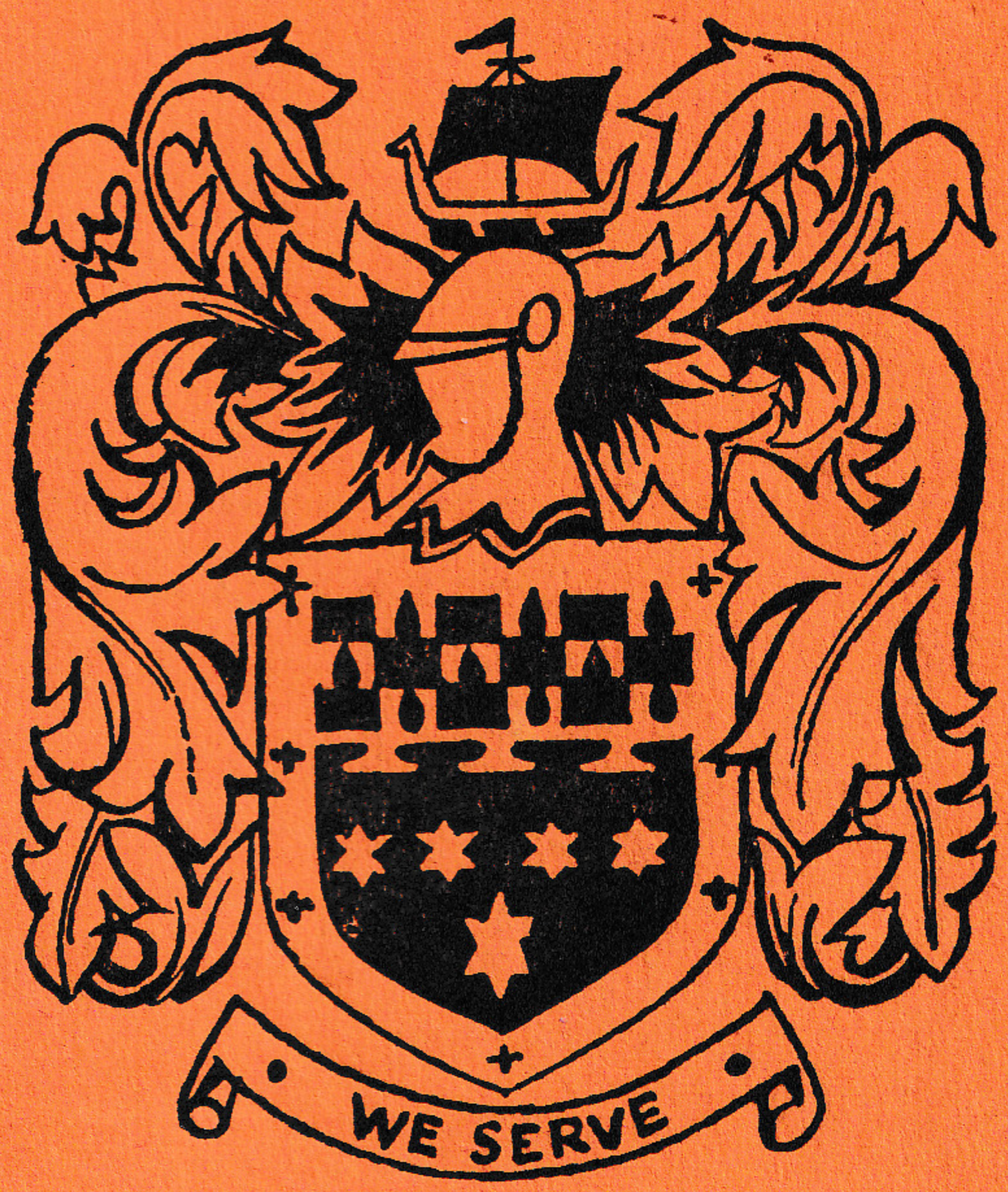
Mar 59

THE LINK



WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

MARCH 1959

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE : THURSDAY 4th JUNE.

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

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THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XLV MARCH, 1959 No. 1

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

Since writing my notes for the last issue of The Link, I have had many occasions to congratulate various sections of the School upon outstanding successes in a wide range of activities.

The brilliant performance of the Choir at the Christmas Concert brought many tributes, including the enthusiastic appreciation of Her Majesty's Inspector for Music. As a result the Chief Inspector for Music, Mr. Bernard Shore, the well-known viola player, visited the School and was so well impressed with our Music Department that he arranged to give us a Viola Recital on Tuesday, 24th February. The Principal of a leading Training College said that ours was the best school choir he had ever heard, a rare tribute from one who has heard so many.

The School Dramatic Society, too, greatly distinguished itself in its three performances of "The Italian Straw Hat". A review of the production was given pride of place in the appropriate section of the Times Educational Supplement. I do not think I have ever read such unqualified praise in a Times review of a school play. The performance, the decor, and the incidental music were alike distinguished.

It is hardly necessary to say that the School is exceptionally fortunate in having staff who can inspire pupils to these heights.

But there have been triumphs in other departments as well. Our cross-country runners, both as teams and as individuals, have had some remarkable successes in inter-school meetings. I also recollect announcing gratifying performances in Fives and Fencing.

Mr. T. G. Benyon was seconded from the Staff some years ago to the education service of the Army of the Rhine. He has just been appointed Headmaster of Windsor School, Hamm, with over 500 pupils, mainly boarders. We congratulate him. He is the second head of the English Department of Wandsworth School to be appointed to an important headship during this last year. Mr. Thom who left last April for the headship of the new large comprehensive school at Carlton, Nottingham, visited us along with his head of technical studies during January.

This term the Tutorial-At-Home for the Parents Association were followed by a "Brains Trust" in which a number of interesting and sometimes amusing questions were posed by the question-master, Mr. E. G. Green, Vice-President of the Parents Association, to a team representing Parents (Mrs. M. White and Mr. H. S. Arkill), Staff (Mr. W. H. George, Vice-President of the L.T.A.), Old Boys (Mr. D. Grant, Secretary of O.W's Association) and Pupils (S. J. J. Tyson).

A special word of thanks to the Parents Council for presenting to the School a set of Rugby Shirts for the Juniors. This incidentally marks the Parents' tribute to the success of the Junior Rugby XV during this and

previous seasons. Their mid-term tour of South Wales will doubtless be reported in the next issue of The Link.

It was our turn this year to be hosts to the Inter-Sixth Society half-day conference held on Thursday, 19th February. The subject was Art. In the afternoon Mr. John Berger gave a talk based on the Russian Exhibition at Burlington House. Then the members divided into small discussion groups and, after tea, questioned a Brains Trust consisting of Mr. John Berger, the Countess Huntingdon (Miss Margaret Lane), Mr. R. W. Waters, and Mr. John Morley, the Head of the Art Department at Mayfield School.

The following have been appointed Full Prefects this term: C. J. Elliott (Ph) and P. W. McKendrick (Ma). Congratulations to the latter on being awarded a Student Apprenticeship by the Coal Board.

The following are new Sub-Prefects: L. S. Woodcock, V. C. Ruff, R. A. Peacock, D. H. Ball, M. Adiseshiah and F. R. Shons.

New Proprefects are: R. H. Pritchard, M. P. Ginn, D. P. Flint, D. Allenby and M. G. Coysh.

EDITORIAL In last term's editorial I criticised a certain minority in the school who were a disgrace to it. For some reason or other there seems to be a slight general inprovement in that section now and I hope it will continue. This term I am taking the opposite extreme and I am going to ring out the bell of success and tell you about a few of the Old Wandsworthians who have made good. (Sub title: " I wish I had brains too!")

The history of our school is a long and interesting one, of which we are extremely proud. Its past members have been industrious, diligent, honest and because of this Wandsworth School has an unimpeachable character, and a Wandsworthian boy commands great respect. I can only mention a few of these outstanding boys, or rather men, who have passed through the school.

In 1904, a young boy began his school career at Wandsworth leaving nine years later in 1913. No school records were kept then as to the activities and abilities of pupils, but his particular boy was certainly no slacker. To-day he is the Assistant Principal of The Imperial College, London. This is his full title: Professor D. N. Newitt, M.C., D.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.C.S., D.I.C., M.I.Chem.E., F.R.S. Rather an impressive array of titles! The last initials must, no doubt be envied by the boys of the Science department, for to become a Fellow of the Royal Society is to have reached the last rung in the ladder to success. And what a long ladder it is too.

Also at the Imperial College as Reader is another old boy, Professor B. C. L. Weedon, D.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.C.S., D.I.C., F.R.I.C. He is more recent, as he attended from 1932-1940. When he gained his doctorate he was reputed to have been the only person in the country to have received it at such an early age.

If you look at a banknote you once again see a success story written on it. L. K. O'Brien, the Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, is an old boy. We have also the pleasure and honour of having had Mr. O'Brien co-opted as a Governor to the school.

Surprised as some of you may be, Mr. Clode is also an old boy. He gained a B.Sc. with first-class honours in mathematics, and finally came back and worked his way to Assistant Headmaster. During his school career he was captain of the cricket team and a member of the unbeaten first fifteen. One secret of Mr. Clode's success, which I think I can divulge without fear of reprimand, was pointed out to me by a person from outside the school. This very important asset is that Mr. Clode has the power of making anyone, even the humblest first former, feel that he is important, is respected,

and is a personal friend of Mr. Clode. I am sure that when you come to think of it you will agree that this pinpoints a very important quality in a master whom many of us regard as a friend.

There you have a few of the many. Essentially these persons belong to the history of the old school, but I sincerely believe that the present pupils of the "New School", if they really care for it, will not let down old standards but will go on, if not to achieve greater fame, then at least to equal that of their predecessors.

It will take time for a school of this size to establish its own individual character. We shall only begin to see how this is progressing when the present third form has reached the sixth. The present third formers were the youngest pupils when the new school was opened. In years to come when someone else will be writing this editorial, let us hope that he will also have reason to be proud of us, the old boys, and will be able to quote famous names from the fields of technology, industry, commerce, literature, sport and the world of entertainment.

J. W. TARKOWSKI, Pa, UVI Ec.

SPEECH DAY "Of all the schools I have visited Wandsworth School made the deepest impression". Mr. King, quoted this comment during his address at the annual speech day. It had been made by an American professor of education at the conclusion of an exhaustive study-tour of British schools.

The speech day programme included eight songs and choruses by the school choir. These led Mr. James Griffiths, M.P., to pay a tribute to the quality and beauty of the "angelic" voices of the boys and staff composing the choir.

BUILDING ON OLD TRADITIONS

Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Matthews, O.B.E., T.D., chairman of the governors, introduced the guests to the school. These included, besides the deputy leader of H.M. Opposition, Mrs. Griffiths, Ald. Mrs. E. K. Goodrich (vice-chairman of the L.C.C.), Lady Linstead, Clr. Mrs. Clarke, Dr. Alec Hay, Clr. Parker, Mr. Harper, H.M. Inspector, and Mr. Hamilton, of the Borough-road Teachers' Training College. Lieut.-Colonel Matthews expressed the debt of gratitude that he, the other governors, and the school owed to all the officers of the L.C.C. who had assisted the school in the past year.

The two head prefects, P. N. Cassidy and G. W. Willis, presented reports on the social, sporting and athletic activities of the school. These provided ample evidence to prove that in all spheres Wandsworth School is building firmly on its old traditions and establishing others at a commendable rate.

HEADMASTER'S REPORT

In his report, the headmaster argued that comprehensive education is more a matter of structure and institutions than a new theory of education. He went on to describe some of the structure of the school. He explained how the first two years are regarded as a diagnostic period. The third year is the year of orientation towards the particular course of secondary education that the pupil's showing in the lower school suggests he should follow. Mr. King emphasised that all the fourteen courses available aim at a good general education.

Each course has its bias, or special emphasis, to suit the various abilities and aptitudes of the pupils. Every boy could find opportunity, expression and development. Wandsworth School offered "maximum availability and maximum accessibility".

A considerable increase in passes at the ordinary level of the general certificate of education reflected the expansion of the school. They also showed a qualitative as well as a quantitative increase. Most boys in the fifth year took one or other of the public examinations.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Within the school, prefectorial and other offices have been extended as numbers have increased, and opportunities have been developed for leadership at all stages, including the lower school. Last year's head prefects, Gordon Wort and Derek Ayshford, gave outstanding service to the school.

The Parents' Association had given further much appreciated help to school clubs and societies. At the G.C.E. advanced level, examination results continued at the steady level of the last six years, and were expected to show a marked increase when the new sixths completed their second year.

In connection with the courses both in engineering and building special advisory committees have been set up representing industry, further education, and the youth employment service.

DANGEROUS AND EXCITING

Mr. J. Griffiths, M.P., distributed the prizes. He described the modern world as a dangerous and exciting adventure; he urged the boys not to miss the chance offered them by "this wonderful example of a school". He underlined the need to produce more scientists and technicians, but he warned of the dangers of neglecting primary education for the benefit of secondary.

Mr. Griffiths was thanked by Ald. Mrs. Goodrich and Sir William Bowen for his talk. Lieut.-Colonel Matthews was also thanked for acting as chairman.

FORM PRIZES (FOR DILIGENCE)

FORMS I.—Martyn C. Hutchison, James F. Bates, John Crane, Roger Manning, Duncan J. Wherrett, Peter W. Goodman, Roger D. Fryer, David R. Hunt, Michael D. Bland, David M. Eden, Richard J. Holden, John M. Flynn, Trevor G. S. Clarke, Ronald C. Armes, Michael R. Bender, Kenneth Fenton, Peter M. Wingate, John C. Tindall, Donald W. Gentle, Martin A. Page, Peter F. Comer, Morris R. Colbourne, Paul E. Pearce, John G. Forrester, Edward B. Burridge, Robert V. Jones, John W. Masterson, Kevin L. Dwyer.

FORMS II.—Peter J. Fogg, Michael R. Hall, Clive Brightley, David A. Marshall, Michael C. Bellamy, David A. Stagg, Julian M. Neaser, Paul T. Planken, Derek A. Thorne, Peter C. Fenwick, Christopher R. Green, Paul C. P. Lewis, Shahad L. Aziz, Donald G. Hedges, George J. Cronk, Tony Kensington, Keith Frankum, John D. Forster, Roy C. Page.

FORMS III.—Brian V. Sandford, Raymond C. D. Simons, John E. Oates, Ian P. Evans, Kenneth P. Nebbett, James W. Coker, Anthony Dailey, Robert C. Dirs, Anthony E. Fink, Roy R. Knightley, Colin J. Smith, Ross P. Simpson, Derek W. Richards, Peter J. Strangeman, Swatantreshwer Nandanwar, John A. Didier, Colin C. Smith.

FORMS IV.—Roger P. Jackson, John B. Dawkins, Derek Parker, Eric G. Slater, Robert A. Young, John F. Hillier, Raymond H. Pritchard, Stuart F. Rowe, Raymond E. Newark, Peter F. Padginton, David R. Haslam, David J. Judge, Lawrence R. O'Sullivan, Derek Titheradge, Richard K. Beck.

FORMS V.—Peter G. Jackaman, Norman A. Ratcliffe, Roy D. Ayshford, John G. Wilson, William Andrews, David W. Forge, Barry A. Edwards, Jeffrey S. Tilley, James J. Proops, Douglas E. Firth.

MERIT IN THE G.C.E. EXAMINATION

FORMS V—ORDINARY LEVEL

UPPER VTH.—Anthony J. R. Berry, John H. Cousins, Duncan Crosbie-Hill, David R. Crosby, Michael P. Golding, Douglas R. Harman, Robert Hancock, Roderick J. Pooley, Peter W. Trusty, John A. Western, James S. Young.

LOWER VTH.—John A. Davis, Brian F. Shailer, Peter L. Silverman, Martin G. Taylor.

