

THE ABINGDONIAN

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

January, 1960

SCHOOL PREFECTS

P. J. Ford (Head of School)

P. E. Perry (Head of Boarders and of Crescent House)

D. T. L. Eke (Head of School House)

A. P. Haynes (Head of Dayboys)

T. A. Libby (S)

A. F. Pritchard (D)

G. S. Howlett (D)

D. W. G. Riddick (C)

A. L. Howell (S)

K. N. Haarhoff (S)

G. W. Jones (D)

J. S. Kelly (D)

R. W. Harvey (W)

M. P. Cross (S)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—R. L. Antrobus; B. D. Gibbs; P. J. V. Willis; M. J. Neilan; R. J. C. Bampton; R. W. J. Bampton; D. M. Spragg.

Crescent House—R. T. Moll; A. G. Dillabough; G. G. Ganf.

Larkhill—D. J. Griffiths; R. J. L. Hewison; A. G. D. Matson.

Waste Court—G. L. Griffiss; D. P. Heather-Hayes.

Dayboy—R. G. Simmonds; J. M. Milne; R. C. Watts; P. A. Bretscher; R. M. Campbell; G. D. Louth; C. H. Woodham; W. C. Hamilton; R. W. J. Parsons; E. W. Firth; G. R. B. Farrington; C. T. Johnson; R. C. Luker.

EDITORIAL

Many of us may remember the protest march organised by the Oxford Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. However, I wonder how many of those who took part had really thought of all the questions that must be considered before Nuclear Disarmament is possible. The superficial attractions of their policy are evident, and especially at this season of Christmastide when men seek to turn their minds from thoughts of conflict. But it may well be that upon this very bomb our fate depends. It can be argued that the bomb has not only the power to destroy but also the power to prevent destruction, that it is the only weapon with which we can defend ourselves against the arms and countless numbers of Communism.

Moreover, we are a nation with responsibilities and, what is more important, we have a way of life, a religion, justice, freedom to think and to speak, and this must be defended. Thus the choice is likely to be not between right and wrong but of the lesser of two evils. And so we ought not to underestimate the power of the deterrent. History has shown us that the balance of power is essential to World Peace: it is only when one State becomes too powerful that she dares to invade her neighbour.

To combat the arms of Communism is one thing but what of Communism itself? It, too, is a way of life and therefore cannot be fought with a bomb alone but with another way of life—that of true Christianity. This year, our attention has been forcibly drawn to the appalling problem of the refugees; the thought of them should stir not only our pity but also our admiration. The plight of those refugees in Europe and Asia who have fled to the West shows at least that there are men and women who are willing to give up their worldly possessions, to sever all ties with family and friends, to leave their homes and the land of their birth, rather than live under the yoke of Communism. They have thrust themselves unwillingly upon the hospitality of the free world and we must receive them and care for them so that they may not have fled in vain from the chains of totalitarianism to the fetters of poverty.

Let us not forget that the basis of all communist doctrines is world domination. But we, who call ourselves Christians, have our own basic doctrine also. And that is to spread truth, justice, freedom and Christianity so that the whole world may know that there is a God, an all-loving God, who matters more than greed and power and who cares for all men whether from the West or from the East.

Nations that have rejected God have returned to slavery. They are strong but lonely. They are powerful in arms, in wealth, in men, in gold but they lack truth, freedom and justice. This is the challenge to Christianity. With the bomb we may defend our lives but the attack must come through what we believe is the only true way of life.

SCHOOL NOTES

It is with great regret that we have heard of the resignation of our Vice-Chairman, Lord Glyn of Farnborough. Unfortunately there comes a time when the doctor's orders to take things more easily can no longer be disregarded. All we can do is to thank Lord Glyn for the quite outstanding services he has rendered to the School, both officially and unofficially, since he first joined the Governing Body in 1924, and to wish him many happy years, if not of retirement, at any rate of a rather less busy life.

The Governors have elected Mr. G. R. F. Bredin, C.B.E., Bursar of Pembroke College, Oxford, as Vice-Chairman in place of Lord Glyn. We are grateful to such a busy man for adding to his commitments in this way.

We extend a very warm welcome to Mr. J. E. J. Francis, of the Oxford Institute of Education, whom the County Council has nominated to fill the vacancy in the Governing Body caused by the resignation of Mr. Thomas.

And whatever our political beliefs may be we can join in congratulating the electors of North Berkshire on their wisdom in re-electing Mr. Airey Neave—as an *ex officio* Governor of this School.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Tammadge on the birth of a daughter, Deborah Anne (1st November); Mr. and Mrs. Milton on the birth of a son, Jeremy Nicholas (22nd December); and Mr. and Mrs. Baker on the birth of a son, William Glaisger (11th January).

The staff was represented in force at the wedding of Mr. Phizackerley and Miss Baker, which took place at St. John's Church, Eastbourne, on 22nd December. Report has it that the Chaplain's speech at the subsequent reception was far more polished—and far funnier—than one has any right to expect from a newly-made bridegroom. The 'Abingdonian' joins with the School in wishing good fortune to this union of Vestry and of Office.

We welcome Miss Ashcroft who replaces Mrs. Phizackerley as Administrative Assistant. May her stay with us be a happy one.

It is with mixed feelings that we hear of Mr. Sawbridge's appointment to the music staff of Haileybury, his old school. Fortunately he will not be leaving us until the end of the School year, so the time has not yet come for us to say good-bye.

But good-bye we must say to Mrs. Lockhart-Smith, though it is hard to do so. As matron at Larkhill, matron at School House, and finally as Sister-in-Charge of the Lodge, Mrs. Lockhart-Smith has served the School quite devotedly for the last fourteen years. We shall always remember her, even those of us who have never had the opportunity of spending luxurious days in the Lodge, for her cheerful and motherly kindness. It is significant that dayboys as well as boarders joined in subscribing towards the book-shelves and the travelling case which

were presented to her in the name of the School at a simple but moving little ceremony at the final assembly of the term. We all wish her well and we hope she will frequently revisit the School.

This is not the only change in the Matrons' sector, for we must also bid farewell to Miss Thomas of Crescent House and Miss Cross of Larkhill. In thanking them for what they have done for the School, we welcome too our new matrons, Miss MacIntyre (Crescent), Miss Gingell (Larkhill) and Miss Underhill (Waste Court). A special word of thanks to Mrs. Sewry, who this term has herself bridged the gap between two matrons over at Waste Court. Life was not made any easier for her by Mr. Sewry's illness. Convalescence now proceeds according to plan and we hope he will be back on full duty in January.

Mrs. Lockhart-Smith is being succeeded at the Lodge by Mr. and Mrs. Potter. Mrs. Potter, who is already well-known to many of us, was trained at the same stable as Mrs. Lockhart-Smith (King's College Hospital) so we can be sure that the same high standard of nursing will be maintained.

It was common knowledge that Mr. and Mrs. Gray would be handing over at Larkhill to Mr. and Mrs. Willis at the end of the school year. For private reasons, it was more convenient for them to make the move now. So Mr. and Mrs. Hillary have very kindly agreed to move into Larkhill as a kind of 'caretaker government' which will keep the house warm for the arrival of the Willises in September.

Adequately to thank Mr. and Mrs. Gray for what they have done in and for Larkhill since they opened it as a new boarding house in those difficult days just after the war would smack too much of a valedictory, and it is far too soon for that. But the School is grateful—to them both, and hopes they will enjoy living once again in a 'private house'.

We congratulate the Headmaster on his election as Chairman of the Midland Division of the Headmasters' Conference for the ensuing two years.

During the coming term we look forward to welcoming four student masters—two residents, Mr. G. P. Mosback (Selwyn College and the Cambridge Department—English) and Mr. F. C. P. Whitworth (Jesus College, Cambridge, and the Reading Department—Mathematics) and two 'dayboys' from the Oxford Department, Mr. K. J. Gilligan (London University—Geography) and Mr. D. Sebastian (Madras and Bombay Universities—English).

We have also established relations with our new neighbours at North Hinksey, Westminster College; and we were glad to entertain two of its members to short periods of teaching practice in October, Mr. J. W. Butcher (Classics) and Mr. T. Simister (Geography).

Our warm thanks to Mr. Bryan Winkett (O.A.), who came along to help us for a short time at the beginning of the term; and to Miss

Anne Pettit, a research student in Mathematics at Somerville College, Oxford, who is very kindly giving Mr. Tammadge a helping hand with our top-level mathematicians.

It was pleasant to see Mr. Pole, who is now working with the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, down for the School Play and we are grateful to him for writing the review of it which appears on another page.

Few schools can have been more fortunate than this in the amount of plate which has been presented to them in the course of years; but rarely, if ever, have we had such a magnificent gift as the one made to us by the Rev. J. V. Pixell, M.A., late Vicar of Radley. Mr. Pixell has not only given us some miniature medallions but also five silver trophies including the Macnaughton Challenge Cup for Sculling won by his father in 1861 and the equivalent trophy he himself won in 1902. For all of which, warm thanks.

And we are grateful too to the anonymous donor of £30 towards the cost of finishing off the new Fives Court; and to Squadron Leader and Mrs. H. A. Haarhoff for the gift of a silver challenge cup to be held each year by the winner of the Senior Sculls; and to Mr. and Mrs. Oliver for presenting us with the purchase price of a new oar (£10).

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the term was 536, of whom 190 were boarders. This represents an increase, though a slight one, on the corresponding figures for last year; and we can reasonably hope that we have now reached the peak of our expansion.

It is interesting to note that this figure included no less than 145 boys in one or other of what are now six Sixth Forms—Upper Sixth Arts, Upper Sixth Science, Lower Sixth Arts, Lower Sixth Science (two forms) and Sixth General.

University awards this term have been few but of outstanding merit. P. J. Ford has followed up his 'Open' at New College by winning for us (and for his father!) our first 'Trevelyan': and K. N. Haarhoff, whose seventeenth birthday is still far in the future, has just been awarded an Open Major Scholarship in Natural Science at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge. To both, our hearty congratulations; as too to C. H. Woodham on the award of the Sixth Form Scholarship (known *pro hac vice* as the Lady Wantage) and to J. R. N. Ogle on securing entry to Cranwell.

We have just heard of two more Berkshire County Major Awards, granted respectively to R. M. Bartley (Robin Mackintosh), for the Liverpool Wireless College, and John Fry, for the Battersea College of Technology. Congratulations to both.

A simple initiative test was held on the night of Saturday/Sunday, 17th/18th October, when nine pairs of Sixth Formers were dispatched with instructions to cycle through six different counties and then to present a log of their journey. A gale of unusual violence made this

rather more of an endurance test than had been expected, but all returned safely in the course of Sunday morning. A well-deserved prize went to P. P. Hutchison and G. M. McPherson.

On 12th October the Lower Sixth heard a very interesting lecture on Germany by Mr. A. C. Wilson, M.A., of the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

Other visitors to the School during the past term have included Mr. Scrivener of the Headmasters' Employment Committee on Monday, 12th October: Lt. Cdr. J. R. Tourney, R.N., our Naval Schools Liaison Officer, on Monday, 30th November: Mr. Hardwari Lal, the Vice-Chancellor of Kurukshetra University, India, on 3rd November: and Professor H. K. Hunt, Professor of Classics at Melbourne University on 6th November.

The half-holiday granted to the Corps at the request of this year's Inspecting Officer, Brigadier Burges, was held on Tuesday, 13th October, while the whole School enjoyed on Thursday, 19th November, the half-holiday requested by Mr. Peterson when he distributed the prizes on Founder's Day. The latter date was conveniently chosen to coincide with Major Stanley's match on the Iffley Road Ground, whither we despatched a strong contingent.

On 15th October a large party from the School attended a lecture at the Dragon School, Oxford, given by Sir Eugen Millington-Drake to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Battle of the River Plate, in which, as our Ambassador at Montevideo, he was himself embroiled. We are very grateful to the Dragon for its hospitality during and after the lecture.

On the same day a small party of classicists attended a lecture on Roman Ostia given at the Ashmolean Museum by Mr. Russell Meiggs under the auspices of the Oxford Branch of the Classical Association.

Other outside activities at which the School has been represented include the lecture given by Mr. Spokes to the Friends of Abingdon on 2nd October: the Antique Dealers' Fair in the Corn Exchange, opened by the Headmaster on 14th October: the Road Safety Quiz at Larkmead School on 6th November: the Salvation Army Festival of Remembrance in Oxford on 7th November: the excellent production of 'The Diary of Anne Frank' given by the Abingdon Amateur Dramatic Society on 20th November: and the Christmas Concert of the Abingdon Musical Society on 3rd December.

Our own subscription concerts are covered elsewhere. Here let us merely say how much we welcome this further link between town and gown: and how pleasant it is to see the County Hall used for such a satisfying purpose.

A Parents' Evening was held on 22nd October for the parents of all boys who had entered the School since January. Once again 'No

'Tumbled House', that admirable period-piece, was brought out of retirement to show the parents what kind of people we are. Soon we hope to have a new documentary film for use on such occasions: but some of us will always cherish in our memories the high spots of N.T.H. As we said last year, it wears very well.

Students of English drama journeyed to Stratford on 29th October to see Dame Edith Evans and Sir Laurence Olivier play the leading roles in a special schools' production of 'Coriolanus'. Modern linguists gaddled on 11th November to the Oxford University Modern Language Society's production of 'Faust' (in the original tongue) and on 13th November to the film of 'Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme.'

Members of Crescent House, the Junior Houses, and the Junior Dormitory of School House were all given the opportunity of rendering their annual tribute to Mr. Guy Fawkes—or rather to his opponents—on the night of 5th November. Appropriately enough, School House was rudely and prematurely awakened next morning by the fire-bell, which heralded the long-threatened early fire-practice.

Once again we provided a large contingent of C.C.F. and Scouts for the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, 8th November. As usual, our buglers and our guard of honour acquitted themselves well. The buglers (T. H. Day and J. R. N. Ogle) did duty again at the Sutton Courtenay service in the afternoon, while R. M. Campbell performed a similar office in the morning at Brightwell.

The Ruridecanal Conference was held in Lacies Court in the afternoon of 11th November, after a short service of intercession in the School Chapel. A few days later, on 14th November, a number of our boys helped at the St. Nicolas' Church Bazaar in the Church Hall.

On 18th November a party from the School attended a set-piece debate at Queen Anne's School, Caversham, organised by the Berkshire Youth Service, at which they had the pleasure of hearing officers of the Oxford Union, the Cambridge Union and the University of Reading Debating Society.

The high-light of the St. Nicolas' Eranos on 7th December was undoubtedly the musical entertainment laid on by a male voice quartet from the Common Room (Messrs. Horrex, Sawbridge, Cooper and Montague). Especial mention must be made of their new number, a hymn to the Motorway; to say that Mr. Horrex's expertise enabled him to carry this off without offence is a very negative compliment to something that was in fact outrageously funny.

On 10th December members of the Lower Sixth Form Chemistry visited Messrs. Morland's Brewery—ostensibly to study the techniques of industrial chemistry. To our hosts, warm thanks.

Saturday night entertainments during the term were as follows:
26th September: Mr. Robert Speaight on 'Shakespeare in the Theatre.'
10th October: Mr. James Hall on 'Sea Fever: Yachting Today.'
17th October: Major W. T. Blake on 'Rhodesian Journey.'

7th November: Mr. James McGillivry and Miss Joan Rimmer on 'From Syrinx to Saxophone.'

Feature films have been: 'The One That Got Away': 'L'Ecole Buissonnierre': 'A Tale of Two Cities.'

Once again we are very grateful to the Headmaster of the City of Oxford School for kindly entertaining our 'O' level candidates for the December G.C.E.

As a result of the House P.T. Competition held on the morning of 14th December, Reeves again retained the Challenge Cup. We congratulate especially D. G. Morris, their Captain, who was mentioned in despatches for his outstanding leadership: and we thank Mr. J. K. D. Whaling, the Physical Education Organiser of the City of Oxford, who very kindly came over to adjudicate.

