

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

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EDITORIAL.

Two years ago in our July number we published details of a scheme for enlarging the present school buildings; since when we have been discreetly and advisedly silent on the subject. This is not because the scheme was not a good one in itself, and still less was it a sign that nothing was being done in the matter; but it was felt that the extension then contemplated was inadequate to our needs: it would have allowed a small increase only of our numbers, and there seems at this time to be a prospect of a large and continuous increase, if only accommodation can be found for the would-be entrants. Alternative schemes have since been under discussion—a larger and more costly extension of the present buildings, or, the acquisition of a new boarding house, if and when a suitable house could be found.

At this juncture the Waste Court property has come into the market—the large property of nine acres immediately to the North of the School and divided from it only by Royse's Lane. It is proposed to buy this property and by modifications and additions to the house to render it capable of accommodating forty boys. The

position is ideal: the large tract of ground to be acquired would provide the necessary playing fields for our growing numbers, while at the same time it would furnish sites for the erection of further boarding-houses, if and when occasion should arise for them. In fact it opens up many and diverse possibilities of progress.

But it will be at once apparent that this is a far more ambitious scheme than that of two years ago. How it affects (1) the War Memorial Committee and (2) the Old Abingdonian Club, will be found in our report of the transactions of the latter body; while from the Headmaster's speech on Founder's Day (reported under that head) it will be seen that there still remain some two thousand pounds or more to be raised, before the project can be put in execution.

To secure this deficit an appeal is being sent out to all who have the interest of the School at heart. We trust that our readers, and Old Abingdonians all who are proud of the name and conscious of the debt which they owe to their Alma Mater, will avail themselves to the utmost of this very practical opportunity for showing their loyalty and gratitude.

SCHOOL NOTES.

BIRTH.

REYNOLDS.—On May 16 at "Avondale," Park Road, Abingdon, to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Reynolds, a daughter.

Valete.

VI. Form.—G. S. Sturrock (1914). 1st XI Cricket 1922, Colours 1923. 1st XI Football 1923, Colours 1923. School Prefect 1922, Head of the School 1923. Sergeant O.T.C. 1923, Certificate A. 1923. O.S.C. Exam (3rd Class Honours) 1922.

W. E. Steele (1920). 1st XI Football 1922, Colours 1923. 1st XI Cricket 1923, Colours 1923, 1st IV Rowing 1924. School Prefect 1923. O.S.C. Exam 1923.

V. J. Relle (1917). School Prefect 1924. 1st Class shot 1923.

B. W. L. Buckland (1918). 2nd XI Cricket 1923. Corporal O.T.C. 1923, Certificate A. 1923. School Prefect 1924. O.S.C. Exam 1922, 1923.

A. J. Williams (1919). O.S.C. Exam 1923.

J. S. Fox (1920). 1st XI Football 1923, Colours 1923. 1st IV Rowing 1923, Colours 1923, Captain 1924. 2nd XI Cricket. 1923, School Prefect 1924. O.S.C. Exam 1923.

Va Form.—K. L. Aldridge (1919). 2nd XI Football 1923.

Vb Form.—W. E. U. B. Udal (1922).

Remove Form.—W. T. Taylor (1923).

III Form.—N. S. Wigley (1922).

Salvete.

Remove Form.—A. J. K. Smith.

II Form.—W. G. E. Jacob, R. E. Marks, P. B. Quelch, D. P. Robertson, B. C. Killbourn, W. P. H. P. Millett.

It is of interest to note that for the first time in our history the combined offices of Vice-Chairman of our Governing Body and Chairman of the Finance Committee are held by an Old Boy of the School—Mr. A. E. Preston.

The number of boys on the School books this term is 153, of whom 76 are boarders and 77 day-boys.

The following have been made School Prefects : C. R. Wright, W. G. Hancock, D. M. Brown.

The following have been awarded their Cricket Colours :—H. D. Shallard, C. C. Woodley, S. W. D. Shallard, P. T. Thomas.

The bat for the best batting average, presented by the Masters' Common Room, has been won by R. Taylor with an average of 32.2. That for

bowling, given by the Headmaster, goes to W. G. Hancock with an average of 10.7 for 22 wickets ; while the fielding bat, given by H. V. Stone, O.A., has been awarded to C. C. Woodley. Dr. B. W. Henderson has kindly presented a bat for competition among the Under 15 team, and this has been awarded to W. W. Brown ; and yet another bat—an extra for this year only—has been given by the Headmaster to P. T. Thomas for general excellence under 15.

We enjoyed the usual extra half-holiday on Whitmonday, and on Tuesday, June 17, another half-holiday was granted in honour of R.E. Eason's Rowing Blue.

One of Mr. Preston's recent articles in *The Abingdonian* has been dramatized by Miss Agnes C. Baker, to form a part of her "Scenes from Abingdon History" enacted last May in the Corn Exchange, by the local Boy Scouts, as an Abingdon Pageant. The article in question was that in our last summer number, describing Henry III's visit to St. Mary's Fair in September, 1221, and what manner of things he saw there. The first article of the series (Xmas Number, 1922) had also been utilized in a scene describing Henry VIII at Abingdon in April, 1518.

Boarders and other members of the School attended the Boy Scouts' Pageant on Saturday evening, May 3, and enjoyed greatly an excellent and instructive performance.

We have received from the editors of "Public School Verse," a notice that Vol. IV of their publication will be ready shortly, published by Messrs Heinemann at the price of 3s. 6d. All contributions intended for Vol. V should be forwarded not later than Nov. 30 to The Editors, "Public School Verse," c/o Holywell Press, Oxford. All verses submitted must have been written while their authors were still at school, though those who have left not earlier than last March are still eligible as contributors. Will none of our budding poets try his luck ?

A fresh collection of exhibits—Arts and Crafts—is now displayed in our middle corridor. We have these on loan for a year from the Victoria and Albert Museum.

We desire to express our thanks for the following contemporaries received :—*The Aldenhamian*, *The Alfredian*, *The Chigwellian*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Liverpool College Magazine*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourne*, *The Magazine of the City of Oxford School*, *The Monktonian*.

The Rag Concert is fixed for Monday, July 28. Boarders depart on Tuesday, the 29th. Next term begins on Tuesday, Sept. 16, boarders returning on the previous day.

FOUNDER'S DAY.

Friday, July 11th, brought Founder's Day. At the service in St. Helen's Church the preacher was the Rev. Adam Fox, Warden of Radley. The singing, ably directed by Miss Sheldon Peach, was most successful. Mrs. Scott, to whom our best thanks are due, made the wreath for John Roysse's tomb.

The Warden of Radley, in the course of his sermon, said the interest, charm, and also the mystery of a school consisted in the fact that men of one generation were trying to prepare another generation for a future which could not be foreseen. That would be beyond all human power were it not for two things. In the first place, although each generation differed from the generation before, they were fundamentally the same in every age all the world over, because they were all made in God's image. Secondly, youth had a wonderful way of selecting from its experience that which would really matter and help. That, he imagined, was the work of the Spirit. It was, perhaps, not an unprofitable thing to consider what kind of an age it was into which they were born. It was very like the first century of the Christian era, an age of overwhelming responsibility, affecting all who took part in the government of the world, wherein were being fulfilled the signs of the coming of the Kingdom of God according to the Scripture. There were "wars and rumours of wars, distress of nations with perplexity, and men's hearts failing them for fear by reason of that which was coming upon the world"—and, again, the appearance here and there of false Christs. From these things they could come to the comforting conclusion that, although they were born into an age of great difficulty, yet it was one which was favourable for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and for the appearance with power of Christ. That, perhaps, was the only thing which would do now—that Kingdom of God before which the paganism and pleasure-seeking and the false ideals of the age would entirely vanish away. The question arose, what were they going to do about it? If, like John the Baptist, they constantly told the truth, boldly rebuked vice, and, finally, suffered for the truth's sake, that would produce the

Kingdom of God. John the Baptist had no worldly success, and if they did their duty to their age, they need not look to be distinguished or have the satisfaction of feeling they were doing something; yet they might be effecting something after all. They should be glad to be born into such a splendid age, for the sufferings of it would be as nothing when compared with the glory to be revealed. They were all called to be the sons of God—and it might be for one of them that the world was waiting.

