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Domini



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THE ABINGDONIAN.

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CONTENTS.

School Notes	188	A Christmas Combat	202
School Extension Scheme	191	The Foundling	202
Obituary	191	"Souvenirs de Voyage"	202
The Dockland Settlement	192	Nugae	203
O.T.C.	193	Christmas Eve	203
Football	193	The Reward of Heroes	203
Literary, Scientific and Debating Society	197	O A Notes	203
Grammar Schools	199	List of Subscribers to the Waste Court Purchase Fund	205
A Note on the Old Abingdonian Club	201		
The Pigeons of St. Oles	201		

SCHOOL NOTES.

The results of the summer examinations were as follows :—

Oxford Higher School Certificates, in Group I (Classics), A. F. James, J. F. Sinclair, C. R. Wright.—James was awarded distinction in Latin and Greek, and Sinclair in Greek.

Oxford School Certificates, First Class Honours, Div. II, W. G. Hancock, S. R. Hunt; Second Class Honours, Div. I, N. V. Pearson; Div. II, S. E. Clark, K. C. Smith, A. M. Thatcher; Third Class Honours, J. H. S. Dodwell, J. B. O. Durell, E. N. Packer, G. F. Powell, T. T. Theophilus; Passed, H. S. Bartlett, D. M. Brown, H. W. D. Charleton, A. C. Croasdell, O. T. Gammage, R. M. Hodgson, H. M. Insley, J. K. Leon, T. R. Pollard, O. I. C. R. Round, S. W. D. Shallard, W. J. Smith, C. Stacey, R. Taylor, N. P. Wiggins, R. A. Witham, N. C. Wood; also C. C. Woodley in the over age list. Distinction was gained in Latin by W. G. Hancock and G. F. Powell; in Greek by S. E. Clark, J. H. S. Dodwell, W. G. Hancock, S. R. Hunt, N. V. Pearson, G. F. Powell, K. C.

Smith and A. M. Thatcher; and in French by S. E. Clark.

We have likewise to chronicle the following successes in the Examinations in Music (Piano Playing) of the R.A.M. and the R.C.M., held in the summer :—

Lower Division, with distinction, J. A. Squire; Elementary Division, Passed, T. G. Austin, M. Ogle; Primary Division, Passed, R. S. L. Robinson, W. D. Shallard.

We offer very hearty congratulations to A. F. James, who has been awarded a State Scholarship to Oxford on the strength of his performance in the summer examinations.

The numbers on the School Books this term are 155, of whom 79 are boarders and 76 day-boys.

A. F. James is Captain of the School and C. R. Wright Head of the School House. The other prefects are (in order of seniority of appointment)—W. G. Hancock, K. C. Smith, J. H. S. Dodwell, H. W. D. Charleton, W. J. Smith, F. G. H. Allen.

W. G. Hancock is Captain of Football and T. T. Theophilus Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Football Colours have been awarded to :—W. G. Hancock, W. J. Smith, C. R. Wright, H. D. Shallard.

The "Abingdonian" Committee consists of the following : Mr. Ross Barker (*Editor*), A. F. James, C. R. Wright, W. G. Hancock, K. C. Smith, T. T. Theophilus.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries :—

The Aldenhamian, The Alfredian, The Clayes-morian, The Laxtonian, The Leightonian, The Liverpool College Magazine, The Magazine of the City of Oxford School.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. A. E. Crawley, which took place on the 21st of October in Kensington.

Mr. Crawley, who was 55 years of age at the time of his death, was a Master at the School from September, 1905, to April, 1906, during which time he had charge of Tesdale House. He was well known to the world at large as a fine athlete and an expert upon all ball games, but more especially upon Lawn Tennis, in which game, like his brother W. C. Crawley, he was at one time in the front rank as a performer, and even achieved the distinction of beating the late W. Relfshaw. His writings on ball games are well known, and his "Book of the Ball" in particular. He was likewise a fine classical scholar and an authority upon anthropology and kindred subjects, and in this sphere also he published several notable works.

We learn from his widow of the death of Mr. J. H. Deazeley, another ex-Master of an earlier date, who passed away in August. Elsewhere we publish an obituary memoir by an O.A. pupil of Mr. Deazeley's : likewise the "Prologue" to which our correspondent refers. Mr. Deazeley, a few years ago, presented the School with a copy of his translations of Horace. His published writings include—*Poems*, London (Dartford) 1883 ; *Odes of Horace*, Bks. I and II, done into English Verse, with *Andromeda*, *Ariadne*, and *Jason* : London (Oxford) 1894 ; *Odes of Horace*, Bks. III and IV, *Epodes* and *Carmen Saeculare*, done into English Verse : London (Oxford) 1895. After leaving Abingdon he resided for some time in Oxford, where he rendered useful service to the City Council, of which he became a member, in the matter of St. Bartholomew's Hospital near Oxford.

K. T. Wood and J. F. Sinclair were the School

representatives at the Duke of York's summer camp at Littlestone-on-Sea this year.

We have had another welcome visit from Mr. R. Kennedy Cox, Warden of the Dockland Settlement at Canning Town. He spoke to us this year on the 25th November, and an account of his lecture appears elsewhere in this issue.

We have to thank Mr. J. H. Meredith, O.A., for his kindness in offering special prizes for bowling—senior and junior. These were competed for at the end of last term, too late for the results to be included in our Summer number. In judging the competitors marks were awarded for direction, pitch and break respectively, each competitor being required to bowl ten balls. R. Taylor was the winner in the senior section and E. M. Holbrook in the junior (under 15).

There will shortly be displayed in the corridors and class-rooms of the school buildings an admirable series of plaster casts reproducing in miniature (1) the Frieze of the Parthenon at Athens (Elgin Marbles), and (2) the Phigaleian Frieze from the Temple of Apollo Eriounios in the Peloponnese (originals in the British Museum). Likewise a large collection of medallions in plaster, for the most part portrait medallions of famous people in ancient and modern times, and copied from various originals. For these very beautiful and instructive objects we have to thank Mr. H. G. Longford, the new occupant of No. 31 Bath Street, who has been so kind as to loan them to the School indefinitely.

A certain amount of aerial activity—both single and twin—which has been evident about the place recently will have prepared observers for the news, just to hand, that a "wireless" set has arrived for the school. As the unpacking is as yet scarcely finished it is too early to say what results are obtainable, but readers will learn with interest that the instrument has three valves and works a *loud speaker*.

We are indebted to W. G. Sherratt, O.A., for designing it for us ; the neat way in which he has assembled the parts on five small panels is a model of compact construction. With wonderful prophetic instinct S. E. Clark has been working on a cabinet for the last year and a half, and so the set can be securely housed at once. The various possibilities opened up by the possession of the apparatus will be easily appreciated, and no doubt much more will be heard of it.

Condolences to Mr. Alston, who has had the bad fortune to break his collar bone. We trust that the damage will not take long to repair.

Congratulations to E. G. Langford on winning, at the age of 14, the Preston Challenge Cup of the Abingdon Golf Club at Shippon.

The School O.T.C. took part in the Town procession on Hospital Sunday, 28th September.

On Armistice Day (11th November) the School attended the public commemoration service in the Square, when the Corps was again requisitioned to retain a clear space in front of the War Memorial.

On Wednesday afternoon, 12th November, members of the School were enabled to visit the local Cinema in Stert Street, where a special school exhibition was given of "Big Game Hunting in Wildest Africa."

The School Debating Society has been revived this term, with K. C. Smith as Hon. Sec. and T. T. Theophilus as Treasurer. A summary of debates will be found elsewhere in our columns. The School has also been well represented at the weekly meetings of the Abingdon Literary and Debating Society, so that senior boys have found no lack of mental stimulus outside the ordinary routine of School work.

Some of those who are musically inclined were allowed to go to Oxford on Sunday, 16th November, to a sacred concert of Hymn Singing in the Sheldonian Theatre by Dr. Allen's Bach Choir; and again on Sunday the 30th to a performance of Brahms' "Requiem" by the same choir.

The School Concert has been fixed for Friday, 12th December, and will again be given in the Corn Exchnage.

Mr. Grundy has again kindly offered a prize for Chess to be competed for among the boarders.

There are forty-two pupils at M. Gaultier's Dancing classes this term.

This term ends on Tuesday, 16th December, when there will be the usual Rag Concert in the evening. Boarders go home on the 17th.