TECHNICAL SECTION

BUILDING.—Dennis P. Brennan, David J. Collman, Paul M. Clark, Christopher N. Crabtree, Edwin Fowler, David H. Rose, Harry W. Smith, William R. Smith, Jeffrey P. Upfold, Gerald B. Watkins.

ENGINEERING.—George C. Alderson, John F. Atack, Anthony J. Frost, David B. Hollowell, Michael D. Morgan, Keith Robins, Ronald T. Thorpe, Barry J. Wagstaff.

LOWER VI—ORDINARY LEVEL.—Dennis R. Condon, Louis R. Nobes, John G. F. Parsons, Jan W. Tarkowski, George W. Willis.

UPPER VI—ADVANCED LEVEL.—Colin T. A. Bowyer, John D. Carr, Patrick N. Cassidy, John T. Davies, Garry P. Douel, Brian C. Johnston, Peter W. McKendrick, Malcolm R. M. Smith, Ralph Müller, John Tudgay.

Chairman's prize for head boys, 1957-1958: Derek Ayshford and Gordon W. C. Wort.

Wandsworthians' Lodge prize for service: George W. Willis.

Old Wandsworthians academic prize: Peter J. Drain.

Simmens prize for drama: George W. Willis.

Parents' Association service prize for games: Senior: John D. Carr. Junior: Kenneth P. Nebbett.

Special prize for international service: Colin T. A. Bowyer.

Special prize for music: Michael G. Coysh.

Special prize for Canadian tour: Gordon W. C. Wort.

Gordon Wort prize for athletics: Senior: Roger C. Newman and Eric G. Slater. Junior: Anthony Dailey.

Handwriting prize: Daniel W. Andrews.

THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Wednesday evening, 17th December, an audience of a thousand people filled the Grand Hall to hear the annual Christmas Concert given by the School Choir and Orchestra.

During the past few years the school has gained a considerable reputation for its musical activities and one wondered whether the exacting standard demanded by our Director of Music, Mr. Russell Burgess, could be maintained. Building a reputation is hard enough, but keeping it up is a vastly more difficult problem. From the first notes, however, we ceased to ponder. Here were 200 young performers all bent on the high purpose of making music together—intense concentration and technical facility were here allied to considerable musical discipline and the result could hardly fail to produce an evening of sheer delight.

The message of Advent was conveyed by two choruses from Bach's Cantata " Sleepers, 'Wake ". The strings were augmented by Old Boys from the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music, and the school's instrumental teachers. Whilst they were playing the extended prelude, showing Bach at his most lyrical, the trebles and tenors interjected the bold Lutheran Chorale with a richness of tone and beauty of line which were exciting and moving in the extreme. Musically, this was probably the high point of the evening.

The Semi-Chorus, a body of picked singers, contributed two groups of carols ranging from the simplicity of Praetorius' Christmas Song to the complexity of Benet's five-part madrigal " All creatures now are merry-minded ". One was particularly impressed by the fine blend of the whole group—but it was the quality of the Altos which was most striking—two boys, Brian Sandford and Michael Coysh more than held their own, singing with great musical sensitivity and an extraordinarily beautiful quality of tone.

The main work in the first half was the Peasant Cantata by Bach. Light music of the highest quality, this was a particularly happy choice and made a refreshing change from the usual routine of Christmas Music. The

Cantata consists of a number of short, cheerful choruses, including a couple of four-part men's drinking songs which were sung with great verve, not only by the members of the staff but rather surprisingly by the younger Tenors and Basses as well. The recitatives were sung with clarity by Mr. Nelson Roberts and the soprano arias by Miss Margaret Brooks, who showed both in this work and in a group of songs in the second half that she possesses a beautiful voice with an even quality throughout its register and a complete freedom from distorting vibrato.

The orchestra's contribution to the programme was the C minor Concerto Grosso of Corelli. One was greatly surprised at the accuracy of intonation and roundness of tone of a large body of 28 strings players. This fine work could be appreciated for its own intrinsic worth without having to make any of the mental reservations which school orchestras frequently demand of us. The accomplished group of soloists were Ian Cobb and Brian Johnston (Violins) and George Willis ('cello). We have come to expect a polished performance from Brian Johnston, and now that he has entered the R.A.M. he plays with such fine professional fluency that one would have expected Ian Cobb to be hard-pressed to equal him in the solo work. It is an indication of this extraordinary young musician's great talent that his performance was no less accomplished than that of his partner. George Willis, as Head Prefect, and as a leading actor in the school play has had a hectic term and it is a great credit to him that he has managed to bring his 'cello playing up to the high standard of his fellows.

Throughout the programme the Choir sang a number of unaccompanied carols which covered the whole gamut of expression at its command. Ranging from the gentle simplicity of the Shepherd's Farewell from "The Childhood of Christ" by Berlioz (far more effective with boys' voices than with the ponderous sophistication bestowed on it by female choirs), to the grandeur of H. C. Stewart's "On this day, earth shall ring", where the carefully graded climaxes culminating in thrilling top A's of the trebles were moments to remember until the next opportunity we have of hearing this splendid body of singers.

The most popular items proved to be the Boar's Head carol, probably because it was the loudest and Haydn's "Achieved is the Glorious Work" which had a pulsing vitality that brought the concert to a most impressive close.

There was no delay at all in the smooth running of the whole concert and much of the credit for this must go to Mr. K. Coate-Bond for his fine organisation as Business Manager.

The task of planning a programme for school functions must present considerable problems. One has two groups of people to consider, the Choir which is to learn the music and to rehearse it for so long that it must be enjoyable to them, and the audience which must gain sufficient pleasure from the music to show a willing response and thus inspire the Choir on to greater heights. One can so easily fall into the trap of merely tickling the audience's ear and of turning Christmas into an orgy of nauseating sentimentality. On the other hand in an endeavour to avoid lowering one's musical taste one can become "pseudo-arty" and perform music of such baffling obscurity that the aims of true education are forgotten. Whilst the average adult may look upon works like Handel's "Messiah" as being hackneyed, we must not forget that functions of this kind are primarily for the pupils participating and that to them such a work is a collection of unknown delights which are awaiting exploration. Indeed I understand that next Christmas Wandsworth School will probably attempt a substantial portion of "Messiah". It should be a great pleasure, not only to hear this fine choir again, but to see these young men singing this great music for the first time in public. Would that we could all approach these works in the spirit of youth and hear them afresh!

On the Tuesday before Christmas Mr. Russell Burgess took a small section of the Choir to Putney Hospital and went round the wards singing carols to the patients.

THE SCHOOL PLAY "Problems existed merely to find brilliant solutions in a recent production of Labiche's best known farce, 'The Italian Straw Hat'." So began a glowing review in the "Times Educational Supplement" of the school play, presented in the Grand Hall on December 11th, 12th and 13th. The T.E.S. is noted for its severe attacks on the weaknesses of school productions, and this was one of the most favourable reports it has ever published. The production was indeed brilliant in every respect, and must surely have been one of the finest the school has achieved. We cannot do better here than quote from the various press reports to record the occasion.

THE PERFORMANCES

First, the acting. "S. Mehlman and S. R. Kneebone were suitably rough as the gendarmes, while as the guests of the countess N. C. Bishop, G. C. Cope, R. P. Jackson, D. C. Lloyd, R. C. Mundy and the gushing C. G. Salmon were in affected contrast." Thus the "Putney and Roehampton Herald". "G. S. Ryan and D. Halsey played the maids competently and with assurance" ("Wandsworth Borough News"). J. A. Bull as the cheeky manservant "gave a performance of professional polish", while "the pompous mayor and his nervous clerk were neatly mimed by L. B. Levene and T. L. Bayly" (P.R.H.).

"J. A. Lally, the married lady, was sensual and outraged . . . S. J. J. Tyson, as the army captain, aquiline of aspect, was similarly outraged and choleric" (W.B.N.). "K. H. W. Denyer was the brute of a husband, cowed at the end by most unfair means" (P.R.H.). "A. W. Atkinson proved once again that he can play a woman's part convincingly" (W.B.N.), and "her earthy book-keeper was excellently contrasted by K. Robins" (P.R.H.). The outstanding feminine performances by J. A. Lally and A. W. Atkinson were completed by that of J. W. Tarkowski, "regal and coquettish as the Comptesse de Champigny" (W.B.N.). He was partnered by R. C. Newman as Achille, and here we quote the T.E.S. again: "Where all was so memorable, it is, perhaps, unfair to single out the Comptesse's drawing-room scene, resplendent with a gem-like performance by the effeminate Achille, and Fadinard's vocal triumph in the Nisnardi hoax."

The bride, R. G. Twyman, "had few lines to say, but looked pretty, and played throughout with the right amount of dumb gawkiness" (W.B.N.). "J. G. F. Parsons resisted the temptation to overplay the part of the bride's uncle, deaf and doddery, and complete with ear-trumpet. He remained a part of the team, and won the acclaim of the audience. P. M. T. Gillingham, as the bride's country cousin, was good as the yokel he was meant to be" (W.B.N.), and the latter, indeed "only had to walk across the stage to raise delight" (P.R.H.).

"Petitpaquet, the father-in-law, was played by G. W. Willis. Last year he was Macbeth, and stronger contrast is hard to imagine. With a fruity music hall voice for the songs, and a truly peternal pomposity, he added the final touch to the nightmare quality of Fadinard's surroundings" (P.R.H.). "The hero, Fadinard, P. N. Cassidy, played his part straight, against the host of rollicking, bottle-tippling caricatures in the supporting cast. Never once did his vitality flag, nor his line falter, and his movement was always sure. He was deservedly awarded the school's Drama Prize at the close of Saturday's performance" (W.B.N.).

". . . boys of Wandsworth School added brilliantly worked out mime interludes to carry on the action, while the scenes were being changed, and the music, put together with genius from a hundred different sources and then pre-recorded onto tape, acquired a kind of ready-made inevitability." (T.E.S.). These mimed interludes were, by general consent, one of the high-lights of the inventive production—for they are not indicated in the printed text. They owed much of their charm and humour to the performances of the six non-speaking wedding guests. "It is a thankless job to rehearse night

after night without having a line to say. Yet the six wedding guests had a great deal to do, and did it with a Chaplinesque sense of comic action. R. M. Bone and R. J. Pooley had a glorious drunken dance as the two husbands, L. N. Congdon and R. C. Dirs were their blousy and sentimental wives, while J. H. Cousins, a severe spinster, and B. J. Banks, her minute but tremendously energetic charge, were among the hits of the evening " (P.R.H.).

SCENERY AND MUSIC

" As is so uncommon with school productions, literally nothing went wrong. Quite the reverse; a stylised set built to accommodate several extremely attractive panels for the scene changes gave a splendid visual backing to the great variety of French mid-nineteenth century *haut* and *bas monde* characters which it cast into comic relief " (T.E.S.). This scenery made an outstanding



contribution to the success of the production. For the mimes, " a gauze depicting a Paris square that contained the essence of Montmartre floated across " and the interiors were " an inspiration in deft touches and delicate colour schemes, stylised to suit the manner of the production, yet never vulgar nor obvious " (P.R.H.). The amount of work involved here was tremendous, and only the satisfaction of complete success can recompense Mr. G. A. Hoare and his team of helpers, two of whom, A. Newcomb and E. Poulter, were jointly awarded the Derek Ayshford Prize for Backstage Service to Drama.

" A special transparency of Gallic curtaining brought an extra piquancy to the already perfect tableaux " (T.E.S.), by revealing a small orchestra at the side of the stage, consisting of Mr. Burgess (piano), Mr. Lincé (double bass), I. A. Cobb (violin) and D. T. Snell (cornet). This quartet played music for the songs, which Mr. Waters translated from the original—they are omitted from the English version. The idea of re-introducing them, and then the notion of making the orchestra momentarily visible at the side of the stage while it played, are measures of Mr. Waters' sense of the theatre. The final original contribution to the evening, and in some ways the most outstanding, came from a friend of the school, the composer, John H. Gibbs, who wrote the music for the tuneful songs.

BACKSTAGERS

" Literally nothing went wrong! " So exclaimed the " Times Educational Supplement," and there can be no higher praise for everything that was done behind the scenes. " Mr. K. N. Newson was Stage Manager, a job which requires and received complete efficiency. He and his wife also helped greatly with the stage properties " (P.R.H.). His team consisted of: G. E. Dyball, D. R. Goddard, A. K. Jeffries, A. R. Knight, P. R. Leverick, P. M. Taylor, P. C. Thompson, and K. A. White, led by R. M. Vincent-Townend.

Mr. Hoare was helped in he construction of the scenery by Messrs. R. Bailey, F. W. Guttridge, J. Hughes, A. W. King and P. Lang, and in painting and with the properties by K. P. Baldock, K. J. Brooham, R. W. Cooke, D. A. Donaldson, A. Hammond, S. Hashmi, K. P. A. Newcomb, J. E. Noakes, M. E. Poulter, J. C. Pursey, R. F. Reader and P. A. J. Willett.

Mr. J. E. Austin was in charge of the box office and front of house arrangements, assisted there by the Prefects. As well as playing the double bass, Mr. Lincé supervised the recorded music, and also, incidentally, managed to get the whole of Saturday's performance onto tape. This has since been edited, and will be kept in the school as a permanent record of the production. B. J. Coleman and J. B. Dawkins were in charge of the lighting, D. A. Stewardson the curtain, and D. W. Arienti and D. J. Morrison the prompting. Make-up was applied by Messrs. G. M. Evans, N. F. Roberts, H. G. Sneath, and Mrs. K. N. Newson, and others.

NEXT YEAR . . . ?

At the end of any School Play, one's thoughts begin to turn towards the next. It is clear that in Mr. Waters' hands it will be nothing ordinary, and that to the usual freshness and spontaneity which make school acting so enjoyable, will be added a matching liveliness of production. It is rumoured that next Christmas we shall see a modern tragi-comedy from behind the Iron Curtain. This should certainly serve to achieve one of the purposes of amateur drama, which is surely to present plays not readily available in the professional theatre. It promises to be both a new and stimulating venture. And of one thing we may be sure: if this year's production is anything to go by, it will certainly be entertaining.

OLD BOYS' ANNUAL DINNER

The Old Boys' Association held its annual dinner on Friday, 23rd January, when 83 members, guests and friends gathered at " The Victoria," in Buckingham Palace Road. This was by far the best-attended dinner in the Association's history—and for this we have to thank the warmly welcome contingent of the Staff who turned up 21 strong, and who, we hope, derived as much pleasure from the evening as their presence gave to our members.

The Headmaster took the Chair as President of the Association, and amongst the guests were numbered the Mayor of Wandsworth, Sir Hugh Linstead, Col. Matthews, Messrs. Mundy and Halsey of the Parents' Association, and Messrs. Willis and Cassidy as joint Head Boys.

In the unfortunate absence, due to illness, of Sir Richard Acland, the health of the Old Wandsworthian's Association was proposed in inimitable style by Mr. Evans of the Staff. After a wealth of most amusing and somewhat unclerical anecdote, he finally got around to the subject matter of the toast and the delight with which his remarks were received was the portent of what was to prove a very enjoyable evening.

In his reply on behalf of the Association, Mr. D. D. Grant (Secretary) forcefully emphasised the responsibility which the sportsground was undoubtedly going to be in the future. Hitherto, he said, it had been left to an enthusiastic and single-minded few to carry the burden of the work done so far. To reap full benefit from the venture it would be necessary for every member of the Association to play as full a part as possible in either

organising or supporting our many and varied activities. The goodwill of the School, the Staff and the Parents' Association had already been made amply manifest—and what we needed most was an ever-increasing membership. The natural growth of the school population itself was a wonderful potential and we would have to ensure that the Association attracted school-leavers in similar proportion.

The health of " The School " was proposed by Mr. N. F. Roberts, who is one of seven Old Boys who have returned to the scenes of their former crimes as members of the Staff, and it was a most interesting and objective view that he was able to give of the present school as compared with its purely grammar form as he knew it in his days as a pupil. He was enthusiastic of the teaching amenities which are now available, and many of which are a great improvement on the old order, but the keynote of his speech was that, although the outward and visible form of the School may have changed, the spirit and traditions of the past were linked hand-in-hand with the present and by no means brushed aside.