Our top people have attended two very pleasant dances this term. Some of us were the guests of the Sixth Form of St. Helen's on 4th December: another party broke new ground by visiting Didcot Girls' Grammar School on 16th December. Thank you, ladies all—and *auf wiedersehen!*

We are very grateful to the School campanologists who rang changes and rounds before and after the School Carol Service at St. Helen's Church. Honour where honour is due so let them be named: 3—C. Carter; 4—C. G. Purnell; 5—P. A. H. Dawson; 6—G. G. Stone; 7—G. D. Louth; 8—R. H. Wiggins; 9—M. P. Cross; Tenor—R. P. Thompson. Many thanks too to Mr. Lock who trained and conducted.

The Building Club, having almost completed its soakaway, is now extending the retaining wall on the gravel. We hope soon to get its teeth into something rather more ambitious and interesting, but meanwhile this is providing good practice for new members.

On the last night of term, 17th December, the usual Christmas suppers (turkey, plum pudding, fruit salad and ice cream) were held in School House and Crescent House. Afterwards the juniors returned to their own houses and School House entertained Crescent House in the Gymnasium for an evening of allegedly gentle games—in which Crescent House showed a quite remarkable superiority. Mr. Horrex rounded off the programme for us with his male voice quartet, and thus gave us a breather before house-prayers.

During the holidays no less than twenty-seven of our members were playing in Mrs. Kitching's Holiday Orchestra, which gave its public concert on the evening of 5th January: whilst an advance party of the Skye Group paid a visit to old haunts in Skye to reconnoitre a suitable site for the Group's Easter Expedition.

We were amused to see greetings from two members of the Skye Group headed 'Cell 59, Glasgow Jail', but we were relieved to learn that they were occupying it as voluntary guests. Later we heard from another pair who had actually reached the island after spending four and a half days on the journey.

Full marks for initiative to the members of the Locomotive Club who organised a coach expedition to various London sheds, off their own bat, on 4th January.

At an end of term meeting of the General Games Committee it was decided to amend the administration of Minor Games. Henceforth, there will be no Minor Games Committee and games such as Tennis, Fives and Swimming will be represented on the G.G.C. by Mr. Alston. They will, however, be free to elect their own officials and manage their own finances.

We do not usually pick out new boys for special mention, but it is worth noting that this term's list of ninety odd included a round score of younger brothers, boarders and dayboys—and also no less than seven Canadians or Americans, whose fathers are over here on temporary duty. To them all, Fraser, Hirte, the brothers Johns, Marzluff, Moak, and Moore, we extend a special welcome. It was especially pleasant to hear the New Boy's Lesson at the Carol Service read—and beautifully read—in a rich transatlantic accent. We are sorry to be losing Rudy Stewart this term and we wish him well as he returns to U.S. to storm the bastions of M.I.T.

For the purposes of record, it should be stated that we paid the price of our lovely summer by being unable to use our own grounds for serious rigger for the first three weeks of the term. We are very grateful to the Abingdon Rugby Club for lending us the Hales Meadow pitch for our early 1st XV matches.

Practically all of us were guinea pigs this term in that we received one of the new injections against influenza. *Post hoc* and all that, but we have certainly been free from serious infection since then. Next term will be the real testing time.

The photographs in this issue are by courtesy of Mr. Milligan, Photographer; T. J. Barrett; and D. W. G. Riddick.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools (to 18th December): Aldenham; City of Oxford; Culham College; Henley Grammar; King's, Worcester; Magdalen College; Pocklington; Radley; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; St. Edward's; Southfield; Stamford; Stoneham; Wallingford; Windsor County; and also from the R.N. Engineering College, Keyham.

Contemporaries we have received from nearer home include the '2X Times', a slightly more adult version of last year's '1X Times' (but Grahamstein and Timbolonski keep their sparkle) and 'Oscar', an anonymously-edited and beautifully-printed literary magazine which produced two numbers out of the blue at the very end of the term.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL

(A note by the Headmaster)

This term was made memorable for the boarders of School House by the fact that they were able for the first time to enjoy their new reading-room, and to use the new changing-rooms and showers. What pleases us particularly is that these new amenities are treated with proper respect. I am confirmed in my belief—sometimes, I admit, sorely-trying—that if you give a boy decent accommodation he will use it decently. All that remains to be done is to fit the curtains for the Reading Room windows, and they are now on order—72 yards of them in fact. The new dormitory has given a home to the displaced juniors; and the majority of the beds in School House now have a comely and useful cabinet beside them. The new Prefects' Common Room at last provides an adequate meeting ground for boarders and dayboys alike. It is a sign of the corporate spirit this room has engendered that appropriate printed notepaper has now made its appearance. Alas, the telephone booth still stands mute and empty. We are assured that there is no way of hastening the arrival of the necessary equipment. The strip lighting in the new wash-rooms makes life easier for those seniors whose shaving is still unmechanised. Perhaps here I can say an especial thank-you to Duncan West, the School Architect, and to the Bursar, who have gone to such endless trouble to meet our requirements in this particular project.

During the current holidays the main job of work inside has been the complete redecoration of the Outer Masters' Common Room, an operation that was long overdue. It is rumoured that strange discoveries were made when some of the shelves were cleared. The installation of fluorescent lighting in the Pembroke Room is by way of a pilot scheme. We shall see how it works before deciding whether to extend the experiment. Another minor (though not so very minor) project that we are planning is the installation of a range of notice boards in Lower Corridor and in the Teaching Block in order to reduce the congestion in the Main Entrance Hall and to provide more scope for information about the activities of Athletic Houses and School Societies.

To the north of Glyndwr work has already started on the four new houses which are being built for the staff. To be precise, the excavators arrived on 28th December. Any day now the builders should be beginning the Lacies Court project, which will comprise a single-story block of four class-rooms together with the School Shop. The latter building will be the first-fruits of the Quatercentenary Appeal. While every economy is being practised that will not affect either the appearance or the user-value of the Shop, we are faced with the fact that it will cost considerably more than we had expected. We can only hope therefore that the generosity of our friends will ensure that this increase

in price does not prejudice the other and larger projects that we have in mind for 1963.

So our life is going to be very exciting during the next six months, with new buildings going up to the North and to the West of us. It will be even more exciting when we have the new Shop in full use, to provide a pleasant social centre, in the School but not quite of it. It is an amenity that will be appreciated both by the boarders and by those dayboys who want a quick cup of tea or a snack while waiting for buses and trains.

* * * *

A dull season, academically, was redeemed by Peter Ford's success in winning for us our first 'Trevelyan', followed by Keith Haarhoff's Open Major at Caius—a particularly fine performance for one whose seventeenth birthday is still many months ahead. We have reached the stage when an Open Scholarship no longer automatically carries with it the privilege of a half-holiday, but I think this double event deserves commemoration in the traditional way. Congratulations to both. I was pleased too, in these days when the competition for vacancies at Oxford and Cambridge is so acute, to hear that George Darroch had secured a vacancy at Merton and Tony Haynes at Pembroke; and we are still hoping for further minor successes of this kind.

* * * *

It is never pleasant to say farewell. But I should like to pay my own tribute to Lord Glyn as he reluctantly retires from office as Vice-Chairman of the Governors. The Bursar and I are probably the only people other than fairly senior members of the Governing Body who know how much the School owes to Lord Glyn. To me and to my wife he has been not only a pillar of support but also a real friend. The departure of Mrs. Lockhart-Smith is in its own way equally epoch-making. We can well understand why she should now wish to return to London, but we shall miss her tremendously. She has done far more, for masters and for boys alike, than one has any right to expect of a matron, and we shall always think gratefully of her professional competence, her kindly human sympathy, and her passionate loyalty to the School. To Mr. and Mrs. Gray, too, an interim salute as they leave Larkhill to return to 'private life.' We are pretty sure that both of them will find plenty to do even though they no longer have the cares of a house to burden them.

* * * *

And lastly, my usual—but very sincere—expression of thanks for the hundreds of greeting cards which we received at Christmas. It was pleasant to feel that we were remembered from places as far afield as Moscow and Nigeria, Bermuda and Papua, Australia and Johannesburg, Rangoon and the Middle West; though we appreciated just as much

the greetings from nearer home. To all, parents and Old Boys alike, our very warm thanks. We are displaying the cards from Old Boys in the School, as usual, at the beginning of term, so that others too may share in their good wishes.

J.M.C.

QUATERCENTENARY APPEAL

It is gratifying to see that although we have had no large individual donations since the last issue of the magazine the total of the Appeal has continued to rise slowly but steadily until it has reached the present figure of around £23,000. A fifth list of subscribers follows, to all of whom we offer our very warm thanks. We are grateful too to the parents who, far from being irritated by our repeated appeal to round off their terminal bills, once again responded so generously—this time to the tune of some £200. So we shall go on using the little stickers and we hope that parents will go on throwing in the odd shillings and pence—or better still, the pounds.

Now that the Governors have decided to go straight ahead with the construction of the School Shop the Appeal Committee finds itself faced with the responsibility of providing some £8,000 in cash within the next eighteen months. This can be done, but it will leave the balance of available funds sadly depleted. To some extent the construction of the School Shop at this stage is a gesture of faith. It can be justified only on the assumption that enough extra money will come in within the next three years to cover also the cost of the new Library and of the Swimming Bath. We rely on all friends of the School—using the word in the widest possible connotation—to prove that assumption right.

There was something more than a laugh behind the joke on the Appeal Committee's Christmas Card ("Go easy on the gold paint—that is a begging letter"). The Committee has set its face against any method of approach that might either cut across other local charities or be interpreted as a cheap gimmick. It feels that the nature of the Appeal is compelling enough to commend it to those whom we can reasonably expect to have an interest in the welfare of the School. And of course there is the art that conceals art . . . that Christmas card has already brought in specific contributions which cover the cost of printing and distribution several times over. We shall have to think of some new form of reminder next Christmas.

APPEAL FUND

Fifth list of subscribers: 12th August, 1959 to 4th January, 1960.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
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| M. R. Dawn | J. R. W. Ireland | C. Tompson |
| W/Cdr. F. W. Dowling* | G. A. Jessett* | R. H. Tooze |
| Maj. A. Downes* | K. Kandiah* | T. E. Upton |
| S/Ldr. R. Duly | P. M. King* | M. H. Wheat* |
| C. M. Dunman* | D. J. Langton | W. H. Wiggins |
| G. F. Duxbury*† | J. Lay | S/Ldr. P. J. Wintle |
| Mrs. M. E. Ellaway | E. G. Leatham* | Mrs. J. H. C. |
| E. Ellis | Col. L. K. Ledger | Wooldridge |
| F. L. England | P. B. Light* | Capt. D. C. Woolf, |
| F. S. L. P. Gee | Mrs. U. Liversidge* | R.N.* |
| S. Gilbert | R. M. Longstaff* | G. D. Wright |
| | H. A. Lunghi* | |

* Covenanted Subscriptions.

† Increased subscriptions to counteract fall in Income Tax.

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—left 28th July, 1959

- Upper Sixth Form Arts: M. J. Blythe (left 18th June); D. H. Bragg; G. M. Crow; J. J. Day; R. Dickenson; R. S. Green; C. J. Redknap; J. A. Sheard; A. P. Gresswell; P. Kandiah; A. Rowles; A. F. Selwood (left 10th July); M. D. Tuck.
- Upper Sixth Form Science: A. J. Costley; A. J. Foden; J. Fry; L. J. Kirby; D. S. Lees; E. F. Lier; N. G. Mackenzie; J. H. Thewlis; M. G. Yarkoff; I. C. Attree; R. J. Baldwin; T. Davies; P. R. Davis; D. P. Kirk; M. C. Lay; T. I. Silvey; P. G. Watts; P. P. Wintle; S. M. Womar; C. P. Wyatt.
- Lower Sixth Form Arts: C. A. T. Purrett.
- Lower Sixth Form Science: K. R. Duly
- Form Sixth General: R. R. Bailey; J. Brimble; C. Elderkin; G. J. Emerton; D. R. M. Evans; L. G. Hunt; G. L. Kent; D. G. Nurton; D. Wiggins; R. G. Wooldridge (left 6th June).

Form 5A: N. V. Gagen.

Form 5B: E. R. M. Henderson; J. T. Utin.

Form 5C: L. M. Beadle; C. Knight; A. W. Potter; M. J. Seymour (left 18th July); D. V. Southern; J. N. Southern; T. M. Taylor (left 12th July); M. C. Tompkins; W. C. Warburton; A. D. Young.

Form 3A: R. M. Reynolds.

Form 3X: M. A. Richardson.

Form 3Y: M. T. Batt.

Form 2X: P. M. Chadwick.

Form 2Y: R. D. Lord (left 14th July).

Form 1X: K. D. Bowen (left 13th June).

Salvete—came 18th September, 1959

Lower Sixth Form Arts: R. E. Moore; G. W. Oxley; A. J. Varney.

Lower Sixth Form Science: R. M. Johns.

Form 5A: A. J. Oxley.

Form 4A: E. D. J. Hunter; P. D. Prebble.

Form 4B: J. C. R. Burbank; R. C. Platt.

Form 4C: E. J. Roblin.

Form 3A: M. D. Fortescue; M. E. Fraser; W. F. Marzluff (came 5th Oct.).

Form 3X: N. A. H. Bosley; K. W. Johns; M. E. Johnston; B. J. Lodge; W. R. Lynn-Robinson; J. S. Moak; P. R. Porter (came 12th Oct.); J. A. Simms.

Form 2Y: A. M. Forsyth; J. Kandiah; R. C. Leathem; J. K. Pilling; R. E. Spencer.

Form 2Y: R. J. Thornton.

Form 1X: M. J. Adam; D. D. Allen; K. Barnes; K. A. Berrington; P. H. Blackburn; P. K. Booker; M. C. Bowen; D. J. Brown; J. J. F. Burn; N. G. Burns; I. Campbell; G. P. Candy; B. I. M. Chapman; C. A. P. Charlett; P. J. Clargo; J. S. Clifford; C. W. Denny; P. G. Dowling; C. S. Downes; A. P. Fawcett; N. J. Gifford; P. S. Gilbert; R. F. Gillespie; B. E. Goldsworthy; S. A. Hall; M. H. Hampton; J. N. Harper; J. W. Hasset; P. N. Haynes; M. J. Heading; J. R. Hirte; C. D. Le Voi (came 19th Oct.).

Form 1Y: G. M. Cockcroft (came 21st Sept.); A. Hubbard; J. S. Hutchins; A. M. Jell; R. P. Jessett; M. C. Johnson; A. J. Longstaff; G. A. Macdonald; K. A. Mein; J. B. Morgan; M. C. C. Morris; M. J. R. Nevill; K. R. Overton; T. D. Paige; P. H. Painton; J. D. Pickavance; J. R. Poole; R. W. Purbrick; M. A. Roden; C. I. Rowson; D. J. Saunders; R. W. Schnellman; R. D. Schuck; K. J. Shepard; P. J. Sparrow; M. Spencer; P. G. Tooze; M. H. Vaughan; G. Walkinshaw; B. G. Wiggins; T. J. Wood.

CHAPEL NOTES

May we add here our own good wishes to the Chaplain on his recent marriage? It is pleasant to think that among his wedding presents was a pair of Georgian silver table spoons from those who had been prepared for confirmation by him during the last three years.

On the Second Sunday in Advent, 6th December, the Lord Bishop of Oxford held a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel. Those confirmed were: D. J. Aplin, G. J. Bailey, J. G. Bowen, E. N. Broadway, I. G. Burns, C. Carter, R. N. Carter, A. J. Cook, I. M. Cunningham, D. M. Edelsten, J. Fairlie, H. F. Flint, I. R. Flint, H. Foster, D. J. French, J. F. Hann, D. J. B. Hewison, J. R. Jennings; D. J. Jessett, E. G. B. Joseph; N. D. S. Kortright, P. G. D. Matthews, P. R. F. Morgan, I. J. Newbold, S. J. Opie, G. G. Stone, R. A. Warburton, C. J. Westell, A. E. W. Willey, M. E. F. Willey, S. R. Wilson; also Nigella Sewry and Patricia Talbot.

After the service confirmands, parents, godparents, staff and representatives of the School were invited to meet the Bishop and have tea in the School House Dining Hall.

