might induce the boys to minimise their smoking, while at the same time it was pointed out that exaggeration—either for fun, or to make themselves appear more "grown up"—would reduce the interest of the survey for them. On the whole I think that the questions were honestly answered. If a boy is treating a questionnaire of this kind flippantly, he is usually unable to resist the temptation to be facetious, and only two sheets were received which contained anything but straightforward answers (one, asked if he smoked at all, wrote "Nope", and the other, asked how much he smoked per week, answered 1,200 per year). None the less, it is very difficult to estimate the average number of cigarettes smoked if they are not bought regularly, and some distortion may have appeared in this way, probably resulting in a higher rather than a lower total being given. In any case, I print the results as they came in, and the reader can decide for himself what reliance to place on them.

How much do they smoke?

15% have never smoked a cigarette in their lives, and 29% smoke fewer than 11 per year: that is to say, almost half the boys are not smokers at all. A further 29% smoke up to 5 cigarettes per week, and 12% smoke between 5 and twenty. This leaves 15% smoking more than twenty, of whom 3% smoke ten or more per day, the highest total being that of a boy in 4 Nu, who claims to smoke 90 per week. Thus it will be seen that the alarming total of 109,684 per year quoted at the head of this article is made up almost entirely of the cigarettes of half the boys, and is greatly increased by the smoking of a few. The average figure of $8\frac{3}{4}$ per week is therefore a very unreal one—73% of the boys smoke less than this. Again, let us imagine that only five boys have exaggerated their smoking by 20 per week. This alone adds 5,200 to the annual total.

Looking at the figures by forms, we get a confused pattern. I print the forms in order of their smoking rates, with the average number of cigarettes smoked per boy per annum in brackets after each form:

4 eta (1,036.4); 4 alpha (572.5); 4 nu (546.3); 4 Omega (519.8); 4 kappa (483.3); 4 epsilon (377.3); 4 theta (357.4); 4 tau (315.6); 4 iota (265); 4 pi (218); 4 rho (78.4).

It will be seen that the Builders (first and fourth in the list), smoke more than the Engineers (sixth and eleventh), and while the top academic form smokes little (tenth), the second academic form smokes a lot (second). The extreme variation between 4 eta's 1,036.4 and 4 rho's 78.4 leads one again to doubt the veracity of the answers. However, each form appeared to react

in the same way to the questioning, and I remain inclined to trust the general honesty of the answers, though there was no doubt some particular falsification.

What do they smoke?

Of the smokers answering this question, 45% prefer Senior Service, 16% Player's Weights, 10% Player's Medium, and 8% Rothman's, with a further 4% for a variety of other "King Size" cigarettes. 5% prefer Bachelors, and the rest are scattered in ones and twos among 15 other brands. 13% smoke various kinds of filter-tipped cigarettes. Only two boys prefer the old-fashioned Woodbine, and one boy claims regularly (25 per week) to indulge in Black Sobrani—this is perhaps the third case of facetiousness.

How much do they spend?

Only those who smoke fairly regularly were asked this question. 46% spend less than a quarter of their week's income on cigarettes, 22% spend about a quarter, 17% about a half, 8% three-quarters or more, and 7% left the question unanswered. One boy claims an income of £3 per week, and £1 is not an unusual figure, though 10/- per week is perhaps more general. The whole question of pocket money would be interesting to go into. Those smoking most cigarettes were on the whole those with the most money—thus their proportional spending remained low.

Of the boys who smoke 5 or more per week, 57% have jobs and 43% have not. There was little variation between forms, though there were fewest jobs in 4 pi, and most in 4 kappa. The question of where the money came from was perhaps most relevant to boys who smoke 40 or more per week. Eight had jobs, and seven did not. However, five of these jobless smokers (jokers?) were from 4 eta, and if one excludes them as of dubious reliability, there are seven with jobs, and two without. The correlation between smoking and jobs was not very close, and many boys say that they are given most of the cigarettes that they smoke. This leads us to our next question.

What do the parents think?

I have limited consideration to the replies of the boys who smoke more than 5 cigarettes per week. 50% of the parents approve, 41% disapprove, 8% disagree on the point, and 1% of the boys failed to answer the question. There is a fair balance of approval and disapproval in most forms, though 70% approve in the case of our friends of 4 eta, and 100% disapprove in the case of the next-to-least smoking 4 pi.

It should be noted that there was not a great deal of individual correlation between the rate of smoking and parental approval!

Cancer . . . ?

On the whole, the boys who smoke do not worry about cancer, and the boys who do not smoke think that they should. Only a hundred boys offered any comments on the dangers of cancer. Here are the answers they gave, with the number of boys so answering in brackets. First, those careless of the danger:

> I don't smoke enough (26); I don't believe in it (21); I don't care about it (11); I have never thought about it (6); you must die somehow, so why worry (5); smoking is not the only cause of cancer (3); I don't inhale, so I won't get it (2); doctors smoke (1); I haven't caught it yet (1); they will have found a cure by the time I do catch it (1); I am X-rayed three times a year (1). Total = 78.

One boy said he half believed in the danger. Those who seriously believed in it gave the following comments:

> Cancer does kill (10); I don't smoke because of it (7); I have cut down smoking because of it (4). Total = 21.

One could teach a useful lesson in logic by analysing some of the optimistic answers. One of the "don't smoke enough" group smokes 60 per week already, and another 40 per week. The publicity given by the medical profession to the results of their research into the problem of cancer and smoking has apparently not been very effective, though probably whatever

evidence were forthcoming would be disbelieved by those who feel that their enjoyment or peace of mind might be disturbed.

I have tried to avoid making too many criticisms of these answers, which were written on a promise that no action would be forthcoming as a direct result of them. I can therefore only close by saying that I smoke myself, and very much wish that I didn't.

R.W.W.

CHEMISTRY CORNER During the 18th Century there lived in England a hermit; not an ordinary recluse, but an aristocratic and scientific one; in fact, none other than Lord Cavendish, after whom the famous laboratory in Cambridge was named.

Among his discoveries was that of hydrogen, which he called "inflammable air from metals" because he thought, in accordance with the accepted phlogiston theory of his day, that it came from the metal and not from the acid.

On hearing of Cavendish's experiments, a Frenchman named De Rozier (who later became a famous balloonist) filled his lungs with hydrogen and applied a light to it as he breathed it out. You can guess what happened! When he recovered from the explosion, he was astonished to find his teeth still intact!

One of the earliest uses for hydrogen was for filling balloons and one of the first balloons used for carrying rose to 1,500 ft. with a cargo of a sheep, a cock and a duck. Several scientists, including De Rozier, then volunteered to go up but the King of France, on hearing of it, intervened and said that if men were to take the place of the animals they should be criminals, whom the country would not miss if anything went wrong! De Rozier, however, stoutly contested this, saying that he did not see why such men should have the glory of being the first to rise in the air! And he won his point, and went up.

Some time afterwards, when Gay-Lussac (another French scientist) was at 22,000 feet in a balloon and wanted to go higher, he was obliged to throw out a chair. Some peasant women, noticing this object falling from the skies, went to where it dropped. They were extremely disappointed at its crude workmanship and wondered if Heaven was so wonderful after all!

The French made use of balloons during the Siege of Paris in 1870 to maintain contact with the outside world. They also sent out pigeons and letters; the latter asking for food and help, the former returning with replies. Over 60,000 replies were received in this way.

Coming nearer to date, the famous Graf Zeppelin was filled with four million cubic feet of hydrogen, weighing ten tons. In addition, it had to carry engines, fuel, cabins, crew and passengers—which made people wonder how on earth it ever rose from the ground! But the weight of air it displaced was 142 tons (will budding scientists please check!) so its upthrust was comparatively very great and it could carry a heavy load.

Hydrogen, unfortunately, is very inflammable and many accidents have occurred in the past. One which comes to mind is the loss of the British Airship R.101 which caught fire in 1930, oddly enough over France, and all 48 aboard were killed. Nowadays, to avoid this, hydrogen is encased in an envelope of helium, the next lightest gas and one which will not burn. It does not replace hydrogen, not only because it is too expensive to produce, but also because its lifting power is only a quarter that of hydrogen.

Hydrogen has many other uses in everyday life and these will be discussed in the next issue.

MY JOURNEY THROUGH THE POTTERIES It is only a pity we had such a foggy day, so I could not take a photograph; but there is always a low, grey sky in Stoke, and the sun is rarely seen.

I was coming back from Manchester with some relatives when we decided to visit the potteries. My uncle owns a china shop, and every fortnight he goes north to collect stock, so he knew all the interesting spots to show us. Stoke is a very dirty district, split mainly into five small, grubby towns—Hanly, Longton, Newcastle-under-Lyne, Stoke-on-Trent, and Bunslow.

But one must not judge the towns and people by the dirt, for Stoke is a very industrial area with many factories, and indeed, when we spoke to some of the inhabitants, they were very friendly and helpful. The only trouble was we had to decode what they said, so strange was the dialect, and we had to laugh when my uncle asked them for the Nelson Potteries, for they replied like cavemen. But then, we must have sounded odd too!

The houses that we passed were old and dilapidated, mainly due to underground tunnelling for the clay, and the huge, modern china works dominated the landscape with rows of kilns and glazing furnaces. And I must mention the coalmines, for they surrounded us like giants of steel, their slag heaps or banks, pronounced "bonks", towering into the dead sky.

The place was full of interesting things and working in a china shop I was already familiarized with such names as Doulton, Elijah Cotton, Regency and Dakin whose bone china works we passed. Lorries loaded with tea chests to take to the railway depot roared backwards and forwards carrying tons of china bound for London.

And in no time, we were out of Stoke and on our way to London too!

L.Levene, Pc, U5.

RUBBISH!

Pots and pans and old tin cans,
Old men's braces and black shoe laces,
Remains of fish which cats have eaten,
Remains of cats which men have beaten,
Dust, and dirt, and sand, and rubber,
And also the end of a cigarette-stubber:
Where did they come from? It's a sin.
They all came from a rubbish bin!

A. R. Brown, P, Form 1.

NORTHERN SWEDEN IN THE EYES OF AN ENGLISH SCHOOLBOY

Sweden has always been a land of dreams for me, and I suppose, even though I have never been there, the Northern districts more so than the Southern.

My dream begins thus. Once upon a time, long, long ago, there was a land, bleak and desolate, and without people. And one day there were great thunderings and noises, and mountains grew, and rain fell, and snow, and then all was quiet. The sun melted the snow on the mountains and rivers ran through the valleys, formed lakes, and eventually reached the sea. On the mountains, around the lakes and everywhere grew fir-trees. There were great forests, and in the forests were wolves and bears and reindeer, and many other animals, and, as legend would have it, no doubt trolls, pixies, gnomes and all manner of fairies as well.

One day there came in boats a wild barbarous people—hunters and warriors—but no sooner had they set eyes on the land, than they were captivated by its beauty. They laid down their weapons and wept for joy. What god had given them this bewitching land? "They beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks" and they settled in the valleys and built wooden houses, and there grew up a new generation of beautiful women, and of strong, fair-haired, blue-eyed men . . .

