

the link

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CLOSING DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE : **THURSDAY, 2nd JUNE, 1960.**

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 March, 1960 No. 1

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

It is probable that the Crowther Report, published at the end of 1959, will come to be regarded as one of the most important education documents of the Twentieth Century. As a blue-print for educational expansion during the next twenty years, it will exercise a powerful formative influence on secondary and further education.

Its most important recommendations are the raising of the age for compulsory schooling to 16 (already provided for in the Act of 1944) and the establishment of County Colleges for compulsory part time continued education for all up to 18 (first recommended in the Fisher Act of 1918).

The Crowther Committee welcomes the development of schools like Wandsworth as " pace-setters " in the trend towards a longer school life and in the provision of greater variety in secondary education.

Our example and that of other similar schools has been considered in some quarters as likely to make unnecessary the actual compulsion to stay at school until 16. The majority of pupils will sensibly stay of their own accord, realising that there are but poor prospects in the scientific and technological world of the coming generation for the uneducated and unskilled. Further, that the place and time for gaining the necessary rudiments are in full-time schooling. The broad nation-wide investigations of the Crowther Committee establish the fact, previously emphasised in these notes, that the premature leaver has little chance of improving his qualifications by evening study. Boys must reach at least a moderate fifth form standard before they can begin to profit by part-time studies. The failure-rate among premature leavers is extremely heavy.

The general impression left by a reading of the Report is that we at Wandsworth are furthest along the road to implementing its recommendations: full time education until 16, the " alternative way " (i.e. technical) to the Sixth Form, and the organic link with further education in technical colleges and institutes.

On February 2nd we were visited by Mr. Kenneth Thompson, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education. It was his first visit to a comprehensive school and, as he subsequently wrote, he was greatly impressed. To resolve the previous doubts of a man who is second to the Minister of Education himself is an educational service that Wandsworth is well fitted to perform.

Through B.B.C. Television we gained unexpected and unsolicited publicity for our Russian Courses on February 1st. The matter of teaching Russian in schools had been raised in a meeting of the L.C.C. and the B.B.C. were quick off the mark to demonstrate it on the television screen. The Chairman of the L.C.C. Education Committee came along to take part in the occasion.

Mr. W. H. George is the new President of the L.T.A. (London Teachers Association). His admirable presidential address received wide public notice.

We congratulate him upon the influential office to which he has come through his vigorous championship of the cause of better provision, conditions, and educational opportunity for all children.

I am pleased to record that R. C. Newman, Joint Captain of Cromwell House, has been awarded a Modern Language travelling Scholarship for three months in France in the summer.

At half-term we lost the valuable services of Mr. P. Shea, Form Master of 2 tau, who has been appointed Deputy Head of John Keats School, and Mr. B. E. Coleman, who leaves us for the headship of the Physical Education Department at a new large school at Abbey Wood. Though sorry to lose both, we are pleased to see Wandsworth masters given such important promotions.

We welcome new members of the Staff: Mr. C. W. Lovecy (in place of Mr. Shea) and Mr. M. Wahhab to fill the gap in our Engineering Department left by Mr. Robson. Mr. Horsfield, B.A., Oxon., has replaced Mr. Morris, and Mr. Groves, Mr. Shilliday. Mr. Glasswell has taken over from Mr. Ranasinghe who was temporarily with us in the Autumn Term, and Mr. Brown from British Columbia and Mr. Smith, B.A. Oxon., have temporarily joined the Mathematics Staff.

During the term Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Thomas joined the staff temporarily to fill the place of members absent through long illness. Since half-term we have had the services of Mr. Llewellyn Williams, who like Sir Richard Acland and Mr. James Johnson before him, has had considerable experience as a Member of Parliament.

Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Swords are on leave for special studies until next September, when Mr. Austin, Mr. Bourton and Mr. Gouldstone will also rejoin us.

For the second year running the *Times Educational Supplement* gave pride of place in its section on school dramatics to the Wandsworth School Play. Indeed the School's production of Brecht's "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" was acclaimed by well-known critics as a dramatic "event". *The Observer* had very favourable comment and *The Times* itself gave half a column on January 1st to an account of the School's achievement. To Mr. Waters and his colleagues and to the School Dramatic Society any praise from me would be superfluous.

"Field Day for Wandsworth" ran a banner headline in the *Times Educational Supplement* of February 13th. A full page of text and pictures described the School A and B teams' Cross Country triumph at Bexley Heath. Discerning and deserved recognition was given in full measure to Mr. Clark whose expert skill and enthusiasm had enabled the School to field such outstanding teams. Halliday, the winner, was pictured at the finish and highly praised in the article.

We again have to thank the Parents' Council for generous help. In addition to subsidising the week-end Fencing School at Bisham Abbey, they have provided sets of School football shirts for 1st and 2nd Elevens and for 1st and 2nd Basketball teams.

Both Association Football and Basketball are among our newer games, to which others will doubtless be added to provide eventually an almost unlimited choice. For accounts of our continued successes in Fencing, I must refer you to the relevant section of this issue.

The installation of the new Electronic Organ in the Grand Hall during the week end after Half Term came just in time for these notes. I must add, for the record, that it was first heard at an inaugural concert on 12th March together with orchestra and the School Semi-Chorus.

The Organ Fund has almost reached the half-way mark: £500. Thanks are due to many individuals for their generosity and to many Tutor Sets and Forms for their efforts. Cromwell B, for example, put on a cinema show at close of school for a week and with a modest entrance fee of 3d. raised a quite substantial amount. The Stamp Club had an auction that realised £4. A most encouraging generosity was shown by the audiences at the two Christmas

concerts who responded to the voluntary collection at the close of the performances. The magnificent singing of the School Choir, to the accompaniment of the wonderful Orchestra Mr. Burgess had assembled, thrilled the heart and the audience responded with generous warmth.

Royal Life Saving Society Bronze Crosses have been gained by the following boys: M. W. Allpress, J. H. Arkill, W. R. Austin, A. M. Bastick, B. J. Carney, R. H. Dawson, P. H. Everton, J. Piears, and F. J. Musty.

Air Vice Marshal K. B. Lloyd, C.B., C.B.E., A.F.C., sent a personal letter of thanks to Cromwell C for their fine effort in raising £9 for the British Empire Cancer Campaign, " being the monies they received for their labours among the householders of the vicinity."

The Sixth Form were privileged to have a series of four talks on the Far East by Professor Beasley and three of his colleagues from the School of Oriental and African Studies of London University.

We acknowledge with thanks the gift of a number of books for the School Library from the Embassy of the Czecho-Slovak Republic.

Gifts to the Library have also been received from Mr. Makin and from George Willis, last year's Head Boy, who presented a particularly handsome volume on Paris. Gifts have also been received from D. Beer, L6, Gb; B. C. Calverley, 2 Sigma, G; R. G. Cunningham, 4 kappa, Gj; M. V. Hamp, L6, Ph; C. Smart, U6, Pc (including a 10-volume set of the Children's Encyclopaedia); M. A. Susman, L6, Pf; and R. A. Young, L6, Pc.

From a letter from the Hon. General Secretary of the London Schools' Swimming Association:

" On behalf of the L.S.S.A. I should like to congratulate your swimming team on the fine performance they put up in winning the Schoolboy Team Championship of England . . . it made a proud moment for all those interested in swimming in the London Schools. It says much for the standard of teaching in your school that the team should have gained such a victory against the finest teams in the country."

Those who recollect David Roland Jenkins will be interested to hear that he was made a Deacon by the Archbishop of York in the Cathedral on Sunday, 20th December, 1959. He is attached to the parish of the St. John, Middlesbrough.

The following appointments have been made since the last issue of " The Link ":—

Sub-prefects: A. E. Hearne (G), S. G. Halsey (G), D. R. Haslam (G), G. C. Cope (P), J. P. Cowdrey (C), I. A. Cobb (P), P. Padginton (P).

Pro-prefects: A. B. R. Seneviratne (C), K. P. A. Newcomb (G), J. H. Halliday (G).

Library Prefects: G. L. Jones, R. C. Hardy, B. Weltman.

I should like to thank Messrs. K.L.G. Ltd. for their gift of a drafting board. It will be a great asset to all concerned with Technical Drawing.

EDITORIAL

The perennial problem for the Editorial Committee of this magazine is how to encourage more interesting, more varied and more representative material. Many of you have no doubt wondered what type of boy contributes most of the material; do the majority of contributions come from older or younger boys, from the more or the less academic? If we take material submitted to last term's edition as a typical example, the pattern seems quite significant. Only miscellaneous contributions are here being considered—we do not include club, sports, house or other official notes, nor the Editorial, which were written mainly by sixth formers who had no option but to do them.

From the four *Upper Sixth* forms we received and accepted three contributions only, all from U6Sc, not Arts. From the *Lower Sixths* one article was received from L6A, one from L6Sc and one from L6T, and the last one only was accepted. Out of the ten Fifth forms, one combined article was made of contributions by six boys in *5 Pi, Alpha* and *Iota,* a poem was

accepted from *5 Theta* and an account rejected from *5 Epsilon;* the remaining five forms made no contribution. Contributions were submitted by only four of the fourteen Fourth forms, *4 Pi, Nu, Epsilon* and *Eta,* though contributions from Nu and Eta were either accepted or held over. Then from the whole of the Third year, fifteen forms, came only one poem, from *3 Rho,* which was not accepted. Second forms did much better, producing 11 poems and one account, but even here all the material came from 5 out of 14 forms; *Form 2,* and *2 Nu, Omega, Iota* and *Epsilon.* From the fourteen First forms we received 23 poems, 3 articles, 2 accounts and 2 stories; these came from 6 different forms: *Form 1,* and *1 Gamma, Nu, Theta, Iota,* and *Delta.* One Delta in fact produced more material than any other class in the school (13 entries), and also had as much accepted as any (2 entries accepted, 2 held over for further consideration).

One might expect the main core of contributions to come from third, fourth and fifth forms. However, apart from one interesting composite article on Coffee Bars, the Fifth produced only one poem and one story. Then in the Fourth forms we find 4 Eta doing far more than Form 4. But the most disappointing result was the one solitary (not very good) contribution from the whole of the Third Year, and that again not from an academic form, but from a technical one. The most welcome sign is the response from the Lower School, where eleven forms gave in contributions and five had something printed. We particularly congratulate 1 Delta, with 1 Nu and 2 Nu also making quite good efforts—and none of these would have been expected to be the most literary Lower School form!

Obviously, none of our readers can do anything about this term's edition, but we hope we can look forward to many more contributions, especially from the Main School, for next term. The Committee are anxious to make the magazine really good—that means having plenty of material to choose from —and also to make it representative of the school—and that means having material from every part of the school. Remember, this magazine can only be as good as you make it.

N. C. BISHOP, U6A, Cb.

For the series of "Contemporary Quotations" elsewhere in this edition we are indebted to J. H. Cousins (U6Ec, Pb), who, with other prefects, has been diligently collecting an anthology of Wandsworthian wit.

"CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE"

The plays of Berthold Brecht are not, conventionally, suitable for production by schools. Last term's staging of "The Caucasian Chalk Circle," however, completely justified the flaunting of convention, and the imagination of Mr. Roy Waters, who produced the play.

"The Caucasian Chalk Circle" is a profound indictment of western society, at the heart of which Brecht finds an utter inhumanity which its hypocritical forms, of morality, law and religion, fruitlessly attempt to conceal. This vast theme was presented in the form of a fable, narrated on the stage by a storyteller (J. W. Tarkowski), who introduced each scene and commented upon the action of the play. In the first act we were told the story of Grusha (J. A. Lally), a peasant woman whose straightforward human concern leads her to disaster, through a masterly sequence of scenes, forming a journey, almost a pilgrim's progress, which probe the meaning of the story-teller's words "Terrible is the temptation of goodness." In the second act the story of Azdak (M. Adiseshiah), the rascal made judge who finally rescues Grusha, exposes the hypocrisy which disguises the truths which the first act has revealed, the injustice paraded as law.

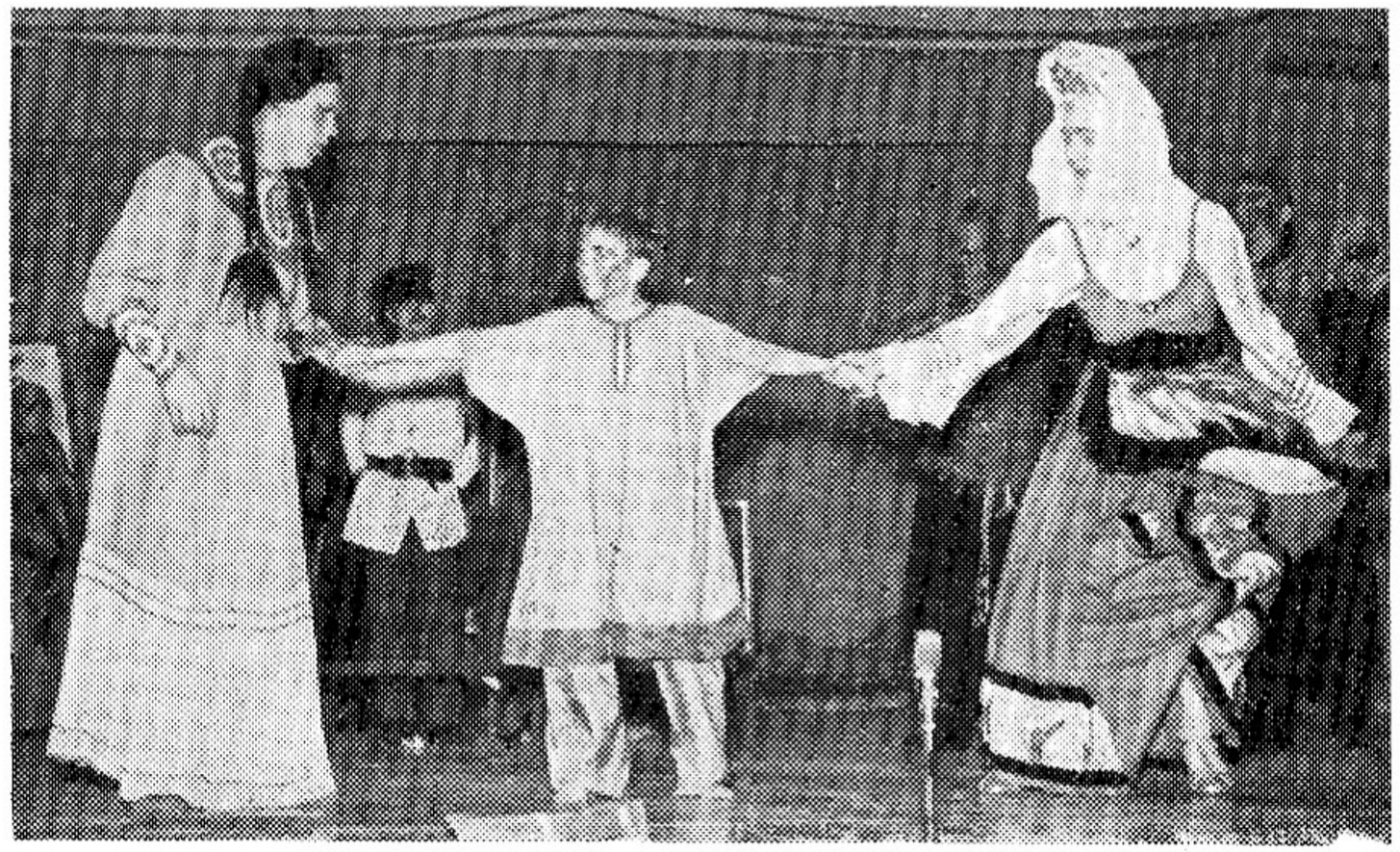
A performance of this play can only be judged properly in terms of the force and clarity with which its theme is put across to an audience, and it

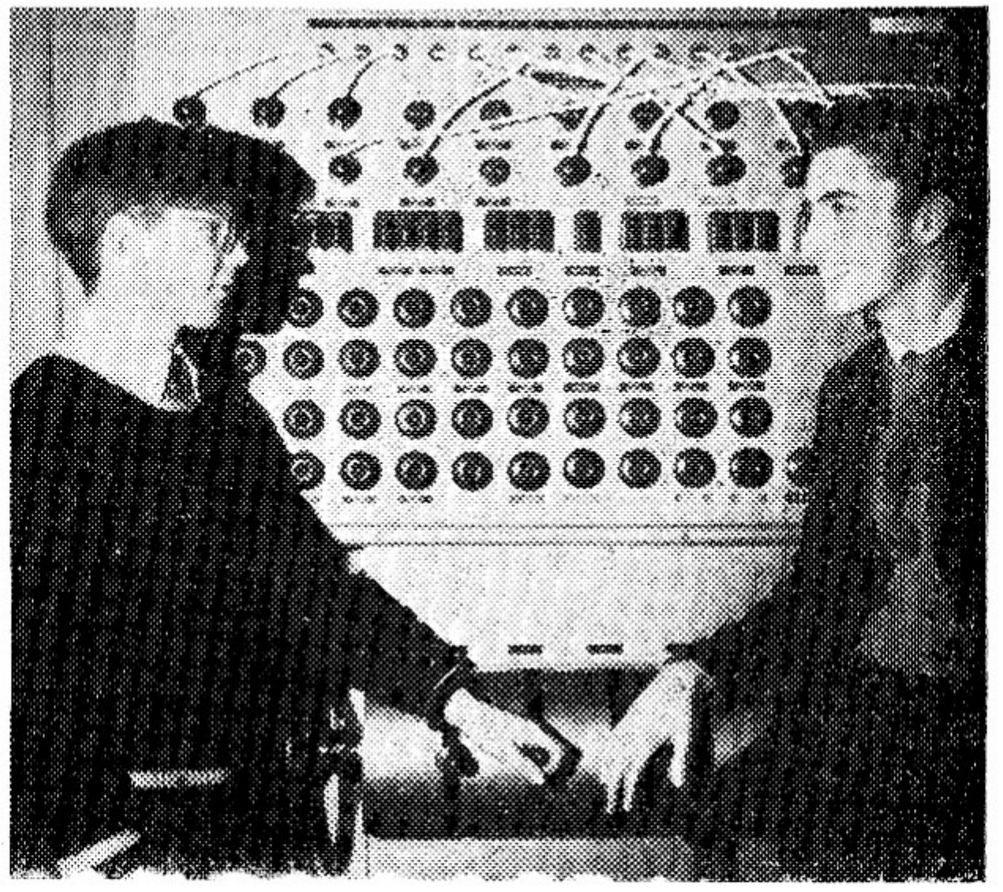












"The Caucasian Chalk Circle" — On stage and behind the scenes

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

was exactly in this respect that the unusual merit of the school's production lay. Many of the ideas are conveyed through ridicule and bitter humour and it was in its treatment of this aspect of the play that Roy Waters' production was particularly convincing. The exhilarating acting of the Ironshirts (R. C. Newman, R. E. W. Grant, A. R. Nicholls, and R. J. Pooley); the parody of R. C. Dirs as the Governor's wife; the singing of D. A. Stewardson in the wedding scene; the finely judged performance of P. M. T. Gillingham as Azdak's friend and confidant; and the intensely exciting acting at the play's climax, where the ridicule is suddenly, for a moment, broken by Grusha's passionate outburst; all made an extremely powerful impact. The production of the wedding scene, in particular, was a remarkable piece of meaningful staging, the guests clustered together around a drunken singer while, apart, by the bedside of a supposedly dying man, an equally drunken monk, acted with great zest by L. B. Levene, executed a satanic dance. Central in the bitter humour of the play, especially the second act, is the character of Azdak and M. Adiseshiah's performance was as dominating as his part. His command of movement and gesture and the enthusiasm with which he acted gave the figure of the drunken, perverse, yet just judge a conviction which a trained actor might have found hard to equal.

