Dec

'69

WE SERVE

the link

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPRING ISSUE: **FRIDAY, 17th FEBRUARY, 1961**

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

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

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THE LINK

THE MAGAZINE OF WANDSWORTH SCHOOL

VOL. XLVI December, 1960 No. 3

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

An eventful term: for, in addition to the usual events we associate with the Autumn term, we have had the Opening of the Memorial Ground and Pavilion (September 24th) and the Inauguration of the Electronic Organ (October 7th), a recital for the London Society of Organists (October 1st) and the Twenty-First Birthday of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, C.E.W.C. (November 19th).

In addition to the two Parents Evenings, on September 30th for parents of new boys and on October 7th for the main parental body, the Parents Council organised a Whist Drive on October 14th in aid of the Organ Fund, and a Christmas Social on December 2nd.

Parents and friends of the School were welcomed at the Annual Prize-giving on November 3rd, and on the three evenings of the School Play. December 8th-10th and at the Christmas Concert on December 15th and 17th.

Four permanent members of Staff who had leave of absence last year have now resumed their posts: Messrs. Austin, Bartlett, Bourton, and Gouldstone.

In addition the following new members of Staff joined in September and in their various fields have brought a new accession of strength:—

W. F. Barnes, A.T.C.L.
R. J. Billington, B.Sc. Hons.
Mrs. W. Hindley, L.G.S.M., Dip. Ed. with Distinction.
G. Jenkins, M.A. Cantab.
J. C. Jones (From Borough Road T.C.)
H. A. Mair (From Carnegie College).
R. E. Mansfield (From Worcester Training College).
E. A. Parish (From College of St. Mark and St. John).
A. J. Smetham, B.A. Hons. (From King's College, London).
M. G. A. Wesson (From Carnegie College).
W. E. More, M.A., Canterbury, N.Z.
J. W. Bloss (From Battersea College of Technology, and Army).
H. J. Sutherby, A.M.I.Mech.E. (Joined staff 2nd May, 1960).
J. C. Grylls, H.N.C. (Building).
Herr K. Keiner, Assistant in German.
Mlle. A. Vasseux, Assistante in French.

Three members of the permanent staff left for important headships of department in July, Messrs. Tremayne, Jonathan, Williams: three others, Messrs. Ascher, Levy and Norris, have been granted leave of absence for study from the end of September until next July.

Mr. F. W. Bartlett is to be warmly congratulated upon the First Class Honours degree in History he gained in July at London University, and the offer of the Derby Studentship as the top Birkbeck student in the examination.

Congratulations, too, to Richard Hore who has gained a good honours class in Natural Science (Engineering Science) at Oxford, and to Jan

Kaminski who has been awarded the Diploma in Civil Engineering with honours at Loughborough.

The award of a coveted Open Scholarship at the Westminster Medical School is a scholastic triumph by any standards and we are proud of the success of last year's deputy head boy, Mohan Adiseshiah, in bringing this credit upon the School and the Science Department. His achievement is all the more notable since he joined the School only two years ago without previous specialisation in Science, and has taken a very active part in games, dramatics, societies, and prefectorial offices. He came second in the entire field of provisionally selected entrants taking the examination.

Those who remember David Epstein at School will be glad to hear that he has been elected to a Research Fellowship in Pure Mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge. He visited the School earlier in the year and is now on a visiting university lectureship in the United States.

I was pleased to have a letter from Brigadier W. D. C. Greenacre informing me that Clifford Squires and Peter Jones had both been awarded prizes of £20 in the completion of their courses at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and that Squires had in addition won the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Prize.

And while on the subject of the R.M.A., Sandhurst, may I congratulate the School's Fencing Team who gained a victory over that redoubtable establishment by 9 bouts to 0 in the foil, 6 bouts to 3 in the sabre, and 7 bouts to 2 in the epée.

A report in *The Times* informed us that David Liggett and Ronald Lloyd had successfully completed their R.A.F. courses at Cranwell. No doubt it was due to their success in winning R.A.F. scholarships a year or two ago that the Chief of Staff of the R.A.F. included me in a party of headmasters of certain public and grammar schools to fly to Cyprus during the half-term holiday to inspect R.A.F. installations and take part in discussions with R.A.F. personnel. Who will be next to emulate Liggett and Lloyd?

A group of last year's G.C.E. Woodwork candidates under Mr. Hall's supervision have designed and made as a co-operative effort a most handsome and workmanlike Reading Desk for the platform of the School Hall. We thank them for this pleasing and durable asset, made in African mahogany, with panelling to match that of the stage proscenium. Thanks, too, are due to Mr. Gee's department for the ebonising.

A special gift has been made to the Library of the Nouveau Larousse Universel in two volumes from the Hatfield Bequest, in memory of the late Arnold Hatfield, for many years the chief French master at the School. Old Boys and colleagues remember him with great affection.

Denis Brass, another Old Wandsworthian, has made a presentation of another of his books, this time a work on Portugal.

Anthony Berry, last year's Head Boy, and Nicholas Bishop, a senior Prefect, have both made valuable presentations to the School on leaving. They were among our most distinguished fencers and it is both pleasing and appropriate that Berry should give a cup for the best Fencing stylist and Bishop a shield for the most outstanding junior fencer for each year. So two of our most loyal and devoted pupils have perpetuated the memory of their schooldays here.

Towards the end of last term, Form 3 Eta had the idea of making a collection for World refugees. They set about this independently and with praiseworthy enterprise. There was no general appeal to the School or any section of it, and no need for such an appeal. Nevertheless, through the enthusiasm of volunteers and contributions from boys, their families and friends, nearly £50 was raised for the World Refugee Year appeal as a result of 3 Eta's initiative.

One or two individual performances for the record. Leslie Renny of Form 1 gained an Award of Merit in a handwriting competition organised by the *Children's Newspaper*. Eric Slater and Brian Brind were chosen for the London County team in the national Schools' A.A. Championships.

William Scott and Humphrey Reynolds were selected to play for the Surrey Juniors against the Essex Juniors in the inter-county Chess championship.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

The following appointments have been made for 1960-61:—

Joint Head Prefects: P. M. T. Gillingham (Pb), R. C. Newman (Cb).
Joint Second Prefects: J. A. Lally (Ma), R. Burt (Mb), E. G. W. Slater (Cb).
Full Prefects (from upper sixth forms):

CROMWELL	GIBBON	MORLEY	PITT
A. C. Hillyard (*Joint Capt.*)	F. R. Shons (*Capt.*)	P. E. Francis (*Capt.*)	J. H. Reynolds (*Capt.*)
N. A. Ratcliffe (*Joint Capt.*)	P. Elliot	R. Burt	J. S. Young
K. L. Aziz	D. P. Flint	P. R. Leverick	I. A. Cobb
A. E. J. Styles	C. M. Fogg	G. L. Jones	P. C. Moss
D. J. Morrison	A. E. Hearn	H. C. Shivers	M. V. Hamp
W. G. Scott	D. C. Lloyd	J. S. Ingham	C. M. Bird
W. R. Austin	J. R. Ollerenshaw		R. Hancock
	B. C. Brind		L. B. Levene
			D. R. Crosby
			C. J. Skinner
			S. E. Tilly

Sub-Prefects (from lower sixth forms):

CROMWELL	GIBBON	MORLEY	PITT
J. H. Carter	R. C. Dirs	J. A. Morris	R. F. Sandford
B. H. Coleman	E. V. Elliott	I. P. Evans	R. W. Vincent
S. C. Goddard	R. E. Griffin	R. F. Alder	D. J. Guy
D. P. Nathanson	D. J. Wilson	D. W. Golding	D. T. Snell
I. A. Newman	P. Godfrey	R. R. Knightley	M. P. Mitchell
C. J. Corton	M. E. Hearne	D. W. Richards	C. A. J. Corio
A. R. Greene	G. S. Jones	J. G. Moore	D. R. Askew
M. J. Eagle	M. C. K. Kane	I. S. Jenner	K. R. Moore
K. P. Nebbett	D. B. Newark	G. F. Hebard	C. J. Smith
D. Hanham	A. R. Knight	B. Thomas	K. A. Connor
M. C. Halfacree	R. H. Dawson	L. A. Gibbs	S. S. L. Brown
A. J. C. Dudley	J. H. Halliday	P. C. Hart	F. A. Love
A. B. R. Seneviratne	P. R. Aplin	E. S. Pettingell	
R. D. Ward	T. R. Farebrother	K. R. Stuart	
B. E. Chewter	P. W. S. King	R. C. D. Simons	
N. Hillyard	P. M. Taylor	R. C. Pearson	
R. M. Fox	R. B. Butler	B. J. A. Schol	
S. H. Hashmi	D. R. Goddard	A. P. M. Wilson	
M. J. Bonnett		F. J. Shaub	
B. M. Hopkins		W. A. Breach	
B. L. Sawyer		M. J. Milan	
		A. J. Panos	

Pro-Prefects (from fifth forms):

CROMWELL	GIBBON	MORLEY	PITT
I. M. Donno	D. Halsey	D. P. Grant	S. Harper
S. H. Mehlman	L. D. Parry	I. Wood	J. A. Ost
A. I. North	S. W. England	M. R. Hall	P. D. Hodges
R. D. Bell	P. H. Jones	J. S. Sotiriou	B. M. Farrow
M. J. Wherrett	A. K. Mitson	J. M. Neaser	E. C. Thomson
H. W. J. Griffiths	A. J. Liszka	P. T. Planken	R. B. Brill
R. W. Dorsett	S. G. Chapman	P. Beard	R. P. B. Davidson

B. E. Fearn
D. O. Munden
D. E. Hale
J. R. Hogg
P. C. P. Lewis

D. Peckham
A. S. Gardner
J. A. Howard
R. M. Margrave
P. C. Howard
J. E. House

C. E. Smith
J. G. Smith
D. Dorling
R. J. Watson
A. W. Curtis

P. R. Benbow
D. A. Greer
D. R. Botson
J. M. Frazer
J. E. Bachelier
P. Kennedy

Cycle Marshals (from lower sixth and fifth forms):

CROMWELL	GIBBON	MORLEY	PITT
R. P. Clist	E. C. Girard	D. Blick	D. J. Hazell
(*Chief*)	(*Chief*)	(*Chief*)	(*Chief*)
R. G. Twyman	J. G. Clark	B. C. Wigzell	R. P. Binstead
G. A. Cramp	D. J. Bryan	D. J. Barnard	F. Farrell
M. F. Fuller	V. C. Hykel	J. D. Sandiford	P. J. Bryant
A. C. Siggers	K. R. Moore	B. T. Thorne	C. A. G. Lydford
I. M. Boulton	B. V. Youe		
R. C. Page	B. J. D. Bastick		
P. C. Bambridge			

Library Prefects (from lower sixth and fifth forms):

P. Davis (Cd) (*Senior Library Prefect*), A. L. McInnes (Ca), L. G. Quilter (Cd), T. J. Cooke (Cc), C. J. Denning (Cj), G. W. Clarke (Ci), C. J. Gunner (Gc), F. J. Martin (Gd), C. F. Hewlett (Pd), C. C. Smith (Pi).

Tuck Shop Monitors (from fourth forms):

G. F. Fenton (Cc), A. J. A. Coley (Cg), A. J. Davey (Gb), R. R. Hughes (Gc), G. J. Dougherty (Mg), R. C. Webb (Mh), M. E. Brown (Pg), R. A. J. Payne (Ph).

THE SWIMMING POOL

Boys and parents by now are aware of the existence of this fund but a few notes are called for to clear up any possible misunderstandings.

1. The completion of the Organ Fund has entirely depleted the School's voluntary resources. No one regrets this who has any idea of the tremendous asset the Electronic Organ has now become to the School.
2. Circumstances are foreseen in which the command of a suitable amount earmarked for the Swimming Pool fund will enable us to have the present Pool covered, heated, and filtrated so that it can be used all the year round, instead of only for a relatively short period in the summer.
3. There is no chance in the foreseeable future that Swimming Pools will be officially provided even for the largest existing secondary schools. Some large new schools may have them in lieu of the provision of two gymnasia. But the drastic reduction by the Ministry of the L.C.C.'s building and improvement programmes means that only the most urgent provision is likely to be undertaken. Many schools lack workshops and laboratories and these must be given priority.
4. Nevertheless facilities for swimming are regarded as most important and desirable by the Authority. So much so that where a school has already equipped itself with a swimming pool, and where the cost of bringing such a pool into full commission will amount only to one-third of the cost of a new pool, the Authority will be likely as soon as funds permit to put the improvement in hand.
5. Schools like ours which have shown the willingness to help themselves and shown the enterprise in the past to make provision from their own private resources, and which are ready to offer some contribution of their own towards the improvement, will rightly be first in the field when any official help with provision becomes possible.
6. The recommendation of the Albemarle Report for greater provision of swimming pools and the support of the Physical Education inspectorate point

to the high probability of some money at any rate being voted for school swimming facilities in the near future.

7. Thus we need to be ready with a standing fund to take advantage of our opportunity. It may come at any time. Our contribution will attract at least four times its value, I hope, from official sources. We can raise it from this large school over a period of time without undue strain or pressure.

The Parents Council have approbated the situation and the opportunity, and have warmly pledged their support.

H.R.K.



EDITORIAL

Past editors of The Link writing their last editorials before leaving school, have indulged, nay wallowed, in personal reminiscences on their stay. In this editorial I also intend to reminisce. However, as my stay at Wandsworth is far from over, my recollections will not be of a personal nature. They concern, instead, a subject which, I feel, has a much wider and more immediate appeal, the history of The Link. This magazine has become today a well-established voice of Wandsworth School. I had, I must confess, previous to my obtaining a number of rare editions of The Link, a very incomplete picture of the origins of The Link. I have in front of me now a copy of The Link, similar in size to that of the present day, but bearing a strange design on its cover. It is dated Easter Term, 1917. This was the first copy ever to be published. A mere glance at its contents is enough to inform one that The Link had been born into the midst of a bitter World War. Reminders of the war occur on every page. Here is a list of the staff serving with the colours, here an article by a rifleman serving in the front line, and there the inevitable page surrounded with a thin black line, listing the proud names of men, old boys, who died for their country. The Link did originate specifically to forge a link between old boys serving abroad, and the School.

The Link of Winter, 1920, still bears some signs of the war which had by then terminated but it does show some changes. The price of the magazine had risen from fourpence to sixpence in order to cope with the increased cost of paper. It appears that the reason for this was that for some time The Link was being produced at a loss. This loss was assuming, in the words of the editor of the time, "formidable proportions." In the same editorial the editor states that his "heart has rejoiced at the number of contributions sent him." Let us only hope that the hearts of future editors will find a similar cause for rejoicing. This copy does contain some very interesting articles, one being entirely in French and another on Experiences in Northern Russia.

A further decade shows some very noticeable changes both in size and content of The Link. It had grown to a size slightly larger than a standard exercise book, assumed a yellow cover and discarded its former design, which had the handclasp of a soldier and a schoolboy as its central motif. As to the content, contributions such as stories, poems, and articles of this type are virtually non-existent, the bulk of the magazine having been occupied by notes from more official sources (House Notes, Rugby and Cricket reports, etc.). The editor bemoans this fact, entreating the School to avoid reducing The Link to a mere record of school activities, leaving it, for the most part, factual and uninteresting, by introducing a lighter element with their contributions.

The 1940 edition of The Link is another war-time edition. The School, numbering some 200, had at the time this copy was issued been evacuated to Woking for over a year, as the Headmaster's Notes indicate. The Headmaster's Notes, incidentally, a now familiar feature of the magazine, were instituted by our present Headmaster several years before. Articles are flavoured with a mixture of the war, the countryside and homesickness. "Bird-nesting at Knaphill" and "Around Sutton Green" are full of a London schoolboy's acute observation of the countryside into which he had been plunged. The influence of the war is not as evident as it was in the 1917 edition, but behind most of the magazine, the black cloud of war looms ominously.

The magazine, which had until 1950 been priced at one shilling, was found to be no longer maintainable at this price without a deficit. Therefore it began to be financed by an allowance from the L.C.C. and subscriptions from parents each term. The Link has by this time become the well-established, informative magazine which is read and, I think, enjoyed by all the School today.

The Link has changed a good deal during the past 43 years. Even the original purpose for which it was designed has become obsolete. Yet, an essential feeling has been preserved over all those years of ups and downs, successes and failures. That is the sense that this magazine is being used as a link, between everyone who has, or has had, contact with the School. I am sure that everyone will wish to echo the sentiments of the editor's remarks in the first editorial of our magazine, "We prophecy nothing, but the Link shall not easily be broken."

A. R. GREENE, L6, Cc.

Scraperboard decorations for this edition were done by the following boys: that accompanying this Editorial by J. C. Handorff, 5Io, Mg, that heading the Miscellany by N. E. Lingwood, 5Eta, Ca, that heading the Clubs and Societies section by D. C. Kirk, formerly of 4Io, Pj, that accompanying the English Club notes by R. E. Benting, 5Io, Gj, and the one heading the Sports Reports by J. P. Baker, 5Io, Pe.