From these primitive beginnings developed the living Swedish people. Here are my fanciful ideas of how they live and spend their time.

It occurs to me that the climate and conditions around the early settlers eventually shaped the way of living. I can picture the quaint wooden houses with their sloping roofs, and also the adjoining out-buildings and barns for animals and fodder.

It is difficult for me to think of Northern Sweden as anything but perpetual snows in the depths of winter, but, of course, I also realise that it must have the other seasons as well, with their changing moods.

After the mountain snow has melted and made the streams to rush as roaring torrents into the valleys, active life must begin again—reindeer calves are born—perhaps lambs and kids too. The woodmen are very busy floating huge logs down the rivers to the saw-mills. The housewife thoroughly cleans her house out, and is probably glad to see her not so eager children off to school after their Christmas holidays.

In the forests the fox, the rabbit and the stoat, and in the lakes the otter, all have their young to deal with. The flowers, too, are to be seen waving their heads in the glorious sunshine amongst the sweet-smelling firs.

The children will not, of course, need their skis again, and are able to walk, or if they live near water, take a boat. Here I should add that everybody is attractively dressed in brightly coloured clothes and knee-length leather boots.

Spring progresses; rye seed is sown in the valleys, the trees blossom, and the angler is in his paradise as the fishing season begins.

Gradually the spring blossoms break forth into fruit as summer arrives, a summer far warmer than English ones, a summer of midnight sun. The people must rise very early, for there are goats and reindeer to milk, and the children have an awfully long way to go to school. But making the beds presents no problem, for I presume that they sleep under the celebrated " dynner."

Perhaps, now that it is summer they will bathe before breakfast in the cool, refreshing waters of the lake on their doorstep. Breakfast consists of hard rye bread covered in lashings of sour cream. There would also be sour or fresh milk to drink, and coffee for those who wanted it.

Washing-up would have to be done with hot water and plenty of hard work, for I can think of no other way of doing it.

The children are now ready to set off for their long day at school. Most of them have a very long way to go, and it may well take over two hours to get there. Once there they will presumably have a brief religious assembly and then begin lessons, which may include: mathematics, Swedish, English, German, history, geography, beside many others. At mid-day most of them will stay at school for lunch, which will no doubt consist of their delicious " smörgas." School will not last long after mid-day and end at about three o'clock.

The children will go back home and do their homework, after having a snack to eat. The houses will be, as ever, spotlessly clean within and without. Plants will be decorating the windows inside, giving a wonderful atmosphere of the nature around, not that they have need to be reminded of it.

Summer is comparatively short and soon becomes autumn. Early in autumn, the little edible fruit is ripe. The rye, too, is no longer green but golden brown and ready to be cut. This is done with a sickle or scythe, as they have no great plains to reap, but small plots on the hillsides.

Autumn will not be seen as the red and brown hues of English tree-leaves, for the trees are largely conifers and evergreens. Their fruit, too, will be ripe—and soon the forest floor will be a mass of fir-cones. But autumn is short, too, and the fir-cones in their turn are covered with a deep, crisp blanket of snow as winter approaches.

The lakes freeze hard, and even the rivers as the temperature falls well below zero. Whereas the angler was in his paradise before, it is now the turn of the fur-trapper and lumberjack.

The foxes and stoats have changed the colour of their coats to white, and are glad to accept the tiniest morsel of food; thus with bait the eager fur-trapper secures his prize.

The lumberjack, too, is busier at this time of year, for the forest floor is ideal for sliding logs across, and is not uneven and covered with tree trunks any more.

Wood is also being plied and carved into weird and wonderful shapes in the home. This is done to help pass away some of the boredom of winter. But winter can also be exciting. There is the firm ice to skate upon, and the mountain slopes to ski upon. Transport is in one way made much easier and is most certainly quicker. Reindeer-drawn sleigh do not have any traffic problems to worry about, and refuelling is extremely easy.

With the sleigh-bells ringing gaily to warn nearby people, and the reindeer throwing back their heads to keep their horns clear of over-hanging branches, winter travel must be heavenly.

The Christmas season naturally occurs at this time of year, and if the Swedish Christmas decorations we have at home are anything to go by, winter becomes even more delightful.

Christmas comes to an end and is forgotten, but New Year is on its way and the cycle of seasons begins all over again.

Of course these ideas of mine are purely romantic, and make no pretence of giving a geographical account. The Swedish people lead lives of hard facts; they are not spent ski-ing or with the reindeer, but might well be in the iron mines of Kiruna and Gelliwara or manning the hydro-electric power station at Porjus. Nevertheless, this is my dream.

D. P. NATHANSON, Cb, 4 Pi.

(*Adapted from an article originally written for a Swedish newspaper.*)

SUMMER SONG

The summer days are drawing near!
The cunning fox, the nimble deer,
The birds of prey, they do not fear,
For summer days are drawing near.

The trout lies softly in the deep,
When all is dark and all asleep;
The eagle watches from his ledge,
High above the ocean's edge.

The woodland is a mass of trees;
The dark glades rustle in the breeze;
The cuckoo sings its happy song;
His voice around the wood will throng.

And Oberon will dance at night
To set the rabbits off in flight.
He shouts aloud to far and near:
The summer days at last are here!

H. KEENE, P, 1 Delta.
R. LEE, C, 1 Delta.

THE MUSIC OF NATURE

The music of nature could be described as a very complicated pattern, consisting of many different types of rhythms. Although very complicated, this pattern is always changing; it is changing with evolution. The tide, the path of rivers and tributaries, and their currents, are all slowly, but steadily changing; changing with the collapse of land into the sea, whirlpools and tidal waves, landslides and volcanic eruptions.

Nature is, as yet, very unsettled, and for millions of years to come her music and rhythms have yet to take on many different forms. But I doubt if there will ever be a more wonderful and complex rhythm than that of the human being. Heartbeat, pulse, breathing and the movement of muscles, all

co-ordinate to make a pattern that we unconsciously carry out thousands of times every day, and some of them hundreds of thousands.

Nature creates a living thing to carry out its purpose and rhythm in life. Sometimes it serves its purpose once, sometimes a million times. Every living plant, insect and animal goes through its rhythm a certain number of times in its lifetime, right down to the tiniest microscopic insect. But everything born is different. Sometimes the difference may be only a mere cell, but nevertheless that class of creature has further developed a cell and in time, that creature will have a slightly different rhythm, and a different way of life.

P. G.BERNARD, C, Form 1.

IMPROVEMENTS ABOUT THE HOUSE

Many articles have been written of late advocating radical Parliamentary reform; cries have been heard from all the three parties in favour of this, and it seems inevitable. Parliament, as most people seem to agree, is notably inefficient in the way in which it goes about its business. Hundreds of members are kept hanging around the House for large parts of the day, with little or no chance of being heard in debate, in order that they may vote in divisions, the results of which are foregone conclusions. Hours are spent in the Chamber every week, dealing with the various minute aspects of legislation, while major topical issues go undebated. In almost every session, the pressure of unattended public business grows steadily, until the congestion has to be relieved, either by ruthlessly suppressing discussion, or by late-night sittings. All of this has been perfectly well understood. As one writer has pointed out, for more than half of the time that Parliament has been sitting during the past 100 years, there has been a committee of one kind or another investigating Parliamentary procedure. Many suggestions for reform have been put forward during the past twenty-five years. It has been said by H. Laski, a famous Constitutionalist, that if all the criticisms of Parliament were added up, the conclusion one would be forced to reach is that Parliament should be abolished! None of this, however, has had much effect; apart from a few time-saving devices, such as the "guillotine" for limiting speeches, little has been done to improve procedure. But in the last few years the need for reform has begun to strike home in Westminster. Partly this is because of the increasing frustration felt by the back-benchers, which has led some of the more able members to desert Parliament. But the party leaders, too, conscious of a fading public interest, no doubt, have come to see that, in Mr. Butler's words, procedure must be made to "chime with the spirit of the times." The result, in the report of the Select Committee, is a series of proposals, which may not go as far as one would like, but at least have a positive value.

The first recommendation is the economising of the committee procedure. Far too much time is wasted in committees of the whole House. All bills should be discussed by a Standing Committee in Committee Rooms.

The second is that there should be a fairer allocation of time during debates. It recommends putting an end to one long-standing grievance of back-benchers; the traditional right of Privy Councillors to be heard whenever they wish. The suggestion that an hour should be given over to speeches of no more than five minutes duration will also create an opportunity for more back-benchers to voice their views in major debates.

The third recommendation is about the organisation of question hour. Individual members will be rather more strictly rationed in the number of questions they may ask on one day, and there is to be more time given for questions to the Prime Minister.

As I have already stated a little earlier, these proposals do not go far enough in many people's opinions. The committee has baulked at the idea of introducing mechanical voting; a change of hours in the sittings of the House is also rejected. Also turned down is the idea of specialised committees to observe the working of particular departments, which is the most radical suggestion.

The ideas for this article came from the "Manchester Guardian." But I feel I am justified in using this material in order to bring home to everyone who reads this the important fact that our Parliament is not always "first who reads this the important fact that our Parliament is not always "just there." Too many people nowadays, I feel, are far too complacent in their attitude to our governing bodies. After all, our elders elected them, and it will not be so very long before we, the members of this school, will be eligible to do likewise, and it is important to realise that Parliament is not always the same; it moves with the times, and I feel that we as would-be electors should realise this and take more interest in our own Parliament.

J. H. COUSINS, Pb, LVI Ec.

BEES

What is that which moves the summer air
With peaceful murmuring among the flowers?
And I'm alone this lazy afternoon
To watch the ancient sundial count the hours.

There's nothing like the murmur of the bees,
While other life is sleeping in the heat,
And patchwork fields stretch out into the haze
Where cloudless sky and meadows, trembling, meet.

J. YEOMANS, C, 2 Epsilon.

THE OIL SPOUT

Gushing madly from the ground,
Liquid gold is poured around.
Its regal plume is tall and thin;
It makes a great tumultuous din.
It sounds just like a waterfall,
And towers above us, gaunt and tall.

Its father is the oil derrick,
Its mother is the ground.
It sings of power to drive the world—
It is not a gentle sound.

E. T. PETTENGALL, Mh, 4 Rho.

A JOURNEY BY TRAIN

As I stand on the platform at a London railway station, I often enjoy watching busy little shunters puffing importantly about the sidings, making up goods trains for all parts of the country. At last a distant whistle tells me that my train is coming. Picking up my suitcase, I step forward to get a look at the locomotive. Its bright paintwork shines in the sun as it glides into the station, pulling the heavy coaches behind it.

With a shrill blast on the guard's whistle, the train jerks into motion, and the loco's wheels clank their way across the points, out onto the main line.