After the service a large company assembled in the Corn Exchange for the distribution of the prizes by Dr. B. W. Henderson, of Exeter College, Oxford.

The Head Master first made his customary speech. He extended a hearty welcome to all present, and thanked the Warden of Radley for preaching the sermon, mentioning the many kindnesses the School had received from Radley College. Turning to the school life, the Head Master enumerated the examination successes which have been recorded elsewhere in our pages.

The Officers' Training Corps had been carried on with success, and the athletics had reached a high standard, particularly in cricket. A very promising feature was the under fifteen team, which had won all its matches, both in football and cricket. With regard to the old boys, C. E. H. Dolphin was to be congratulated on winning the half-mile for Sandhurst against Woolwich and R. E. Eason on gaining his rowing Blue at Oxford. The Head Master then turned to the question of the extension of the School. All available room had now been filled, and so the Governors had approved of the purchase of Waste Court, an estate of nine acres adjoining the School, which had fallen into the market, but they still needed for this purpose a margin of about £2000, to obtain which it was proposed to ask for subscriptions. He hoped that parents, friends and old boys would consider the matter. The house on the site, when building additions had been made, would take about forty boarders, and if the scheme was carried through, it would make a great difference to the scope and stability of the School.

Dr. Henderson then distributed the prizes as follows:—

VIA. Classics, A. F. James; VIB. Classics, W. G. Hancock; Meredith Greek Prose Composition, A. F. James; Meredith Latin Prose Composition, J. F. Sinclair.

VI. Mathematics, K. T. Wood.

VI. Physics, (Major Sydney Harold Baker Prize) K. T. Wood.

VI. French, A. F. James.

Form Prizes :—VA., S. R. Hunt ; VB., E. A. Passam ; Remove, T. G. Austin ; III., H. F. Good ; II., B. J. Pedlar.

Mathematics :—VA., N. V. Pearson ; VB., N. J. Banes and W. W. Brown ; Remove, T. G. Austin and E. P. Rice ; III., W. F. Smith ; II., S. P. Austin.

Latin :—VA., G. F. Powell ; VB., E. G. Langford ; Remove, T. G. Austin ; III., J. G. W. Randall.

Greek :—VA., S. R. Hunt ; VB., R. F. Martin ; Remove, N. P. Stathacopulos.

Science :—VIC., T. R. Pollard ; VA., S. E. Clark and A. M. Thatcher ; VB., G. R. D. Estcourt.

Divinity :—VI., A. F. James ; VA., S. R. Hunt ; VB., T. E. Gardiner ; Remove, T. G. Austin ; III., H. F. Good ; II., D. C. Halliday.

VA. Art, A. C. Croasdell.

Singing, A. M. D. Greene.

Pianoforte, O. I. C. R. Round.

Nature Study, J. E. Mobbs.

Dr. Henderson, after distributing the prizes, congratulated everyone concerned on the achievements and activities of the school. In particular he reminded the boys that their triumphs were not personal, but were won for the community. A school was not only a community in itself ; it was a community with others. First, it was a community with England and the Dominions overseas, and he had learned that Australia and Canada were represented there, while the boarders came from every part of England. That was as it should be ; and he would like to see the day when the school was represented at every College in the University. Indeed it was his desire that every year more and more should go up to Oxford from every type of Secondary School in the country. By the qualities of work, pluck and enterprise the members of this School had always been profitable members of the Commonwealth, and they would always remain so.

After cheers had been given for Dr. Henderson, the Warden of Radley, the Head Master and Miss Grundy, and the Visitors, the assembly adjourned to the School grounds, where the Head Master and Miss Grundy were "at home" and tea was served, while the Oxford Military Band played selections.

The donors of the prizes, to whom our very sincere thanks are due, were the following :—

* Mrs. Baker, Rev. P. C. Bevan, H. S. Challenor, Esq., M.D., H. T. Clarke, Esq., W. M. Grundy, Esq., J. Knowles, Esq., R. W. Langford, Esq., Rev. Canon W. M. Meredith, W. T. Morland, Esq., W. H. Nash, Esq., Miss Sheldon Peach, A. E. Preston, Esq., C. A. Pryce, Esq., W. A. Rudd, Esq. (President of O.A. Club), H. P. Simpson, Esq., T. Skurray, Esq., Mrs. Stevens.

OBITER.

The following "textures," or quotations, are from the work of various authors—all pupils at Abingdon School. The teaching staff, we understand, claim no credit for the information given, and accept no responsibility. The title will explain itself to those who recollect that "you form the adverb from the adjective by adding something to the infinitive."

"Isaiah," we are told, "lived in the time of Moses and of our Lord" ; while from another authority we learn that "he told the king not to make his daughters pass through fire." However, as "the king committed sacrifices," the prophet's advice would appear to have been flouted.

The Hebrews, unfortunately, were not dramatists as the Greeks were, or the above incident would, no doubt, have been deemed a fit subject for "the tragic buck-skin." Or our own Shakespeare might have adapted it, had he turned his genius to Bible History, relieving the sterner passages with a Hebrew counterpart of his inimitable "Flystaff."

This reminds us that "when you put water on a duck's back, it cannot fly" : which is hardly surprising when one considers that "one gramme of water weighs a centimetre," while our informant himself, by his own admission, weighs "about thirty grammes." But perhaps he is like the poor French lady, who was "mise avec goût et simplicité—riddled with gout and neuritis" ; or perhaps he had "fairly expired after the half-mile" ; in which case he had better take "un carreau de vitre—a carriage of victuals," and consume them "valle sub umbrosa—in a valley under an umbrella," while he sends his shoes "to be healed and resouled."

Apropos of soles, we may note that "kippers are caught on the North Coast of Scotland," though we doubt whether any of our contributors have ever personally "found a herring's nest." Perhaps it was for some such thing that the prefect was looking, who was seen "digging up plantations with his pen-knife" ; but we doubt whether they are really to be found in Great Britain. In the

Barbary States, perhaps, "where the Barbados live"; or on some Australian sheep-ranch, "where the cotton comes from"; or perhaps on some "tributary of the Leander"; but not in the British Isles.

There, alas! what with "illubricated watches," and motor-cars which "cannot go less than 5 m.p.h. because their speedometers do not register below that figure," time flies so fast that "ancient novelties" no longer appeal to us; nor is it necessarily true that, "because the angle ABC equals the angle DEF, much more so does the angle PQR equal the angle XYZ."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of *the Abingdonian*.

Sir:—

I trust you will pardon my trespassing on a small portion of your valuable space, but I should like to bring to your notice a small point on which I know many O.A.s feel strongly. The special hymn for the Founder's Day Service at St. Helen's Church was always sung to one particular tune. Of late years this tune, long associated with the Service, has been replaced by another.

This new tune, Sir, may be very beautiful, but the associations of the old tune mean much to many of us.

Would it be too much to ask that the School Authorities should restore the old tune?

I am, Sir, yrs.,

H. A. L. DONKIN.

THE REGATTA.

The annual regatta took place on Thursday afternoon, July 10th, on Wilsham Reach.

The entries for the various events were numerous, involving some twenty preliminary heats. There were many close finishes and the racing was above the average, especially in the House Fours, both of which were won fairly comfortably by Green House. The Junior Green House crew were particularly well together and provided a good example of neatness and uniformity. The weather was glorious and contributed in no small degree to the enjoyment of the afternoon. The names of winners of the events are as follows:—

Dongola:—Gardiner ii, Martin ii, Wright i, Foxwell, Gardner i, Shallard iii, Rice.