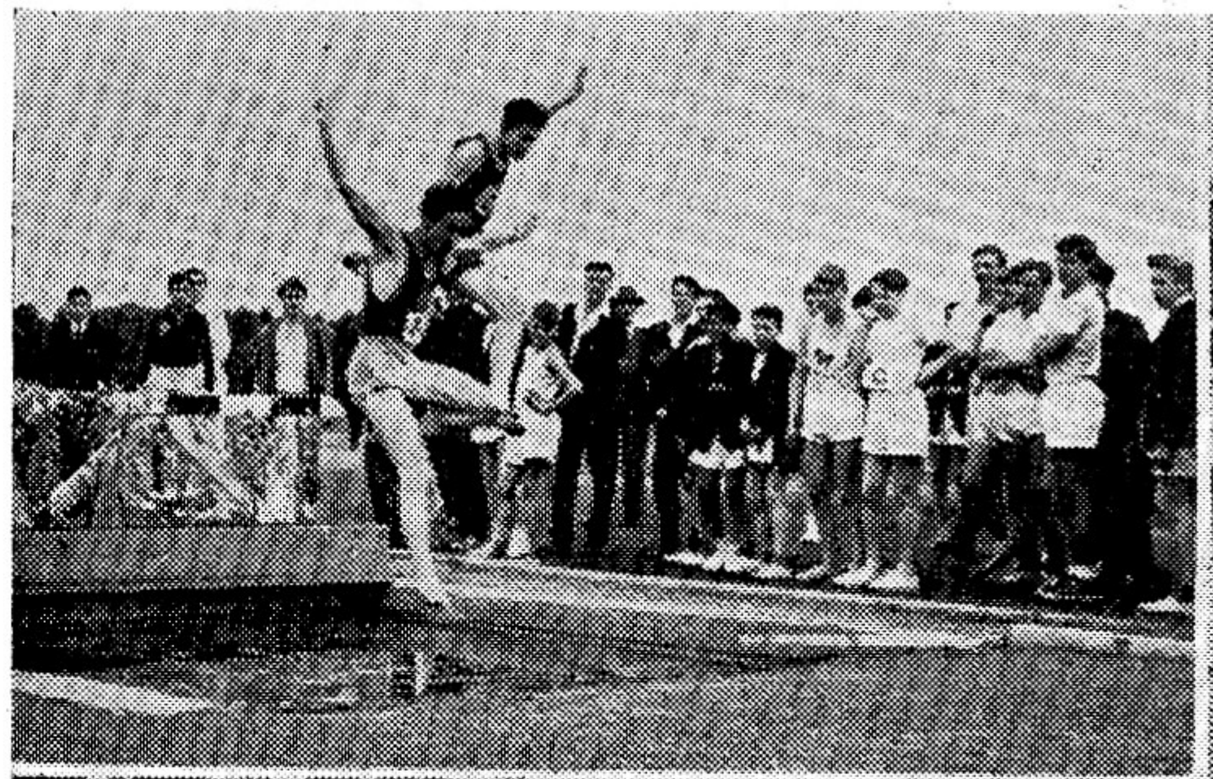
SUMMER FETE, 1960

In spite of the many days of wet and threatening weather which preceded 16th July, that Saturday dawned shining bright to herald the events which took place at Wandsworth School on the occasion of the annual Fête.

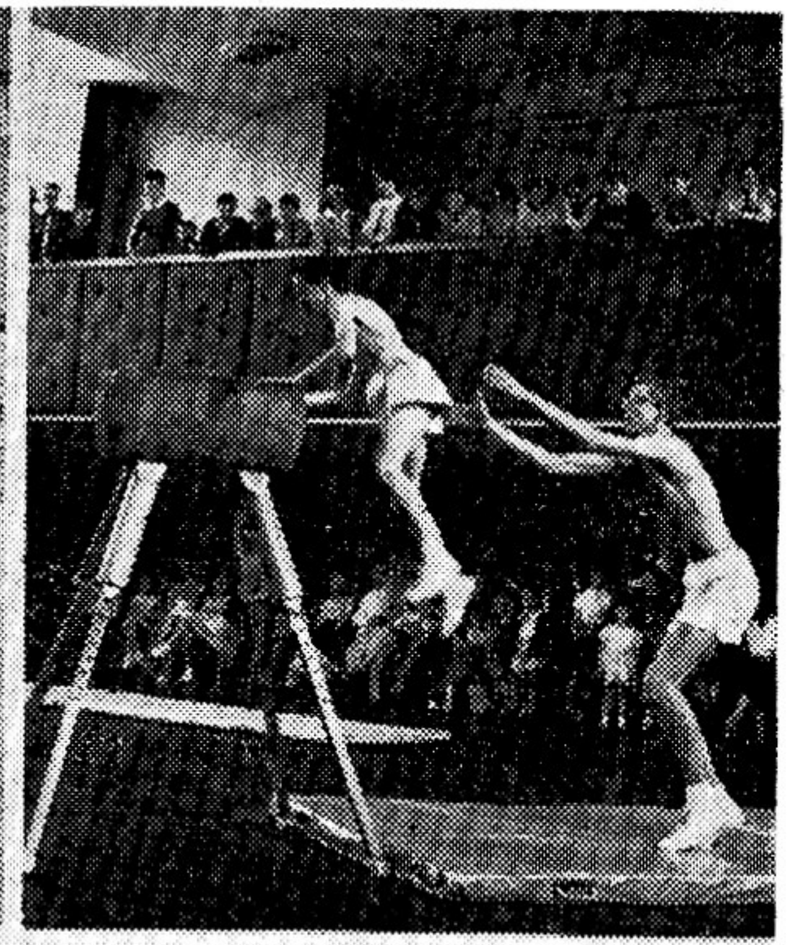
Every year the School, the Parents Association and the Old Wandsworthians combine to organise a Grand Fête in the School and grounds. This year at least 5,000 programmes were sold and at the Opening Ceremony, which was performed most graciously by L. K. O'Brien, Esq., the Chief Cashier of the Bank of England and an Old Wandsworthian, a very large audience had assembled in the Open Air Theatre of the School. Mr. O'Brien said that he hoped that a record number of the famous pieces of paper which bear his signature would be spent that day, in aid of the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Sports Ground at Woodstock Lane, Claygate, Surrey.

Entertainment at the Fête was provided by the School Prefects, who during the week had staged an excellent "Rag." This programme-selling exercise has now become a traditional annual event and this year the theme "The School Organ Fund and Orchestra," was excellently represented by many musicians with instruments which even included a barrel organ. A revue, a gymnastic display, a swimming match, a basket-ball match, a Five-a-side Soccer Match and an Open Fencing Championship (attended by representatives from many schools and clubs) offered a very varied and pleasing afternoon's enjoyment.

The Parents Association Social Committee provided a running buffet of refreshments throughout the day and they organised a Jumble Sale, a bottle

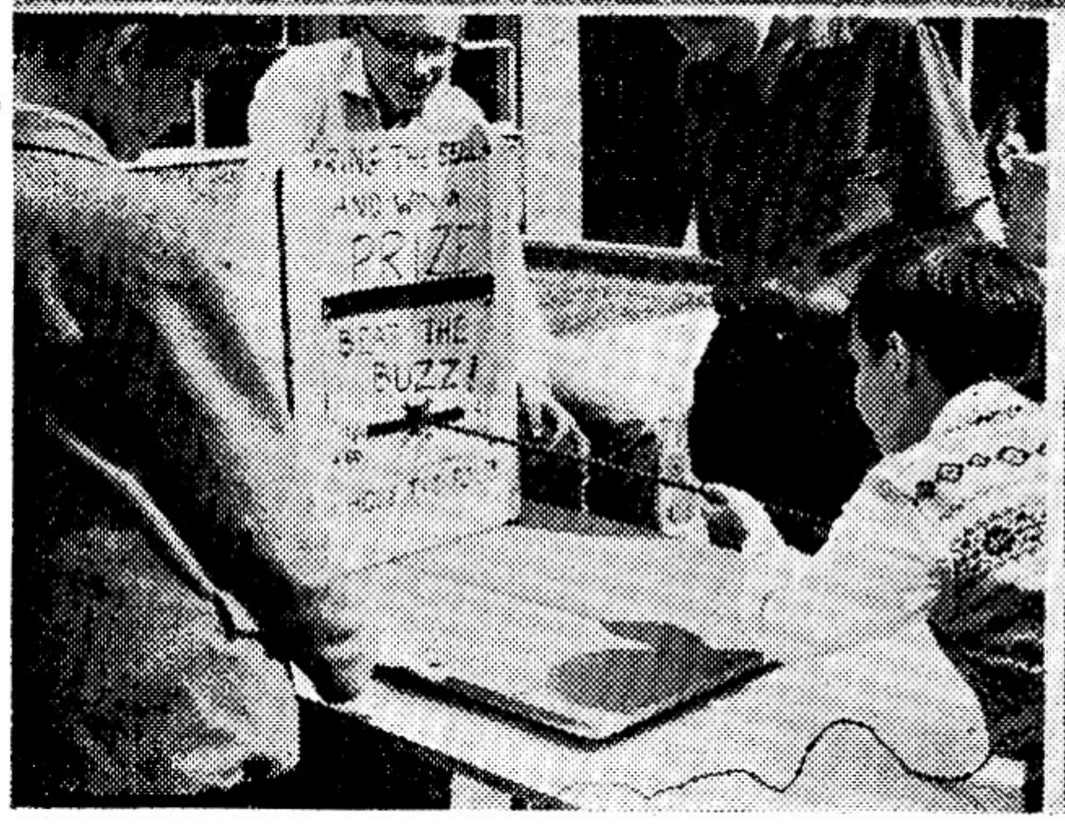


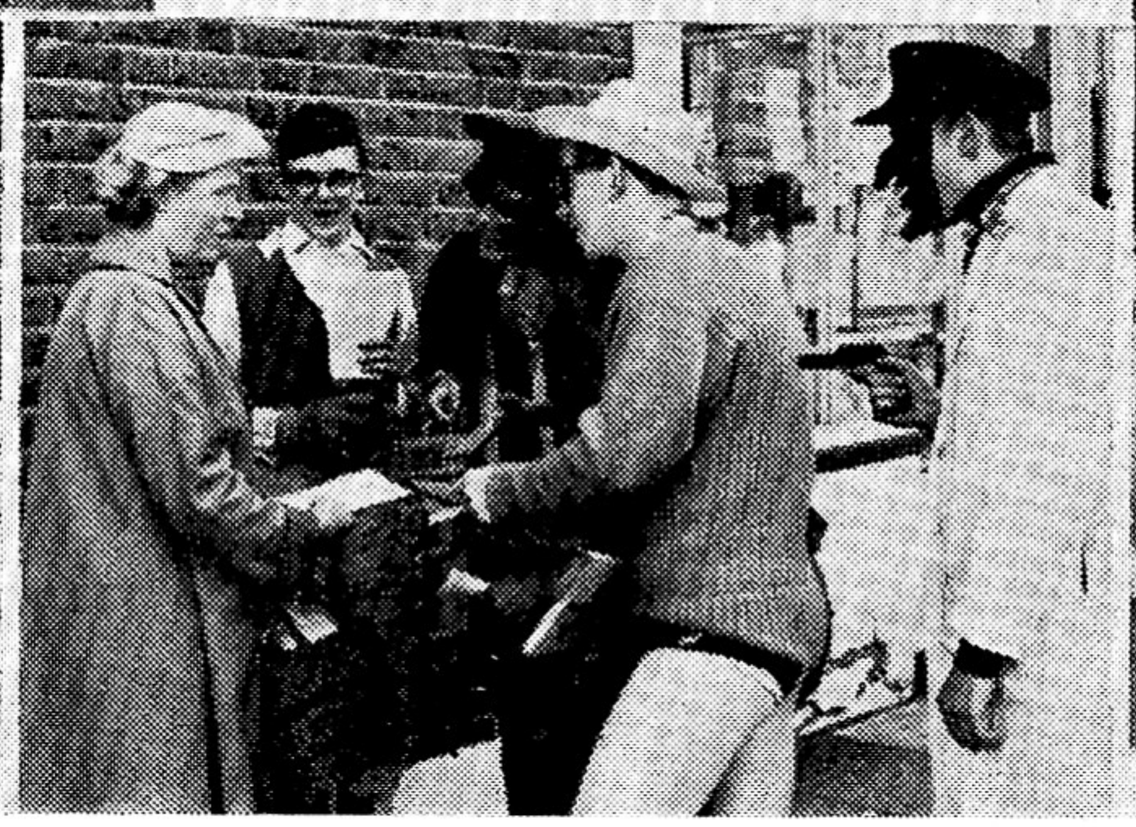






SUMMER FÊTE and
INTER-HOUSE SPORTS.







Photos: P. M. Taylor & P. R. Leverick.

stall, a grocery stall and a book stall, not to mention an excellent Raffle Stall which contained a hand embroidered table cloth presented by Mrs. Raymond King, the Headmaster's wife, and a hand-worked bed jacket presented by the beloved ex-parent of the School, Mrs. Finch. Mr. W. Fuller had once again provided the 12 lb. 9 oz. " Guess my weight " Wandsworth Cake.

The Old Wandsworthians manned some thirty different side-shows which ran continuously throughout the afternoon and proved the most successful money spinners of this year's Fête. Thanks are due to Ian Maclean, the Chairman of the Old Boys' Fête Committee, who worked so hard to make his part of the Fair successful.

The day was completed with a Gala Dance which was very well attended by many teen-agers, visitors from neighbouring Grammar Schools and Clubs, Old Boys, and some parents also stayed on to brave the crush and join in the dance which, in the modern idiom, is either " jive," " rock " or just plain " jazz."

When all the proceeds were collected and accounts were met, the Fête Committee were able to present to the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Fund a cheque for over £370.

H.S.S.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 13:

" This dreary bunch behind me here."
—Gp. Cpt. Douglas Bader, in his speech on Speech Day.

CHOIR NOTES

This has been a particularly hectic term, starting as usual, with the testing of some two hundred First Formers for admission to the Choir, out of which a most promising group of only seventeen could be finally accepted. This made our membership up to a maximum of 150 and no more can be admitted until the term reaches its climax with the two Christmas Concerts on December 15th and 17th.

On Saturday, October 1st, the Semichorus gave an organ and choral recital to the London Society of Organists. We came through a most taxing programme with flying colours and caused several organists to say that they were a little disturbed at the very high standard of music in our School compared with that in their own churches. There are many reasons for this, not the least being the wonderful team spirit of the whole choir who, when required, will often return en masse in the evening for a couple of hours of extra rehearsal. Mr. Burgess played music by Bach, Buxtehude, Boyce, Reger and Bossi, and again we were amazed at the startling fidelity of tone which our new organ produces.

On the following Friday, October 7th, the organ was handed over to the L.C.C. (who now finance its maintenance). The Director of Music gave a Recital to demonstrate the instrument which was greeted with enthusiasm, particularly the Toccata by Widor. The L.C.C. was represented by the Chairman of the Education Committee, Mr. Harold Shearman, M.A., who praised all parents and boys whose efforts had made this great project possible.

The first public appearance of the Full Choir was on Speech Day (November 3rd) when the main items were Brahms' " How lovely are thy dwellings fair " and Handel's Coronation Anthem " Zadok the Priest." The Semichorus also sang a group, and a welcome innovation was the appearance of a new tune for the School Hymn—a bold, magnificent melody by Henry Purcell.

The C.E.W.C. is giving a pageant in our School Hall on Saturday, November 19th, and the Semichorus has been asked to sing special music on that occasion. This will involve much copying, duplicating and extra rehearsal and would not be possible if the Semichorus were not such fine sight readers.

There will be the usual visits round the wards of local hospitals just before Christmas—an annual commitment which brings much pleasure to patients, hospital staff and choir alike.

Of course the main work of the whole term is directed towards the Christmas Concerts on Thursday, 15th, and Saturday, 17th December. Part one will consist mainly of old and new carols and the second part will be parts 1 and 2 of Haydn's " Creation," one of the great choral works, worthy to rank with Handel's " Messiah " which we sang last Christmas.

These are always the most happy musical occasions of the year and we look forward to our usual full houses. Always something of a reunion, we shall be welcoming back many of our most distinguished " old " musicians.

We welcome Mr. W. Barnes to the Music staff. As an accompanist and as a singer he has already shown what an asset he will be to the department.

Eight functions in one term is an enormous undertaking and means that every spare minute must be spent rehearsing. Vast amounts of clerical work are also involved and all this work would be beyond the powers of the Director of Music were it not for the tireless assistance, both on the clerical and practical side of the Music Prefect, Ian Cobb, whose responsibility and loyalty are almost without parallel in the Music Department.

THE ORGAN FUND

A first list of principal donations

A major contribution of over £100 was made by the forms of the Lower School. From the Main School the following Tutor Sets made outstanding group contributions: Cromwell B £18 16s. 2d., Morley B £15 2s. 6d., Pitt A £11 12s. 6d., Gibbon G £10 5s. 9d., Gibbon A £10 0s. 0d.

The Parents' Association gave £200 0s. 0d, the Old Wandsworthians' Association £10 10s. 0d., the Old Wandsworthians' Rugby Club £2 2s. 0d., and the School Stamp Club £4 0s. 0d. £100 8s. 0d. was raised by the Christmas Concert and £90 1s. 6d. by the Eisteddfod Concerts.

Among donations from individuals and firms were the following: The Headmaster £25 0s. 0d., Mr. B. Evans £7 0s. 0d., Peter Jones, Ltd., £5 5s. 0d., Mrs. Bellamy £5 0s. 0d., Mr. J. M. Justice £5 0s. 0d., Mr. D. T. King £5 0s. 0d., Mr. Liszka £5 0s. 0d., Dr. J. D. Solomon £5 0s. 0d., A. H. Thorne, Ltd., £5 0s. 0d., Mr. Carruthers £2 2s. 0d., Mr. G. Elms £2 2s. 0d., Mr. S. H. Fairey £2 2s. 0d., Mr. N. Lowe £2 2s. 0d., Mr. D. Finch £2 0s. 0d., Mr. D. C. Hazell £2 0s. 0d., Miss Martin £2 0s. 0d.

H.A.

THIS YEAR'S SCHOOL JOURNEYS

April, 1961, to March, 1962

Easter, 1961: VENICE AND JUGOSLAVIA—
10 days with Messrs. Makin, Aubrey and Pearcy.
40 boys at approximately £27 0s. 0d. each.

Easter, 1961: PARIS—
7 days with Messrs. Austin and Timothy.
25 to 30 boys at approximately £16 10s. 0d. each.

Easter, 1961: SCOTLAND or WALES—
About 7 days with Messrs. Finbow and Norris.
24 to 28 boys at approximately £10 0s. 0d. each.