The train slowly gathers speed, and looking out of my carriage window I see the streets and shops full of bustling people going about their jobs. Cars and lorries are flashing along the highways. On the other side is a large dock, with fantastically-shaped cranes lifting huge loads from ocean-going boats, and dropping them rudely onto the quay, where eager dockers swarm over them, and start loading them onto lorries.

Soon the houses and factories of the town disappear, and are replaced by green fields and small villages, each with its own tiny church. The train speeds past stations, making the people waiting leap back from the edge of the platform. Cows, browsing dreamily in the pastures, lift their heads slowly

to gaze blankly at the fiery monster rushing by them, and a group of nervous young horses suddenly turns and gallops across the grass. By the track runs a clear stream, that turns black as we near the town.

At last the train glides to a halt, and the people swarm out, banging the doors loudly. As I hand my ticket to the collector, I look at the station clock: the train is dead on time. As I walk out of the station into the street, I think to myself how much I enjoyed my journey by train.

M. S. THOMAS, C, 2 Epsilon.

THAT VISIT It is a thing that has happened or will happen to most of us, the time we dread, that frightening first visit to your girl-friend's home and to her parents.

The date is fixed: a fated Sunday afternoon. You put on your best suit and a clean shirt and tie. Always be careful in choosing a tie to wear; one too flashy can give the wrong impression. You walk down the street, your nerves all shaken; you imagine that the neighbours are watching you, and this makes you even more nervous. You see the house you must visit. You walk past once to see if anyone is looking. Then you cogitate, " I could tell her I couldn't make it "; and then, Coward! She came to your house without all this fuss; go on, ring the bell! You do ring the bell and wish you hadn't; you turn to go away, and the front door opens. To your amazement you have come to the wrong house. The tenant thinks you're mad when you ask her if she would like to buy a vacuum cleaner.

After this setback your conscience returns and convinces you that going to the wrong house was fate and that you can't defy fate: better go home before you get hurt. You reach the corner, when you are hailed from a window, " Hey! It's up here." You turn round and force a smile on your face. She opens the door and you go in. As she takes your coat she asks where you got to. You tell another lie about waiting for a bus (this sort of incident brings out the worst in people).

She takes you into the parlour where they are having tea. They offer you some, but you refuse: they almost force you to have it. The cup makes an embarrassing rattle as your hand shakes like a machine gun. All eyes are upon you and you know it. Little brother stares; Dad's got one eye on you and the other on little brother, who is then told to mind his manners. Then come the questions.

" What do you want to be when you grow up? " (What a cheek.) You think of something respectable. " A clergyman," you answer. There is an awful silence broken by a few polite coughs.

Mum motions to Dad and they leave the room (all except little brother, who says nothing but just stares).

" Haven't you got any friends to go and play with? " you ask. " No," is the reply, " they're all dead. We hung little Tommy Perkins, and scalped Fred Higgins, and then we buried Harry Wheeler." " Yes. Well, that was the gentlemanly thing to do in the circumstances," you remark. This aggravates little brother and he goes off with a face like an undertaker. This, by the way, is what he wants to be when he grows up. Dad comes back and switches on the television. " There's some football on," he says. The game carries you off to the football ground. " Foul! " you scream. Then you check yourself, and you've never been so embarrassed. If only this writing were in technicolour: scarlet would look so interesting with white paper! Your ears are aflame and you're hot under the collar.

But Mum comes in and politely asks, " What time does your Mother expect you home? " What a godsend! " Now." You jump up and make for the door. As you run down the corridor, you can hear them asking you to come again sometime. You vow never to set foot in that house again. But, somehow, you always do, and everything is so different.

D. R. E. EDWARDS, Ci, 4 Iota.

LAMENT

Oh, what shall I write for The Link?
I've sat down with pen and some ink,
And even a drink.

Oh, what shall I write for The Link?
I don't feel I'm quite in the pink.
From the task I just shrink.

Oh, what shall I write for The Link?
I feel I'm just nearing the brink—
But alas, back I sink.

Oh, what shall I write for The Link?
I think I see light through a chink—
But it's gone in a wink.

Oh, what shall I write for The Link?
I don't seem to have quite the kink.
I must give up, I think.

M. JACOBS, C, Form 2.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL As the school year 1958-59 draws to a close we can look back with some pride to Cromwell's successes. Our defeats, we hope, will be turned into successes next year. The most important House function of the past term was, of course, the Eisteddfod. Cromwell did not do as well as we had hoped in all sections but credit must be given to Nicholas Bishop and Roger Newman for their production of the Gadshill Robbery Scene from "Henry IV." They were well supported by an excellent cast and a very willing stage team under the direction of Brian Coleman and John Atack. However, this was not enough to counterbalance defeats in other sections. Our final position was third.

This term we have excelled ourselves in the field of sport. Under the able captaincy of Roger Newman and Eric Slater the House athletics team has gone into regular training. We wish them luck in the forthcoming school sports. We congratulate Michael Dodd on his appointment as captain of cricket and we are proud to report that he has already led his team to victory over Gibbon.

The House fencing team under Nicholas Bishop gained first place, scoring overwhelming victories over all the other houses. We can also be proud that the first junior boy from our school to win the London Schoolboys' Fencing Championship is from our House—congratulations to Richard Perry. We have three Cromwell boys in the school championship and we wish them the best of luck.

John Atack was appointed swimming captain this term but unfortunately he will be leaving soon. We wish him the best of luck in his job. His place has been taken by Alan Styles, who we hope will have success in the swimming gala. The House chess championships are under way and for a full report we suggest you consult the chess notices.

After all this good work, we have to report on Diligence. In the last two issues of The Link we have asked you to try and work harder but without result. The Diligence Shield always used to carry the red banner but it does not look as if it will have it this time. Please do not neglect your work.

To all boys who are leaving this term we wish good luck in their future positions and we look forward to seeing the rest of you next term keen and eager to help the house both in leisure and work.

NICHOLAS C. BISHOP.
GEORGE E. DYBALL.

GIBBON

"Nor long shall be our labour: yet ere dawn
Effect shall end our wish. Meanwhile revive;
Abandon fear; to strength and council join'd,
Think nothing hard, much less to be despair'd."

The lines from Milton should set the tone for these notes, which although they contain many adverse reports, yet endeavour to show that the year's poor results are not an occasion for despair but for courage.

When one thinks of failure, the Eisteddfod at once springs to mind. The few individuals who really made an effort were dragged down by the usual mediocre members of the House, whose refusal to respond is indicative of their generally negative attitude. This apathetic approach is to be found mainly in the middle school, when the enthusiasm of the early years is not replaced by the responsibility felt in the senior forms. Our fourth position resulted from a similar place in the Drama and Literary Composition sections, and a third in Speech. The first place in the Hobbies section and the second in Music and Art unfortunately did not affect our rivals' supremacy. Our second position in Music was the highest in this sphere for some years, and those who took part in this activity are to be particularly congratulated.

From the Eisteddfod it is not very far to travel, by an association of ideas, to the field of Diligence. On the part of a number of Gibbon boys, at least, this is a misnomer. These boys would seem to imagine that they can exist in a mental state of "limbo." Nothing could be further from the truth, for not only does their corrupting influence reduce the efforts of those few who constantly strive for better results, but it also ruins their own hopes for advancement, both at school and afterwards. Once again it is the Junior School who are making the stoutest struggle, and as a result have succeeded in gaining first place in every award to date. It is more than coincidence, surely, that those boys who have poor diligence are the same as those who would not take the Eisteddfod seriously.

An event which did fulfil the highest expectations was the "Inter-Set" Athletics meeting, which was held at Tooting Bec early this term. This innovation in school routine was matched by an enthusiasm that could well be imitated in other activities. However, there was more than the appeal of novelty, as the many good performances show. The smart appearance and the strong competitive spirit evoked praise from a number of the staff present. Amongst those who achieved good performances were: L. S. Woodcock, E. V. Elliott, J. H. Halliday, B. Brind, P. L. Friedlander and R. Griffin. This meeting's successful competitors will represent Gibbon in the Inter-House Athletics, towards the end of term.

Only one House cricket match has been played so far, which resulted in an extremely lucky win for Cromwell. The Captain, W. Fuller, was forced to declare when the total was 103 for 2 wickets, the main scorers being Watkins and Coppock. With the speed of desperation, Cromwell managed to reply with 105 for 7 wickets. However, the competition is, at the time of writing, still far from decided, and with a slight redress of fortune, Gibbon may very well win.

Another event which has not yet taken place is the Swimming Gala. Under the able captaincy of Hutson, though, there should be little to fear on this account.

There is one tradition that Gibbon is still maintaining. For the fourth year in succession we have won the Inter-House chess competition. The team, which only conceded three defeats out of the nine games played, won all three matches. Tyson, the Captain, won two and lost one game, as did Reid and Kane, whilst Skinner won all three of his games.

It is with the greatest regret that the House says farewell to Mr. V. C. Mathews, whose athletic prowess was a source of inspiration to most members of the House. We wish him every success in his new post.

There are many members of the Prefectorial body leaving this term. The departure of all four of the House's senior prefects, and three Sub-Prefects will leave Gibbon somewhat denuded of school officers. The greatest loss is

undoubtedly of G. W. Willis, who will be going up to St. Catherine's Society, Oxford, next October. This fine achievement is a fitting conclusion to a school career that has gone from strength to strength. Nevertheless, his departure is to be viewed with mixed feelings of regret and gratification that the most notable member of the House has attained such an academic achievement, even if his absence leaves a place not to be filled easily. No doubt the House will also feel the departure of Bowyer, Tyson and Nobes who, like Willis, must move on as the occasion arises and the opportunities are offered. Amongst the other members of the House who are leaving are: Vincent-Townend, Watkins and Woodcock, all of whom have served both House and School with a vigour and enthusiasm that singles them out for particular mention.

This has not been a year of triumph for Gibbon, but it has shown the potentialities of the House in a light which indicates that last year's successes were not the heralds of a " false dawn." On the contrary, the morning breeze should waft the " sweet smell of success " through the House, so that the Champion House may return refreshed from the holidays prepared to climb to the top again, and ready to prove that although this year may have seen our darkest hour, the dawn of a new era for Gibbon is fast approaching.

S. J. J. Tyson, Gb, UVI A.
R. J. Pooley, Ga, LVI Sc.

MORLEY The school year is coming to an end and we must bid farewell to many of the senior boys. Among those from Morley who are leaving are: I. Thirlwall (House Captain), P. Libby, P. McKendrick and B. Wagstaff.

At the end of last term the annual Eisteddfod was held and Morley were placed second. I feel sure that if we had expended a little more energy we could have coasted into first place.

As the inter-house athletics competition had not taken place when these notes were written, I cannot report yet that the athletics shield is in our possession. But with some co-operation and more training by the members of our team I think R. Knight will captain our athletes to success.

Our cricket team, led by K. Robins, was narrowly beaten by Pitt in the first match of the inter-house cricket competition. As this was the first match, I think the loss can be put down to lack of practice of the whole team as a team. This fault must be corrected next season.

I. Thirlwall must be congratulated on winning the Individual Fives Championship. He also did a good job in leading our team into first place with Cromwell.