We are most grateful to several parents and god-parents of confirmands who have followed the admirable tradition of presenting hymn-books or psalters to the Chapel to mark the occasion.

The Headmaster preached at the School Service held in St. Helen's Church on the first day of term. On this occasion we used for the first time the printed orders of service which have replaced the cyclo-styled sheets. This innovation points to the fact that this service has come to stay. While it limits the repertory of hymns and psalms it does give the service a new dignity and propriety.

Our Harvest Festival was held on 3rd and 4th October. The produce, which this year was much more bountiful than ever before, was as usual taken to Dr. Barnardo's Home at Oakley House.

On 15th October a strong party of senior boys attended the annual service of Holy Communion in S. Nicolas' Church to commemorate the birth of John Blacknall.

Of our weekly collections this term, the following have been allotted to outside charities:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Trinity XVII—Drayton Church Restoration Fund | £8 0 0 |
| Trinity XIX—New Guinea Mission | £10 1 9 |
| Trinity XXI—Tibetan Refugee Appeal | £9 11 0 |
| Sunday before Advent—Hostel of God | £9 17 0 |
| Advent II—The Bishop's List | £7 15 5 |

The collection at the School Service (£8 15s. 0d.) was given to St. Helen's Church, which also shared with the Church of England Children's Society the retiring collection (£26 9s. 8d.) taken at the Festival of Lessons and Carols. The carol parties that toured the town on the evening of 16th December collected a further £4 10s. 0d. for

the C. of E. C.S. The retiring collection at the Confirmation Service (£10 3s. 3d.) was divided between the Bishop's List and our own Chapel Furnishing Fund. Our contribution to the British Legion Appeal, which included both the proceeds of the sale of poppies and the collections in Chapel on Remembrance Sunday morning, amounted to some £10. Finally, the contents of the alms box this term (2 2s. 9d.) were given to swell the School's contribution to the World Refugee Year Appeal.

During the Lent Term we look forward to hearing the following visiting preachers:

31st January—Rev. K. C. Cooper, M.A., Vicar of Cumnor.

14th February—W. M. M. Milligan, Esq., M.B.E., T.D., M.A.,
Warden of Radley College.

13th March—D. D. Lindsay, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Malvern
College.

20th March—P. G. Mason, Esq., M.B.E., M.A., Headmaster of
Aldenham School.

The Chapel Council met at mid-day on Sunday, 22nd November. The inconvenience of the hour undoubtedly affected the attendance (we have yet to find a time and day that will suit everybody); but there was a spirited discussion which ranged from Chapel furniture to World Refugee Year. Of the latter, more elsewhere. As far as furniture is concerned, we are glad to record that the Chapel has now been almost completely equipped with leather kneelers of a good quality. We can reasonably hope that this particular problem, which has been with us so long, is now solved for the foreseeable future. The Chapel Committee's next aim is to provide a fitted carpet for the apse. We look forward to the day when we shall see it extended right down the aisles.

During the term the Choir sang the introits 'Jesus, Priceless Treasure' (Bach): 'How Glorious Sion's Courts Appear' (Tye): and 'Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light' (Bach).

In addition tribute must be paid not only to the Choir but also to the congregation, who mastered the subtleties of *decani* and *cantoris* sufficiently to produce on several occasions a good rendering of Naylor's *Benedicite*, a setting that is particularly suitable for a School Chapel.

And may we thank all those who have served the Chapel so well this term, and especially Mr. Blagden and his team for the fine work they have done in rebinding some of our less tattered hymn books and psalters?

We were interested to see that Roger Green's visit to the C.A.C.T.M. Sixth Form Conference at Jesus College, Oxford, in April, bore fruit in an article by him recording his impressions in a recent number of *Prism*.

For the benefit of those who like to note incipient school traditions, let us record that the Headmaster once again read the last chapter of

the Christmas Carol in Chapel on the last Sunday evening of the term, by the light of a torch, with the Chapel in darkness except for the lights on the Christmas tree in the apse.

Christening

On Sunday, 4th October, by the School Chaplain, Andrew Guy, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hillary.

T.A.L.

SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

(Tuesday, 15th December)

The annual Service of Lessons and Carols, held in St. Helen's Church, was by general agreement well up to standard: indeed, many considered it the best ever. We append an appreciation of the evening's service by Dr. W. D. Allen.

"Three factors combine to make the Christmas Service an attractive feature of the Christian year; the lessons of the Christian message, covering the whole sweep of the Bible, and summed up in the words from the Christmas Oratorio, 'For us, on earth He cometh, poor'; the ever-popular Christmas hymns, which even the totally tone-deaf can sing with enthusiasm, if not with euphony; and the excerpts from that rich treasure-store of English folk-music, the Christmas Carols. (Some might add a fourth factor, the absence of sermon). The School Service, held on 5th December in St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, was a well-balanced blend of these factors. The lessons were read by representatives of all phases of the School life, from the new boy to the Head Master. The Choir sang a cappella, five short carols, and a recitative and chorale from the Christmas Oratorio, all directly related to the appropriate lesson. These offerings were most acceptable: the balance was good, the intonation accurate and the diction clear. Perhaps one could at times have had a greater depth of shading, both in tempo and in tone, which rarely dropped below mezzopiano; but, on the whole, the singing of the choir was very satisfying. The singing of the Christmas hymns by a full church calls for no comment, except perhaps of the effect achieved, particularly in the Introit, when individual verses were rendered by soloist or choir. Of individual contributions, one might make mention of the quality of tone of the treble solo; of the concluding organ voluntary; and of the bell-ringing which made the prelude to the proceedings. In sum, the service was a worthy expression of the Christmas story and of the Christmas message."

W.D.A.

ORDER OF SERVICE

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------------|
| Introit | Once in Royal David's City | Congregation |
| | The Bidding Prayer | |
| Lesson 1 | Man is disobedient to God's command (Genesis III 1-6) A New Boy (W. F. Marzluff) | |
| Carol | Adam lay y-bounden | Choir |
| Lesson 2 | God's promise to Jacob (Genesis XXVIII 10-15) A Chorister (B. D. Allen) | |
| | Recitative and Chorale from Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" | Choir |
| Lesson 3 | Isaiah foretells the Prince of Peace (Isaiah IX 2, 6, 7) Head of Dayboys (P. J. Ford) | |
| Carol | O Little Town of Bethlehem | Congregation |
| Lesson 4 | Micah reveals the birth-place of the Messiah (Micah V 2-4) Head of School (D. G. Darroch) | |
| Hymn | In Dulci Jubilo | Choir |
| Lesson 5 | The Angel Gabriel is sent to Mary Luke I 26-33, 38) A Master (Mr. J. Blagden) | |
| Carol | I saw a Maiden | Choir |
| Lesson 6 | The Birth of Jesus (Luke II 1-7) | The Chaplain |
| Carol | A Babe is born | Choir |
| Lesson 7 | The Angels appear to the Shepherds (Luke II 8-16) | The Vicar |
| Hymn | While shepherds watched | Congregation |
| Lesson 8 | The Adoration of the Magi (Matthew II 1-12) A Governor (Dr. H. Booth) | |
| Carol | The Coventry Carol | Choir |
| Hymn | Angels from the Realms of Glory | Congregation |
| Lesson 9 | The Word Eternal (John I 1-14) | The Headmaster |
| Hymn | O come all ye faithful | Congregation |
| | Prayers | |
| | The Blessing | |
| Recessional | Hark! the herald angels sing | Congregation |

THE STRONG ARE LONELY*(December 10th, 11th and 12th)*

For its production this year, the Dramatic Society turned from Shakespeare to Fritz Hochwaelder's drama of great moral issues. It was a bold choice for the play makes great demands upon its actors even though an all male cast had obvious advantages from the producer's point of view. Press comments were very favourable, so much so indeed that it would have been nice—had space permitted it—to have included them in this report in addition to the following critique for which we are indebted to Mr. John Pole.

"'The Strong are Lonely' gripped its audiences and called forth some excellent performances from a cast notable in my view for a generally very high level of achievement. It was remarkably well timed: the tension was built up steadily and the climaxes came at just the right unexpected time, continually involving the spectators in the action more than they had ever expected to be. (It is, I feel, a fault in the writing that the line before the penultimate curtain sounded so final that many of the audience were surprised to see there was a further scene). The efforts of both cast and technicians resulted in a clear, moving and absorbing performance which showed that they had worked and thought very hard.

As the Father Provincial, on whom the action pivots, John Kelly gave a fine show. He displayed authority and honest feeling in many of his speeches, particularly in the passage at the end of Act 2, when Fernandez despairs for his poor Indians, and for himself. He acted well and sometimes very well. None the less, his voice and sometimes his movements lacked repose: he can control both well, but did not do so adequately in this role. Although Fernandez is a passionate man, he is also a priest, a middle-aged man of experience accustomed to discipline as well as being a dedicated idealist. Kelly sometimes showed this, but will have to learn to moderate his voice and movements consistently. It was a pity that these faults of emphasis marred his performance, which was incontestably a good one; he is, I think, the only boy in the school who could have tackled the part.

Randell Moll, as Don Pedro de Miura, certainly gave the most polished performance in the play. Though this was a less demanding part than Kelly's, he took it admirably. This actor has presence and style, and was completely at home as a Spanish grandee. He also has Don Pedro's unquestionable authority and careful elegance, and portrayed especially well the moments when even the royal deputy's facade cracked to reveal Fernandez' former fellow-student beneath it all. If there is a fault to guard against here, it is probably too much self-confidence.

There were some fine performances in parts of secondary importance. Tony Martin's Captain Arago was a very intelligent piece of work—as polished and nasty an A.D.C. as any general might (or might not) hope for. There was a slight tendency to overdo some gestures, but on the whole this was a well-conceived character in one piece, from cap to jackboots. Jackboots remind one of Father Oros, the booted Jesuit, a character very well portrayed by John Ogle on the last two nights, and by Graham Griffiss—at very late notice—on the first night. Both had the necessary authority and bitter pride: Ogle employed his excellent voice very effectively.

Two small parts were done quite splendidly—those of Querini, the Jesuit legate, and of the Bishop of Buenos Aires. Clive Evans, as Querini, changed most impressively from the quiet Italian merchant to the all-powerful agent of the Society of Jesus. He acted occasionally with too much intensity, but his playing was powerful and gripping. Peter Dawson's silky, worldly-wise Bishop was a very different role, but was acted in just as polished and convincing a fashion. Both these actors have fine voices, and both used them to great advantage.

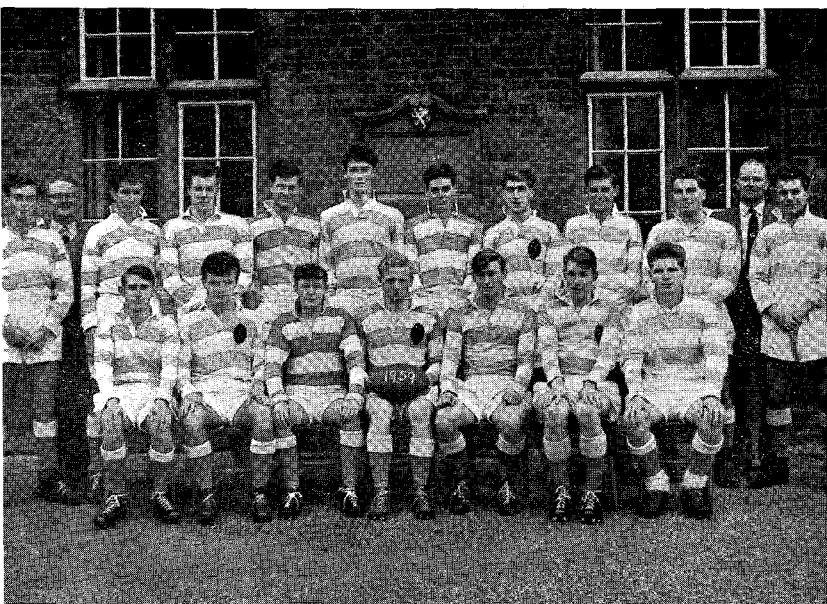
Though Brian Rosevear's Cornelis lacked polish, this young actor gave an extremely creditable showing. He stepped right into the good Dutchman's boots, and though he often overdid the loudness of Cornelis' rough passages and the softness of his gentle ones, his performance was sympathetic and strong. He possesses and demonstrated that essential quality, self-confidence, which will help him considerably in the future. He has much to learn, but he will learn.

Of the rest of the cast, the three Spanish settlers, Bustillos, Quesada and Catalde, were a well-conceived trio of gentleman-thugs, and Andrew Foster, Peter Loukes and John Kitto had exactly the air and appearance of those who settle on a colony—like vultures.

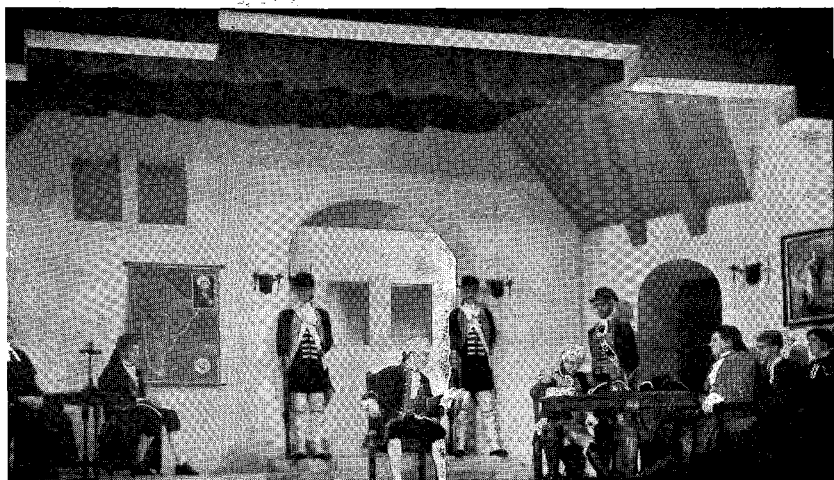
The rest of the cast kept up the general standard very well, though one or two actors were slightly careless in their movements and delivery.

The atmosphere of eighteenth-century Spanish America was very well evoked by Mr. Cooper's permanent set, and the whole company, both on and off stage, and especially Mr. Griffin, the producer, are to be congratulated for holding their audiences' attention and sympathy so well, acting, lighting and setting scenes with such efficiency. They presented their audiences—and themselves—with Hochwaelder's vision of the problem of pride, and did it very well. It is for the rest of their education to solve that problem."

J.A.P.