Next term begins on Thursday, 15th January, boarders returning on the 14th.

Valete.

VI. Form.—K. T. Wood (1915). School Prefect, 1922; Head of School, 1924. 2nd XI. Football, 1923; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1923; O.S.L. (2nd Class with Distinction in History), 1923; Sergt. O.T.C., 1923; Certificate "A," 1922.

J. F. Sinclair (1917). School Prefect, 1922; Head of the House, 1924; 1st XI. Football, 1922; Colours, 1922; Captain, 1923; 1st XI. Cricket, 1921; Colours, 1923; Captain, 1924; 1st IV. Rowing, 1924; Colours, 1924; O.S.L. (1st Class, with Distinction in Latin, Greek and Divinity), 1922. H.S.C. (Classics, with Distinction in Greek), 1924. Pembroke Scholarship, 1924. Sergt. O.T.C., 1924; Certificate "A," 1923.

C. C. Woodley (1920). School Prefect, 1923. 1st XI. Football, 1920; Colours, 1921; 1st XI. Cricket, 1921; Colours, 1924; Athletic Colours, 1923; O.S.L. (2nd Class), 1923. Sergt. O.T.C., 1924.

R. Taylor (1917). School Prefect, 1923; 1st XI. Football, 1923; Colours, 1923; 1st XI. Cricket, 1922; Colours, 1923; Athletic Colours, 1924; O.S.L., 1923; Corpl. O.T.C., 1924; Certificate "A," 1923.

S. W. D. Shallard (1920). School Prefect, 1924; 2nd XI. Football, 1923; 1st XI. Cricket, 1923; Colours, 1924; 2nd IV. Rowing, 1924; Athletic Colours, 1924. O.S.L., 1923; L. Corpl. O.T.C., 1924.

D. M. Brown (1921). School Prefect, 1924; 2nd XI. Football, 1923; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1924; 1st IV. Coxing, 1922; Colours, 1922; O.S.L. 1923.

J. K. Leon (1919). O.S.L., 1923.

T. R. Pollard (1919). O.S.L., 1923.

VA. Form.—O. T. Gammage (1920). O.S.L., 1924.

J. H. Hooke (1918). 2nd XI. Cricket, 1923.

P. G. A. Kennington (1920). 2nd XI. Cricket, 1923.

VB. Form.—E. C. Badcock (1918).

Remove Form.—E. Tinegate (1918). 2nd XI. Cricket, 1924; R. Wareham-Smith (1922).

III. Form.—P. S. Parker (1919).

II. Form.—D. C. Halliday (1922); D. P. Robertson (1924).

Salvete.

VB. Form.—C. F. Baumann; J. D. Wood; F. W. Jennings; S. A. Fabes.

Remove Form.—G. J. Holmes; A. W. Baker; L. L. Baumann.

III. Form.—H. N. Trye; L. S. Bailey; H. R. Lay; M. A. Drewe; V. E. Pollard; W. G. Williams.

II. Form.—W. H. C. Mayhead; S. S. Fox; G. D. Lovibond; A. C. Smith; L. J. F. Godwin; V. G. E. Rant.

SCHOOL EXTENSION SCHEME.

A list of the subscribers to date to the Waste Court Purchase Fund is published at the end of this number of the School Magazine. We thank them most heartily for their generosity. The Scheme we have under consideration is a big one, and we still need further funds. What we are hoping for is to increase the playing fields, to supply accommodation for forty more boys, to improve the study and dining-hall arrangements for boys already here, and to increase the Staff of Masters and the accommodation for them.

Whether all these objects will be achieved, still depends on the financial help which is forthcoming. A few more hundred pounds will make all the difference. What we have at present in the Waste Court Purchase Fund is in round figures £2,400, of which £1,400 has been subscribed by those whose names are given below; the War Memorial Fund will supply a further £1,800 and there is in addition an expectation of £150 a year for ten years.

If those who have their boys at the School, all Old Boys and others who are interested, will do their best to help, and will help quickly, there is a prospect of carrying the whole thing through at a very early date. If the additional funds are not available, the scheme will have to be restricted to the housing of the 40 boys at Waste Court without further improvement of the School House Buildings.

Full details of the Scheme will be published as soon as the School Governors, who have themselves contributed lavishly from their private purses, know the full extent of the financial support on which they can rely. We hope that those who have not already done so will take this real opportunity of showing any gratitude they may feel for the work of the School, any pride in its prosperity, or regard for the comfort of the boys who are now in it.

WILLIAM M. GRUNDY.

OBITUARY.

Every Abingdonian who was at the School during the latter part of the headmastership of the Rev. Edgar Summers will have heard with much regret of the death of Mr. J. Howard Deazeley. "Dazzles," as he was affectionately termed behind his back, was classical master to the fourth and fifth forms in 1880, when I joined the school. I am not sure how long he had been there when I came, but he was still a master when I left at the end of the summer term in 1882. A brilliant scholar, having been a Postmaster at

Merton College, Oxford, with a first in Mods, he did good work in imbuing his pupils with a taste for classics—particularly Latin verse. I remember one term he gave us nursery rhymes, "Little Bo-peep has lost her sheep," "Old Mother Hubbard," &c., to transcribe into Latin Verse, but we needed considerable assistance from him to make the verses scan.

His chief love, however, was English verse; every alternate week the two forms had to turn out their poetical effusions, the best and worst of them being read out in form with many amusing comments. It proved impossible for the majority of the boys to do anything in this line, and Evans of the fifth used to concoct verses for half the form.

At that time it was customary for the school to send the parents half term reports with remarks at the foot by the form master and the Head. Mr. Deazeley had a very mordant wit, and his opinion of one Abingdonian, more noted for his prowess on the river than for his work in the class-room, was expressed in the report as "sleepily slothful." Nothing appealed to him more than "apt alliteration's artful aid." On another occasion, when I thought I had done very well in an essay on "Home keeping youths have ever homely wits," he damped my youthful enthusiasm by saying it was more like a column in the *Daily Telegraph* than an essay.

He was a very good reader, and I can picture him now, clothed in cap and gown, in front of the drop scene, in the big school room, reading the prologue, written by himself, to the audience before the theatricals given by the school in December, 1881. May I express the hope that the Editor of the Abingdonian will find room for it in some future issue. In my opinion it is a first class specimen of its kind.

Mr. Deazeley was very great on cricket. I believe he had been at Shrewsbury, and was no mean bowler, but he held a very poor opinion of the rowing fraternity, looking on them as mainly beef and brawn. Mr. Birch, the third form master, who had been Cox of the New College eight, and was our coach, arranged a cricket match between the second eleven and the School Rowing Club, and as a member of the first four, I took part in the match. Needless to say we were badly beaten, and Mr. Deazeley's comments on our performances in what he described as the "tented field" were more appreciated by the dry bobs than the wet bobs.

The school in those days played Rugger: usually a couple of matches a week against College teams

driving over from Oxford. Occasionally he would play forward, but cricket not footer was his forte. Some four or five years after I left school, I was travelling through Oxford, and he happened to get into the same Railway compartment with me. We travelled to Reading together, and I learned from him that he had retired from teaching and was devoting himself to organising the Primrose League, and speaking at its meetings.

He published several works but I was never fortunate enough to get a copy.

J. B. REEVES, O.A.

(We publish below a copy of the Prologue to which our correspondent refers. Ed.)

"Good friends and neighbours yet another year
We find you greeting—you are welcome here.
Last year you came, our first attempt to grace,
With smile, like sunshine, on each friendly face
That nerved the nerveless, strengthened strength
with praise,

Whose memory fades not in the fading days,
But with the glow that kindly deeds impart
Is cherished still in many a boyish heart.
Welcome, thrice welcome, are you here to-night;
Through all this Yule-tide may your lives be
bright;

And every chime that sweetly sinks and swells,
Ring in contentment with your New Year's
bells.

School is the great rehearsal for the strife
Of good and evil on the stage of life,
Where, true to virtue and to honour's rule,
Each man should play the part he learnt at
school.

First, then, to show the craft of wily wit;
To show the trickster tricked, the biter bit,
We hung "Old Gooseberry" upon his legs,
And after him "The Goose with golden eggs,"
Trusting that all as budding minds unfold,
The goose will bury, and retain the gold,
That deafness too, as in our mimic show,
Will pass for ever, and for ever flow
On listening ears the wisdom that by far
Surpasses gold more rich than rubies are.
To-night our year fulfils its cycled round—
Those gladsome terms with many mercies
crowned,

Mercies of health and strength and fruitful ways,
No storm to mar the calm of peaceful days,
And happy months that reach a happy end
Where each has walked with each as friend with
friend.