Whitsun, 1961: CANOEING AND CAMPING on the WYE—
14 days with Messrs. Birch and Eaton.
25 to 30 boys at approximately £12 0s. 0d. each.

July, 1961: WEEK IN INDUSTRY IN SCOTLAND—
About 7 days with Messrs. Spearing and Gouldstone.
25 to 30 boys at approximately £16 0s. 0d. each.

August, 1961: CANNES—
12 days with Mr. Aubrey.
25 to 30 boys at approximately £26 10s. 0d. each.
August, 1961: COSTA BRAVA—
8 days with Messrs. McGill, Marchington and Hodges.
25 to 30 younger boys at about £30 0s. 0d. each.
February, 1962: WINTER SPORTS IN AUSTRIA—
About 10 days with Messrs. Fagan and Bourton.
30 boys at a cost to be announced.

OLYMPIC GAMES, ROME, 1960

A group of really expectant people were sitting on a train in Victoria Station, and our expectations were certainly not going to be disappointed. From Calais to Rome, we travelled in a train all the way, stopping only at the more important stations, and we arrived exactly on time! (British Railways, please note.)

Braving the rigours of Roman traffic (no mean feat, incidentally) we arrived at the Collegio Pontificio Portoghese, where we were given a delightful meal. Suitably refreshed, some went for a walk, whereas the more aged retired.

On Saturday, 3rd September, the party made the short trip to beautiful Lago Di Albano, which is overshadowed by Castel Gondolfo, the Pope's summer residence. We were there to see the finals of the Olympic rowing. Although our interest was not very personal because of the low British representation, it was thrilling to see the multi-coloured vests of the rowers, showing to which country they belonged. And throughout the proceedings, portable wirelesses conveyed news of the athletics from the Stadio Olimpico, and I recall especially how, as the final of the 200 m. event was being run, there was a strange quiet. This soon vanished as the stands erupted in a volume of sound as the race finished. Everyone seemed to be standing up and shouting, " Berruti, Berruti." The crowd had reason to be joyous because Livio Berruti was the first Italian to win the 200 m. event.

The following day, a Sunday, was spent window shopping and sight-seeing, the main attraction being St. Peter's and the Vatican City. As it was Sunday, there was not any sport, but our spare time was not wasted. Throughout our stay in Rome, we were to have the mornings in which to do as we chose.

September 5th was our first full day. In the afternoon we visited the Stadio Olimpico for the first time. It struck me as being an architectural wonder. It was magnificent, and the sun completely soaked everyone and everything connected with the stadium. That was until a sudden downpour drenched everyone, though people did not seem to mind, and indeed smiles seemed more in evidence than frowns. At 5.10 p.m., British hearts were in their mouths, as six slim young women lined up to decide the 200 m. The British hope, Dorothy Hyman, ran magnificently to finish third behind a coloured " bombshell " from the United States. Throughout the day the decathlon competition had been battling away. This event is probably the least spectacular, yet it still takes a perfect all-round athlete to win the event.

The late evening saw the party in the Palazzo dello Sport, another of the marvellous buildings that we saw in Rome, ancient and modern. The boxing finals were on there, and what a sparkling evening it turned out to be! The Italians, true to form, showed their excitable natures whenever there was a decision that they disagreed with. They gave a disgusting display of sportsmanship by our standards (stiff upper lip, and all that, eh, what?) But this was, with one exception, the only time we saw the Italians show their feelings.

The next afternoons, three in all, were spent in the Stadio Olimpico. I will not give a long account, but three things stick in my mind. Firstly, in

the space of thirty minutes, I saw two fantastic world records. The first was the 400 m. race, when the first two runners smashed the existing world record. In this race, even the last man returned a time eight-tenths of a second faster than the previous winner in the 1956 Olympic Games. The second was in the 1,500 m. race which was won by that fantastic runner, Herbert Elliott, who "went it alone" with 600 m. still to run. The second incident was the conflict between an American and a Russian. The scene of the action was the hop, step and jump final, when the Russian managed to pass the American's best distance and beat him. The American went to congratulate the Russian, but the latter mistook the gesture. This was the cue for the Italians. Booing, hissing, and the shrill sound of whistling passed through Italian lips that day, and the barrage did not end until the pair in question shook hands. The incident so affected the Russian that after receiving his medal he left the arena with tears streaming down his face. The third incident was the raising of the British flag, for once, on the middle one of the three flag poles! This happened as the result of the efforts of one man, small in stature, big in heart. He had walked for four and a half hours in the heat and evening cool of Rome to be the first walker back inside the stadium. His name is Don Thompson, and for a brief period he will be a hero. He deserves his praise, because four years previously he had nearly won the walk in Melbourne!

The evening of September 8th was spent in the Palazzo dello Sport. It was the scene, this time, of the basketball finals, when we were treated to superlative basketball (at times!) by the United States' team. The following day found us in yet another stadium, the Velodromo Olimpico, not for cycling as the name suggests, but for the hockey final. The fencing fraternity spent that whole day at the fencing finals, and the football fans were watching the football semi-finals.

In the afternoon of September 10th, the whole party visited Ostia, where before seeing the sea, we were shown around the old Roman fortress of Ostia. This place was steeped in history, and I do not propose to discuss it now. Eventually we did reach the Mediterranean, and having found a beach, we hurried into the water, which was surprisingly cold. The sun, however, was still blazing in the sky. These few moments of rest were short-lived, because soon we were speeding back towards Rome.

In the evening, everyone was present when Yugoslavia kicked off against Denmark, to decide who would be the Olympic Champions. It was a most exciting game, although it was more than "one-sided." We arrived home late that evening and we were not looking forward to the following day.

The following morning we bade farewell to our hosts and the five boys who were a constant source of amusement throughout our stay. We thanked them for a wonderful holiday, and sorrowfully we left the wonderful city of Rome. It was with mixed feelings that we arrived at Rome Station (and what a magnificent station it is!). Shortly, in complete contrast, we were in Victoria Station, and eager to be home. The past ten days had been well spent and enjoyed by all, mainly due to the diligence of Mr. Coate-Bond and Mr. Birch (obviously they deserve a "one").

The scoreboard in the Stadio Olimpico summed it up very well, I think: "Arrivederci a Roma, Roll on Tokyo."

J. H. REYNOLDS, U6Sc, Pb.

BY AIR TO ACHENSEE

"Ah, at last!" This was echoed by most of the boys as the coach slowly pulled away from Wandsworth School at 6.30 on the morning of the 23rd August. The coach bounced along the deserted roads on its way to Gatwick Airport. The mist had not lifted as we passed swiftly through the country lanes and out onto the familiar roadway leading up to the now sparkling airport buildings. It was all most interesting with aircraft taxi-ing here and there along the grey runways.

Having passed through the Customs, we waited a little before boarding our plane, a Viking. We took off quite comfortably and England was soon spread out below us like a map. The Channel was fairly blue and we noticed several boats gliding through the calm sea. One by one we were very kindly allowed to enter the controls and watch the pilot. Soon France appeared before us, just like a patchwork quilt and before we knew where we were, we were gliding gently into Basle Airport. A coach took us to the station where we boarded the train for our fatiguing part of the journey to Austria. We passed through some beautiful scenery, particularly as we skirted Lake Zurich. We arrived at our hotel at ten that same evening, after a rather dark and precarious run by coach uphill and around the lake.

Our hotel was quite comfortable and pleasant. On Saturday evening they put on a very fine show of genuine Tyrolean dancing. Our food was rather peculiar, but you must expect these things on the Continent. Achensee is a very pretty spot. The weather was hot, but the water was not and very deep. Even so, most of the party loved to go bathing frequently. Also the rowing-boats were much in demand; everyone clamoured to have a go, including myself.

I think everyone enjoyed their holiday, including Mr. Hodges and Mr. McGill. We visited many places of interest, including Innsbruck, where it rained, but no one seemed to mind as we browsed round the very interesting shops. We crossed the frontier into Germany and called at Oberammergau where the famous Passion Play is held. It is a very pretty village but we were not able to stop long. One afternoon we had a local climb to the Hoch Platte. It proved a colossal way, and we were glad of the frequent mountain streams for refreshing drinks. Mr. Hodges had introduced this marathon as a "leisurely ramble"! I think the highlight of our holiday was going on the highest cable car in the world, up the Zugspitze. This was most exciting, but it was very cold at the top!

The journey home was similar to that going. Back in dear old England, I think everyone was compensated by being able to enjoy again a REAL cup of tea! Later, Mr. McGill showed his delightful colour slides to parents and boys at school.

COLIN H. ROWLING, 3Al, Pc.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 14:

"If anybody is not hearing this announcement, will he please report at once to me."

—Mr. George (over the loudspeaker).

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL

As always, Cromwell welcomes into the House the hundred or more new boys who have joined us this term. We are also very pleased to have Mr. R. J. Billington as Assistant Tutor of Set H, and Mr. E. A. Parish, who is attached to the House in the Lower School. Let us hope that the new influx will help to improve our position in the diligence totals this year. To attain the position of first requires just that extra effort from everybody. A concerted "pulling up of socks" all round and we may yet make our competitors see "Red."

We, of course, congratulate Roger Newman on his well-deserved appointment as Joint Head Prefect, as we do Eric Slater, on his appointment as Joint Second Prefect. Congratulations must also go to Andrew Hillyard and Norman Ratcliffe on their promotion to Joint House Captain.

The other House officials were elected at the beginning of term as follows: Rugby Captain, Kenneth Nebbett; Vice-Captain, James Griffiths; Junior Rugby Captain, Geoffrey Wood, Vice-Captain, David Ryall; Soccer Captain, David Morrison; Cross Country Captain, Eric Slater; Vice-Captain, David Hale; Junior Cross Country Captain, Peter Ohler; Vice-Captain, Andrew Nash; Athletics Captain, Eric Slater; Vice-Captain, Christopher Hunt; Fives Captain, Norman Ratcliffe; Vice-Captain, Kenneth Nebbett; Fencing Captain, Martin Burness; Vice-Captain, Ranjit Seneviratne; House Recorder, Allan Styles; Chess Captain, William Scott.

David Morrison had also been made the first School Soccer Captain the School has had for many years. At the time of writing these notes, only the Inter-House Cross Country Competition has taken place. The full details will have appeared in the Newsletter by the time these Notes appear; we did not win.

The annual Eisteddfod takes place next term and now is the time to consider your contribution. Remember that everybody can, and indeed, should, enter something.

In conclusion, let me wish all Cromwellians a Merry Christmas, and entreat everyone to make, by their academic and athletic achievements, the New Year a memorable one for Cromwell.

NICHOLAS HILLYARD, L6A, Cb.

GIBBON

Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new boys and members of staff who have joined Gibbon House at the start of this term.

In the last few years Gibbon has been suffering from an acute attack of apathy; we have had many grave defeats in most inter-House activities, but we have managed to preserve a little of our dignity in a few, mainly due to a minority of hard-working Gibbonites.

In the last issue of The Link I wrote that the apathy shown by Gibbon House members in the Eisteddfod was an all too common attitude and must be stamped out before the inter-House Athletics Competition. Well, thanks mainly to the fine leadership of B. C. Brind and L. S. Woodcock, the Gibbon team came first. We would all like to extend our congratulations to the team for achieving so much for the House.

Unfortunately, the end of last term saw the House sadly denuded of many of its officers. We all wish them the greatest success in their future careers and we would like to have regular news of them.

The new House officers elected at the first House meeting of the year are as follows: *House Captain,* F. R. Shons; *Cross Country,* B. C. Brind; *Rugby Captain,* S. W. England; *Recorder and Link Representative,* D. C. Lloyd; *Swimming* and *Cricket,* to be appointed later.

I am sure that they will all lead the House to its rightful top position, provided they get the full support of every member of Gibbon.

We are all certain that Gibbon's darkest hour has passed and a new Gibbon will emerge triumphant at the end of this year.

D. C. LLOYD, U6Sc, Gd.

MORLEY

At the start of the new School Year, Morley House has provided two of the three joint Second Prefects: J. Lally and R. Burt. Congratulations to these two, and let us hope that the rest of the House does not disgrace them. Already we have managed to come third in the first diligence award of the year. If each set had raised its average by only .04, we would have been top House, and well on the way towards winning " Joey."

We welcome to the House Mr. J. W. Bloss, a former member of Morley B, who will teach Mathematics and coach rowing. We are glad to see Mr. Gouldstone back, too, after a year's absence.

Now a word about dress. It may be good enough for other Houses to dress carelessly and untidily, but we are, after all, the best House, and we should dress accordingly. Let us see more School ties (not hiding behind high-necked pullovers!) and House ribbons. You can show your pride in the House, and make the House proud of you.

Finally, a word of encouragement to our athletes. At the time of writing, the inter-House Cross Country is about to take place, and we have every hope of a good performance from Beard and his teams.

R. C. Pearson, L6A, Mb.

PITT

Since the contents of these notes apply only to the first half term of the School year, it is difficult to make any profound observations on House activities. The main sporting events do not take place for some time and the important events of the term, the School Play, the Christmas Concert and Speech Day are still to come. This latter, together with diligence, does provide a useful indication of how the House is performing in the scholastic field. As usual, Pitt has nothing to chide itself on in this connection apart from the persistent hard core of people who seem to think that work is beneath them. It is fortunate for Pitt that such people constitute no more than a tiny minority.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those members of the House who were successful in the G.C.E. examinations and especially those of last year's fourth forms who did so well. It is encouraging to see that the House has members who are skilful enough to take such an examination so successfully after a four year course.

Now to another, less cheerful aspect of Pitt's activities. Both the fencing and Rugby teams are below strength. Fencing is, admittedly, not a sport in which anybody can volunteer to help, but there must surely be enough members of the House who fence for organised games to come forward and represent Pitt in the foils event (the House fencing captain is P. Hodges). With regard to Rugby, there is a crippling shortage of players. The captain, B. Sandford, told me that the House could scarcely field a seven-a-side team. This is definitely not good enough and holds a gloomy prospect for the House in the competition. The House's success in the Eisteddfod is proportional to the effort that everyone puts in. Without combined effort Pitt will lose the tenuous claim it has to the trophy. It is up to us all to transform it to the undisputed hold that was ours only two years ago.

Finally, we offer our congratulations to all members of the House who have achieved office as prefects, library prefects and cycle marshals. Pitt's reputation for maintaining discipline during its duty week is high and it is up to all House prefects to maintain it by giving full support to Reynolds, the House Captain. We also congratulate Gillingham on being made joint head prefect this year.

D. T. Snell, L6Sc, Pc.

MISCELLANY



MAKING MILLIONS

A light-hearted test of your personality

Have you ever speculated on your chances of becoming a millionaire? Well, who hasn't? Lift your head from that pools form and take your eyes off that win-a-private-blonde competition and try this for a moment. The Link guarantees to assess your chances of realising those dreams. " Chances," in fact, is the wrong word, for the accumulation of wealth is not a matter of

luck. Those who win it gratuitously lose it carelessly—only the crafty ones make it and keep it. How do you shape as a coming crafty capitalist? Answer these questions honestly and you may have some idea:—

1. When considering Christmas presents, do you:
   (a) blue all your savings?
   (b) decide it is the thought that counts, and spend accordingly?
   (c) wish friends and relatives a Merry Christmas instead?

2. You are asked to sell your corpse to science. Do you:
   (a) reply "over my dead body"?
   (b) rush straight off and kill yourself?
   (c) agree, but insist on the money in advance?

3. When choosing your holiday job, do you decide:
   (a) to languish in comfortable unemployment?
   (b) to work overtime every available day?
   (c) to invest in a pack of marked cards?

4. Imagine you are collecting for your set-master's Christmas present. Do you:
   (a) to set an example, make a handsome donation yourself?
   (b) allow yourself 10% commission on all takings?
   (c) disappear with mumps and all the money?

5. When out with your girl-friend, do you:
   (a) overspend lavishly on chocolates?
   (b) embrace her affectionately with ice-cream and kisses?
   (c) just embrace her?

6. You unexpectedly discover half-a-crown in your coat lining. Do you:
   (a) donate it to the swimming-bath fund?
   (b) rush off to put it in your piggy-bank?
   (c) loan it out at 30%?

7. Where do you like to buy your clothes, assuming you have the money?
   (a) Cecil Gee's,
   (b) Marks and Spencers,
   (c) local jumble sales.

8. Where do you like to spend your dinner money?
   (a) in the set, on school dinners,
   (b) at the tuck-shop, on sweets,
   (c) on the stock exchange.

9. When you get your first million, will you:
   (a) give it all to charity?
   (b) re-invest it all?
   (c) change it all into sixpences and gloat over it?

10. What will you do with the inevitable begging letters?
   (a) send each sender back a large cheque,
   (b) write to each, explaining why you cannot give anything,
   (c) forward them all to your worst enemy.

11. What about your family? Will you:
   (a) give at least half away to your suddenly adoring relatives?
   (b) assure each of them he is your sole heir?
   (c) change your name?

12. When you die, what will you do with your millions?
   (a) leave it all to found a home for destitute Old Wandsworthians,
   (b) give it to the tax-man, as he will get most of it anyway,
   (c) take it with you.

How to reckon your chances:

Every time you select answer (a), give yourself 1 mark; every time you select (b), 2 marks; and for every (c), 3 marks. Now see what this test predicts for you.

If you scored 36: Your trouble will be keeping out of prison long enough, but if you do you will be singled out, single and single-minded.

If you scored 30-35: You may make a few thousand. If you do not get your throat cut, you will certainly get your face slapped, and will find your house very popular with burglars.

If you scored 20-29: You will be hen-pecked but happy with your few hundred.

If you scored 15-19: You can expect to be popular but penniless, even if you make money.

If you scored 12-14: You will just be penniless.

If you scored under 12: Since you can only score this by making up your own answers, perhaps you would like to join The Link Committee next term, for we are quite destitute, of both ideas and money.