But humour is only one of Brecht's means and Grusha's character, in particular, is in severe contrast to Azdak's fooling. Some of the quieter scenes were less satisfactory than the rest of the production, but J. A. Lally, in the very difficult part of Grusha, gave the best performance of all. Again his command of movement and gesture was exceptional, particularly of characteristically feminine movements which could excusably be ignored in a male impersonation, a skip of joy or a slight submissive inclination of the head. More impressive still was his ability to express the combination of simple-mindedness and self-awareness in Grusha's character without the slightest trace of sentimentality, the most difficult of all the aspects of this play, and others of Brecht's, to bring out successfully. His authority was a tribute to his own grasp of the character and the producer's ability to convey his intentions to the cast.

Among a cast who worked together so well it is impossible and unnecessary to single out individual performances but, among the principals, one must mention besides J. A. Lally and M. Adiseshiah, the reading of J. W. Tarkowski in the part of the story teiler. Brecht's vital commentary on the play's action came over strongly and clearly in his persuasive, restrained performance. This commentary is also expressed in the songs, sung tunelessly but, to my mind effectively, with the aid of a well conceived discordant musical score, matching their mood and purpose.

There remain two criticisms. In the second half of the play the speed and vigour of the performance was achieved at the occasional expense of the clarity of the words. This same zest, one of the virtues of the performance, had another more unfortunate consequence. When, for example, the Ironshirts entered with the head of the Governor on a pole, their enthusiastic revelry tended to obscure the bitterness of the scene. Similarly, the Governor's wife's preparations for flight were made very funny but without the necessary satirical bite. Without the underlying bitterness part of the play's statement can easily be slurred over, and occasionally the production made this mistake, though elsewhere, as in the treatment of Grusha's wedding, the double-edged humour was powerfully realised.

But this criticism only serves to redirect attention to the zest and life of the production. With its fine acting, evocative sets by Mr. G. A. Hoare, and the remarkably convincing direction of Roy Waters, it provided for the large audiences an exhilarating and provoking experience. One can only hope that many left the school to reflect on the message of this remarkable play.

M.A.

BOOKS TO TASTE

A Library Survey

In a typical week, over 1,000 of the 7,320 books in our school library are out on loan to boys. What kind of books are they? Who reads them all? Why do they choose them? Miss Mangan, our full-time Librarian, has recently undertaken with the help of her library prefects a full analysis of the use of the library, the results of which are summarised here.

How many of us use the Library?

Numbers of tickets issued (to date):—

1st forms	...	373 tickets, representing	88.0% of boys
2nd forms	...	384 tickets, representing	86.7% of boys
3rd forms	...	303 tickets, representing	71.6% of boys
4th forms	...	266 tickets, representing	66.1% of boys
5th forms	...	178 tickets, representing	67.6% of boys

Each boy holds one ticket only, and, though it costs him nothing, this is issued only if he asks for it. Of course, the fact that a large number of classes, especially junior ones, have a Library period on their timetable does encourage them to obtain a ticket and borrow books to take away. But it is still interesting to note that lessening enthusiasm around 14 or 15 follows the national trend. Our fourth forms show the lowest percentage, while interest improves slightly in the fifth year, no doubt with the needs of study for public examinations as an added incentive. Sixth formers do not need tickets to use the library, but almost 100% of them borrow books fairly regularly.

The use of the library as a lunch-hour reading room shows a quite different pattern. In a typical week 57 1st formers made use of their privilege on the Monday, while 76 2nd formers appeared on the Tuesday, and 131 3rd formers on Wednesday. This upward trend was reversed on Thursday, with 110 4th formers, while the drop to 31 5th formers on Friday is much greater than one would expect, even though there are fewer 5th formers altogether. But this lunch-time browsing is surely influenced by outside factors, such as the weather, the competition of other lunch-hour activities (including duties for some 5th formers), and even the starch content of a particular school dinner!

How many books do they borrow?

The use of the school library generally has increased steadily over the years since the new building was opened. In the first month after the library was opened, 270 books were borrowed, while this January the number was 1,285. As one might expect, numbers fluctuate throughout the seasons, and the Autumn is in fact the peak season, with November as peak month. Last November 1,910 books were borrowed.

During a typical week, books were taken out as follows:—

By 1st formers	...	...	...	134
By 2nd formers	...	...	...	106
By 3rd formers	...	...	...	28
By 4th formers	...	...	...	24
By 5th formers	...	...	...	19
By 6th formers	...	...	...	55
By staff	...	...	...	8
			Total	374

What do they read?

Of the 374 books in that typical week, 131 were fiction (i.e. 112 Junior

Fiction and 19 Senior Modern Fiction) and 243 were non-fiction books. Here again, Wandsworth reflects a national trend to read more non-fiction. Judged by the waiting list for it, the most popular book in the Library is " Aircraft of the World," by William Green. Generally, sports books (particularly those on football, swimming and fishing) and books on animals and birds are the most well-thumbed. Books on railways and travel books on countries to be visited by school parties are also very popular. In our typical week, 35 sports and hobbies books went out, compared with 33 on history, 32 about animals, 26 on geography and 26 science books, and 24 on railways and general engineering.

Why do they read?

Clearly, all sorts of outside influences conspire to change our reading habits. The recent spate of horror films has resulted in several requests for books which the School Library can hardly be expected to meet! When films like " Room at the Top " and the re-make of " The Thirty-nine Steps " were generally released, there was a much increased demand for the novels of John Braine and John Buchan. Publicity for Tennessee Williams' plays and films also meant that " Cat on a Hot Tin Roof " and " Baby Doll " had more eager readers than before. On the other hand the classics among Junior Fiction—" Treasure Island," " Tom Sawyer," " Black Beauty " and so on —remain in constant demand; though the many new historical stories are well read, and all sorts of adventure stories (including war stories) are always popular (in the typical week, 47 adventure stories were borrowed, as opposed to 26 classics and 24 historical novels in the Junior Fiction).

Reading for information is obviously also important, and must account for most of the non-fiction reading. In this, periodicals play their part. The Library subscribes to 33, apart from some donated, and these cover the interests of most school societies and subjects: " The Aeromodeller " is obviously more widely read than " The Economist," however. Then there are also the reference resources of the Library: the wide range of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, etc. is much used, and Miss Mangan receives many strange and interesting requests for information. Her favourite is the one for " something about the Pheasants' Revolt "!

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 1:

" I was reading a book the other day."

—Mr. Whellock.

MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas Concert has become such a local event that this year we needed a repeat performance and still sold out for both nights. Over 1,500 people heard an inspiring and often deeply moving performance.

The first half was devoted to carols and Vaughan Williams' Fantasia, a difficult but most rewarding work in which a number of carols is welded with great craftsmanship and imagination. The triumphant conclusion, in which our Choir of 160, strings, organ, piano and a jubilant peal of bells all joined in a great paean of exultation, emphasised not only how well this fine composer can write for voices, but also what a polished, professional sound this splendid choir makes.

The second part of the concert was devoted exclusively to selected parts of Handel's " Messiah." The overture was sparkling and vigorous and the chorus " And the glory of the Lord " was bold and exciting. The guest baritone soloist, both in the " Messiah " and in the Vaughan Williams, was Geoffrey Shaw, now studying at the R.C.M., and the contribution of his glorious voice to the evening was considerable. And it says much for the

beauty of Brian Sandford's voice that he lost nothing beside this fine professional singer.

" He was despised " was sung with poignancy and such beauty of tone as to be deeply moving, and Sandford's rendering of the middle section (" He gave his back to the smiters "), one of the best but rarely performed parts of the passion music, was exquisitely phrased and his powerful legato made a stark contrast to the scourging accompaniment of staccato strings. Here is a true counter-tenor and a perceptive musician who, in the future, will give great pleasure to many.



Mr. Burgess, Brian Sandford and part of the Orchestra and Choir at the Christmas Concert. ***Photo: Mr. Waters.***

The chorus " For unto us a child is born," with its difficult runs, was sung by the semi-chorus, a select group roughly the size of the choir that Handel would have used, whose clarity and attention to detail were impressive. In contrast we had " Worthy is the Lamb " and the " Hallelujah " chorus with full forces, drums and all: truly exhilarating.

Mr. Russell Burgess introduced the subject of the organ fund by playing a group of organ solos, and a collection added a further £44. The occasion was also taken by the choir to present their conductor with a magnificent gift, which for once left him speechless. But in his closing words, Mr. Burgess found voice to pay tribute to Mr. Coate-Bond, as business manager, to Raymond Pritchard and Richard Evans for loyal service behind the scenes, to Mr. Jack Kyte as organ accompanist and Mrs. Joan Hodgkinson as pianist, to Michael Coysh who took over the organ for some of the carols, most competently, and to Ian Cobb, the most talented musician in the school, who had sung and played both the violin and the tympani. Thus ended a wonderful evening, enjoyed by audience and performers alike.

ENGLISH CLUB

Two play visits and two meetings in school have to be accounted for from last Term. We saw "THE ASPERN PAPERS" at the recently refurbished Queen's Theatre. This is an adaptation of a Henry James novel by Michael Redgrave. If the adaptation is perhaps not completely successful, at least the splendid production and acting made this a most enjoyable evening. Michael Redgrave, Beatrix Lehman and especially Flora Robson gave three outstanding performances.

At the Westminster Theatre we saw the new play by Beverley Cross, "ONE MORE RIVER," a melodrama set on a cargo river-boat. The crew, resentful of the attitude of a first mate who has taken control after the former Captain's death, blame him for the death of one of the boys by scalding, and smear his past reputation. They give him a mock trial, but gradually come to realise that their accusations have been quite unfounded. At this point the drama was very tense. Fine performances were given by Paul Rogers as the bosun and Robert Shaw as the mate.

Of the two meetings in school last term, one was a successful play-reading of "The Cherry Orchard," and the other an introduction to the work of John Donne and his "school" of poets by Mr. Newson, illustrated with recordings and poems read by R. C. Newman.

This term's club meetings started with a playing of the ever-popular recordings of Dylan Thomas's "Under Milk Wood." Then we held a meeting entitled "Personal Choice," in which leading members of the Club read poems and passages from plays and prose of their own choice. We should like to thank D. P. Nathanson, M. Adiseshiah, J. Tarkowski, P. M. T. Gillingham and N. Bishop for their readings. Currently, we are reading the modern war play "The Long and the Short and the Tall," by Willis Hall.

Four of this term's six theatre visits have already taken place. The first two were to musicals, both satirical and forming an interesting comparison. We seemed to disagree with the critics about which was better. "MAKE ME AN OFFER" by Wolf Mankowitz, at the New Theatre, though a satire of life in the Portobello Road, seemed to lack real bite and point. "THE LILY WHITE BOYS" by Harry Cookson, at the Royal Court, we found to be a clever satire of the "Establishment" from a socialist point of view, based on the idea of three young thugs deciding it was more profitable to be businessmen or politicians than to rob old ladies. The lyrics, by Christopher Logue, were one of the best parts of the evening, and doubly interesting to us for the Brechtian style. This, and Lindsay Anderson's brilliant production and use of a film sequence of his own making, meant that we were especially interested to meet Lindsay Anderson himself during the interval: he and Christopher Logue had both been among the school's distinguished visitors to "Caucasian Chalk Circle." We certainly agreed that this production made a most exciting and enjoyable evening.

The visit to "ROSMERSHOLM" was one I was personally unable to attend. Henrik Ibsen's play at the Comedy proved difficult to follow but enjoyable, especially for the performances of Dame Peggy Ashcroft and Eric Porter. Those who went, however, could scarcely agree with critics who called this play "contemporary" in the issues it raised.

The most recent theatre visit at the time of writing was to "HENRY V—IN BATTLEDRESS." In spite of skilful use of the unusual stage of the Mermaid Theatre, this adaptation in khaki and with modern weapons did not quite come over. The original was considerably doctored and even the remaining part lost its poetry, especially Henry's. As a whole, the production lacked swiftness.

The other two theatre visits, to see "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and "Saint Joan," both at the Old Vic, will be reported next term.

J. A. LALLY, L6Ec, Ma.

SPEECH DAY, 1959

Speech Day was held on 12th November. The Chair was taken by the Chairman of the Governors, Lt.-Col. G. L. Matthews, O.B.E., T.D., and the proceedings began with the traditional Head Prefects' report. This was shared by A. J. R. Berry and M. Adiseshiah, and painted a glowing picture of the School's many successes throughout the year, so that one began to wonder if there was any activity in which the School does not excel. The Headmaster's report reinforced this impression. He noted the encouragingly large numbers of boys staying on after reaching 15, and a satisfactory upward trend in examination results. It was particularly pleasing to see many boys obtaining O-level passes who would have scarcely been expected to do so according to their abilities as measured at 11. The Headmaster also referred to the almost extravagant eulogies of education experts from all parts of the world who had visited the School over the year. Finally he drew our attention to the worthwhileness of the project to provide us with an electronic organ, and sought the support of all present for the £1,000 appeal.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. J. B. Dodge, after which the School was addressed by J. B. Dodge, Esq., D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C. He congratulated the choir, whom we had already heard performing with their usual polish, and spoke of the profound impression the reports of the School's recent successes had made upon him. He felt that our Elizabethan Age had its own spirit of adventure, akin to that of the first Elizabethan period. Our age demanded the imagination, initiative and endeavour he felt sure boys from Wandsworth would be able to offer.

After the votes of thanks had been proposed, the evening was concluded with the singing of the School Hymn and the National Anthem.

A.M.

PRIZE LIST, 1958-9

FORM PRIZES (For Diligence)

FORMS I

One—A. Christou.
Gamma—L. J. Eden.
Nu—J. C. J. Sobczak (Special Merit), K. G. Barker, C. H. Rowling.
Omega—K. D. Strugnell.
Theta—G. B. Goff, A. B. Griffiths.
Iota—K. Somers, J. Blanks.
Delta—T. Neaser, L. D. Green.
Sigma—D. G. Moorhouse, K. W. Hall.
Epsilon—R. Sturman.
Alpha—P. J. Davey, P. C. Clarke.
Upsilon—A. J. Dunkley.
Tau—R. J. Sullivan.
Omicron—M. G. Mundy, R. D. Roberts.

FORMS II

Two—M. C. Hutchison (Special Merit), J. R. Humphreys.
Gamma—J. A. Morris, G. F. Fenton, L. R. Cook.
Nu—N. M. Berry, D. J. Wherrett.
Omega—R. C. Herbert.
Theta—P. J. Jenkins, D. G. Denyer.
Iota—P. M. Wingate.
Delta—L. F. Pickett.
Eta—J. A. Hayward.

Sigma—M. A. Page.
Epsilon—M. R. Colbourne.
Alpha—P. E. Pearce.
Upsilon—R. Perry.
Omicron—R. A. Morris.

FORMS III

Three—M. R. Hali (Special Merit), I. McD. Donno, P. J. Fogg.
Pi—P. J. Dutch.
Alpha—D. A. Stagg, M. C. Bellamy.
Nu—A. E. Roles.
Theta—M. J. Wherrett.
Epsilon—J. T. Smith.
Omega—P. C. Howard.
Rho—R. A. Parker.
Eta—C. R. Green.
Tau—G. J. Cronk, R. F. Perry.
Kappa—K. Frankum.
Omicron—J. E. Dagnall.