Johnson and Cross and Swabey all have won

The guerdon due to honest labour done;
Saunders has earned an entrance for the race
Of glory, Taylor gained a noble place.
Upon old Thames' breast our gallant crew
Rowed with a will and rowed to victory too.
As they the oar, so will on tented field
Swabey and Challenor the willow wield,
And Corry with a force the foe assails
That strikes together terror—and the bails.
On shortening days the lengthening shadows fall,
And now with flying feet they chase the ball,
Who through defeat and victory praise and
blame

Still do their best or win or lose the game.
Our school is not of yesterday, for we
Through ages past can trace our pedigree
To one whose name we bear and cherish yet,
When meaner souls amid the fume and fret
Of petty ends have lost their very name,
And no man knows or cares from whence they
came.

The souls of Roysse and Teesdale, true and just,
Still live with us, although their frames are dust,
And still through grief and joy, through mirth
and gloom,

Point upwards, ever upwards, from the tomb.
And so when dawns our pious Founder's day,
And loving hands upon his gravestone lay
His own red roses: kneeling then we say
"The just man's memory shall endure for aye."
From him to us extends a muster roll
Of those whose names are writ upon the scroll
Of Faith and Honour, and a record fair
Of men who filled with fame the civic chair,
Who did their duty to their king and God,
Who guide weak footsteps where they firmly
trod.

And we with all our flaws, and faults, and needs
Accept their heritage of goodly deeds,
Whose motto in weak ears must sweetly ring
"For ever the Lord's mercies I will sing."

THE DOCKLAND SETTLEMENT.

On Tuesday evening, 25th November, Mr. Kennedy Cox gave us a very interesting and instructive lecture in the Gym.

He started by explaining to us what was the reason for the splendid work now going on in Dockland. The original intention was to provide means whereby the dockers, who only get occasional jobs, could have some place to go to where they could while away their spare hours. Then, with this end in view, rooms were provided in

which cobbling, carpentry and painting were carried on, and there was also a gymnasium and boxing-room. Finally football teams were started, which now number fifteen.

Mr. Kennedy Cox then touched upon the subject of prisons. As this is a very important question, he hoped that one day he would be able to speak to us more fully on the subject.

We were then told something about the religious side of the Settlement. A chapel has been built and this contains many souvenirs of the war. One of the most interesting is a flag which was formerly on the Cenotaph. Later, when it had become too much worn and weather-beaten for its original purpose and had to be discarded, the Settlement made application for it and secured it from the authorities.

Mr. Kennedy Cox closed his lecture by offering all at the School a very hearty welcome at the Settlement any day they wished to be shown round, and at the same time thanking the School for sending the Chapel collections to help on the good work of the Mission.

T.

O.T.C.

Tuesday, July 29th, saw more than thirty stalwarts entrain for Tidworth Park. After the customary wait of about one day on Radley Station for the Special, we eventually arrived at camp in time for tea and hard work.

Our lines were practically on the same spot as they were in 1921, and we were under the same Battalion commander—the camp being run by the Green Jackets.

The nine days in camp were quite interesting, for the weather was good and the work was attractive. Barrack-square drill no longer finds favour with the Great Ones who arrange the work. Everything practically is taught by demonstration. The battalion had its own demonstration platoon composed of sections of cadets run by Regular N.C.O.s; so practically every day there was some kind of show which illustrated how things should be done and not done. In addition there were guns and tanks to be looked at. Tracer bullets traced for us, and from the hill behind the camp we watched an aeroplane display, which ended prematurely when the machine or the pilot got tired and came to rest on the opposite ridge.

Bands, sports, sing-songs and attractive canteens helped to make the time between sardines and tea and bed all too short, although those in the Earwig's Nest seemed to nestle in the blankets long before "candles out."

There was a wonderful search-light tattoo given by the Tidworth Garrison, and everyone went to it. That night we had very few hours in bed. On the Saturday night we left camp about eight o'clock for night "ops" and returned after midnight, having sought in vain for some one to fight. However, it was magnificent on the Plain that night and good to be alive.

The last night was not a night at all. People seemed to be hammering and packing up the whole time. Reveille (entirely unnecessary) was at 3.15 a.m. and we breakfasted in the dark and in the open. Dawn came, and soon we left the camp in "Parties." Abingdon was reached shortly after ten o'clock. The Moke was late.

This term the Corps has once more filled up its depleted ranks. A field-day was held on December 2nd on Hurst Hill, Cumnor. We had buses to take us to Chawley Brick Works, and as soon as we got into position down came a thick fog and rain. We have not yet really seen the enemy, but we found the road home and this is the end of that.

FOOTBALL.

With only five of last year's 1st XI remaining, we started the season very shakily. In building up the team, two problems in particular were encountered. These were the selection of that all-important line, the half-backs; and the choice of a goalkeeper, to fill the position in which we have been so well served for several seasons past. The comparative failure to solve either of these problems satisfactorily was responsible, in a large measure, for the very moderate record achieved by the 1st XI this season. In addition, the team as a whole lacked size and weight, and to this extent was at a disadvantage in all its matches.

One of the chief faults of the team at present is its lack of finish, both in control of the ball, and in team-work. The combination of the forward line is apt to break down immediately upon encountering even a moderately good opposition; whilst the defence is inclined to be slow in clearing the ball, and feeding the forward line. A very important feature of defensive play, and one in which the team was especially weak earlier in the season, is the establishing of a definite plan of marking every member of the opposing team. There should be a very clear understanding on this point, and the plan once decided upon should be closely adhered to at all times, but especially when a corner kick or throw-in is taken.

The importance of this branch of defensive play cannot be too strongly impressed on all who aspire to be members of a successful team, and we would like to see not only the three School teams, but the senior games as well, paying very careful attention to this aspect of the game. A team which takes the field unprepared in this respect is courting disaster.

The promise of last year's unbeaten 'Under 15' XI has been amply fulfilled. This year's Junior XI is little if at all inferior to them, as its record shews, whilst the 2nd XI has achieved the distinction of going through the season undefeated—a record which, we believe, has not been equalled for some years. We hope, and the success of our junior teams during this season and last gives us reason for hoping, that before many seasons the 1st XI will achieve a similar performance.

FIRST ELEVEN MATCHES.

v. Leighton Park School, on October 1st, at Reading. Lost 1—10. The team had had little practice and consequently there was no combination. Our failure was due largely to a weak defence and a tendency on the part of the forwards to hang back far too much. The halves, with the exception of Charleton, were too slow. The first half was comparatively even, our opponents only scoring twice; they added eight further goals in the second half when Wright, following some good work by Charleton, scored our only goal. The School team was as follows:—Goal, H. D. Shallard; backs, F. M. Cole, W. G. Hancock; halves, W. D. Shallard, H. W. D. Charleton, H. M. Insley; forwards, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith, C. R. Wright, E. M. Holbrook, H. J. K. Genders.

v. Abingdon Town Reserves, on October 4th, at home. Won 4—2. A fast match, in which the team shewed great improvement. Owing to several changes the defence was considerably stronger, and the forwards played together much better. The score at half-time was 1—1, Stacey scoring for the School with a good shot from the wing. In the second half the forwards pressed a good deal and three more goals were added by Stacey, Smith and Holbrook, our opponents scoring once. Charleton was unable to play owing to an injury. The School team was as follows:—Goal, J. M. Wheeler; backs, H. S. Bartlett, W. G. Hancock; halves, H. D. Shallard, Mr. J. B. E. Alston, N. C. Wood; forwards, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith, C. R. Wright, E. M. Holbrook, P. T. Thomas.

v. St. Michael's Albion, on October 11th, at home. Won 5—0. A good match in which the

whole team played well, especially W. J. Smith at forward and H. S. Bartlett at back. Goals were scored by Smith, 3, and Stacey, one of the opposing defence putting through his own goal. Charleton was still unable to play and the team was as in the previous match.

v. Magdalen College School, on October 18th, at home. Won 5—3. A very fast and well-fought match. The forwards played very well and the defence was quite sure. Smith and Wright kept the forwards together well and scored three and two goals respectively. M. J. Bosley made his first appearance at right half and played quite a good game. Genders reappeared at outside right and Charleton was able to resume his position at centre half: otherwise the team was unaltered.