Our academic achievements, for once in a while, outweigh our successes in sport this year. Morley B has done very well in diligence, being top set for the last six awards. To appreciate how great this success is one must realise that it is more difficult to stay at the top than to get there. If the diligence standard is kept up *throughout* every set in Morley for the last award, and I hope that it is, then we should also take possession of the diligence shield.

M. Golding, Md, LVI Sc.

PITT The most outstanding news that can be reported is our magnificent win in the Eisteddfod which was held last term. Never before has there been such a clear win. The united effort that Pitt House produced is undoubtedly the reason for the sweeping victory. This only goes to show what could really be achieved in every sphere of school activity, if the House made an exerted effort and kept it up all the time.

This term we have some further good news. At the time of writing our cricket team, under J. Cousins' leadership, beat Morley, and the prospects suggest that the cricket trophy will most probably become ours.

Congratulations to A. Berry for his splendid performance in winning

the Simpson Fencing Cup. In a very tense and exciting final he forced a draw with the captain. In the deciding bout which then had to be fought he won by one point.

After years of service to Pitt House we are sad to lose some fine sixth-formers. The following are leaving to carry on their studies in universities and colleges: P. N. Cassidy, E. Crouchman, B. Cullum, B. W. Jones, E. Reisman, J. W. Tarkowski and G. Wilson. We send them our best wishes for their years ahead and trust that their contacts with Wandsworth will not cease.

J. W. Tarkowski, Pa, U6 Sc.

BADMINTON

This year has seen the School enter into competition with other schools in the field of badminton. This has been achieved mainly by the efforts of Mr. B. E. Coleman, who has proved a most inspiring and helpful coach to a number of enthusiasts, drawn for the most part from the Sixth Form.

At the time of writing only one match has actually been played—against Henry Thornton. A return match, however, is being planned, as well as one or two other fixtures.

In the match against Henry Thornton, played at home, the School showed their superiority against an opposition, by no means to be underestimated, in a convincing victory of 7 games to 2. The School team overcame the experience of their opponents by their superior court-craft and agility. They were, however, far from perfect. The main defect in the playing of most of the School team was the costly and almost fatal mistake of failing to make the most of their openings. Yet mistakes of this nature can be corrected with constant practice and more experience.

The team representing the School was: B. M. Cullum and P. N. Cassidy (1st pair); A. W. Atkinson and I. Thirlwall (2nd pair); and K. L. Aziz and M. A. Burriss (3rd pair).

More boys, particularly from the Fourth Form and upwards, are invited to join the Badminton Club to continue the promising début made by the School in competitive badminton.

P. N. Cassidy, Pc, UVI Arts.

THE CLASSICAL MUSIC SOCIETY

This new after-school activity has been started to enable boys to hear music on gramophone records which might not be readily available to them otherwise. The Society has been meeting on Fridays after school each week since last December.

We should like to express our thanks to Mr. Burgess for his co-operation in lending us several of his own records and for his useful suggestions. As Mr. Burgess is unable to attend our meetings, Mr. Hollis has consented to take charge.

Since the Society's formation we have heard many varied works by composers including Beethoven, Brahms and Tchaikowsky.

The Society would welcome new members, the present membership being not very large. New ideas would also be welcomed.

M. C. Halfacree, Ch, 4 Theta (*Hon. Secretary*).

CRICKET

1st XI

Officials:

Captain: W. F. Fuller.

Vice-Captain and Secretary: J. H. Cousins.

FULL COLOURS:

W. F. Fuller, S. H. Cousins, K. Robins, M. Ginn, B. Burge, I. Thirlwall.

Following the departure of A. A. Agha from the 1st XI, it was obvious that the team would have to be reconstructed. This task has been facilitated by the fact that six of last year's 1st XI are still here and have formed a nucleus around which a team has been built. Taking over the captaincy of the team from such a distinguished player as A. A. Agha has been no small task, but W. F. Fuller has tackled this job with all the more enthusiasm.

Up to the time of writing, the 1st XI has had four matches. The opening game was against "Sinjuns", which we lost by six wickets, due to a lack of bite in our batting. The second match was against Pelham County, which we won by 6 wickets; B. Burge bowled magnificently and took 7 wickets for 11 runs. Our third match was against Raynes Park, who were this year a most formidable side. However, we had the best of a draw with them. B. Burge again distinguished himself with 6 wickets for 50 runs and J. H. Cousins and R. H. Pritchard both batted very competently, getting 37 not out and 24 runs respectively. Our most recent match was against Spencer Cricket Club. They declared very sportingly at 95 for 4, and we replied with 85 for 4 wickets, time being against us. I. Thirlwall, the wicket-keeper, made 19 not out in a partnership of 45 runs with J. H. Cousins, who made 29 runs.

Here is a list of boys who have represented the school so far this year: W. F. Fuller, J. H. Cousins, M. W. Dodd, M. Ginn, L. A. Gibbs, K. Robins, B. A. Burge, R. H. Pritchard, P. F. Coppock, M. A. Burriss, I. Thirlwall, K. Aziz, L. N. Congdon and K. P. Nebbett.

Finally, here are the full results of our first four matches:

v. Sinjuns. Lost by 6 wickets.
Wandsworth 65.
Sinjuns 66 for 4.

v. Pelham. Won by 6 wickets.
Wandsworth 66 for 4 wickets (Fuller 13, Cousins 13).
Pelham 65 (Burge 7 for 11).

v. Raynes Park. Drawn.
Wandsworth 86 for 6 wickets (Cousins 37 not out, Pritchard 24).
Raynes Park 112 for 9 declared (Burge 6 for 50, Cousins 3 for 22).

v. Spencer C.C. Drawn.
Wandsworth 85 for 4 wickets (Cousins 29, Thirlwall 19 not out).
Spencer 95 for 5 declared.

J. H. COUSINS, LVI Ec. (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE COLTS

As expected, the Colts, who last year as a Junior team gave such a scare to their predecessors, have turned out to be about the strongest Under 15 side that we can remember. No opponent has yet looked like winning and the draws have only been because of the ridiculously short playing time (3 hours), a hopelessly inadequate allowance for a team of this quality.

The bowling is varied but always accurate—the four fast bowlers make a contrasting but formidable battery. K. Bindon is the fastest, S. England probably the most accurate, R. Alder the most successful and G. Waterhouse, until an encouraging burst of 8 for 5 against the Juniors, the most unlucky. The leading wicket taker, however, is B. V. Sandford whose 14 wickets for 35 runs have been earned by subtle and well-controlled variations of flight and spin. T. Smith who has such great powers of both off- and leg-spin has so far been less effective than expected, probably because he is pushing through too fast and not leaving the batsman enough time to make his own mistakes.

Bowlers mainly perform as well as the fielders allow them, and certainly ours can have no complaints—hardly any catches have been dropped and the

large number of run-outs is testimony to quick stopping and accurate throwing.

The chances for batsmen have been limited beyond the first five places but when needed the later players have always done all that was required of them. J. K. Robertson and J. Moore have invariably given a good start to the innings. N. J. Haley, the captain, with a mixture of unorthodox but most effective strokes and a fierce power on the leg-side has already made nearly 150 runs. C. Davison's fine innings against Pelham was notable for the splendid understanding and speed between wickets that he had with his captain. T. Smith, G. Waterhouse and T. Pedrick have all played valuable innings.

The great strength of the Colts, however, is that they are essentially a team. Intelligent, co-operative and pleasant lads who are not just playing a game for their own glorification, an all too common failing of capable sportsmen and an attitude which is sure to upset the efficiency of the best of sides.

Results:—

v. Sir Walter St. John's. Match drawn.
Colts 62 (Moore 14).
St. John's 50 for 9 (Alder 5 for 10).

v. Spencer Park. Colts won by 50 runs.
Colts 92 for 6 (Davison 26, Haley 24).
Spencer Park 42 (Alder 4 for 10, Sandford 2 for 3).

v. Pelham. Colts won by 100 runs.
Colts 141 for 6 (Robertson 24, Haley 40, Waterhouse 15 not out, England 21 not out).
Pelham 41 (Sandford 5 for 11, Bindon 3 for 0).

v. Raynes Park. Match drawn.
Colts 111 for 7 (Smith 34, Haley 24, Waterhouse 23 not out).
Raynes Park 65 for 5 (Bindon 2 for 16).

v. Juniors. Colts won by an innings and 58 runs.
Colts 121 for 6 (Robertson 50).
Juniors 29 (Sandford 4 for 13) and 34 (Waterhouse 8 for 5).

THE DEBATING SOCIETY On May 15th the Debating Society came to life again and discussed the motion that " this House deplores the present foreign policy of the Government of India." Under the firm but kindly control of Cassidy as chairman, Tyson, ably seconded by Atkinson, proposed the motion, while Adiseshiah, seconded by Berry, opposed. In spite of the proposer's display of elegant wit, Adiseshiah's moving and earnest defence of Mr. Nehru carried the day, but not without much questioning and parrying in many promising speeches from the two seconders and from the floor. The motion was, however, defeated by a clear majority, with some interesting abstentions.

Cassidy was at this meeting overwhelmingly elected chairman for the term; Adiseshiah, Atkinson, Bari, Tyson and Willis vice-chairmen; and Shons honorary secretary. A committee of twelve was also elected.

Suggestions of topics for future meetings this term have included the role of the arts in a scientific age, and the future of compulsory Latin for entrance to the older universities.

Although the gift of oratory is afforded only to a few, anyone in the Upper School can develop this valuable gift by practice in the tolerant atmosphere of this valuable society.