FORMS IV

Pi—I. P. Evans (Special Merit), J. E. Oates, D. B. Newark.
Alpha—J. J. Jewkes, D. W. Golding, A. J. Green.
Nu—S. Nandanwar.
Theta—J. M. Pocock.
Epsilon—L. A. Gibbs.
Rho—E. T. Pettengell, D. W. Richards.
Omega—A. Thompson (Special Merit), P. J. Strangeman.
Tau—D. M. Snare.
Iota—S. S. L. Brown (Special Merit), C. C. Smith.
Kappa—B. D. Stone.

FORMS V

Upper Vth—J. A. Lally, D. C. Lloyd, M. Ginn.
Omega—M. Jardine (Special Merit), B. W. Murphy (Special Merit).
Eta—B. M. Walker.
Tau—S. H. Hashmi.
Iota—P. C. Moss.

SPECIAL PRIZES (For Merit in the G.C.E. Examination)

232 candidates were entered for the Ordinary Level of the G.C.E. Examination
172 were awarded certificates

FORMS V—ORDINARY LEVEL

UPPER VTH

R. Burt (Geography).
J. B. Dawkins (Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics).
M. P. Feast (English Language).
P. E. Francis (Latin and Applied Mathematics).
P. L. Friedlander (German).
J. F. Hillier (Technical Drawing).
L. B. Levene (English Literature).
J. E. Pinnock (Pure Mathematics).
B. V. Sandford (Music).
E. G. W. Slater (Biology, Physics, Religious Knowledge, Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics).

A. E. J. Styles (French, Chemistry, Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics).
R. A. Young (Art).

LOWER VTH

A. E. Chapman (English Literature).
M. A. Clenshaw (French).
G. J. Filbey (Pure Mathematics).
G. L. Jones (Religious Knowledge).
D. J. Morrison (Woodwork).
G. M. L. Rowe (History).
R. Whitear (Geography).

V IOTA

B. A. Johnson (Religious Knowledge).
A. B. Wilson (Human Biology).

TECHNICAL SECTION

BUILDING

J. H. Adams (Building Drawing and Physics).
A. S. Coutts (Painting and Decorating).
J. Craig (Geography and Woodwork).
B. M. Cullum (Surveying).
E. Halls (Brickwork).
D. R. Haslam (Practical Geometry).
G. C. A. Honeybone (Brickwork).
L. R. O'Sullivan (Carpentry and Joinery and Mathematics).
M. H. Passmore (English and Plumbing).
R. Smith (Art and English).
E. D. Truelove (Plumbing).

ENGINEERING

W. R. Austin (Physics and Aeronautics).
A. M. R. Bastick (Engineering Drawing and Workshop Practice).
M. Brian (Economic History).
R. I. Daines (Engineering Drawing).
B. A. Haith (Engineering Drawing).
A. W. Hyland (Mathematics).
R. E. Newark (Geography).
A. C. Pendelpho (Engineering Workshop Practice).
H. C. Shivers (Chemistry and Art).
S. F. L. Rowe (Special Prize—R.S.A. School Certificate).

LOWER VI

A. R. Berry (Economic History).
D. M. Holdich (Zoology and Botany).
J. C. Joiner (Physics and Applied Mathematics).
N. A. Ratcliffe (Zoology and Botany).
J. S. Young (Lower VIth Arts Course).

UPPER VI—ADVANCED LEVEL

C. J. Elliott (Chemistry).
L. R. Nobes (Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics).
S. J. J. Tyson (English).
B. J. Wagstaffe (Engineering Drawing).
G. W. Willis (French (Distinction) and German).

Chairman's Prize for Head Boys—P. N. Cassidy, G. W. Willis.
Wandsworthians Lodge Prize for Service—D. A. Stewardson.
Old Wandsworthians' Academic Prize—G. W. Willis.
Semmens Prize for Drama—P. N. Cassidy.
Parents' Association Service Prize for Games—Senior: D. A. Stewardson. Junior: S. England.
Emily Leaf Prize for International Service—M. Adiseshiah.
Special Prize for Music—K. A. Gerry.
Gordon Wort Prize for Athletics—Senior: J. H. Halliday. Junior: D. B. Newark.
Derek Ayshford Prize for Service to School Play—K. Newcomb and M. Poulter.
Special Prize for L.C.C. Modern Language Travel Scholarship (German)—G. W. Willis.
Handwriting Prize—J. Bankhead.

TROPHIES

"Parents' Council" Shield (Cricket)—Morley and Pitt House.
"Millar" Shield (Rugby)—Gibbon House.
"Waite" Shield (Swimming)—Morley House.
"Coronation" Shield (Cross-Country)—Gibbon House.
"Marcus Samuel" Shield (Athletics)—Pitt House.
"Culverwell" Shield (Chess)—Gibbon House.
"Parents' Jubilee" Shield (Fives)—Cromwell and Morley House.
"Couch" Shield (Work)—Morley House.
"Headmaster's" Trophy (Eisteddfod)—Pitt House.
"Culverwell" Challenge Cup (Chess)—A. Bari.
"Simpson" Championship Cup (Fencing)—A. J. Berry.
"Ponsonby" Handwriting Trophy—Cromwell House.
Fives Championship Cup—I. Thirlwall.
Fencing (House Championship Sword)—Cromwell House.
Sports Championship Trophy—Pitt House.

CHEMISTRY CORNER

In the last issue, hydrogen was the subject discussed; this time, it is the turn of that most abundant of all elements, oxygen. Hydrogen burns in it to produce pure water—quite a rare substance! The majority of elements burn in it: and, as a result, combine with it to form oxides. Carbon and hydrogen combine with it to make sugars and cellulose, important products of the vegetable kingdom. It also constitutes one-fifth of the atmosphere and is the only gas which will support breathing, the nitrogen in the air merely acting as a diluent and being unaffected by its passage through the lungs (except being warmed up). Some people think that all the oxygen breathed out is changed into carbon dioxide but that is not so; only one-fifth of the oxygen is removed, four-fifths being breathed out again unchanged.

In 1619 Harvey made the discovery that the blood circulates through the body and he thought that the object of the air entering the lungs was merely to cool the heart but now we know that its duty is to oxidise foodstuffs in the blood to carbon dioxide and so to produce enough heat to keep the body temperature at 98.3°F. The honour of discovering oxygen goes to Joseph Priestly, a Birmingham clergyman, who obtained it in 1773 by focussing the sun's rays on some red mercury oxide with a large reading glass some twelve inches in diameter. His statue in Birmingham, erected many years later, shows him holding a small lens between his thumb and second finger! Thus are important scientific discoveries minimised by succeeding generations—or was it that the sculptor couldn't be bothered to acquaint himself with the details of the experiment?

In Priestley's time, the burning of substances in air was not properly

understood. They knew that when a metal was burnt in air it changed into a powder and gained in weight. This powder or calx they regarded as a simple form of matter and they overcame the weight difficulty very naively by saying that during the heating the metal had lost a curious something which they called "phlogiston"—which had negative weight! Priestley called on a Frenchman named Lavoisier in Paris and told him of his experiments. These Lavoisier repeated and as a result knocked the phlogiston theory on the head and established the theory of burning as we know it today, viz., that when bodies burn in air they unite with the oxygen in it to form oxides, the gain in weight being due to the weight of oxygen taken in.

Oxygen has many uses in everyday life in addition to normal breathing, e.g., high-altitude flying and climbing: oxygen tents in hospitals for chest complaints: oxy-acetylene burning for cutting or welding metals: for thickening and hardening oils; for bleaching. It can also be condensed into ozone, an active form of oxygen which, although usually associated with seaside resorts, is put to good use in the manufacture of foods and drinks and the purification of drinking water and air, e.g., on London Underground Railways. See if you can smell it next time you travel by tube!

J.M.

ARE YOU GOOD PREFECT MATERIAL?

A light-hearted test of your personality

Every private soldier, they say, carries a field-marshal's baton in his pack. Every Wandsworth first-former has his prefect's badge in his hip pocket—this can be rather uncomfortable to sit down on, but at least acts as a spur to prick him on from time to time. The prefectorial office has an ever-open door of opportunity. Well now, try answering these questions to see what chances you might have of doing this service—with good will, of course.

1. When you are called up to the stage in Assembly, do you:
   (a) Confidently bound up the stairs, tripping over the last step?
   (b) Shut your eyes, and hope for the best?
   (c) Sneak out of the back of the Hall, pretending you weren't there?
2. When you are given a detention, do you:
   (a) Commit suicide?
   (b) Serve it, but mutter a few polite words of disapproval under your breath?
   (c) Tell the prefect or master what to do with it?
3. If you saw two boys taking apples from someone else's garden, would you:
   (a) Inform the owner (hoping, of course, for a reward)?
   (b) Go for the smaller boy, if the other towered a foot above your head?
   (c) Wait until they had gone, and then help yourself?
4. If you were allowed to come to school in what you wanted, would you wear:
   (a) The school uniform?
   (b) A sober, dark suit and tie?
   (c) Suede winkle-pickers, orange socks, striped jeans, pink shirt with green bootlace tie, and Italian style jacket?
5. When your form or set began collecting for the Organ Fund, did you:
   (a) Give up all your own pocket money?
   (b) Force your little brother to give up his?
   (c) Volunteer at once to be set treasurer?

6. If you were asked to look after a form for an absent master, would you:
   (a) Try and maintain complete silence?
   (a) Allow a certain amount of noise, but keep a stack of detention slips at your elbow?
   (c) Join in the game of poker at the back?
7. When you are in Assembly, do you:
   (a) Join in the hymns with full gusto?
   (b) Open and shut your mouth, to pretend you are singing?
   (c) Discuss last night's film in a whisper?
8. Which is your favourite bed-side reading:
   (a) The school rules?
   (b) Love poems?
   (c) Books like "I was a Teenage Vampire"?
9. You are eating lunch in Hall, when someone drops a plate. Do you:
   (a) Sit disgusted?
   (b) Shout, and bang your knife on the table?
   (c) Purposely drop yours as soon as the noise has died down?
10. If you saw a boy drowning in the school baths, would you:
   (a) Dive in fully clothed, even if you couldn't swim?
   (b) Shout "Help!"?
   (c) Do nothing: you pushed him in?
11. On the train or bus coming to school, do you:
   (a) Sit worrying about last night's homework?
   (b) Sit wishing the master opposite dead so that you could have a smoke?
   (c) Flirt shamelessly with the girl next to you?
12. When finally given your prefect's badge, would you:
   (a) Do all your duties eagerly?
   (b) Use it as an excuse to break all the rules?
   (c) Reduce the nearest first-former to tears with threats of double detentions?

How to score

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

If you scored 36: You are too good for this school. Indeed you are really too good for this world, and there's a place for you as prefect at St. Peter's pearly gate.

If you scored 30-35: You are all set for Head Prefect. We strongly advise you to start preparing your speech for Speech Day right now.

If you scored 20-29: You ought to make the grade in time, but you'll probably never hand out punishments without a twinge of conscience to remind you that you used to break all those rules yourself.

If you scored 15-19: You'll probably be a most useful pro- or library prefect, and you'll certainly never have a conscientious twinge: you'll enjoy yourself!

If you scored 12-14: There's not much hope for you—we suggest an interview at once with the Youth Employment Officer, and perhaps a teach-yourself book on Juvenile Court procedure, too.

If you scored less than 12: Obviously your mathematics is hopeless or your answers were unprintable. You're the sort that ends up on a friendly psychiatrist's couch—if you're lucky, it might turn out to be a woman!

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 2:

"Nobody would ever put me in a responsible position."

—Mr. Evans.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY

Visit to Cooper Cars

On the afternoon of 9th December eighteen boys and one master paid a visit to the Cooper Garage and Works at Surbiton, where the famous Cooper racing cars are made.

For cars of such world-wide renown, it is strange to find them being made in an ordinary looking garage on the corner of a quiet suburban street. The engines, of course, are not made here, the Coventry Climax and the " souped up " version of the Austin Healey Sprite, but the all important chassis and wheels are.

The chassis are made of welded steel tubing and the wheels of magnesium alloy for lightness, the bodywork itself being made of hand-beaten sheet aluminium.

It was interesting to note that these cars, designed by Mr. Charles Cooper and Mr. Ian Burgess, have their engines at the rear. This arrangement is considered to give the best performance.

Some of us were able to sit in the driving seat, and we were surprised to learn that the driver is there surrounded by the petrol tank, at the front and sides.

H.G.H.S.

Visit to London Airport

On the 17th of December, 1959, a party of 20 members of the society, accompanied by Mr. Robson, went to London Airport to see the maintenance hangars of B.O.A.C. On arrival, we were met by a personnel officer who led us to the reception room, where he introduced us to the aircraft, layout of maintenance hangars and buildings of the airport. The officer informed us of the routes and of the widely varied aircraft which make up the B.O.A.C. fleet.

From the reception room we went to the main Britannia hangars, where, because of the length of the aircraft, the tail is always outside the hangar doors. In this hangar we were able to board a Britannia which was undergoing maintenance attention. The Britannia, which is the largest turboprop in the western world, engulfed the party which only managed to fill three and a half rows of seats. All were impressed by this wonderful aircraft.

Next we visited the main hangar and office block where the D.H. Comet is housed. B.O.A.C. has nineteen Comets, all of which are fitted with Rolls-Royce engines. In the hangar among the Comets we saw Comet Delta Bravo, which was undergoing its " check 4 "—main strip down and checking of whole aircraft.

This Comet, you may recall, was the first jet plane to carry fare-paying passengers from America to Europe, on the 4th of October, 1958. Near the Comet Bravo were four Rolls-Royce Avon engines which had just been overhauled by B.O.A.C. at their workshops in Wales.

In the main building there are four hangars which can each accommodate three of the Boeing 707 aircraft, a fully equipped workshop and all the offices needed for the Corporation. In the workshop engines and propellers are overhauled and maintained.

From the hangars we went to the hub of B.O.A.C., into—well, almost into—the central control room, from which all flights are monitored and controlled. The control room, with its charts, maps, and route boards occupying the entire walls, was the real surprise of the visit. Up above the control room were the practical training rooms where the apprentices and technicians receive their training.

Back on the ground floor again we passed through the Comet hangars for the last time and boarded the coach for school.

This visit was one of the most interesting the Society has had for a long time. I would like to thank B.O.A.C. on behalf of all the members of the Engineering Society for the trouble they took to give us a real insight into aircraft engineering.

J. PROOPS, U6T, Mf (*Secretary*).

Visit to D. Napier and Sons

On Wednesday, 20th January, a party of twenty sixth-form boys, accompanied by Mr. Hamilton-Sneath, went on a visit to D. Napier and Sons of Acton.

On arriving at the factory, the party was split up into five parties. Each party was under the supervision of a senior apprentice who showed them round the factory. They were first shown the tool room where they saw skilled men working on lathes, milling, drilling and grinding machines, producing the tools and jigs to be used in the machine shop. From here the parties went to the Balancing Room, where the compressor turbines and main works of their engines were balanced to the very high degree of accuracy which is necessary for aircraft engines. On leaving the Balance Room they went into the erecting shop where they saw the Eland and the Gazelle engines being put together with great care, so that no part of the engine's works was allowed to get damaged. They were also shown the engines which are used for marine craft and also some of the British Railways diesel locomotives. At the end of the visit they were given tea and biscuits, much to the enjoyment of the boys.

A. M. BASTICK, L6T, Gf.

Visit to the London Transport Works

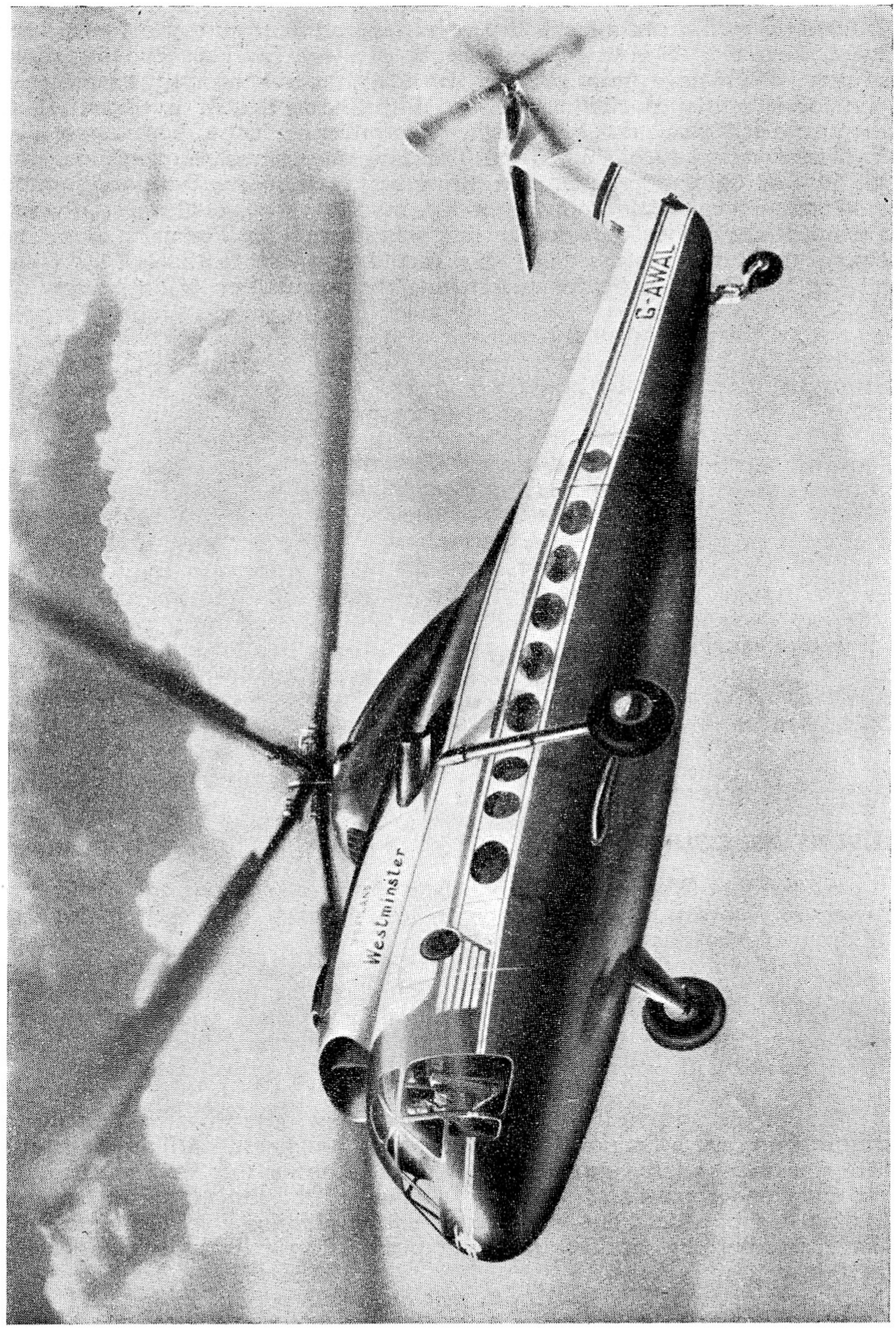
On Thursday, 28th January, a group spent an interesting afternoon at the L.T. Works at Chiswick. Guides collected us from the waiting room and took us first into the drawing office. In the director's room we were shown various drawings and views of buses, and in particular the history of work on the well-known "Routemaster" in drawings going back to 1953. The Chief Designer clearly illustrated the amount of detailed work that goes into designing a bus both here and in the actual drawing office where draughtsmen were at work.