BIRTH OF A SEASON

It seemed like only yesterday I'd made this walk before,
But then I knew there was a change in everything I saw,
For now there was a stillness and an air of peace and calm,
And I noticed things I'd missed before as I went towards the farm.

The rays of sun came through the trees, and shone upon my way,
Above, the birds were singing songs of welcome to this day,
The fields around seemed greener as I dwelt upon the scene,
'Twas clear that summer once more had come to this countryside serene.

A. R. CABLE, 3Al, Gc.

SUMMER'S DAY

One of the most beautiful and breath-taking things about summer is the sunrise. About four-thirty the sun peeps slyly over the horizon, flooding the countryside in pools of gentle light. Everywhere seems asleep, and even the swan, so elegant in all its ways, is asleep under a giant weeping willow, bowing its humble branches into the blue waters, as if in respect for the swan, who eventually wakes up, and glides to the centre of the lake craning its neck.

A screech from a rather erratic bird fills the air, making the place seem empty. The first screech starts others, and of course the woodpecker, determined not to be left out, thuds out tuneless notes on the bark of a towering oak; moorhens take to the water and gaze at the swan as if full of jealousy; a train rumbles by in the distance, leaving pencils of grey smoke to mar the clear blue sky; gunfire cracks and echoes fill the sky; a far-off splash is heard as a duck hits the water; a boat from a sleepy inlet glides out onto the emerald waters. Half of the sun is now visible.

Two thin grey lines of geese fly eastward and disappear over the rim of the lake. The sun now climbs overhead. The boat, caught in an oncoming current, glides into the sleepy inlet, only to end up amongst a forest of weeping, whispering reeds. The swan still swims the green waters; they are calm and as clear as crystal, apart from the ripples caused by the moorhens as they scurry back to their nest, hidden in the bank. All is quiet in the heat of day.

P. JAMES, 5Eta, Cj.

THE PEDAGOGUES OF SWARTHWOND SCHOOL

A Counterblast from Behind the Door of Opportunity

What *does* go on behind the green door? If we could peer through the protective haze of tobacco smoke into the Staff Room of this infamous south suburban comprehensive, Swarthwond School, in the Groove, Northfields, what might we see? Lulled into a state of semi-stupor by announcements over the loud-speaker, there sits Mr. Naype, contemplating the far-reaching effects of the 1832 Reform Bill—namely, reform. But his train of thought is rapidly terminated by the stampede into the room of his less philosophical colleagues: one hundred and twelve of them, all trying to get their coffee at the same time. Mr. Vanes and Mr. Pareings enter busily discussing the latest Religion and Philosophy topic—the effects of "muscular Christianity" on Welsh Rugby internationals; they pause for a second as Mr. Millisaw moves gingerly past them and through the maze of arm-chairs to the electric fire. In one hand he brandishes a cup of coffee and in the other a Teach Yourself Sudanese book—the latest addition to his list of foreign languages.

Yes, it is break, and a never-ending stream of masters pours through the Staff Room door, all intent on fifteen minutes of doubtful relaxation and questionable refreshment before those inexorable pips direct them back to their remote corners of the school. Life goes on as ever: teaching, lunch, yawning, teaching, arguing over bridge, marking homework. Which of these pedagogues will first tire of this habitual milieu of everyday life at school, this underpaid, repetitive routine? Let us roll back the curtain of time and see what Fate has in store for some of them in a few years.

We can see Mr. Mothity successfully playing prop-forward in the Merthyr-Tydfil scrum. His Welsh choler deserves special mention for its demoralizing effect on opposing teams, equalled only by his earlier demoralizing effect on 3 Pi. Mr. Chellowk has retired to his laboratory, living on the royalties of his biological memoirs, "Twenty Years of Dissection without Detection." Dr. Monolos has also found literary fame: his autobiographical novel, "Rooms in Bloomsbury," now available as a paper-back, has been ranked as having the most complex plot ever devised, like a cross between a chess and a bridge problem. Señor Lenci is still at Swarthwond, so driven to dispair by the fact that among the three hundred odd new boys this year there are two Smith's with identical Christian names that he is tempted to accept a handsome offer from a famous firm making tape recorders, who believe his patents could be put to profitable use. Mr. Sawter, however, is now starring in the "Old Nic's" current production of "Richard III," about which Mr. Vely, now a critic for "The Chimes," has said that the spine-chilling realism of the acting (for those who can keep up with the pace of the dialogue) has to be seen and heard to be believed. From the History and English department we follow Messrs. Quibbs and Noswen to a building site. where Mr. Quibbs has been driven back by bankruptcy to his former trade of hodman, and Mr. Noswen is an interior decorator, his undisputed flair for decor, design and do-it-yourself having paid dividends at last.

In contrast to these successes, there is a group who have attained less egregious fame, indeed infamy, though fortunately not of the predatory, fraudulent or homicidal variety. For instance, Mr. Ustain has been found guilty of a mild case of vandalism—damaging a cigarette machine because it failed to produce any change. And after this year's Oldenmusty March, Mr. Strongarm, now liberal candidate for East Cheam, has been bound over for over-enthusiasm. Mr. Doogward as Secretary of the Falhum Football Club and Mr. Zomley as the promoter of "Frotho," a new washing powder, on I.T.V., have also had rather chequered careers. Then we find Mr. Josen arrested for disorderly behaviour on St. David's Day, and for refusing to make a statement in anything but Welsh. Finally, believe it or not, Mr. Berchams has been prosecuted for exceeding the speed limit on his bicycle

his defence was that he would otherwise have been late for school for the first time in thirty years. Such is the spirit that Swarthwond still inspires in its loyal members of staff.

ANON.

WINTER WARMTH

The time of year most people love best
Comes in December when trees are at rest.
Houses are bright with coloured festoons,
Holly and mistletoe, dancing balloons.
Christmas trees sparkling fill hearts with delight,
Children excited, can't wait for the night!
This is the time celebrated each year:
The day of the birth of Lord Jesus, so dear.

J. BARROW, F2, Ca.

RAMBLING OVER RANMORE

During the Summer Term our form-master, Mr. Price, took us on a geology expedition. We got a train at Wimbledon and alighted at Boxhill Station. Immediately one boy found a fossil in a piece of chalk. We then went out of the station and took a path leading to Ranmore Common. After a long climb we reached a clearing on the top. Here we inspected some rocks and found about six fossils. We then moved on across Ranmore Common. We then started walking down a road till we came across a footpath. Here we turned off and looking down could see Box Hill and, in the distance, Leith Hill.

We travelled down the footpath till we came to a clearing. We then ate our sandwiches and drank our orangeade. Some friends and I climbed a steep chalk face which we found quite difficult. After lunch we continued down the path till we came to a railway crossing. After crossing we noticed that the land was clay, not chalk, and that more farms were on clay land than on chalk. We then continued down this road till we came to yet another footpath. This passed a large lake which belonged to a fishing club. When coming to the end of this path, we saw some large sandstone cliffs. After crossing the road and exploring the cliffs we moved on down the road. Here a footpath led to a field which we followed. We climbed a gate leading to the fields and started walking round. The field had long grass so we found it rather hard going. On the other side there was another gate which we climbed. Here was a stony path which we followed till after twenty minutes we found ourselves at Dorking Station. Here we got a train and later at Wimbledon departed on our own ways, leaving behind an enjoyable day.

R. MERRY-PRICE, 2Th.

IN AUTUMN TIME

When Summer days have passed and gone
And we have gathered in the corn,
Beneath our feet a carpet spread
Of painted leaves, rustling, dead.
The days are short. The nights are long.
We do not hear the blackbird's song.
It is still and quiet down the lane
For Autumn time has come again.

R. BERRIDGE, 2Io.

AUTUMN SIESTA

It was mid-day on a Wednesday, and I was cautiously climbing E Staircase. The monotonous tones of the Choir rang persistently in my ears as I pushed my head round the door of the first floor corridor. The coast was apparently clear, so I began to walk hurriedly towards my set-room door. "Where are you going?" snapped an over-emphasised voice behind me. I froze.

"It's raining," I said, trying to bluff my way to a warm radiator. The sneering face behind the badge turned and looked out of the window. After earnestly peering into the sky for a minute, the prefect turned.

"All right, but sit down and shut up," he grunted. I turned away, hiding my astonishment, for the clouds above had not yet burst when I entered the building. I opened the set-room door and ducked as a piece of chalk whistled past my ear. There was a wild rush for the desks as I entered, but, upon realisation that I was not one of the enemy, further pieces of chalk were hurled in my direction.

Sitting at my desk, I looked around. Two hunched workers in the far corner were hurriedly scribbling their previous night's homework; another was slowly and painfully carving his name on the already scarred desk-top. I walked towards the front of the room where an exciting "shove-halfpenny" game was being played off for the set championship; conscious of a dull rhythm in my ears, I turned to see a dazed form sprawled across the radiator listening to Elvis's latest on the wall-radio. Seeing no conversation here, I thrust my head out of the window. A bunch of girls from a nearby school paraded past, trying to look glamorous while the rain washed the cheap dye from their hair onto their blazer collars; this did not discourage the onlookers, however, for a hail of wolf-whistles sounded across Sutherland Grove from the upstairs windows.

I drew back my head and looked down at the budding genius seated beside me. He was half-heartedly trying to disembody an ant with a compass point. The ant, looking worried, made a dive for the inkwell, and the unfortunate creature fell to its doom. Well, not wanting to disturb any of these energetic activities, I walked once more towards the door, where a riddled drawing of an unpopular French master had been pinned up for the set's darts practice. I stepped smartly aside, as I was not in dire need of a haircut, and walked briskly down the corridor.

"Get out!" roared the same sneering voice.

"I'm going, I'm going," I replied wearily, and splashed out into the muddy playground, mumbling softly under my breath.

A FOURTH FORMER.

A BIT STEEP

Some chaps pretend they think it bliss
To clamber up a precipice,
But they are really full of dread
Lest they should slip and join the dead,
And only when the climb is done
Do they suggest that it was fun.

D. LONSDALE, 5Io, Cj.

MILL IN THE MUD

An Ecological Expedition

A party of five sixth-formers, under the guidance of Mr. Price, took part in a field course from the 12th to the 18th of October at Flatford Mill.

Flatford Mill, situated in Suffolk upon the River Stour, is principally

famed for its connections with John Constable who painted in and around this district. Indeed, his father once owned the mill. The very isolation of the mill makes it extremely suitable for its present function as an educational centre from which various courses are conducted. Our subject was that of ecology, the study of plants and animals in relation to their environment.

Upon arrival at the mill we found the Stour in full flood, much of the surrounding terrain being completely swamped. Those of us not possessing Wellingtons surveyed the dripping scene in dismay and apprehension. Soon, however, we were restored and consoled by steaming tea.

That evening the Warden, Mr. Bingly, told us something of the history of the mill, which was built in 1730. However, the adjacent Willie Lot's Cottage, in which we were lodged, was built much earlier, in 1550, and in fact the site was occupied by a farm as early as 1400. In 1943 the mill became the property of the National Trust who are the present landlords to the resident field centre. He also gave us an outline as to the work to be carried out during the week and pointed out a few basic rules to be observed during our stay in this historic building, one of which was a reminder to tread warily to prevent any collapse of the ancient structure. We were then divided into two groups, each about twenty-five in number. The first group were to study freshwater animal life, whilst the group to which we were attached was concerned with general ecology.

The next morning those of us not used to the early rising hour observed at the mill managed somehow to present ourselves, more or less, at the laboratory.

We were first split up into small groups comprised of boys and girls equipped with the day's necessary apparatus: bamboo canes, a clothes line, a spirit level, a tape measure, and a lunch tin. A stretch of land was selected of which a profile, or plotting of the pattern of its rise and fall, was to be recorded. A taut clothes line with a cane at each end was fixed horizontally across the terrain to be investigated.

The next day, Friday, followed very much the same pattern except that our investigations were conducted upon the salt marshes in the estuary of the River Stour, some twelve miles journey by train. Here zonation of the plants could clearly be seen, as the existence of any species of plant varied very largely in relation to the length of time it was covered by the sea.

Saturday was taken up with freshwater biology, consisting mainly of capturing and identifying animals in brooks around Flatford.

That evening a minor panic was caused by the discovery that one couple were missing. However, our fears were allayed upon their tardy, and somewhat breathless arrival at the mill, explaining that they had been on an errand of mercy. Having been stricken with remorse at the thought of their piscine specimens, collected that day, reaching an untimely end, they had simply (so they insisted) been returning them to their cosy, misty pond.

Sunday's activities were of a slightly different nature, for, in groups of about four or five, we undertook surveys of our own choice. In the evening the results of the day's work were drawn up into a scientific paper, later delivered to the assembled multitude of fellow ecologists. There were several topics selected, and that evening Andrew Hillyard stirred us with the astoundingly convincing results of his group's study of the ecology of snails to be found in the mill pond. Eric Slater described in glowing terms the results he and his partner obtained in a neighbouring wood. Their study was largely undertaken beneath chestnut and birch trees involving an investigation of the effect of varying intensities of light upon the flora. This proved a highly successful day and the Warden was most impressed with the quality of the orations and the work carried out.

The next day, Monday, we all trekked to Dodnash Wood to study woodland ecology, which proved to be mostly botanical in nature. Again in our small groups, we drew up a profile of a valley and recorded many factors governing the environment, and hence distribution, of plants upon the valley

sides. We also studied various forms of life found in the wood, whilst others collected fungi. Again the evening was occupied with graph drawing.

Tuesday was chiefly devoted to a study of animal life found in a stream from its freshwater source to its salty lower stretches. By enumerating the species to be found in the upper and lower reaches of the stream, we determined that animals would confine themselves to positions where the rate of flow, or the salinity, were especially suited for their particular existence.

That evening, with the week's work behind us, we all gathered in the cottage to have a sing-song before the huge open log fire. We must all have felt both glad, and just a little sorrowful as the evening progressed in the glow of the now failing fire, for not only were we leaving behind muddy fields and long treks, but also companionship, which had enlivened the very useful work carried out at Flatford Mill Field Centre.

We, who took part in the course, are most grateful to those who made this ecology week possible, especially to Mr. Price for both helping and suffering us. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking him, and we hope that he too found this an enjoyable, interesting and perhaps instructive visit.

C. J. SKINNER, U6Sc, Pd.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 15:

"It makes work more interesting when there are women about."

—Mr. R. D. Price.

H.M.S. VANGUARD

Last of the Battleships

In early 1940, Japan showed signs that she would eventually join the Axis Powers. If she did so, Britain would need at least one fast, modern battleship, based at Singapore.

So the Admiralty decided to build the "Vanguard." She was laid down in October, 1941. She was not launched until November, 1945, far too late to take part in the early battles against Japan. But her construction was speeded up so that she could participate in the final and most difficult battle of all—the invasion of Japan itself. But even so the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan in August, 1945, shortened the war by many months, and when Japan surrendered, Vanguard was still not ready. In April, 1946, she was accepted into service.

She is the biggest and perhaps the most graceful warship ever built for the Royal Navy. Her eight 15-inch guns are arranged in the well-tried and most successful method of four twin mountings, two forward and two aft. Her sixteen 5.25-inch guns are housed in eight twin turrets. The close-range A.A. armament consists of seventy-three 40m.m. bofors. They are arranged in ten six-barrelled, one twin and eleven single mountings. A new system of radar gunnery was installed, and at the time, her anti-aircraft system was the finest afloat. Her total cost was over £9,000,000. To build such a ship today would cost well over £30,000,000.

In 1947 she served as the Royal Yacht in the Royal South African Tour, and refitted during 1947/8. During 1949/51, she was operational with the Home and Mediterranean Fleets. She was refitted in 1951, and again operational during 1952/4.

But by 1953 she was becoming a "problem" ship. No real use could be found for her 15-inch guns during Fleet exercises. Aircraft had taken over the jobs of the big gun. Vanguard, as were all other battleships, was fast becoming obsolete and useless. So during 1956 she was refitted and put in a state of preservation. She then became flagship of the Reserve Fleet.

By 1957 all other British battleships had been scrapped, leaving Britain with only the stately Vanguard.

Then, on October 9th, 1959, the Admiralty announced that the Vanguard would be available for disposal; thus, as no foreign country is likely to want to buy her, she will ultimately be scrapped. She will be sold for about £650,000.

With her passing will pass not just one obsolete warship but a whole era of Naval history. No more do huge fleets of battleships plough through the seas in all their majestic glory. Gone are the days when they would fight it out together with their huge guns. The era of the all big-gun battleships —begun in 1906 with the introduction of the once almighty H.M.S. Dreadnought—will soon be lost for ever.

The last the Leviathans is soon to be broken up. Farewell, Vanguard!

K. R. STUART, L6, Mc.

THE SEAT OF INVENTION

Many, many moons ago there lived in a fairly prosperous town called Tokya a young man, his wife and his father-in-law. The young man was called Prin Ting, and he had inherited his father's pottery, where he made and decorated china cups, saucers and plates. The shop was situated in a quiet, tidy little street, running off into the poorer section of the town.

Now Prin Ting was an active, lively young man, who liked to take part in the many processions and carnivals that take place in all Chinese towns. The pottery business, however, was not Prin Ting's idea of activity, for he had to sit at a table all day, slowly and labouriously painting the " pretty little patterns " on his plates.

The young potter's wife, Wing Foo, was a fairly good-looking girl, but she was used to fine clothes and good food, which her doting father had always lavished upon her. Now, however, it was a different proposition. The only way she could still get her silks was from her husband and his pottery; and, since Prin Ting hated the sight of his plates, he never got through half the work he might have done in a day.

The atmosphere around these two people grew a little less loving each day, until, finally, it was driven out into the fresh air.

Wing Foo came storming into her husband's shop one morning, and gave him an almighty slap on the face, which made him sit down sharply on one of his newly-painted plates. He rose gingerly and demanded to know what was the reason for her anger.