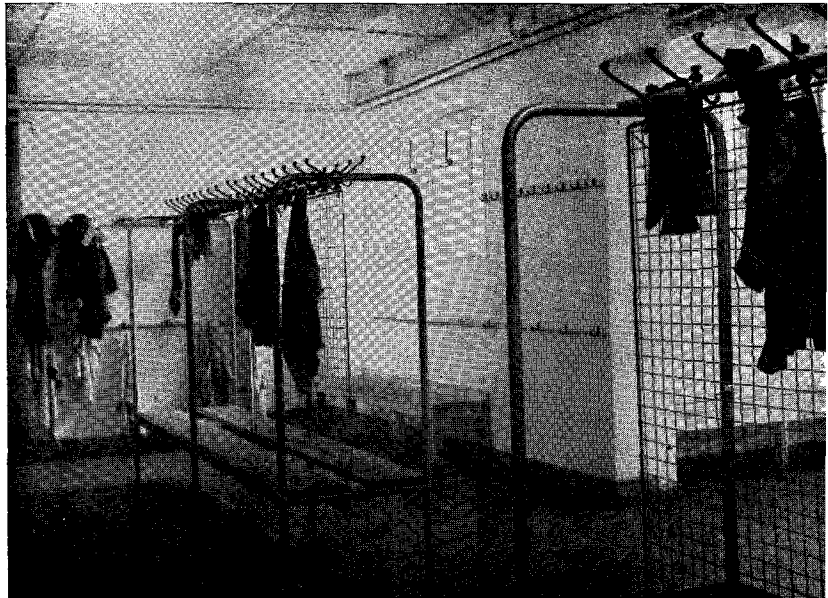
THE FIRST FIFTEEN



THE STRONG ARE LONELY



SCHOOL HOUSE 1959



CHARACTERS

in order of appearance

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Alfonso Fernandez, S.J., Father Provincial of Paraguay | John Kelly |
| Ladislaus Oros, S.J. | John Ogle or Graham Griffiss |
| Rochus Lieberman, S.J., Father Superior | Alistair Matson |
| Candia } Indian Chieftains | Michael Bett |
| Naguacu } | Ian Cunningham |
| Andre Cornelis, a Merchant of Rotterdam | Brian Rosevear |
| William Clarke, S.J., Father Procurator | David Heather-Hayes |
| Don Pedro de Miura, a Spanish Nobleman | Randell Moll |
| Captain Villano | Robert Shepard |
| Captain Arago, Aide to Don Muira | Tony Martin |
| Lorenzo Querini | Clive Evans |
| Carlos Gervanzoni, Bishop of Buenos Aires | Peter Dawson |
| Jose Bustillos, a Spanish Planter | Andrew Foster |
| Garcia Queseda } Spanish Merchants | Peter Loukes |
| Alvaro Catalde } | John Kitto |
| Father Reinegg, S.J. | Alan Smith |
| Father Claussner, S.J. } Members of the Jesuit College | Peter Willis |
| Father Briguel, S.J. } in Paraguay | James Willis |
| Father Escadon, S.J. } | Geoffrey Keeys |
| Acatu, an Indian Chieftain | Michael Evans |
| Barrigua, an old Indian | Derek Dunn |
| Indian Soldiers | Andrew Millard, Christopher Winfield |
| A young Indian | Richard Welch |
| Spanish Soldiers | David Brice, Robert Capstick |
| A Sergeant | Stuart Long |

RUGBY FOOTBALL

FIRST FIFTEEN

On balance, the season was a mixed one, dogged in some degree by misfortune. The record of matches played—won 8, drawn 1, lost 5—gives a fairly clear picture of the way things went. Notable victories were indeed scored over Solihull, Leighton Park (a new fixture) and the Old Boys, whilst in defeating the City of Oxford School late in the season we robbed them of an unbeaten record of which they were justly proud. But on the other hand, we were outplayed by Magdalen and well beaten by R.G.S., High Wycombe and Bloxham.

Without doubt, a knee injury to the captain, Ford, began a crop of accidents in mid season which played havoc with the confidence of the backs. Indeed Ford's place in the centre was never adequately filled

and for much of the season we had a definite weakness there, especially in defence. Neilan, Parsons and Davis were all good on occasions but the plain fact is that, apart from Ford, we did not possess a centre of real value. Davis incidentally has considerable promise but on the wing rather than in the centre. By contrast, the wing threequarters were good: indeed, with more of the ball both Ganf and Johnson would have got many more tries. Milne who played a number of games in this position and on one occasion proved a match winner, was too inconsistent to gain a permanent place in the side. Fortunately, Cross at stand-off half and Morris at scrum half formed an excellent partnership and, behind one of the best packs we have had, the two of them proved the key to what success we achieved. Sometimes in fact, Cross by his skilful attacking kick and rapid follow up made victory his own. At full back, Parsons although tackling and fielding well was too frequently out of position to be safe. Towards the end of term, when Ford returned to the game, Parsons played in the centre with some success—he has a good cut through—Ford himself proving a more than adequate full-back.

It is, however, to the pack that most praise must go for under the very sound leadership of Louth the scrum proved the equal, and often the master, of opposing packs. Whitton, though new to the position, hooked extremely well and was ably supported by his two props, Rosevear and Hamilton. Louth, in the second row, was a tower of strength in tight, loose and line-out whilst Campbell developed into a very good wing forward. Of the rest, Haarhoff, Farrington, Gibbs, Morse and Robey all had moments of glory and effectively contributed to what was undoubtedly a very strong, very good and lively pack.

Ford, although out of the game for some while, was a first rate skipper on the training side and it was largely due to his keenness that we were able to begin the season in the fine form which gave us the victory over Newbury and Pembroke. In the absence of Ford, Morris proved a good leader on the field. His place as Secretary was taken over at the end of the term by Ganf.

During the season, the following Colours have been awarded: Full Colours—Cross, Louth, G. D., Johnson, C. T., and Morris, D. G. Half Colours—Davies, C. M., Farrington, Gibbs, Haarhoff, Hamilton, Morse, G. M., Neilan, Parsons, R. W. J., Robey, Rosevear and Whitton.

The final arrangement of the team was: Ford; Ganf, Davis, Neilan, Johnson; Cross, Morris; Rosevear, Whitton, Hamilton, Louth, Farrington, Robey, Morse, Campbell.

The following have also played: Gibbs, Parsons (10 times); Haarhoff (9 times); Milne (8 times); Booth (3 times); Bampton, R. W. J., Henson, M. K., Hurd, Houghton, Perry, Talbot and Stockwell, M. J. (once).

D.O.W.

FIRST FIFTEEN MATCHES

v. D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 30th September. Drawn 11—11.

As the School pitch was iron hard, the game was played on Hales Meadow by kind permission of the Abingdon R.F.C. The sun shone brilliantly and the School produced some most entertaining ruggar to open the scoring with a try from Ford. This was replied to by Evans, the visitors' full back, who joined in a threequarter movement of his team and scored and converted his own try. At half time, D. O. Willis' side led 5—3. In the second half, Ganf scored for the School after a fine orthodox passing movement, Ford converting. Thereafter the School pack began to tire somewhat, and their opponents gained a goal and a try before the School drew level by a try from Milne.

v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 10th October. Won 14—11.

Again we were forced to play on Hales Meadow, but this time in a fine drizzle of rain. Newbury started off at a great pace and scored an early goal. Fortunately, the School pack got on top and thereafter gave their backs plenty of the ball, although the first School try came nonetheless from a forward. Half time score was 5—3 to Newbury. In the second half the School play was very good and tries came from Ganf (converted by Ford), Ford and Johnson, the latter racing up to gather a cross kick into the corner. Newbury's reply of a goal and a try was just not enough and a fast open game ended in a well deserved victory.

v. Pembroke College (a). Wed., 14th October. Won 5—3.

The School pack, outweighed but not outplayed, undoubtedly gave us this win—our first for several years—over Pembroke. It was a hard exciting game with no score at half time and the School half backs very much the worse for wear. Pembroke scored a try early in the second half, but the grand work of the School forwards gave us the ball in the loose so that Johnson after a fine run was able to score in the corner. Ford converted to give us the game.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (h). Sat., 17th October. Won 16—3.

Played on a windy day, this game saw another commendable effort by the School pack who dominated the game in the second half. Hamilton scored first for the School, diving over the line from a loose maul. Ford converted and this gave us a 5—3 lead at half time. Later School tries came from Neilan, Milne and Johnson, Ford again converting the final try.

v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a). Wed., 21st October. Lost 3—5.

Played in a steady drizzle, this game got off to a bad start when St. Edward's scored from the kick-off, a mistake by the School going straight to the opposing left wing who ran through to score with hardly an attempt being made to tackle him. This try was converted and the School spent the rest of the game endeavouring to redeem the mistake. The School tried unwisely in the conditions to play a handling game and although Parsons and Milne came near to scoring, we had to be content with a penalty goal from Ford's boot.

v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 24th October. Won 13—3.

With Ford out of the game and two Colts' players in the threequarter line, we began this game somewhat diffidently. Solihull pressed hard, only good tackling keeping them from scoring during the first 15 minutes, and then a kick ahead was badly fumbled on the School line

and they had scored. There followed a long period of not very interesting play, during which the School pack gradually mastered the Solihull forwards. As a result, the School took the initiative. Cross scored a very good try, fighting his way over, after his diagonal kick had brought a line-out near the Solihull line. Later Cross scored again from a blind side run. Whitton converted both tries. Finally Ganf intercepted a pass in the centre and dashed 30 yards to score beneath the posts.

v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 28th October. Won 6—3.

For the renewal of this pre-war fixture, we were granted a delightfully sunny afternoon. Leighton Park attacked from the start and shortly before half time score on the right wing. The School tackling and covering at this stage, however, were not good and in the ding dong struggle that followed, it did not look as if we should eventually win. Luckily a penalty kicked by Whitton put new heart into the team and amid great excitement, Cross kicked diagonally ahead, catching the defence on the wrong foot, and following up superbly gathered the ball and dived over for a try before being hurled back—a great effort to end a great game.

v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 4th November. Lost 3—11.

This was a disappointing game from our point of view. Fast, intelligent wingers and a fit, bustling pack gave M.C.S. an immediate advantage over a somewhat lethargic School side. Although the School pack made valiant efforts to retrieve the day and did gain the best of the tight scrummaging in the second half, serious lack of confidence mid-field and half-hearted tackling allowed M.C.S. to win decisively. We were a well beaten side in the last 15 minutes of the game, but somehow managed to keep the score down.

v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 7th November. Lost 0—12.

This was a scrappy game in spite of one or two good runs on both sides. The heavy Bloxham pack were well on top in the first half and weak tackling allowed them to score two tries before half time. During the second half, the School forwards woke up and, with more of the ball, our backs made some good running. Too often, however, passing broke down in the centre and Bloxham, quick to seize upon our mistakes, added two more tries. A tremendous effort by the School in the last ten minutes provided much excitement but no result.

v. Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe (a). Sat., 21st November. Lost 3—21.

Taking the field with a reshuffled pack—owing to injury—the School surprised themselves by almost scoring within the first few minutes of the game. But as time went by it became clear that for once the School pack had met a set of forwards bigger and fitter than their own. Increasingly hard pressed and with very little share of the ball, we nonetheless changed ends only 6—0 down. A quick breakaway at the beginning of the second half enabled Morse to snatch a try for the School from a kick ahead by Robey. For a while we had a chance but then the splendid Wycombe pack established an almost complete monopoly of the ball and the result was the heaviest defeat of the season. Nonetheless, it was no walk-over and we fought hard until the final whistle.

v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 25th November. Won 6—5.

This game gave spectators plenty of open rugby to watch. Southfield possessed a neat, intelligent and speedy set of backs but luckily for us

their forwards were not strong enough to hold the School pack. Southfield scored first and in spite of possession from scrum the School were not able for some time to cross their line. Eventually Whitton kicked a penalty goal and towards the end of the game Johnson scored from one of many School attacks.

v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 28th November. Won 21—8.

Played on a fine but chilly day, this match was another grand game. The O.A.'s fielded a useful side, of which Brackley and Peedell were outstandingly good, and indeed led at half time 8—5. Dimond scored first for the Old Boys and Brackley kicked the goal. To this Ganf replied with a try converted by Ford. Shortly afterwards the O.A.'s added another try through Heavens, but this was to be the last. In the second half, the fitter School pack proved too quick for the Old Boys and the score began to mount. Excellent movements resulted in tries from Davis (2), Johnson and Cross, two of them being converted.

v. City of Oxford School (a). Wed., 2nd December. Won 6—3.

C.O.S. had not been beaten in their previous 14 games, and the confidence with which they began this match boded ill for us. For the first 20 minutes, the well drilled, strong C.O.S. pack out pushed and outplayed us so that we were often in desperate straits. Luckily we managed to hold on and conceded only one try to which Ford replied with a penalty goal just before half time. Conditions underfoot had got very wet and the ball greasy and the School wisely decided to employ the kick ahead and quick follow up in the second half. It paid and Johnson was able to slip over for a try after a short passing movement. C.O.S. made great efforts to retrieve the day but had no answer to the splendid defensive kicking of Ford and Cross. An extremely hard fought match.

v. Windsor Grammar School (h). Sat., 5th December. Lost 9—13.

This was a disappointing finish to the season. The School team played much below form and in particular the centres were poor in attack, unable to hold their passes and slow to tackle. Windsor were quick to take advantage of our many mistakes and well deserved their victory especially as our own points all came from penalty goals.

G.G.G.

SECOND FIFTEEN

As the season progressed, it became increasingly apparent that this year's team was not only playing better rucker than in previous years but was also working extremely well as a team with much spirit. Perry was a good captain with sensible ideas at scrum half and together with Hurd made a first rate half back combination. Their handling especially was very good.

The backs played well on the whole and overcame their early weakness of running into the scrum. The Bamptons both ran forcefully and their tackling and ability to go for the line were most commendable. Matson proved himself in the centre—his try in the Windsor game was the best of the season—and Milne, when he ran straight and fast, was a menace to any opposition.

In the pack, Goodwin hooked consistently well and had two very good props in Dillabough and Barrett. Marchbanks and Merriman pushed, fell and tackled energetically—an asset to any scrum—and the latter's jumping and handling in the line-out was first rate. Houghton at lock provided both speed and good tackling and his two wings, Booth and Henson, confused the opposition repeatedly, often joining the backs and appearing in the most unexpected places.

Nurton fielded and kicked well and proved a most worthy full back: indeed, he and Perry were responsible for many goal points.

Of the matches played three only were lost and on each occasion the team's handling was at fault, although in the Solihull game we were up against a very good side.

Perry, Hurd and Milne were awarded Half Colours during the season; Milne for his play in the Windsor game and for his eight appearances in the First Fifteen, the other two for excellent play against High Wycombe.

The final arrangement of the team was: Nurton; Bampton, R. W. J., Matson, A. G. D., Bampton, R. J. C., Milne; Hurd, Perry (capt.); Dillabough, Goodwin, Barrett, T. J., Merriman, Marchbanks, Henson, M. K., Houghton, Booth.

Those who also played were: Farrington (6 times); Long, Kelly, J.S. (5 times), Hossent (4 times), Riddick (3 times), Neilan, Gibbs and Carslaw.

Results

| | |
|--|-----------|
| v. Oxford R.F.C. Colts (h). Sat., 17th Oct. | Lost 6—11 |
| v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 24th Oct. | Lost 9—32 |
| v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 4th Nov. | Won 16—6 |
| v. Thame Grammar School 1st XV (h). Sat., 7th Nov. | Won 21—14 |
| v. Henley Grammar School 1st XV (a). Wed., 11th Nov. | Lost 8—16 |
| v. 'R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 21st Nov. | Won 17—6 |
| v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 25th Nov. | Won 22—3 |
| v. City of Oxford School (a). Wed., 2nd Dec. | Won 17—5 |
| v. Windsor Grammar School (h). Sat., 5th Dec. | Won 24—3 |

E.H.F.S.

THIRD FIFTEEN

All those who played for the team this season undoubtedly enjoyed their rucker. Indeed the most notable feature of the side was the excellent spirit and will to win. The standard of play, particularly in the early stages, was not very high but the forwards made a bustling pack under Lawson's rousing leadership and Moll, the captain, had the team well under control so that it was difficult to beat. Too few matches were played, the fixtures against Reading and Newbury having to be

cancelled because of hard grounds, but we were the victors in the two School matches played. Against the Abingdon Harlequins, that Staff team of more or less experienced players, the team played with tremendous zest and only lost by a narrow margin.

The value of the 3rd XV lies largely in its contribution of players with experience and team training to the 1st and 2nd XV's and in this connection several of the team gained promotion.

The following have represented the side during the season: Allison, Brice, D. J., Cain, Carpenter, Gerring, Hedges, P. L., Kelly, J. S., Lawson, Merriman, Moll (capt.), Nurton, Paige, R. K., Riddick, Shepard, R. S. B., Stuart-Lyon, Thompson and Woodham.

Results

| | |
|--|----------|
| v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 28th Oct. | Won 8—6 |
| v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 4th Nov. | Won 11—5 |
| v. Abingdon Harlequins (h). Mon., 23rd Nov. | Lost 3—8 |
| | B.C.W. |

COLTS FIFTEEN

— The team has enjoyed a good season. The forwards developed into a strong, mobile pack built round the two second-row players, Pollard and Winfield. An injury to Hall, P. J., upset the front row at the end of the season but Budden hooked splendidly throughout.