After our visit to the drawing office, we went into the works themselves, and saw first the printing room that deals with the design prints. Next among the sixty acres of repair shops we saw the one where old bus parts are dismantled. Old rusty parts were checked and refurbished if found fit for further use. In the vast machine shop we saw a great variety of lathes, milling machinery, horizontal and vertical grinders, radial drills, shapers and planers, and, over in the tool section, some fine jig-borers. In the fitting shop we had a rare opportunity of seeing steering columns, gear boxes and the famous Daimler fluid fly-wheel being assembled.

Next we visited the room where repaired engines are tested for seven hours continuously; and finally the apprentices' workshop, where boys undertake a year's training. After a longing look at the famous skid-patch, which we were not given a chance to put to the test, we finished the afternoon in the works canteen for tea. We should like to thank the London Transport Executive for an exhilarating afternoon.

T. R. FAREBROTHER, 5Rho, Gg.

B. L. SAWYER, 5 Rho, Ch.



The Westland Westminster Helicopter.
The unique turbo-prop Eland engine was examined by Engineering Society members on their visit to Napier's

Photo by courtesy of D. Napier & Son, Ltd.

Films and Practical Evenings.

During the past term, the Society has continued lunch-time meetings on Wednesdays with great success. Many varied and interesting films have been shown, including "How a Motor-car Works" and "The Iron and Steel Industry." We have been glad to see attendances improving steadily and hope for a continued rise next term. The Society would be interested to hear any sensible suggestions for other films that might be shown.

The practical evenings held on Tuesdays after school, although only for 4th, 5th and 6th formers, are progressing very well. Many boys are building model steam engines, or other working models. We would especially like to thank Roger Twyman for organising refreshments on Tuesdays, as well as helping at Wednesday meetings. We should also like to thank Mr. Willer and Mr. Hamilton-Sneath for undertaking the organisation of the Society.

M. T. Brian, L6Sc, Ce.
D. J. Moss, L6G, Mf.

THE BLACKBIRD

The Blackbird's feathers
Reflecting from the sun
Its body's outline,
Like a black ghost.
Sailing across the sky
His friend the Thrush
Joins him:

You see black silhouettes
Streak across the sky.
Night draws near;
Blackbird sits in its nest
And sleeps.

Peter Donmall, 1Ep.

ADVENTURE COURSE

As the first Wandsworth boy to be awarded a place on one of the new Adventure Courses, I was rather apprehensive when the coach pulled into the drive of Marchant's Hill Camp.

It was January 16th and there were three weeks adventuring ahead of me. Things began well with a smashing dinner (the food was always good, much better than School dinners). During dinner I made friends with several other boys. Then we were issued with our gear: tent, groundsheet, stove, dixies, anarak and overtrousers. Each item was to prove itself essential in the days to come.

One of the purposes of the Course is to show boys what real, intelligent toughness means, as opposed to street corner toughness. All the first week there was snow on the ground a foot thick. During this week we had our first night under canvas. It was cold sleeping in the snow, even in the good sleeping bag provided, but it was even colder jumping into the ice covered pool every morning—in fact it wasn't even funny! Every morning began like this, and at 7 o'clock.

It is surprising how good you feel once you get out of ice cold water and it's even better when you sit down to a breakfast of porridge, bacon and eggs, bread and jam and as much hot tea as you can drink.

Work started at nine. For the first week we were map reading, cooking, orienting with compasses, and assaulting courses. These last were the hardest and they became harder when we had loaded rucksacks on our backs.

At the end of the first week we were almost dead; but we had to carry on in order that the organisers could see how much we would take before

they finally buried us! Seriously though, we wanted to carry on; we had volunteered, and we wanted to finish if only because we should have felt ashamed of ourselves if we had not.

The first week's work had been called Scheme I; on January 21st Scheme II began. On this scheme we were given check points on a route and we had to find our own way back to the camp. We walked seventeen miles in two days, but it rained so heavily on the way back that it took us six hours to walk seven miles across fields and woods, and through rivers and streams. There was one reward at the end of these schemes: the hot bath. About fifteen or twenty fellows wallowed together in this steaming luxury. How wonderful it was! The aches and pains, the soreness and stiffness, the bad temper and sore feet, all went down the drain with the dirty water.

Scheme III was similar to Scheme II; we walked nineteen miles in the one day and we were brought back by coach. On the scheme we had to survey a certain area of the map to find out the fertilisers used on the fields and the types of crop grown. Between schemes we had instruction on surveying and map making. It was the putting of our knowledge into practice that hurt!

At the beginning of the third week we had Scheme IV, the last. We started on Monday and by Tuesday night we had walked about fifty miles. On Wednesday we had to make a map of an area of one square mile, that had been cut out of our Ordnance Survey map. What a job this was. We had to do it with the aid of only a compass; it took nearly four hours but it looked good in our log books, which we wrote up every day.

With Scheme IV finished we were at the end of the course. We were far from dead, the time had flown by, and we felt remarkably fit (save for a cold here and there). We ended with another smashing dinner and a show which the boys put on themselves.

We were sorry to leave; we had made many friends; the course had been tough, but very well worth doing. I should love to go on another, but in the summer this time!

R. FRANCIS, 5Eta, Pi.

INTER-SIXTH SOCIETY

At the time of writing there has not yet been any meeting of the Society for this term. The first of the meetings is yet to come—on March 25th—where we hope to see the West End comedy, "Rollo," with Putney High, as hosts on this occasion, providing a buffet tea before the show. This meeting will take the same form as the theatre venture of last year which, probably because it was informal, proved extremely enjoyable. The second meeting of the term will be held at Wandsworth and be a half-day conference, on the theme of Nuclear Disarmament; but more of this in next term's "Link."

The meeting at the end of last term consisted of a debate at Mayfield. The motion was "That in the opinion of this House there is no room, in this modern day and age, for chivalry between the sexes," thus giving members of both sexes a chance to air their views on equality or inequality. To say that this meeting was a success would be rather an exaggeration, but with one or two witticisms from Miss Miles, the evening passed quite affably. Lawrence Levene represented Wandsworth, and with the help of a girl from Putney, unsuccessfully opposed the motion. I am pleased to say, however, that Wandsworth members turned up in full force, and consequently made up for the rather small numbers from Mayfield, Putney, and "Sinjuns."

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

SKIING AT ISNY, FEBRUARY, 1960

On a bright, sunny morning the school ski-ing party assembled under the big clock on Victoria Station.

Once on the train, we settled down for a fast journey through pleasant countryside to Dover. From there, after walking through the customs, we embarked on the ferry which was to take us to Belgium. We enjoyed a very smooth crossing to Ostend. After disembarking we boarded a train on which we had a five-hour journey to Cologne, where we had an hour's wait. This was spent window-shopping in the station area. These shops were still open at 11 p.m., even a sweetshop with a food counter, and a milk-bar. All the stores were brightly coloured and very clean. For the next stage of our journey we had a sleeping car, where we spent a comfortable and restful night.

Wednesday, 17th February

On awakening from our somewhat interrupted sleep, we found ourselves in a siding in Ulm. Here we stayed for breakfast, which consisted of strong coffee, two slices of bread and toast, and a small pot of jam. Our next stop was Kempten in Bavaria, where we changed to a tram-car type of fast train, which in an hour brought us to Isny. This is a beautiful town wedged in a corner between Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Consequently, the 7,000-odd population is almost Tyrolean in character having none of the dourness of the North and much of the light-heartedness and warmth of character of the Alpine Swiss and Austrians.

The snow was quite deep when we arrived, so a snowball fight started straight away. Then our luggage was taken to the hotel by car while we walked there ourselves. Soon we were all settled in our rooms. The party was split into two—half with Mr. Fagan at the Hotel Hirsch and half with Mr. Jonathan at the Hotel Ochsen. These hotels are within 75 yards of each other, so we weren't really separated.

After dinner, which was most delicious, we set out to explore the town, returning later to have supper.

By nine o'clock everybody was in and all settled down for a good night's rest.

Thursday, 19th February

The day started off rather miserably as it was raining. Although we collected our skis and sticks, we did not use them because the rain had turned the snow to slippery mush, which made it extremely dangerous.

After dinner we left the hotel with two ski-ing instructors and set off on a four-mile hike in ski boots, ostensibly to toughen us up for the ski-ing to come.

By the time we returned, we were utterly exhausted so, after removing our boots and hanging up our wet clothes, we had a well-earned rest.

The evening was spent in either playing games or walking through the beautiful and picturesque town.

Friday, 19th February

After breakfast we met at the Hotel Hirsch, where the two ski instructors were waiting for us. We set off to a nearby field where we put on our skis to practise. The ski instructors then demonstrated. Most boys found it difficult as the ski-ing conditions were not good. Not far away was a fairly steep hill. After toiling half-way up, we practised a " snow-plough."

Time passed all too quickly and soon it was time to go home. We arrived back just in time for dinner.

After dinner we set off on another ski-ing session. We waxed our skis (this process enabled us to travel faster on the skis) and went straight to the top of the hill, where we learnt more complicated movements.

By tea-time we were dead-tired and most of us stayed in for the evening.

Saturday, 20th February

At ten o'clock we boarded a coach which took us through very beautiful countryside to a lovely mountain village, called Steibis, situated over 3,000 feet up in the Allgau Mountains. There we were handed our packed lunches. We made our way to the ski lift which takes almost 25 minutes to reach the top. On the way up we saw the most beautiful sight I have ever seen. We were high above the clouds with little blue and white peaks piercing through. When we reached the top we went to a mountain " pub," where we ate our lunch. We then practised our ski-ing on a nearby slope. When it was time to go home, we had to ski back all the way to the lift station. Looking down we saw the clouds had cleared, to reveal a lovely view for miles around.

On the bus back we had a sing-song. It had been a most enjoyable day for all. In the evening there was a fancy-dress ball in the big hall which formed part of the Hotel Ochsen. The older boys were allowed to stay up till 11 p.m. This time of the year is Carnival time in the Allgau area. Decorations and gay costumes made the party very colourful. Everybody danced and stood upon chairs to sing rousing songs.

Sunday, 21st February

After breakfast, it was decided by popular vote that it was best to rest for the day. Many boys had blisters and most of them looked haggard and worn. There was another dance in the evening. We were allowed on the balcony and retired shortly after ten.

Monday, 22nd February

A coach was ready at ten-thirty and we were soon on our way to Ihberg. Although there was a ski-tow, we did not use it as it was too dangerous for us, so we climbed to the top, carrying our skis. We reached it half-dead. After lunch, we learnt and practised at the top before descending in slow stages by mountain traverse.

Danny Waters slipped and sprained his ankle rather badly and had to be carried down. He was then taken to hospital and we were told he had been detained overnight. Meanwhile the others came down and then had to ski to Isny, a distance of 8 kilometres. When we arrived at the hotel, we were exhausted. All had supper at the Ochsen.

Tuesday, 23rd February

After a rather late breakfast we went ski-ing on a nearby slope to put into practice all we had learnt. We returned for lunch and stayed in the rest of the day. In the late afternoon Danny returned by taxi. He looked very well, although he walked with a slight limp. At seven o'clock the Ochsen boys went over to the Hirsch for supper.

Wednesday, 24th February

The day started very busily as we had to pack and clear up our rooms. At 3 o'clock we all assembled outside the Ochsen and, after saying goodbye to the hotel staff (who had been most kind), we headed for the station. By ten to four we were on our way to Kempten where we had an hour's wait. At Ulm we also had an hour. We caught the express from Belgrade. We settled down in our sleepers where we spent a very comfortable night.

Thursday, 25th February

Coffee was brought in as we awoke. After having a wash, we read or wrote out our lists for the Customs. At nine, on the dot, we pulled into Ostend. We boarded the steamer and had a very quiet and calm crossing home. I think that, although we enjoyed the holiday very much, we were all very glad to get home to dear old London and, of course, dear old Wandsworth School.

NORMAN ROSE, 4Eta, Gj.

BATHROOM ODE

Look around before you leave,
Do not make your mother grieve;
Hang your towels on the hooks
If you'd be in her good books;
Do not leave the light on long
(Electric bills aren't paid by song),
Leave the basin clean as new,
And in case you don't know, who
This is meant for — it's you and YOU!

R. RICKERD, 2Ep.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term the Photographic Society successfully held two practical "portrait" evenings which a large number of members attended. The Society now has a set of portrait modelling lamps which can be hired by members. Up to the time of going to print, the Society has arranged a portrait competition for members, and a proposed visit to the Royal Photographic Society's Spring Exhibition at Prince's Gate. The school Society's own exhibition was held at the Eisteddfod Exhibition evening, in which all prints on view were submitted entirely by members.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks to Mr. R. S. Hollis, and many senior members who have helped us this term.

P. R. LEVERICK, L6Sc, Mc.
D. W. RICHARDS, 5Th, Mh.

MATHEMATICS CLUB: A Survey of Sports

This term saw the foundation of a new school society, the Mathematics Club. Although to the layman it might appear that there is very little one can do in such a society, in actual fact, because there are so many different facets to be dealt with, the club has been split into two sections. This article concerns the statistical branch. Analysis of this survey was done by club members, so even if the text of this article may not have the witty dialogue of former surveys published in "The Link," at least the results of our investigation will be summed up with respect to mathematics (a mathematician's pun).

After much consultation it was decided to make sport, in and out of school, the subject of our first survey. In order to get a proper distribution throughout the main school (and we took the main school only), without causing too much disturbance, we sent our questionnaires to a selected number of sets, taking one of sets A to D and one of sets G-J in each House. Thus having a reasonable cross-section of one hundred and eighty-three boys aged between thirteen and eighteen, we analysed and correlated their answers. All percentages are out of 183 unless otherwise stated.

Are You Pleased with Your Lot?

Satisfied in summer with their organised games sport ...	49%
Dissatisfied in summer with their organised games sport ...	44%
Satisfied in winter with their organised games sport ...	40%
Dissatisfied in winter with their organised games sport ...	55%

It appears that half the boys in our survey are not contented with the sport they do for organised games, with an 11% difference between summer and winter. This can be accounted for by the fact that 43% wanted rugby excluded, whereas cricket still remains in favour, less than 1% wanting it

taken out of the school games curriculum. It is interesting to note that 28% want soccer brought into the school (at present Association Football is only played up to the third form). Among the other sports asked for were ice and land hockey, table tennis, cycling, lacrosse, shooting, golf and croquet. Listed highest amongst the facetious answers was one by a boy who wanted men excluded and women included in school sport. Obviously he had the wrong type of sport in mind!

Snowballs and Beach Ball

Favourite summer sports:

Cricket	19%
Tennis	16%
Swimming	28%
Others	25%

Favourite winter sports:

Soccer	38%
Rugby	1%
Others	20%
Abstentions	22%

Various other summer sports included cycling, athletics, golf, and for one boy, beach ball. In the winter, besides soccer, not many other sports were favoured. The fact that only 1% favour rugby correlates with the 43% who want it excluded from the school. One wonders how many of the 28% who opted for swimming really do it as a sport, or whether it is more of a recreation, a way of cooling off after beach ball! From the above results it appears that summer sports are far more popular than their winter counterparts, but in fact only 4% actually preferred summer to winter sports. As a matter of interest, can you guess who was the one boy who had snowballs as his favourite winter sport?

In and Out of School

Number of boys who play for outside clubs	36%
Number of boys who do not know if they play for outside clubs	10%

Of these club men, 45% play soccer, 2% cricket and 1% athletics. Compared with the national average of 2% (according to *News Chronicle* figures), our 36% favours well, but we are pre-supposing that every one of those who play for clubs is an active member and plays regularly. We have not included darts, billiards and snooker club members; if we had, no doubt our figures would have been doubled.

In spite of our efforts to get a true perspective of trends throughout the school, I must add that the views expressed here are only those of the boys who filled in the questionnaires. Facetious answers and spoilt papers have not been included in our results and misspellings have been interpreted to the best of our ability. Just as a conclusion, perhaps I can quote two examples: snoucker (snooker) and grikit (cricket).