" There is no more credit at our grocer's—that's what's the matter! " And on saying this she gave her husband another resounding smack, which made him sit down sharply again, and once more on another of the newly-baked plates.

" If you did a little more work, and a little less dreaming about carnivals, we might . . . " But she broke off there, for on the plate that Prin Ting had sat on last, she saw a perfect impression of the design on the plate he had sat on first.

This was the first step in the industry of printing, named, of course, after its Chinese inventor. Needless to say, Prin Ting and his wife founded a great industry which made them rich, and made Tokya one of the most famous industrial towns in the Universe.

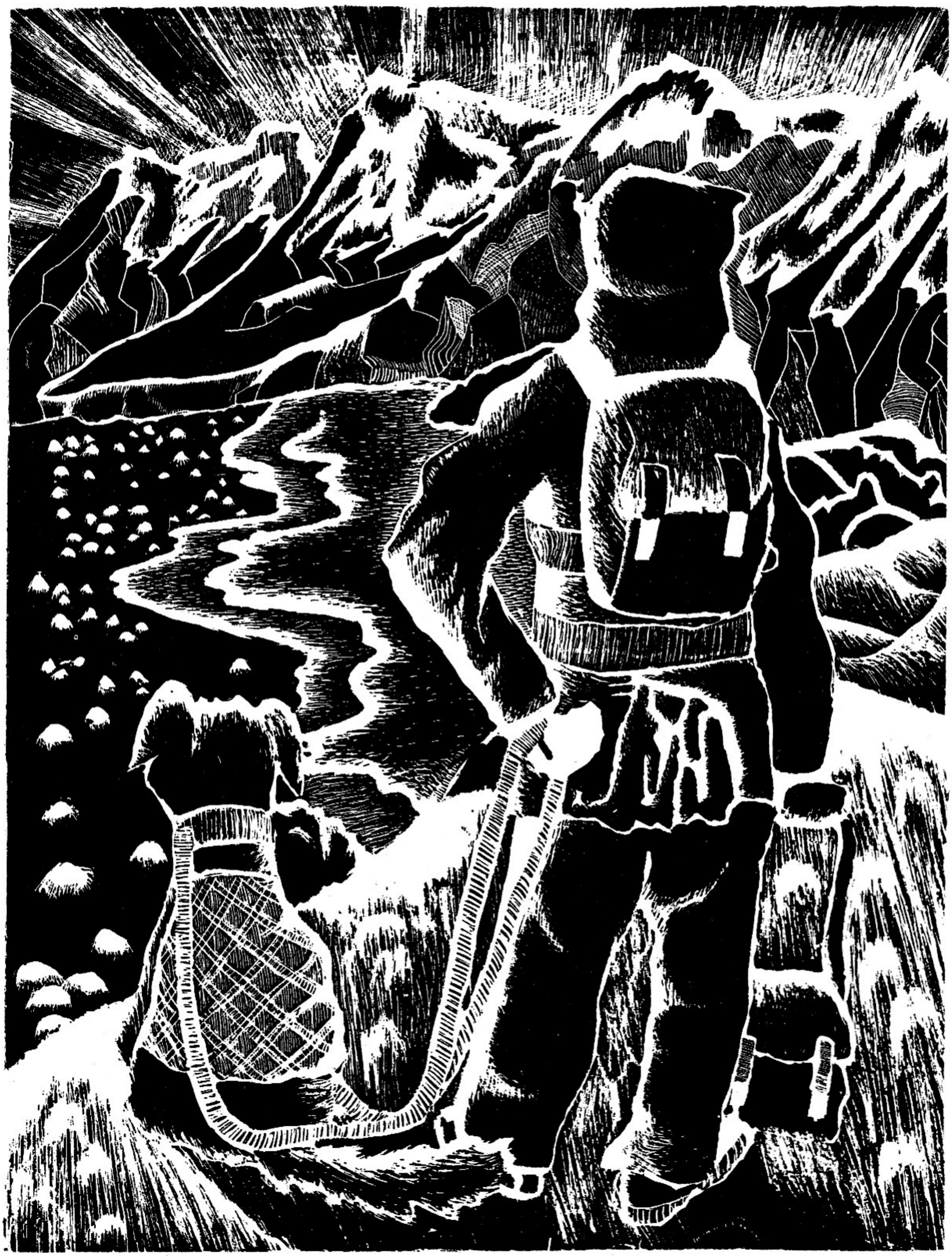
R. G. POPPELSDORFF, 4Pi, Gb.

UP THE JUNGFRAU

The Mountains stand high
Against the blue sky,
Up the Jungfrau we go
Climbing over the snow.

We keep ourselves muffled
Against the cold air
On reaching the top we just stand and stare,
At the wonderful scenery that greets us there.

Out come the cameras to film the view
Of mountains, snow, and the boys of 2Nu.



Scraperboard illustration by A. BROADFIELD, 5Eta, Gj.

Wending our way to the mountain railway
Our time at an end we start to descend,
Tired and hungry but happy to have been
To the top of the Jungfrau with its wonderful scene.

L. EADIE, 3Nu, Ga.

"THE AMAZING WORLD OF JOHN SCARNE"

Many people, when they hear of an autobiography, usually conjure up the idea of an extremely moral, exemplary and, more often than not, dull life. I also shared this view—that is until I read "The Amazing World of John Scarne." I came across this unusual book quite by accident while reading the hectic adventures of Britain's top S.S. agent, James Bond, in Ian Fleming's novel, "The Moon Raker." For the purpose of cheating, the hero was studying the book "Scarne on Cards". Having an interest in cards and card games, I went to the library to borrow the book. Alongside it on the shelf I found "The Amazing World of John Scarne." Out of curiosity I read it, and found the book to be amusing and often exciting—the kind of book that I find worth reading again. In case you are not familiar with John Scarne it will suffice for me to say that he is the greatest card manipulator in the world.

He tells his story, somewhat chequered in parts, from the time when he was about twelve. Living in American suburbia, one of the things that intrigued him was the local fair. Interested in cards from an early age, he took delight in watching men cheat gullible people of their money. After watching, one day he went up and demonstrated to them the method they had been using. He did this equally well, if not better than they did. They took him into their confidence, seeing his desire to learn, and taught him many other tricks of the "trade."

By now, Scarne had decided to become a professional gambler. One day, when about 15, he entered a gambling room under a café. Here he engaged in a very simple game where those that cut higher than the banker win, the rest lose. After he had lost a good bit of money, it did not take him long to realise he was being cheated. The cards used were "strippers." Strippers are a special deck where the high cards are wider at the ends than at the middle. After Scarne had exposed the banker, a fight evolved including the other men who had been cheated and Scarne only just managed to get way before the police arrived.

The next major step in his "career" was when he found employment in a shop which manufactured gambling devices. These included rigged pintables and slot machines, loaded dice, marked cards, strippers, hold-out machines and many other gambling accessories. (If you watched "Maverick" on May 9th you will have seen a hold-out machine in use.) This job was invaluable to him in his future life as a gambler.

At the age of nineteen he decided not to become a professional gambler. This was through no lack of skill, but rather it was due to the fact that he could do something that no other person could do. That something was to cut all four aces from any deck without treating them in any way. This lead to an amusing experience when a few of America's top "card sharks" called a meeting where they paid Scarne well to perform this trick. After three or four demonstrations on consecutive days, they were not any wiser. To their amazement, he said he would explain how he performed the trick. He said that as he riffled the cards, for that was the shuffle he used, he watched where the aces fell, counted the cards that fell on top of each and then cut the appropriate number. He told them that if they persevered for a few hours each day, they could do the same thing in twenty years' time. They then asked him how he could do it, being only 19. He replied that he had practised about six hours a day since he was twelve. After making a good deal of money he walked out and left them flabbergasted.

After that he worked a lot for the police, exposing crooked pintables, roulette wheels and other such rigged devices in local fairs. He was instrumental in breaking up many crooked gaming houses and casinos. In one place he substituted an ordinary ball for the magnetised one that was being used in the roulette wheel. It was later that the casino was raided by the police. Afterwards he was shot at while driving his car along the highway.

Scarne was also an amazing conjurer and recounts many amusing experiences. One was after he met Houdini, when he was thrown in the river, chained in a mailbag and failed to get free properly. Perhaps at the height of his career he wrote the book "Scarne on Cards." This is the recognised authority on cards, cheating, and card games. The idea is to aid you in being able to spot someone who is cheating you. It is illustrated with many photographs and is a wealth of information.

Because this type of book appeals to me, I found "The Amazing World of John Scarne" most enjoyable reading. If you are still interested, I hope you will make use of your library (which is a good thing to do anyway) and read it for yourself.

A. LAWS, Mc (Left, Summer, 1960).

CHEMISTRY CORNER

Twinkle, twinkle, little Star—
Not much light from you afar!
Sparkle, sparkle, neon light—
Never was the night so bright.
In city thoroughfare or square,
Years ago so drab and bare.
Lights once tallow, later gas,
Now exciting to the mass
Of people who through thick and thin
Jostle—midst the traffic's din.
Gaze in wonder at the names
Flashing up and down the frames
In Piccadilly's blaze of light,
Neon, neon, Queen of Night!

This is an unusual introduction to the termly article; however, read on and you will discover what occasioned it.

There is in air a family of gases the presence of which is often overlooked when the composition of air is discussed as together they constitute only 1% of air. They are called the Inert Gases and consist largely of argon, with very small amounts of neon, helium, krypton and xenon; in fact, the last-named is present to the amount of only 1 part in 100 million parts of air! Its discovery and later isolation are instances of the skill of the research chemist.

In 1785, Lord Cavendish, that shy but able scientist, noticed that repeated sparking of atmospheric nitrogen with excess oxygen always resulted in a small volume of gas being left which simply refused to respond to any kind of chemical treatment. He was unable to satisfactorily account for it. Almost a hundred years later, when Lord Rayleigh discovered that the density of atmospheric nitrogen was greater than that of chemical nitrogen, he called to mind Cavendish's experiment and repeated it; with exactly the same result. Sir William Ramsay, who was working with Lord Rayleigh, repeated the experiment but removed the nitrogen from the air by passing it through red hot magnesium. He got the same result, so it was obvious that air contained something else in addition to the oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water vapour already known to be present. Spectrum analysis, unknown in Cavendish's time, revealed without doubt the presence of a new element—which they called "aeron," as it was obtained from the air. The

name, however, was short-lived because so many facetious friends kept on asking when Moses was going to turn up that they renamed it argon, from the Greek word meaning inert.

Their discovery caused wide-spread interest in the scientific world and it wasn't long before it was proved without any shadow of doubt that the new " element " contained traces of four other new elements—so it was a mixture of elements; in fact, a whole family of elements completely different from any then known, being quite inert, i.e. incapable of combining with either other elements or each other. The four new elements were called helium, neon, krypton and xenon, all four together forming only 0.0016% of air; with argon, almost exactly 1% of air.

It is amazing that even in these enlightened days so many people (especially schoolboys!) have never heard of argon; or, if they have, seldom realise that there is over twenty-five times as much argon in air as carbon dioxide! These gases are nowadays made from liquid air on the large scale and their inertness put to good use.

Helium, the second lightest gas, is used for filling airships and balloons; also in deep-sea diving apparatus to replace nitrogen in the air supply, being much less soluble in the blood than nitrogen thus enabling the diver to rapidly return to normal condition as he comes to the surface without going black in the face due to the choking of the blood stream with released nitrogen bubbles. Curiously enough, xenon has just the opposite effect, being worse than nitrogen in this respect but it has been used, krypton too, for filling electric lamp bulbs, thus enabling the filament to be heated to a higher temperature without vapourising the filament and so blackening the inside of the bulb. For this, however, it has now been largely superseded by argon, which is cheaper but not so efficient!

It is hardly necessary to mention the use to which neon is put as London and other large centres of population are ablaze every evening with glowing testimonies to its application, from modest rectangular ribbons of light framed in shop windows to monsters of illuminated ingenuity in public squares. In Piccadilly, a huge circle of spinning crimson not only brings Coco-Cola willy-nilly to the notice of the onlookers but intemperately drowns the more modest twinkles of Lemon Hart Rum and Gordon's Gin whilst between them two wise-looking birds gaze wistfully at a large timepiece, tick-tocking away the precious moments, wondering when it is going to be Guinness time for them!

It is now closing time for this article but it is possible that a reader might like to know how a neon tube works. Well, it consists of a long glass tube, bent if need be to shape, sealed, and containing neon at low pressure. It has two electrodes, one at each end, across which is set up a potential difference of about 10,000 volts. This produces a stream of electrons which glow with a reddish light; hence its use in aircraft beacons. If a blue light is required, a little mercury is put into the tube and this vapourises to produce the familiar blue colouration; sodium vapour produces the well-known golden yellow so useful on foggy nights; whilst other colours are obtained by using tubes of suitably coloured glass.

On reflection, it seems strange that rare gases such as these, apparently useless when first discovered, should so quickly have been put to extensive use. In these days, commercial and industrial application is ever dogging the heels of scientific discovery.

J.M.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 16:

" Just excuse me a minute; don't go away! "

—Mr. Waters, about to address the Main School Assembly.



CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

ART CLUB—*Organizer:* Mr. A. Hodgkinson.
C.E.W.C.—*Representative:* R. C. Dirs, L6, Ga.
CHEMISTRY CLUB—*Secretary:* C. N. Cheek, F4, Mc.
CHESS CLUB—*Captain:* W. G. Scott, U6, Cc.
ENGINEERING SOCIETY—*Secretary:* C. L. Smith, L6, Ph.
ENGLISH CLUB—*Secretary:* R. C. Dirs, L6, Ga.
GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY—*Organizer:* Mr. T. Marchington.
HISTORY SOCIETY—*Organizer:* Mr. J. Hodges.
INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY—*Representative:* L. B. Levene, U6, Pc.
LOWER SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY—*Organizer:* Mr. E. McGill.
MATHEMATICS SOCIETY—*Secretary:* R. R. Hughes, F4, Gc.
MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB—*Secretary:* S. Mehlmann, 5Al, Cc.
MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY—*Organizer:* Mr. A. M. Lincé.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY—*Secretary:* P. R. Leverick, U6Sc, Mc.
POTTERY CLUB—*Organizer:* Miss A. E. Lancaster.
RADIO AND ELECTRONICS SOCIETY—*Chairman:* C. L. Boyes, 4Pi, Cd.
RAILWAY CLUB—*Secretary:* D. P. Murray, 5Al, Ge.
SCHOOL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA—*Music Prefect:* I. A. Cobb, U6, Pa.
SCIENCE CLUB—*Secretary:* P. Vickery, F4, Mh.
SPORTS SOCIETY—*Secretary:* A. J. Hart, 3Pi, Gb.
STAMP CLUB—*Organizer:* Mr. C. J. Walmsley.
WOODWORK CLUB—*Organizer:* Mr. J. Hughes.

COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION IN WORLD CITIZENSHIP

On 6th October the Annual General Meeting of the C.E.W.C. was held at Grey Coat Hospital, during which the new Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and London District Committee were elected. The South-Western region of the Council was also revived, and is now taking an active part in the organization.

After the general business of the meeting had been completed, Mrs. Brenda Burns gave a lecture on Nigeria. Mrs. Burns has recently returned from Nigeria, where her husband is the acting Vice-Principal of the new University of Eastern Nigeria, and has an excellent opportunity to observe the country in its first year of independence. Her talk—in view of the important changes, which are taking place in Nigeria, along with other African countries, throughout this year—proved to be both interesting and informative.

On Wednesday, 30th November, the south-western region of the council is holding a meeting entitled, " The Apparent Decline of Popular Democracy

in France Today." It is hoped that a large body of the School will attend. A complete report of the meeting will appear in next term's issue.

The meetings for next term organized by the south-western committee will be on the subject, "The Battle for the L.C.C." It is intended to have a series of three meetings on this topic, with talks by prominent members of the Council (or contenders for seats) from each party. Mr. Michael Foot has already been invited to speak. Fuller details will be given next term.

By the time these notes appear, it is hoped to have an active organization of C.E.W.C. within the School. We already have both an energetic Regional Committee, and a Central London Committee; it only remains to link these with a proper School society. I hope we will not be disappointed by the response which we receive from the upper part of the School.

R. C. DIRS, L6A, Ga (*Secretary*).

CHEMISTRY CLUB

This club, which is made up of fourth formers and above, is mainly concerned with helping boys who are keen on, and interested in, chemistry. All our meetings are therefore practical ones at which boys may carry out experiments that they cannot do in class or which would be done normally only by the master.

We meet every week after school in the Chemistry Laboratory where we have all the facilities which we need. The younger members of the club are often helped by the more senior boys, when doing work which they have not covered in school time. Mr. Garwood also helps members of the club during the meetings, giving us advice and assistance wherever it is needed.

Towards the end of last term and during the first half of this one, we have done some quite interesting work. Some members spent meetings preparing bakelite, an experiment involving apparatus quite new to the boys.

Occasionally during the term certain members and Mr. Garwood have conducted accurate experiments, many of which involved calculations and measurings correct to one thousandth of a gram.

The boys of the club doing "A" level G.C.E. work have not been quite so numerous this term as they were last, but we are at our maximum strength for fifth formers and below.

Boys wishing to join the club are invited to come along any Monday, but they should be able to show that they will really benefit from our work.

C. N. CHEEK, F4, Mc.

P. VICKERY, F4, Mh.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY

The Engineering Society started off this new school year with its usual Tuesday evening practical meetings, and engineering films of general and occasionally specialised interest during Wednesday lunch-breaks. Two steam-locomotives are at the moment in the process of being made in connection with the Society.