Outside the scrum, Bunce was a very steady full back, perhaps a little too slow to gather but reliable for all that. Ford, M. S., developed into a plucky scrum half but suffered from the fact that a suitable partner could not be found for him at fly half. Marsh, T., Watts, J. C., and Nelson were all tried but none was successful. Marsh, who captained the side well, is really a wing forward and should concentrate there in the future: he could be outstanding in that position. Watts, a good centre, was too slow off the mark for the key position and Nelson fell into the trap of watching the man and not the ball.

At the end of the season, Talbot was using his weight and speed to advantage in the centre but he was never quick off the mark. When given the chance, Hall, G. A., ran well on the wing with a gait reminiscent of a gyroscopic rocking horse—this proved most elusive. Mitchell deserves praise for the game he played against Stoneham. He was unlucky to be injured for most of the season.

The best performance? The victory over Pangbourne.

The final arrangement of the team was: Bunce; Hall, G. A., Watts, J. C. M., Talbot, Marsh, T.; Nelson, Ford, M.S.; Pegram, Budden, Oxley, A. J., Winfield, Pollard, Evans, M. J., Hook, Mitchell.

Also played: Hall, P. J., Moss, I. W. (4 times); Davis, C. M. (twice); Dawson, Rosevear, Williams, A. J., Wood, K. M. A.

Results

| | |
|--|------------|
| v. Oratory School (h). Sat., 17th Oct. | Won 11—0 |
| v. Wallingford Grammar Sch 1st XV (h). Wed., 21st Oct. | Lost 12—19 |
| v. Radley College (a). Sat., 7th Nov. | Drawn 6—6 |
| v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Sat., 14th Nov. | Won 6—0 |
| v. Stoneham School (a). Sat., 5th Dec. | Lost 0—3 |

B.J.M.

JUNIOR COLTS FIFTEEN

This has been a successful season. The forwards however have worked together better than the backs, who lacked thrust whenever Redgrave was off the field. The lack of an accurate punter of the ball among the backs has also weakened the attack. Crumly at full back and Blair, wing forward, have tackled particularly well, and Evans, M. J. (who has played for the Senior Colts) has been the outstanding forward.

The final arrangement of the team was: Crumly; Willey, M. E. F., Hounslow, Redgrave (capt.), Kelly; Fairlie, J., Bailey, G. E.; Flint, I. R., Fraser, Joseph, Kirby, Foster, A. W., Blair, Gresswell, Evans, M. J.

Also played: Dixon, K. W. R., Mackenzie, J. J., Flint, H. (twice); Matson, I. W., Broadway (3-times).

Results

| | |
|---|-----------|
| v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 10th Oct. | Won 6—0 |
| v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 14th Oct. | Won 11—6 |
| v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 24th Oct. | Lost 5—14 |
| v. Thame Grammar School (a). Sat., 7th Nov. | Won 37—6 |
| v. Henley Grammar School (a). Wed., 11th Nov. | Won 41—3 |
| v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 21st Nov. | Won 6—3 |
| v. Southfield School (a). Wed., 25th Nov. | Lost 5—6 |
| v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 2nd Dec. | Won 25—5 |

K.M.D.H.

JUNIOR FIFTEEN

Under the captaincy of Jennings this has been a successful term not only because of results but also because of the type of rugby played. With several players of exceptional promise, the team displayed a fine attacking sense in the early matches played in dry conditions, and later on showed a good fighting spirit and keen defence. Even so most of the team have still to learn from the example of tackling low given them by Henderson at full back.

The final composition of the team was: Henderson; Johnson, A. E., Cheary, Jennings (capt.), Mackenzie, J. J.; Barrett, A. T., Ford, C. C.; Bowthorpe, Louth, M. R., Cox, C. E. W., Marsh, V. A., Hall, R. A., Moore, T. B., Gregson, Baker.

Also played: Booker, James, P. G. (twice); Partridge and Trinder, C. P. (once).

Results

| | |
|---|----------|
| v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 14th Oct. | Won 36—0 |
| v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 24th Oct. | Lost 0—6 |
| v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 7th Nov. | Won 29—0 |
| v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 21st Nov. | Won 3—0 |
| v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 2nd Dec. | Won 9—3 |

M.N.W.

VACATION RUGGER

The School was once again represented in the Senior Berkshire Schoolboys' Trial at Reading on 21st December and also for the first time for some years in the Senior Oxfordshire Trial at Oxford. Louth, Ganf and Morris played at Reading and Johnson, C. T., at Oxford. Subsequently, Morris and Ganf were selected to play for Berkshire against Sussex at Worthing on 30th December. Ganf unfortunately pulled a muscle in this game so was unable to join Morris in the second match against Oxfordshire two days later.

HOUSE MATCHES

The standard of play in the Senior Inter-House Knock-out Contest was by general agreement a great deal better this term than for many years past. The preliminary round, played on Wed., 18th November, saw two very good games. Reeves succeeded in defeating Bennett only after a very grim struggle and rather against expectations: it was very much a forward game with Brice and Moss prominent for Reeves and Robey and Lawson for Bennett. The score 9—6 was ultimately a tribute to the leadership of the Reeves captain, Morris. In the other game, Blacknall beat Tesdale 11—8 and their victory was very largely due to skilful kicking in attack and defence by Cross, a device which effectively neutralized the useful Tesdale pack.

The final between Blacknall and Reeves was naturally a needle match. Reeves began as favourites and for a large part of the game the efforts of Morris and Whitton seemed likely to prevail. Once again, however, the Blacknall captain, Cross, playing a truly superb game, forced victory almost against the run of play. He scored two tries, the first of them a sustained individual effort over 40 yards, and Blacknall won the Lin Cup by 6 pts to nil.

The Junior House League Competition, though less spectacular, produced as always plenty of good football. Bennett, who were bottom of the league last season, were unbeaten this time and secured the Bayley Cup with a total of 6 points. Tesdale, who seemed to have very small players, found themselves outclassed and failed to win any matches although they never gave up. Results were as follows: Bennett defeated Blacknall 40—18, Reeves 26—6 and Tesdale 28—0; Blacknall beat Tesdale 8—3 but lost to Reeves 21—3, who also beat Tesdale 12—0.

The annual Dayboys versus Boarders match, held on Wed., 9th December, also produced some very good rigger. This year, it was the turn of the Dayboys to claim the laurels and Louth and his team must be congratulated upon defeating the Boarders by 6 pts. to 3 pts. The Boarders, however, can console themselves in that they did cross the Dayboys' line through a try by Houghton whereas their opponents were able to score only from a penalty goal kicked by Nurton and a fine drop goal from Whitton.

D.O.W.

CROSS COUNTRY

The standard of cross country running in the School continues to rise and we have been fortunate in being able to arrange matches against some really strong teams.

With R. W. Harvey and T. D. L. Eke still with us our prospects looked good, but Eke had a recurrence of his old ankle injury which put him out of action for most of the term. We hope that the operation he has had on it will be successful and that he will be fit enough to rejoin the team sometime next term.

Of the others M. J. Bett has more than fulfilled the promise he showed last season, and C. F. Johnson, a newcomer to the team, has improved with every race. Both were awarded their Athletic half-colours for consistently good performances.

The following have run for the first team this term: Bett, M. J., Harvey, R. W., Johnson, C. F., Jones, G. W., Watts, R. C. (4 times); Cunningham, I. M., Holmes, P. A., Libby, T. A. (3 times); Bretscher, P. A. (twice); Eke, D. T. L., Luker, R. C., Matson, A. G. D. (once).

Results of Matches

24th October v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h).

1st—R.G.S. 33 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 46 pts.

(Scorers: Harvey 1 [19 min. 20 secs—a record], Eke 6, Bett 7, Johnson 8, Watts 11, Cunningham 13).

(A "Gentleman's" team lost to the R.G.S. second team 32—51. Holmes was the individual winner).

14th Nov. v. Culham College & King Alfred's College, Winchester (a).

1st—K.A.C. 48 pts., 2nd—Abingdon 57½ pts., 3rd—Culham 68½ pts.

(Scorers: Harvey 1, Bett 5, Johnson 8, Jones 13, Libby 14, Matson 16).

25th November v. Exeter College (a).

1st—Abingdon "A" 7 pts., 2nd—Exeter 21 pts., 3rd—Abingdon "B" 22 pts.

(Scorers: "A" team—Harvey and Bett=1, Johnson 4.

"B" team—Jones 5, Holmes 8, Bretscher 9).

2nd December v. Queen's College (a).

1st—Abingdon 33 pts., 2nd—Queen's 49 pts.

(Scorers: Harvey 1, Bett 4, Johnson 5, Jones 6, Holmes 7, Libby 10).

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

The Annual races were held on the last Wednesday of term, 16th December. Fortunately the almost incessant rain of the previous days gave way to a cloudy but mercifully dry afternoon. However several boys were obviously determined to get wet, and arrived at the finish coated with mud from head to foot.

Because some new buildings are being erected on the playing fields near Caldecott Gardens, the starting line had to be moved slightly forward, thus shortening the course by about 20 yards.

Approaching the finish in the Junior Race, some of the later runners met a herd of cows going in the opposite direction. The progress of both parties was somewhat slowed, but no damage was done to either side, and the result of the race was unaffected. The winner, P. J. F. Blair, knocked 41 seconds off the old record, and the next six runners were also inside the old figures.

In the Intermediate Race, J. M. Bunce ran with great determination and broke the record by 18 seconds, while C. T. Gresswell, in his first year as an intermediate, came very close to it.

Before the start of the Senior race it was rumoured that R. W. Harvey had had an ankle injury, and there was much speculation as to whether he might not be caught by Bett. However Harvey ran a masterful race to complete a notable hat-trick, and better his own course record into the bargain. There were a lot of other commendable performances, not least that of one very senior boy who lost his plimsolls in the mud and ran the last half of the course barefoot.

Details of the House Competition:

Junior: 1st—Reeves (141); 2nd—Bennett (158); 3rd—Blacknall (279); 4th—Tesdale (306).

Intermediate: 1st—Reeves (160); 2nd—Bennett (207); 3rd—Tesdale (243); 4th—Blacknall (266).

Senior: 1st—Bennett (334); 2nd—Tesdale (360); 3rd—Reeves (544); 4th—Blacknall (678).

Over-all Championship: 1st—Bennett (699); 2nd—Reeves (845); 3rd—Tesdale (909); 4th—Blacknall (1223).

The first ten home in the Junior race were: Blair (16 min. .06 sec.), Ford, C. C., Barrett, Gregson, Bowthorpe, Kitto, Marsh, V. A., Crouch, King, T. J., Trinder.

The first ten home in the Intermediate race were: Bunce (24 min. 22 secs.), Gresswell, Davin, C. M. Kirby, King, A. M., Hall, G. A., Aplin, Moss, I. W., Joseph, Wilson, S. R.

The first ten home in the Senior race were: Harvey (21 min. 17 sec.), Bett, Johnson, C. F., Libby, Matson, A. G. D., Jones, G. W., Holmes, Johnson, C. T., Marchbanks, Cunningham. R.H.B.

SKYE GROUP

Mr. Talbot's decision to give up his position as sponsoring master calls for grateful acknowledgement from both the School and all members of the Group, past and present for the time, assistance and encouragement he has so willingly given over the past four years. We thank him very much. At the same time we welcome Mr. B. C. Williams who is joining Mr. Blagden as the other sponsoring master. This year's expedition will be to Skye, to which an advance party of four boys paid an exploratory visit during the holiday. G.W.J.

FIVES

This is the first term we have had our own full-sized and floodlit court (thanks to the Building Club!) and it is encouraging to see so many playing the game, especially those in the junior school, some of whom look promising for future teams.

Tesdale beat Bennett in the final of the Senior House Competition, which on the whole was of a higher standard of play than ever before. A First Form Singles 'Championship', however, was a new addition to our match calendar this term and it met with a fair measure of success after a large entry and keen competition. The winner of this event was J. B. Morgan.

Next term sees the slow and steady increase in our number of fixtures. Games for the Seniors (v. the Common Room and the O.A.'s), the Colts, the under fifteens and the under fourteens have all been settled and we are looking forward to entertaining visiting teams.

Last but not least we must thank members of the Oxford University team who visited the School on the 18th October and gave an exhibition match to show how the game should really be played. An extra word of thanks is due to Mr. Roger Freebairn who has come back a number of times to give us very valuable coaching. T.A.M.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

It is disappointing to have to place it on record that our new H.Q. is not yet in full use: case-hardened, steel chains which we are required, under security regulations, to use in the Armoury for the safe custody of rifles, are still not available from the architects. Mr. Joyce has at present to spread himself over three buildings! The sooner that this is put right, the better; the sooner, too, we shall be able to go ahead with plans to convert Waste Court armoury into a 'home' for the Navy.

Squad X has this term, for the first time, become numerically quite a "force"; however recruitment to the Corps has been normal, so that numbers have remained steady at just below 300.

Field Day was held in summer weather, on 5th October, in several areas. Specialist sections ran their separate exercises—unluckily in the case of the Signals, whose borrowed equipment proved defective; B Coy., with an eye to Cert. 'A', engaged in a day's patrolling in the Shotover area. For C Coy., a scheme involving platoon attack and withdrawal, in the Chalgrove/Ewelme area, proved somewhat ambitious. More realistic work was done, later in the day, in Section exercises.

The big splash, Remembrance Sunday, again passed off well, with the Contingent providing Buglers and the Guard of Honour on the Cenotaph, as well as its Band. The former, we think, were at least as good as 'all their other' predecessors. A number of unsolicited testimonials have come in, from outsiders who have watched the parade.

Camp in 1960 will be held at the Depot, 6 Training Bn., R.A.S.C., at Blandford, Dorset, and should be most enjoyable. For various reasons—some perhaps good ones—the camping strength in '59 was our lowest for 10 years. Let '60 go down in history as having provided the highest total yet, something over the 100 . . .

The following promotions were made during the term:

U.O. i/c—Morris, D. G.

C.Q.M.S.—Ford, P. J. and Watts, R. C.

B.Q.M.S.—Pritchard, A. F.

Sgt.—Bampton, R. J. C., Bampton, R. W. J., Barret, T. J., Jones, G. W., Libby, T. A., Moll, R. T. and Riddick, D. W. G.

S.C.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Michaelmas term has not been a very exciting one, but there are certain solid achievements to record in examinations. Some fifteen cadets passed the Proficiency Test—the largest number ever—and the standard of passing was the highest we have had. Another seventeen passed the Able Seaman's test, though the standard of seamanship knowledge of these candidates was not so high.

Field Day was again in two parts, one visiting Surbiton for boatwork and this time enjoying good weather and having a profitable day, while the junior half of the section went to Portsmouth and saw the dockyard, Vernon and Victory. It was a good day, and all seemed to enjoy themselves and profit from the experience.

Work has not yet started on the conversion of the old armoury as a Naval Headquarters, but we hope it may have done by the time this appears in print. We hope that it will have been completed in time to be opened officially at our Annual Inspection.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

(34th North Berks)

This has been a flourishing term and the Troop finished with a full complement of four patrols. Under the leadership of Griffiss, the Court of Honour has been meeting regularly each week with the result that the patrol system has been running well. A monthly inter-patrol competition has been instituted and three of the patrols have already won the trophy.

Troop Leader Sabel is to be congratulated upon passing his first class, and several other members have taken proficiency badges.

A good contingent represented the Troop on the Remembrance Day parade, and Field Day was spent in patrol activities at Cothill.

Next term we look forward to a high percentage of the Troop becoming second class and to the preparation for patrol summer camps.

M.N.W.

WORLD REFUGEE YEAR

Concern expressed at a Chapel Council Meeting early in the term led to the forming of a small committee of masters and boys to suggest ways in which the School could help in World Refugee Year.

Our "effort" got under way on 22nd October when each form spent one period seeing a selection of films lent by the W.R.Y. Central Office. All the films brought home to us the very real plight of refugees—perhaps the most moving being "Like Paradise", a film about the appalling conditions and overcrowding in Hong Kong.

During the remainder of the term, various methods of raising money were employed. On one Sunday, for instance, the boarders went with-

out eggs for breakfast whilst the sale of W.R.Y. sticker stamps by individual boys brought in nearly £45. Collections at School functions, in the Tuck Shop, the studies and the Masters' Common Room together with the Alms Box in Chapel likewise accounted for a steady trickle of contributions.