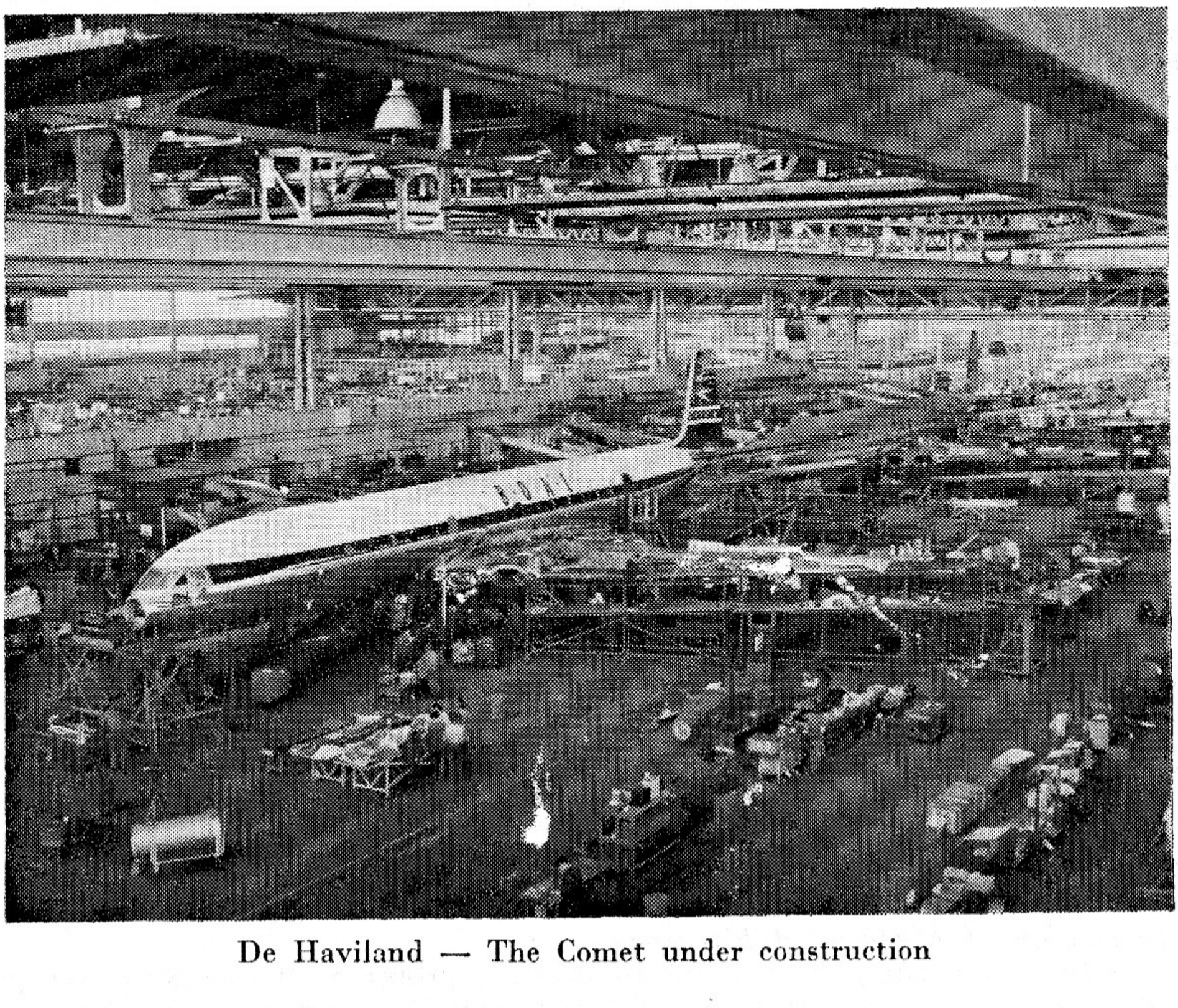
Finally, we are grateful to Mr. Payne for his help and suggestions in planning the programme of the society.

F. R. SHONS, Gc, LVI A (*Hon. Secretary*).

DE HAVILLANDS

Our visit took us only to the airframe division. Propellers and engines of this famous company are made elsewhere. The first department visited on March 10th was the Foundry and Press shop, where parts of the Comet IV are formed from sheet before progressing to the assembly line. Such a vast organisation is required to produce this aeroplane that it is understandable that the firm use one basic design at a time, although the modifications to this design now run into hundreds. The plant we saw covers a square mile! Some idea of the complexity of operations is perhaps conveyed by the fact that a million rivets are required to assemble one Comet. Assembly is carried out on a production basis and occupies the length of one huge hangar. As each station is reached, so another part is added until finally the wings are mounted by means of a huge jig or scaffold, engines are fitted and the huge construction moves out under its own power. The visit concluded with a sight of the training scheme for pilots run by the Company for the benefit of air-lines using the Comet.

P. W. McKENDRICK, Ma, UVI Sc. (*Visits Secretary*).



De Haviland — The Comet under construction

ENGINEERING IN THE ROYAL NAVY

On April 21st the Society was fortunate to have Commander Davey to talk about the Senior Service. Although the speaker confined himself largely to the Engineering side of the Navy, he also succeeded in convincing us of the necessity for its existence by a simple and well presented economic argument in answer to a member's query.

His witty references caused much amusement, particularly when he spoke of the work of a Naval Architect. "It is easy," he said, "to build a school like yours, but to float it the right way up is a different matter." The

Commander then showed a film about the Fleet Air Arm, which well demonstrated the most up-to-date techniques in launching and landing aircraft at sea.

P. T. LIBBY, Md, UVI Sc. (*Films Secretary*).

MORGAN CRUCIBLE COMPANY—BATTERSEA

Despite rigid controls and expensive extraction equipment, Morgan's carbon brush department visited by a party of 30 members on April 22nd, is a little dusty. But the value of the materials used and the contracts held by this leading international firm of carbon product manufacturers were remarkable. Altogether a fine picture of closely knit production engineering and ingenious research and design was presented to us during the school's first visit to this Battersea factory.

Brushes for electrical gear form only one part of this firm's output. They also produce carbon specialities for wireless work, lighting systems and an oil-holding carbon bearing of considerable interest to the mechanically minded in the party. Their crucibles were used in the Klondyke gold rush where they proved more valuable than the metal the prospectors were seeking!

This was an interesting visit which concluded with an insight into the work of the drawing office and toolroom.

At the excellent tea provided, each member of the party was presented with a copy of the story of the works containing, on page 61, one of the best testimonials to the company that a newcomer could wish to see. It is a page showing the years of service contributed by several families of employees. One family has served a total of 306 years! The dust cannot have much worried them. Members may be interested to hear that our chairman has obtained a student apprenticeship at this company and is soon to start work there. Good luck to him and we hope he will tell us more when he has worked there for a time.

ENGINEERING, MARINE, WELDING AND NUCLEAR ENERGY EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA

On Thursday, 7th May, the Engineering Society paid a visit to this fascinating exhibition. The party contained some 80 members and were joined in the afternoon by the sixth form committee.

The ground floor was given over mainly to oil engines. These varied from small diesels for powering winches, to the big 2,000 B.H.P. motors used to drive small vessels. Some of these larger engines have glass observation panels in the cylinders so that internal details could be clearly seen.

On other stands, interesting displays of welding and pumping equipment were given and several stands indicated the complex and intricate apparatus used in the production of power from nuclear energy. Members of the party were amazed at the finish of the machines on show and were reassured that British Engineering still takes some beating.

P. T. LIBBY, Md, UVI Sc. (*Films Secretary*).

LEONARDO DA VINCE LECTURE (Institution of Mechanical Engineers)

On the morning of the 7th of April a group of Engineering Society members went to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers to attend a lecture on the subject of "Transport on and under the sea."

The audience consisted of students of many colleges and schools accompanied by their respective masters.

The two speakers were introduced by the chairman, Vice Admiral Sir Frank Mason.

The first lecturer was Mr. W. A. Crago, who lectured on "Efficiency in ship operation." He first dealt with the importance of the shape or form of the hull and its construction. Operational techniques, Mr. Crago said, were just as important as the design of the ship itself, for a ship must be economical

to run as well as being strong and fast. The facilities for research in the ship-building industry were being used to maintain the high standard of engineering in the industry for which Britain is famous. Mr. Crago ended his lecture by expressing hope for the future when it is probable that submarine craft in the form of cargo vessels, tankers or even liners will have replaced surface ships as we know them; such vessels could offer great advantages in the way of speed and the avoidance of rough seas.

After Mr. Crago's lecture there was a 15 minute interval in which we were invited to inspect models which had been loaned to the Institute by leading firms and the Admiralty.

After the interval Mr. E. Norton lectured on " Propulsion," outlining the history of propulsion of ships throughout the ages. The story of propulsion was illustrated by a multitude of slides which explained the subject.

Mr. Norton dealt with the development of the different forms of power through the years from oar and sail through coal and steam to oil fired vessels. The great question mark at present was nuclear power. He gave figures to show that 1 lb. of uranium 238 had an energy equivalent to 8,200 tons of coal. At first glance, this appears to be an exciting possibility to the naval architect: a saving in fuel space etc., but on closer examination the advantages were not so tremendous. He went on to show that because the atomic reactor needs to be so heavily protected and would take up so much space midships, a great deal of the initial advantage was lost. He was sure, however, that the nuclear-powered liner would come and that it was still under consideration by the shipping companies. Since the lecture, of course, it has been announced that one of the new " Queens " will be nuclear powered.

The nuclear submarine is already with us, of course, and he went on to explain that with the submarine there is some considerable advantage in using nuclear fuel because the conventional submarine already has to carry considerable bulk with its heavy batteries but he emphasised this gain in efficiency was not reached until the submarine was doing 25 knots or more but with modern design and the use of nuclear power greater speeds were possible. Mr. Norton concluded by showing a colour film specially made for the lecture by Saunders-Roe at their research laboratories in the Isle of Wight.

These series of lectures were very well organised, extremely interesting and at no time did the speakers fail to hold their audience.

J. Proops, Mf, LVI Tech.

SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

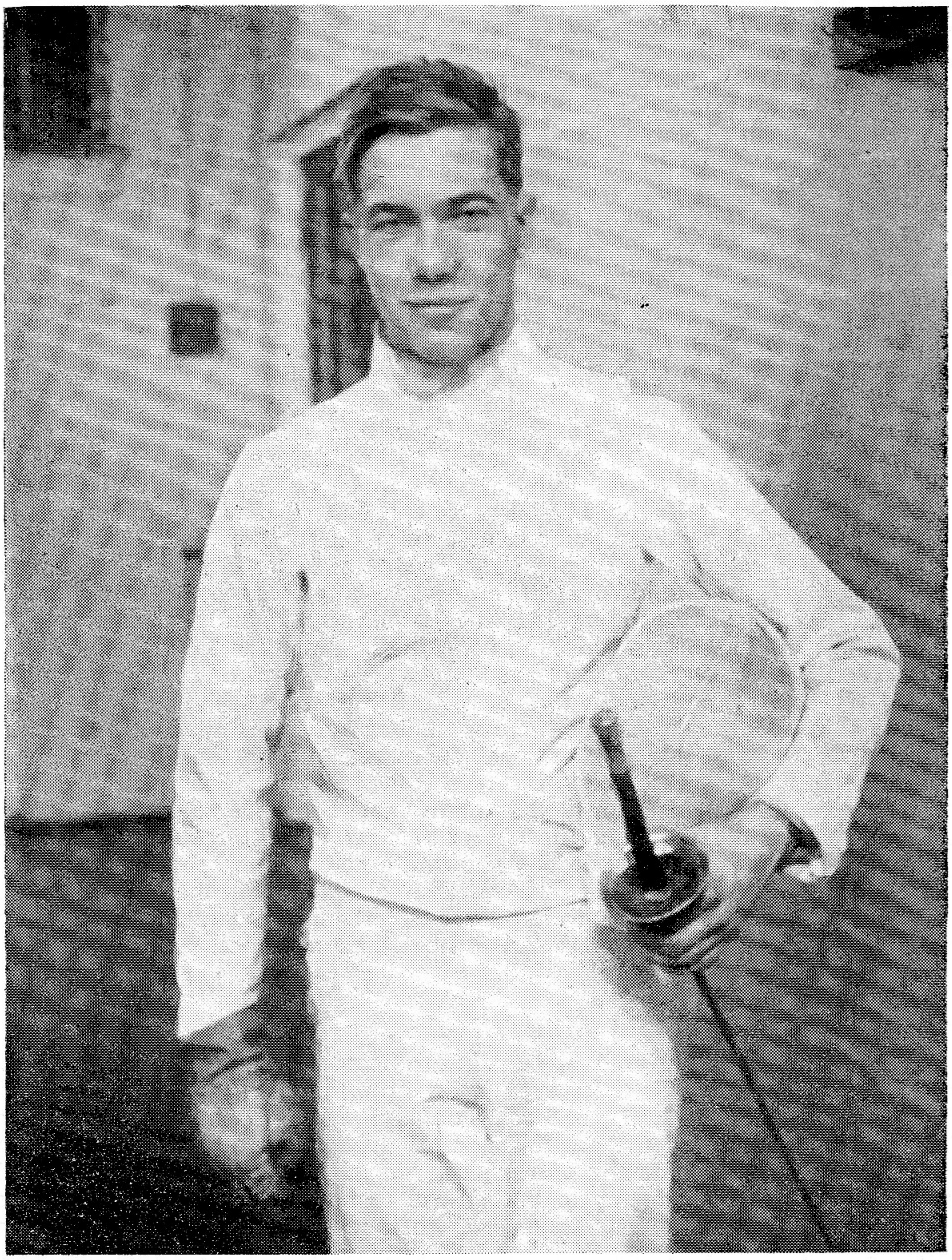
These meetings are gradually getting to become a habit with members of the committee. Some of them even know now that they are regularly held in Lecture Room 2 at 1.10 p.m. each Tuesday! Much business of worth has been conducted ably by the chairman or his deputy (whichever remembers to come). Future visits for the winter term are already under discussion and the Cooper-Bristol Company and Shell are to be approached shortly to see if there is any chance of our seeing over their respective works. The visit to Shell will break new ground if it can be arranged as it will be to the Fawley refinery and will centre on chemical engineering.