P. T. LIBBY, U6Sc, Mi (*Chairman*).

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 3:

"Mr. Coate-Bond is not against soccer."

—R. J. Pooley.

DOVER AND HYTHE

It was just after nine o'clock on a sunny June morning when a motor coach departed from the hotel in Walmer, Kent. My old school's school-journey party of thirty boys and two teachers were bound for Dover.

About an hour later we alighted from the coach in Dover and made our way on foot to the castle. Our first sight of Dover Castle was somewhat exciting. The lofty square keep towering above the huge impregnable walls, the protruding towers, and the deep grass-covered moat were all very impressive. It is a mixture of many buildings, Roman, Saxon, Norman and Medieval masonry being evident. The Castle looks out onto Dover Harbour. In Roman times it was a natural anchorage at the end of Watling Street, the great highway to London, and the link between the Continent. The Romans built a lighthouse in the grounds of the castle, and it still remains there today. It was considered a wonder of the ancient world. The only other lighthouse of that time was at Alexandria, the gateway to Egypt. We entered the castle via a small steep road, over a footbridge, crossing the moat and going through the main gate. Years ago, the footbridge was a drawbridge, and in place of the oak doors there was a portcullis. We visited the chapel, which is believed to be of Roman origin, for layers of red tiles are embedded in the walls, and the Romans, who were fine architects, have been known to use this method of building. The keep, built by the Normans, has several floors. In the armoury, on the first floor, there are many fine pieces of armour including swords, breastplates, and long cumbersome muskets. On the next floor there is a banqueting hall about seventy-five feet long and fifteen feet high. The kitchen is at one end of the hall and a huge semi-oval oven is built in the wall. By the oven, remains of stone shelves can be seen. Above the banqueting hall there were private chambers. From the top of the keep we had a wonderful view of the Kent coastline and surrounding country. We left the castle, returned to the coach and travelled to the beach where we had lunch which we had brought with us.

After lunch we returned to the coach and set off for Hythe, passing through Folkestone. On arrival at a coach park in Hythe, we were told to line up in twos outside the coach. A teacher then led us through a small building onto a railway platform. It was just like any normal station, but the trains were about four feet six inches high. Some carriages were exposed, without doors or windows, and instead of seats they had wooden slats. Other carriages had doors, windows and padded seats just like ordinary passenger trains. We boarded one of the many trains, and, after a ten minute wait, a whistle blew and we were on our way. Slowly gathering speed, we left Hythe behind us. We crossed Romney Marshes, and arrived at New Romney, which is halfway between Hythe and Dungeness, the railway's terminus. Later on I found out that it is the world's smallest public railway. At New Romney we visited a Norman church. It is a small church and because of the earth's movements, it has sunk several feet since being built. We returned to the station and caught the train back to Hythe, where we had our packed tea on the banks of the Royal Military Canal.

After tea some of us stood on a footbridge and watched the miniature trains passing below us. Others were watching the small boats in the canal, or feeding the fish with bread crumbs. Soon it was time to return to the coach, so we made our way back to the main party. We then boarded the coach for the return journey to Walmer. On our way home we discussed the day's events and glanced at places of interest. It started to rain, so we shut the windows and ended our journey with a sing-song.

J. Woodrow, 1 Theta.

IN THE SCHOOL STOCK ROOM

Paper and pencils,
Boxes of stencils,
Stacks of books
In ali the nooks,
Dozens of tins
And drawing-pins,
Paints, and brushes
Looking like rushes,
Bottles of glue,
Chalk that is new,
Good woodwork tools
And fourlegged stools,
All are found in the school stock room!

A. SHEARMAN, F2, Gb.

TRIP TO AUSTRIA

The trip was organized many months ahead by Mr. Lowe, one of our Wandsworth staff for a short while, and it was arranged that we should visit Salzburg, Villach and Vienna. The fare for me was £23 and I took £10 for pocket money. The party consisted of friends of Mr. Lowe and other teenagers like myself.

We left Victoria at 10 o'clock on Sunday, 26th of July, and arrived Salzburg at about 10 o'clock on Monday, very tired and exhausted from the journey. The Youth Hostel was a little way out of Salzburg and surrounded by an Austrian army camp. We were to stay in Salzburg for three days, so I decided to look round the town straight away. Salzburg is a very old town and has a castle on the top of a hill. The castle is very interesting and to get to it one had to travel by rail car. The town itself is the birth place of Mozart and a museum has been built to show the instruments he practised on and various other items of interest. A very beautiful river runs through the town and is spanned by a fine bridge. The town has many statues and works of art of which it is justly proud. As the Youth Hostel was not far away from a border post, I decided to walk into Germany. It was a pleasant walk and when I was in Germany, a man showed me round and explained to me in rather crude English, the working of his saw mill.

The most exciting part of our stay in Austria was a visit to the salt mines. We climbed into a cable car and were taken to the top of the mountain, where we dressed up in miner's kit. Then we were led by a guide down a long tunnel. At last we came to a series of slides, all very steep and made of wood. We had to slide down these and our legs felt quite burnt. At the bottom we found ourselves by an enormous lake of salt water. We floated across this on a frail-looking craft, descended a few more slides and then went by train out to day-light again.

For the next phase of our journey we left Salzburg and travelled by train to Villach. The Hostel in Villach was not very good, but the town was rather gay. On Sunday we went by train to Tarvisio in Italy. This was a rather desolate spot, but had a very good waterfall. The next day we decided to visit Yugoslavia. By road one has to climb up a mountain side, full of hairpin bends. When nearing the top, there is a breath-taking view and we could see low hanging clouds from the top. The place we visited was Bled: there was not much of it because, I think, it was badly bombed during the war. That evening, back in Villach there was a wine festival. Stalls are set up in the streets and everybody drinks. It is a gay affair and lasts till the early hours of the morning.

On the Wednesday of the second week we went to Vienna. The town is very much like London with suburbs spreading miles from the town centre. Vienna seemed to consist mainly of churches and shops. We left Vienna on Saturday evening after agreeing that the Youth Hostel there was superb. We arrived at Victoria at 10.30 on Sunday evening, tired and very hungry.

I. HEBBLETHWAITE, Ch, 4Ep.

HISTORY SOCIETY

Our term started with a repeat visit from Mr. E. P. Olney, who has made the history of Wandsworth and its environs so much his speciality. Again, he brought a wealth of slides, including some fascinating railway items. We do enjoy having him, and our programme has now become strangely incomplete unless he makes an appearance.

The full-feature film, "Tom Brown's Schooldays," with John Howard Davies and the late Robert Hilton, proved the most popular and best-attended of our films to date. But then, the story has so much to commend it to boys—not least, boys being what they are, the roasting, tossing in blankets, and the catapulting the new boy as he sings his song on the table. This version was filmed at Rugby, and faithfully portrays Victorian manners, including "Rugby" Rugby.

Our half term visit was to Cambridge. A party of eighteen was met by a guide in the afternoon and toured half-a-dozen of the most famous colleges. After tea, we attended Choral Evensong in King's College Chapel, a very moving experience, sitting by the choir in the candlelight. Every boy said that it was this which impressed him most, and obviously meant it. Galsworthy made Soames sit in Winchester Cathedral and think: "The world might row and stink and buzz outside . . . but this great box—God-box the Americans would call it—had been made centuries before the world became industrialised . . . In here everyone spoke and sang the King's English and nothing was unbeautiful."

We hope to see a new film in colour on Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales" towards the end of term, and perhaps make an Easter visit to Canterbury.

J.H.

STAMP CLUB

This term has been a most active and eventful one for the Stamp Club. We managed to raise at our last auction the sum of four pounds, which we donated to the Organ Fund. On February 10th, there was a most enjoyable film strip on the stamps of New Zealand, followed by another film strip on March 9th entitled "The World of Ancient Greece and Rome." Early next term a Dutch auction is planned, and we also have in mind a visit to "Stampex," the National Stamp Exhibition at Central Hall.

With the advent of Stamp Club meetings on Monday in room 14 at one o'clock, apart from the usual one on Wednesday evenings, we have found a great increase in our members, and it is more and more obvious that philately is rapidly becoming the most popular hobby throughout the school.

L. LEVENE, L6Sc, Pc.

PEACE IN OUR TIME?

In this world of five megaton H-bombs, atomic submarines and missiles capable of delivering an atomic warhead to a target eight thousand miles away, the prospects of a war may appear to be very remote. It seems unbelievable that, when these weapons exist capable of obliterating the entire

human race from the face of the earth, some nations can still talk in terms of a war. And yet world tension does continue.

At a time when Moscow has toned down its propaganda against the West, and when a Four Power Summit Meeting is in sight, the Communist Chinese Government continues to promise its people that Formosa (Taiwan) will be liberated, and the "Imperialist" Americans along with the "puppet" government of Chiang-Kai-Shek driven out of rightful Chinese territory. So, even if Russia and America were to come to some kind of an agreement on disarmament, it does not necessarily mean that Communist China would follow in their footsteps and begin to demobilise its huge Army of some three million men.

Yet, though the Chinese may be criticised for their war-like intentions, if we were to trace the history of Formosa we could easily account for the hostile attitude of the Communist Chinese towards America. After long years of bitter and arduous struggle the Communists seized power over the Chinese Mainland in 1949. The corrupt and incompetent government of Chiang-Kai-Shek was driven off the mainland and was forced to take refuge on the island of Formosa, some 100 miles East of the Chinese East Coast.

In face of these facts the Americans continued their aid, originally given to help fight the Japanese, to the Nationalist Government. And if this action of the Americans could possibly be defended, what of their decision not to recognise the new Communist Government of China and admit the representatives of this government into the United Nations? It is quite illogical that the Nationalist Government of Formosa should be recognised in the United Nations as the official government of China. How can a government, which is not even on the mainland of China, be the official government of the 650 million Chinese living on the mainland in a very different society?

A second source of world tension lies in a particular set of Industrialists in the U.S.A. who can still think of war, or at least the continued threat of war, in terms of bringing in huge profits for the armament industries. As long as there are two distinct blocs in the world who are opposed to each other there exists a favourable chance of a war, and this means that certain manufacturers can go on increasing their production whilst large quantities of obsolete arms are given in aid to the "allies"; the business of the oil industrialists will also flourish, whilst tanks, jeeps and naval ships are employed in military manoeuvres of gigantic dimensions and whilst a third of the huge American bomber fleet is in the air for 24 hours daily. Any real relaxing of world tension would mean less profit. It is a disgrace to humanity that these people, who are mean, greedy and selfish, can influence the policy of a country like America and thus be in a position to determine the fate of the entire human race.

The third most important threat to war is the question of the reunification of the two German Republics and Berlin. With regard to this issue Russia has turned down various proposals made by the West. On the face of it, therefore, critics tend to denounce and criticise the Russians in this matter. But the West German Government still lays claims to territories which are by now well and truly embodied into the State of Poland. This government has also decided to rearm, and, judging from recent anti-semetic events which have taken place in West Germany, it is quite possible that, if there were a major economic depression in the country, a neo-Nazi would come into power again and the new government might then want to back its claims by force. Thus the present situation in Germany clearly justifies Russian fears that once Germany was powerful again, a world war could be sparked off easily. A reunified Germany would then increase the chances of a war since Germany would be stronger economically in the longer run and American bombers and missiles would be nearer to the heart of Russian territory. Yet if the policy of a reunified Germany was to be that of positive neutrality, Russia could come to some sort of agreement with the West on this issue.

In the long run the best way of solving these and all other international problems is to educate world public opinion. The people of the world would then be able to take a keen and more active interest in world affairs and its problems. Only then will we be able to reduce the undesirable power of minorities, which enables them to steer the policy of a country like America to their own personal advantage. It is these people, the big oil and arms industrialists, who try to fool us and make us believe that the Communists cannot be trusted and that the only way we will have peace is through strength, in other words through more and more destructive weapons. If we are foolish enough to believe them, the likelihood of a third world war may be greater than we realise.

AFZAL BARI, U6Ec, Ca.

MODERN LANGUAGE SOCIETY

The Society visited Mayfield at the beginning of term, and a team consisting of Stewart Young, Francis Shons, Paul Gillingham, Nicholas Bishop and Roger Newman took part in a Quiz in French and German. Rather to our surprise, we won. The rest of the meeting was taken up with French songs and a German poetry recording.

One lunch-time record programme has been put on, in which Russian, French, Italian and German recordings were played.

A. M. LINCE.

SPORTS SOCIETY

As this society has only been formed recently, I will explain our aims. We hope to have famous sportsmen along to give talks and widen our knowledge of different sports. We have also obtained a number of films which we hope to show in the near future, and an outing is also being planned to see the Harlem Globe-trotters this year.

The first meeting of term produced a crowd of seventy-three. Mr. Birch gave an interesting talk on Gymnastics. A demonstration was given by G. Cramp and a film was shown entitled "Up in the Air." In our second meeting Mr. Coleman demonstrated the rules of Basketball with help from boys of 1 Iota and some members of the school Basketball team. The third meeting was on Swimming, when a film was shown. John Young of the Harlequins R.F.C. was supposed to have come on February 25th, but owing to international duties he postponed this visit for another week. A report of this and other meetings later this term will be included in the next issue of "The Link."

Lastly, I would like to thank Mr. Birch for giving up his spare time to this Society.

J. HART, 2 Omega, Gh.

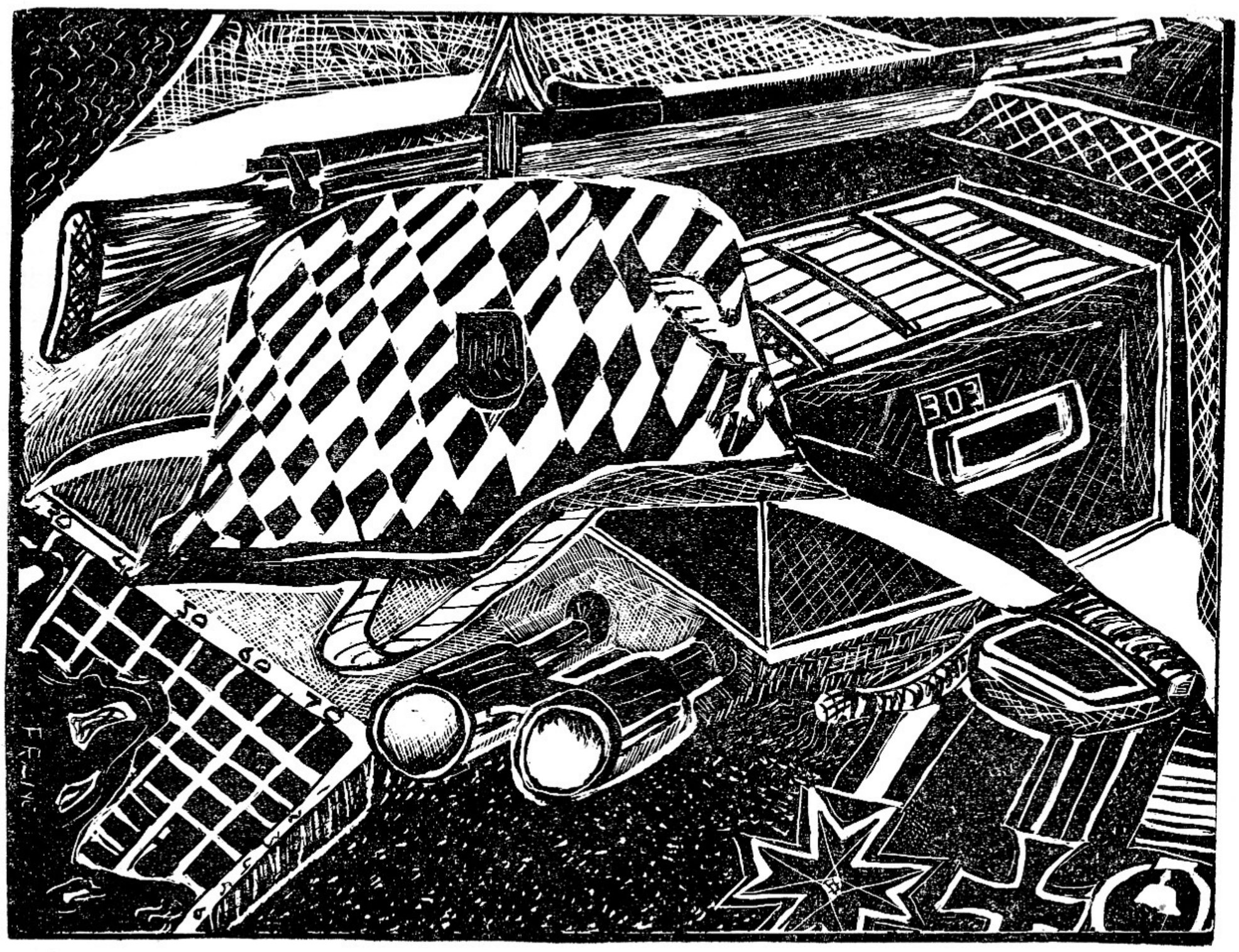
HIDE AND SEEK

One day, a little boy, one Terence Gray, was sitting on a chair, looking out of the window, and feeling bored. It was the middle of the summer holiday, and he had long since done all his holiday tasks. It was 1948, and sweets were still rationed, so he could not go and buy any with the shilling he had left out of his pocket money. Terry was twelve, and lived with his grandparents in the sleepy little village of Elkington, in Lincolnshire. His parents had been killed in the war, and ever since then he had more or less run wild, doing what he liked. But this was not so exciting as might be imagined, and now he was utterly bored. He knew that it was his last proper holiday, as he would afterwards be going to the secondary school in Louth, the nearest town. He knew he would miss the small village school, with its

one class, one teacher, and fifteen pupils, and he was dreading the end of the holiday.