At very short notice two large sacks of clothing were collected from the School and these were among about 150 sacks which some boys helped to load on to lorries at the Roysse Room, Abingdon's main collection centre during a special week's effort. Next term we plan to have our main clothing drive, and we hope there will be a generous response.

A cardboard box in the Office is rapidly filling with used postage stamps. When we have enough, these will be sent to a camp in Germany where they will be removed from the envelopes and made up into packets of "foreign" stamps by refugees who have no other employment owing to old age, or illness.

The Chapel Committee have agreed that one week's Chapel collections shall be given to W.R.Y. next term, and Mr. Sawbridge hopes to organise a concert in aid of the appeal sometime in March. Our effort will continue to the end of the World Refugee Year in June 1960, when we hope our contribution (already over £84) will be well into three figures.

R.H.B.

SCHOOL MUSIC

Inevitably the Michaelmas Term produced much music, both in and out of doors. With a large number of new boys there were not a few who wished to learn instruments or join the Choir. Fortunately the acquisition of new oboes, flutes and horns enabled more boys to start music lessons. 160 boys now learn the varied assortment of instruments and it is good news that Mr. Horrex has taken up the oboe (for which he had a most promising report!)

December Associated Board Exam. results were as follows: Grade V—Day, T. H., Llewellyn, Redgrave (Trumpet); Grade IV—Fairlie, A. G. (Flute), Fairlie, J. (Cello), Finney (Flute)—with Merit—and Hall, R. A. (Violin); Grade III—Sabel (Violin); Grade II—Coe (Violin) with Distinction; Grade I—Robbins, Rozier (Violin)—with Merit and Willis, D. H. (Violin). Theory results to date are: Evans, E. C. (Grade V) and Williams, A. J. (Grade VI).

The musical events of the term, taken in chronological order, were as follows: a section of the Chapel Choir sang at the Christening Service of Mr. and Mrs. Hillary's son; and whilst on the subject of

Chapel, it has been encouraging that more boys have been capable of playing the organ at Services this Term. Mr. Robert Ponsoyby, Artistic Director of the Edinburgh Festival until July, adjudicated the Piano and Organ sections of the House Music on 18th October. His remarks were most instructive and he combined humour with good advice. A. P. Haynes (B) won the Organ Prize, with P. D. Hossent (R) a close second. Orlando (B), Dowson (T) and R. M. Johns (R) won the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Piano Prizes respectively. Johns' performance of the Mozart D minor Fantasia earned him full marks: unprecedented in the House Music. He has fitted into the shoes of J. H. Thewlis admirably, being both an excellent flautist and pianist. House points to date are as follows: Bennett 88; Blacknall 19½; Reeves 91; Tesdale 41½.

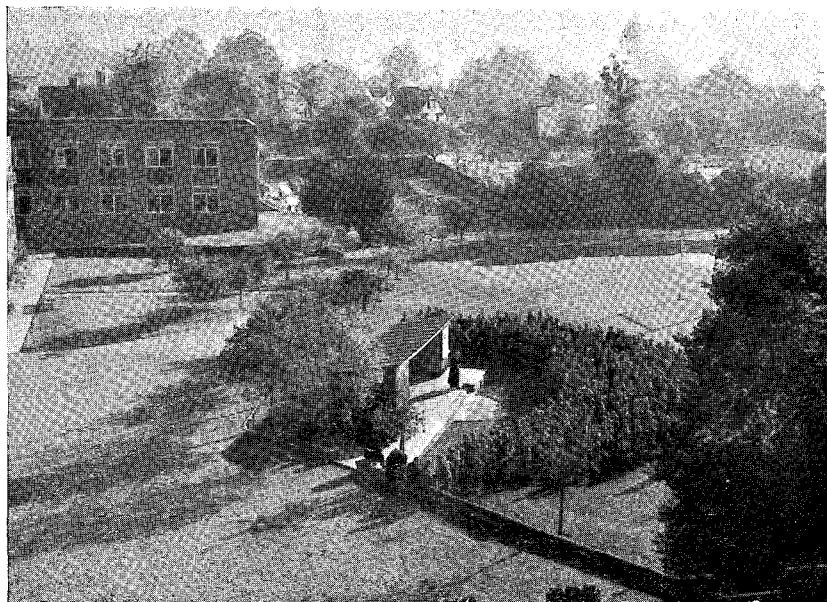
Small parties went to "The Gondoliers", the three Oxford Subscription Concerts and the Abingdon Music Society's Concert. (We congratulate Mr. Milton on his appointment as their Conductor and on his first most successful concert). We have started our own subscription Concerts this Term, and both Town and Gown meet six times a year under these auspices.

Scott Goddard opened the innings with an illustrated talk on Verdi and Opera. His first public engagement for three weeks was the same morning, and we were fortunate indeed that he was able to brave the fog to come down. His approach was that of a historian and his links between the man and his music were most profound. We heard some excellent examples of Verdi's opera, and were the first to hear part of the newly-released "Peter Grimes" recording.

James McGillivray and Joan Rimmer followed in the wake of James Blades and Bernard Brown, and entertained us with their Lecture/Recital, "From Syrinx to Saxophone." All manner of instruments were tested, tried, blown and proved, and their technique and skill were of the highest order. Even the Philistines were converted, and with only five exceptions, the assessments given afterwards were "A".

The Band was larger than ever for the Remembrance Day Parade, and the Trombone and Bass sections especially deserve commendation. J. R. N. Ogle and T. H. Day played most movingly in the Last Post and the Reveille at the Cenotaph. Ogle has been Mr. Clack's right-hand man par excellence, and our gratitude and good wishes go with him. We shall welcome Mr. M. A. Jaunet next January, who will be coming as assistant bandmaster, and who has had experience at Kneller Hall, with the Central Band of the R.A.F. and with the B.B.C. He will also take C.C.F. Band Parades and therefore instil all the military refinements into the playing and drill in which we are only 'amateurs' at present.

On 22nd November we held the Subscription Concert in the County Hall—and John Davies (Clarinet) with Else Cross (Piano) are believed



PUZZLE CORNER
(see page 514)



to be the first people to have made music therein since Handel held a rehearsal there in 1743! The acoustics are not entirely sympathetic to the music, but the magnificence of the Hall was most rewarding and we owe much to the good-will of the Town Clerk and his Committee for their co-operation in this matter. It is hoped that before long the resonance will be lessened through curtains and other more scientific devices. Of the Recital, the Oxford Times said: "Weber's Grand Duo Concertante, the two artists gave us rewarding insight into the inventiveness of the composer and the virtuosity of its interpreters."

We were privileged to have such eminent musicians, and with a larger Hall the membership has increased to about 140, which still left enough room for an increased membership next year. The Times concluded its critique by saying: "The players were more than equal to the occasion, providing us with instrumental artistry of a very high order of accomplishment." And so say all of us.

A critique of the Christmas Concert, also held in the County Hall, appears elsewhere, as does the report of the Carol Service. The collection at the Concert, which amounted to £5 1s. 6d., was added to the School's fund for World Refugee Year. The Carol Parties went well in the last week—the Band playing at Summerfield Children's Home and the Abingdon Hospital, and the Chapel Choir singing nearer the centre of the Town. Proceeds from the latter's collecting boxes went to the Church of England Children's Society. The Chapel Choir also sang at the Mayor of Abingdon's Christmas Party for Old People in the Corn Exchange on the last evening of Term.

In the holidays, many members of the Senior and Junior Orchestras played in the Holiday Orchestra, organised by the indefatigable Mrs. Kitching, and T. H. Day and A. R. F. Redgrave played in performances of Britten's "Noye's Floode" at Benson, conducted by Mrs. Cain, who is also leader of the Abingdon Orchestra.

The Lent Term's activities will include a performance of Sacred Music on 27th March in St. Helen's Church; the Junior Orchestra at the North Berks Festival; two Subscription Concerts; the Band at the Guides' March Past at the Guildhall(1), and the Instrumental Solos in the House Music, to be adjudicated by Professor J. A. Westrup, Heather Professor of Music in the University of Oxford.

E.H.F.S.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We are indebted to Mr. Michael Snowden for the following comments on the Christmas Concert:

"A rousing fanfare of trumpets from the balcony of the County Hall heralded the first orchestral concert to be held in the hall since its restoration and probably the first for several hundred years. The

programme which followed proved worthy of the occasion and of its historic setting.

In the overture 'Artaxerxes' by Arne the senior orchestra conducted by the Director of Music demonstrated in no uncertain terms the high standard of musical accomplishment which has now come to be associated with the School. The string section gave us a good tone and a firm attack, while in this as in later items an excellent line was heard from the flute.

After a noble effort at a difficult sonata by Rimsky-Korsakov for two unaccompanied horns, the orchestra was again heard to good effect in Bach's 'Fugue a La Gigue.' Dittersdorf's Partia in D severely tested the ensemble of flute, clarinet, cello and horns and at times the cohesion left something to be desired. Our spirits were soon revived by a stirring rendering of Handel's 'Arrival of the Queen of Sheba.'

It was then the turn of the Junior Orchestra in Haydn's 'S. Anthony Chorale' and the Larkhetto and Variation from Handel's 12th Concerto Grosso. Obviously these young players were determined not to be outshone by their seniors and rose to the occasion with a wonderfully rich string tone which promises well for the future. In these works they were skilfully and unobtrusively guided by Frances Kitching.

A lack of unanimity of pitch marred the next work, Sonata No. 2 in F by C. P. E. Bach, but what a delight it was to hear the recorder music which followed played so beautifully in tune. These young aspirants must now try to bring their timing up to the same standard.

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the inspired performance of Cimarosa's 'Concerto for Flute and Violin' played with great talent and confidence by R. M. Johns (flute) and A. J. Williams (violin) and R. E. Moore (piano). It was unfortunate that the finale 'English Folk Songs' by Vaughan Williams suffered from poor intonation in certain exposed passages, for the spirit of these fine songs was well portrayed.

The School may justly feel proud of the very high standard of musical entertainment which was displayed and which the audience so clearly enjoyed. Let the orchestra now learn to listen and its musical future under the very competent skill of Mr. Sawbridge and his colleagues is assured."

M.S.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

We much regret that owing to a typographical error our thanks to R. A. R. Townsend for a considerable number of books and pictures and an interesting old Ordnance Survey Map of Abingdon, were more than cryptic. Here we offer renewed thanks and apologies. We are

indebted again to the Marshall Bequest, of the Royal Numismatic Society, for a book on "Early British Coinage" and to R. S. M. Millard, I. J. Parsons and G. M. Crow for 'leaving books'. Many thanks too to Mrs. Comfort for the new "Life of St. Edmund of Abingdon", and to Mrs. Green, W. A. Rudd and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for periodicals.

In the coming term we propose to reorganise the Shelf Catalogue on a card index system as the first step in preparation for future expansion.

G.F.D.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROY SSE SOCIETY

The first meeting of the term on 14th October marked the début of eight new members, T. A. Libby, R. W. Harvey, J. A. M. Carslaw, G. S. Howlett, A. F. Pritchard, K. N. Haarhoff, J. S. Kelly and P. A. Bretscher, whom the Headmaster welcomed to the Society before introducing the reader of the first paper, D. G. Darroch. The reader chose a wide subject "South Africa" but wisely limited himself to a summary of South African history, followed by a well-reasoned presentation of the colour problem. Discussion centred around Apartheid, which some members defended vehemently with sound arguments, and the education of the natives to political responsibility and European culture. We were very pleased to welcome our "tame South African", Mr. Blagden, whose first-hand experience increased the value of the evening greatly.

The second meeting of the term, on 11th November, brought us face to face with a problem much less remote—ourselves. D. G. Morris read a long but interesting paper on "The Adolescent Today", describing with great vitality the problems of habits, vicious and otherwise, dress, finance, behaviour, morals, leisure, work and taste among teenagers. We discussed seriously the difficulty of equating an interesting job with attractive wages, of establishing contact between young and old, of encouragement to artistic pursuits, of cultivating higher taste; but later aspects of the subject began to be treated less seriously—drinking habits and popular music for example—perhaps too lightheartedly. In any case, we may be sure that the elders and the youth of the Society benefitted much from this meeting.

The final paper of the term could hardly have made a stronger contrast: J. A. M. Carslaw on "Demonology and Witchcraft" caused much controversy, for he obviously enjoyed his subject, so much so that he was loth to discard any stories that he found interesting. As a result his paper became rather lengthy and repetitive with too little original contribution by the author; no-one could deny the subject's interest, and many of the social implications of witchcraft were argued later, the church's lack of contact with the people, the bondage and oppression of the serfs, a means of explaining the apparently inexplicable events. Other important points raised were the possibility of Dualism and Spiritualism and the problem of heresy and superstition in the Christian Church, past and present.

We thank various members of the Staff who have come along during the term for their interest and wisdom, but we are sorry to bid farewell to D. G. Darroch, D. G. Morris, and J. A. M. Carslaw. Finally, the Society extends its sincere gratitude to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their unflinching hospitality.

A.P.H.

TURNOR SOCIETY

Four meetings were held this term. The first was concerned with the usual democratic rites, as a result of which D. G. Morris became Chairman, J. S. Kelly Secretary, and R. T. Moll, B. D. Gibbs and P. G. D. Whitton Committee Members.

We had hoped to welcome Mr. Katkov, a Russian lecturer at Oxford, to our next meeting, but unfortunately he was taken ill a few days before the meeting, which deprived us of this pleasure. We are pleased and relieved to hear, however, that Mr. Katkov, with the celebrated toughness of his race, is now well on the way to recovery and hope perhaps to see him at some future date. As it was, a lively panel, consisting of J. A. M. Carslaw, B. D. Gibbs, A. P. Haynes and G. M. Morse answered questions of topical and political interest asked from the floor of the house.

On the 25th November Dr. P. M. Holt addressed the society speaking on Israel and the Arab States. Dr. Holt was at one time a teacher in the Sudan and his knowledge of the Middle East was immediately apparent.

He gave a brief outline of the history of the Arab States in modern times and then pointed out that they could not be considered as one unit since each had different characteristics and outlooks. He then explained the problems caused by the formation of the Israeli State. Dr. Holt's talk would have been interesting and informative at any time, since the ever changing situation in that part of the world confuses the layman, but it was given added emphasis by the news a little later that diplomatic relations with Egypt were to be resumed.

At the final meeting of term, Mr. M. R. Stevens passed on some of his wide experience in a talk entitled 'Commonwealth Travels'. The speaker compared the Dominions of Australia and Canada, adding some points on Bermuda. We soon learned that the home-spun colonials were in fact just as fashion-conscious as anyone and that they possessed a deep national pride of their own.

The quality of speakers has been good this term and merited better attendance. However, let us hope that those erring have learned their mistake and will give the Society their full support next term.

J.S.K.

DEBATING SOCIETY

There were four meetings of the Society this term. At the first D. G. Morris was elected Chairman, J. S. Kelly Secretary, R. T. Moll, G. M. Morse and C. H. Woodham, Committee Members.

With the second meeting, debating proper started, when J. S. Kelly proposed the motion "That in the opinion of this House the main aim of modern youth is to escape." G. M. Morse opposed the motion and the two main speakers were seconded by R. T. Moll and A. H. Smith respectively. The House thought however, that today's youth was a more down-to-earth beast, and rejected the motion by a considerable majority.

The next meeting of the Society fell upon Friday, 13th November, and obviously called for a debate on superstition. J. M. Carslaw, therefore, proposed the motion "That this House would rather comply with superstition than run the risk." Although the motion was opposed in a bombastic speech by C. T. Pollard, his stars were obviously not in the ascendant, for the motion was carried by an overwhelming majority.

By the time the fourth and last meeting came round, the festive season was nearly upon us. It was with this thought in mind, that D. P. Heather-Hayes rose to propose "That in the opinion of this

House, excess commercialisation has ruined Christmas." The motion was hotly contested, both by the official speakers and from the Floor of the House. Although the motion was carried by 38 votes to 32, it is doubtful whether anyone present on that occasion was inhibited in his celebrations, commercialisation or no commercialisation.