On 29th September a visit was made to Vickers-Armstrong Aircraft Ltd. It was interesting to note, whilst travelling between the buildings, that the hangars and workshops are sited in the middle of the old Brooklands motor racing track and that part of the old circuit is now a section of the 1,200 yard runway which was used by the prototype of the Victor bomber. During the afternoon the party was shown a series of films which showed some radio-controlled experimental models undergoing test flights in Cornwall, the Stratosphere Chamber, mock hangar and skin-milling shop. Of these items the stratosphere chamber was probably the most interesting. Here any weather temperature from the coldest of Arctic conditions to the hottest of tropical climates can be reproduced. This chamber can produce pure snow

in unlimited volumes in a matter of hours. It is the only one of its kind in Europe and is large enough to house an Army bridge-layer weighing about thirty tons, which was being tested at the time, with room to spare.

Adjacent to the stratosphere chamber the R.A.F. have installed a laboratory equipped with a wind tunnel to carry air at a speed of Mach $3\frac{1}{2}$. The aircraft structures are tested here and their skins are shaped in the skin-milling shop which is also the largest in Europe. This is a decidedly unique factory.

Intelligent and appealing films account for the reasonable attendances at the lunch-time meetings, as subjects ranging from "The Story of a Spark Plug" and "The Birth of a Car" to "Ultrasonics" have been covered.

At the time of writing this report a further trip is planned for the 31st October to Fords Motors Ltd. and it can only be hoped that this trip is as successful as the last one undoubtedly was.

C. J. SMITH, L6Sc, Ph (*Secretary*).



ENGLISH CLUB

Last term we visited "*Oliver!*" at the New Theatre. This is, of course, an adaptation of Dickens' novel "Oliver Twist," cleverly put to music, by Lionel Bart. Although I personally intensely dislike such adaptations, the general opinion seems to have been that it was an enjoyable and worthwhile adaptation of the classic.

On 13th September we went to the first night of "*Billy Liar*" at the Cambridge Theatre. The play was by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall, from former's novel of the same name. The cast of the play, directed by Lindsay Anderson and set in the north of England at the present time, included Albert Finney and Mona Washbourne. Although the acting was excellent throughout, it was somewhat disappointing. I felt that the play was a less profound version, and I might even go so far as to say imitation of "The Flowering Cherry," the play by Robert Bolt, which enjoyed such a great success in the West End not all that long ago. "Billy Liar" only touched the surface of the problems or ideas which its authors wished to put before us. It differed, however, in so far as it represented the new trend of bringing typical working-class family life onto the stage realistically and in a spirit of serious enquiry, and not comic relief. This is a trend which we must surely all welcome.

On 28th September the Annual General Meeting was held. The first purpose of the meeting was to elect members to serve on this year's committee, with one to represent each of the fourth, fifth, lower sixth and upper sixth years. This having been accomplished, the next object was to hear a recording of John Betjeman's poems, read by the author himself. Mr. Betjeman is the only poet of today whose poems are "best sellers"! He might also be known to members as "The Book Man" in the I.T.V. programme of the same name. John Betjeman's poetry is extremely amusing, and perhaps unique in its simplicity. Perhaps the latter is one of the factors which helped to make this meeting such a success.

On 29th September the Society visited the Old Vic to see what was found to be a rather uninspired production of the Chekovian masterpiece,

"*The Seagull.*" However, it was a worth-while experience simply seeing so great a play, however uninspired the acting may have been.

The first play reading of this term was of Harold Pinter's superb play, "*The Caretaker,*" which is now running extremely successfully at the Duchess Theatre. Mr. Pinter's brilliant, precise dialogue, and subtle characterization make this play, which can be by turns terrifying, moving and wildly funny, one of the most worth-while now on in London. Needless to say the reading was highly successful, thanks to the extremely competent renderings of J. A. Lally, P. M. T. Gillingham and L. Levene, who played Davies, Aston and Mike, the only three characters in the play.

On the 14th October a visit to the Old Vic and "*Romeo and Juliet*" was arranged. This well-known Shakespearian piece had fresh life and vitality brought to it by the young Italian director, Zeffirelli, I am sure it will be remembered by all those who attended for a long time to come.

The last visit about which I am able to write, was to the Piccadilly Theatre to see a brilliant production of J. M. Synge's "*The Playboy of the Western World.*" The play, which came to the West End via the Dublin Festival, had in its cast Miss Siobhan McKenna, who has not been seen in London since her triumph in Henry Sherek's production of "Saint Joan," in 1955. Yet the acting of Donald Donelly in the part of Christy must surely be ranked even higher in this production. All I can say about this play is that it was truly magnificent, and to me a memorable piece of theatre.

Before closing these notes, I should like to emphasise how informal our regular theatre visits are. We like to think of ourselves, not as an organised school party making a prescribed tour of the classics of the theatre that will "do us good," but rather as a group of young people who enjoy seeing all the worth-while plays—old and new—which London so richly affords, and enjoy seeing them together. There are surely many more boys, particularly in the present fifth year, who might like to join us if only they realised how enjoyable these visits can be.

R. C. Dirs, L6A, Ga (*Secretary*).

HISTORY SOCIETY

Glimpses of a St. Martin's summer enabled us, at any rate, to have two programmes on the terrace at beginning of term, one on the history of Wimbledon Common and other on the local personalities whose names are used for the School's four houses.

A showing of the film "The Wooden Horse" proved very popular. But with escape, tunnel, grit, authenticity—how could it fail ?

Mr. E. P. Olney has visited us, this time with a difference, for he has lately taken a remarkable series of photographs of the area, from the highest vantage points. He arranged a competition in which the boys had to recognise the sites. M. R. Kerr (2 Theta) and M. B. M. Dunnett (1 Theta) gained the highest scores, and Mr. Olney has kindly promised the winner a photograph of his choice.

During Half-Term, a party of twenty-one boys, representative of the first three Years, visited Winchester. They sat on the Norman settle in the Cathedral, climbed to the roof of the West Gate, queried Arthur's Table. Incessant rain failed to abridge the itinerary. We even took the meadow route to the Hospital of St. Cross. The brother-guide, who had lived in Battersea, complimented the boys on their attentiveness and knowledge. The Wayfarer's Dole amused the boys and exasperated them that they were under-age. The day was completed by tea and seeing some Wykehamists touch their straw hats to the statue of Our Lady.

Another full-feature film, "Vice Versa," starring Roger Livesey and adapting Anstey's novel, is still to be shown at the time of going to press.

J.H.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY

The Inter-Sixth can proudly proclaim its independence this year in that it is almost entirely master-free, and now student-run. Putney High has become host school once more, with the Secretary as Christine Dodds and Georgina Roberts as Treasurer. The annual general meeting, which was held at their School last year, resulted in the new amendment, and was agreed upon by all present. Also discussed was the question of the affiliation fee, which it was decided to keep at £1 0s. 0d., and the membership fee, which was dropped to 1/- by an overwhelming vote.

Early in the Autumn term the Committee held their initial meeting to discuss and arrange the programme. The first item was a film show and tea party at Wandsworth School on Monday, October 3rd. About two hundred people turned up, in various modes of dress, and, although the films, which were on Indian folk songs and N.A.T.O. Germany, could have been a little more interesting, the meeting was a great social success and enjoyed by all. This, in fact, was the main aim, so encouraging a large audience for future occasions. Unfortunately, a little trouble evolved concerning the tea, but this was afterwards rectified by our most obliging Miss Martin. Mention should also be made of P. M. Taylor, who voluntarily and without question committed himself to the difficult task of working the projector, a deed which deserves all our thanks, considering the trouble that arose with the early part of the film.

The second meeting took the form of a dance at Sir Walter St. John's School. This was attended by our school band under the supervision of B. C. Brind.

The programme for the term was completed by a group discussion at Mayfield on " Is God man-made ? "; the aim of this meeting being to excite the non-speaking members to fervent argument.

It is therefore with some pride that we launch the Society into the year 1960-61. It is our own Society, and what we make of it depends on us. Let us not let down the best traditions of the Inter-Sixth, but uphold them faithfully and honourably.

L. B. Levene, U6Sc, Pc.

LOWER SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY

Up to the time of writing there have been three debates and one sharp practice. The first motion was defeated: the topic was " This house prefers its chips out of newspaper." The second motion for discussion was " This house would welcome the abolition of fireworks," and this was overwhelmingly defeated.

The last motion was also defeated. It was " This house believes in the equality of the sexes."

A sharp practice is when a volunteer speaks on a topic drawn out of a hat. Some people have the impression that debating is a dull, dry pastime; nothing could be further from the truth. Our debates are most entertaining and excellent practice for public speaking.

The Debating Society meets every Thursday at 4 p.m. and all first, second and third formers are welcome.

R. L. Brickwood, 2Ga, Cg.
P. D. Smith, 2Ga, Gi.

MATHEMATICS SOCIETY

A Survey of Heights and Weights

During the 1960 Summer term, the Mathematics Society took a survey to find the average height and weight of the School. This was found to be 5ft. 4.02in. and 8st. 3lbs.

The averages for each form in the sample were as follows:—

	Form 1	*1 Theta*	*1 Sigma*	*1 Tau*
Height :	5ft. 1.1in.	4ft. 11.2in.	4ft. 11.8in.	4ft. 11.1in.
Weight :	7.02 st.	6.57 st.	6.74 st.	6.33 st.
	Form 2	*2 Theta*	*2 Sigma*	*2 Tau*
Height :	5ft. 3.1in.	5ft. 3.6in.	5ft. 2.4in.	5ft. 0.6in.
Weight :	7.77 st.	8.11 st.	7.55 st.	7.20 st.
	Form 3	*3 Theta*	*3 Rho*	*3 Kappa*
Height :	5ft. 5.2in.	5ft. 5in.	5ft. 4.1in.	5ft. 5.6in.
Weight :	8.03 st.	8.48 st.	7.72 st.	8.97 st.
	Form 4	*4 Theta*	*4 Rho*	*4 Kappa*
Height :	5ft. 7.5in.	5ft. 7.8in.	5ft. 7.2in.	5ft. 7.0in.
Weight :	9.35 st.	9.92 st.	9.93 st.	9.16 st.
	Five Pi	*5 Theta*	*5 Rho*	*5 Kappa*
Height :	5ft. 10.7in.	5ft. 9.0in.	—	—
Weight :	10.57 st.	9.98st.	—	—

These figures were plotted on graphs, which will be on show at the Eisteddfod Exhibition next term.

Anyone who is certain that the rigours of a more academic course are reflected in the physique of the boys aiming at more G.C.E. subjects, and that " swots " and " crammers " are, by the laws of nature, puny, weak and miserable, will find his theories difficult to prove from these figures. Of course, practical courses in building workshops might be said to keep some boys in 3 Rho slim and muscular, and Form One's average weight might be closely related to their ability to sit still a little longer than other first formers, but the figures prove nothing so controversial.

The following facts *are* suggested by the graphs:—

1. There is no definite connection between the height, weight and form in the sample.
2. During the 3rd year boys become relatively slimmer.
3. During the 4th year boys become relatively fatter.
4. During the 5th year boys become relatively slimmer. This seemed to show that there was a cycle in which boys became relatively fatter and slimmer.
5. Height growth is far more constant than weight growth.
6. In their forms boys show a greater range in weight than height.
7. During the 3rd year the average weights of forms waver greatly in relation to form grouping. Also, average weights tend to merge.
8. During the 4th year both average weight and average height merge by form groupings.
9. The most academically able boys start their school life largest and end it as the largest.

These findings are not surprising and are therefore stated confidently. However, as our sample is limited in numbers, restraint is exercised in listing other apparent conclusions. Our figures suggest that the growth cycle of the less academic groups is one year removed from that of the other groups. But this remains to be proved by a sample larger than could ever be taken in one school.

R. R. HUGHES, F4, Gc *(Secretary)*.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 17:

" Flying birds have protruding breast bones, flightless birds have flat breast bones, and flighty birds have . . . "

—Mr. Whellock.

MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB

At the end of last term a glider competition was held, but was not a success, due mainly to lack of support. Some members have been flying control line models in the playground after school, but a large proportion of the Club have still not completed any models. A team race is to be held towards the end of this term and, as most people in the Club have a motor of 1 c.c. or under, we hope it will be well supported.

S. H. MEHLMANN, 5Al, Cc.
A. MORRIS, 5Al, Mc.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

Our usual meeting with Mayfield took place on 13th October; 24 boys and 7 members of staff went over to Mayfield School for a cup of tea and a cake followed by an "Anthologie Européenne." Although the Society concentrates in its activities on French, we always aim to bring in one or more other languages. After an English introduction by Mr. Williams, a Russian poem of Pushkin's was read by John Ollenshaw; although very few were in a position to understand it, everyone was able to follow with the help of the transliterated text which had been prepared. Daniel Nathanson read a Swedish poem, which was somewhat easier to follow, and then came two longer and more familiar contributions—Marot's "A son ami Lion," read by Roger Newman, and Schiller's "Der Handschuh," read by Robert Dirs. Our Assistante, Mademoiselle Vasseux, made the last poem live for those with no knowledge of German by a lively French paraphrase.

The rest of the evening was taken up with the showing of a film strip of the Castles of the Loire. Mr. Timothy was able to give many interesting historical and architectural details about the famous and beautiful buildings shown on the screen.

Lunchtime record programmes continue to be rather difficult to fit in. There have been two so far this term, organised by Mademoiselle Vasseux for the Sixth Form, but it is hoped to give programmes with a wider appeal during the second half of the term.

A. M. LINCE.

RADIO AND ELECTRONICS SOCIETY

The Radio and Electronics Society, although started last year, has never had many members. But this year, owing to the electronic interests of the 4th year, the number of members has risen quite considerably. On the third Monday of the term, the Club met to elect a Chairman (C. L. Boyes), a Secretary (T. G. S. Clarke), a Treasurer (M. Simson) and a Social Secretary (D. Evans). It is planned to have a number of talks throughout the term and also we hope to make visits to Independent Television and other radio and electronics concerns, such as E.M.I. and Bush.

The Society meets every Monday in Engineering Workshop 2, where we are able to make chassis and other radio parts. Mr. Wahhab has kindly offered to try and get us parts more cheaply.

There is room in the Society for more members and it is hoped that more boys will make use of the ample facilities that are offered.

T. CLARK, 4Th, Mh *(Secretary)*.

SCIENCE CLUB

This year the Club has extended its membership to the Fourth form, thus bringing the total number of boys in the Club to a record 40; but due to limited facilities we will only be able to accept a few more members.

Our meetings so far this term have consisted mainly of films and a practical. The films this term covered a wider range of the sciences than those of last term, a few examples being features on dry docks, sailing round the Cape, the internal combustion engine, and the life cycles of numerous insects. Anybody is welcome to come along to these films but only members of the Club may stay for the practical. In these, boys have (within reason) a free choice of experiments, ranging over many branches of science but mainly concerned with chemistry and biology.

We have already decided to hold an exhibition during the Eisteddfod next term which will, as in past years, consist of the more outstanding experiments that we have done during the year.

At the end of last term as the weather became too hot for boys to be working at experiments, Mr. Slowson gave members informal lectures on a variety of subjects ranging from the workings of a film projector to " How to make your own hydrogen bomb." These were welcomed by the boys who are all looking forward to similar lectures at future dates.

In ending, we would very much like to thank Mr. Slowson for his help and assistance throughout the term.

C. N. CHEEK, F4, Mc *(Chairman)*.
P. VICKERY, F4, Mh *(Secretary)*.

SPORTS SOCIETY

There has not been very much to report this term. Our first meeting was held on Wednesday, September 14th, when Tony Mottram came along to give a talk about tennis. Tony has represented Britain in the " Davis Cup " and has reached the last eight in the men's singles final at Wimbledon. He spoke about the opportunities in tennis and answered some questions. The talk was very interesting but the attendance was depressing for only 25 boys turned up.

The second meeting of the term had to be cancelled because the films that were ordered failed to arrive. We hope to show these films at a later date.

Our third meeting had to be postponed as well, because of a staff meeting. Peter Jopp, a motor racing driver, was supposed to have come along to give a talk. The meeting will take place later this term and a report of it will appear in the next edition of The Link.

J. HART, 3Pi, Gh *(Hon. Secretary)*.

COOL, MAN, COOL

At last Wandsworth can boast of its own jazz group. In no way in competition with the School Orchestra, a few pupils of the School have formed themselves into a small band.

Instrumentalists include: " Buzz-buzz " Brind on the lead guitar, Alan Harpley on the clarinet, our ex-schoolmate, Lucky " Sticks " Congdon on the drums, Larry " Fingers " Levene on the piano, " Quick-pick " Mick Dries on the bass guitar, and further instrumentation in the form of clarinet, trombone and trumpet will be coming, we hope, from budding musicians in the fifth and sixth years.