This testimony was echoed by G. Willis when he rose to respond on behalf of the School, and whose speech made it abundantly clear that the calibre of Head Boys was in no danger of deteriorating. His remarks, as regards their content and their delivery, were in every way admirable, and he pointed with humour the underlying seriousness of his message that the day-to-day atmosphere and spirit of the School were much as they ever were.

In extending a welcome to our guests, Mr. King mentioned the gratifying commendation which the School had received from a visiting educationist from America, and stated that the company could take a quiet satisfaction that Wandsworth School continued to be highly regarded by many foreign educational authorities. Councillor Ronald Ash conveyed his mayoral greetings to the Association, and wished success to the future of the sportsground venture.

In the concluding speech of the evening, Sir Hugh Linstead said that he continued to watch with great interest the development of the School, and he had several observations to make regarding secondary education in the future, as he saw it. Whilst admitting the comprehensive idea to have many practical points in its favour, he was unconvinced that the size of schools at present being established represented the ideal. He, personally, knew of a comprehensive school that was operating with a maximum of 825 pupils, and this, he thought, might well prove to be the standard size which the authorities would tend to implement in the future. Such comprehensive schools as Wandsworth were, he said, known to be fulfilling their role eminently well, although it could not be said that this new theory in education was everywhere an unqualified success. He wished that the scheme could be kept in its proper perspective of an " experiment," and he would dearly like to see the whole sphere of education divorced from the realms of party politics and slogans. " This much I would tell you," he concluded, " and that is that wherever these new comprehensive schools are being shown to work successfully, that success is due in no small measure to the character and to the zeal of the headmasters and the headmistresses concerned."

A most interesting interlude was provided during the evening by a few remarks from the oldest Old Boy present at the gathering. Mr. E. Lister celebrates this year the 50th anniversary of his leaving the School, and his reminiscences of the old buildings in Wandsworth High Street and of the school scene of half a century ago were greatly appreciated by those whose memories cover a much shorter span.

All in all, this year's dinner was a great social success—but perhaps the most enduring memory of it was a simple interjection to one of the speeches—and which everyone much appreciated. Mr. Roberts, in mentioning some of his colleagues on the Staff, referred to Mr. M. Ascher as the son of THE Mr. Ascher. Whereupon that worthy son of a worthy father exclaimed with indignant emphasis, " *I* am THE Mr. Ascher." And with his

Westerner) or beer, there is, to drink, the popular " sake " wine, made from rice and drunk slightly warmed, which many a post-war housewives' meeting has cursed for keeping their husbands out late! The fashionable younger generation, who can afford it, may prefer coffee or whisky and soda in one or other of the large several-storeyed tearooms, with loud American-style jazz bands, which now flourish in the centre of Tokyo.

Besides Western and Chinese restaurants of varying kinds, there are for the wealthy Japanese and his business or foreign guests, seated, as frequently at home, on cushions on the spotless floors, many " high class Japanese restaurants." They serve, often in separate rooms for each party, on low tables, all possible varieties of Japanese luxury and speciality dishes, with their appropriate sauces, from Sukiyaki steaks to devil-fish, expertly cut, and from daikon (large radishes) to kachiguri (dried chestnuts) or bamboo roots. Complete with chopsticks, the Western guest, stretching out his constricted legs after a while from his double cushion, does his best to show his approval of all that he is offered, but finds it hard to compete with his hosts in the noisy eating which alone indicates the highest appreciation. On leaving such a restaurant the visitors will, of course, recover their shoes, deposited at the entrance, and receive many low bows from the kimonoed young ladies at the door, apparently employed solely for this office, as well as collect a box of the matches given away as an advertisement at almost every cash-desk. Could it be that the whole operation is carefully maintained for the enjoyment of the Japanese in watching the reactions of their foreign guests?

One wonders, too, whether many traditional Japanese customs, more appropriate, perhaps, to a more leisured, rural and class-conscious era, will continue much longer in a bustling and energetic Japan bent on becoming in so many ways one hundred per cent. modern and " western." Was the " tea ceremony " out-of-school club I noted at a girls' upper secondary school evidence perhaps that, like fencing in Britain, it was now only of antiquarian and artistic interest? And will the gita (wooden sandals) and the kimono, sombre or gay, with their broad and often very beautiful sashes (obi) and loose-fitting sleeves, but basically not designed for comfort or utility, and worn today mainly by grandmother's generation or on special party occasions, survive much longer except for celebrations such as marriages or birthdays? On the other hand, there are some customs which even we may learn with advantage to imitate. I personally liked the continuing and convenient practice, for example, of carrying books in a neatly folded " furoshiki," a patterned cloth of silk shaped and designed rather like the head-scarves worn today by many Western women; although there may well be two opinions, for example, about the utility, except to other travellers, of carrying babies on one's back instead of in a pushchair.

The classical Kabuki and " Noh " play traditions receive modest support at special theatres, along with interesting forms of puppetry (bunraku), and scholars, especially foreign, make a cult of tanka (31 syllable) or haiku (17 syllable) verse. The admirable works of Sesshi and other traditional Japanese painters may be studied in museums, while a guided tour is provided by the Japanese Travel Bureau of many traditional and skilled crafts. These include ikebana or artistic flower arrangement, tray landscape manufacture, wood-block printing, pottery production by hand, and the making of dolls or miniature potted trees (bonsai). The visitor, however, is also shown, with pride, the latest automatic beer-bottling factory, or the most up-to-date printing presses, or the streamlined establishments which produce " canon " cameras or " transistor " radios. He can also see foreign films from many countries, and will have many opportunities to admire the latest excesses of Japanese surrealist or the austerities of her cubist art and sculpture, while at the Television studios he will most likely find, as I did, a rehearsal of the latest Jazz orchestra with its " pop " singer in her dreary jeans. In order to understand contemporary Japan, it is no longer enough, I thought, to follow the tourist guide to Kyoto, Nara and Nikko, with their ancient archi-

tectural and sculptural glories, or to read Lafcadio Hearn, Ruth Benedict and the social anthropologists who look only for the explanation of traditional social relationships and cultural forms; but also necessary, if one cannot stay long, to note the contradictions on all sides and to see how the obvious external signs of modernisation have already deeply affected daily life and influenced contemporary attitudes and values, as is reflected in the files of the daily press, especially its correspondence and advertisement columns. There, too, one will read of Japan's performance in the international worlds of film and sport, science and culture, and of the interests, ideas and fashions common to our whole shrinking world. Tokyo itself is becoming a renowned centre for international conferences, and, as I most certainly found, the Japanese make admirable hosts, with equal enthusiasm they will help you to appreciate their land and its culture, old and new, as far as this is possible for the visitor who is ignorant of their language, surely the key to first-hand understanding.

My own short visit was saddened only by the news that hundreds of people, less well sheltered than I, had lost their lives or homes or sources of livelihood in the great typhoon Ida, the 22nd of the year, which hit the country soon after my arrival, leaving in its wake a terrible aftermath of destruction, injury and disease, for a Tokyo already alarmed by a number of curious epidemics and fevers. No more than any other people have the Japanese yet learned to tame the elemental forces of nature, or discovered how, without loss and disruption, to adapt their social traditions to the needs of a new technological and cosmopolitan age. If the peoples of the world everywhere, however, can learn to devote all their resources to the constructive projects of peace, they may be able not only to advance towards these ends, but on a really great scale to visit easily the lands of their neighbours, near and far, and appreciate something of their different backgrounds and varying aspirations in our ever-changing and inter-connected world. One may hope that as a first step the Television authorities in the different countries may get together and show something of the authentic life and landscape of the East to the West and of the West to the East, to their greater mutual understanding. This general understanding was, incidentally, the purpose of the UNESCO conference I was able to attend. It enabled me, after a few days in India, to appreciate very concretely that there is no one "East," any more than there is just one "West." For my own most interesting journey to Tokyo I am grateful indeed to UNESCO for inviting me to attend a conference there and to Mr. King and the L.C.C. for so generously and readily making it possible for me to accept the invitation.

W. E. PAYNE.

A VIEW OF INDONESIA

(Extracts from a letter received from Mr. F. G. Tyson.)

I do not think that one appreciates at home the size of Indonesia, nor the important part it will play in the future. From east to west, the islands stretch across about 3,400 miles; from north to south about 1,350. Of course, there is a lot of water in between, but nonetheless, Java, with a population of about 55 millions, is about as large as Great Britain; Sumatra as big as France; and Kalimantan the size of Germany. There are numerous other islands, and all this, with a total population of some 90 millions, constitutes a lot of territory, and a lot of people.

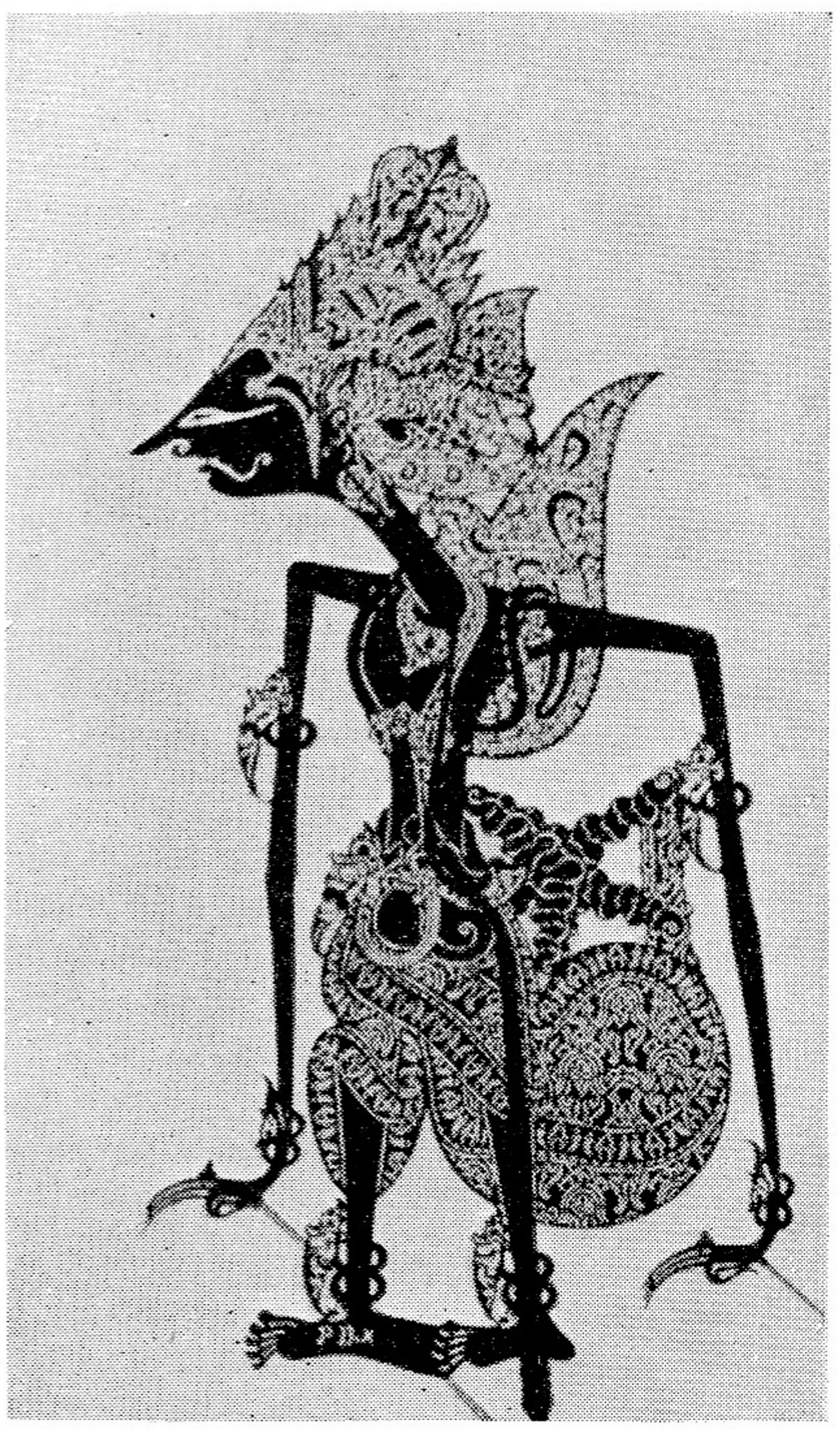
The north coast of Java is flat, swampy and uninteresting, but the south coast, washed by the blue Indian Ocean, is a series of white coral beaches, coves and bays, lying between jungle clad cliffs—lonely and picturesque enough for any Treasure Island setting. Most of Sumatra and Kalimantan is covered with jungle (though there are some oil companies operating in South Sumatra), with few traces of culture. There are few roads, and transport and communications are difficult. Travelling by what pass for roads,

one can see some of the wild life, particularly the monkeys. Sumatra has tigers and elephants, as well as an abundance of snakes and crocodiles, though the local species of rhinoceros seems to be dying out.

Oxcarts, bullocks and buffaloes are used extensively in the country, and outside the large towns there are very few cars. Pack horses are used in the hilly mountainous areas, and of course there are always and everywhere the coolie carriers, jog-trotting along, with anything from baskets of fruit to pieces of furniture precisely balanced on the ends of their long carrying poles.

Indonesia is rich in natural resources, including oil, coal, timber, rubber, cocoa, tea, coffee, capok, cocoanuts, manganese and bauxite. Tobacco, tapioca, sugar, spices, pepper, cordage, fibres, pineapples, bananas, and, in fact, all kinds of tropical fruit, are grown. Cinchona bark and quinine are exported, and salt is manufactured in huge quantities. But perhaps above all one is conscious of the cultivation of rice, which is of a high grade. The land is worked by peasants in the old feudal fashion, being divided into small fields, ploughed by water buffaloes or cows, and the harvest cut by hand sickles, with the whole "kampong" or village, helping to get the crops in, all wearing the typical conical straw hats or knotted turbans.





WAYANG SHADOW PUPPETS

Photo: Indonesian Embassy

The Javanese have an ancient culture, and some very old cities, such as Soerakata and Djogjakarta. In the old city of Soerakata I sat through long performances of the "Wayang Orang", or "Live People Theatre", and have seen shadow puppet plays at a temple village high up the slopes of a volcanic mountain, reached on horseback. There are still a number of active volcanoes in Indonesia, incidentally, and only a few weeks ago, soon after I

had spent a night in a rest house on the slopes of one of these, villages and crops were destroyed by an eruption.

But while the old cultures are still very much alive, there is a great drive at the moment to educate the people for the modern world. With the assistance of U.N.E.S.C.O. the country has been running a campaign against illiteracy, and some eight million people have already been dealt with. After the Primary Schools come both lower and upper General and Technical secondary schools, together with 1,400 Commercial schools, 8,000 Teacher Training Colleges, and growing Universities at Djakarta, Bandung and Djogjakarta, the last of which is, indeed, almost a university town. The total school population is in the region of 7 million, and is of course still growing; in fact the bulk about 6 million, are in the primary schools.

Indonesia has many past ties with Great Britain, evidence of which can be seen in such things as the fact that they drive on the left hand side of the road. I believe that this is the largest country outside the British Isles where that is customary. However, as in other cases and other places, we do not take full advantage of such things. This could become a very large market for British cars, but other European or American makes predominate, in spite of the fact that they are built for right hand driving.

The people are, for the most part, anxious to learn English but once again, we do not do much to encourage this. I find it difficult to obtain any English books. American books can be obtained cheaply, since the Americans have an arrangement whereby their books can be sold here at half-price. Few are available, however, and for the most part anything from the U.S.A. is regarded with a certain amount of suspicion. Russia and the satellite countries have books and periodicals on sale in most cities, printed in English, thus making use of the desire of the people to learn and read our language.