Junior Pairs:—Sinclair ii, Hanks, Watson.

Canoes:—Leon, Barwell.

Senior Pairs:—Hooke, Allen, Cullum.

House Fours, *Junior*, Green House:—Charleton,

Powell, Wheeler, Estcourt, Martin ii.

House Fours, *Senior*, Green House:—Theophilus, Cullum, Sinclair i, Round, Sinclair ii.

REVIEW.

Oswald Couldrey's book, "South Indian Hours," was published in the spring and has been very well reviewed. For ourselves the pleasure of reading it was enhanced by our pride, as Abingdonians, in the work of an "Olim Alumnus"; but in commending this work to O.A. readers, we should like to make it clear that it is, at the same time, well able to commend itself—by its intrinsic excellence and quite apart from all personal considerations, even as "good wine needs no bush." Read it, then, for your own sakes. Buy it, if you can afford it, but in any case read it. We can promise you that if you like good literature—graceful, illuminative prose with the sympathetic, imaginative touch of poetry—you will not find that you have wasted either time or money.

Without attempting a lengthy review we would state here that, in our opinion, it is this gift of sympathy, this kindly insight into the minds and hearts of others, that stands preeminent among Couldrey's merits as a writer. Style and scholarship are no mean assets either; but while a scholar may know and a stylist may embellish, it takes a human heart to understand and love.

The book, which contains three fine coloured plates and nineteen other sketches by the author, deals with the country life of Southern India, its industry, religion and social customs, its temples and temple-cities, its scenery and changing seasons, and the wild things of the jungle. The writer is as humorous as he is cultured, and he never wanders far from the region of personal and human interest, while to the classically or scripturally minded he makes a very strong appeal by his frequent references to Greek or Biblical parallels.

The publishers are Messrs Hurst and Blackett, London, and the price is 18s.

COUP D'ESSAI.

The wind is blowing the leaves:
The Autumn is coming soon:
The swallows will quit the eaves,
To seek for the sunshine's boon.

I hear the song of the birds:
I wonder, what do they say?
Is it a song without words?
Or a prayer at the end of day?

H. G. A. Boland.
(Aged 9).

THE FAIRS AND MARKETS OF
MEDIÆVAL ABINGDON.

BY ARTHUR E. PRESTON, F.S.A.

*Previous articles appeared in Vol. VI.
Nos. 7, 9, 10 and 11.*

The quieter state of things observable between the Abbey and the townspeople after the riots and towards the end of the 14th century, may very well have been due—in part at least—to removal of the causes of discontent in connection with fairs and markets. Fairs themselves had already lost and were continuing to lose some of their former importance. Better means of communication and wider distribution of the trading classes were rendering the population less dependent on fairs for their supplies than hitherto. Fairs in short had passed from a necessity to a convenience. The Peasants' Revolt of 1381—a formidable affair in other parts of the country, especially in some of the monastic towns where the risings of 1327 had occurred—passed over at Abingdon without incident or sign of any popular movement. There was indeed a warrant to the sheriff in June, 1381, to arrest and imprison Geoffrey Barbour (of subsequent bridge-building fame), Simon Harewe and other prominent Abingdonians “as insurgents against the king,” but why or in what connection does not appear. Possibly for complicity of some sort in the Oxfordshire armed resistance to the obnoxious Poll Tax of 1380. Certain it is, however, that the agrarian revolt did not spread to the area in which the abbey manors lay, and from this it may reasonably be inferred that better relations were now existing between the Abbey and its tenants and that there were no serious causes of complaint.

But whilst fairs in general were tending to decline, both in importance and duration, events were happening that gave rise to a new class of gathering that came in time to be known as *Michaelmas fairs*. At Abingdon the fair of this name is the only one that has survived in any vigour amongst all those that formerly flourished. For its origin we must look to the various Statutes of Labourers, passed after the recurring visitations of the Black Death (1349–69) by which justices of peace then newly created were authorized to fix the rates of wages between masters and men; and these rates were to be proclaimed annually at sessions held in the various market towns of the county at *Michaelmas* time. Crowds of employers and employed flocked to these proclamations to

hear the new rates of pay, and on these occasions it naturally followed that service bargains and hiring agreements for the ensuing year should be entered into. The attendance was large and the practice of erecting booths and stalls for refreshments and other commodities soon sprung up; in popular parlance a “fair” had begun. But it was not a franchise or legal fair and no tolls on commodities could be levied; the abbot as lord of the soil, however, would not have failed to demand picage and stallage for booths and stalls put up within his jurisdiction. To distinguish the proclamation days from other sessions they were called “Statute Sessions,” and when in the early years of Elizabeth (1562–3) the Statutes of Labourers were repealed as out of date, these sessions and their functions were expressly retained. This had the effect of continuing the assemblies of people which gradually got to be called Statute or Hiring fairs, and were usually held on market days. At Abingdon, the custom grew up of holding the statute sessions on the Monday before 30 September in each year. By the alteration of the calendar in 1752, the date became 11 October, and this still governs the date of our *Michaelmas fair*. These statute fairs lasted for two days and in many places became the great holiday and annual Saturnalia of the labouring classes. But at Abingdon the close proximity in date of the great St. Mary's fair, overshadowed and kept the *Michaelmas fair* in check for many a long year to come.

After the fall of the Abbey and with the advent of Puritan times the religious festival of *St. Mary*, fell into neglect, and on that ground alone the fair of the Saint also tended to decline. Throughout the 16th century fairs were still the great centres of trade and traffic in the country districts; but by its close the foreign trader and his wares were gone and he was no longer to be found at provincial fairs like St. Mary's. London offered him a better and more convenient mart. In early Elizabethan times, *St. Mary's fair* was still the great pleasure resort of the neighbourhood as an incident connected with Amy Robsart will show. Amy met her death it may be remembered at Cumnor Place, on 8 September, 1560, which happened that year to fall on a Sunday and was the first day of *St. Mary's fair* at Abingdon. Sir Richard Blount in his letter of 11 Sept. to Dudley reported after enquiries on the spot that “my ladie rose that daie verie earelie and commanded all her sorte to go to the fayre, and wold suffer none to tarie at home. And was so earnest to have them gone that . . . she

cam to Mistress Odingsells the wedowe. . . . who refused that daie to go to the faire. . . . bycause she saide it was no daie for gentlewomen to go, but said the morrowe was moch better and then wold she go." The insistent Amy, however, was "verie angrie" and not to be put off. The women of the household had to go and by their return in the evening the tragedy had happened. Fairs it will be observed were still being held on Sundays in spite of all legislation to the contrary, but public opinion—and Mistress Odingsells'—was against it and the practice was going out of favour.

Mistress Odingsells—Amy's lady companion or visitor—was an interesting figure and deserves a word or two in passing. Brought up at Denchworth, a village not far away, she was no stranger to Abingdon. As the widowed sister of Oliver Hyde, who for years had been living at "Banbury Court" in West St. Helen street—one of mediæval Abingdon's most famous houses—she would doubtless have had frequent opportunities of visiting the fair. She knew, therefore, what to expect to see, and the curious on such subjects may get a picture for themselves by reference to the scenes described in the Statute of 27 Henry VI., c. 5, which forbad the holding of fairs and markets on Sundays and religious festivals. Oliver Hyde, too, was a man of some local interest and importance. He was appointed one of the first governors of Christ's Hospital in 1553, and became first M.P. for Abingdon in Mary's last Parliament 1558, and again in the second parliament of Elizabeth, 1563, till his death in Feb., 1566.