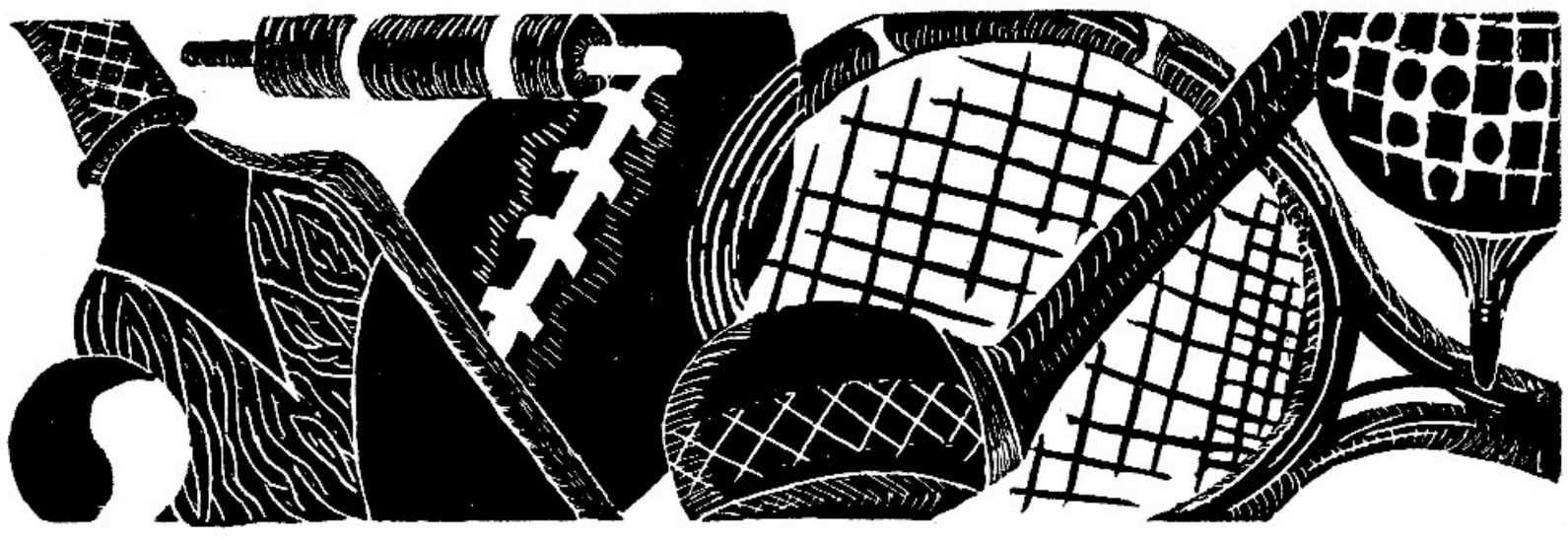
It is hoped that, in a short while, the group will be polished enough to present a reasonable exhibition for the School, when the occasion arises. So you will hear more of us in future.

L. B. LEVENE, U6Sc, Pc.

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 18:

" I am often in contact with Conservatives, Christians and other misguided people."

—Mr. Armstrong.



SPORTS REPORTS

ATHLETICS—*Captain :* E. G. W. Slater, U6, Cb.
BADMINTON—*Captain :* S. Dean, U6, Ca.
BASKETBALL—*Captain :* R. Hancock, U6, Pc.
BOAT CLUB—*Captain :* K. R. Moore, L6, Ph.
CRICKET—*1st XI Captain :* To be appointed.
CROSS-COUNTRY—*Secretary :* B. C. Brind, U6, Ge.
FENCING—*Captain :* R. Burt, U6, Mb.
FIVES CLUB—*Captain :* N. A. Ratcliffe, U6, Cc.
GOLF—*Captain :* To be appointed.
GYMNASTICS CLUB—*Secretary :* R. G. Twyman, L6, Cb.
HOCKEY—*Captain :* K. L. Aziz, U6, Ca.
RUGBY—*1st XV Captain :* D. M. Holdich, U6, Mb.
SAILING AND CANOE CLUB—*Secretary :* To be appointed.
SOCCER—*1st XI Captain :* D. J. Morrison, U6, Ca.
SWIMMING AND LIFE-SAVING—*Captain :* J. G. Moore, L6, Mi.
TENNIS—*Captain :* To be appointed.

ATHLETICS

Inter House School Sports

The School Sports this year were held as usual at Wimbledon Park, and were a great success, with the breaking of seventeen well established records.

The following boys broke records, and deserve mention for doing so:—

Under 13 : High Jump—4ft. 2in. (record equalled), T. Symonds; Relay —57.8 sec., Pitt House.

Under 14 : 440 Yards—62.5 sec., R. Summerfield; Triple Jump—32ft. 9in., K. Owen.

Under 15 : Hurdles—11.3 sec., E. Muller; 880 Yards—2 min. 13.7 sec., R. Sandford; 100 Yards—11.2 sec., E. Muller and J. Lindsay; Long Jump—17ft. 7in., J. Lindsay; Shot—42ft. 7in., P. Bligh; Discus—101ft. 10in., S. England.

Under 16 : 880 Yards—2min. 9.8 sec., P. Beard; Javelin, 115ft. 1in., R. Griffin; Mile—4min. 48.6 sec., P. Beard.

Over 16 : 880 Yards—2 min. 3.8 sec., E. Slater; Mile—4 min. 32 sec., E. Slater; 440 Yards—56.1 sec., H. Shivers; Steeplechase—4min. 29.1 sec., B. Brind; High Jump—5ft. 6½in., R. Hancock.

But I should also like to thank all the competitors for competing and making this year's Sports Day a great success.

The main two houses, challenging for first place, were the same as last year. But eventually Gibbon, with 193 points, emerged as the victors. Towards the end of the match they proved too strong for Pitt with 156 points, who took second place, with Cromwell (136) and Morley (111) third and fourth respectively.

Wandsworth District and London

As already mentioned in last term's Link, a large number of Wandsworth boys were picked to represent Wandsworth in the London Schools Athletics Championships.

The following list of boys won through the preliminaries at Paddington Recreation Ground on the 18th June, and took part in the finals which were held at Hurlingham Park on the 25th June.

Under 15 Section : J. Lindsay—220 yards; S. Chapman—880 yards; R. Sandford—One mile; E. Muller—880 yards hurdles; D. J. Ryan—pole vault.

Under 17 Section : J. Basham—220 yards; J. Halliday—One mile; B. Jewitt and E. Elliott—pole vault.

Under 19 Section : B. Brind—One mile; E. Slater—880 yards.

But, unfortunately, due to good competition, only two of these boys managed to reach the required standard of performance, which won for them the honour of representing London Schools in the All England Schools Championships. They were E. Slater (880 yards, 1st) and B. Brind (one mile, 1st).

All England Schools Championships

This year the All England Schools Championships were held at Shrewsbury. But unfortunately both E. Slater (Senior 880) and B. Brind (Senior mile) were eliminated in their heats. But the experience obtained by attending such a meeting will be an invaluable help to them if they manage to reach such heights again.

Triangular Match—
Wandsworth v. St. Christopher Wren v. Brompton Oratory

This was the last meeting of the 1960 Athletics season, and I am glad to say it ended on a good note for Wandsworth, rounding off a fairly successful season, in which we obtained for the first time the Holt Cup, and retained the Wandsworth District Under 15 and 17 Cups. The result of the meeting was a resounding victory.

Retrospect and Prospect

Since I took over the post of Athletics Captain from Gordon Wort, I have always had two ambitions for athletics at Wandsworth. One was to see us win the Holt Cup. This we have now achieved, and I should particularly like to thank all those who have represented the School throughout last season, and made this possible. The other ambition is still unfulfilled: to see us win the South London Grammar Schools Meeting. The next season will probably be my last as Captain before leaving, and I very much hope that all our athletes will bring to it such enthusiasm, and begin training for it in such good time, that we shall all have a chance of reaching this second goal also.

E. G. W. SLATER, U6Sc, Cb.

BADMINTON

The Badminton Club is becoming more popular each term; in fact the membership has now increased to such an extent that a House Badminton Competition will have to be considered, to be included in " Joey," the trophy for the top house. The game is now played by all those who play tennis in the summer months. This has resulted in a general raising of the standard of play, although the team itself suffered the loss of A. Bari, R. H. Jones and M. Burriss, who had all played in the team for some time.

Mr. Jonathan, who ran the Badminton in the School for two years, has left. We should all like to thank him for giving so much of his time. Mr. Bourton has very kindly taken over; we would like to thank him very much, too, and also Mr. Guttridge, who has given us his whole-hearted support.

We have played two matches this term; one against Elliott School, which

we won, was a friendly match when we played mixed doubles with Mayfield; and the other was a match against Henry Thornton, which we narrowly won. Matches have been arranged against Battersea and Spencer Park Schools, and we hope to increase the numbers of schools we play.

We should like to thank Miss Martin and the kitchen staff for providing the teas which have perhaps been the pleasantest part of these matches.

The team consisted of: S. Dean (Captain), K. Aziz, A. C. Hillyard (Hon. Secretary), B. H. Coleman, D. C. Lloyd and P. R. Leverick.

A. C. HILLYARD, U6, Cb *(Hon. Secretary)*.

JUNIOR CRICKET

Junior Cricket was not mentioned in the last magazine, but so fine were the performances of our Junior teams that some record should be made now.

An experiment was tried which proved to be a great success whereby the Under 14 team and the First Form team were coupled together as a pool of players from which one or two teams were selected as required.

Both teams were coached and the matches umpired by Mr. Burgess with the help of Ian Cobb, Brian Sandford and Raymond Pritchard (senior members of the Music Department).

The Juniors played twelve games, losing one, drawing two and winning nine; the First Form team played seven games and lost only one. The standard of play was higher than we have seen from any young team for some years, but more important than this was the excellent team spirit, the friendly approach to opposing players and the appearance on the field of the whole team.

It would be difficult to find a more pleasant group of lads together in one team; modesty and sportsmanship were their distinguishing features, helped considerably by the attitude of their fine captain, Clive Coast, the all-round play of Keith Somers, B. Hart, R. Khan, A. Newman, the bowling of A. Thompson and G. Hedges and the batting of the First Form captain, G. Mills, and Coast, all played important parts and augur very well for the future. In addition to these players C. Cohen and M. Viner were good team men and were also awarded their colours.

The season ended triumphantly with the Juniors inflicting a resounding victory over the 15-year-old Colts XI, whom they beat by 7 wickets. Somers and Hedges dismissed the Colts for 19 and then the Juniors scored 50 for 3 in reply—a surprising but gratifying result!

R.B.

CROSS COUNTRY

Captain: E. G. W. Slater. *Vice-Captain: J. H. Halliday.*
Junior Captain: R. Sandford.

The cross-country season started off with the Under-sixteens gaining a fine victory in the "*Hornsey (St. Mary's) Road Relay*" in Finsbury Park on October 8th. Each member of the team had to run $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles on an undulating circuit.

On the first leg Sandford ran brilliantly, and came in first, only four seconds outside the course record; the run was good enough to gain him the medal for the fastest lap. He handed over a thirty-yard lead to C. R. Green, who was running in his first-ever relay, and although he was the weakest, on paper, of the strong quartet, he excelled himself and gained well deserved applause from the crowd when he handed a 300-yard lead to T. McNie. On the third leg we were chased hard by our old rivals, Mitcham A.C., and although at the fourth and final take-over our lead had been reduced to 175 yards, it was still very commanding. Our last runner, D. Hale, ran a steady

race to regain our 300-yard lead, and a convincing win by 48 seconds from Mitcham A.C.

Result: 1, Wandsworth School (1, R. Sandford, 6.53; 2, C. R. Green, 7.12; 3, T. McNie, 7.04; 4, D. Hale, 7.13); 2, Mitcham A.C.; 3, Walton A.C.

Fastest laps: 1, R. Sandford; 5, T. McNie.

The first real cross country race of the season was the "Battle of the Houses," the *Inter-House Race.* Since the beginning of term the house captains have been enthusiastically selecting and training teams in an attempt to win the first points awarded this year towards the "cock house" trophy.

This year the Senior race was held first, and the "field" got away to a fast start. When the long climb up the "Toast Rack" began, B. Brind was leading, closely followed by J. H. Halliday, E. G. W. Slater, J. H. Reynolds, K. A. Connor, P. Beard, C. R. Green, R. Hancock and T. McNie. After the gruelling climb was finished and Windmill Road was reached, the leaders were beginning to string out, and only the stronger ones were at the front. At the Windmill, Halliday unfortunately had to drop back, after running second all the way, with a recurrence of stomach trouble which he had had earlier in the day, but he hung on gallantly to finish in the first eight. At the "Defile," running ankle deep in mud, Beard chased hard after Brind, who eventually finished first, breaking the previous record by 17 seconds. A newcomer to School cross country, C. R. Green was having a courageous run in sixth place, and finished only a second behind the school captain in fifth place. Within minutes, the rest of the field were streaming in thick and fast, with a strong contingent of Gibbon near the front.

When the last of the seniors had closed in, the junior race got under way, and immediately R. Sandford and R. Summerfield shot into the lead. By the time the "Defile" was reached, Sandford was over a minute in front of Summerfield, who was being chased by little David Beard and B. Elmes. Sandford, the London Schools Junior Mile Champion, finished first, 1min. 16sec. in front of Summerfield.

Results:—

Senior—Individual: 1, B. Brind (G), 18min. 21sec. (record); 2, P. Beard (M), 18.50; 3, T. McNie (C), 18.56; 4, J. H. Reynolds (P), 19.00.

Team: 1, Gibbon, 95; 2, Pitt, 142; 3, Cromwell, 143; 4, Morley, 178.

Junior—Individual: 1, R. Sandford (P), 17.45; 2, R. Summerfield (G), 19.01; 3, D. Beard (M), 19.40; 4, B. Elmes (G), 19.41.

Team: 1, Morley, 96; 2, Pitt, 118; 3, Gibbon, 123; 4, Cromwell, 206.

Combined results: 1, Gibbon, 218; 2, Pitt, 260; 3, Morley, 274; 4, Cromwell, 349.

B. C. BRIND, U6, Gc *(Secretary).*

FENCING

Captain: R. Burt, U6. Mb. *Vice-Captain:* D. P. Nathanson, L6, Cb.

Secretary: M. T. Burness, 5Tau, Cj.

Weapon Captains—

Foil: D. P. Nathanson. *Epee:* B. C. Wigzell, 5Rho, Me.

Sabre: P. D. Hodges, 5Al, Pc.

General

This year the Club has been unfortunate in losing three of its finest fencers—N. C. Bishop, A. J. R. Berry and D. Titheradge. However, this has not greatly affected our fencing standard as our results show.

The Club is very grateful to Bishop, who has presented a shield for the best junior fencer of the year, and to Berry, who has donated a cup to be awarded to the best stylist of the year.

I wish to place on record the gratitude of the Club to the Latista Club for in this organisation our boys find not only valuable training facilities, but also an extremely friendly and helpful attitude.

Results to date

28th September: *R.M.A. Sandhurst.* Away.
Foil 9—0, Epée 7—2, Sabre 6—3. WIN.

1st October: *Drayton Manor.* Home.
Foil 13—3. WIN.

8th October: *R.A.F. Halton.* Home.
Foil 9—0, Epée 7—2, Sabre 7—2. WIN.

12th October: *Brentwood.* Home.
1st team match—Foil 6—3, Epée 6—3, Sabre 5—4. WIN.
2nd team match—Foil 5—4, Epée 2—7, Sabre 5—4. LOST.
Junior match—Foil 10—17. LOST.
The match with Brentwood was fought minus two of our strongest fencers—R. Butler (Epée) and D. Eden (Foil).

Future fixtures

Further fixtures this term include one with R.A.F. Cranwell, one with Tonbridge School and another with the Lycée Français. The results of these and any others will be announced in the next number of The Link.

M. T. BURNESS, 5Tau, Cj *(Hon. Secretary)*....

FIVES

Captain: N. A. Ratcliffe, U6, Cc. *Hon. Secretary:* C. M. Fogg, U6, Gd.

At the end of last term the Individual and the House Championships were held. N. Ratcliffe beat C. Fogg in the final of the Individual and the order in the House Championships was: 1st Cromwell, 2nd Gibbon, 3rd Pitt, 4th Morley.

Only two of last year's team remain but the last two places are being strongly contested by D. Flint, R. Alder and K. Nebbett. Last year the team finished 2nd in the Marchant Cup, the best the School has done since 1953. N. Ratcliffe played for London. At the time of writing no matches have been played but the team is quietly confident that they will improve on last year's result.

The team would like to thank Mr. Finbow, Fives Master, and Mr. Bloss, an old Fives Captain of the School, for the time they have given up.

Any boy who wishes to learn to play Fives will be welcomed, and should see the Secretary in Room 17.

C. M. FOGG, U6, Gd.

GYMNASTICS CLUB

The Gym Club, I am glad to say, is more active this term than last. As you probably remember, last year at the Eisteddfod, gymnastics was given a section. The various house teams are now in training for the next Eisteddfod. There are, however, still a few vacancies for keen boys who would like to take part.

The Gym Club meets at 4 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays. All who are interested are welcome.

ROGER G. TWYMAN, L6, Cb *(Secretary)*.

FIRST XV RUGBY

The current 1st XV has shown a distinct improvement on those of recent years. The team as a whole has proved to have more spirit and has shown less of the apathy, which has been so painfully apparent in previous years. Practices have commanded a larger attendance than last year and the team has exhibited little of the defeatist attitude, which in recent years has been a major cause of deplorable and humiliating records. One can only hope that this is a manifestation of the revival of the spirit which once caused the name of the School to be regarded with some apprehension in school Ruby circles.

The scrum has been reorganised into a fiery, competent unit, which, in spite of a certain lack of weight, has given the backs far more than their share of possession. Unfortunately, the backs have shown a lack of cohesion. Individual speed and ability have not been enough, although the relatively few chances the wings have received have proved them to be a potent and exceedingly dangerous factor. It must be hoped that this notable improvement continues. The resources are not lacking, and more practice must surely ensure at least an improved record.

The team as a whole extend their thanks to Mr. Eaton, who has donated his time freely in order to improve the standard of play, and their congratulations to D. M. Holdich, the Captain of School Rugby, who gained a place in the final trial for the Surrey team. We hope that he will gain a county cap.

F. R. SHONS, U6, Gc *(Secretary)*.

COLTS RUGBY

With the start of the present Rugby season, the Colts XV had the very great pleasure of welcoming back Mr. Bourton as team coach. We all knew Mr. Bourton after he had trained us two years ago as the Under 13's, the season of our successful Welsh tour. Mr. Bourton's popularity with the team, I am sure, will help us to emulate the successes of the last two seasons.

At the beginning of term there was great interest in a proposed tour to Nottingham, but unfortunately the odds were against the scheme owing to the difficulty of obtaining accommodation. Nevertheless, *Nottingham G.S.* are coming to play us when they tour the London area, and Mr. Morris, our old coach, will be with them.