v. Mr. H. A. L. Donkin's XI, on October 22nd, at home. Won 3—0. Mr. Donkin brought quite a strong team against us and the School were lucky to win by three clear goals. Smith scored for the School early, in the second minute's play. The game continued very fast and even until towards the end, when the School scored twice through Wright and Holbrook. Bartlett played a very sound game at back. The team remained the same.

v. Exeter College, on October 25th, at Oxford. Lost 3—6. A fast match in which the School team, although aided by Mr. Grundy at forward and Mr. Alston at half, was rather off form and failed to work together. At half-time the score was 1—0 against us. Early in second half the School seemed to go to pieces and Exeter scored three more goals. Shortly after this Mr. Grundy ran through and scored. Then the School played better football, and two further goals were added by Smith and Wright. The Exeter forwards were too fast for our defence and brought the final score to 3—6. Bosley and Holbrook did not play; the rest of the team was as usual.

v. Mr. H. A. L. Donkin's XI, on October 29th, at home. Lost 0—5. The School forwards started off very well and had bad luck in not scoring twice in the first five minutes. Very soon, however, Bartlett sustained an injury to his knee and had to leave the field, H. D. Shallard coming into his place at left back, and Thomas filling the vacant position at half. The School team never seemed to settle down, and the passing, especially of the forwards, was too erratic. This was the first match in which the School failed to score. Charleton played extremely well at centre half. Except for the above changes the team remained the same.

v. Lincoln College, on November 5th, at home. Lost 1—5. An exciting match although the slipperiness of the ground rendered scientific play almost impossible. The defence played well but our opponents were fast and took advantage of all opportunities. Smith scored our only goal early in the second half. Wright led the forwards well and Wheeler made several good saves in goal. The School team was as follows:—Goal, J. M. Wheeler; backs, H. D. Shallard, W. G. Hancock; halves, H. W. D. Charleton, Mr. J. B. E. Alston, M. J. Bosley; forwards, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith, C. R. Wright, E. M. Holbrook, H. J. K. Genders.

v. Mansfield College, on November 12th, at Oxford. Won 11—1. A match played under very difficult conditions. We were the better team, and had the ground not been in a bad state, might have scored more goals. Smith and Wright both scored three times and Stacey twice. Thomas, Charleton, and one of their backs, also scored. Allen played instead of Genders and Thomas displaced Holbrook at inside right. H. M. Insley came into the half line; otherwise the team was as before.

v. St. Michael's Albion, on November 15th, away. Won 6—3. The School scored early in the game through Smith, Thomas adding a second goal a little later. Our opponents then scored their first goal. Before half-time four further goals were shared by Smith and Wright, both of whom played well throughout. In the second half the forwards were rather slow and no more goals were added for the School, our opponents increasing their score to 3 in the latter stages. Charleton and Shallard played very well. Genders came back to the right wing and the team was otherwise unaltered.

v. King Alfred's School, on November 19th, at Wantage. Lost 2—3. A fast and well-fought match in which the School had very bad luck. Our opponents scored twice early in the game, the second goal being due to a misunderstanding between the defence. Smith then scored for the School with a very good shot, shortly after which K.A.S. got their third goal by a shot from the wing which Wheeler might have saved. Thomas scored our second goal just before half-time. The game was very even in the second half and neither side scored again. Charleton as usual played well and Shallard played a very sound game at back. The School team was as in the previous match.

v. Exeter College, on November 22nd, at home. Lost 0—7. A good match in which the School found themselves overweighted. Half-time score was 4—0 for Exeter. The defence played better in the second half, but our opponents were very fast and increased their score by three further goals. The forwards did not play as well as usual although the passing at the beginning of the game was quite good. P. H. Barwell came into the team in place of Insley and played a hard game; otherwise the team remained the same.

v. Leighton Park School, on November 26th, at home. Lost 2—5. A most exciting match, although heavy rain caused the ground to become very bad towards the end. Leighton Park scored twice in the first half, and the School once, through Wright. Our opponents' forward play was too good for the defence in the second half and they scored three more goals. Our second goal was scored by Smith. Bosley was unable to play, but his place was ably filled by C. F. Baumann. W. D. Shallard displaced Wheeler in goal; the team was otherwise unchanged.

v. City of Oxford School, on November 29th, at home. Lost 3—5. This match was played at a fast pace throughout. Thomas scored twice for the School early in the game. C.O.S. soon scored, but Wright added a third goal for the School from a good centre by Stacey. Half-time score 3—1 for us. Our opponents played very hard in the second half and scored four times. The School forwards were well together in the first half but were inclined to hang back too much after half-time. Stacey put in some good centres from the left wing. A. J. A. Watson played in goal in place of W. D. Shallard; otherwise the team was the same as that against Exeter College.

SECOND ELEVEN MATCHES.

v. Leighton Park School, on October 1st, at home. Won 3—1. The School team were well together and pressed right from the start. Thomas opened the scoring for the School from a good centre by Garton. A little later Allen scored our second goal, our third being added by Thomas just before half-time. Our opponents ran through and scored early in the second half, after which the whole defence played very well and no more goals were scored. The School team was as follows:—Goal, A. J. A. Watson; backs, H. S. Bartlett, G. R. D. Estcourt; halves, M. J. Bosley, N. C. Wood, P. H. Barwell; forwards, A. M. Garton, J. H. S. Dodwell, P. T. Thomas, W. W. Brown, F. G. H. Allen.

v. Magdalen College School, on October 18th, at Oxford. Won 8—1. The School forwards in this match played very hard, and their passing was especially good. Thomas secured three goals for the School in the first ten minutes. Magdalen then scored their only goal. Soon after half-time Thomas scored twice, and further goals were added by Dodwell, 2, and Brown. W. D. Shallard at back and Thomas at centre forward played very well indeed. School team:—Goal, A. J. A. Watson; backs, W. D. Shallard, G. R. D. Estcourt; halves, P. H. Barwell, H. M. Insley, N. C. Wood; forwards, A. M. Garton, J. H. S. Dodwell, P. T. Thomas, W. W. Brown, W. F. Smith.

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage, on November 19th, at home. Won 5—1. A good match in which the School XI shewed its superiority and played extremely well throughout, the backs and halves being especially sound. Wantage scored early in the game but Holbrook soon equalized. Before half-time two more goals were added for the School by Allen and Holbrook. During the second half the School kept up a steady pressure and Holbrook, after some good work by Baumann, scored again. Allen scored our fifth goal just on time. Barwell, Baumann, and Brown were the pick of a really good team. The School team was as follows:—Goal, A. J. A. Watson; backs, W. D. Shallard, G. R. D. Estcourt; halves, P. H. Barwell, C. F. Baumann, N. C. Wood; forwards, A. M. Garton, W. W. Brown, E. M. Holbrook, F. G. H. Allen, N. P. Stathacopulos.

v. Leighton Park School, on November 26th, at Reading. Drawn 4—4. A most exciting match although the team was not quite up to its usual standard. Our opponents scored twice early in the game, through bad mistakes on the part of the defence, who never seemed to work with any understanding. Then Brown and Holbrook scored for the School, and the half-time score was 2—2. Leighton scored at the beginning of the second half but Dodwell soon equalized. L.P.S. then secured another goal and kept their lead until just on time when Allen brought the scores level again. School team:—Goal, J. M. Wheeler; backs, F. M. Cole, G. R. D. Estcourt; halves, N. C. Wood, H. M. Insley, T. E. Gardiner; forwards, A. M. Garton, J. H. S. Dodwell, E. M. Holbrook, W. W. Brown, F. G. H. Allen.

v. City of Oxford School, on November 29th, at Oxford. Won 5—4. A very fast match considering the state of the ground. Our opponents

scored first, but Garton soon equalized with a good shot from the wing. Before half-time each side secured two further goals, Holbrook and Dodwell scoring for the School. Brown gave the School the lead early in the second half, but C.O.S. immediately got another goal. Just before time the winning goal was put in by Allen. Insley played a very good game at centre half. The School team was the same as that against Leighton Park School, except that A. F. James played in goal and W. D. Shallard took Cole's place at back. By winning this match the team preserved their unbeaten record.