The committee recommend the inclusion of the following account of an incident on the train to Portsmouth Dockyard last year. When we asked for beer in the restaurant car the waiter enquired as to our age. " We're in the Upper Sixth," proudly replied Elliott. " Half past six? " exclaimed the waiter. We asked for coffee.

THE FENCING CLUB

Captain: N. C. Bishop.
Vice-Captain: A. J. R. Berry.

Since the last issue of The Link, we have been unfortunate in losing the guidance of Mr. Levy, who after founding fencing as a school activity, and fostering it through its first years, has now passed its leadership into the very capable hands of Mr. King and Mr. Roberts. It would not be possible



R. F. Perry, Junior Schoolboy Foil Champion of London, 1959

Photo: Mr. R. Levy

here adequately to express how great is the debt which all Wandsworth fencers owe to Mr. Levy.

To date this term we have fought four matches, all of which have ended in a victory for the school. Against the Latista Men's Fencing Club we fielded a first foil and a first sabre team. The foil team managed a resounding victory by winning eight bouts to one. After putting up a good fight against a far superior team, the sabrists lost by the narrow margin of five fights to four. However, the combined results gave a convincing victory to the school.

In the second match, against the Hunting Field Men's Club, we fielded first and second foil teams only. The first team recorded an excellent victory,

winning by eight bouts to one over a team which contained several county champions. The second team also did well, winning by five bouts to four.

The last two matches were against King's College, Wimbledon, and St. Clement Dane's. Against King's College the first team won by eight bouts to one, and the second team won by nine bouts to nil; giving an overall victory of seventeen bouts to one. Against St. Clement Dane's junior teams, the A team won by nine bouts to nil and the B team won by six bouts to two; giving an overall result of a victory for Wandsworth.

Of the inter-school competitions, Cromwell House won the house championships, Pitt came second, Morley third and Gibbon fourth.

The final of the school's Individual Championships is shortly to be held. This year the final is rather surprising in that it contains three juniors, D. Eden, M. Burness, B. Wigzell; all have done exceedingly well to reach this stage. Last year's holder of the trophy, K. C. Kreuchen, has now left the school, so leaving the final very much open to competition.

It may be of interest to note that N. C. Bishop, A. J. R. Berry, D. Titheradge and R. Butler privately entered the Latista Club Easter Championships. R. Butler was knocked out in the second round, and D. Titheradge, A. J. R. Berry and N. C. Bishop in the semi-final. All fencers fought very well throughout the competition.

The London Schoolboys Fencing Championships were held in our Gyms during the latter part of the Easter holidays.

In the senior section we had six entrants. We did well to only lose one entrant. D. Nathanson, in he first round, but in the second round, after putting up an exceedingly good fight against stiff opposition from public schools, D. Titheradge and R. Burt were also lost. An exact repetition of this happened again in the third round with the loss of A. J. R. Berry and R. Butler. This left only Bishop for the final. However, not being at the peak of his season's form, he did well to take fifth place.

In the junior section we had a record entry of eight boys. The first round took a toll of two, A. Kensington and B. Wigzell. The second round had a much more demoralising effect with the loss of four boys, D. Pratt, M. Burness, D. Eden, G. Hems. This left only two boys, R. Seneviratne, who after fencing very well was lost in the semi-final, and R. Perry. In the final, Perry swept aside all opposition to win the championship, the first time that a Wandsworth boy has done this. This is a most outstanding distinction.

It is important to add that the whole of our recent successes are to a very large extent due to the invaluable teaching of Professor Simmonds.

R. BURT, Mb, V5 (*Hon. Secretary*).

FISHING CLUB Owing to the coarse season being closed, no fresh-water angling has taken place. One member is a keen sea angler, and has caught a number of Dabs, Plaice and Cod off Southend Pier. He used worms as bait.

This term, during the lunch hour meetings, discussions will be held and outings will be arranged for the forthcoming season.

The club welcomes new members who have a keen interest in this sport.

G. E. DYBALL, Cf, LVI Tech.

HISTORY SOCIETY A lot of things have happened since we last appeared in print. Mr. Olney, an authority on the district, has talked to us again, with his fine collection of slides, this time on William Morris. Mr. Evans, an official of the Port of London Authority, brought "Waters of Time", a film of rare artistry specially made by Basil Wright for the Festival of Britain. Mr. Griffin, Chief Warder of the Tower, came with photographic slides, and his anecdotes of thumb-screws and blood

so enthralled his audience that not a boy budged when an opportunity was given at 5.15 p.m. All these items carried a real distinction.

A small party had the privilege of visiting the Mint. A larger group toured Southwark to see with shame what that historic borough has made of Shakespeare's memory, Chaucer's memory and Dickens' memory, but to cheer ourselves up we went on to the Whispering Gallery of St. Paul's and then out to Keats' cottage, Hampstead.

We have again made use of the lovely slides in full colour from the National Gallery. We also hired two full-length feature films: George Arliss in "Iron Duke", memorable for the charge of Scots Greys in the Waterloo sequence, and Robert Donat in "Lease of Life", which gave members a chance to hear and see this superb actor who has now passed into history. Shaw used to write quite seriously as if schools were still prisons. A pity his ghost could not have been evoked to see the audience of boys still voluntarily on the premises at 6.0 p.m. when these films finished!

We have had Mr. Roberts, member of staff, to entertain us with some fascinating objects from his collection. Then, another week, there was a programme of historic records—the voices of Conan Doyle, George Bernard Shaw, and Gandhi.

Doubtless there are still some things left that we can try in the future.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY There were two meetings on the Society's agenda this term: the Annual General Meeting and the showing of the superb documentary film "Every Day Except Christmas" by its talented director, Mr. Lindsay Anderson.

The latter was very successfully held here at Wandsworth and was fully attended by the four member schools. This meeting got off to a good start mainly because of the excellent tea provided by Miss Martin and her kitchen staff beforehand, at which members mixed informally.

Mr. Anderson's stimulating introduction to his film explained the sad state of the commercial cinema today, owing to there being no room for the true artist to exercise self-expression. After the showing of the film, members were invited to put questions to their guest, which they did with great interest.

By the time these notes are read the Annual General Meeting will have been held at Mayfield, which I am sure will have been as successful as the other meetings that have been held throughout this school year.

Looking back over these it is evident that the aim of the Society—that of a social education for sixth formers—has been fully realised and this being due largely to the efforts of Mr. Waters, who has admirably filled the gap left by Mr. Thom. Thanks must also be given to the respective heads of schools, especially our own headmaster, for the interest and initiative towards the sixth formers' own informal society.

A. W. ATKINSON, Cb, U6 Sc. (*Inter-Sixth Representative*).

THE LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY Since the writing of last term's notes, there have been several interesting theatre visits. Only four of these visits have been made this term since many supporters of the society have important public examinations later in the term.

The first visit after the writing of last term's notes was to the Arts Theatre to see two very amusing comedies by Jean Anouilh. "Madame de . . .", the first, was a story about a married lady who was bored with her husband and found herself in love with another man. The play was a very cleverly produced and well acted patchwork of short scenes of dialogue and mime, with Elizabeth Sellars in the title role. "Traveller without Luggage", also very well produced and acted, told the story of a young man suffering from amnesia, and of a French duchess who tried to find his family for him. As in the first play, there were many amusing situations, and this added up to a very enjoyable evening.

A visit illustrating the widening scope of the society was to the Comedy Theatre, to see the much talked about "Five Finger Exercise," which had been voted the best new play of the year. This provided an enjoyable evening's entertainment with a clever, complex plot concerning the emotional difficulties of a modern, upper middle class family.

Another visit which proved very interesting was to Wyndham's Theatre to see the modern, controversial play, "A Taste of Honey" by Shelagh Delaney, which showed the emptiness of life in this modern H-bomb era. The play was very powerful, especially in the second half, where one could fully realise the forcefulness of the playwright's conception of modern life. To many people the work of this up and coming young author surpasses even that of the brilliant John Osborne.

Our next visit was to the Old Vic to see their production of "Macbeth." The performances and production were very poor and it was only really useful to those boys studying "Macbeth" for G.C.E. However, it was interesting to see a bad production for a change.

The Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, was the scene for our next two visits. The first of these was the two plays, "The Creditors" by Strindberg and Thomas Otway's version of Molière's "Cheats of Scapin." "The Creditors" was fairly well acted, Mai Zetterling being very good, but the play was perhaps rather tedious. "The Cheats of Scapin" was a lively performance, but again the story was rather simple and after one tedious play, those who stayed did not seem to enjoy it very much.

The second visit to the Lyric was very much better. The play was "Brand" by Henrik Ibsen and those who excused themselves from this visit on the grounds that they did not like Ibsen, missed an excellent play and production. It is the story of a calvinistic priest, his uncompromising religious views, and how he tries to enforce them. Patrick McGoohan acted the exacting title role very well and the supporting cast was also very good. The wonderful settings of Richard Negri had to be seen to be believed. The marvellous climax in the last scene of the play was so powerful that the audience seemed quite stunned. This visit must surely be one of the finest, if not the finest, production the society has been to.