This term, the Society has had more or less straightforward debates, but early next year the Annual Public Speaking Competition will be held, bringing to light the wealth of yet undiscovered talent.

Finally, this report would be incomplete unless it registered the thanks of the whole Society to David Morris, who has led it firmly but good-humouredly through the term. Not until next term will his full loss be realised.

J.S.K.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The term's meetings started with a film show at which the films "Energetically Yours" and "Atomic reactors—then and now" were shown. The first film illustrated the tremendous advances that have been made in the last few centuries in the production of energy, while the latter showed the progress in the development of nuclear reactors in a much shorter period.

At the second meeting of the term Mr. R. H. Burn gave a talk entitled "The Story behind the Tap." Here he outlined the purification of water from its collection to its final use. The talk was concluded by Peter Ford, who showed us some very interesting plates of bacterial colonies derived from various samples of water.

In the last meeting of term, Mr. J. J. Horrex completed his triad of talks upon Astronomy with a discourse entitled "Signs in the Sky." It is only in this term, when the nights are drawing closer and we are made to notice the sky, that we appreciate the beauty of the heavens, and we are very grateful to Mr. Horrex for 'opening our eyes.'

K.N.H.

LITERARY SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Michaelmas Term, which fell upon the 8th October this year, is traditionally election day for the Society. We were gratified to learn that the country as a whole had taken our lead in deciding to hold its own elections—perhaps as important even—on the very same day. As a result of our democratic tendencies, P. J. Ford was elected Chairman, J. S. Kelly Secretary, and G. M. Morse and R. T. Moll committee members. The initial excitement over, we settled down to reading Part II of "Murder in the Cathedral" by T. S. Eliot. Many of our seven new members took parts and the reading reached a high standard.

The second meeting, held on 4th November, produced many premature pyrotechnics. It took the form of an 'attack and defence', Pope, Salinger, Waugh and Arnold all finding fanatical supporters and avid opponents. Pope fared worst despite a spirited defence by R. T. Moll. The discussion resulting from the controversy over these literary figures was heated and violent, eclipsing completely the following day's festivities.

At the last meeting of term, G. M. Morse staged his swan song by reading a paper on Dylan Thomas, illustrating his talk with gramophone records. He first gave a brief out-line of the poet's life and then went on to give various examples of his poetry and prose. The records were of selected poems, some read by the great man himself, others by

Richard Burton. The grilling to which the reader was subjected showed he had more than a superficial knowledge of his subject.

We are very sorry to be losing three members this term—a considerable number when one remembers the size of the Society. We hope that they will retain their appreciation of literature despite the rude blasts of the big cold world outside!

Once again a big thank you to all those who have entertained the Society so well this term. J.S.K.

PLAY READING SOCIETY

Last year's committee provided the Society with a most interesting programme for this term.

Unfortunately one of the plays, "Anthony and Cleopatra", had to be cancelled because of the absence of several members, but the other three were very successful.

At the first meeting we read "French without Tears" by Terence Rattigan, in which the main parts were taken by C. F. John, A. H. Smith and N. P. Loukes. The attendance was good and everybody enjoyed the play.

Despite considerable rivalry provided by television, the large cast of Jonson's "Volpone" remained faithful to the Society, and a most successful meeting was held. Volpone himself was read by Mr. Griffin and Mosca by B. D. Gibbs.

I think it would not be inappropriate here, to thank Mr. and Mrs. Griffin for all the support they have given to the Society, by their presence at the meetings and by adding experience to enthusiasm in the reading of plays.

The third play, "Five Finger Exercise", which was read towards the end of term, did not have a large cast, and consequently the attendance was poor.

We may certainly look back happily on a successful term, but it is hoped that in future all members will be able to attend, whether they are reading a part or not. R.T.M.

MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

We were glad to see several new members at the enrolment meeting held at the beginning of the term. The qualifications required for membership to the Society are numerous, thus reducing it to a select group, but we are very pleased with the enthusiasm shown by that group throughout the term.

At the first meeting the Secretary presented a selection of gramophone records, ranging from the German interpretation of "The Merry Widow" to the Sydney Bechet interpretation of traditional jazz. We also heard the Vienna Boys' Choir and that very amusing French quartet "Les Quatres Barbus."

Pending a visit to the Oxford University's Production of Goethe's "Faust", a good translation was procured from the British Drama League, which was read at the next meeting. This meeting was thrown open, so that all those going to see "Faust" could benefit from it, and the attendance was very good.

At the third meeting, we were honoured by a talk from Mr. Emms, entitled "Moliere's predecessors", which was most enjoyable and beneficial to the Society.

Finally, a big word of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip for their generous hospitality, and to I. M. C. Cunningham for his help in many ways. R.T.M.

ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

All our three meetings this term have been "outside" ones, and have all been well attended. At the first, the Rev. R. T. Jourdain of the Church Assembly Overseas Council came down to talk on "Opportunities Abroad", bringing with him a film called "Land of Opportunity" which dealt with the work of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa. After a short introductory talk, the film was shown, presenting the difficulties obstructing the growth of the Church in Africa, and the remainder of the evening was spent in questions and answers about Mr. Jourdain's work and experiences. For our second meeting we welcomed the Ven. C. Witton-Davies, Archdeacon of Oxford, who came to speak about his recent visit to the Holy Land. He explained the problems of the Arab peoples there and described the work of the Church and then went on to answer the numerous questions he was asked about the Holy Land. Our third meeting was one of the most successful yet, when the film "Martin Luther" was shown to a crowded audience. This was enjoyed by all and was, although obviously biased towards the Protestant faith, a very moving and realistic picture of the struggle Luther had with the Church of Rome, starting from his life in a monastery, to the successful foundation of his Church.

At the beginning of the term we welcomed four new members to the Committee—P. D. Hossent, D. P. Heather-Hayes, T. A. Libby, and P. J. V. Willis, and many new members to the Society, all of whom we hope will attend the Society's meetings regularly and ensure that its success will be continued.

R.W.H.

MUSIC SOCIETY

The main feature of this term's series of Friday afternoon gramophone recitals was variety, both in those who presented programmes and in the works selected.

The Secretary presented excerpts from Act III of "Die Meistersinger" (Wagner) and Bach's Third Orchestral Suite at the first meeting of the term, and William Walton's oratorio "Belshazzar's Feast" at the last meeting.

Other works which members heard were "West Side Story", introduced by D. T. L. Eke, Beethoven's Quartet in B flat, Op. 130, by G. S. Howlett, and Rimsky-Korsakov's Cycle of Symphonic Poems "Scheherazade", by T. A. Libby.

We do hope more members will come forward and present programmes, and try to inject new life into the Friday meetings with a varied and adventurous choice of records.

Notes on the other musical activities of the term, the Subscription Concerts, and the Carol Service and the School Orchestral concert appear elsewhere in this issue.

A.P.H.

THE FORUM

The main object of the Society this term has been to encourage younger members to air their views in an informal atmosphere.

We are pleased that our three meetings this term have fulfilled this ambition, largely due to the activities of our four new committee members, A. H. Smith, P. Whitton, R. S. B. Shepard, and R. J. C. Bampton.

At the first meeting, held on the day after the General Election, we discussed the new Government, and considered the need for changes in

policy. The Society also decided that a complete "overhaul" of the School Corps would be desirable.

Various aspects of School Sport formed the main topic for discussion at the second meeting. It is interesting to note that although several members admitted having "better things to do" on a half-holiday than to watch School Matches, yet it was regretted unanimously that the attendance was so deplorable!

The two main topics at the last meeting were "Britain's attitude towards refugees", and "School uniform." Heated discussions arose on both subjects but had to be cut short at "stalemate", after the meeting had overrun far too long.

The attendance at all meetings was very good, and we look forward with confidence to the good prospects which 1960 offer us.

R.T.M.

FILM SOCIETY

The Society has flourished this term despite the unavoidable absence of the projector. Presentations which include most of the past School films such as 'No Tumbled House' and the latest School film 'Three's a Crowd' were shown to well filled meetings during the term. We owe our thanks to the gallant projectionists who have worked so hard to show the right film at the right time, and without whom we would be lost. Next term we shall welcome a new secretary who we know will do his best to keep the show going.

B.M.J.L.

BUILDING CLUB

This term work has been slightly marred by the weather, but in spite of this we have put the finishing touches to the fives court, which now has a bench outside it. After this we started the rather long and complicated process of re-levelling the gravel. Two boys were picked to measure the size of the gravel and to start the levelling by triangulation. While this was in progress we started on a low wall to separate the gravel from Upper Field. So far we have completed the foundations and two courses of bricks. Just before half-term we started to dig a soakaway drain by the wall; this job is not quite completed as the gratings on the top of our previous soakaway drain were too weak for the purpose, so stronger ones had to be ordered. We hope during the next term to complete the levelling of the gravel and to finish the wall.

K.G.H.

HOLIDAY CLUB

The Summer holidays proved to be very kind to our cricketers both in sunshine and in victory. The harbinger of success was our defeat of Boars Hill Cricket Club by nine wickets and our Eleven covered themselves with more honour by winning the Brookes Cup. We had a bye in the first round of the competition and in the second beat Kennington Youth Club by a handsome number of runs. Then we met and overcame the Sutton Courtenay Club in the final and thus won the trophy. The cup itself is something of an enigma since no-one at School has actually set eyes upon it. Nevertheless we understand that it rests safe and sound in the vaults of a well known bank.

At tennis, we were not so successful and lost three sets to five to Wootton L.T.C.

During the coming Christmas holiday, we have arranged to play Abingdon R.F.C. as well as a soccer game against Abingdon Minors. Less energetically(?) we have our annual social evening by courtesy of Mr. Brampton at Caldecott House. J.S.K.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

The first meeting of the term took the form of a film show. The two films were "Lieux Geometrique" and "The Calculator that Remembers."

Mr. W. A. Rudd gave a lecture at the second meeting on "The Triangle and Its Circles", in which he dealt with relationships between the sides, areas and radii of the triangle and its circles.

At the last meeting of the term, the Secretary of the Oxford Branch of the Mathematical Association, Mr. Garside, came and talked to us about Knots. He illustrated to us the mathematical approach to the complex problem of Knots, and explained how they might be grouped into various classifications. T.P.H.

LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

There were only three meetings in the Michaelmas Term, one of which was a Film Show.

The first meeting was on 13th September, when the programme for the term was discussed.

The second meeting took the form of a Film Show in which the two films shown were "The Electrification of the Railway line from Liverpool Street to Southend" and "The First Main Line Diesel."

The last meeting of the term was held on 14th December, when the programme for the following term was outlined.

In the Christmas Holidays there was an excursion to eight B.R. Goods Depots in London. R.P.

JAZZ CLUB

We have broken new ground again this term in that in one meeting a tape was played and in another the usual gramophone illustrations were supplemented by piano playing.

The first meeting was a talk by A. F. Pritchard on "Rhythm and Blues." It was illustrated by records of some of the colourfully named singers in this field.

At the next meeting J. Comfort introduced a tape of a B.B.C. programme which featured the bands of Terry Lightfoot and Ken Colyer.

On 6th November we tried again (successfully) the idea of four people presenting two records each. This time the theme was "The Greatest Jazzman."

The fourth meeting consisted of various records being played to a group of "experts" who then discussed them. The views put forward were both amusing and instructive.

R. M. Johns, one of the School's trans-atlantic visitors, at the last meeting of the term gave a talk on "Piano Jazz", giving examples both from records and by playing himself. A.F.P.

JOINT CLUB

This term the Club has enjoyed three particularly pleasant meetings. The first, a "Social" with vigorous games and some dancing, was a great success and saw many new friendships formed.

At the second meeting, we were entertained by the ladies at St. Helen's, and an evening's quiet dancing was made further enjoyable by superb refreshments.

The final meeting was again held in Lacies Court, after members had watched the film "L'Ecole Buissoniere" in the Gym. Some of our members, however, attended the Sixth Form Dance at St. Helen's which was reported to have been a particularly enjoyable evening. Our thanks are once again warmly extended to Miss Glass and Mr. Sewry for their kind help and interest.

D.G.M.

RADIO CLUB

An early formation of the Club at the beginning of the term got us off to a good start. Before long, we had fifteen members, all of whom play an active part in Club functions. Mr. Horrex kindly agreed to sponsor us and we meet every Wednesday afternoon for an hour. Members bring along their own equipment to work on and in all we have had a very enjoyable time. One lecture has been given, by E. W. Firth on "Transistors", and next term we hope to arrange an excursion somewhere.

D.F.K.S.

A NOTE ON THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographs on the first page explain themselves. Those on the second page show respectively the new Reading Room and one of the Changing Rooms in School House. Old Boys may (or may not) recognise the site of the old bathroom. The showers are through the opening to the right.

The photograph taken at the Remembrance Day Service shows the Guard of Honour and the Buglers provided by the C.C.F. The view below was taken from the back of St. Helen's Church during the Service of Lessons and Carols.

Now for the problem pictures. What looks like a swarm of bees in front of the R-B Pavilion is the whole School—over five hundred of them—gathered together for weekly assembly. Obviously this method of assembling the whole School can only be employed in fine weather. Otherwise assembly is normally held sectionally in Big School. The lower photograph was taken from a window in Big Dorm in the Autumn (note the leaves on the ground) when a group of boys was having its morning milk (note the bottles). The angle bars are protecting the creeper on the walls.

OXFORD LETTER

The Union Society, Oxford.

15th December, 1959.

Dear Sir,

There are now twelve O.A.'s *in statu pupillari* at Oxford, of whom seven are reading scientific subjects. It is an indication of the changing pattern of existence here that only three of this number have rooms in College, and they are the three freshmen. Ian Kirby arrived at Pembroke too late to hear the decanal address and so is unaware that ladies must leave before 10.30 p.m. He visits the fives court frequently and the Clarendon Laboratory on appropriate occasions. It can now be revealed that David Gerrard is actually up at Wadham where he takes time off from intrigue to study Milton in preparation for English Prelims. He also writes for *Isis* and *Cherwell* under such pseudonyms as "Roisseye."

The distant Classics Mods. have not inhibited Roger Green of Merton, who has a room as near St. Hilda's as he can find, from playing chess and generally leading a gay life. This "severe and exacting examination in Latin and Greek" is not so distant for Bryan Winkett (Pembroke) who has achieved office and some notoriety in the Joint Debating Society with St. Hugh's College. Rumour has it that other pressing non-academic commitments have prevented him from attending the Railway Society this term.

Bob Westcott, also at Pembroke, is finding his experience in electronics very useful in coping with the second year of the Physics course. Of some practical value in this connection also is the not infrequent necessity to coax into activity the engine of his green car. Frank Jeal of St. Cath's, who is avoiding examinations with some success, has also been seen fondling a car of doubtful age.

Michael Enser (fourth year at Pembroke), although he took Biochemistry Schools last term, still finds it necessary to visit the labs, as does Humphrey Bowen (second year Pembroke), who has attained some stature among the University chessmen. Roger Marchbanks reading Biochemistry at Magdalen is working hard for Schools, as is Bill Budden (St. Edmund's Hall) who has nevertheless visited the Pembroke contingent on several occasions for coffee and a chat.

D. M. P. Jones (St. Peter's Hall), reading Modern Greats, is looking forward to Schools in the summer with some distaste.

Brian Kibble of Jesus has been lying relatively low this term, though on one occasion, as your correspondent was leaving the Union, he rushed up displaying some agitation and asked if Mr. Ingham had passed by.

It is pleasing to see that some of the four Abingdonians certainly coming up to The University next October are famed for their prowess in sport. Nevertheless the education offered by this, the Senior Univer-

sity, is one to develop the whole personality. Your correspondent would commend this education as worthy the effort to obtain it with the words of the motto of a very famous direct grant School—"Sapere Aude."