Dutch, of course, used to be the second language here, and old stocks of Dutch literature are still available, but to appear interested in anything Dutch is again to invite suspicion and animosity. We miss a great opportunity, as in general Great Britain is regarded as a friendly nation and a source of wisdom. The Indonesians like our social set-up and copy our Labour legislation. They import our ideas, but not our machinery.

FOR LOVE OF LIFE WE DIE EACH DAY . . .

For love of life we die each day;
Life's drama leaves us, sleeping.
As with care we kneel to pray,
We rise with sorrow weeping:
" Eternal " joys have come our way,
And left us bedward creeping.

The morning sunshine spreads its haze,
A popular delusion:
With unbelieving eyes we gaze
At Cumulus confusion.

Yet through life's paradox sublime
An expert Hand is working,
Constructing eons out of time,
Never a moment shirking;
Believing that beneath the slime
Man's soul is always lurking.

S. J. J. Tyson, Gb, UVI A.

THE NEW REGIME IN PAKISTAN

After the military coup d'état in Irak last July we saw a string of generals taking over governments in Burma, Pakistan, Siam and Sudan. In

one of these countries at least, the change has been for the better.

On the 8th October, 1958, came the announcement by the Ex-President of Pakistan Major-General Iskander Mirza, that he had found it necessary to suspend the constitution and abolish all the political parties in the country. A state of Martial Law was declared and the C.-in-C. of the Pakistani Army, General Mohammad Ayub Khan, was appointed as the Chief Martial Law Administrator. Following his appointment General Ayub Khan stated at a press conference that the "country would have gone to the dogs," if the President had not made the decision to suspend the constitution. He went on to say how a couple of years earlier he had in fact been asked to take over the country, by the Governor-General, the late Mr. Ghulam Mohammad. General Ayub refused the offer, for he believed that the sole aim of the Army was external defence. He pointed out, however, that the country was now in such a state that it was the duty of the President to take some action, and if the President had failed to perform his duty, only the Army would have stepped in on its own initiative.

Within seven years the death of Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, Pakistan's Premier from 1947 to 1951, the country had turned upside down. From a respectable place in World Politics in 1951, Pakistan had by 1958, acquired a reputation equal to that of France. Some, even, looked up to French politics in comparison. And rightly so, for at least France was free from the nation-wide corruption which Pakistan was experiencing. Since 1951 one Prime Minister had followed another. These Prime Ministers, uncertain of their future, feathered their own nests heavily. Politicians had formed many parties of their own with one sole purpose in their minds, that of becoming the Prime Minister. They had no policy worked out for the country or the people. They knew that the public, which had not yet gone to the poll, would not stand in their way. For the attention of the people, 85 per cent. of them uneducated, was diverted to the alarmingly high prices of wheat and rice, wheat being the staple diet of West Pakistan and rice that of East Pakistan. People had to pay 300 per cent. higher prices for these commodities, if in fact they were lucky enough to buy them at all. From the Ministers to the ordinary clerks, corruption and bribery was common. A leading business-man was quoted as saying "If you are honest in your dealings you are considered a fool". Black marketing and smuggling was the full time profession of many and on a wide scale. It was because of his association with these corrupt politicians, that Major-General Iskander Mirza was asked to resign. He was replaced by General Ayub Khan, who assumed the office of the President.

Considering the facts, it is not hard to agree with General Ayub that a change of government was necessary. Since the October revolution corruption, smuggling and black marketing has been completely stamped out; thanks to the harsh measures adopted by the Martial Law authorities, who have smashed many rackets and have made the place a hell for the organisers of the rackets, people can at last breath air, free from the evils of corruption. People have surrendered to the Pakistan State Bank £10 million sterling of illegal holding. A sum of £100 million has been collected in extra income tax. The figure £100 million is colossal if one bears in mind the fact that the yearly budget of Pakistan is hardly £110 million. It has been estimated that only 88,000 of the 80,000,000 people of Pakistan paid any taxes. Exports have gone up, so has the Gold Reserve. The Pakistan Rupee is stabler than it has been for years. Prices of goods have gone down and a price control has been brought into operation. By the land reforms shortly to be put into force, it is hoped that the country will be self-sufficient in her food supply by 1962. In the very near future the housing of the many hundreds of thousands of refugees still living in huts will be completed. In the minds of many people in the West the idea exists that democracy has been destroyed in Pakistan. The fact is that there never was a democracy in the country. The present government enjoys the whole-hearted support of the

people. Besides, there will not be the bloodshed and unfair voting at the elections promised by the new régime, features were inevitable at the first General Elections which were to have taken place in February-March, 1959.

AFZAL BARI, Ca, UVI Ec.

YO-HO, YO-HO AND OFF TO WORK WE GO

One very cold but bright Sunday morning just before Christmas a band of " workmen " descended on Combemartin Road. It was the third successive year that members of Cromwell C. had volunteered to give up a Sunday morning, with its associated pleasures of a lie-in, to work for charity. It all started three years ago when Mr. Acland suggested we might raise money for the Hungarian refugees by doing odd jobs about the gardens and houses for residents of Combemartin Road.

Returning to that Sunday before Christmas, we assembled in Combemartin Road at the unearthly hour of 10.30 a.m. Circulars had been distributed during the previous week explaining the project and asking the householders to submit a list of jobs they required to be done. Many had sent back lists so we could start straightaway, while Mr. Acland canvassed for



Danger — Cromwell C at work !

Photo : D. Ayshford

more jobs. To give you some idea of the type of work undertaken here are a few of the jobs which we attempted: removing a pile of earth (which turned out to be very wet sticky clay) and distributing it over the garden; Sweeping front drives clear of leaves; clearing leaves from lawns; cleaning cars, windows and motor scooters; sawing logs; and, finally, the whole group worked in the garden of Mr. James Griffiths, cutting back the blackberry bush to prevent boys from the school having a supply of blackberries in the Autumn.

And so a group of muddy but very happy people assembled for the photograph which you see below knowing that they had spent the morning in a really worthwhile way and by giving up their time had helped many people less fortunate than themselves.

Each year this scheme realises £5 to £10 for various charities and for this I think we must thank the residents of Combemartin Road for giving so generously and tolerating us each year.

Incidentally, the only complaint I heard all morning was that from a certain member of the staff who said that owing to our finishing later than expected, his Yorkshire Pudding would be ruined.

Finally, to any set who may be thinking of copying our example, don't go to Combemartin Road—that's our domain!

DEREK AYSHFORD, King's College, London.

THE SPARROW AND THE CAT

Eyes gleam, whiskers quiver,
Every muscle seems to shiver.
Slowly he goes as a silent snail,
Over the wall to an upturned pail.
There he perches; his eyes are narrow,
Greedily watching a tiny sparrow.
Suddenly he's across the garden—
Ears prick up, green eyes harden—
Till, with face upturned and defeated eyes,
He watches the sparrow as off she flies.

A. DAILEY, Md, 4 Theta.

VIEWING REVIEWED
A Link Survey

While boys in set rooms keenly discuss last night's "telly", a ground bass of despairing comment on the falling off in worth-while leisure activities by the boys groans through the staff room. So we have turned The Link Spotlight on to Television Viewing. We present our findings without comment—though they should provide much useful food for thought.

All forms below the sixth were questioned, and a total of 1,461 boys of a possible 1,803 answered—the "'flu" epidemic largely accounts for the missing 342. Every member of the English Department has co-operated most helpfully in preparing these results.

(1) How many boys have a T.V. set in their home?

85.9% have T.V., with no noticeable variation between years. A slightly higher proportion of boys taking the less academic courses have it, with an average difference of 8%.

(2) How many of these can receive both the B.B.C. and the I.T.A. programmes?

77% receive both. Again the variation between years was negligable, and against more of the less academic boys had both—an average of 12.6% this time.

(3) Which of these two programmes do you prefer?

16% perfer B.B.C., 59.7% prefer I.T.V., and 24.3% find the programmes of equal interest. Here there is a marked difference between the fifth year and the rest, the fifth year having 30.4% prefering B.B.C. against 15.8% in the first year and slightly fewer in the other years. Between the academic and non-academic groups the pattern is confused. In every case there are more who prefer I.T.V. among the non-academics, but the "equal" column takes away from the number of B.B.C. preferences among the others in some

cases. By the fifth year, the academic are 41% for B.B.C., and the non-academic only 24%.

(4) What do you think of the programmes presented?

Good—48.6%; fair—45.8%; poor—5.6%. Here there is an interesting and, apart from the fourth year, consistent decrease over the years in those who find the programmes good, the figures for each year, from the first upwards, being 65.7%; 63%; 41.6%; 50%; 22.9%. The "poor" figures remain very constant. The is no clear pattern at all within any one year.

(5) Has television ever inspired you to do anything?

We suggested such activities as taking up a hobby, visiting a museum, reading a book, going to the cinema or theatre. But in many cases it seems likely that the film or play would have been seen anyway, and the hobbies were often generally popular ones among schoolboys, like stamp collecting or aero-modelling. And in one case the activity taken up turned out to be collecting the cards given away with a popular brand of tea. 40.8% said they had been prompted to an activity, the proportion dropping from 51.4% in the first year to 29.2% in the fifth. Again there was no remarkable variation within each year.

(6) Do you make a rule of completing your homework before viewing?

One might be tempted to doubt the honesty of some answers. (If they are all truthful, then in view of the large number of hours spent viewing, the homework must be completed very hurriedly!) 77.6% answered affirmatively. Again the numbers went steadily down from 60.5% in the first year, to 34.6% in the fifth, though whether this is due to more homework in the older forms, or a less conscientious approach, we would not like to say. Within each year the figures are about equal throughout.

(7) On an average, how many hours of television do you view per week-night?

It is difficult to estimate an average figure for the hours viewed, and it would be unwise to place too much reliance on the percentages contained in the answers to this question, or to question eight. We print them as they were received.

Less than two hours: 28.5%; between two and four: 47%; more than four: 24.5%. The less-than-two-hours group diminishes gradually until the fifth year, when it rises sharply to 57.9%. Is it exam preparation that drags them away? Or girls . . . ? The two-to-four-hours group remains fairly constant throughout, suggesting that about half the boys in the school spend this much time in front of their television set each evening. The four-and-above group rises to 46% in the fourth year, and goes down to 4.3% in the fifth.

One of the most striking contrasts in the whole pattern is provided by the four-and-above group within each year. Putting the results for two academic groups first in each case and two non-academic second, the figures are as follows: First year: 12%—26%; Second year: 3%—26%; Third year: 6%—69%; Fourth year: 6%—27%; Fifth year: 0%—6%.

(8) On an average, how many hours of television do you view per day during week-ends?

Less than two: 12.2%; two to six: 55.4%; six or more: 32.4%. As with evening viewing the less-than-two group is low until the fifth year, when it rises to 34.6%. The four-to-six group rises from 53% in the first year to 58.3% in the fifth. The figures for the six-or-more group are, starting with the first year: 41%, 42.9%, 42.2%, 29.2% and 7.1%. No-one in the fifth year says he views more than *seven* hours per day over the week-end, but in the first four years 12.4% of the school do.

Within the years the pattern is similar to that for evening viewing, the less academic boys watching more. In the six-or-more group, for example, in the third year the academic forms have 9% against 71% by the non-academic, and in the fifth year these figures are 0% against 27%.

(9) Which is your favourite programme?

So many different titles were marked that we must deal with them under types. For the school as a whole, the most popular is the Western. It is the favourite of the first four years, though it falls quite heavily in the fifth. Next come Comedy/Variety shows, which are a steady second, with Thrillers only a point or so behind. (The Quatermas serial was drawing to a close as the questions were being asked.) Next, but a long way behind, comes Sport, then Feature Films and Light Music together, and finally Documentaries. Apart from the decrease in the popularity on the Western in the fifth year, where its place is taken by Comedy/Variety, there is little variation between the years or within them. Cartoons, Plays and Quizzes were mentioned by some boys, but did not gain a final placing. Other programmes were occasionally mentioned, but only by one or two boys in the whole school.

Turning over the completed questionnaires one notices that on those on which specific titles were mentioned, the names "Waggon Train", "Cheyenne", "Quatermas", "Army Game", "Oh Boy" and "Popeye" constantly return. "To-night" is mentioned three times, 'Panorama" twice, the "Brains Trust" or "Monitor" not at all.

What does all this prove? It is tempting to draw conclusions, and the mass of figures can be studied until the eyes begin to swim. Certainly television is viewed a great deal. Very few boys go regularly once a week to the cinema now-a-days, but the most popular types of television programme are precisely those which were most popular in the cinema, with the perhaps surprising exception of the war film.

And, finally, what effect will all this television viewing have? But that is quite another question, which will continue to be discussed, in the Staff Room at any rate, for a long time to come.

R.W.W.

JACK FROST

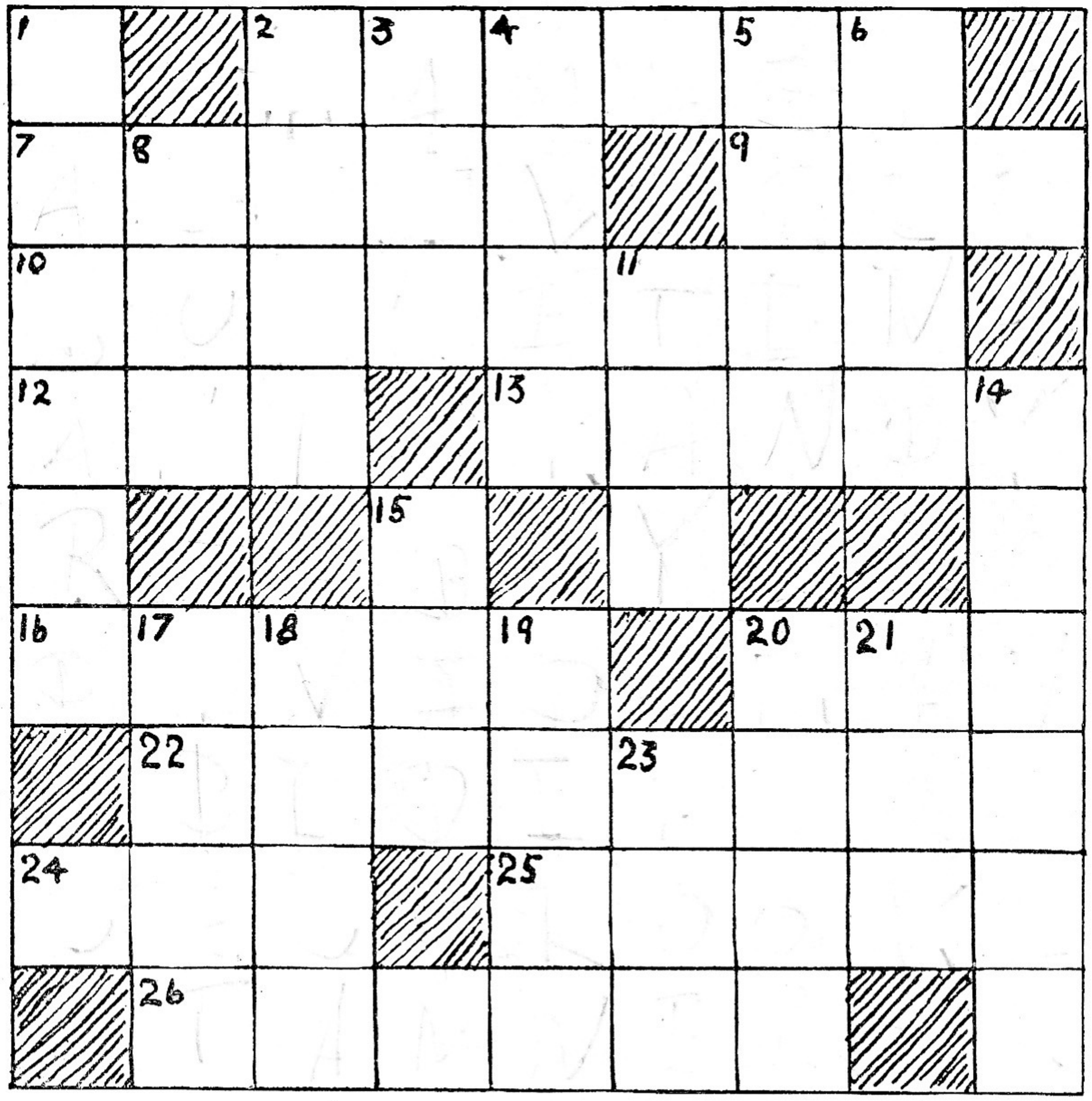
T'was on an ordinary night
That he passed by that way.
He danced about, and shouted out,
"Please, *please* come out to play!"