It has been seen in an earlier article that the lordship of the five existing fairs at the Dissolution, was transferred to the Borough on the Incorporation in 1556; and by that time the degeneration that had for long been going on is reflected in the shorter duration of three days allotted to each under the Charter. The *Lent fair* by exception was only to last one day. In the earlier period the fairs had continued for seven days, but had now dwindled to three and afterwards shrunk to less than that.

Part of the trade at *St. Mary's fair* had always consisted of horses, but owing to a legislative attempt in the early years of Philip and Mary to prevent the sale of stolen animals, fairs for horses were required to be held in special and separate places, and a register of the horses kept. *St. Mary's* in this way became a divided fair. As there is no evidence that any of the other fairs, except *St. Margaret's*, were similarly partitioned, it must

be assumed that traffic in horses formed no large part of the business done. The ordinary horse market had for centuries been held in or near Ock street, at one time in what is now known as St. Edmund's lane, and then at a place called 'Ruddle Cross' (near Dr. Woodford's present house). But under the new law the part of *St. Mary's fair* devoted to horses was removed to a position adjoining the old Conduit House in the present Park, and then forming part of the historic Lacies Court Farm. The principal entrance was from Boar street by a roadway now gone but approximating to the existing Grammar School lane; there was also a way out into Ock street. The horse fair acquired the name of "Conduit" fair from its proximity to the old Conduit House, which is found mentioned in the records as already existing in 1553. The abundant spring of water that it once covered doubtless determined the situation of the fair. The spring was destroyed and also the "Carswell" or "Castle Well" in Ock street, which it served with water, by the main drainage operations of 1876. In old leases of Lacies Court farm after 1585, the right was always reserved for a horse fair to be held on part of the farm, and the tenant was required to enter into a covenant "to keep house and hospitality according to the worth and ability of the farm" during the demised term. No parallel to this curious covenant is found in any other of the Hospital leases and we are left to conjecture what its purpose could have been. In 1692 the horse fair was removed by order of the Corporation to Broad street and Boar street, the change being brought about by the influence of the Jennings family, the then lessees of the farm and people of some note in Abingdon at the time. The name of the fair again followed its situation and it became known as "Broad street fair," and here it remained to the end. At what stage the other part of *St. Mary's fair* lost its name and importance there is nothing to show, except that on the alteration of the calendar in 1752 it was still regarded as the principal fair of the year. Although its consequence must have been departing, it was the only fair of which the Corporation thought it worth while to give notice by advertisement in the London newspapers that the date had been altered, and that the fair would in future be held 11 days later. The changed dates of the other fairs were left to take care of themselves, except for such local notoriety as could be given by the town bellman. After the accession of George III. the declension of *St. Mary's* as a pleasure fair

went on at an accelerated rate and the Michaelmas fair begins to come more prominently into view. Little by little the great *St. Mary's fair* of the Middle Ages dwindles away and sinks into an ordinary horse fair, held in but a small part of the town and under another name. Within the last few years even this small remnant has come to an end and *St. Mary's fair* has finally vanished.

The *Michaelmas fair* was not amongst the fairs vested in the Corporation by the Charter, because firstly it had not the status of a legal fair at all, and secondly must have been at the time in an uncertain and nebulous condition. Only as *St. Mary's fair* died away did it come into prominence.

When in 1753 the Town Clerk sent "a very long letter to Mr. Owen, bookseller at Temple Barr, with an account of the fairs held in this Borough and the different commodities sold," to be inserted in the official list about to be published, the *Michaelmas fair* was still not thought of sufficient importance to be mentioned by the Town Clerk. The list of Abingdon fairs in Owen's book makes no reference to it, although hiring fairs were enumerated at other Berkshire towns. Here and there as time goes on we get passing glimpses that enable us to measure its progress. At the fair of 8 October, 1781, an unusual incident occurred. One Francis Hall was standing near the Market-house when "it so happened that a large stone accidentally, casually and by misfortune fell from the top of the said Market-house upon the head of the said Francis Hall, by reason whereof the said Francis Hall was killed, of which killing he instantly died." These were the garrulous words in which the coroner's jury framed their verdict, but nothing was said about the occasion being the annual Michaelmas fair. Hall was evidently only one of a large crowd in the neighbourhood of the Market-house and the impingement of a falling stone on some unfortunate head was almost inevitable. The fair now began to make rapid strides and by 1805 had become very popular. According to a newspaper report of the time upwards of 10,000 people were present. "There was a great show of dairy maids, who were hired at very low wages, owing to the late reduced price of cheese. . . . The numerous gang of pickpockets who attended began to exercise their dexterity very early in the day; and (while the attention of the populace was excited by the beauty of the Grand Turk's Palace, the wonderful feats of The Little Strong Woman, and the harmony of the Pentonville Organ) contrived to empty the pockets of a poor woman of about forty shillings, a countryman

of about £3 and a farmer of his pocket book; containing notes to a considerable amount." (*News of a Country Town* p. 118). The annual Michaelmas nuisance is still going on in pretty much the same way, except that the dairy maids are no more; the question for consideration is whether it should be removed to a more fitting place in a less central part. The fair no longer serves any useful public purpose and it has not sufficient claim to antiquity to justify its retention in the principal streets of the town.

Here then this retrospect that has (by invitation) been attempted of the old fairs and markets of Abingdon must be brought to an end. Much that might have been of interest has perforce been left unsaid. The changes that followed or were brought about by the Incorporation of the Borough in 1556, have been passed over without notice. A few last words must, however, be added to chronicle new fairs obtained from James I. in 1610. In the same charter by which these fairs were granted there was also a remarkable endeavour to introduce municipal trading by the experiment of a special weekly market for wool, threads and yarn under the superintendence and control of the Corporation; but we may not stay to trace the progress and result of the venture. Up to 1610 the facilities offered by the then existing fairs had been considered sufficient, but two new fairs were in that year procured under the idea that more buyers and sellers would be attracted to the town. The dates selected were the feasts of St. Mark the Evangelist (25 April) and St. James the Apostle (25 July), which after the alteration of the calendar became 6 May and 5 August respectively. The new fair of 25 July shews that the old St. Margaret's fair of 13 afterwards 24 July had become obsolete. These new fairs fell far short of expectation and neither of them is mentioned in the official list published by Owen in 1756. They struggled along, however. The May fair came to be called *Lombard street fair* from the situation in which it was held. In 1809 it was popularly known as the *Bull fair*. At the present time it has ceased to be observed except by a few travelling showmen. The August fair, devoted mostly to lambs and wool, has also become extinct. These two additions brought the number of Abingdon fairs up to seven or treating St. Margaret's as obsolete to six—a greater number than in any other market town of the county, Newbury being next with five.

In conclusion it only remains to say that in an article of this character, it has not been feasible to

quote authorities for the various statements of fact made, but they are all available if circumstances should at any time require their production.

PARODY.

(The following parody was written by the late Mr. W. H. Richardson, O.A., and has been sent to us by his brother, Mr. W. W. Richardson, of 24, Lathbury Road, Oxford).

'Tis the last baked potato
Left sweltering alone ;
All its mealy companions
Are parted and gone ;
No flowery Kidney
No Ashleaf* is nigh,
To share its seclusion
And rest eye to eye.

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one,
To shrivel apart ;
Since the mealy digest well,
Come, sleep near my heart.
Thus kindly I scatter
Thy peel at my feet,
Where the whelk and the orange
Perfume the dull street.

Soon too will I follow
Thy chariot away,
As the glimmering gaslights
Fade into the day ;
Where winkles lie soulless
And 'taties are strown,
Oh ! who then would wander
The pavement alone ?

*Ashleaf—an old and well-known variety of the potato.

CRICKET.

This season the first eleven played fewer school matches than usual owing to a variety of causes.