UNDER 15 MATCHES.

v. City of Oxford School, on October 25th, at home. Won 5—2. A very good match in which the team worked well together. City of Oxford scored early in the game, but S. Brown very soon equalized. A little later Broadbent scored and Brown added two further goals. The game was very fast in the second half when our opponents scored their second goal. Holbrook increased the School's lead towards the end of the game. Brown and Holbrook played very well indeed. The team was as follows:—Goal, A. J. A. Watson; backs, R. S. Fox, L. L. Baumann; halves, J. W. P. Martin, V. G. Cook, J. G. Waldron; forwards, S. A. Fabes, S. Brown, E. M. Holbrook (captain), R. E. Broadbent, E. P. Rice.

v. Reading Schools, on November 8th, at home. Lost 0—1. A most exciting match from start to finish in which the whole team played really hard. The first half was very evenly contested; the only goal came from a good shot from the Reading right wing well on in the second half. The School made a great effort to draw level towards the end and had the greater part of the play, but the shooting of the forwards in front of goal was rather weak. W. D. Shallard and W. F. Smith were eligible for play in this match, and filled the positions of left back and left half respectively. C. F. Baumann made his first appearance at centre half and played a very sound game. Cook and Broadbent also played well. Except for the above changes the team was as in the previous match.

v. City of Oxford School, on November 12th, at home. Won 3—2. This was a very even match and quite fast considering the state of the ground. Our opponents scored early in the game immediately after which Broadbent equalized from a good pass by Brown. Baumann soon added a second goal for the School. Half-time

score 2—1 for us. C.O.S. scored again early in the second half, and the scores remained the same until the last minute when Holbrook put in the winning goal for the School. Baumann and Holbrook both played very well. School team :—Goal, A. J. A. Watson ; backs, R. S. Fox, V. G. Cook ; halves, S. W. R. Royse, C. F. Baumann, J. G. Waldron ; forwards, S. A. Fabes, R. E. Broadbent, E. M. Holbrook, S. Brown, E. P. Rice.

v. New College School, on November 22nd, at Oxford. Won 7—0. A good match which resulted in an easy win for the School. For about the first twenty minutes the sides were quite even, and then Holbrook scored, shortly after which S. Brown added a second goal. In the second half the School had nearly all the play, and five further goals were scored by Brown, 2, Baumann, 2, and Cook 1. The team was the same as that against City of Oxford School, except that J. H. Bartlett played instead of Royse at left half.

v. Abingdon and District Elementary Schools, on December 6th, at home. Won 3—0. A good match and played at a fast pace throughout. Holbrook opened the scoring for the School early in the game, and until half-time the sides were very evenly matched. The School's lead remained the same until about ten minutes from the end, when L. L. Baumann scored two goals in quick succession, the second from a very good centre by Brown, which the goal-keeper just managed to touch. C. F. Baumann was unable to play and Holbrook took his place at centre half, L. L. Baumann coming into the forward line, otherwise the team was unchanged.

FIRST ELEVEN CHARACTERS.

A. J. A. Watson (Goal-keeper).—Came into the team late in the season. Is not very safe in his handling of the ball, and his kicking, when pressed, is apt to become wild. Can clear well when once he gets hold of the ball, but should run out more.

H. D. Shallard (Left back). Colours 1924.—Has played very steadily and never gets excited. Has a good kick with either foot and tackles well. Picks out his man and passes with judgement.

W. G. Hancock (Right back). Captain. Colours 1924.—Plays a vigorous game and tackles and clears well. Possesses a good kick, and is speedier this year than last. With more weight and experience he should be really good, if he pays careful attention to the tactics of this position.

P. H. Barwell (Left half).—Has improved wonderfully during the season. Has learnt to

control the ball, but his kicking is still rather wild at times. Tackles very well and is quite fast when once he gets started.

H. W. D. Charleton (Centre half). Colours 1923.—Has been the mainstay of the defence throughout the season. Uses his speed to advantage and always works hard. His passing is good and he combines well with the forwards. Is hard to knock off the ball.

M. J. Bosley (Right half).—A very hard-working member of the team, who has improved considerably since the beginning of the season. Tackles well and sticks to his man. Is quite fast but his kicking is apt to become erratic.

C. Stacey (Outside left).—Is quite fast when he chooses to exert himself. Centres well at times, but often leaves it till too late. Has a very good understanding with his inside partner. Improved greatly in the last few matches.

W. J. Smith (Inside left). Colours 1924.—A neat player, who has great control over the ball. His passes are usually well placed but he is inclined to keep the ball to himself a little too much. Can shoot equally well with either foot.

C. R. Wright (Centre forward). Colours 1924.—A keen player who has led the forwards well. Is quite fast and shews plenty of dash. Dribbles well, but his shooting is a little wild at times.

P. T. Thomas (Inside right). Improved towards the end of the season, but is still rather slow in starting. Would be better if he shewed a little more dash. His tackling is not too sound, but he shoots well.

H. J. K. Genders (Outside right).—Is quite fast on the wing, but seldom puts in a really good centre, owing to his kicking the ball too far ahead when dribbling. Is rather disappointing at times, but always tried hard.

J. M. Wheeler (Goal-keeper). Played in this position for the greater part of the season. He lacks anticipation and seems unable to clear the ball. Saves quite well at times but is apt to become flurried.

THE LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND DEBATING SOCIETY OF ABINGDON SCHOOL.

This society met, after an interval of nearly four years, in the Pembroke Room, on Saturday, 25th October, 1924, for private business only.

The principal duty was to decide on new members. All the Sixth Form, and four of Five A form, became members. These were :—

C. R. Wright, W. G. Hancock, K. C. Smith, J. H. S. Dodwell, W. J. Smith, H. W. P. Charleton,

F. G. H. Allen, N. P. Wiggins, N. C. Wood, S. R. Hunt, N. V. Pearson, S. E. Clark, G. F. Powell, J. B. O. Durell, E. N. Packer, T. T. Theophilus, H. S. Bartlett, A. C. Croasdell, R. M. Hodgson, H. M. Insley, O. R. Round, C. Stacey, R. A. Witham, P. H. Barwell, H. D. Shallard.

Officers were then elected. These were :—

President.—W. M. Grundy, Esq.

Vice-President.—E. J. P. Ross-Barker, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.—K. C. Smith.

Hon. Treasurer.—T. T. Theophilus.

After a little more private business, the meeting broke up.

The next meeting was on Nov. 1st.

After private business, Mr. A. F. James was called upon to propose "that in the opinion of this House the world grows not better, but happier." Mr. J. B. O. Durell seconded, and the Hon. Sec. opposed the motion. The Hon. Treasurer seconded the opposition.

The following gentlemen also spoke :—

Pro : O. T. M. Raymont, O. R. Round.

Contra : W. M. Grundy.

Neut : C. Stacey, B. V. Edsall, G. F. Powell, H. M. Insley, H. D. Shallard, J. Y. Ingham.

The motion was lost by 5 votes to 8, the majority in the House refraining from voting.

The next debate was held on Nov. 8th.

The motion was : "that in the opinion of this House the press follows the public rather than the public the press."

Mr. G. F. Powell proposed and was ably seconded by Mr. C. R. Wright. Mr. B. V. Edsall opposed the motion, with Mr. W. G. Hancock seconding him.

These members also addressed the House :—

Pro : The Hon. Secretary.

Con : E. Ross-Barker, E. M. Holbrook, A. F. James, the Hon. Treasurer, J. B. O. Durell, W. M. Grundy.

Neut : O. T. M. Raymont, N. C. Wood, A. W. R. Foxwell, S. R. Hunt, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith.

On a show of hands the motion was lost by 16 votes to 3.

The Society met again on the 15th of Nov., 1924.

Mr. A. F. James proposed "that in the opinion of this House a Democracy is not the ideal form of Government." The Hon. Sec. seconded, and Mr. O. T. M. Raymont opposed the motion, the opposition being seconded by Mr. J. H. S. Dodwell.

There also addressed the meeting :—

Pro : W. M. Grundy, B. V. Edsall, C. Stacey, R. M. Hodgson.

Neut : C. R. Wright, J. B. O. Durell, H. W. D. Charleton.

Contra : J. Y. Ingham, J. W. Reynolds, H. M. Insley.

It was Mr. Reynolds' speech that won the day for the opposition, and the motion was lost by 7 votes to 15.

The Society met again on the 22nd November.