We have played, so far this season, five matches, all of which have been won decisively. Our first match was against *Marylebone G.S.*, which we won by 26 points to 3. The forwards went straight into action and were always up with the loose ball, though unfortunately the three-quarters did not combine as well as expected. We then played our first fixture against *Mitcham C.G.S.*, which we won comfortably by 29 points to nil. By now the three-quarters were getting into the swing of the game. Mitcham kicked off, our new scrum-half, M. J. Kelly, took the ball cleanly and after evading a tackle passed out to M. D. Bland. Bland, with a brilliant run, went through the core of Mitcham's defence and touched down between the posts, thus opening the scoring within 30 seconds.

Next on the list was *William Ellis,* whom we met at our stronghold, Beverley Meads, having never lost a match at home. We beat them by 36 points to 3 in a match in which everyone played well. Then, on a dismal Saturday afternoon, we faced the power of the *Bec G.S.* forwards in conditions suited to forward play. In this encounter the whole team combined to give a delightful display of open play which impressed all those present. We beat the Bec by 22 points to nil, this being above our expectations in such weather, especially as R. C. Herbert, open-side wing forward, went off just after half-time with an ankle injury that had been bothering him all through the first half.

The last match that I can report on was against *St. Olave's,* whom we beat 37 points to 3. In a disappointing match in which the three-quarters did not play as well as the week before, all tries were scored from ragged play by both sides, and often it was the boot alone that brought us within penetrating distance of the St. Olave's line.

The team has stayed much the same as last year, the only outstanding change being the replacement of R. W. Scrivens (scrum-half) by M. J. Kelly. R. Barrett and R. Taylor continue to serve the team as first reserves, and are still considered as regular players. D. W. Gentle came in as scrum-half when Kelly was hooking against St. Olave's, and unfortunately received a leg injury and spent about 15 minutes of the first half on the touch-line. Congratulations to E. M. Muller (Vice-Captain), who was selected to play for the 1st XV against the Elliott.

The team trains every Wednesday evening, as well as Thursday afternoons, when there is circuit training, and specialised training in passing, side-stepping, tactics and so on. A keener spirit towards training is being shown on Wednesday evenings.

As for our future matches, there are some attractive fixtures with good Rugby schools. On Saturday, November 5th, we play *Dulwich College,* and, if we can judge from last season's match, there should be plenty of fireworks in this fixture. We also have a new fixture against *Reigate G.S.* which should prove to be a test of our unbeaten home record. On November 12th we are due to play *Chiswick G.S.,* away, and although we beat them 20—0 last season, they possess large powerful forwards who might, on their own ground, overpower our small mobile pack. There should be good fixtures against *Eltham Green* and *Hampton G.S.* We hope in future to see plenty of supporters who are keen on the game to see how we are playing, and help us keep a high standard.

Late result: v. Raines Foundation, won 45—0.

P. LARKIN, 4Pi, Cb *(Captain).*

JUNIOR RUGBY

The fixture list this season includes new fixtures against Reigate Grammar School, Kilburn Grammar School and Raines Foundation School. These will provide strong opposition and will make demands of everyone. However, early form against traditional rivals, Bec, William Ellis, Mitcham and St. Olave's shows great promise. Last season it was evident that we could win because of our very sound pack who generally steam-rollered their way to victory. A fast set of backs began to develop only towards the end of the year. So far this season the forwards have continued this approach preferring to take the ball with them rather than to obtain possession for their three-quarters. Accordingly, victories have been narrow: 6—3 against William Ellis, 6—5 versus St. Olave's, 9—6 in the Bec game. We deserved to win these games and the forwards, admirably led by G. Wood, have an excuse because of the poor handling conditions. Indeed we have had only one fine day when we played Marylebone, which we won 67—0. But there is real power in the three-quarters where our Captain, D. J. Ryall, at centre-three is quite capable of punching great holes in any defence if given the ball. So, in future, forwards, when Marshall hooks in the tight, and he does this pretty often, and when Wood, Smithson and Hayward gain possession in the line, get it *back*! Again, when Shaw calls "Heel," *heel*!

A. Christou, this year's Vice-Captain, plays his usual reliable game, and M. G. Coward has been evident everywhere—an ideal open-side wing forward. At full-back, R. Whanslaw has kicked well and seems to be settling down in this position.

We still have not battled against Chiswick (who beat us 10—5 last year), and our fixture against Dulwich will not be until December.

Results:—

Marylebone G.S. (Home)	Won 67—0
Mitcham G.S. (Away)	Won 18—9
William Ellis G.S. (Away)	Won 6—3
Bec G.S. (Home)	Won 9—6
St. Olave's G.S. (Away)	Won 6—5
John Fisher (Home)	Won 21—3
Reigate G.S. (Away)	Won 25—0
Henry Mellish (Home)	Won 9—3

P.M.R.T.

UNDER 13 RUGBY

Looking back over the past few weeks we are impressed by how well this small bunch of lads have already combined with one another to make a very good Rugby fifteen. We have only had five matches this season, winning three, and losing to Bec and John Fisher, who played a third form team.

Now we must prepare ourselves for a hard match against Dulwich. This is a side we shall really have to watch, as they are a very strong team. But, since we are playing at home, I am sure the team will all do their very best.

R. D. BULL, 2Ga, Gc *(Captain)*.

SOCCER

This year, for the first time in the history of Wandsworth School, we are fielding five soccer teams.

In the last edition of The Link, Mr. B. M. Williams wrote that he hoped soccer would be played throughout the School this year, but unfortunately this is still not so. Soccer is played in the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th forms as organised games, but not as yet in the 1st and 2nd forms. This break of two years from Primary School soccer until boys reach the 3rd form is, I think, regrettable, and must surely affect our soccer standard as against other schools.

We were very sorry to lose Mr. Williams, who has gone to a new post in Dartford. We are, however, very fortunate to have such a keen and capable member of the staff as Mr. H. W. Jetten to take on the hard task of starting and running the five School teams.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Parents Association for their generous gift of two sets of very smart soccer shirts.

It is encouraging to see so many boys turning up regularly to the after-school training sessions. The Friday evening practice, which is devoted to the Under-14 and Under-13 teams, is entered into with as much enthusiasm as the competitive Saturday games themselves. The 1st, 2nd and Under-15 practise on a Monday evening.

Our results so far this season have been rather varied:—

1st XI—Played 3, Won 1, Lost 2. Goals for 7, against 15.
2nd XI—Played 2, Lost 2. Goals for 5, against 11.
Under-15 XI—Played 2, Drawn 1, Lost 2. Goals for 6, against 11.
Under-14 XI—Played 3, Won 1, Lost 2. Goals for 11, against 12.
Under-13 XI—Played 2, Won 1, Drawn 1. Goals for 7, against 4.

Naturally, as soccer is a sport new to the School, we must expect to lose a few games, but I am certain that as the season goes on, we will prove that we can gain honours for Wandsworth School at our national game of soccer.

D. J. MORRISON, U6a, Ca *(Captain)*.

SWIMMING

At the end of the 1959 swimming season, Wandsworth School had made a big impression on the swimming fraternity.

In the London Schools Swimming Championships D. Thys came second in the one length breast stroke under 13. B. Jones finished third, as did T. Coglan and J. Moore in the 15-18 year breast stroke, butterfly and back-stroke respectively. G. Cramp, our diving expert, came third in both the diving events.

The School medley relay team (J. Moore, B. Jones, T. Coglan, J. Pinnock) finished second in the 15-18 age group after a very close race.

In the district team race, five out of the six were from this School, and Wandsworth finished first. The five team members were J. Pinnock, T. Coglan, B. Jones, D. Goddard, J. Moore.

The next fixture for the School swimmers was the Wandsworth Borough Schools Championships. The results were: Under 14—2 lengths Crawl, 1st A. Haywood; Under 17—3 lengths Crawl, 2nd J. Pinnock; Under 13—1 length Breast Stroke, 1st T. Neaser; Under 17—3 lengths Breast Stroke, 2nd B. Jones; Under 13—1 length Back Stroke, 2nd J. Wood; Under 15—3 lengths Back Stroke, 2nd R. Harris; Under 17—3 lengths Back Stroke, 1st J. Moore; Under 17—3 lengths Butterfly, 1st T. Coglan. In the team races the Under-15 medley relay team came 3rd and the Under-17 medley and free-style teams we came in first.

The School won the Senior Boys' Trophy.

Following this the London Grammar Schools Gala was held, and once again we did well. We captured the Intermediate Shield (14-16 years), but failed to retain our Junior Shield owing to larger representation from other schools. In the senior age group (under 18) we could not hope to succeed owing once more to the lack of representation from this School.

On the 11th and 13th of October respectively the Junior and Senior Galas were held. The results were:—

Juniors: 1st Diving, G. Cramp. 1st Back Stroke, J. Moore; 2nd T. Coglan. 1st Free Style, J. Moore; 3rd T. Coglan. 1st Butterfly, J. Moore; 5th T. Coglan. Boys' Relay, 2nd Wandsworth.

Seniors: 1st Back Stroke, J. Moore. 1st Butterfly, J. Moore. 3rd Men's Relay, Wandsworth.

On September 12th the London Schools Swimming Association held its trials to see who would swim for them in the English Schools Championships at Huddersfield in the Half-Term holidays. J. Moore was selected to swim in the 15-18 years age group in the Back Stroke T. Coglan failed to be selected.

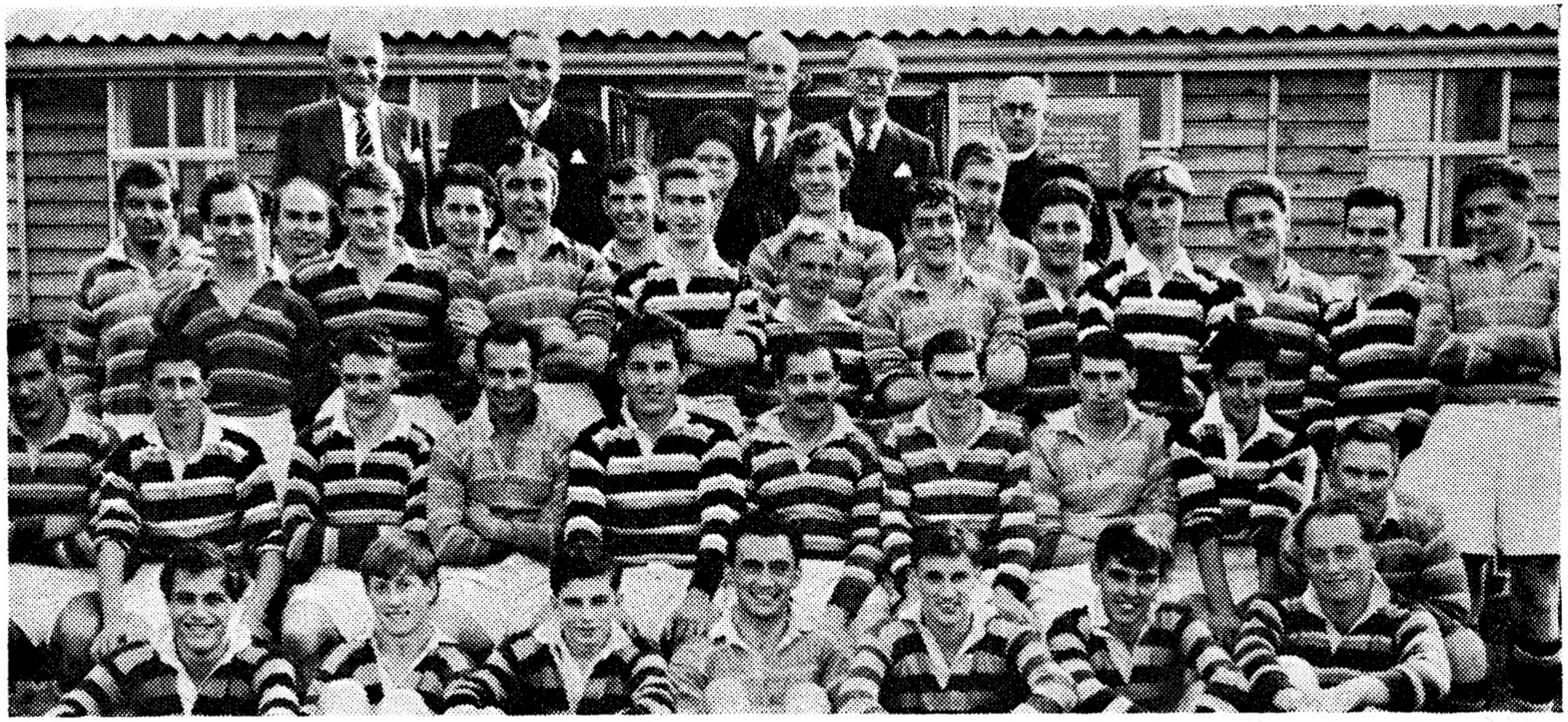
Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Coate-Bond, for it has been he who has been the driving force behind the School swimming. Also I would like to extend my thanks to John Pinnock, who, until leaving the School in July, was a very capable School Swimming Captain.

J. G. MOORE, L6, Mi *(Captain)*.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

OFFICIAL OPENING OF SPORTSGROUND

Saturday, 24th September, 1960, will undoubtedly rank as the most important day in the history of the Association, for in the presence of a



Official Opening of the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Ground.
Tommy Joyce, His Worship the Mayor, Rev. A, R. Winnett, Stan Fairey and the Headmaster pose with the O.W. 1st and 2nd XV's in front of the new pavillion.

Photo by courtesy of "Wandsworth Boro' News"

benevolently warming sun and some 350 people, the pavilion and ground were officially declared opened by Mr. A. T. (Tommy) Voyce, former England forward and President of the R.F.U., and dedicated to the memory of Old Wandsworthians who died in the World Wars by the Rev. Dr. A. R. Winnett, who himself is an O.W.

In addition to these distinguished guests the Mayor of Wandsworth was also present, and all of these, together with the Headmaster and Stan Fairey paid their tributes to the imagination which had led to the acquisition of this delightful site, and to the immeasurable amount of selfless labour by which many people had brought the project to fruition. Invidious though it may be, where so many had done so much, the technical skills and advice given freely by Vernon Barrow and Wally Slater deserved special recognition, and this had been done by proposing that these two Old Boys be elected Vice-Presidents of the Association.

Although it was our own members who carried out the brunt of the "hard labour" in erecting the pavilion and getting the grounds in trim, an immense debt of gratitude is owed to the other bodies associated with the School for the keen interest that they have taken in bringing the ground into existence and for their valued support by way of financial contributions and donations in kind. The Association would hereby acknowledge with grateful thanks the ready assistanse given in so many directions by the Headmaster, the Staff and the School; by the Parents Association (ever-present friends in time of trouble); by the Wandsworthians' Lodge; and by all those not specifically mentioned, yet greatly appreciated.

And now to the future. It is one thing to have established the ground, but continued and undiminished efforts will be needed to keep it in existence. It is comforting knowledge that the support of our many friends will be backing us up in the years to come.

1960 FETE RESULT

With the final tottings up of the Summer Fete almost complete, it is clear that this year's proceeds set a new record in which the School, Staff, Parents and Old Boys can all take pride and satisfaction. We shall soon be planning the 1961 Fete when we dare to hope that we may reach a target of £500 for the first time. It is not too soon to be thinking of next July now, and all Old Boys are asked to consider just how they can bring their best efforts to bear.

RUGGER CLUB

There seems every possibility that we shall be running four teams *regularly* this season, and the Club's vitality augurs well for the maximum economic use of the ground. Recruitment from school-leavers is satisfactory, but of course we can never have *too* many new-comers into our ranks. As for many seasons past, it is again pleasant to note that that we are able to give games on occasions to members of the School teams. A word of appreciation is not out of place here to the School players and those stalwart members of the Staff who provided the opposition for the games at the Opening of the Ground, mentioned above. The great success of the day was due in no small measure to "family" atmosphere which these matches provided.

ANNUAL DINNER, 1961

Attendance at our next Dinner is expected to be larger than ever and Old Boys who have not already done so are advised to send in their names to Ian Maclean as soon as possible. His address is 106, Alfriston Road, S.W.11. The date to book in your diary is Friday, 20th January. Even with increased accommodation at our new venue numbers may well have to be limited, so book early.

WANDSWORTHIANS' LODGE NO. 5365

Particular pleasure was given to members at the regular meeting of the Lodge at the Ardington Rooms on Friday, 7th October, when Bro. George Elms was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. Bro. Arthur Ferris and Bro. George Banks were elected to the offices of Senior and Junior Warden respectively. Drawing its membership primarily, as it does, from Old Wandsworthians, the Lodge values very greatly those of its members from the School Staff. George Elms is the third such member to occupy the Chair of the Lodge during its 28 years' history, his predecessors being the late P. H. Phillimore and Dr. Waite.

Another change of office which took place on this occasion was that Director of Ceremonies, W. Bro. Freddie Maughan, after having given sterling services in this capacity for several years, relinquished his duties, and W. Bro. Stan Fairey was appointed as successor.

D.C.F.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Dear Parents,

I was very pleased to welcome, on behalf of the Parents' Council, the parents of new boys at the School to membership of the Wandsworth School Parents' Association. Apart from the pleasure of making the acquaintance of new friends amongst them, this annual transfusion of " new blood " brings with it new ideas and new helping hands. After the meeting on the 30th September at the School I was most gratified to find that a number of parents kindly offered their services to the Parents' Council to assist us in the running of our various functions.

This term has been an especially memorable one in two ways: it has seen the official opening and dedication of the Old Wandsworthians' Memorial Sports Ground and the handing over of the organ. Each of these occasions has marked the attainment of a lofty target: each of them has been fulfilled by the trojan efforts of the few and the generosity of the many. We shall continue to have ample opportunity to enjoy these two wonderful supplements to the School's facilities.

The Whist Drive on the 14th October, whilst something of an experiment, proved to be a success—both socially and financially. It was very well attended and everybody had a most enjoyable time. For the organisation of this event we owe our thanks to our new Social Secretary, Mr. J. G. Calvert.

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

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