Though unavoidable this was distinctly unfortunate, since the eleven possessed great possibilities, as they demonstrated in the Club matches which were played, and finished the season strongly with a well-deserved victory over the Old Boys.

The team shewed itself capable of making runs down to the eleventh man ; its bowling strength was, as a rule, adequate, and its fielding sound, if not brilliant. Its chief weakness was, perhaps, the lack of a really good wicket-keeper. What

impressed one most of all about the eleven was their manifest keenness, and their coherence as a team.

It was through their weakness in the above match-winning qualities that the second eleven failed to meet with more success.

The Juniors were a strong combination and won all their matches with ease. Judging from the promising material in this team, and the fact that a large proportion of the first eleven will be with us next year, we can look forward with confidence to a successful cricket season in 1925.

FIRST ELEVEN MATCHES.

(All these matches were played on the School ground, except the first v. Abingdon Town C.C.)
v. Brightwell C.C., 14th May. Won.—The School batted first on a sticky wicket. Mr. Alston and Hancock gave us a good start, and when 151 runs had been scored for 6 wickets, the innings was declared closed. The finish was exciting, as we just got Brightwell out with five minutes to spare. The fielding was very keen and Shallard ii bowled well. A useful start.

A.S.C.C.

J. B. E. Alston, c Sutton, b Melbourne	31
W. G. Hancock, lbw, b Wood	29
R. Taylor, lbw, b Wood	3
C. C. Woodley, b Melbourne	9
J. F. Sinclair, not out	44
H. D. Shallard, b Lang	12
S. W. D. Shallard, lbw, b Lang	10
K. T. Wood, not out	2
H. S. Bartlett, F. M. Cole and C. R. Wright did not bat.	
Extras	11
Total (for 6 wkts.)	151

BRIGHTWELL C.C.

Grey, b Hancock	5
Clarke, b Shallard ii	39
Sutton, run out	5
Savage, c Woodley, b Hancock	1
Lang, c Wood, b Alston	21
Wood, b Shallard ii	16
Ericker, c Wright b Shallard ii	0
Chown, c Wood, b Shallard ii	0
Melbourne, run out	2
Samson, not out	1
Saunderson, b Hancock	0
Extras	7
Total	97

v. Mr. Alston's XI. May 21st. Lost. Mr. Alston brought a strong team against the School.

They batted first and made 127 for 8 wickets. Mr. Rudd played a very good innings of 46. The first School batsmen with the exception of Hancock did not make many runs, but Cole and Shallard iii batted well. We were all out for 108 just on time. Thomas was the most successful of our bowlers.

MR. ALSTON'S XI.

W. A. Rudd, b Thomas	46
S. Wellings, b Hancock	14
J. B. E. Alston, c Thomas b Taylor	4
Pye-Smith, c Thomas, b Shallard ii	14
R. L. Abrahams, b Shallard ii	3
W. Bevir, b Shallard ii	3
Maxwell, b Thomas	18
F. Hichens, not out	17
Cleg, b Thomas	0
Coleridge and F. G. H. Allen did not bat.	
Extras	8
Total	127

A.S.C.C.

R. Taylor, b Wellings	3
W. G. Hancock, c Pye-Smith, b Wellings	16
C. C. Woodley, b Wellings	4
J. F. Sinclair, run out	6
H. D. Shallard, b Abrahams	5
K. T. Wood, c Abrahams, b Wellings	10
W. D. Shallard, c Wellings, b Bevir	23
F. M. Cole, b Pye-Smith	23
C. R. Wright, b Pye-Smith	6
H. S. Bartlett, run out	3
P. T. Thomas, not out	4
Extras	5
Total	108

v. The Town. May 31st. Won. The School batted first on a wet wicket and thanks to useful innings by Taylor, Mr. Rudd and Mr. Alston, made 87. The Town could do little against Taylor's bowling and were all out for 63.

A.S.C.C.

J. B. E. Alston, c Hay, b Bradfield	19
W. A. Rudd, b Bradfield	18
W. G. Hancock, c and b Bradfield	1
R. Taylor, not out	20
J. F. Sinclair, b Bradfield	0
S. W. D. Shallard, b North	7
C. C. Woodley, b Page	0
H. D. Shallard, b Bradfield	11
W. D. Shallard, b Bradfield	3

K. T. Wood, run out	0
P. T. Thomas, c and b Bradfield	2
Extras	6
Total	87

ABINGDON TOWN.

G. Page, lbw, b Taylor	4
E. A. North, c Shallard iii, b Hancock	0
Lowe, c Thomas, b Taylor	1
G. E. Bradfield, c Thomas, b Taylor	1
Horsley, c Taylor, b Hancock	0
J. Hay, b Hancock	16
H. A. L. Donkin, c Shallard i, b Shallard ii	16
Lewis, not out	12
J. Carter, run out	1
O. E. Cullen, b Taylor	5
Cottrell, c Shallard ii, b Alston	0
Extras	7
Total	63

v. Exeter College, June 11th. Won. We fielded first, and against some good bowling by Taylor, Hancock and Thomas, Exeter could only make 61. Our batting was not very good, but thanks to a fifth wicket partnership between Shallard i and Shallard ii, we made 91. Shallard i batted well.

EXETER COLLEGE.

J. L. Evans, b Taylor	4
E. W. Jeffery, lbw, b Taylor	0
C. J. Stapleton, b Hancock	12
J. S. Rembridge, b Hancock	5
P. R. Hurditch, b Hancock	5
M. C. Ellis, run out	1
A. D. Wood, c Shallard iii, b Hancock	0
J. T. Kidd, b Shallard ii	19
J. W. Chubb, b Thomas	6
J. R. Hodnedd, not out	0
P. Richmond, b Thomas	0
Extras	9
Total	61

A.S.C.C.

J. B. E. Alston, b Chubb	0
W. G. Hancock, b Hurditch	17
R. Taylor, b Rembridge	15
J. F. Sinclair, c Kidd, b Rembridge	2
S. W. D. Shallard, run out	22
K. T. Wood, b Hurditch	0
H. D. Shallard, c Wood, b Rembridge	16
C. C. Woodley, c Evans, b Chubb	5

THE ABINGDONIAN.

W. D. Shallard, b Chubb	2
F. M. Cole, c Ellis, b Rembridge	5
P. T. Thomas, not out	0
Extras	7
Total	91

v. St. Edmund's Hall. June 14th. Won. We batted first and made 113 to which Taylor contributed 25 and Shallard ii 44 not out. Shallard ii played well for his runs. Our bowling was very steady and we dismissed our opponents for 70 runs. Woodley made two splendid catches in the long field.

A.S.C.C.	
J. B. E. Alston, b Branston	6
W. G. Hancock, c and b Branston	5
R. Taylor, c and b Branston	25
W. Bevir, b Evans	0
J. F. Sinclair, b Branston	17
S. W. D. Shallard, c Lamb, b Evans ..	3
H. D. Shallard, not out	44
C. C. Woodley, c and b Branston	5
F. M. Cole, b Harvey	1
K. T. Wood, b Evans	6
P. T. Thomas, c Lamb, b Evans.....	0
Extras	1
Total	113

ST. EDMUND'S HALL C.C.	
L. M. Harvey, c Woodley, b Bevir.....	27
E. J. Rowe, c Shallard i, b Hancock....	1
R. L. Franks, b Hancock	0
J. C. Smith, c Cole, b Taylor.....	2
E. E. Lamb, b Hancock	0
W. H. Branston run out	11
B. Barber, c Cole, b Bevir.....	10
F. W. Evans, run out.....	7
J. H. Rusbridge, b Taylor.....	1
F. B. Wesley, b Taylor	2
C. Smart, not out	4
Extras	5
Total	70

v. Culham College, June 18th. Lost. They batted first and made 137. Thomas of Culham hit out well for 51. Taylor bowled very well and took seven of their wickets. Against bowling which was the best we had played against, our batting failed, Shallard i and Taylor being the only two who could make runs.