But no-one answered his faint knock,
Or came out to his plea.
Instead they hurried to the lock,
And in it turned the key.

He set to work without a sound,
(He did not use his tools).
He lay the frost upon the ground,
On trees hung icicles.

But now he's gone, we pay the cost—
He leaves behind the rain.
But never fear, for old Jack Frost.
Will soon be back again!

R. J. McLEAN, Pitt, 2 Theta.



Clues Across

2. Danish prince.
7. Nimble.
9. Kind of cloth.
10. Official news report.
12. Industrious insect.
13. City of Ceylon.
16. Welsh psalmist?
20. Homo sapiens.
22. Town in North Devon.
24. Circlets of gold or silver.
25. English sailor of 17th Cent.
26. One who makes leather.

Solution on Page 28

Clues Down

1. A loose cloak.
2. Handle.
3. Entirely.
4. Mild.
5. Rein (anagram).
6. Incline.
8. Firearm.
11. Scottish river.
14. Over there.
15. In 22.
17. Aid.
18. Indorsement on passport.
19. Secret.
20. Heath.
21. Coffer.

A. Styles, Ca, U5.

CHEMISTRY CORNER

For centuries, miners have been of the opinion that metals and minerals could, if left undisturbed, grow and breed just like plants and animals; in fact, in the middle ages, mines were often shut down in order to give the metal or mineral time to renew itself. The Roman writer Pliny, who lost his life in the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D., referred to this kind of thing happening even in his day, especially with regard to lead.

In the Swedish lakes, the bog iron ore, which consists of hydrated ferric oxide (rust) is steadily replaced, after removal, by the continual oxidation of the ferrous salts in the water. In this country, in the mining districts, the streams are often yellowish in colour due to the presence of iron compounds, hydrated ferric oxide being deposited on stones or unwanted articles thrown into them.

Rain water percolating through the soil dissolves anything soluble; also, as it contains carbon dioxide from the air, it dissolves normally insoluble carbonates forming soluble bicarbonates. These break down on heating or on evaparation to the carbonate and, on oxidation, as in the case of iron, to the basic carbonate and oxide. Stalactites and stalagmites are made in this way and consist of calcium carbonate formed by the decomposition of the bicarbonate produced by rain water percolating through limestone.

Coming back to our old friend the miner, he has always been superstitious; I suppose due to working in an unusual environment, in the bowels of the earth, where strange noises can be heard due to either the movement of rock or the trickling, sometimes rushing, of water through subterranean conduits. It is strangely silent at times and noises, when they reach the ear, are often distorted and magnified, thus suggesting something out of the ordinary.

The Welsh miners put some of these noises down to the work of gnomes, about two feet high, who were friendly but shy, and who were trying to direct them to the richest veins in their own curious way. As a matter of fact, they were so shy that they were never seen but no doubt their stories amused their children and womenfolk when they come home after their daily toil.

But not all of the little folk of the mines were friendly! Many mines in Germany were thought to be inhabited by goblins called "Kobolds" who placed poisonous ores in the paths of the miners; in fact, they were held in such awe that it was customary to say prayers in church on Sunday for deliverance from their knavish tricks!

Later, in the 18th Century, these poisonous ores were found to be arsenides of a new metal, which was called "Cobalt" in memory of the nasty little goblins who had put it there; a metal which forms many important alloys, especially cobalt steel used in the manufacture of permanent magnets for loudspeakers.

THE ART OF FALCONRY

Falconry was once a great sport enjoyed by all from the yeoman to the prince; to-day few, very few, hawks can be seen leaving the leather glove to "guest" for prey. Falconry, now so little-known and obscure, is another pastime drawing near to extinction. Only among the Laplanders, themselves nearing the grave-yard into which so many nations and races have passed, has this sport been carried from father to son, from generation unto generation. This small, thick-lipped people launch their eagles from horseback to stoop on and kill the wolves which prey on the flocks of sheep.

When a hawk is first introduced to its keeper, it has a pair of "jesses", long thongs of leather, placed just above its talons. On the end of the leather jesses there are swivels, which allow the hawk to turn without hurting its leg, and to these a leash is attached. The hawk, after becoming accustomed to seeing its handler, is placed on his gloved hand and proceeds to fly screaming into a "bate".

We still unwittingly use the term " bate ", a relic from the days when falcons were first flown in England in the time of the Norsemen and Odinn, when we say that Smith minor " flew into a bate that afternoon ". A bate means the leap of the leashed hawk from the heavily gloved hand in a furious bid for freedom, after which it hangs raging, terror-stricken and upended by its jesses in a flurry of feathers.

It is the falconer's duty to lift the struggling, spinning hawk gently back onto his fist. The process is repeated until the bird is exhausted. It is useless to try to bully it into submission, for the more a hawk is tortured, the more it will defy its keeper. It will never bend to cruelty, and may well continue in an agonised defiance until it finds its sanctuary in death.

The hawk-masters of old invented a means of taming the defiant birds by a suffering shared by both bird and master. The aim was to make it feel that the fist was its only home, its complete world, to which it had got to return. So they simply kept the bird awake by walking about. The hawk was " watched ", deprived of rest, for from two to nine days by a handler himself deprived of sleep. The creature was treated with every courtesy, but not allowed to sleep. It was truly a contest between the will of man and the will of nature, between the stamina of man and of bird. Once the bird had lapsed into sleep it had taken the first step towards accepting its handler. From then on it was constantly convinced that the gloved fist was necessary for life; it was fed on its diet of rabbit's entrails, only from the glove; it slept only on a glove over a wooden stand. Every moment of this training lessened the chance that the hawk would fly away when eventually released, thus wasting many months of training by the keeper.

Falconry is possibly the oldest remaining sport in the world. A carving of a hawk over 3,000 years old, was found in Khorsabad. It was reposing on the gloved hand of a Babylonian.

Hawks are the nobility of the air, their only sovereign being the eagle. Once upon a time, only certain people could own certain birds, and a gentleman's rank could be recognised by his hawks. An emperor could own an eagle, an earl could own a peregrine, a knave a kestrel, and so forth.

There are two kinds of hawk, the long and the short winged. The long winged, whose first primary feather was normally longest, were falcons, attended by a falconer. The short winged hawks, whose fourth primary feather was longest, were attended by austringers, and were called " true-hawks ". Falcons fly high and hurl themselves down, or " stoop " on their quarry, killing by sheer speed, whereas a hawk flies low, and slays by stealth and cunning.

In a few words I have tried to gather up the main ideas in falconry, though the need for brevity prevents me from dealing with several well-known practices, such as " hooding " the bird, and using a " shrike " or butcher bird to seek out a subject for the hawk's talents. Such details, and many others, can be discovered in the books on falconry by the long-dead experts. Such books, though hard to find, can provide fascinating reading to-day.

F. R. SHONS, Gc, LVI A.

AN OLD STREET

Glistening, glowing cobble stones,
When the rain has fallen down,
Coaches clattering in undertones,
Along the cobbly ground.

The time of day is after dark,
The houses are asleep,
The old gas light is flickering
At the drunk who lies asleep.

The stars are bright in the sky above,
The moon sheds golden light,
And the evening wind is sharp and cold,
As you walk into the night.

E. T. PETTENGELL, Mh, IV Rho.

THE RIVER

A river, whether it is a rushing mountain torrent full to overflowing by the melting snow high up on a mountain, or a slow peaceful river running through a green meadow, seems to hold an irresistible attraction to young and old alike.

A river changes with the time of year. In Spring it has a certain charm about it, as it flows through luscious meadows, that reminds one of the wonders which nature works. In Summer the river is full of buzzing activity, as pleasure boats sail up and down it, and as people swim in its cool waters after the heat of the afternoon. Autumn comes and the river becomes swollen with the October rains, and it seems coated with the dark brown leaves that have fallen from the trees overhanging the water. Winter makes the river look very cold and uninviting, which makes one think of a nice warm fireside to shelter from the cold.

The river runs through many kinds of scenery which are in deep contrast. It might be meandering through a green valley, overhung by stooping willows, bending their ancient backs over the running water. In contrast to this placid scene, it might flow through some big industrial area, with huge factories emptying their oily overflows into the dark mucky waters of the river, and noisy tugs pulling large barges behind them.

The river also flows over foaming weirs, and past wooded islands, until it reaches its destination, which is the mighty sea. Many people spend their leisure time either on the river itself, or on its banks. Among these is the old fisherman who comes every week to fish always in the same spot, in a small clearing on the bank, away from the bustle of the town. Many other people take advantage of the serenity of the river, by rowing to some cool spot under the shade of the willows, and listening the the singing of the birds.

Many rivers originate quite insignificently, in a remote spot tucked away high up in a hill or mountain, but I think it can be said that a river goes through a great deal of adventures before it finally reaches the restless rolling sea.

Perhaps this strange attraction which lures people to the river can best be explained by the fact that man is said to have evolved from the sea. Whether the arguments are for or against this, it is certain that the river is one of Nature's greatest miracles, and that man can do nothing to even compare with the beauty of a river.

IAN DONNO, Cb, Form 3.

TAPES ACROSS THE DANUBE

"Dear Professor Lincé!"—This is not the way I am accustomed to hearing myself addressed. There are other ways in current use in the school, some of which (Four Iota, please note) are strictly reserved for members of Cromwell

House. The above title however I first heard some months ago, and it made me feel several inches taller—I needed to, I know—until I remembered that all masters in Austrian High Schools are so addressed. Such is the intricacy of our School life that few outside the circle of those whom I teach will be aware of the interesting link which Wandsworth School has with the Technologisches Gewerbemuseum in Vienna. Since September we have been exchanging tape recordings with this large technical school and have built up quite a circle of friends, whom we know only by voice.

The prime mover in this Tape-swop is Dr. Leo Kober, who, not content with teaching English in the Gewerbemuseum and in University classes as well, writes most of the books his pupils use, and at frequent intervals supervises the recording of Austrian songs and stories, descriptions of Vienna, questions about our school and reading practice in English. This last type of recording keeps me busy correcting the Austrian pupils' mistakes in pronunciation, and then of course I have to catch a tame Wandsworthian who can speak English, to record replies.

Yes, I said English; this is essential, and is the only requirement. If any readers of this article would care to record a short message, no knowledge of German is required, but if the Austrian boys don't understand you, it won't be their fault. I can assure you they are pretty good. I am particularly anxious that boys interested in engineering should take advantage of this opportunity of getting friends abroad with like interests. And don't tell me you haven't time. The Austrian boys work a forty-eight period week. I hope to give further details on a special notice board shortly.

A. M. LINCE.

WINTER

The winter sky is grey and bleak,
Snow gleams upon the mountain peak,
Forgotten now is the summer breeze,
The north wind howls through evergreen trees.

Around the blazing fire we sit;
The curtain's drawn; the lamps are lit.
Outside, beyond the frosted pane,
There howls the wind and driving rain.

On Christmas day the Church bells ring,
The First Nowell the choir boys sing,
Christ came to earth, let us rejoice,
With heart and soul and chanting voice.

P. JENKINS, Cromwell, 2 Theta.

I LIKE BLOWING!

My hobby is music. I have five musical instruments; a descant recorder, treble recorder, a clarionet, a harmonica and a Spanish guitar. As you can see from four of them, I rather prefer "blowing instruments".

The descant recorder was my first. Its lowest note is Middle C, and its highest is Upper G. It has seven holes down the front and one at the back. This one at the back is for the left hand thumb. The thumb of the right hand is not used except for holding the recorder up. The little finger of the left

hand is not used either, but the other little finger is used for operating the hole at the bottom of the recorder. The descant recorder is usually made of plastic or wood.

After I had learned to play the descant recorder I was given a treble recorder. The treble recorder's highest note is F, two notes higher than the descant's lowest, but the highest is Upper G. The tone of the treble is much lower than that of the descant. The treble recorder can be taken apart when wanted to be packed in a box. It can be taken apart in three pieces, but the descant only in two.

Having learned to play the treble recorder, I was given a clarionet one year. A clarionet is bigger in size than my recorders and has also a wider range of notes. The lowest is Lower E and the highest is C in Alto. Because of the clarionet's size, some of the holes cannot be operated by fingers because they cannot stretch far enough to reach them, so keys have to be used, which are long strips of metal with a knob at one end. When a strip of metal is pushed down, the knob at the other end goes down on the hole. The clarionet is a single reed instrument, the reed being a strip of bamboo cane which when blown, vibrates, and hits the mouthpiece and makes a noise. Like the recorders it comes apart, but in five pieces, or seven counting the reed and ligature. The instrument can be very squeaky. At first it is difficult even to get a note out of it.

After a while I thought I would like a stringed instrument, so I was given a Spanish guitar last Christmas. About six months ago I bought myself a Hohner Chromatic harmonica. Far from grumbling at me, my folks at home seem to enjoy my blowing (and plucking). My Form even allowed me to bring my instruments and give a little talk and blow.

KEITH CLARKE, I Nu.

A LUVERLY BUNCH

Perhaps you think that coconuts are only good for throwing balls at in fairs, or for making a noise like horses' hooves on the wireless. But I was surprised to read in an encyclopædia the other day about all the different useful things that you can do with them.

The coconut tree is useful for its wood. If you were on a desert island you could build your house and furniture from it, so that you could be protected from the rain and sun, and you could be safe at night. You could use the long palm leaves for your roof, with things like mud on top.

You could eat the inside of the coconut, and you could drink the milk. This would be useful in case there was malaria in the water on the island. You can also get oil by pressing the dry nut, and even sugar by boiling down the juice of the flower stalk.

The hard shells are very useful indeed. They would do for cups or bowls. The rough hair on the shell is called "coir", and you could make mats with it, or matting for the walls. You can also use it to make a broom, or a bed.

The coir also makes rope, so with this, and some timber from the tree, you could make a raft. For a sail you could use coconut matting.

Then you could sail away. But if you reached civilisation again, I do not think you would want to see any coconuts for a long time after that!