On the cession of certain members from the Society, the following were elected, or re-elected, members :—

J. G. Brewerton, S. E. Clark, W. G. Cullum, H. S. Bartlett, T. E. Gardiner, N. V. Pearson, A. C. Croasdell, W. D. Shallard, P. H. Barwell.

Messrs B. V. Edsall and O. T. M. Raymont then put forward "that in the opinion of this House a holiday in the country away from the sea is superior to one at the urban sea-side." Mr. J. G. Brewerton opposed, and Mr. H. D. Shallard seconded the opposition.

Also spoke :—

Pro : G. F. Powell, W. G. Cullum, C. R. Wright, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith, H. M. Insley.

Neut : The Hon. Sec., the Hon. Treas., S. R. Hunt, J. B. O. Durell, W. G. Hancock.

Contra : T. E. Gardiner, H. W. D. Charleton, A. C. Croasdell, J. Y. Ingham.

After the only unsuccessful debate of the Session up to date the motion was won by 10 votes to 7.

An impromptu debate was held on 29th Nov. In the absence of a master, C. R. Wright took the chair.

As no less than six motions were debated, space does not allow them to be set forth in full, with the persons who spoke for each, so it would be best to say merely that this was a most successful meeting, highly entertaining, and, on occasions, uproariously funny. It was decided that another meeting should be held on December 6th, by which time this paper will have gone to press.

This was really a highly successful and pleasant half session, and good order was kept throughout. With regard to the first debate, Mr. Grundy said he had not attended a better one for a very long time, which was most complimentary.

Hon. Sec.

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

The French Revolution of 1789 was partly inspired by a book in which it was maintained that in the past there had been a Golden Age when there were no kings, no tax-gatherers, nothing but bows, beads and barley-broth. Men were free, and there was no oppression of the poor by the rich or of the rich by the poor. If Rousseau had been interested in boys,—possibly he was,—he might have added that in the Golden Age there were no schools with preps, impots and other burdens. No languages, dead or alive, beset the paths of the boy whose days were, in certain respects, as free as he could wish them to be. His only task was to find something new to make or destroy, and it was mainly in this respect that he differed from the boy of to-day, who has his tasks ready-made for him. A youth of the Golden Age was free to search the woods, the hills and the swamps, where his wits led him. But now for many days in the year he must sit at the feet of people called pedagogues, who search him for wits as elusive and phantasmal as the Unicorn who fought with the lion of old. Then, because there were no kings, there was no History, and so History tells not of how or when pedagogues first appeared on the map. But somehow, shortly after the Cave-men lost their keen sense of smell and took to wearing horn-rimmed spectacles when hunting, there were to be found in this country institutions called Grammar Schools.

Grammar Schools are among our most ancient institutions. Some have been in existence since long before the Norman Conquest, and so have a more venerable history than that of the House of Commons or the Abingdon races. The date of the foundation of many can be definitely fixed, as, for instance, that of Newbury Grammar School which was founded in 1466. But in other cases it is impossible to say when or how they originated. There are numbers of schools which date themselves from such and such a year, but it is evident in many instances that they are simply refoundations of schools, the origins of which must be sought in Pre-Norman times. The school at York appears to have been refounded in 1075. Schools such as Bedford, Warwick and Southwell are Saxon in origin.

Very little detail is known about the medieval schools of England. They taught what is known as the Trivium (syllabus of three things): Grammar (i.e. the Latin classics), Rhetoric and Logic. Also they taught the Quadrivium: Arithmetic, Geometry, Music and Astronomy. What the

school was like it is practically impossible to say. Sometimes it was conducted in the parish church, and later on the school building was often in or bordering on the church-yard. Wantage Grammar School formerly stood in the church-yard. Sometimes the belfry was the schoolroom. Those were not the days of "cheap editions." Manuscript books were rare and valuable. The boys probably sat mostly on the floor and were taught by word of mouth helped by frequent applications of the birch. Not that the master did all the talking. The pupils had to learn to argue correctly. They wrangled—hence Senior Wrangler & Co.—on highly contentious subjects such as—How many angels could sit on a pin's point?

There are many other matters about which one would like to know more, but Time has buried them too carefully and they cannot be found. However, of the schools that were to be found in Tudor days (1485–1603) one's assertions can be more definite. There are many interesting problems in the history of Grammar Schools to be solved. Here one can only give a few details about the schools and not really of the problems.

The schools of the period may be divided into seven classes. There were schools connected with Cathedral Churches, with Monasteries, with Collegiate Churches or Colleges, with Hospitals, with Guilds, with Chantries, and, lastly, independent schools. It is impossible here to enter into an explanation of these foundations, but it may be said that all the schools were very uniform in character, and England had, in the early years of Henry VIII, what would to-day be called a complete system of secondary education.

It has been estimated that in the year 1535 there were at least 300 Grammar Schools throughout the country. Then came the so-called Reformation and through the chantry Acts of Henry VIII and Edward VI disaster fell upon many of the schools. A prominent historian has written "most of them were swept away either under Henry VIII and his son; or, if not swept away, plundered and damaged." He argues and, it seems, proves that no one less deserved the honour of being so to speak the patron saint of Grammar Schools than Edward VI, who is credited with being the founder of so many.

The damage worked by the ultra-Protestant robbers of the days of the boy king was to a certain, but not great extent, repaired in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. New schools were founded by men who had been more than

successful in the commercial adventures which became so characteristic of the times. In the Middle Ages men, acting in accordance with current religious beliefs and practices, had given lands to endow mass or chantry priests, who were to pray for the repose of their dead founders until the crack of doom. Bluff Hal cracked first, and with new times came new customs. The Elizabethan laid up treasure for himself by founding or refounding schools for boys, because such would presumably need education up to the last trump.

Some of the school buildings of Elizabethan times still exist to-day, and very different they are from modern ones. The medieval hall of the castle or manor house was in many respects the centre of all things, and the one school hall lingered on as a relic of earlier ideas. Classes were held in the one place, for then there were no classrooms, gyms and such-like wonders.

School furniture was primitive. The first mention of black-boards and chalk dates from 1612. There was no doling out of free machine-made pens. Before a boy could learn to write he was taught how to cut a quill pen, choosing "the quill of the best and strongest of the wing." A certain school Statute of 1550 enjoins: "When they have to write, let them use their knees for a table." As school began in the winter at seven o'clock in the morning, the schoolboy had to have his supply of candles. Books were now being printed. But they were costly, and it is impossible to say how many, if any, a scholar had in his "locker." Probably it would be more correct to say that he carried his all in his satchel. A school text-book of 1557 says that the boy is to salute his master, go straight to his seat, unknit his satchel, take his books out and learn his lesson.

The chief subject taught was Latin, for this and this alone could open the door to professional life. Behind all the details that can be gathered one sees that the Elizabethan benefactor desired his scholars to be so taught "that they may serve God and the commonwealth diligently, as becometh Christian and faithful members of His church." So in the Statutes of the schools which they endow strict regulations as to morals and conduct are laid down. "Manners maketh Man"; and it was still, as in bygone ages, the duty of the school to foster good manners. In fact for the teaching of Manners and Morals many text-books were in circulation. The titles of some of them were slightly more ornate than of similar books that now grace the railway book-stall. For

then one could purchase "The school of Vertue, and book of good Nourture for chyldren and youth to lerne their dutie by. Newly perused, corrected, and augmented by the first Author F. S(eager), with a brief declaracion of the dutie of eche degree. Anno 1557.....London."

In 1540 a Proclamation of Henry VIII ordained that the only Grammar to be used in schools was Lily's "Brevissima Institutio seu Ratio Grammatices." At the beginning of the book was a Carmen Moribus of 86 Latin Verses, epitomised in the first verse:—

Qui mihi discipulus, puer, es cupis atque doceri,
Huc ades, haec animo concipe dicta tuo.

Mane citus lectum fuge, mollem discute somnum,
Templa petas supplex, et venerare Deum.

Often the school Statutes made rules which sound strange to modern ears. The Statutes of Manchester Grammar School of 1528 ordain: "No scholar there being at School (shall) wear any dagger, hanger (short sword), or other weapon invasive, nor bring into the School, staff or bat, except their meat knife."

Any scholar of Wigan school "who is a common quarreller, and setter of debate and fightings amongst the scholars to be expelled."