CULHAM COLLEGE C.C.	
King, c Thomas, b Taylor	19
Slaney, b Taylor	0
Kimbell, c Woodley, b Taylor.....	22

McFarlane, lbw, b Taylor	1
Brailey, b Taylor	2
Heatley, b Taylor	0
Lander, b Taylor	13
Thomas, not out	51
Jennings, run out	14
Key, b Shallard ii	0
Guyther, c Shallard i, b Sinclair	0
Extras	15
Total	137

A.S.C.C.	
R. Taylor, b Lander	24
W. G. Hancock, c Guyther, b McFarlane ..	0
S. W. D. Shallard, c Slaney, b Jennings..	19
J. F. Sinclair, c and b Jennings.....	1
H. D. Shallard, c Slaney, b Guyther....	5
K. T. Wood, c McFarlane, b Heatley....	6
W. D. Shallard, b Taylor	2
F. M. Cole, c Slaney, b Jennings.....	2
C. C. Woodley, c Guyther, b McFarlane..	4
H. S. Bartlett, st Key, b Kimbell.....	2
P. T. Thomas, not out	1
Extras	8
Total	74

v. The City of Oxford School, June 21st. Lost. This was our first School match and our batting was not at its best. The later batsmen made most of the runs. Brown, who was playing for the XI for the first time, scored a useful 16, and Thomas and Shallard iii hit out well. With eight of their wickets down for 60, it appeared that we might win, but Collings scored freely and made the necessary runs.

A.S.C.C.	
R. Taylor, lbw, b Eeley	10
W. G. Hancock, b Rogers	0
S. W. D. Shallard, c Simms, b Rogers..	3
J. F. Sinclair, b Eeley	10
H. D. Shallard, c Godfrey, b Rogers....	5
K. T. Wood, lbw, b Eeley	4
W. W. Brown, b Adams	16
C. C. Woodley, lbw, b Adams	0
W. D. Shallard, not out	14
F. M. Cole, b Eeley	0
P. T. Thomas, c Adams, b Rogers	19
Extras	2
Total	83

CITY OF OXFORD SCHOOL C.C.	
P. Jones, c Cole, b Hancock.....	20
J. Eeley, lbw, b Taylor	7
W. Godfrey, c Wood, b Shallard ii....	14

J. Rogers, b Hancock	0
P. Eeley, b Hancock	5
S. Adams, c Shallard iii, b Thomas	0
J. Biggers, b Shallard ii	8
R. Collings, c Sinclair, b Taylor	26
L. Simms, b Thomas	1
E. Cooke, c Shallard iii, b Shallard ii	7
W. Harold, not out	0
Extras	7

Total 95

v. The Town, June 28th. Drawn. We batted first and by steady batting made 200. Taylor 46, Shallard ii 30 and Thomas 27 were top scorers. We dismissed eight of the Town batsmen for 98 runs, but then had to draw stumps, so the match was drawn very much in our favour.

A.S.C.C.

J. F. Sinclair, c Carter, b Edginton	22
R. Taylor, b Emtage	46
W. G. Hancock, b Emtage	14
K. T. Wood, lbw, b Horsley	4
W. W. Brown, c Emtage, b Bradfield	2
H. D. Shallard, c Lewis, b Page	30
W. D. Shallard, c Page, b Emtage	14
C. C. Woodley, not out	19
F. M. Cole, c and b Emtage	1
P. T. Thomas, st Lewis, b Edginton	27
H. S. Bartlett, c Boyd, b Bradfield	8
Extras	13

Total 200

ABINGDON TOWN.

Bradfield, b Taylor	8
Donkin, b Taylor	17
Boyd, b Thomas	21
Emtage, lbw, b Brown	9
Edginton, b Thomas	0
Carter, c Bartlett, b Taylor	2
Horsley, c Shallard ii, b Brown	12
Page, c Shallard ii, b Thomas	0
Lewis, not out	9
North, not out	7
Extras	13

Total (for 8 wkts.) 98

Cullen did not bat

v. Brightwell C.C., July 2nd. Won. Brightwell batted first and made 113 to which Bartlett, who was acting as substitute, contributed 32. We passed their score without the loss of a wicket and the first man was out at 189. Shallard i then came in and with Taylor carried the score to 290 without further loss. This score constitutes a record.

Shallard i scored freely and Taylor batted splendidly for his century. Sinclair had very hard luck in just missing his by one run.

BRIGHTWELL C.C.

Sutton, c Shallard ii, b Taylor	3
Grey, c Woodley, b Taylor	30
Samson, c Shallard ii, b Taylor	6
Tarry, c Shallard i, b Shallard ii	5
Wood, b Shallard ii	0
Painter, b Taylor	7
Watters, lbw, b Taylor	9
Bartlett, b Taylor	32
Dodwell, b Brown	1
Bowering, not out	0
Saunderson, c Shallard iii, b Brown	5
Extras	15

Total 113

A.S.C.C.

J. F. Sinclair, b Saunderson	99
R. Taylor, not out	102
S. W. D. Shallard, not out	60
Extras	29

Total (for 1 wkt.) 290

T. T. Theophilus, H. D. Shallard, W. G. Hancock, W. W. Brown, P. T. Thomas, W. D. Shallard, C. C. Woodley, K. T. Wood did not bat.

v. King Alfred's School, July 9th. Tied. This was the best match of the season. Wantage batted first and made 163. Our fielding was at its best and never grew slack. Taylor batted very brightly and Hancock played his best innings of the season. With seven wickets down for 89 runs, our position was not a good one, but Woodley, who batted patiently, with the help of Cole, who played very patiently, brought the score up to 147, and Bartlett helped to equal their total.

KING ALFRED'S SCHOOL.

Evans, b Hancock	9
Bateman, b Taylor	0
Petrides, c Bartlett, b Taylor	19
Luker, c Bartlett, b Hancock	0
Nobbs, run out	2
Wright, b Shallard	4
Elmhurst, c Thomas, b Taylor	33
Benediktsson, c Thomas, b Sinclair	38
Goody, c Shallard iii, b Hancock	37
Kempthorne, b Hancock	0
Roberts, not out	4
Extras	17

Total 163

A.S.C.C.

J. F. Sinclair, b Kempthorne	3
R. Taylor, c Kempthorne, b Nobbs....	33
S. W. D. Shallard, c Wright, b Nobbs....	10
W. G. Hancock, c Wright, b Kempthorne	27
H. D. Shallard, b Nobbs	2
W. W. Brown, c Benediktsson, b Roberts	4
W. D. Shallard, lbw, b Roberts	3
P. T. Thomas, c Wright, b Kempthorne	10
C. C. Woodley, not out	31
F. M. Cole, b Bateman	13
H. S. Bartlett, run out	7
Extras	20
Total	163

v. The Old Abingdonians, July 12th. Won. The School batted first and scoring steadily made 150. Brown and Thomas both batted well. Knowles' bowling was dangerous when on the wicket, but the rest of the bowling and the fielding was weak. Dolphin and Donkin opened for the O.A.s but Donkin was soon dismissed. Bruce then came in and scoring fast made 42 runs in twenty minutes. None of the other batsmen made many runs. Dolphin, who had been batting steadily, was eighth man out, having scored 47. The last few wickets fell cheaply and the School won by 16 runs.

A.S.C.C.

J. F. Sinclair, b Knowles.....	47
R. Taylor, b Knowles	9
S. W. D. Shallard, b Knowles	1
W. G. Hancock, c Dolphin, b Smeeth....	5
H. D. Shallard, b Smeeth	11
W. W. Brown, b Foottit	21
W. D. Shallard, c Foottit, b Smeeth ..	0
P. T. Thomas, not out	21
C. C. Woodley, b Foottit	0
F. M. Cole, c Williams, b Knowles	3
H. S. Bartlett, c Smeeth, b Knowles..	0
Extras	32
Total	150

O.A.C.C.