C. HUDSON, Cromwell, 2 Epsilon.

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

The bell is rung; it is the end of term. Immediately the calm which prevailed over the school corridor is broken, as classroom doors are flung open, and a deluge of schoolboys dashes from them, cap in one hand, satchel in the other. They dash to their respective locker or desk, fling open its respective door or

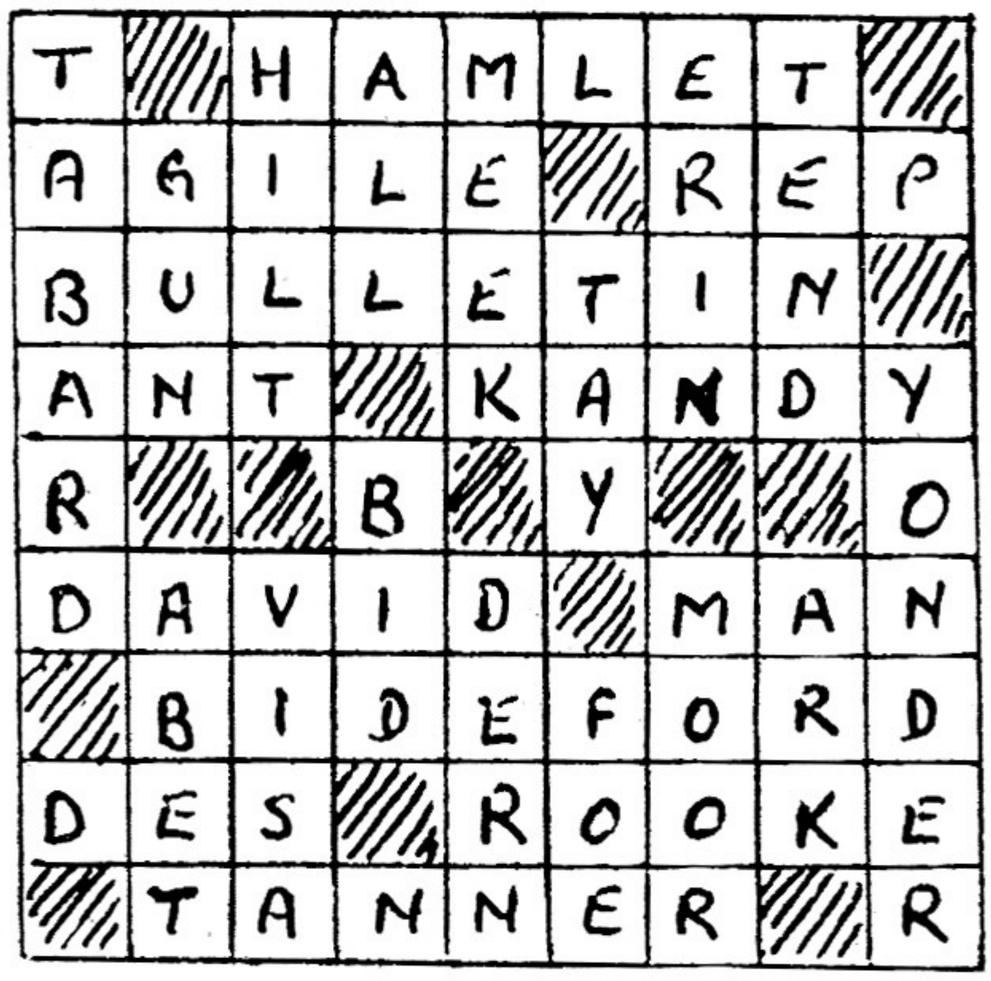
lid, and throw the respective (but not respected) contents into their satchels. This done, they half-walk, half-run down the staircase to the entrance, and, without pausing, are through it, down the drive, off home.

But some boys are left standing as the others dash past. For them, the last hour has come; they have served their sentence; at last they are free, free of the dreaded emissaries of the L.C.C., with their black frowns and gowns, free, at fifteen plus, to become a man.

Are they happy? They should be, but in most cases they are not. Like the past of a dying man, their school life flashes before their eyes . . . the initials carved on the desk lid, with the date alongside . . . Even the most hated of the L.C.C.'s minions seems somehow less repulsive . . . almost likeable . . . even rather nice. The saddest moment of the past takes on a rosy aura, and is looked back on with joy. A feeling of emptiness, loneliness overwhelms them. They are setting out into a huge, unfamiliar world, to be swallowed up.

Then, with a last farewell glance at the place of their imprisonment for all those past years, and perhaps with an ever-swelling lump in their throats, they walk homewards.

E. T. PETTENGELL, Mh, 4 Rho.



SCHOOLDAYS

Schooldays are an awful bore,
All hard work and nothing more.
Angry prefects on the prowl
Catching victims with a growl.

Lunchtime comes at one o'clock;
Into the dining hall we flock.
Then we look with great dismay—
Cockroach pie again to-day!

Exam time comes round all too soon,
To get top marks would be a boon;
But half the questions we don't know,
So down the form once more we go.

But to be fair, school's not too bad.
We're enough to drive the teachers mad.
From nine to four, five times a week,
And marking prep. when we're asleep.

S. C. GODDARD, Cb, 4 Nu.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL As these notes are being written we are embarking on our annual Eisteddfod. By the time you read this, the results will already be known and we hope that we will have gained the much coveted trophy. We must remember that it is a House effort and not solely the effort of our experienced organizers. The following boys were elected as organizers: Alan Peacock for Music, Nicholas Bishop and Roger Newman as Play Producers, Donald Forrest for Hobbies, John Atack for Literary Composition and Ernest Estrellado for Art.

Diligence this term has not been up to Cromwell's usual high standard. The house as a whole comes third in the Main School and Set E has the doubtful distinction of having the lowest average recorded. We hope that a greater effort will be made in the future.

This term our Rugby Team under the captaincy of Lachlan Congdon has suffered two defeats but we hope that they do better in their next match. We congratulate Bishop on his appointment as school captain of Fencing. Under his guidance the Cromwell House team has won its first two matches; we wish our fencers well in their third. Derek Titheradge fenced very well and to him as well as to the captain must go a large share of the credit for our success.

Ronald Bone was elected Chess captain last term and although no matches have been played as yet, we wish him success. Next term we look forward to the cricket and swimming championships. We hope every boy will support the respective captain. We have a very good chance in Swimming and we congratulate all boys in Cromwell who have gained their bronze medallion.

This term we were most unfortunate in losing Mr. Crawford, tutor of Set G. His place has been taken by Mr. C. J. Walmsley and we welcome Mr. S. R. Gandhi, who has quickly settled down as Assistant Tutor in the friendly atmosphere of Set C.

We should like to congratulate Alan Peacock and Mohan Adiseshiah on their appointment as Sub-prefects. Peacock's promotion left a vacancy for Cycle Marshall, which has been filled by William Austin. Donald Forrest is promoted Chief Cycle Marshall.

We haven't forgotten Work. We hope that every member of the House will make a good G.C.E. or similar certificate his aim. Those who are taking one this summer we wish every success.

GEORGE E. DYBALL.
NICHOLAS C. BISHOP.

GIBBON "The winds and waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators." This quotation from our namesake is particularly applicable to this term's achievements. In the House Rugby matches, under the able captaincy of Rees, we have beaten Cromwell convincingly 33 points to 3, and drawn with Pitt 6 points all. Our team was understrength on both these occasions, which makes our victory all the more satisfying. However, we have not been as successful in other spheres. We were unable to beat either Morley or Cromwell in the inter-House Fencing competitions. These results, though, do not give an accurate picture of the narrow nature of our defeats. Butler, the captain, fenced brilliantly throughout. In Fives we held Cromwell to an unexpected draw, which has heartened the team of Ginn, Fogg, Willis and Nobes for the matches to come.

The most depressing news of all, is that the Diligence averages to date show Gibbon as last, a low position for the second occasion running. A fine position for Champion House! It is quite clear from these results that once again the fortunes of the House rest on the shoulders of only a handful of boys. It is up to each member of the House to ensure that we maintain the high reputation we gained last year. This retrograde step in diligence is

illustrative of a gradual slackness in the House, which has developed as the term progressed. Most members would seem to be resting on laurels which they do not possess. It must be pointed out that good diligence is awarded for effort, not ability, and that lax approach will be reflected in other inter-House competitions, such as the Eisteddfod, if the leading individuals do not receive the backing of the rest of the House, the basic necessity for any form of success. The officers appointed for the various sections of the Eisteddfod are as follows: Music, G. W. Willis and G. S. Ryan; Literary Composition, R. J. Pooley; Art, S. Tyson and L. S. Woodcock; Drama, S. Tyson and Vincent-Townend; Hobbies, C. Bowyer; and the co-ordinator is R. L. Nobes. This auspicious group of organisers predicts "able navigation", although the exigencies of the competitive climate cannot be foretold.

Once again we must congratulate G. W. Willis on gaining an L.C.C. Modern Language Scholarship. This year he will be going to Germany for three months in the Summer. This remarkable achievement is a credit to him and the House.

To conclude, we must make a final appeal to the House to exert its influence in the school in a manner worthy of our past accomplishments, which were gained by the corporate efforts of all boys in Gibbon House. We have the latent ability and the means of expressing our individual talents; all that is needed is the patient effort which will bring Gibbon the victories we feel are due.

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

MORLEY On looking through past House notes I see that they are all very formal and matter-of-fact, and I am afraid that I fell into this style myself last time. I will try to avoid too much formality this term.

Mr. Eaton, who has taken over Mr. Macnab's place, has, after only half a term, become Morley H set master until Mr. Willer returns in July. Taking over Mr. Willer's classes is Mr. Gilbert. The best house in the school gives them both a warm welcome.

Diligence! To think that three sets from Morley came 1st, 2nd and 3rd . . . it's against all moral and social laws. Well done, and keep it up! I wonder if we are coming out on top now because last year's fifth form are no longer counted in the diligence average?

Last term I was forbidden to say anything about Morley winning the Rugby, but dare I stick my neck out now? We have won two out of three games, with a good team under good captains. We could win the third game. Meanwhile, over in Gym 4 we have been successful in one out of two fencing matches. At Fives we have won the only match we have so far played.

But although the prospects look good, we had better not start boasting yet. We still have the Eisteddfod, and next term's cricket, swimming and diligence to win. Where there's a will there's a way. If we put our minds to getting as many trophies as we can (including "Joey"), then we stand a very good chance of winning them.

At the time of writing no one knows who will be this year's winner of the Eisteddfod. I only hope you have done your best; I know all the people in charge of the different sections will have done theirs.

Although the Great Powers of the world are talking harder than ever about peace, there will be no peace in Morley from Mr. Coate-Bond until we regain the post of Champion House. Think ahead, and work hard, so that at the end of the year each one of us can say with Caesar, "Veni, vidi, vici!".

John R. Bunce, Mc, LVI G.

PITT This term is a very short one, but we have in it one of the most important activities of the school year—the Eisteddfod. These notes were written before it began, and it is impossible to comment on it. I hope, nevertheless, that the members of Pitt House made an extra effort in all the spheres which the Eisteddfod provided in gaining distinction for themselves and honour for the House. This is a yearly event of great importance to us all. Boys from all forms have a chance to compete in activities which are normally out of the way for the ordinary boy, and yet in which he might have special prowess.

The only outstanding event of the term in house sport has been the Rugby championship. In the senior section, I am sorry to say, we lost one match and drew one. But we have high hopes of winning the remaining match.

We were sorry last term to say good-bye to Mr. D. J. Smith, who left to take up a senior post elsewhere. We wish him well. Pitt G is now in the capable hands of Mr. Jones. The new prefects are named in the Headmasters notes. It is significant that we now have seven prefects in one set—Pitt A. Is that a record? On the other hand, Pitt A, together with Pitt G and D, is among the lowest sets for diligence. They are letting us down, for we are only just behind Morley.

So much good work is being done in the House—do give us all the support you possibly can!

J. W. TARKOWSKI, Pa, UVI Ec.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

BASKETBALL CLUB

Captain : E. Estrellado.
Vice-Captain : M. D. Levy.

Basketball continues in popularity in all the forms and is rapidly becoming one of the major sports. With the help of Mr. Williams the seniors are having quite a good season. The success of the side lies in the two high-scoring forwards, E. Estrellado and B. Burge. In matches this season, Estrellado has scored 226 points and Burge 182 points but their success is due to the unselfishness of M. D. Levy the centre, P. Rees and A. J. Berry the two guards. Three other boys are deserving of mention, B. Eadie, M. Golding and R. Hancock, all of whom have proved both useful and valuable to the team. I should also like to thank D. A. Stewardson, who has acted efficiently as scorer.

This term an area competition was held, with the view of selecting a London Basketball Team. We congratulate E. Estrellado, M. D. Levy, B. Burge and A. J. Berry on being chosen to play for the South West London Team, and especially to E. Estrellado on his selection for the London Team.

RESULTS

14th December	v. Spencer Park	Won	51—41
17th December	v. Glyn County	Won	51—33
18th December	v. Strand	Lost	56—57
26th December	v. Sir Christopher Wren ...	Lost	31—52
5th January	v. Glyn County	Lost	27—53
9th January	v. Kingsdale	Won	52—20
16th January	v. Lycée Français	Lost	84—100
2nd February	v. Kingsdale	Won	52—34

Played 11, Won 7, Lost 4, Points for 603, Points against 480.

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

	Games Played	Field Goals	Free Throws Scored	Free Throws Missed	Fouls	Points
E. Estrellado ...	9	110	6	9	12	226
M. D. Levy ...	10	43	1	3	16	86
B. Burge	10	87	8	3	1	182
P. Rees	9	13	3	2	4	29
A. J. Berry ...	9	6	0	1	9	12
M. Golding ...	9	12	1	3	6	25
R. Hancock ...	8	20	0	4	2	41
B. Eadie	8	2	0	0	10	4

M. D. LEVY *(Vice-Captain)*, Cb, LVI Sc.

THE CHESS CLUB The writing of a club's notes is sometimes regarded as an opportunity to express delicately phrased euphemisms which praise everyone in general, but which bear little relation to the truth. In diverging from this formula, these Chess club notes attempt to portray the activities of a society which is engaged in a process of team building from small, but firm foundations. The results show how our young, inexperienced team have gradually gained in knowledge to a rewarding pitch of ability which, I hope, is prophetic of our future standards. To date, we have lost five matches, drawn one and won three; our recent wins of $5\frac{1}{2}$—$\frac{1}{2}$ against St. Joseph's College, and 7—3 against Surbiton, counter-balance our more ignominious defeats at the hands of St. Pauls and Kingston Grammar. The most predominant features of individual play have been the steady efficiency of Joiner, and the maturing talents of Jackson, well supported by Bari and Reid on fourth and fifth board respectively.

An important omission in the last notes was the " semi-retirement " of Doctor Solomon as master-in-charge of chess, because of his other commitments. The whole Chess club, I am sure, will join with me in sincerely thanking him for his very active attention and the interest his vigour has produced. This post has been taken over by Mr. Timothy, who has instilled into our young team a concern for this intellectual activity which is now coming to fruition. The special attention Mr. Timothy gives to the Junior Team, will, no doubt, become increasingly significant when their age has matched their ardour.

S. J. J. TYSON *(Captain)*, Gb, UVI A.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Captains :
L. S. Woodcock (senior), J. H. Halliday (junior).

Since our last notes a number of interesting fixtures have taken place, and the high standard, particularly of the Under 16 and Under 15 teams, has been fully maintained.

The Wandsworth District Championships took place at Wimbledon on 15th November. In the Junior race the school teams finished 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th and 10th out of 21 teams. John Halliday was the individual winner in 17 minutes 30 seconds, E. Elliott runner up in 17.51, N. Haley 4th, S. Smith 6th, V. Hancock 7th and P. Beard 9th.

The school finished 1st, 3rd and 8th in the Intermediate race. L. Woodcock was 2nd, 5 seconds behind the winner, and R. Knight, E. Slater, J. Reynolds, B. Brind, Watkins, A. Dailey and V. Hancock filled all the places from 4th to 10th, a very good effort by all.

Against Battersea Grammar School at Wimbledon on 26th November, our Junior team proved rather too strong for our opponents, filling all the first eight places, and winning by 21 points to 69. Battersea made a better fight of the Senior race, won by Woodcock, with Cooper (Batt.) 2nd, and Wilson 3rd, the school winning by 30 points to 52.

In the London Schools' Championships, held at Wimbledon on 13th December, we supplied most of the district teams. The Intermediate race was easily won by Wandsworth. Woodcock (2nd), Slater (7th), Reynolds (8th), Dailey (9th), Brind (10th), and Knight (29th) ran well, and we hope to see some of them in the County team later. The Juniors, who won equally easily, were well served by Halliday (1st), Elliott (4th), Hancock (6th), Haley (9th) and Beard (18th).



A. Dailey, J. Halliday and B. Brind pack well in the Surrev Boys Cross Country Championship.

Photo by Courtesy of the South Western Star.