At Heath any scholar who "use long hair on his head undecently or come with face and hands unwashed shall be expelled, if he do not reform."

Ushers, too, were no more perfect then than they are to-day. Head Masters even were ruled and regulated by what might be called Elizabethan DORAS. It was enacted for Guisborough School in 1561 that every Master admitted was to be "a Priest in Orders at his time of admission and no Scot or Stranger born." At Sandwich the Master was not to bring infamy to the School "by any extraordinary or unnecessary expenses in apparel."

Lewisham Head Master was to be displaced if "he wear long curled or Ruffin-like hair." Possibly they had Scots or Strangers there.

The Latin Scholemaster at Chigwell was not to be under 27 years of age and was to be "No Tipler nor Haunter of Taverns, no Puffer of Tobacco."

There is really much more to be said of schools and the quaint people who have muddled through them. But the Holiday Spirit lays hold of one and, to use a favourite cry, "my pen has run out."
J.W.R.

A NOTE ON THE OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB.

(Reprinted by permission from the O.A.C.
 "Report for year 1922—3 and List of Members.")

In the year 1743, in which the School Library was 'erected' on a larger scale and in which the School acquired the eagle and the clock, was founded apparently the Old Boys' Club in the form of a dining club. A list of stewards is preserved at the School from 1743 to 1822, with gaps from 1753 to 1758, and from 1775 to 1805.

The list is headed: 'The Gentlemen Educated in Abingdon School met there August the 6th 1743 and made Choice of the Right Honourable the Lord Visct. Wenman and the Honourable James Howe Esqr. for Stewards for the Year 1744.'

Under the date Aug. 12, 1758, we read in Jackson's Journal: 'On Monday last was the anniversary Visitation of Abingdon Free Grammar School; when there was a numerous Meeting of Gentlemen educated there, almost equal to the Appearance they used to make on the like Occasion, during the Life of their late eminent and worthy Master, the Rev. Mr. Woods. There was a very handsome and plentiful Dinner provided for them in the new Council Chamber; and the Great Joy and Satisfaction, caused by a Prospect of seeing the School soon restored to its ancient most flourishing State and Reputation, was expressed with a Decency and a Decorum becoming Gentlemen of a polite and liberal Education. William Moore, of Abingdon, Esq.: and the Reverend Mr. Joseph Benet, Rector of Sunningwell, Berks, were chosen Stewards for the Year ensuing.'

Again in July, 1760, at the Visitation: 'the Gentlemen educated at that School are desired there to meet their Schoolfellows, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, the Time the young Gentlemen begin speaking; after which an Ordinary as usual (to be ready by Two o'Clock) will be provided for them, By their humble Servants, Mich. Rawlins, Clemt. Saxton, Stewards.'

In March, 1804, there was a meeting at the Crown and Thistle, with the Rev. the Master of Pembroke in the chair, 'in order to re-establish the Anniversary.' This was successful, for the dinner was held on March 14, 1805, in the Council Chamber at 4.0 o'clock.

From 1822 until 1893 there is no record of the old club, although no doubt Old Abingdonians associated themselves from time to time with the School sports and functions.

In 1893 the modern O.A. Club was founded, soon after the Rev. T. Layng became headmaster; and it has flourished with the success of the School.

THE PIGEONS OF ST. OLES.

When I was yet a fosterling of kindly Broadgates Hall,

My cradle was an attic high upon the city wall;
 And often, having spelled awhile in Wisdom's dusty rolls,

I'd watch the pigeons wheel above the suburb of St. Oles.

Above the roofs and chimney-stacks they beat a circle wide,

Both when the white sun clomb the height, and when the red sun died;

So studiously their useless round they plied above St. Oles,

I fancied them, not simple birds, but erring scholars' souls.

Crazed mathematic souls, perhaps, that in the middle sky

Still strove in vain to ascertain the mystic number PI;

Or milder spirits musical, that sought adown the years

To thread the secret pathway of the music of the spheres.

Or were they dead logicians, that still in circles flew,

And landing where they rose in air, yet proved the perch was new?

Or reincarnate Platonists at exercise to deem
 Their birdish thoughts reality, and roofs a whirling dream?

To ask seems idle now, for that was twenty years ago,

And Time has wing'd a wilder flight, and cycles loud with woe.

The world is rack'd with sordid fears, and few believe in souls.

This many a day they lost their way, the pigeons of St. Oles!

So reasoned I; but lately Fate my steps to Oxford led,

And as I left the bridge a rush of wings went overhead,

And peering toward the narrows, where the street grows far and blue,

I caught the circle's westering arc, and saw that it was true!

Only a fleeting gleam was mine, who erst beheld
the whole,
As if in one dimension less our waning lusters roll;
But Memory the watch maintains upon her city
wall:
Far clouds, and sunlit roofs, and level wings, I
saw it all.

No more I question what they seek, those win-
nowers of air;
Enough it is for me to know that still the search
is there;
Enough, that like a faith renewed the rising
thought consoles,
How yet anigh the azure fly the pigeons of St.
Oles.

O.J.C.

A CHRISTMAS COMBAT.

"Sleep well and sweetly, son of mine!"

Tom Stuffam's father said—
An empty wish to any boy
Who's just been overfed!

On Christmas Day Tom Stuffam had
Excelled himself at table,
For he had eaten till no more
To gobble he was able.

So after tossing in his bed
For half an hour, or less,
He had a vivid dream which caused
The sleeper much distress.

A warrior came spurring up,
Absurdly round of figure,
And with a countenance as dark
As that of any nigger.

"I am Sir Pudding" he proclaimed,
"I seek a hated foe.
Where is the coward knight, Sir Loin?
'Tis that I crave to know."

Then there appeared Sir Loin himself,
Armed cap-a-pie for battle,
His vizor closed, his lance in rest,
His armour all a-rattle.

They tilted fiercely, then with swords
Their struggle they renewed.
Tom Stuffam, wide-eyed, waited for
The combat to conclude.
Vain hope! The pair fought on and on,
Disdaining truce or quarter.
Right through the neck they hacked and
hewed,

So great their thirst for slaughter!

The morning found Tom Stuffam pale,
When up he rose next day,
And with a shudder he recalled
Those hours of ghastly fray.

* * * *

And, furthermore, he realized,
With waking sense to guide him,
That the two doughty Yuletide knights
Had fought their fight inside him!

A.F.J.

THE FOUNDLING.

(Translated from the German of Goethe).

I roamed the woodland in idle thought
And had no mind for seeking aught.
It chanced in shade there a flower did lie
Of starlike beauty and bright of eye.
I would have picked it: it said me, "Nay,
I'll not be broken to fade away."
With all the roots that about it twine
I bear it home to my garden fine,
To plant again in a quiet place;
Again it grows and blooms apace.

W.A.R.

"SOUVENIRS DE VOYAGE."

(Translation from French exam. paper during
School Certificate Exam., July, 1924.)

Old friend, do you remember the wandering
ways we went
When, light of heart and penniless withal,
On foot, a trusty staff in hand, and bag on
shoulder bent,
We roamed the dusty thoroughfares of Gaul?

Our spirits burned to find some land, unheard
of heretofore;
The hidden source some mighty river owns;
Some scene of smiling beauty, or of grandeur
fraught with awe—
And to learn of bygone ages from the stones.

C.C.W.

NUGAE.

Agnus erat Mariae, tenero cui velleræ tergo
Candida candenti praeinituere nivī.
Quo capit illa viam, sequitur simul agnus eodem,
Agnus amor dominae deliciaeque suae.
It Maria in ludum, sedes quae sacra Camenis;
O pudor, o mores! huc simul agnus init.
Ridete, o pueri; tenerae, ridete, puellae;
Ludite; ludi agnus quippe magister erit.

Concordes animos dicas, concordia fratrum
 Nomina, sed discors iam parat arma dolor.
 Causa mali tanti,—crotalum, nova gaudia, plorat
 Hic illum infesta comminuisse manu.
 Iamque ineunt pugnam, piceo cum corpore corvus,
 Monstrum ingens, supero lapsus ab axe venit;
 Nec mora, funesto perterritus omine rixam
 Composuit subita miles uterque fuga.

R.B.

CHRISTMAS EVE.