As he looked out at the landscape, his eye fell on the old castle. It was mainly ruined, but its one remaining tower stood like a sentry on top of the hill. Terry had often been there, but there was a stout door, and he had been unable to get in. Then he thought of the axe in the toolshed.

"Why not?" he thought. "It's not likely to matter. The castle don't belong to no-one." Thus thinking, he ran downstairs, into the garden, and took the axe from the toolshed. The weather was warm and sunny, and he did not think of putting a coat on. He put the axe over his shoulder and strode along. Soon he began to wish he had brought a coat, if only to cover the axe with, for it was a very conspicuous object, and he received some very curious glances. After a while he left the road, and began to cut across the fields towards the hill. He liked the feel of the grain brushing against his



Scraperboard illustration by J. C. Handorff, 41o, Mg.

bare legs as he trampled through a field of corn. He saw a tall clump of poppies, took a swipe at them, and gashed his leg. He watched the blood running down for a moment, then took a grubby handkerchief from his pocket, and bound it round the wound. Then he continued on his way, less joyfully, until he reached the tower.

He could see miles of country-side, and he had a feeling that miles of country-side could see him. However he took courage, and, lifting the axe on high, he brought it down, missed the door, and nearly depeditated himself. He moved closer to the door, and this time produced a satisfactory thump, as the axe bit deep into the wood. So deep, in fact, that it took him five minutes' struggling to get it out again. He sat on the grass to regain his breath, but an ominous rumbling in the rapidly darkening sky warned him

to hurry. He attacked the door again, with vigour, and finally got through the door, just as the rain started.

He climbed through the hole he had made, and stood for a moment, until his eyes grew accustomed to the darkness. Then he made for a flight of stone stairs, and climbed them. Near the top of the steps, a small room caught his eye, and he entered it. He found a pile of stuff in one corner, and, on further examination, this turned out to be a heap of bricks, covering a trap-door. Working by the light of the single window, he cleared the trapdoor, and lifted it.

The trap led to a small room, built in the thickness of the wall, and he lowered himself into it. On a table in the corner he saw a heap of things. A flash of lightning lit up the room, and he saw that they were a German helmet, a rifle, a large box of ammunition, a sabre, a map, and a pair of binoculars. Rushing forward, he fell over something on the floor, and landed heavily. He saw that the object which had tripped him was a skeleton, to which were clinging the mouldering remains of a German soldier's uniform. He examined the defunct Teuton, and picked up three medals, which had fallen from the rotten fabric.

Suddenly, another flash of lightning lit up another human form. Lying in the far corner, he saw the skeleton of a boy, of about his own age, wearing a cap and a Norfolk suit. Terry remembered local stories about the son of a past squire, who, just after the First World War, had disappeared. Frightened now, Terry ran back to the trapdoor, to find that it was far above his reach. He tried to drag the table over, but the rotten wood collapsed beneath his weight. Frantic, he threw the rifle at the trapdoor, and it slammed shut, and the bricks fell back on top. He collapsed, senseless, to the floor . . .

R. C. PEARSON, 5Pi, Mb.

HOUSE NOTES

CROMWELL

Having half an hour to spare on Friday evening after school, I decided to look in on a number of Cromwell House activities. The first was in Art Room One, where the cast of the House play was busy rehearsing for the Eisteddfod Drama Competition. From there I strolled across the quadrangle to Auxiliary Hall One, where a select group of sixth formers in Cromwell were pitting their wits against each other over a chess-board. My next stop was in the Lower School gym, where some of our fencers were busy practising for the House competition. On the playground by the fives courts two extremely go-ahead sets were battling fiercely in a game of five-a-side football. I was informed by the prefect in charge that he intends to have an inter-set football competition. I hope it comes off—it should be very interesting. My last stop was in Gym One, where I found the Cromwell House Gym Club in full swing. Somewhere amidst this crowd of eager boys, a gallant master, Mr. Jonathan, was teaching gymnastics. It was most encouraging to see so many boys in Cromwell working together after school. It shows that a definite team spirit is growing in the house, and I am confident that our house will stand supreme because of this team spirit.

We were sorry to lose Mr. J. G. Morris, assistant tutor of Cromwell A, this term, after two years' service in the house. We wish him success in his new post. His place in the House and in the History department is taken by Mr. J. A. Horsfield. We would like to take this opportunity of extending to him a warm welcome to Cromwell House.

The Cromwell House Newsletter is still coming out regularly. It is extremely useful in making the house feel united. You will appreciate that since these notes only appear three times a year, the news is at least four or five weeks old. The Newsletter should therefore be used to much more advan-

tage. I was glad to read the letters which appeared in it some time ago, one from Mr. Fenn, another from Anthony Atkinson. You will remember that he remarked how curious it was that a newsletter had never been started before, and I most certainly agree with him. However, it would be much better if the boys themselves wrote it, and it was not left to the Housemaster, Mr. Lincé.

You will read elsewhere in the magazine of the outstanding performances of the school play. We congratulate all the boys in Cromwell House who acted in it, and I am sure that the whole House would like to thank Mr. Waters, Mr. Newson and Mr. Hoare for their very fine work on an extremely successful play.

It is now the turn of the sports section, and it looks very promising indeed. The Rugby team under Roger Newman has so far played one game in the Inter-House competition. After a very hard fight against Gibbon House they were unlucky to lose. We hope that they will be more fortunate in the remaining matches. Last years' swimming captain, Allan Styles, is still with us this year, so we can look forward hopefully to the swimming gala in the Summer Term. Our fives team under Norman Ratcliffe has been practising regularly throughout the season, and the house matches should prove exciting. The House fencing team has done extremely well this term. In a recent competition in Kent, Nicholas Bishop came second in the Senior Final, and in the London Schoolboy Championship David Pratt came second in the Junior Final. The House Fencing Championships were fought this term, in foil, sabre and épée. Our team—Ranjit Seneviratne, foil; Derek Titheradge, sabre; Nicholas Bishop, épée—completely overcame all opposition and emerged the decisive victors, beating Gibbon 3—0, Morley 3—0, and Pitt 2—1. The team deserves the congratulations of the House. With three members of our Chess team in the school team and Afzal Bari, the school Chess champion, our hopes are very high for the House Chess competition.

Diligence this year has been very bad indeed. Never before has it been so low. Some sets are just not pulling their weight. It is not much credit to be the top sporting house if we are the worst academic one. A more determined effort must be made next term, when we shall all be doing examinations. Those who have worked consistently well throughout the year have nothing to worry about, but to those who have been letting the house down in diligence I suggest that they study really hard during the holidays and make an all-out effort to do well in their examinations.

The most important event this term is, of course, the Eisteddfod. At the beginning of term an election was held for officers and the following boys were elected:—

Drama: Daniel Nathanson and Ian Newman; Stage Manager—Andrew Hillyard.
Hobbies: Allan Styles.
Literary Composition: Roger Newman.
Speech: Mohan Adiseshiah.
Art: Khalid Aziz
Music: Richard Evans.
Gym: Roger Twyman and Gerald Cramp.
Co-ordinator: Nicholas Bishop.

The result of the Eisteddfod will be known by the time you receive your copy of "The Link," and I hope that every one of you is proud of the contribution you made towards this result.

NICHOLAS C. BISHOP, U6A, Cb.

GIBBON

First I must mention with much sadness the tragic death of one of our house members, Peter Aubrey, during the Christmas holiday. I know you

all join with me in expressing our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey.

I would also like to take this opportunity of again expressing our best wishes to Mr. Elms for success in his new post. His leaving left a large gap in Gibbon House, which I am glad to report has been admirably filled by Mr. Payne, who, I am certain, could lead the house to victory.

Last term, the Inter-House Cross-Country Race was held. Gibbon came second with 277 points. J. Halliday, B. Brind and L. Woodcock all ran well and must be commended on a fine race. These three might have led us to first place, but they had too little support from the rest of the House. Some members have been taking the attitude of "leave it to the others." This is a great pity, as a House is only as good as its component members. We have as much latent talent as the other houses, but, recently, we have been either too bashful or too lazy to display it. By the time this appears in "The Link," the results of the Eisteddfod will be known. These results will suffice to show whether this "leave it to the few" attitude is still prevalent in the House.

Now is the time for all good Gibbonites to come to the aid of the House, and show the rest of the School that Gibbon is Number One!

D. C. Lloyd, L6Sc, Gd.

MORLEY

At the time of writing these notes, the Eisteddfod is still ahead, and I hope that when these notes are read, Morley will have regained the trophy. The following senior boys were elected by the House at a house-assembly, earlier this term, to organise the efforts of the House in the Eisteddfod:—

Co-ordinator: D. M. Holdich.
Drama: J. Lally.
Literary Composition: P. Francis.
Music: R. Jones.
Art: T. C. Porter.
Speech: P. T. Libby.

I hope you will have given them your full support.

Now I have to write the usual complaint about the House diligence. We have again fallen to third position (the same as last term) and unless many boys in the third and fourth forms decide to make an effort next term, we will lose the trophy that we won last year. So come on, Morley, more effort from everyone to rid us of those threes and minuses.

In last term's notes I mentioned the fact that R. Knight was having difficulty in raising two teams for the inter-house cross-country run. But in spite of the fact, the overall result was a win for Morley. The House congratulates R. Knight and all those who ran.

D. M. Holdich and D. Snare worked hard at the beginning of this term, choosing a senior rugby team to compete in the inter-house competition. At the time of writing, the team has defeated Pitt House 16—0, and if it continues to play in its present form it should defeat Cromwell and have a chance of gaining the Rugby shield.

It appears that this year our athletic prowess is much higher than our academic standard. It can only be hoped that next term we shall gain the swimming, cricket, fives and athletics trophies, and also retain our hold on the diligence trophy. These things will only be accomplished if every member of the House does his part, and works together with the rest of the House.

P. E. Francis, L6Sc, Ma.

PITT

The Spring Term is one of the most busy at Wandsworth. Older boys are madly preparing for the coming G.C.E. examinations which will determine

their future; House rugby matches have to be played and gymnastics contested; the chess competition is in full swing; and everybody from the oldest sixth formers down to the youngest first formers is—or should be—preparing for one of the most important events in the school calendar—the Eisteddfod. Evenings are spent keenly rehearsing for House plays, speech choirs, and individual public speeches; solo readings, not only in English, but in French and German are being prepared, as are pieces of music to be played on the piano, violin, and 'cello, and even on trumpets, trombones, clarinets and guitars. Poems and stories are being painstakingly written; models of all sorts are being ingeniously fashioned; interesting stamp and other collections are being carefully compiled; and imaginative paintings are being feverishly painted. I only hope this is not just wishful-thinking and that boys in Pitt have really got down to some conscientious work in a bid to repeat once more the supremely victorious effort which was made last year. When you receive your copy of this issue the results of the Eisteddfod will already be known! Whatever they are, I hope at least that every member of Pitt will have tried hard to produce something.

Because of recent bad weather, only one House Rugby game has been played at the time of writing. I am sorry to say that we lost to Morley by sixteen points to nil; but this was not really so overwhelming a victory for, although we were not the better side (I must say that), every member of the team certainly tried his very best, so that we were unlucky not to score at least a couple of tries.

In the last diligence award the House came second to Gibbon, which shows that there is still room for improvement in the sphere of academic school work. Yet again, nearly every set in the House has a boy who can only produce a negative result in diligence—it is because of this apathy in a minority of Pitt boys that the House sometimes fails to reach the highest ranks of achievement.

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

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 4:

"I'm just too apathetic."—A. J. R. Berry.

THE LIVING TREES

The night was black; the silence interrupted only by the sighing of the wind in the trees, trees which in day-time seemed no more than the playfields of animals and small boys. But now they were tall, ever-moving, sinister watchers, deathly and menacing. They loomed over you, seeming to resent your presence; they put out lumpy roots to trip and trick you. They conjured up strange monster shapes in their branches, threatening figures, slinking animals and weird hobgoblins. The trees were disturbed, their branches groaning as if, in their old age, they could not stand their own weight. The wind was angry too; sullen, ill-tempered gusts sent shivers down your spine and blew clammy wet leaves in your face. Yes, those trees hated you; and so did the wind, pushing and nudging you away.

From across the marsh the wind suddenly bore a high-pitched wail. Then it faded, and with it the nightmare thoughts and images it had brought with it. The moon appeared, grey at first, from behind her cover of cloud, and shed her weak, milky light on the still whispering trees. The wind died, and with it the wailing of the trees, and there was a silence which was not frightening at all. All around me were just some gnarled old trees shedding their annual cover of leaves.

M. BELLAMY, 4Pi, Mb.

FIGUREHEAD OR STATESMAN?

A black suit (perhaps with clashing herringbones) is seen to pass through the portals of the House of Commons. It is surmounted by a tasteful, yet reserved, black bowler hat. A black umbrella executes simple harmonic motion at the end of one sleeve, while a fresh copy of *The Times* is tucked under the arm of the other. A white handkerchief is high-lighted against the black suit, whilst the reverse effect is obtained with a white shirt and black tie. The whole picture is completed by black, highly polished leather-soled shoes.

But, though dressed much alike, politicians fall into two distinct categories; the extroverted and introverted.

The introverted—" And furthermore if you vote for me "—politicians, immediately disappear into the plush depth of the back benches of the House of Commons. Little is known of them and their very existence is only realised when they emerge, somewhat bleary-eyed, every five years, to take up the challenge with the foe. They are harmless enough in themselves, for all they do is think and, as thinking takes place in the mind, their fantasies are very rarely put to a practical test. Like obedient children they vote whenever they are called upon to do so, and applaud their own speakers and hiss and boo at the opposition.

It is the extroverted politician who is dangerous. He is smart, polite, sociable and witty, and does anything to get his name in the newspapers. Some even go to the extent of painting London pretty colours to see their name in print. Thus the extrovert's main danger lies in his complete lack of scruples, although I must add that this is not his fault, as he is only obeying his " Persona " or " shadow." He is the figurehead who opens fêtes and attends civic receptions and dinners. He is the ventriloquist so well versed that not only can he change his voice, but can also hide the meaning of what he is saying. Above all he is a psychologist, who is able to see through the hard outer shell of our personality and attack our undefended hearts and minds. By quivering his voice or stopping to have a glass of water he is able to obtain the confidence of millions of people.

Yet it is to these people that the country looks. It is the decisions of these people that keep the railways running, the roads free, our shipyards busy and our coal stocks low. It is these people who smother difficulties in Africa and Cyprus. It is these people who represent us abroad and voice our views. In short, it is these people who govern and look after our welfare. God help us!

P. T. LIBBY, U6Sc, Mi.

THE COUGH MIXTURE

Mr. Holroyd had a cough. Naturally, Mrs. Holroyd knew the answer: a cough mixture with a nasty taste. She would have none of your strawberry or raspberry flavoured mixtures. No, the worse the cough, the more unpleasant the cough mixture ought to taste, and the more rapid the recovery would be: this was Mrs. Holroyd's theory. If her thesis holds good (and who are we to doubt her?) then she had procured for her husband the most excellent of mixtures.

He had taken only one dose, since she had brought back the bottle from the chemist's in the High Street, and placed it reverently before him on the table. Poor Mr. Holroyd had leant back and protested, meekly enough, as Mrs. Holroyd forced the vile liquid down his throat. There followed much coughing and spluttering on his part and a great deal of sneering and cynicism on the part of his spouse. Mr. Holroyd jumped up, seized a glass and proceeded to dilute the esteemed mixture with plentiful supplies of water. He protested very little verbally—indeed he would have been hard put to it to have said anything in the ensuing minutes, for Mrs. Holroyd was busy listing his faults and mocking him for, in her own words, " kicking up such

a fuss over a little bit of medicine." For Mr. Holroyd was one of the unfortunate breed of what are usually described as hen-pecked husbands. Mrs. Holroyd knew what was good for him and he obeyed with that dejected air acquired by all harassed husbands.

One night, not long after his cough had been cured—whether due to the cough mixture or to the fear of taking it is not known—Mr. Holroyd struck a blow for himself, and in doing so dashed his wife's theory to the ground. The subject of cough mixture has been taboo in the Holroyd household to this day.

In the middle of the night, Mr. Holroyd was woken up by the sound of his wife coughing. An idea entered his head. Now, Mr. Holroyd is not a wag or a practical joker as a rule, but he saw his chance, and took it. Mrs. Holroyd watched her husband disappear into the bathroom for the cough mixture, the very same that had tortured his throat and palate. Minutes passed, and Mrs. Holroyd impatiently called for her husband several times, punctuating remarks like " hurry up " and " what are you doing? " with fits of coughing.

Henry Holroyd trotted obediently in after her last call, looking rather sheepish and apologetic. In one hand he held the cough mixture and in the other a spoon. He measured out a dose and placed it gently in his beloved wife's mouth. She grimaced and contorted her face, but her firm resolve to show her husband what a child he had been, made her keep a stern check on herself. This she did surprisingly well, considering the disgusting taste.

" Oh! " a gasp from Mr. Holroyd. " Oh, my dear . . . ! " He turned the bottle to show the label. She turned rather pale, screamed for a doctor, and ran out of the room holding her throat. Mr. Holroyd regarded the effect with hidden mirth, and, when his wife had left the room, peeled off the offending label, which deceitfully proclaimed someone's after-shave lotion, revealing the rightful label beneath.

A. R. Greene, 5Pi, Cc.

THE FLINTLOCK PISTOL

The flintlock pistol was invented in the 17th century. Highwaymen, pirates, bandits and many other men used it. It was the commonest type of pistol until the 19th century. In America, the pioneers used the flintlock pistol against attacking Indians, and savages; also many famous men used it. This flintlock pistol was good and easy to carry. Not a long pointed gun like the rifle, it was quite convenient. Highwaymen, for instance, carried these pistols in their belts.