Yours sincerely,

YOUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

- GRANT.** On 23rd September, 1959, to Joanna, wife of Robyn D. M. Grant (1950), a son, Simon Marriott.
- LUNGI.** On 6th September, 1959, to Renée, wife of Hugh Lungi (1939), a daughter, Xanthe.
- OGLE.** On 26th December, 1958, to Betty, wife of Martin Ogle (1929), a daughter, Natalie Mary.
- SLINGSBY.** On 16th October, 1959, to Beryl, wife of Derek Slingsby (1944), a son, John William.

MARRIAGES

- LUCAS-RUSBRIDGE.** On 28th March, 1959, at Kaduna, Nigeria, Capt. Peter R. Lucas (1950), R. Lancs Fus., att'd. Nigeria Regt., to Rosemary N. D. Rusbridge.
- ROBBINS-HASWELL.** On 25th July, 1959, at All Saints' Church, Compton, Winchester, Christopher W. Robbins (1952) to Wendy Haswell.
- THISTLEWOOD-STRAW.** On 6th October, 1959, at Christ Church, Radlett, Herts, John M. Thistlewood (1954) to Shirley Ann Straw.
- THOMPSON-WHITE.** On 6th June, 1959, at Holy Trinity Church, Ystrad Mynach, S. Wales, Peter Thompson (1953) to Valerie White.

DEATH

- NICHOLLS.** On 12th December, 1959, at St. Mary's Hospital, Wallingford, Edmund Avery Hyde Nicholls (1902-05), aged 72.

We offer our hearty congratulations to G. E. Sinclair, C.B.E. (1931), Deputy Governor of Cyprus, on the Knighthood announced in the New Year's Honours List.

Congratulations also to C. S. Wiggins (1953) on taking his D.Phil. degree at Birmingham University. He now has a post as lecturer at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

R. D. Gibaud (1942) has been made a partner in the firm of Gleeds, Quantity Surveyors, of Bristol.

Hugh Lungi (1939) has been concentrating of late on the Soviet Film Industry and in August attended the World Youth Festival at

Vienna as a representative of the B.B.C. European Services. Several of his talks reproduced in the *Listener* have been published in translation in many European and also South American periodicals, and we were very interested to receive a copy of the Greek newspaper *Eleutheria* containing one such article.

Michael Bateman (1951) has now found his way to Fleet Street from the Northern Provinces, and is working with Westminster Press Provincial Newspapers.

Morris Venables (1950) has moved from Leighton Park to King Alfred's College, Winchester, where he is a tutor in English.

A. D. Burton (1952) has transferred to another school in Leicester—Woodstock Junior School.

Neville Grant (1957) is doing a year's teaching at Rockport School, Co. Down, and Robin Dickenson (1959) is similarly occupied at Crosfields School, Reading, both prior to University.

John Hall (1955) after taking his B.Sc.(Econ.) at Southampton is working with Cooper Bros., Chartered Accountants, in London. He looks forward to A.I.C.A. Finals in 1962.

Richard Paxman (1954) took the National Diploma in Agriculture at Seale Hayne College, last summer, and is now a trainee with Shell Chemical Co. as an Agricultural Representative. We congratulate him on his recent engagement.

Bill Robbins (1952), whose marriage we announce, is busy in his father's motor business in Winchester, but would welcome any O.A.'s passing that way.

John Robins and John Spinks (1957) have had their first home leave from the N. Rhodesia Service and both seemed to be enjoying the work and life generally.

Tony Gardner (1956) is playing Prince Giglio in "The Rose and the Ring" at the Century Theatre, Leicester. He has recently been on tour in "The Cocktail Party" and "Doctor in the House".

H. E. Midwinter (1954) has passed the Intermediate Exam of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

R. M. Reed (1948) has moved north with his family and is now living at Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts.

John Norman (1952) has moved to Kidderminster, transferring his services from the Southern to the Midland Electricity Board.

John Becker (1957) is now 1st Assistant Editor with Religious Films Ltd. at Elstree, a branch of the Rank Organisation.

Those who remember Miss Barrett at Waste Court will join us in sending good wishes on her marriage. Mrs. McDavid, as she now is, wrote from Freetown, Sierra Leone, but expected to be home before long.

Lionel Lacey-Johnson (1944), Capt. Intelligence Corps, is with the Independent Brigade at Colchester.

Hugh Leach (1953), R.T.R., is with Desert Intelligence, Persian Gulf.

Roger Hamer (1950), Capt. R.A., is home again and is with a G.W. Regt. at Blandford.

Tony Clay (1948), Capt. R.A., is at G.H.Q., Singapore.

David Lloyd (1954), Capt. R.E.M.E., is at Norton Manor, Taunton.

Tony Cherrill (1948), Capt. R.A.P.C., is enjoying the winter at Kingston, Jamaica.

David Emmett (1956) has rejoined the Army and is now 2/Lt., Royal Ulster Rifles at Ballymena, Co. Antrim.

Kenneth Painter (1955) is at R.A.F. Driffield and Robert Gammack (1955) at Kinloss.

O. M. Jones (1955) is at Mons O.C.T.U. and Roger Paige (1957) R. Sigs., has also negotiated W.O.S.B.

As far as we know the following are in residence at Universities and Medical Schools

Oxford:

Pembroke: M. B. Enser, W. N. R. Stevens, H. C. Bowen, R. W. Westcott, B. D. Winkett, I. J. Kirby.

Jesus: B. P. Kibble.

Magdalen: R. M. Marchbanks

St. Edmund Hall: W. W. Budden.

St. Peter's Hall: D. M. P. Jones.

Wadham: D. S. Gerrard.

St. Catherine's: F. Jeal.

Cambridge:

Clare: M. S. R. Broadway.

Gonville & Caius: M. S. Bretscher.

Jesus: S. C. Woodley.

King's: M. J. Scott-Taggart, C. M. Dunman.

Pembroke: R. E. J. Packer.

Queens': P. M. D. Gray.

Fitzwilliam House: D. G. Dunkley.

Trinity College, Dublin: R. B. Scott-Taggart, J. J. Day.

London:

King's: G. F. Wastie.

Imperial College: J. H. Thewlis.

L.S.E.: N. K. Hammond.

Queen Mary's: I. A. Oliver.

University: G. M. Crow.

Northampton Eng. College: G. R. Slack.

Birmingham: C. J. Marchbanks, B. E. Stacey.

Bristol: D. J. Meakins,

Hull: J. C. Ivatts.

Leeds: D. J. Lanham.

Nottingham: N. G. Mackenzie.

Reading: M. Q. King, G. E. G. Brown, M. G. Nichol.

Sheffield: J. Furby.

Southampton: C. Hiles, E. R. L. Day, B. P. A. Cork.

Medical Schools:

Guy's: J. A. Howard, P. O. Older, M. C. Rallings.

King's: R. K. Le Voi.

London: S. H. Freedman.

Middlesex: P. G. Cope.

St. Mary's: B. L. Smith.

Royal Veterinary Coll.: J. J. Swainston, S. M. Womar, M. G. Yarkoff.

Birmingham: P. D. Exon

Edinburgh: G. S. Strachan.

P. A. Smith and B. Westbrook at St. Luke's Training College, Exeter.

M. J. Ryman at Newlands Park and C. J. Redknap at King Alfred's, Winchester.

Of others who left in July, 1959, and since, we have the following news:

David Bragg is teaching at Wycliffe Junior School, Stroud, and John Sheard at Stroud School, Romsey, before going to University.

Anthony Gresswell is articled to Thornton & Thornton, Chartered Accountants of Oxford and Peter Kandiah to Solicitors.

John Foden is a trainee with Whitbreads in London and Andrew Rowles with Sainsbury's.

E. F. Lier is in the Pharmaceutical Laboratories of Smith, Kline & French, with a D.Sc. or F.R.I.C., as his next objective.

John Fry is taking a Diploma Course in Metallurgy at the Battersea College of Technology and M. A. C. Stockwell is engaged in metallurgy with Johnson Matthey & Co.

Of the new recruits to banking G. J. Emerton is with Barclays at Oxford, R. J. Baldwin also with Barclays, Ian Attree with National Provincial Bank in London, S.W.1., and M. J. Seymour with Lloyds at Wallingford.

David Wiggins has taken up his Scholarship at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music, Glasgow.

R. R. Bailey is doing well at the Retail College, London and headed the list at the end of his first session.

R. G. Wooldridge is a reporter with the Maidenhead Advertiser.

M. C. Lay is an Engineer Apprentice with Morris Motors, G. L. Kent with Pressed Steel, and K. R. Duly with De Havillands at Edgware.

F. P. Wintle is a trainee with G.E.C. in the Sales Branch.

Clifford Knight is a Cadet in the Berks Constabulary.

Trevor Davies is in the Research Labs at Esso House.

M. D. Shaw is at the Oxford School of Architecture.

D. G. Nurton is a trainee with Saxone Shoe Co.

D. V. Southern is with Maguire & Kingsmill, London Stockbrokers, where he found G. J. Bailey already working.

A. W. Potter is with Boots Chemists in Abingdon.

P. R. Davis and D. G. Saffin are pupils in the Public Health Inspectors' Dept., Oxford Corporation.

Fathers and Sons

It may be of interest to list the present members of the School who are the sons of Old Boys. The initials of father and year of leaving the School are given in brackets. We are sorry that it is not possible to extend this list to cover grandfathers, uncles and cousins. The genealogy of the Wood clan, for instance, would be far too complicated. N. A. H. and P. V. Bosley (B. N. J. B. '37); R. N. Carter (G. N. C. '20); J. V. Comfort (V. C. '12); L. J. W. Ewing (K. W. E. '30); P. G. James (G. J. J. '37); E. G. B. Joseph (E. A. J. '34); J. H. and M. F. Kitto (D. A. K. '31); N. D. S. Kortright (J. C. H. K. '32); A. J. C. Lansdown (S. J. L. '31); K. J. Lay (C. G. L. '27); W. R. Lynn-Robinson (W. J. L.-R. '19); R. K. and T. D. Paige (S. A. P. '30); R. E. Spencer (R. G. S. '23); M. H. Tarran-Jones (H. T.-J. '35); J. D. Taylor (J. H. T. '29); N. R. M. Viney (J. M. V. '35); A. F. G. Wiggins (T. A. W. '23); A. E. W. and M. E. F. Willey (E. S. W. '34); K. M. A. and T. J. Wood (J. D. W. '26); M. P. S. Wood (P. R. W. '35); C. R. Wright (D. C. K. W. '27).

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB

London Dinner

will be held on

Friday, 11th March, 1960

AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB, NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE.

Reception 6 p.m.

Dinner 7 p.m.

Tickets 21/6 each exclusive of wines, obtainable from
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Please accept this as the only notification of the Dinner and apply early for tickets.

This is always a most enjoyable function and we appeal particularly to those living in and around London to attend.

O.A. Club Notes

The Annual Dance was held in the Council Chamber on Saturday, 28th November and was an unqualified success. The arrangements were in the capable hands of the Secretary, Norman Holmes, and band, buffet and bars were all very satisfactory. We are most grateful to him for his efforts and also to Mrs. Bevir for providing the beautiful flower decorations. There may have been rather fewer present but the evening was as enjoyable as ever.

Sunday morning Chapel was well attended and the large number who were entertained to coffee afterwards by Mrs. Cobban would certainly wish to be associated in our thanks to her for her hospitality. It remains a mystery how she can provide over 100 cups of coffee, apparently without effort.

Arrangements for the coming year are as follows:

Hockey Match—5th March, 1960.

London Dinner—Friday, 11th March.

Athletics Meeting—Saturday, 12th March.

Old Boys' Day—Saturday, 18th June.

Terms of Subscription

The Life Membership Subscription to the Old Abingdonian Club which covers all the privileges of the Club but does not include receipt of the Magazine is Three Guineas.

All subscriptions to the Club or enquiries relating to it should be sent to D. B. West, Esq., 1 Norman Avenue, Abingdon.

"The Abingdonian"

Old Boys and others can obtain the Magazine in three ways:

1. *By Banker's Order (minimum 7/6) payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. Forms of Covenant which will add over 60% to the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will gladly be accepted.*
2. *By compounding for Life Subscription: 5 guineas maximum 2 guineas minimum, according to age.*
3. *By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 6/- per annum.*

All subscriptions to the O.A. Trust Fund and "The Abingdonian", or questions relating to them should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon school, Berks. He will also be glad to receive news from and concerning O.A.'s for inclusion in the magazine, and particularly prompt notice of all changes of address.

O. A.

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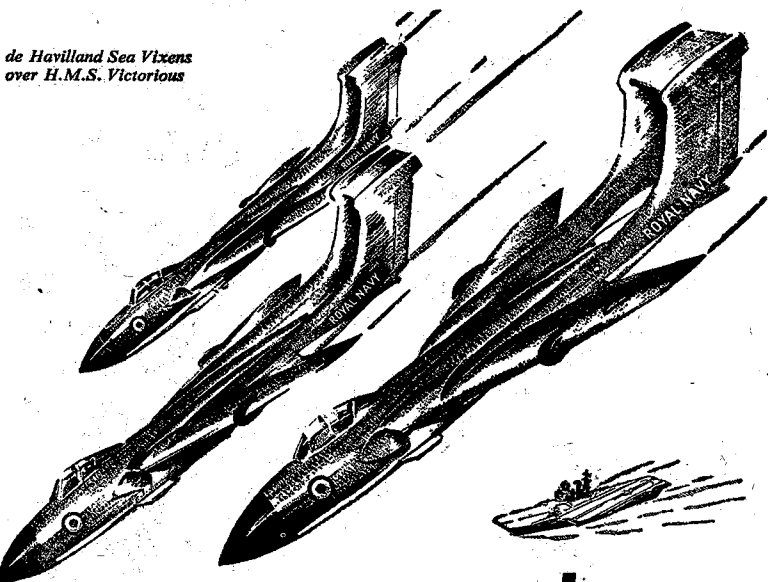
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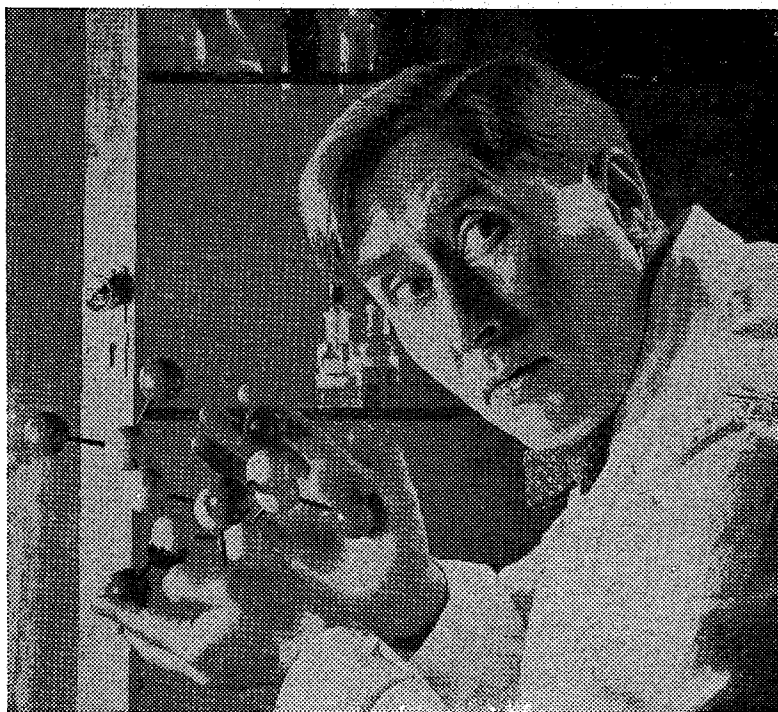
PHOSPHONTRILIC CHLORIDE POLYMERS, as the name implies, are compounds of phosphorus, nitrogen and chlorine. For many years these compounds have been known to chemists, but until recently it has never been possible to separate, and produce on a commercial scale, individual polymers from crude mixtures.

Work by a research team at Albright & Wilson during the past two years has solved a very difficult problem and, as a result, this British chemical organisation is the first in the world to make and sell pure forms of these remarkable substances.

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This achievement by British chemists is typical of the unobtrusive but vitally important 'back room' work continually in progress within the Albright & Wilson group of chemical companies.

P-N skeleton out of the cupboard, Mr. Follett?



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