Our next fixture was against Spencer Park at Wimbledon on 26th November, and again the juniors ran very strongly, filling the first seven places (Halliday, Hancock, Elliott, Beard, Hale, Bird and Haley). We won by 21 points to 63. The seniors ran well, winning by 31 points to 55, our positions being: Woodcock (2nd), Wilson (3rd), Slater (5th), Hancock R. (6th), Knight (7th), Brind (8th), Dailey (9th) and Reynolds (10th). Both races were fast.

The first match this term was an invitation race for boys at Epsom. The School won gold medals for 1st school, and silver for 2nd team to finish.

Individual positions were: Brind (9th), Reynolds (16th), Bailey (18th), Halliday (19th), Slater (31st) and Bird (50th). There were 14 teams, and 105 competitors.

A week later we took part in the County Championships at Morden, where we were again the first school, and were narrowly beaten for first place by T.V.H. It was a very fast race, and our competitors finished: Dailey (12th), Elliott (14th), Slater (15th), Halliday (16th), Reynolds (17th), Brind (18th) and Knight (49th). We again won silver medals.

On the same day we sent a very depleted senior team to compete in our annual match at Bexley. We were without our captain, Woodcock, a victim of the 'flu, and also Wilson, was well as those running at Morden. However, it says much for our keenness this season that we found a team, and they did well to finish 7th out of a dozen teams. Hancock (R.) was 17th, Shivers 27th, Cope 30th, Watkins 39th and Rowe 41st.

We still have fixtures of considerable interest before the term ends, including Selhurst (A), Christopher Wren and Kynaston (H), S.L. Grammar Schools (A), and S.L. Harriers Inter Schools (A). Finally we hope that those who represented London in the Inter-Counties race on 14th March will meet with success.

R. F. R. CLARK.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY

PRACTICAL EVENINGS

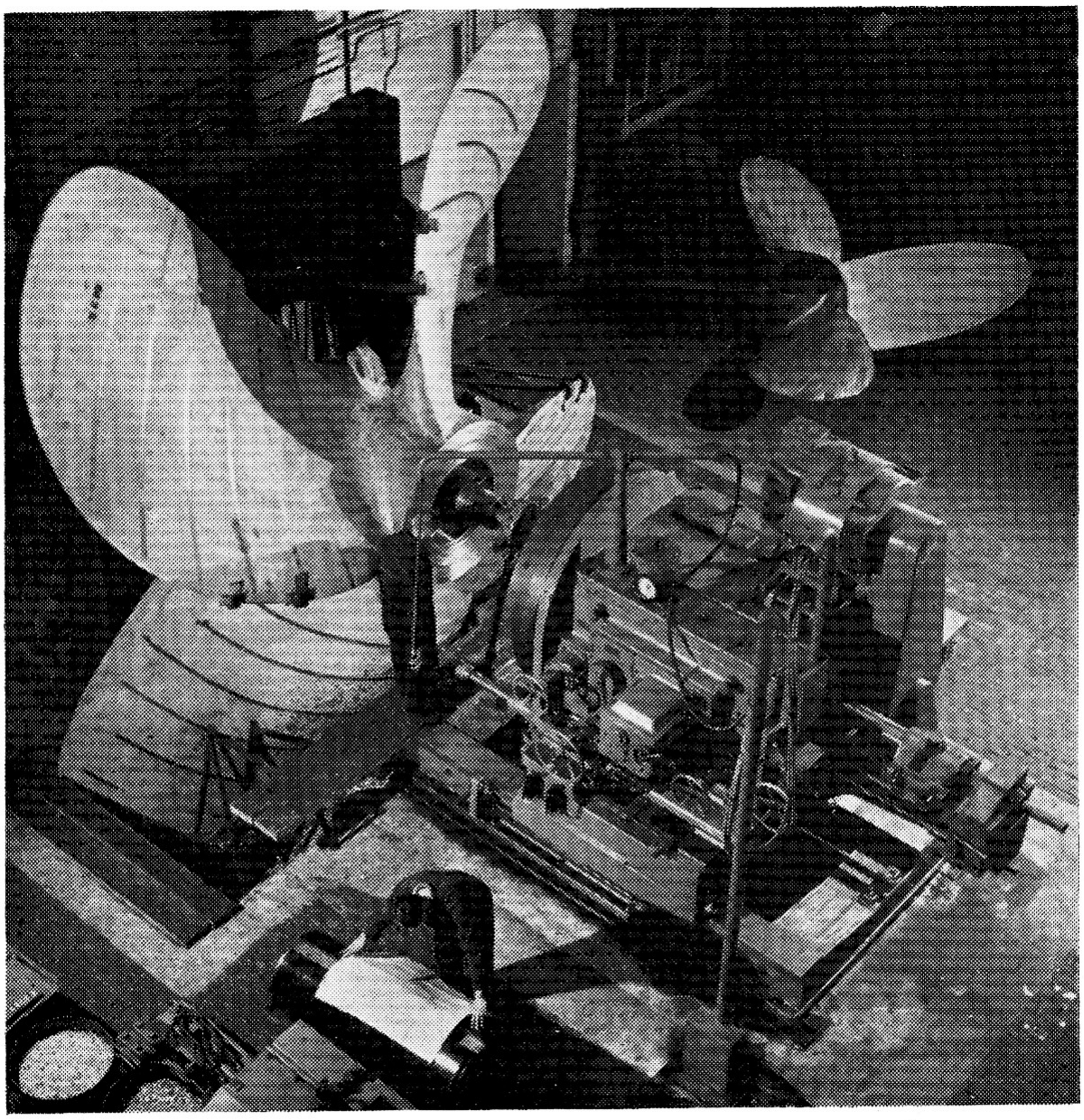
Our members have continued to meet on Tuesday evenings after school for sessions of practical work. The work done during these evenings ranges from the construction of miniature diesel engines to the course work jobs now available. This includes all types of small tools and various machine attachments. The evenings offer a very good opportunity to a boy studying Sciences who wishes to make engineering his career and requires a little practical experience before going into industry. In accordance with a long-standing British tradition, tea is served at reasonable cost during these meetings.

J. STONE AND CO. (CHARLTON).

Recently the society made a visit to this well-known firm in South-East London, the party consisting of boys of the fifth and sixth forms. We were welcomed by Mr. Myer (assistant apprentice supervisor), who gave us a short address of welcome, and outlined the objects of the firm. The company is the second largest of its kind in the world, and is principally concerned with the making of propellers for such vessels as the Queen Mary and other large liners. We were shown around the bronze foundry and saw how the moulds were prepared from a mixture of cement and a special sand in pits sunk in the floor. The upper part of the mould is erected on the floor and then placed on top of the other part already in the pit. A framework is then built round the mould to prevent bursting, and the molten bronze is then poured. When this is done a number of men make sure that there are no " bubbles " in the metal that would create weaknesses.

All the propellers produced are either 4, 5 or single bladed. The testing shop for the variable pitch propellers was visited and also the heat treatment shop, where Mr. Hunt gave a most instructive talk on the air furnaces in use there. A short visit was paid to the aluminium foundry where certain aircraft propellers are made, and this was followed by a visit to the radiography unit, where flaws are detected by means of X-rays. Some flaws found were gas disturbances caused by damp patches in the mould. The party stopped here for some time and saw how the cracks are also detected by immersing castings in a bath of red dye, washing them and then dusting with french chalk. Cracks then show up as a red blot in the chalk. Here the

visit came to an end all too soon, and the parties made their way to the dining hall for a tea provided by the company. The society would very much like to thank their guides, Messrs. Vaughan, Tregenno and Goodhew, and Mr. Unthank, Personnel Manager's Assistant, all of whom contributed greatly to the success of the visit by their patient replies to the many questions put by our members.



Boring a propeller. **J. STONE & GO. (CHARLTON)**

SOCIETY COMMITTEE

A committee was elected towards the end of the last term, consisting of the following: Chairman, B. Coleman; Vice-Chairman, B. Wagstaff; Secretaries, P. W. McKendrick (visits), P. T. Libby (films); Treasurer, C. Elliott.

The committee has regularly met each Tuesday lunch-time since the beginning of term, and so far the following matters have been considered: Future visits, Catering, the publication of a Society Journal, Funds, Prizes for practical work, and Link articles. Action has been taken by the committee in respect of catering facilities as a result of which J. Atack has been co-opted as Chairman of the Catering Sub-Committee. As a result of his activities, members can now get a bite to eat as well as a cup of tea before getting down to work.

The Chairman and his colleagues welcome suggestions from members for improvements or extensions to the activities of the society and will consider any such ideas with interest.

P. T. LIBBY, Ma, UVI Sc.

MOLIN'S MACHINE COMPANY

The society has previously visited this firm and on this second occasion both groups were welcomed by Mr. McClellan and shown by him around the workshops. The company manufactures machinery for the making and packaging of cigarettes and is the largest of its kind in the world. Our members were much impressed by an induction furnace that is capable of heating metal to " white heat " without actually having any contact with it. Some time was spent watching the cutting of gears and their subsequent case-hardening. The process is quite simple. The gears are packed in alloy steel tubes with a carbon-bearing substance and then heated intensely for a fixed period. The overall cost of the process is quite small but the alloy steel tubes cost in the region of £5 per foot. The parties then saw the assembly of the machines and the fitting of the electronic equipment necessary to make the machine completely automatic. Although the company make their own gears, the bulk of the casting for the main frames is tendered to contractors. Production rate is about 36 machines per month, all individually assembled and on completion, each capable of manufacturing cigarettes from the raw material at the rate of 30 per minute, ready packed. The parties received an excellent tea to conclude their interesting tour and Mr. McClellan told them a little about careers and prospects within the company before they left.

P. W. MCKENDRICK *(Secretary)*, Ma, UVI Sc.

VISIT TO MASSON-SCOTT & CO., LTD.

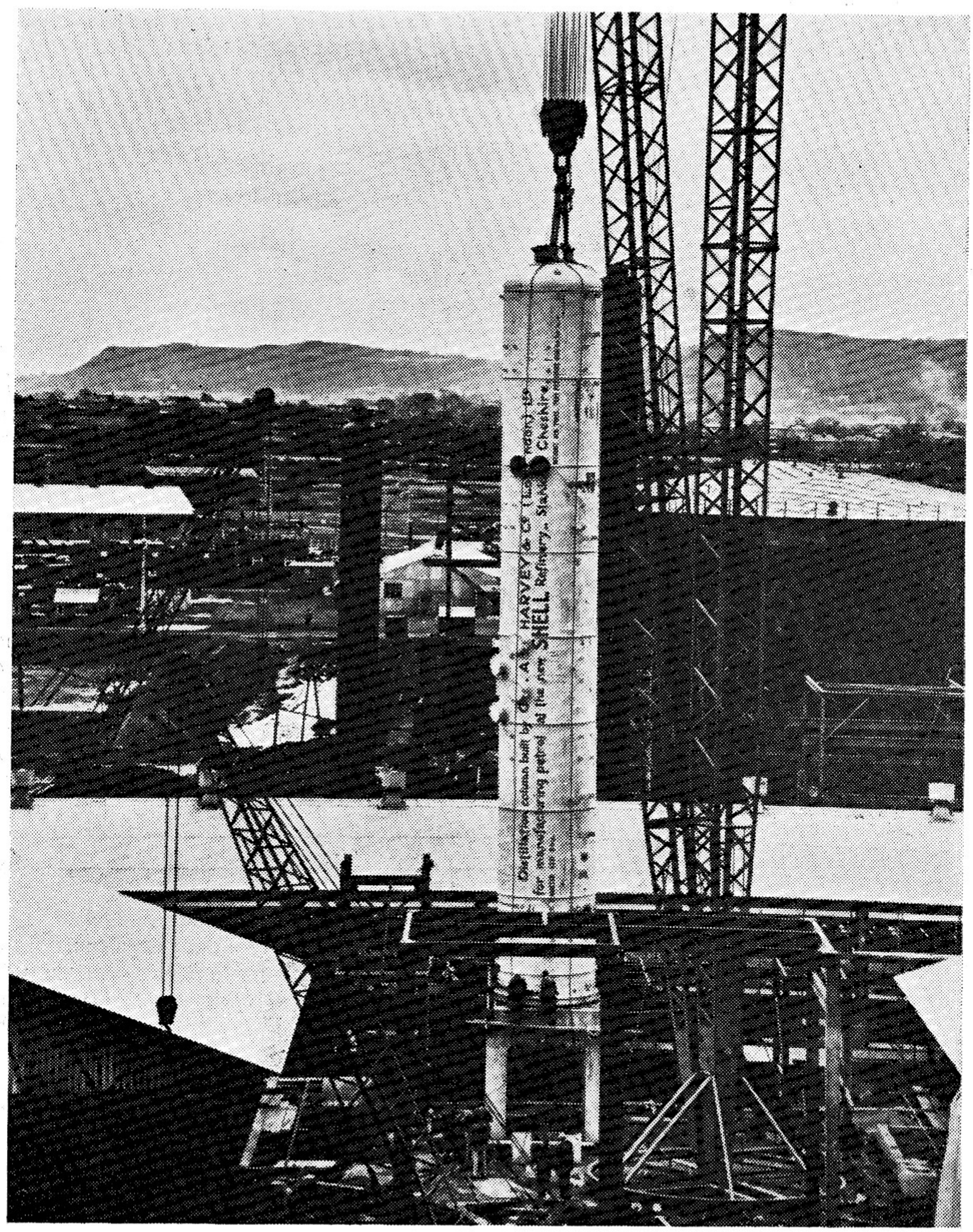
Following the talk given to the society by Mr. Braid, Works Manager, a visit was made to this firm. The party was received and given an introductory talk by the Assistant Works Manager, Mr. J. Manly, and were then shown round the works by two of the apprentices.

The assembly shop was visited first. Here, actual paper making machines, corrugating and cutting machines as well as pulp makers—rather like huge mincing machines—were being assembled. The paper making machines consist of many steam heated rollers, the whole assembled unit of some being as much as 400 feet long. There was the corrugated machine for making corrugated board which was capable of producing 650 feet per minute and could be loaded with a 33 cwt. reel of paper and 2,300 yards of cardboard. One of these machines is shown in the photograph. Pressure between the rollers is applied by four hydraulic cylinders and five of the rollers are heated by steam at 240 lb. pressure per square inch. The machine weighs five tons and can take five reels at a time. The paper cutting machines can take six to eight reels of paper and are capable of cutting as much as 450 feet per minute.

The machine shop was visited next—there was no foundry, all castings being made elsewhere. Here the parts of the machines were seen being turned, bored, planed and ground, on machines many times larger than those in the school workshop. As in all engineering work, components were inspected carefully at every stage of manufacture. Of particular interest, was the checking and balancing of the rollers. After machining, the rollers are always " off balance ". The position of the unequal turning moments is detected by spinning the roller at high speed and observing the vibrations. When the heavy spots are found, the balance is adjusted to within a fraction of an ounce.

There is no mass production at Masson Scott's. All machines are made to order, for such large products would require a tremendous store in which to keep any surplus, and a factory with a stores out of proportion to its size is uneconomical.

VISIT TO G. A. HARVEY & CO. (LONDON), LTD.



Erection of fractionating column made by G. A. HARVEY & CO. LTD.

This was an instructive visit to a firm which specialises in wire, sheet and plate work using steels clad with various protective metals. The Heavy Industrial Plant section was probably the most interesting part of the visit for here we saw the production of processing plant consisting of enormous

towers, some weighing over 170 tons. One of these can be seen in the accompanying illustration. This was a fractionating column destined for the Shell Company's new refinery in Cheshire. We watched, fascinated, as the end plates for a similar column, as if they were cardboard, were formed up from discs of ½ inch plate under hydraulic presses.