Peter Duffy, 3 Omicron, Gj.

THE PROMISE OF SPRING

The morning was cold,
The ground was hard,
The trees were bare,
There was frost everywhere:
The morning was dark,
The stream was still;
I heard a bird sing—
It will soon be spring!

Then trees will all show
Their new spring buds
To brighten the lane,
When it's spring again.

C. C. Chivers, 1Ga.

CHESS

It is very pleasing to see the great increase in the popularity of chess over the past year. Our grateful thanks are due to Mr. Timothy and, recently, to Mr. Brown, both of whom have aided the chess teams and the general organization by their untiring efforts.

The success of our senior team has greatly exceeded all past years and we are all confident that we will finish very near to the top in the final league positions.

At the time of writing, the house matches are unfinished, but it looks as if Pitt will win, with Morley second.

The Junior Individual Championship has just finished. It was won by M. R. Collins, who won several hard-fought games.

On Friday, 5th February, the school played Kingston Grammar School. Although we have not yet got the final result we shall at least draw, if not win. Over the last few years the best we have done against them is to lose 5—1.

On Friday, 4th March, the school team is playing against the staff. This match should provide some excellent chess.

The whole school, especially the chess team, are looking forward to a match that we are arranging against Mayfield. We all hope to prove that this is indeed a man's world.

We are very fortunate this year in having three boys who have qualified to play for the Surrey Junior team. They are J. C. Joiner, R. P. Jackson and A. W. Curtis. We congratulate them all.

The results so far this season are:—

v.	Kingston (one to be finished)	$2\frac{1}{2}$—$2\frac{1}{2}$
v.	St. Paul's, Lost	$5\frac{1}{2}$—$\frac{1}{2}$
v.	Latymer, Drawn	3—3
v.	Beaulah Hill, Won	6—0
v.	Sinjuns, Won	4—2
v.	St. Clement Dane's, Lost	4—2
v.	Wallington, Won	$3\frac{1}{2}$—$2\frac{1}{2}$
v.	Strand, Lost	4—2

J. C. JOINER, U6Sc, Ma (*Captain*).

FIRST XV RUGBY

In terms of results, the 1959/60 season has been a frustrating one for the school 1st XV. Despite fielding what is generally regarded as the best 1st XV for many seasons, the team has had little reward in the way of success. Pure statistics would record the season to date, rather dismally, as won 4, drawn 1, lost 10, but as is so often the case, the record fails to give a true reflection of the play. It is fair to say that with better place kicking a number of our games would have been won, and it is significant to notice that in eight of the fifteen matches played, we have scored as many tries as our opponents, if not more. That they have won some of these games is due to the fact that they have made capital out of their kicks at goal. Only in the games against Bec, Wallington and Chiswick has there been a wide margin in the scores, and that none of these sides were able to score more than 16 points pays tribute to the defensive qualities of the side. Of our victories, by far the sweetest was that by which we lowered the colours of the Old Wandsworthians after a hard-fought and stirring battle at Claygate Lane. This victory opened the way to a rather more glorious patch at the end of the Christmas Term, in which we won three games consecutively and finished with our finest game against Selhurst, in which the mud and rain were overcome superbly, and we had the pleasant sight of the ball travelling along the line to both wings, who had long runs. That we were only able to score one try was a tribute to the stout defence of the Selhurst backs. After such

a fine display it seemed an unjust reward to draw this game, but we failed to convert our try from under the posts and had to be content with a share of the spoils.

After such a good run of success, the team went on tour at the end of term in great spirit. Fortune did not in any way favour us and, as if it wasn't bad enough to begin with to be without A. R. Nicholl in the centre, who was unable to come with us, we were further weakened by a bad sprain to B. A. Eadie's ankle which left us with neither of our regular centres for the rest of the tour. This injury occurred soon after half-time in the game with Windsor. Up to this point the school team had been by far the superior side, but thus weakened they conceded tries in the second half which cost us the game. Without any real centres a reorganised side fell rather badly in the second game of the tour to a strong Maidenhead side. In the final game against Thame we lost 5—3. Our try was by the posts, our opponents' was near the touchline, that in itself should have been enough to ensure us at least a draw; but as it happened we missed our conversion and our opponents kicked theirs to win, despite being hard pressed for three-quarters of the game.

Whatever the results and the disappointments of our defeats, the side has played well as a team, and there has been a very good and friendly spirit about their play. The pack have had to fight hard for the ball, but in the tight scrum they have given the side a good share of possession. In this respect they can thank D. A. Stewardson who has hooked extremely well. In the lineout and loose play there has not been the life and purpose that one would like to see, but the forwards have all played hard and, if one is to single out individuals, mention must be made of the Captain, D. M. Holdich, who has put in an enormous amount of hard work in the loose, and the open side wing forward, R. J. Pooley, whom I rate as the most improved player in the side. His defensive covering and tackling of the opposing halves and three-quarters has been devastating; and he has been so lively in attack that he has been one of the side's leading try scorers.

Of the backs, W. F. R. Fuller at scrum half has been giving a good service and has shown, at times, the sort of form that won him a place in the Surrey XV. A. R. Nicholl and B. A. Eadie as centres have been rock-like in defence, but there has been a lack of smoothness in their passing that has hampered the attacking qualities of the side. On the wings, both R. C. Newman and M. Adiseshiah have played well. Full back, P. M. T. Gillingham, has had a varied season, at times playing extremely well, but his play has lacked the steadiness we would like to see. However, it has been as a team, rather than as individuals, that this side has played and as such they have deserved better rewards for their efforts. It is hoped that the remaining games of the season will bring to the players a greater degree of satisfaction.

Results

v.	Bec	Lost	16—0
v.	St. Olave's	Lost	6—5
v.	Collyer's	Lost	8—3
v.	Chiswick	Lost	16—3
v.	Eltham Green	Won	6—5
v.	Old Wandsworthians	Won	8—6
v.	Wallington	Lost	13—5
v.	Merton and Morden	Won	65—3
v.	Selhurst	Drawn	3—3
v.	Windsor	Lost	11—3
v.	Maidenhead	Lost	24—0
v.	Thame	Lost	5—3
v.	William Ellis	Lost	6—3
v.	Sutton	Lost	6—3
v.	Elliott	Won	15—6

SECOND XV RUGBY

Captain: M. A. Burris. *Vice-Captain:* J. E. Pinnock.

Owing to the hot spell of weather at the beginning of the season, the ground conditions were so hard that play was impossible. As a result, the 2nd XV were unable to commence their fixtures until the 10th October.

The first match of the season was against our old rivals, the Bec. The school played very well considering only half the regular team were playing, losing by only 9 points to nil. It was obvious from this match that no assessment could be made of the team's promise for the coming season.

As the season progressed, the team gradually sorted itself out into a well-balanced side. The forwards began to combine well in the tight as well as in the loose, giving their threequarters more than a fair share of the ball. The threequarters have made excellent use of the ball, passing and running intelligently in attack and tackling well in defence.

On the whole, the 2nd XV have always given a good account of themselves on and off the field. Playing the game in the right spirit whether winning or losing.

The following members of the team have been awarded 2nd XV team badges: M. A. Burriss, J. E. Pinnock, F. R. Shons and C. E. Smart.

Finally, I would like, on behalf of the whole team, to thank Mr. Coate-Bond for turning out for every match, whether to spur the team on enthusiastically from the touchline, or to referee our home matches most efficiently.

Results

Played 11, won 7, lost 4; points—for 165, against 78.

10th October	v.	Bec, Away	Lost	9—0
17th October	v.	Spencer Park 1st, Home ...	Won	11—6
7th November	v.	Tulse Hill 1st, Home	Won	24—3
14th November	v.	Chiswick, Away	Lost	20—5
21st November	v.	Ifield 1st, Home	Won	5—3
28th November	v.	Old Boys Ex A, Away ...	Lost	25—11
5th December	v.	Spencer Park 1st, Home ...	Won	27—0
12th December	v.	Selhurst, Away	Lost	6—0
23rd January	v.	William Ellis, Away	Won	14—6
6th February	v.	Sutton, Away	Won	32—0
13th February	v.	Spencer Park 1st, Away ...	Won	36—0

M. A. Burris, L6G, Cc.

COLTS RUGBY

This year's Under Fifteen team have a very impressive record. At the time of writing, of the sixteen matches they have played they have won fifteen and drawn the other. They have scored 478 points and had only 28 scored against them. As part of the season's programme, the team toured the Upper Thames Valley, staying at Bisham Abbey. All three matches were won and visits were made to Oxford, the Morris works at Cowley and London Airport.

Wandsworth players dominated the Surrey Colts trials, and C. Marshall, S. England, P. Bligh and H. Griffiths were chosen for the county team. All four went on to play for the " South of the Thames " team. Marshall gained further successes and played in the Southern England trials.

Throughout the season the Colts have played fast open rugby which has made them very attractive to watch. A great deal of their success has been due to the play of Marshall at the key position of fly half. In defence he has kicked and tackled brilliantly and in attack carved out many openings which have been well used by his two centres, S. England and T. Smith. Among the scores made by England have been several fine dropped goals.

The forwards began the season indifferently, but, well led by Griffiths, they have improved considerably. The push in the tight scrums, although it is still far from perfect, has became more of a concerted effort; this in turn has helped R. Mance who has adapted himself well to the unfamiliar role of hooker. The line-outs have usually been dominated by Bligh, and P. Dutch's covering and tackling have made him an ideal " Number 8." In the loose, all the pack has foraged with speed and spirit.

The Colts' final aim this season will be to win the Surrey seven-a-side tournament. Next year it is to be hoped that many of them will form the basis of a successful school first team.

P.P.E.

UNDER 13 RUGBY

It is always easy to talk of poor conditions, absent " stars," partial referees, bad luck and so on when trying to explain away defeats. But when over forty boys are continually being tried in new positions and in new combinations, while playing for the " Under 13 Rugby Club," which fields two sides nearly every Saturday, one can expect things to go wrong. After all, the " Under 13 " teams are but preparation for the greater honours at 1st XV level. Most of our defeats, I suppose, could have been avoided by greater concentration, but we can usually take on most grammar schools two at a time and beat 'em—witness Thames Valley and Sutton.

Apart from the Cornish Tour, the highlight of the year was our Dulwich College fixture. Hospitality and the game were excellent. We drew first blood through a quick try by our Captain, J. Wood, and the whole team played magnificently to maintain this deserved lead until well into the second half. Until then, Dulwich had tried everything without success. Finally one of their long, probing kicks bounced luckily and they were over—far out. A superb conversion for a youngster gave them a 5—3 lead. This was the final score in a most satisfying game; now we are waiting until next season!

The first time the pack was well-beaten was by a small Thames Valley side who came and kept their unbeaten record with a 9—3 win. A return was arranged and we romped home 17—0, having learned the lesson of binding in the loose. On this occasion the three-quarters gave a model display of handling and passing which it is hoped they will repeat against Purley, our toughest opponents this term.

The club enjoys enthusiastic support and because of this there are far too many names to mention individually. However, it is because of the efforts of every one of them that we can have the present record: : played 26, won 16, drawn 3, lost 7, points—for 383, against 113.

Seven games to date have been cancelled. This makes for a very full and demanding fixture list. Helping to fulfil it and so carry afield the name of the school and the very fine Rugby tradition it stands for, is surely a greater pleasure than seeing one's name in print.

P.M.R.T.

I MAKE A START AT RUGBY

Off we went by coach to the playing fields to learn how to play Rugby: I changed into my kit which I had tried on earlier at home. They said I " looked the part." After some practice and a period of learning the rules we reached the stage where we could form into a team and play the game properly. Well, we lined up and the game started. Everything happened to me. I was floored, flattened, sat on. All the players seemed to be on top of me. When I did worm my way out, I saw a clear way in front of me, so I grabbed the ball and tore off like mad, only to find I was running back into my own half. Somebody was kind enough to tell me! Perhaps I had better try fencing.

PETER HERD, 1Delta.

FENCING

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

Fencing began this term with a weekend visit to the National Training Centre at Bisham Abbey. A large number of boys, ranging from the first to the sixth forms, attended this course, on which instruction was given in all three weapons by the four members of the staff who had organised the weekend. The over-all result of the course was an immediate rise in the school's fencing standards as a whole, together with an especial improvement by the more junior members of the club. Owing to the success of this, the first excursion of its kind by schoolboy fencers, it will be possible to arrange further courses for later this, or early next year.

Through the good offices of Professor A. T. Simmonds, the club has been exceedingly lucky in being able to send three of its members on Leaders Courses, arranged by the A.F.A. and run by the National Coach. These courses have given the boys concerned invaluable experience and knowledge to impart to the rest of school fencing and to improve their individual performances. The courses attended specialised in particular weapons, thus A. J. R. Berry took the foil, and D. Titheradge and R. Burt the sabre courses.

The fencing club as a whole would like to use this opportunity to thank the small number of boys from the junior school who have given so much of their free time in the maintenance of the school's equipment. This is perhaps a true reflection of the keen spirit of the junior boys, in comparison to the lack of interest shown by the majority of fencers from the senior school.

House Matches

Owing to the overwhelming superiority of Cromwell House in both quantity and quality of fencers, it was felt that for one year at least, a change should be made in the method of fighting off the championship so as to make the competition a little less one-sided. However, Cromwell superiority could not be disputed and by beating all three other Houses, they took first place for the second time in succession. The positions of the other Houses were: Pitt second, Morley third, and Gibbon fourth.

School Matches

To date this term the school has had four matches, of which two have been won and two lost. The first match of the term was a home match against Dulwich College in all three weapons. The result was a defeat for Wandsworth by 17 bouts to 28. This was the first defeat we had suffered for exactly one year to the day, when we were last defeated, again by Dulwich College.

The following two matches, against St. Paul's and King's College, Wimbledon, were both victories. We narrowly beat St. Paul's for the third time running, by 23 bouts to 22, and we convincingly beat King's College for the second time running by 17 bouts to 1.

Our fourth match, against Westminster School was fought between 2nd teams in both foil and sabre, so preventing the school's real power from being used. The result was a fairly heavy defeat for Wandsworth, but a return match for first teams later this term may reverse the final score to our favour.

Open Competitions

Bexley Heath Individual Foil Championship

Both senior and junior sections of this Championship were won by Wandsworth School, together with other high positions. The senior section was won by A. J. R. Berry; N. C. Bishop came second and D. Titheradge a joint fifth. R. Burness won the juniors and D. Eden and D. Pratt were both well placed in the finals. This competition is particularly important in that by sweeping the board, as we did indeed do, we beat the best members of many of London's foremost fencing schools.

The Men's Novices Competition

Only two boys, A. J. R. Berry and N. C. Bishop, entered this competition, and both did very well to reach the semi-finals.

The London Schoolboys' Foil Championship

This year the school did better than ever before in this competition in winning the Fuller Cup—the trophy for the finest team effort. The individual results were:

Senior—A. J. R. Berry, second after losing by one hit. N. C. Bishop, reached semi-finals.

Junior—D. Pratt, second place, losing by one hit after a barrage for first place. D. Eden, fourth place. B. Wigzell, reached semi-finals.

Many other boys were entered in both senior and junior competitions, but were eliminated in the preliminary rounds.

R. BURT, L6Ec, Mb (*Hon. Secretary*).

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 5:

"The Baganda are a nation, not a tribe like the Welsh in Britain."

—A Prefect.

THE LONGEST ROAD

One day as I was rushing home from work in my new Vauxhall Victor, I began to feel slightly faint. I pulled into the kerb and shut my eyes for a minute. When I opened them, I was on a road which I had never seen before, with a cliff going down to the sea on one side and cliffs towering above me on the other. Feeling frightened, I darted my eyes from side to side. Suddenly, I saw something in black in front of me. I closed my eyes in fright, and when I opened them, I was back on the way home. Thinking that I had had a dream, I went on and nothing else happened.

The same time a year later the same thing happened. Again I found myself on the mountain road. Remembering last year, I was extremely scared. In the end I decided that it must lead somewhere, and drove on. Finally it became too narrow to go on, turn round or even go in reverse. Then I saw again the terrible thing in black, and fell unconscious. When I recovered I could hear a noise around me, and I found myself in a dark wooden box. I could hear shovelling above me. Then I realised that I had taken the longest road of all.

A. HAMMOND, 1 Omega.

THE TURTLE

Night lay thick and warm on the beach of the island. Yet the beach was not dark. It was illuminated by the fitful glimmer of ten thousand stars, hung in a velvet black sky, and by the answering night-phosphorescence of the Java Sea.

This was Turtle Island, the place to which there came, during one short season each year, many female turtles to lay their eggs. Tonight, the first ones were due and, as turtle eggs are highly valued in the east, the undergrowth at the head of the beach concealed several watchers.

Midnight was gone and the turtles were due. The watchers strained their eyes in the semi-dark; and soon, one of them saw a black, shiny hump pulling itself out of the sea with a slow, laborious action. It pulled itself up the beach with its flippers by means of many short, six-inch heaves. Finally,



Scraperboard illustration by R. H. Fairbairn, 41o, Pj.

when it had crawled some thirty yards from the sea, it stopped and began to dig at the powdery coral sand with its fore flippers.

It made slow progress until it reached the damp sand which was easier to dig. Having made a large crater, some four feet deep, the turtle turned itself around and began to dig, with its rear flipper, a carefully shaped hole into which it would lay its many eggs. It was two hours before the egg hole was completed to the turtle's satisfaction, and then it began to lay its eggs. By ones and twos it deposited about sixty, ping-pong ball shaped eggs in the hole and then it carefully filled it in and began to dig a large trough in the sand to disguise the actual position of the egg hoard.