The stars shine steadfast in the clear, cold sky;
 The orient moon now flings her golden light
 Athwart the kingdom of the silent night;
 And neath her gentle touch the shadows fly.
 How tall the trees, how broad the meadows lie!
 How still the air; the snow how wondrous white!
 As Nature knows the spell, the present might
 Of God Incarnate, come on earth to die.
 The yule-log blazes up the chimney wide;
 Each merry face, within its cheerful glow
 Reveals a grateful and contented mind.
 Peace and goodwill reign o'er the countryside
 With undisputed sway; for all men know
 That CHRIST WAS BORN TO-NIGHT TO SAVE MANKIND.

C.C.W.

THE REWARD OF HEROES.

Well do ye praise, ye Britons, those at rest
 Who strove, 'fore all, to accomplish the behest
 Of their commanders. They it was who made
 The glory of our country, which will fade
 Never so long as quick heroic souls
 Are striving towards the multitudinous goals
 That still are worth the winning, until time
 Shall be no more. In water, mud and slime
 They fought their country's battle, and they died
 That ye might live. But while ye ever cried
 To God for them, had ye no thought to give
 For those who fought the battle and yet live?
 They too have served you, Britons, and they too
 Have laid the debt of honour upon you.
 And shall this be your answer—shall your thought
 Be "Now that England has the peace she sought,
 There is no need of fear, and all is done"—?
 So shall our saviours lose where they have won.
 Freely they gave their homes, their hopes, their all,
 When they went forth and won i' the fields of
 Gaul;

And shall they now, unfriended, broken men,
 Walk the bare streets, waiting the moment when,
 Grown kindly now and gracious in their eyes,
 Death brings the recompense that Life denies?

X.

O.A. NOTES.

BIRTHS.

BRUCE.—In October at 39A, Philbeach Gardens, Earls Court, the wife of W. N. E. Bruce, of a daughter.

DONKIN.—On the 19th August at Abingdon, the wife of Capt. H. A. L. Donkin, M.C., of Abingdon and Oxford, of a son—Keith.

DUNCAN.—On the 26th June at Sevenoaks, to Mr. and Mrs. N. Duncan, a daughter.

WEST.—On the 18th July at Norman Avenue, Abingdon, to Mr. and Mrs. A. B. West, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COMFORT—GILES.—October 10, Vivian Comfort to Mary Elaine, daughter of J. Giles Esq., of Sydney, Australia.

CULLEN—MORLEY.—August 25, at Ellesborough Church, Eric Owen, fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Cullen, of Milton Cottage, Milton, Berks, to Irene, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Morley, Dunsmoor House, Wendover.

SAXBY—CHALLENGOR.—At St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, on 9th August, O. B. Saxby, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Saxby of Spring Terrace, Abingdon, to Beryl K. B. Challenor, younger daughter of Dr. H. S. and Mrs. Challenor of The Limes, Abingdon.

WAKEFIELD—WAKEFIELD.—April 22, at Wisbech St. Mary, Cambs., J. H. Wakefield to Alice Mary Wakefield of the above parish.

WHELPTON—BARNES.—November 13, at Ship-lake Parish Church, George Eric Whelpton of Florence, Italy, younger son of the Rev. George Whelpton and the late Mrs. Whelpton, to Catherine Elsie Marian, only daughter of Sir Frederick Gorell Barnes and Lady Barnes, Gateways, Shiplake.

DEATH.

HANNAY.—On the 24th Oct., at a nursing home, after an operation, Maurice Gilbert Hannay, M.D., M.R.C.P., of 2, Devonshire-place, W., youngest son of E. W. D. Hannay (late of War Office), in his 49th year.

Dr. Hannay, whose premature death means a sad loss to his Profession, as well as to his many friends and to the School which he loved so well, came here as a big boy in the Spring of 1893, being, as we understand, the first pupil to be entered under Mr. Layng's Headmastership. At school he made his mark in work and play, winning

prizes in science and mathematics and representing the school in all branches of athletics,—captaining the School Four in his last year. He left in the summer of 1895 and entered as a student at Charing Cross Hospital. Here he had a brilliant career, winning the Gold Medal in *Materia Medica*, captaining the Hospital Football Club, and qualifying in minimum time both in Medicine and Surgery. In the same year (1900) he was appointed a House Physician, and in 1901 House Surgeon at the Hospital. Later—in 1907, in the autumn of which year he married,—he took his M.D. at Brussels, and subsequently qualified as a member of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, being afterwards elected to a Fellowship. During the war he spent nearly four years in the Army, holding the rank of Captain in the R.A.M.C. Upon demobilisation he specialized in diseases of the skin, and at the time of his death was on the staff of the St. John's Hospital in London.

He always took a keen interest in his old school: he was a member of the O.A. Club, a subscriber to the School Magazine, and in his earlier days a familiar figure at Old Boys' gatherings. Of late years he had fewer opportunities to visit us, but we were glad to welcome him both this year and last as a guest at the O.A. Cricket Matches, and are doubly glad now that he was able to be present.

E. O. Hills was awarded third class Honours in his Law Finals at Oxford in the summer.

J. Knowles was successful in the Final Examination of the Law Society held on November 3 and 4, and attained the required standard of proficiency to enable him to compete for Honours.

C. V. Davidge is taking a sixth year at Oxford, reading for the B.C.L.

C. E. H. Dolphin, who passed fourth out of Sandhurst in the summer, has now gone to India, where he is gazetted to the 2nd Lincolnshire Regiment.

R. L. C. Foottit, who rowed last term in the May Races in the Lady Margaret 2nd VIII, has this term been promoted to a place in the Cambridge Trials. He has been tried at various places in the "A" and "B" crews, and finally occupied No. 3 thwart in the "B" crew. He has our best congratulations on thus gaining his "Trials" cap, and our hearty good wishes for his further advancement.

We have lately met with W. R. T. Skinner, who is on the engineering staff of the Yorkshire Electric Power Company at Leeds. He is at

present engaged on the design and construction of what will ultimately be a capital station at Ferrybridge. "34 Mount Preston, Leeds," is his address.

V. Comfort (and wife) are now to be found at The Old Vicarage, Dunsden, Oxfordshire.

W. N. E. Bruce has been appearing this autumn in "The Creaking Chair" at the Comedy Theatre in London.

O. J. Couldrey has delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on "Indian Gods" to the Abingdon Literary and Debating Society.

C. M. Nowill was in Abingdon in August, on leave from Athens.

R. C. Saxby after a year with the E.T.C. at Malta is now back in England for a year's special course in Wireless.

H. A. N. Medd has gone out to India, where his address is The Architect's Office, New Delhi.

We regret to state that C. S. Morland has been ill with pleurisy. He has now started for South Africa to recuperate his health with a year's farming in a kinder climate.

K. Howes is now one of the senior petty officers on board the "Worcester." He has taken to rowing and is stroke of their starboard eight.

Of those who left last term—

K. T. Wood is articled for a Chartered Accountant in his uncle's office in London.

J. F. Sinclair is in residence at Pembroke College, Oxford, where he has already distinguished himself by securing a place as goal-keeper in the Freshers' Soccer Match, thereby becoming a member of the "Centaur's" Club.

C. C. Woodley, who is at the Borough Road Training College, has likewise distinguished himself athletically, winning first place in their Junior Sports in the 100 yards, hurdles, long jump and weight putting, and playing regularly as full back in their first soccer eleven.

R. Taylor is farming at his home in Sunningwell.

S. W. D. Shallard is studying Agriculture at Reading University and otherwise disporting himself upon the river.

D. M. Brown has taken a clerkship in Lloyd's Bank.

J. K. Leon is in a Coal Exporting Office in Cardiff.

T. R. Pollard is in the accountant's department of a business firm in London.

P. G. A. Kennington is at work with a dairy-farmer and stock-breeder near Norwich.

R. Wareham-Smith is learning motor-engineering near London.

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Mr. A. E. Wood	..	..	1	1	0	Mrs. R. Williams	..	..	10	0	
Mr. A. B. Woodley	..	..	1	1	0	Mrs. Lane	..	..	5	0	
Mr. C. C. Woodley	..	..	1	1	0	Miss Pennell	..	..	5	0	
Mr. E. W. Belcher	..	..	1	0	0	Mrs. Piers	..	..	5	0	
Mr. E. F. Clarke	..	..	1	0	0	Mr. W. T. Taylor	..	..	5	0	
Mrs. Dawson Clarke	..	..	1	0	0						
Mr. H. L. Crudgington	..	..	1	0	0						
									£1417 9 0		

8th Dec. 1924.