C. E. H. Dolphin, c Hancock, b Sinclair	47
H. A. L. Donkin, b Hancock	13
W. N. E. Bruce, c Bartlett, b Shallard..	42
W. Lupton, lbw, b Shallard	1
I. Williams, b Thomas	0
E. H. Smeeth, b Thomas	0
G. M. G. MacFarlane, c Cole, b Taylor..	11
R. L. C. Foottit, b Taylor	0
H. V. Stone, not out.....	9
R. E. Eason, b Taylor	0

J. Knowles, c Woodley, b Sinclair.....	0
Extras	11

Total 134

SECOND ELEVEN MATCHES.

The following played for the Second XI :—

K. T. Wood (capt.), T. T. Theophilus, C. R. Wright, F. M. Cole, H. S. Bartlett, F. G. H. Allen, P. G. A. Kennington, J. S. Dodwell, H. W. D. Charleton, W. W. Brown, J. M. Wheeler, N. C. Wood, W. F. Smith, E. Tinegate, P. G. Perks-Morris, D. M. Brown, W. J. Smith, O. I. C. R. Round, E. M. Holbrook.

The matches were as follows :—v. Abingdon Town C.C.—At Home, on May 31st. The School lost by 15 runs. Town, 87. School, 72. Towards the School total W. W. Brown and H. W. D. Charleton each contributed 18.

v. Abingdon Town C.C.—At Home, on June 14th. The School lost by 20 runs. 1st Innings, School, 38, Town 62. 2nd Innings, School 60, Town 56. In the School 2nd innings H. S. Bartlett made 22 and E. Tinegate took 5 Town wickets for 8 runs.

v. City of Oxford School.—Away, on June 21st. The School lost by 3 runs. School 55, C.O.S. 58. T. T. Theophilus played a splendid innings of 20 not out, and H. W. D. Charleton made 17, but no one else did anything, and the School just lost in an exciting finish. W. J. Smith took 5 wickets for 21, the first 5 wickets falling for 3 runs.

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage.—Away, on July 9th. The School won by 20 runs. School 65, Wantage 45. Wantage batted first and were dismissed for 45, D. M. Brown taking 5 wickets for 5. The School started badly, but a stand for the 6th wicket brought the total up to 41, and Charleton and W. F. Smith added 22 for the last wicket. In the Second Innings Wantage made 76 and the School 48 for 2 wickets.

v. Old Abingdonian C.C.—At Home, on July 12th. The School lost by 20 runs. School, 82, O.A.C.C. 102. K. T. Wood made 16 and E. M. Holbrook 20 for the School.

The O.A. Team was as follows :—A. J. Newbury, (capt.), T. W. Smeeth, W. D. Price, G. R. Kirkby, P. J. E. Andrews, O. E. Cullen, H. A. N. Medd, C. Ellis, V. J. Relle, R. W. Snell, E. Tinegate (substitute).

UNDER 15 MATCHES.

v. City of Oxford School, June 7th. At home. Won. The School team against quite good bowling made 151 by steady batting. Insley 34, Rice 34, Thomas, 24, Shallard iii 18, Brown iii 14, Robinson 12, all batted well. Our bowling

was much too good and the other side were dismissed for 32. Thomas took 5 wickets for 8 runs. The following represented the School. W. D. Shallard (Captain), P. T. Thomas, W. W. Brown, J. P. Martin, W. F. Smith, R. M. Robinson, R. E. Broadbent, H. M. Insley, E. M. Holbrook, E. P. Rice, S. Brown.

v. New College School, June 11th. Away. Won. Our batting, except for that of Shallard iii and Martin ii, was weak and produced only 61 runs, but New College School did little against the bowling of Brown (6 for 8) and Holbrook (3 for 3) and only managed to score 20 runs. Watson played instead of Thomas, who was playing for the First.

v. The City of Oxford School, June 14th. Away. Won. The team was without the services of Thomas and Shallard, but succeeded in winning an easy victory. They dismissed their opponents for 26 (Brown 4 for 12, Holbrook 6 for 13) and scored 77. Broadbent 16, Watson 12, Cook 10, were top scorers. Cook and Watson played instead of Thomas and Shallard.

HOUSE MATCHES.

Blue were again successful in winning the Cup. The form, however, of the different teams was very uncertain. Green started off by beating Red easily, making 141 against Red's 84. In the next match Red beat Blue still more easily, Red making 155 and dismissing Blue for 27.

Judging by these results, Green ought to have beaten Blue, but after getting Blue out for 71, they could only make 42: the last seven Green wickets fell for one run. This was chiefly due to some splendid bowling by Holbrook, who took five wickets for 2 runs.

The Blue Juniors carried all before them and so won the Cup. Against Green they made 122 and got Green out for 36. Against Red they made 165 for no wickets, P. T. Thomas making 108 not out in fine style, hitting sixteen 4's and two 6's. Rice also batted well and made 46. Red were dismissed for 33.

FIRST ELEVEN CHARACTERS.

R. Taylor (Colours 1923). Has been the most consistent scorer in the team. A stylish batsman, he cuts well and drives hard to the off, and can score freely when he gets set. Has borne the brunt of the bowling throughout the season, and although he has not been so successful as last year, has bowled a good length with plenty of pace off the pitch. (Batting Average 32.2, Bowling 11.9).

W. G. Hancock. (Colours 1923). A useful man who can bat and bowl steadily. Has not had a great deal of success in batting, but has played

some very useful innings. Should try to be a little less stiff and not hit the ball into the air. Can bowl well at times but puts down too many loose balls. A safe and energetic field. (Batting Average 11.4, Bowling 10.7).

H. D. Shallard. (Colours 1924). A very promising cricketer who should do well next year. Has played some useful innings and has good shots all round the wicket, but has a disastrous habit of picking the wrong ball to hit. A medium pace bowler, he keeps a good length and can bowl for some time without tiring. Is a safe field but might exert himself more at times. (Batting Average 15.8, Bowling 11.8).

C. C. Woodley. (Colours 1924). A keen and persevering cricketer. A very awkward bat, but has played some good innings and scored runs when they were badly needed. His fielding has been thoroughly good and his keenness has been an example to everybody. (Batting Average 9.75).

S. W. D. Shallard. (Colours 1924). A useful bat, who can drive well and hard, but would do better if he would not turn his shoulders to the bowler when playing forward. Kept wicket most of the term but was not very successful. (Batting Average 18.9).

P. T. Thomas. (Colours 1924). A very promising young player. A very fast scorer who picks the right ball to hit. When he has got more variety of shots he should make a good bat. His bowling is good, but is apt to get short. Should be quite fast in a few years. A safe catch, but rather slow in the field. (Batting Average 16.8, Bowling 7).

W. D. Shallard. Has a good idea of how to bat, but is very careless, and gets out lbw far too often, through trying to hook a straight ball on the leg stump. Has fielded quite well at times at point, but is rather slack. (Batting Average 8.7).

F. M. Cole. A nervous bat but one who can score fast when he has settled down. Can drive well both to the off and the on, and should do well next year. His catching is safe, but he should try to be more alert in the field at all times. (Batting Average 6.)

W. W. Brown. Should do very well. Is a pleasing bat to watch and has good shots all round the wicket. Is very much handicapped by size, but manages to get quite a lot of pace on the ball when bowling and keeps a good length. (Batting Average 10.75).

H. S. Bartlett. Has been in the team mainly for his wicket keeping, which shows distinct promise. Can score runs on the leg but has very few shots

at his command. Keeps a very cool head in trying circumstances. (Batting Average 4).