The eastern sky was greying when it started its slow, laborious journey back to the retreating sea.

It was then that the watcher came out of his hiding place, and, having carefully marked the position of the eggs with a stick, he went off to his breakfast at the camp. Meanwhile, the turtle made its way back to the sea and swam away into the dawning day, careless of the fate of its eggs, and not to land again until the same short season a year later.

D. T. SNELL, 5Pi, Pc.

CROSS-COUNTRY, 1959-60

Wandsworth District

The annual Wandsworth District Cross-Country Championships were held on December 5th at Camp Road, Wimbledon. The School entered 3 junior and 2 intermediate teams, and also some individuals in the first ever senior event.

The junior race started first, in good cross-country conditions, and we were pleased to see that on the fast stretch to the Windmill, the maroon vests of Wandsworth were already prominent in the front half of the field of 120 runners. The "A" team, led by P. Beard, kept together and were able to set the pace; and it was only on the long uphill drag from Beverley Brook to the "White" Lodge, known as the "Toast Rack," that they began to split up. P. Beard increased his lead to finish in the fine time of 16 min. 58 sec., last year's winning time being 17 min. 30 sec. He was closely followed by D. Hale 2nd, T. McNie 3rd, R. Nicholls 4th and R. Hobbs 5th. The sixth scoring man was R. Sandford 8th, thus giving Wandsworth a convincing victory with 23 pts. Wandsworth "B" and "C" teams filled the next two positions with 87 and 95 pts. respectively, giving the school a clear cut victory in the junior event.

The intermediate race again proved to be a battle between the Wandsworth boys for the front positions. Both Wandsworth teams ran well and it was once more the greater strength of our runners, when ascending the "Toast Rack," that gave them a well deserved victory. The winner was J. Halliday, knocking 39 sec. off last year's winning time, followed by E. G. Slater 2nd, R. Knight 3rd, A. Dailey 4th, B. Brind 6th, H. Reynolds 7th, and V. Hancock 8th.

The first three teams were Wandsworth "A" 1st, 23 pts.; Sir Walter St. John's 2nd, 87 pts.; and Wandsworth "B" 3rd, 89 pts.

The senior race, whose entry consisted solely of individuals, was a new event and one we hope will remain in the Annual Programme. Four boys from Wandsworth School entered and enjoyed a rather muddy tour of Wimbledon Common following the same course as the intermediate race. The individual positions were 1st L. S. Woodcock, 2nd R. Hancock, 5th N. Ratcliffe, and 6th R. E. Grant.

School Matches

v. Purley. Result: Drawn.
Juniors, won: 1st R. Sandford, 2nd R. Locke, 4th P. Burgar.
Seniors, lost: 2nd R. Knight, 3rd B. Brind, 4th L. S. Woodcock.
A rather unfortunate race as the teams went off course.

v. Strand. Result: Won.
Juniors, won (21—68): 1st V. Hancock, 2nd P. Beard, 3rd N. Haley.
Seniors, won (27—59): 1st E. G. Slater, 3rd B. Brind, 4th A. Dailey.
A good race in which the teams packed well.

v. Raines Foundation and Christopher Wren. Result: Won.
Juniors: 1st Wandsworth, 24 pts.; 2nd Raines, 72 pts.; 3rd Wren, 105 pts.
Seniors: 1st Wandsworth, 25 pts.; 2nd Wren, 52 pts.; 3rd Raines, 92 pts.
Juniors: 1st P. Beard, 2nd T. McNie, 3rd D. Hale.
Seniors: 1st E. G. Slater, B. Brind, H. Reynolds, A. Dailey.
An enjoyable afternoon, although our teams proved rather too strong.

v. Selhurst. Result: Won.
Juniors, won (18—38): 1st R. Sandford, 2nd R. Summerfield, 3rd D. Beard.
Intermediates, won (23—58): 1st P. Beard, 2nd V. Hancock, 3rd D. Hale.
Seniors, won (21—62): 1st E. G. Slater, 2nd A. Dailey, 3rd R. Knight.
In this match the School scored one of its best victories, having the first

four in the juniors, the first six in the intermediates and the first five in the seniors.

3rd Form v. Battersea Grammar. Result: Won 26—57 (1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8).
1st R. Sandford, 2nd B. Elmes, 4th D. Beard, 5th K. Somers, 6th D. Mason, 8th N. Berry.

The future cross-country stars of the School marked up their first team victory in this race, held at Wimbledon Common on November 10th. The race was held in excellent weather conditions and the speed of the Wandsworth runners could not be matched by Battersea.

London Championships

The London Championship was probably the hardest race of the season so far, being held over the famous Parliament Hill fields course, where in previous years the National Cross-Country Championship has been held. The junior, intermediate and senior races were $2\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles respectively, mostly over rough undulating grass land with plenty of mud making it heavy going in several places.

Saturday, 12th December, was a rather miserable day with clouds overhead and a slight drizzle falling, but these conditions did not worry the track-suit clad runners from Wandsworth, who made up for the dismal conditions with bounding enthusiasm to get started, the thought probably being to get back to the changing rooms first.

With this incentive in mind, the junior race started and the runners soon began to spread out as they ran up the grass slopes of Parliament Hill itself. The Wandsworth District team, consisting mainly of Wandsworth School runners, had a convincing victory, and supplied the individual winner, P. Beard, who beat off a strong challenge in the last 100 yards.

The intermediate race was again dominated by the Wandsworth contingent of runners and B. Brind, who went into an early lead, led all the way to the finish being challenged only once, just before the end, when his superior strength gained him a well deserved victory. The School runners all did well and those who finished in the first eight have been invited to run for London in the National Schools Championships at Liverpool on March 19th.

Individual positions:—

Juniors: 1st P. Beard, 3rd T. McNie, 4th D. Hale, 5th R. Sandford.
Seniors: 1st B. Brind, 5th R. Knight, 6th J. Halliday, 8th J. H. Reynolds.

Epsom and Ewell Harriers Invitation Race

The School entered an under 16 team of six runners in the above event, which was held at Tattenham Corner on Saturday, January 30th. The team ran an excellent race over the fast two-lap circuit and the four scorers finished in the first 10, to give them a convincing victory. J. Halliday was 2nd, P. Beard 6th, V. Hancock 5th, and D. Hale 9th.

Cambridge Harriers Schools Invitation

This event, held at Bexley on February 6th, was for Over 15 runners. The School entered two teams of six, who did very well to come first and second, pushing Purley Grammar School, last year's winning team, into third place. The course was very hard going and hilly, especially the first half-mile of each lap, which was exceptionally treacherous. The School team seemed confident after the first half-mile and E. G. Slater, J. Halliday, V. Hancock and A. Dailey remained at the front for the rest of the race. The order of the first three changed once or twice, but they finished with only a second dividing them.

Result: Wandsworth " A " 1st, 7 pts.; Wandsworth " B " 2nd, 19 pts.; Purley 3rd, 34 pts.

Individual positions: 1st J. Halliday, 2nd E. G. Slater, 3rd V. Hancock, 4th A. Dailey, 6th P. Beard, 7th H. Reynolds.

Surrey Boys' Championships

The Surrey Boys Championship was held at Morden Park on Saturday, 20th February. The school entered the familiar Under 16 team who came second, probably being put off by the speed of this fast two mile race. J. Halliday ran well to finish third, after having had a pain in his stomach for most of the race. He was supported by D. Hale (8th) and P. Beard (12th) giving the team 23 pts., to the 15 pts. of the winning team, Guildford and Godalming A.C.

L. S. Woodcock, U6Sc, Gb (*Captain*).

I would like to congratulate the teams on the very high standard they have achieved this season. The excellent results against the best opposition are due to the conscientious way in which training has been carried out after school hours and often at considerable inconvenience. It is a mark of character and this and their smart turn out on the course or on the " platform " has frequently been the subject of very favourable comment.

It is no mean performance to win a London Championship and a special word of praise is due to P. Beard (Junior) and B. Brind (Intermediate), who brought both championships to the school this season.

L. Woodcock, our Captain, has had an unlucky season, having been out of action with foot trouble nearly all the time, and we hope he and B. Brind, who was injured in the County Championships and has been unable to race for six weeks, will be fit to join the team again in time for the South London Grammar Schools on March 9th.

R.F.R.C.

BASKETBALL

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

Secretary: R. H. Jones.

The Team

Robert Hancock—Centre Attack.

" Hank " (5 ft. 10 in.) has proved to be an excellent leader, and worthy of the office of captain. The consistency of his shooting can be seen from the fact that he has obtained 161 points. His favourite shot, the hook shot, is, I feel, the most difficult one there is, but he has persevered with it, and although he has not reached perfection, he has attained a very high standard.

Michael Golding—Right Attack.

The two handed jump shot, which " Minge " (5 ft. 8 in.) has cultivated, is a shot which very few are able to perform. His height has not impeded his ability on the field, but rather has made him concentrate on fast passing between between himself and " Hank "; and I feel sure that if these two had known of the London Basketball trials, they would have stood a good chance of securing a place in the team.

David Snare—Left Attack.

Playing in his first season for the School Senior Basketball team, "Whitey" (5 ft. 10 in.) has shown exceptional ability with his lay-up shot. He is also a capable defensive player, and his co-ordinative play can be reckoned to be one of the best. Although he has only played in six complete games, he has obtained an average of 13.5 points, his greatest performance being in the match against Raines Foundation, when he scored 26 points.

Robin Jones and Brian Jones.

Tallest members of the team, the Jones brothers (6 ft. 0 in. and 6 ft. 1½ in.), have many times proved themselves to be of paramount importance in defence. "Spider's" ability to throw hard and accurately, is, I am sure, due to the fact that he plays water polo. He is also an excellent jumper, and on countless occasions has blocked a certain basket.

Richard Grant and Derek Goddard.

These two I think deserve special mention, for they have turned up regularly as substitutes, although they have known they might only be on the field for a few minutes. The work of a substitute is a hard one, for he must be able to take over anybody's position. So I think the rest of the team will agree with me, when I say that "Kingfish" and "Jaques" are both capable and reliable.

Results to date

Team	*Away*	*Home*
Glyn County	46—66 (L)	11—48 (L)
Sutton G.S.	44—54 (L)	42—57 (L)
Spenser Park	—	46—29 (W)
Elliott	37—42 (L)	46—49 (L)
Strand	—	47—30 (W)
Christopher Wren	31—66 (L)	25—35 (L)
Tulse Hill	35—27 (W)	—
Raines Foundation	—	51—34 (W)
Wimbledon	—	65—23 (W)

As one can see, there are some matches still to be played; including one against the Old Boys, and another against the Masters. You also may be interested to know that Mayfield have accepted our challenge of a game of Netball, to be played on the 23rd March.

R. H. Jones, L6G, Ma.

FIVES REPORT

"How are the mighty fallen?" This might well refer to the Wandsworth School Fives Team. After ending last term with an eight games to nil victory over Sloane School and beginning the new term with a similar success over Strand, their sweeping conquest was halted somewhat abruptly at Hackney Downs School, where they lost eight nil. At least we can say that the Fives Team does nothing by half measures.

Nevertheless honour was to some extent restored when the School visited "Sinjuns" (Sir Walter St. John's) who had already beaten us by five games to three at Wandsworth in the middle of November. Coming out against all the odds the team achieved a commendable six two win, more than making up for November's defeat, and more important still, bringing the School up to joint second place in "The Marchant Cup." It now seems fairly certain that this will be our eventual position. Considering that last year's team could only finish in third place, we are at least heading in the right direction. But

success has not come easily. The team has had to train regularly three days a week.

Now that the League matches are nearly over, we hope to hold some friendly games with the staff, always an entertaining fixture (if they can get a team out!), and with the Old Boys. The team, consisting of N. A. Ratcliffe, J. H. Cousins, C. M. Fogg and P. T. Libby, wish to express their gratitude to Mr. Finbow (Team Manager and maker of tea) who has been a continual source of inspiration, and who has unselfishly devoted a considerable amount of his spare time to the running of fives in the school.

Results (in games)

St. Marylebone	0	:	Wandsworth	8
Sloane	0	:	Wandsworth	8
Strand	0	:	Wandsworth	8
Hackney Downs	8	:	Wandsworth	0
Sir Walter St. John's	2	:	Wandsworth	6

P. T. LIBBY, U6Sc, Mi (*Secretary*).

MY SISTER

My sister is a terror.
When playing with the boys
She scorns frilly dresses—
Preferring corduroys.

Pretty as a picture,
Hair, what a sheen!
A sure queen for someone
When sweet seventeen.

T. MORGAN, 2Nu.

ADVERSE ADVERTS

It has been said many times that one of the most despicable signs in the so-called Welfare State is the fact that in any school or club where young people congregate, one may hear them rendering us television advertisements. Not only do I find these fragments of glittering verses obnoxious and frustrating, but they encourage in me the dangerous yearning to put a brick through my T.V. screen.

These advertisements, although no doubt vaguely attractive to the younger and less-deeply thinking members of the community, lose some of their glamour when one has to watch a number of razor-blades or similar articles of toilet, marching up and down one's screen a dozen times an evening. Indeed, it is sometimes surprising why these cartoons are not all thrown together into one large children's programme.

It amazes me how people with any feeling can sit and listen to this repulsive, spirit-draining propaganda. The advertisements would (or might) be bearable, if it was not painfully obvious that they were all fakes, and all the makers are after is one's money.

One sees an earnest young man explaining the virtues of one particular brand of soap-powder, containing some wonderful ingredient, which, until now, was unknown even to science. He then produces obviously faked photographs to back up his ridiculous statement. The same man then reappears some fifteen minutes later and produces some more photographs and so-called " Letters (supposed to be genuine) of Appreciation " from nameless people in remote parts of the country.

At this point the whole revolting performance becomes a stupid, time-wasting farce.

I do possess the " other channel," but I fail to see how any person can be led into buying these advertised products merely on the strength of their proof, the integrity of which is doubtful, to say the least.

Probably the most sickening and frustrating aspect is the time these advertisements are put on. If, by chance, one can get engrossed in a programme on this channel the whole atmosphere is destroyed when one of these imbeciles pops up to show us his new whitener, whiter, of course, than anybody else's.

D. RICHARDS, 5Th, Mh.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

Annual Dinner

Our Dinner, which was held on 22nd January, again proved a most enjoyable and successful occasion, and the record attendance achieved in 1959 was improved upon this year. Once again it was a great pleasure to see so many of the School Staff with us—and in such good form, too. Our members were particularly happy to have the company of that veritable " Wandsworth institution," Mr. Ascher père, on whom the years appear to have no effect at all. Even Old Boys of pre-war vintage remarked that he showed no perceptible change from the days when they were indiscriminately designated as " raving lunatics."

The Head Boy, A. Berry, responded most creditably to the toast of " The School," which had been proposed by Peter Eastwood, illustrating as is proper on these occasions that the past may well be proud of the present.

The toast to "The Old Wandsworthians Association" was most enjoyably proposed by Mr. W. A. Tovell—and how pleased we are always to be addressed by a member of the Staff—Ian Maclean replying on behalf of the Association.

The account of the School's remarkable successes of recent times, both in and out of the classroom, which our President took justifiable pride in mentioning, much impressed His Worship the Mayor of Wandsworth who was our guest and who expressed his great interest in finding that the borough possessed a school of a calibre hitherto unsuspected.

And, although we have tendered congratulations in various places at various times, we would take this most appropriate opportunity in the magazine of the School of expressing the Association's admiration of all swimmers, fencers, athletes, chess-players and members of the choir who have contributed to these successes.

Cricket

The lengthening days of early spring remind us that the cricket season is not far off and it is not too soon to emphasise once more that we shall be pleased to welcome to the ground at Claygate all parents, staff and friends of

the School who may care to watch our matches in the truly pleasant surroundings there.

Fête

It is not too early also to be thinking of our great summer venture again, and, although arrangements will soon be in hand, we would mention here that our need for helpers on the day will be as great as ever. Should these notes, therefore, be read by any Old Boy who might otherwise not have contact with us, will he please make a point of offering his services in July as soon as possible, to Ian Maclean at 106, Alfriston Road, S.W.11.

All information concerning the Association may be obtained from the Secretary: Mr. D. D. Grant, 2, Conway Road, Wimbledon, S.W.20.

D.C.F.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Dear Parents,

On Friday, the 22nd of January, I was privileged to accept, on your behalf, the invitation of the Old Wandsworthians Association to their Annual Dinner. Although, on my arrival, I scarcely knew a soul to speak to, within a very short time I was made to feel among friends and was very pleased indeed to make the personal acquaintance of the Secretary and Members present.

The Reception, Dinner and speeches were really most enjoyable but, in retrospect, I think the main pleasure that emerged was the realisation that the Old Wandsworthians Association is, in fact, a body of good-hearted, lively and enterprising individuals and not merely the " Entity-for-Keeping-a-Catalogue-of-Retired-Schoolboys " that the ignorant might be tempted to imagine.

As you may suppose, the Old Wandsworthians Association and our own Association have always been very closely linked, supporting each other, as we do, whenever possible. However, it is really most pleasant to find this link so securely welded by the personal touch.

This term has seen the installation of the Organ and I am sure its notes will sound the sweeter to those amongst you who have contributed so much, so far, towards its acquisition. There is still quite a substantial amount outstanding and I know that our various appeals will continue to meet with your generous support.

H.G. KIRALFY, *Hon. Secretary.*

CONTEMPORARY QUOTATIONS, No. 6:

" I must get home to see the wife."—Mr. Finbow.

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