Before these notes are published, we will have been to the new Mermaid Theatre to see a musical play with the intriguing title, "Lock up your Daughters." This visit will be doubly interesting for the theatre, dream of character actor Bernard Miles, is the first to be built in the City of London for three hundred years. This will probably be the last visit of the term because of examinations.

Next term we hope to return to lunch-time meetings as well as making fortnightly theatre visits, and we hope to have as much support as possible. Remember that interested new members from the Main School are always welcome.

P. GILLINGHAM, Pb, LVI Arts.
J. A. LALLY, Ma, U5.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

We are due to have two meetings with Mayfield this term. At the first, which has already taken place, the following poems were read by fifth and sixth formers: Les Chats, Les Eléphants, La Lune Blanche, Voyelles, Dimanches, and La Ville. A German Ballad, Goethe's Zauberlehrling, was dramatised. This dramatisation enabled even those with no knowledge of German to enjoy it.

The second meeting at the end of term will be devoted to a combined reading of "La Poudre aux Yeux" by Labiche; we are supplying the men's parts and Mayfield the women's parts. We had an extra meeting last term together with boys from Sir Walter St. John's. They read poems of Villon, the girls read letters of Madame de Sévigné and we acted (more or less) a scene from "Le Docteur Knock."

We are having three lunch-time record programmes this term, open to all boys in the main school, whether or not they learn languages. Usually at least three languages are represented by a mixed assortment of songs and speech.

At last we have a fixed notice board at the foot of staircase G, and we hope all boys interested in languages will watch for details of activities arranged by the society.

A. M. LINCE.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term has been highly successful from every point of view. We have at last managed to find a hard core of a dozen or so boys in the school who are sufficiently interested in photography to spend a little time after school to practise and improve this worthwhile hobby. Most of our members are in the fourth forms and below, down to several in the first year. I would like to take this chance to encourage members of the fifth and sixth years to join.

The club meets regularly after school on Fridays. This term we would like to thank Richards of the fourth year for his interesting lectures on flash photography and colour tinting. We have also had several lively discussion meetings.

Our account books this term show a small profit. This has been used to buy a much-needed seconds timer, some dishes, a developing tank, and some booklets.

I have several points to make. Firstly, the society meets every Friday in Lecture Room 2; secondly, anyone from the first form upwards may join, as long as he pays the term's subscription of 1/-d.; thirdly, the society was formed to teach photography as well as practise it; and fourthly, photography as a hobby is not difficult, in fact developing a film only consists of twiddling a knob and keeping an eye on the clock.

On the Friday preceding half-term the society visited the Photo Fair at Olympia. We should like to thank Mr. Hollis for arranging this visit. An interesting and profitable time was had by all.

Lastly, in summing up, I should like to thank Leverick of UV for his assistance in running the society.

R. M. VINCENT-TOWNEND (*Hon. Secretary*).

THE RAILWAY CLUB

Since our last report there have been a number of successful meetings. To round off the autumn term—there was no report in the last issue of The Link—we had three talks by members of the club. One on some aspects of locomotive designs by Mr. Spearing, the second on French Railways by B. W. Jones and the last on the modernisation of British Railways by A. C. Dudley. All three were interesting and instructive.

In the spring we had three films and two talks. The films were: The Rhatian Railway from the Swiss Tourist Office. This was a very good film from the tourist point of view, but to us as a railway club it proved disappointing. At the next meeting we were luckier, as the two films on this occasion dealt more exclusively with railways. They were on the Electrification of the Valencienne-Thionville mainline of French Railways. The following talk by R. M. Vincent-Townend proved more hilarious than factual. Two weeks later Mr. Spearing told us about some Irish Railways which he visited last year.

So far this term we have had only two meetings. At the first we saw another film from French Railways which dealt with their method of track maintenance and also a short film on some of their latest heavy electric locomotives. At the next meeting Mr. Murray of British Railways (S.R.) gave us a talk on the history of Waterloo Station and showed us some photographs of the station as it was 50 years ago. An excursion to Waterloo

Station on the following Saturday gave an even more lively illustration of the developments that have taken place. We were shown the telephone exchange, the enquiries department, parcels and mail sorting offices as well as Waterloo Station's amateur dramatic society's own theatre, which is under the arches forming the foundation of the station. After going down into the bowels of the earth we went up to the roof of the station, where we ate our lunch. Then came the highlight of the tour, a visit to the signalbox. To reach this we walked across several sidings. The signalbox is a modern one with small handlevers operating the interlocking points and signals, and one can see the position of all trains entering and leaving the station by a quick glance at the lights moving along the track diagram behind the switches. Our thanks go to Mr. Murray who gave the talk and organised the visit and to all those who helped him to give us a most interesting insight into this busy terminus.

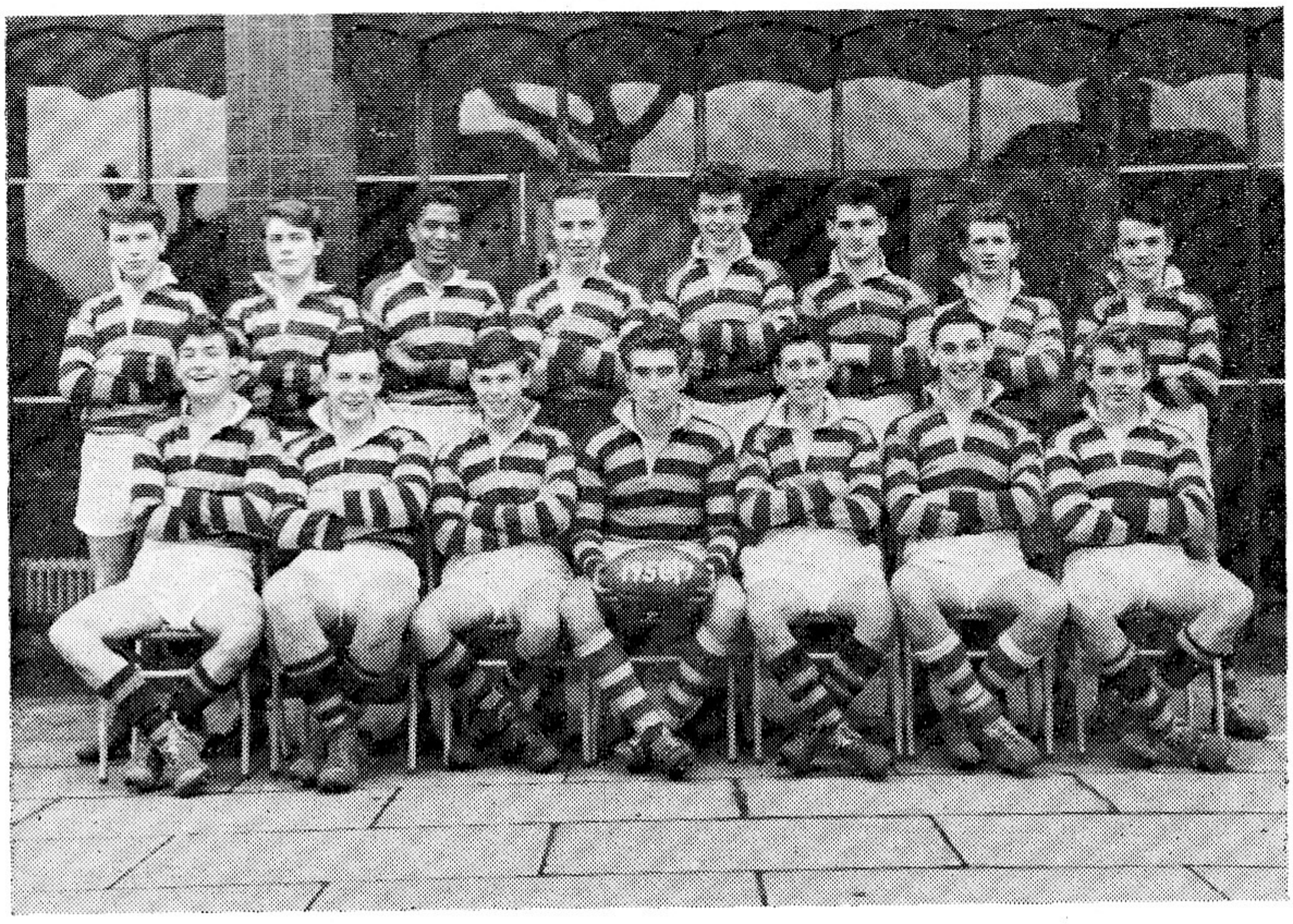
Two films were taken during the visit to Waterloo Station and it is hoped to use the best pictures from each to produce a black and white film-strip. If this experiment is successful we intend to produce more film-strips on railway subjects.

It also looks as though within the near future we may be able to construct a permanent lay-out for the club. This is something we have wanted for a long time.

P. M. TAYLOR, Gh, 4 Iota.

RUGBY

1st XV



Back row : *L. N. Congdon, R. J. Pooley, M. Adiseshian, M. J. Norhan, E. Halls, A. R. Nicholl, F. W. R. Evans, W. F. R. Fuller,*

Front row : *K. Robins, D. M. Holdich, K. W. Denyer, P. Rees, D. A. Stewardson, M. Levy, B. A. Eadie.*

This year the results of the 1st XV have been very disappointing although the team has done its utmost on and off the field to improve its standard of play. Most of the teams we have played have been composed

of seventeen and eighteen year old boys, whereas the average age of our own team was 16.8 years. This vast difference in age, plus the lack of experience, is, I think, the reason for our many defeats.

However, the whole team has played hard. The halves have worked diligently in serving the threequarters, who have taken advantage of this and made some excellent movements. The forwards have also played hard, often against great odds. Line-out work has improved and the tight scrums have also been successful throughout the season.

During the Christmas vacation, Eadie, Nichol, Norman, Halls, Burge and Stewardson gave support to the Old Wandsworthians R.F.C. when they played in a match at their new ground at Claygate.

Later in the season the school played the Staff XV. This proved a very hard game, against a considerably older and more experienced side. As the match progressed the school learned a few good tips on how rugby should be played.

Early this term, the Old Wandsworthians' match told a similar story. The odds were in favour of the school, but they did not take advantage of this and were soundly thrashed. A letter written by Mr. Hammond of the Old Boys after this match, however, praised the pack in these words: "Our pack was out-matched for fitness, strength and speed" and later, "We were all impressed with the school side and rank it superior to very many of the school teams of past seasons." This letter contrasted oddly with the team's own opinion of itself during the usual post-mortem on this game. They say that the onlooker sees more of the game, however, and taking these kind words in conjunction with those of many of the School staff after their own tussle with this team, it is obvious that the School team did not appear so badly to others as to themselves. The courageous tackling was especially praised by both sets of opponents and this is no small thing. Our sport is one of the few body-contact games still in fashion and if courage can be acquired or brought out on the rugby field then we are convinced that the practise of it is more than fully justified, win or lose.