A very good tea was provided after which the Apprentice School was visited. Here every facility is provided in the form of workshops, lecture room and drawing office so that the apprentice can master the more practical aspects of engineering. Additionally every encouragement is given to the apprentice to proceed to the higher professional qualifications via the technical college.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH-TIME MEETINGS

The society has been fortunate in seeing two excellent films on "High Speed Flight". The first film dealt with speeds above the sound barrier and showed some excellent shots of the latest British and American supersonic aircraft. The second film dealing with speeds up to and below the speed of sound was the more instructive of the two. It showed diagrammatically the build up of shock waves and the methods which are used to reduce them. The film went on to show wind tunnel tests and explained what is meant by the term "critical Mach number". Both these films were in colour. The latest film we have seen was on the making of airscrews. The emphasis throughout, was on the accuracy which is necessary in the making of a propeller blade. It ended by showing how a constant speed propeller functions.

P. T. LIBBY, UVI Sc.

FENCING CLUB

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

Since the last issue of The Link we have been unfortunate to lose the services of our captain, J. W. Tarkowski, who resigned owing to the pressure of school work. However, he was succeeded by N. C. Bishop who has now taken over the heavy burden of Captaincy.

Under the invaluable guidance of our fencing master, Professor Simmonds, and other members of the teaching staff, N. C. Bishop, together with our vice-captain, A. J. R. Berry, has led the school to victory in two out of the three matches held to date. The match which we lost was against Dulwich College, when we were defeated by superior fencing and the long tradition which backed that school.

An open competition held at Bexley Heath school gave the club a chance to see how it compares with the fencing of other London schools. The result was most satisfactory. We entered two teams who both won through to the final when, in the seniors, Bishop gained third place and Berry fifth. The juniors show great promise for the future in the result that Perry took the trophy for second place, Burness came fifth and Pratt seventh.

During the past few years the fencing club as a whole has only been marking time. However, under the guidance of Professor Simmonds the club is now being carefully rebuilt on the lower members of the school; but so far efforts to bring the first forms into the club have been thwarted by a disappointing lack of support for the club from the senior members of the school.

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

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY

As mentioned in the last issue of The Link, the society had on its agenda two meetings for this term: the annual Half Day Conference, and a Mock Election.

At the time of going to print, the Conference, on "Art and Society",

with particular reference to the Russian paintings at the Royal Academy, had been held here successfully from 2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. on the 19th February. It was our pleasure to welcome as our guest at this meeting the famous art critic and writer, Mr. John Berger, who is often associated with the much-discussed "angry young men", and who delivered a most stimulating talk to the society in the afternoon.

The Brains Trust at five o'clock saw the appearance of the Countess Huntingdon—better known as the novelist and broadcaster Margaret Lane. We had hoped to have welcomed Mr. Lindsey Anderson, the film director and play producer, but unfortunately he was called away by the B.B.C., and his place was admirably filled by Mr. John Morley, head of the Art Department at Mayfield, and our own Mr. Waters.

Coming between the lecture and the Brains Trust, the tea proved a great success, with members of all four schools mixing in a very friendly way, encouraged by the spread provided by the Cook and her Staff.

The Mock Election on March 9th at Sir Walter St. John's should prove very lively, with sixth formers from the four member schools airing their own—if not peculiar—political views.

A. W. Atkinson, Cb, UVI Sc.

LIBRARY NOTES

The number of books available has risen by 15% since February, 1958, and is now well over 6,200. This probably accounts for an increase in the number of books being borrowed, especially in the lower school and in the sixth form.

This term four of the sixth form library prefects have become sub-prefects and are being replaced by other keen seniors.

A further number of books, which will be listed next term, has been presented by masters and boys, and they are now in general use.

The number of periodicals has been increased by the addition of "The Economist" and "The Covenanter".

A number of displays have been staged in order to advertise the large variety of subjects covered by the library.

D. H. Ball, Pa, LVI Sc.
J. R. Bunce, Mc, LVI G.

LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

This term the Society has managed to fulfill the hopes expressed in last term's notes. Through the guidance and help of Mr. Newson, it has been possible to procure bookings for various theatres other than the Old Vic, and for various plays other than Shakespeare's, and it was most encouraging to note how well met these opportunities were.

The first visit, towards the end of last term was to the Old Vic to see Ibsen's "Ghosts". Although it has the reputation of being a highly intellectual and powerful work, a number of boys plucked up the courage to to attend. They were faced with an interpretation which allowed one to sense the emotional struggles of the players, although it did not pronounce them as clearly as they might have been. Nevertheless, the performance was warmly appreciated.

We next visited the Globe Theatre to see "Long Day's Journey into Night" by Eugene O'Neill. Once again the contingent of boys who attended the performance was confronted with an emotionally powerful work, in veritable 3-D—Drug addiction, Drunkenness and Despair. These factors were moulded into a highly moving, semi-autobiographical play.

At this point Mr. Newson presented a lunch-time play recording for the Society. The chosen recording was of T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the

Cathedral ". On the whole it was more suitable for the older students in the school, but the juniors who did come along seemed to enjoy the touches of quick humour in the final act.

" The Rose Tattoo " by Tenessee Williams was the third target for the society, and as sex was a predominant theme in this play the prospect of visiting the New Theatre was greeted with the utmost enthusiasm. I myself was unable to make the visit, but from comments helpfully forwarded by S. Tyson and other " old Faithfuls ", it seems that although Williams' work was well acted as a whole, it was felt that it relied rather heavily on the performance of Sam Wanamaker, the principle actor and producer. But this, I was assured, did not prevent an enjoyable evening's entertainment.

The most recent visit has been to the Old Vic to see two comedies by Molière, " Sganarelle " and " Tartuffe ". Both are presented as satires overflowing with witticisms and humorous digs at the hypocritical and rather stupid aristocracy of Louis XIV's age. These two works may well be voted the most purely enjoyable this term. Time will show.

Looking to the future, it is hoped that by the time these notes appear, visits will have been made to " Five Finger Exercise " at the Comedy Theatre, and the two plays by Anouilh at the Arts. It is particularly encouraging to note that the attendance at these visits has been covering a much wider area in the school, and increasing numbers of fourth formers are becoming regular theatre-goers, with obvious enjoyment. If any criticism of our membership is to be made, it is that perhaps it has been a little unadventurous. Possibly the most interesting of all the plays proposed in recent weeks was " A Taste of Honey " by Shelagh Delaney, but support was so limited that eventually a party of only two made the journey to Stratford-atte-Bowe. Perhaps a further visit can be arranged later now that the play has moved to the West End, and received the " full treatment " in the popular press.

In any case, this term can be looked upon as being most successful with regard to the society's literary and dramatic entertainment.

R. C. Newman, Cb, LVI A.

As co-secretary of the Literary and Dramatic Society, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Waters for arranging the visit made by members of last term's School Play cast to see that exhilarating musical " West Side Story ".

R.C.N.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY The Society started two new ideas this term to supplement its already successful activities. On January 16th, was held the first of what we hope will be a series of periodic film shows. It was a mistake on the part of the Film Library that the commentary was in English instead of in French, but this may have made the films—two documentaries about Versailles and Paris —more enjoyable to the less experienced members of the audience, who came in good numbers from the middle forms. We hope they will continue to come, and be joined by others at our next film session. If you are studying French, you can never hear too much of the language correctly spoken; most of us hear more French than is good for us spoken by English schoolboys. French films are a pleasant antidote to the poison.

Our second idea is to add a French and German section to the Solo Reading in the Eisteddfod. The number of entries to date is small, but even if the house organisers persuade no more boys to enter, we shall not be dismayed. We are prepared for slow but steady growth in our activities.

As a side-line to his other more widely known pursuits, George Willis managed last term to reach the semi-final of the inter-school German Verse Speaking Competition, with his rendering of a speech from Faust.

By the time this report appears we shall have had our Spring meeting with Mayfield at which we shall be entertained by a short French Comedy in which we are supplying half the cast and Mayfield the other half. Our half consists of Roger Newman. What will happen during the rest of the meeting is anyone's guess at the moment.

A. M. LINCE.

RUGBY

COLTS XV

A strong Colts XV made a good start to the season and played well for the first few weeks, losing only to our old rivals Bec, after a very hard and enjoyable game. On October 21st, four boys, B. Sandford, K. Nebbett, M. King and R. Brennan, entered for the Surrey Colts' trials at Raynes Park. All four did well and as a result passed through to the final trial. During the following week the team suffered a terrible blow, R. Brennan, the right wing forward and top try scorer in every season, went into hospital to have a leg operation. As a result the back row of the scrum found itself overworked in the next few matches. However, the team found new and fresh talent in R. Alder who, although he had never played in our team before, proved himself a worthy member. The final trial for the Surrey Colts XV was held on the 4th of November. We were highly pleased and honoured to find that B. Sandford and R. Brennan had been accepted into the Surrey Team. R. Brennan, unfortunately, was unable to play because of his operation. For the rest of the term we found it hard to field a strong team because of illness.

On the whole the team has played well, winning five out of seven matches. Unfortunately the three-quarters have been unsettled and weak as an attacking body. A number of boys of great individual talent have been tried, but our difficulty has been to convert them into an effective combination. Consequently attacking movements have often broken down when most needed.

I. Evans and D. Snare deserve mention for their outstanding play at scrum-half and fiy-half respectively. They have combined together well, making many tries much easier for the three-quarters by their clever passing and positioning.

The forwards as usual have been the strongest part of our team, especially when taking the ball on and when in the loose scrum. Credit should go to A. R. Greene and K. Nebbett (captain) for their remarkable partnership in the second row. They are fine jumpers and hard to stop when taking the ball on from the loose or from the line-out. Nebbett, our captain, deserves special credit for the expert way in which he has handled the team in good form or bad, and for the quiet unassuming way that he does it.

Since Christmas we have lost our hooker, R. Marshall, a most valuable forward, who has played in this position ever since the team began in the first form, but who has now emigrated to New Zealand. We wish him the best of luck in his new venture.

This report would be incomplete without special mention of D. Skinner, an excellent full-back, who has saved us many times. He never fails to get his man and is only beaten when numbers against him are overwhelming.

Colours have been awarded to K. Nebbett (captain), B. Sandford (vice-captain) and D. Skinner.

B. V. SANDFORD *(Vice-Captain and Hon. Secretary)*, Pa, IV Pi.

RESULTS:—

20th September	v. Marylebone (away)	...	...	Won	18—0
27th September	v. Mitcham (away) ...	...	...	Won	22—6
4th October	v. William Ellis (away)	...	...	Won	8—3
11th October	v. Bec (away) ...	...	...	Lost	0—3
18th October	v. Wallington (away)	...	...	Won	9—6
8th November	v. Chartesey ...	...	...	Cancelled	
15th November	v. Chiswick (away) ...	...	...	Lost	3—14
22nd November	v. Kynaston 2nd XV	...	...	Lost	19—0
29th November	v. Sutton (home) ...	...	...	Won	9—0
6th December	v. Sedge Hill (home)	...	...	Won	67—0
13th December	v. Selhurst (home) ...	...	...	Cancelled	
17th January	v. Marylebone (home)	...	...	Cancelled	
24th January	v. William Ellis (home)	...	...	Cancelled	
31st January	v. Spencer Park (home)	...	...	Cancelled	
7th February	v. Chartesey (away) ...	...	...	Cancelled	

THE STAMP CLUB This term the club has continued its weekly meetings, with membership still largely confined to the Junior school, but some senior boys do attend and assist the younger ones. L. B. Levene, UV. deserves special mention for his help in routine club work, for acting as club librarian and for allowing members use of his catalogues during meeting. " Philatelic Magazine " and " Gibbon's Monthly " are now obtained regularly, and new books purchased include the latest S.G. Simplified Catalogue, together with some very helpful books on the arrangement and care of stamps.

Last term ended well with a very successful auction of stamps. The money raised, well over £3, was sent to the Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables where it was gratefully acknowledged. T. Clarke, IIi, gave us a series of three very interesting and well presented talks on the stamps of Great Britain—he was helped on all three occasions by some excellent display sheets which his Father helped to prepare. It is hoped that other members will give us talks of this nature, and thus keep the club out of the swop routine.

In the next edition we hope to be able to report on a series of talks for beginners, at least two quizzes and a lantern lecture hired from Stanley Gibbons which is designed to give useful advice to all collectors, for these are the contents of the second half term's programme. Members efforts in the Eisteddfod will also be reported.

C.J.W.

WANDSWORTHIANS LODGE NO. 5365 The meeting of the Lodge on the first Friday in January saw the final ceremony of the admission into Freemasonry of Mr. E. W. Gee.

Since its consecration in 1932 the Lodge has taken great pleasure in counting amongst its members several personalities from the school staff. Dr. Waite, Mr. Phillimore and Mr. Chart-Leigh held office from its inception until their deaths, and later on Mr. Terry continued to form a link between the Lodge and the School as a well-loved member. Mr. Gee now joins Mr. Elms in forming the present link, and it is a source of great satisfaction and pleasure to members to number amongst them two such brethren.

The present Master of the Lodge, W. Bro. J. B. T. Hone, attended the school from 1920 to 1923.

OLD WANDSWORTHIANS NOTES

The most noteworthy event of recent months has been our annual dinner, and a full report of this appears elsewhere in this copy of The Link.

CRICKET CLUB

By the time this magazine is published the inaugural meeting of the Old Wandsworthians Cricket Club will have been held, and this latest of your ventures launched on its way. Unfortunately a complete fixture list is not available at the time of going to press but when completed our home games will be posted on the notice board in the old school. By this means we hope that those of the Staff, of the School, and of the Parents' Association who wish to do so, may have an opportunity of supporting us at the ground: a very warm welcome will be extended to all who have a mind to enjoy the pleasures at Claygate this summer.

THE PAVILION

It is regretted that work on the pavilion and out-buildings has been much hampered in recent months, and progress has not quite followed the schedule that had been envisaged. The appalling sequence of bad weather has, of course, been the chief reason for this—weekends of pouring rain only being followed, it seemed, by weekends of driving snow. However, the prospect of lighter evenings soon to come will help us to redress this position.

OLD BOYS IN THE NEWS

Lt.-Cdr. A. T. J. Dibboll, R.N., left England in February for Buenos Aires, where he is to take up duties as a flying instructor to the Argentinian Navy. Argentina has just bought an aircraft carrier—its first—from the British Government, and Archie's job will be to teach Argentinian pilots to land on the thing. This, those who know him would dearly like to witness—and the imagination boggles at what Archie's reaction would be if any of his pupils were to skid over the " dead-ball line ".

Congratulations to our Hon. Secretary, Don Grant (and to Betty) on becoming parents for the second time. A sister has arrived for Alison, and we trust that our prospects at welcoming a future Old Wandsworthian are merely deferred.

Those who watched a recent television newsreel of the Stock Exchange Annual Walk from London to Brighton probably were not aware that the winner was an Old Boy. Green, who attended the school immediately before the war, has come to make this event peculiarly his own. Although we write without first-hand data, we understand that he has won this walk for the past three or four consecutive years, and the regularity of his victories tempts us to advise our readers to watch out for him particularly next year.

All enquiries concerning the Association should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary: Mr. D. D. Grant, 2, Conway Road, Wimbledon, S.W.20.

D.C.F.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

As is usual we were all able to enjoy a thoroughly good Christmas Social, largely as a result of the efforts of our Social Secretary, Mr. Smith, and the catering abilities of Mrs. Finch and her helpers. I am sure all who attended really enjoyed themselves and also a profit of nearly £20 was made to be used for the various activities of your boys.

Our Tutorial-at-Home on 6th February, was well attended, and those who stayed on to listen to the Brains Trust I am sure were well rewarded by all the " Panellers ", who certainly gave of their best under the Chairmanship of Mr. Green.

It will be of interest to all of you to know that the Under 14's at the School have been to Wales to play Rugby. They went with a very high reputation, which we know they will have maintained. To make sure they did, your Council supplied them with a new set of jerseys to help them on!

Recently the Printing Society called on us for funds which we supplied, and they have repaid us by doing our printing for the Social to be held on 6th March. We hope they will assist us in the future.

R. MUNDY, *Hon. Secretary.*

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