2nd XV

Although this year's 2nd XV has only had six fixtures, it has been more successful than the 2nd XV of last year. This success was due to the keenness shown by the team on the field of play and their regularity in turning out for practices. M. Burriss, M. Dodd and J. Pinnock have excelled in the back division while R. Bone, R. Mundy and F. Shons have been outstanding in the forwards. L. Levens has been a very good utility player.

W. FULLER (*Captain*).

Results:—

v. Sarah Robinson (Away), Won 13—0. Burriss (2 tries), Fuller (2 cons., pen. goal).

v. Tollington (Home), Won 27—3. Fuller (4 tries, 2 cons.), Dodd (try and con.), Smart and Mundy (tries).

v. Selhurst (Home), Won 10—3. Robins and Shons (tries), Fuller (2 cons.).

v. R.A.F. Hatton (Away), Lost 0—19.

v. Upper Latymer (Home), Lost 6—8. Dodd (try), Burriss (try).

v. Purley (Away), Lost 3—36. Smith (try).

The following boys have played: P. Coppock, L. Levens, T. Harnley, C. Smart, R. Reid, M. Burriss, L. Congdon, P. Clarke, M. Dodd, W. Fuller, G. Smith, F. Shons, R. Mundy, D. Flint, R. Bone, R. Baker, E. Rowe, K. Robins, D. Francis, J. Pinnock, D. Griffen, I. Thirlwall, J. Wilson.



Back row : *C. I. Smart, R. K. C. Reid, J. G. Wilson, B. A. Burge*
M. A. Burris, P. F. Coppock.

Front row ; *R. J Levens, L. N. Congdon, R. M. Bone, W. F. R. Fuller,*
M. W. Dodd, A. R. Nicholl, J. E. Pinnock.

JUNIOR

Once again the School has produced an outstanding Junior team whose playing record speaks for itself.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points for	Points against
19	17	1	1	545	50

The highlight of the season, naturally, was the tour of South Wales. Despite the absence of four regular players, the team returned unbeaten after three matches in three days. The tour is reported elsewhere and here perhaps it is only necessary to quote from the School Magazine of the Bishop Gore School, Swansea, " The School Under 14 team were completely outclassed by a big and fast Wandsworth side, which, in a splendid exhibition of open rugby, piled up 44 pts. The fact that the win was no fluke was demonstrated when the Wandsworth boys, later in the week, decisively beat Neath Grammar School, at Neath." Generous praise, indeed, and especially so when one remembers that the Bishop Gore team lacked several regular players. Yet the method of play is the important point and, although the team had its bad days, it seldom failed to produce some really good handling movements in which forwards and backs took part. Unnecessary touch-finding, aimless booting of the ball and blind mauling and scragging by the forwards were faults not often seen, although the forwards were never averse to " mud-larking " in the innumerable ponds of Beverley Meads.

It is neither easy nor perhaps desirable to single out members of a *team* for especial mention but the captain, S. W. England, and the vice-captain, P. J. Dutch, both had very good seasons whilst R. J. Byatt proved an excellent utility player. The pivot of any rugby team is the stand-off half and in this position C. Marshall revealed outstanding ability. Extremely fast,

time and again he cut right through the opposition, his kicking was judged to perfection and, in defence, very few evaded his tackle.

The other regular members of the team were P. J. Ashby, M. Newberry, T. L. Smith, R. J. Mance, D. A. Stagg, R. D. Bell, T. Morris, R. B. Lambert, H. W. J. Griffiths, P. G. Bligh and D. W. Coleman, whilst N. E. Lingwood and K. Bright played in several matches. They deserve to be congratulated on the standard of play and for maintaining so well the reputation of the School in junior rugby.

JUNIOR "B" XV

Only one player in this team had, previous to this season, ever represented the School. Yet the playing record was most satisfactory.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points for	Points against
8	4	—	4	91	56

And three of the eight fixtures would normally have been fulfilled by the "A" team. Matches against Sutton (16—6), Purley (6—0), Hillbrook (11—9) and Spencer Park (6—3) were lost. In the return, Spencer Park were defeated 23—0 and Sedgehill (27—3), Balham (9—5) and Elliott (14—9) were also beaten.

Team: L. J. Pugsley, K. R. Blake, R. E. Benting, S. V. Steer, R. H. Stephens, N. Rose, K. Frankum, I. M. Moffatt, B. E. Emery, G. W. H. Barnes, G. Dallimore, J. V. Saunders, D. V. Skinner, J. P. Baker, B. T. Thorne (captain), B. C. Preston, S. F. Rust, R. C. Fionda, B. J. Fuller.

In the present third forms there are clearly some forty boys able to play rugby well. Perhaps if they remember that they have still a lot to learn, remain willing to learn and avoid the conceit that has ruined previous junior teams, our senior rugby results might make better reading in later years.

J.G.M.

UNDER 13 XV

This year was an eventful year for the Under 13 XV. As well as having an excellent playing record against local schools they also had a successful tour of South Wales in conjunction with the Junior XV.

From the beginning the team attempted to play fast, open rugby, the forwards striving to capture the ball and then allowing the threequarters to use their thrust and speed and so cross the line. Perhaps they were not always successful with their finishing, especially in the early games, but as the season progressed they settled down into a hard-working team. Their team-work was put to the test on the tour of South Wales when two out of three matches were won against tough Welsh opposition. The fighting play learnt in South Wales had a great effect on the team who, on returning to London, scored 119 pts. to 6 pts. in the three remaining games.

The complete playing record reads:—

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points for	Points against
17	13	2	2	307	80

Throughout the season the emphasis has been on team-work and no boy can really receive special mention. The forwards worked together as a light, fast-moving pack and should the initiative ever be lost there was always Paul Larkin, a tower of strength, to rally the pack together. The threequarters were extremely fast and penetrating but there was an occasional weakness in handling. Full-back seemed to be a difficult position to fill but by the middle of the season Edward Kaley had established himself in this position.

There were very few changes in the team throughout the season. The forwards consisted mainly of Fletcher, Sandford, Poole F., Holden, Larkin, Bender, Perry and Herbert. Scrivens was the regular scrum half and was partnered by Bland and Muller. The threequarters were Poole S. (captain), Flower, Warnham and Kaley. Both Flanders and Lewis were excellent utility players and filled many varied positions during the season.

The Under 13 XV must thank members of the Under 13 "B" XV who supplied reserves on occasions, especially during the 'flu epidemic. Notable among them are Barrett and Fisher, who came on the tour, and Goodman, Gentle, Sambrook, Cooke and Peters.

J.B.

RUGBY FIVES

Captain: I. Thirlwall.
Hon. Secretary: P. N. Cassidy.

Despite the fact that the School Team this year was a completely new one, its members displayed on several occasions considerable skill and determination in the face of experienced and wily opponents. Nevertheless the team had its weaknesses, the chief being a certain incompatibility in its pairings at the beginning of the season. After a reshuffle in the pairings, however, the team settled down to play some vigorous Fives in several keenly-contested matches. But, alas, too late!—St. Marylebone had been assured already of the Marchant Cup! If the new combinations had been exploited earlier, surely the elusive cup would have been brought back triumphantly to Wandsworth.

Yet the School Team completed a very successful season by finishing a close third to St. Marylebone and Hackney Downs, thus improving considerably on last year's performance, when the School came fifth. It was pleasing to record that our team fairly trounced last year's holders of the Marchant Cup, Sir Walter St. John's, in two encounters.

The School Team was captained most ably by I. Thirlwall. The regular team consisted of I. Thirlwall, P. N. Cassidy, A. A. Agha and N. A. Ratcliffe, with M. P. Ginn substituting on two occasions.

Here is a table of the matches played with the results:—

v. Sinjuns (Away), Won 120 points to 82 (7 games to 1).
v. Strand (Home), Won 120—22 (8—0).
v. St. Marylebone (Home), Lost 79—105 (3—5).
v. Hackney Downs (Home), Lost 91—106 (3—5).
v. Hackney Downs (Away), Lost 78—101 (3—5).
v. Sinjuns (Home), Won 120—42 (8—0).
v. Strand (Home), Won 120—35 (8—0).
v. Henry Thornton (Home), Won 120—38 (8—0).
v. St. Marylebone (Away), Lost 82—91 (3—5).
v. Henry Thornton. Won by default.

In the second match against Strand the School fielded three reserves—J. H. Cousins, L. R. Nobes and P. T. Libby.

One friendly match was also played this season—against Haberdasher Aske's (Hampstead), a school renowned for its high standard of performance in Fives. The School Team, however, showed their mettle in some forceful rallies, and, finally, drew on points, 82 all, but won on games, 5—3. Through the indisposition of one of our members at the midway stage, the School was forced to field a substitute. R. Hancock nobly filled the vacancy.

In the Final of the School Individual Fives Championship M. P. Ginn, a powerful, yet comparatively inexperienced player in competitive Fives, was outplayed by the pace and style of the Captain of Fives, I. Thirlwall. He is a much-improved player on last year's form, and proved a worthy victor.

The teams in the Inter-House Fives Competition were all fairly evenly matched, as the final results showed. Cromwell and Morley tied for first place, and Pitt and Gibbon tied for third place.

Unfortunately three members of the present School Team will be leaving at the end of the term, thus making the ranks of experienced Fives players in the School somewhat depleted. But with several promising young players,

particularly in the Fourth Form, let us hope that it will not be long before the Marchant Cup returns to Wandsworth School.

P. N. CASSIDY, Pc, UVI Arts.

We congratulate I. Thirlwall and N. A. Ratcliffe on being awarded Full Colours and P. N. Cassidy Half Colours for their services to Fives. Furthermore, Thirlwall and Ratcliffe were both chosen to represent the London Grammar Schools Team on several occasions.

STAMP CLUB Despite the warm weather we have been having, the Stamp Club has continued to meet every Wednesday evening in room 33. A regular number of boys turn up each evening to swop and sell stamps, and Mr. Walmsley always has an excellent selection of approvals. Catalogues and stamp magazines are loaned out free of charge, and prizes are awarded for the winners of rather difficult stamp quizzes, set by myself. Interesting lectures have been planned for the future, and I am sure that any new members who would like to join will find this activity well worth while.

L. LEVENE, Pc, U5.

TENNIS Up to the writing of these notes the school tennis team has played three matches, not, I must say, with any great success. The reason for our unfortunate defeats is not hard to discover: this is only our second season of tennis and the opponents that we have come up against recently have been experienced school teams with a long tradition of tennis behind them.

Our team this year consisted of the following boys: 1st pair, R. Müller and A. Bari. 2nd pair, M. Levy and A. W. Atkinson. 3rd pair, P. Cassidy and B. Burriss. Three of these are new to the team this year.

The team has several more fixtures for this term and I have hopes that we may be able to win a fair proportion of them. Lastly, I must offer thanks on behalf of the team to Mr. Guttridge who has keenly followed our matches and given us every support.

A. W. ATKINSON, Cb, U6 Sc. (*Captain*).

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