J. F. Sinclair (capt.) (Colours 1923). As a batsman, though not lacking in confidence, and possessing a variety of strokes, especially on the off, he did not meet with much success until late in the season, when he made several good scores. His fielding has been consistently keen, and he has proved a sound captain, to whose example and efforts the success of the team has been largely due. (Batting average 25.1).

JULY.

Now are the summer hours,
When hot July brings long, slow, languorous
days,

And the cool rain too long and oft delays
To refresh the drooping flowers :

And now, where all was green,
A golden haze creeps o'er the corn-field's face ;
And scarlet poppies twine and interlace
The ripening ears between.

The fragrant wild-flowers blow
Profuse along the dusty high-road's side ;
The grateful cattle 'neath the elm-trees hide
And shun th' unwelcome glow.

All through the drowsy day
The landscape shimmers in the blazing heat ;
The weary sun toils on with laggard feet
Upon his westward way :

But gracious night brings rest,
Casting her dusky mantle o'er the hills ;
Frees the tired earth from toil ; and sweetly fills
The hours with slumber blest.

C.C.W.

O.T.C.

On May 24th we had a good field-day in Blenheim Park with the Radley and St. Edward's School O.T.C.s against Rugby O.T.C. After training to Woodstock, we marched south to Begbroke village, took up a position on the left flank facing south, and fought a rear-guard action, being driven from position to position until we made out last stand near the Palace itself. From our point of view, the action was quite an instructive one, and the section and platoon leaders did quite well in the handling of their commands.

A few days later, on June 2nd, the contingent was inspected by Lieut. Colonel A. G. C. Dawnay, C.B.E., D.S.O., of the Coldstream Guards. Unfortunately it rained in torrents at the appointed hour, and our efforts were somewhat marred by the unkind weather. However, the report on our

work was fairly satisfactory, although there are still many ways in which our drill and general appearance on parade may be improved.

A few cadets have still to complete their musketry course, but up to the present, seven cadets have qualified as first class shots in the Empire Test, the highest score being made by cadet Barwell, with 110 out of a possible 120.

At the end of last term a House shooting match was held and it proved to be quite interesting. The possible was 320 and the match was won by Green, with a score of 255, Blue scoring 249 and Red 244.

Thirty-five cadets are going to the annual camp, which will be at Tidworth Park, from July 29th to August 6th. It will be a large camp of over three thousand cadets from schools large and small, and whilst there we should have a very interesting time. Our percentage of those attending camp is, it seems, a fairly good one, and it is hoped that each year we shall go on increasing our numbers of those willing to give up a few days of their holidays for what must ultimately, in a small way at any rate, add to the welfare of our Empire.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB.

A Joint Meeting of the War Memorial Committee and the O.A. Club Committee was held in the Masters' Common Room at 6.15 p.m., on Friday, July 11, with H. S. Challenor in the Chair and 19 members present.

The Headmaster outlined the scheme for the Purchase of Waste Court, and after discussion, the following resolutions were passed :—

1. That the War Memorial Committee welcomes the proposal of the School Governors to found a new Boarding House and is prepared to support such a scheme to the full limit of the War Memorial Fund.

2. But that the War Memorial Committee is not prepared to undertake financial or other responsibility beyond making such contribution.

3. That the Committee of the O.A. Club welcomes the proposal of the Governors to found a new Boarding House and that the Committee would be willing to consider sympathetically the investing of the Waste Court property in the Club's hands, provided that the Governors guarantee the Club against any financial responsibility.

4. That the Committees of the War Memorial Fund and of the O.A. Club desire that, if a boarding house is founded partly with the money of the War Memorial Fund, that a suitable inscription

be placed in the building with the approval of the School Governors.

5. That the following Committee be appointed, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of conferring with the Governors on the question of the above proposals:—Messrs. J. Townsend, J. Knowles and H. A. L. Donkin.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Masters' Common Room at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 12th, during the Past v. Present Cricket matches. The President (W. A. Rudd) took the Chair and thirty other members were present. The following officers were elected:—President, F. H. Pryce; Vice-Presidents, Rev. W. H. Cam, Rev. T. Layng, W. M. Grundy; Committee, H. V. Stone, W. B. Coxeter, E. J. P. Ross-Barker, A. J. Newbury, R. L. C. Footitt, I. Williams; Hon. Secretaries and Treasurers, H. A. L. Donkin, Caldecott Cottage, Abingdon; R. E. Eason, Long Wittenham, Nr. Abingdon; London Secretary, J. Knowles, 3, Delaware Mansions, Sutherland Avenue, W.9.

The Accounts were not presented and are produced on another page.

Alterations and additions to the Rules were passed as follows:—Addition to Rule 4, "Ex-Presidents shall be ex-officio Members of the Committee." Alteration to Rule 11, for "in his absence by a Vice-President" read "in his absence by an Ex-President."

The Hon. Secretary read the resolutions passed at the Joint meeting of the War Memorial Committee and the Club Committee, which were approved by the meeting.

The meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

On Sat, July 12, the Past v. Present Cricket matches were played. In the 1st XI game the School won by 150 to 130 and the Club would like to congratulate the School on its victory and compliment the School Captain on his really good XI. In the 2nd XI game, the Past won by 102 to 82.

On the same evening the Club held its annual dinner in the Lion Hotel. Forty members and their guests were present. We were especially fortunate this year in having Mr. Layng with us, and we had the most successful gathering for some years.

The Hon. Secretaries would be glad if members would note that their addresses are now as follows: H. A. L. Donkin, Caldecott Cottage, Abingdon. R. E. Eason, Long Wittenham, Nr. Abingdon.

O.A. NOTES.

BIRTHS.

AUSTIN.—On 29th February 1924, at Chalfont St. Giles, the wife of Rev. W. M. Austin, of a son.

SHEPHERD.—On 29th June, at Edgbaston, to Mr. and Mrs. G. H. G. Shepherd, a daughter.

TOWNSEND.—On 13th July, to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. R. Townsend, a daughter. (60 Waldemar Avenue Mansions, Fulham).

MARRIAGE.

POWELL—BARKER.—On 15th July, at Purley Church, Reading, Captain W. Raymond Powell (late R.F.A.) of Garford, Berks, to Winifred, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Barker, of Cyprus Park, Belfast.

We have heard from C. A. W. Payne, who was sailing from Colombo on 26th June for a holiday in England. We hope to see something of him; but he would have arrived too late for the O.A. match and dinner on 12th July. He writes from Calcutta.

Another Anglo-Indian on leave is E. C. Dickin-son, who paid us a visit on Founder's Day. Since 1921 he has been Professor of English Literature in Aligarh Muslim University, United Provinces, Northern India.

We publish elsewhere a brief notice of O. J. Couldrey's book, "South Indian Hours." Couldrey has lately been seen, or rather heard, in a new rôle, for he was commissioned by the B.B.C. to deliver a lecture from Cardiff on the "Romance of India." This was on Wednesday evening, 16th July.

We greatly regret that we were misled as to the authorship of the parody, "If for Girls," which was published in our last issue. It appears that B. M. Challenor was in no way responsible for it, but the poem was written by an American lady, Elizabeth Lincoln Otis, and may be obtained at 62, Great Russell Street, W.C.1., the London offices of Messrs Reinthal and Newman, the publishers. We offer sincere apologies to all parties concerned.

We have lately come across A. G. C. Rice, who has been living in Yorkshire, engineering; but a severe attack of pneumonia in the spring has rendered him temporarily *hors de combat*, and he is now convalescing at home.

T. P. R. Layng has been doing a term's work at Eastbourne College. Next term he goes to the

Cambridge County Secondary School in Cambridge, where he has accepted a permanent appointment on the staff.

J. Harding has taken 3rd Class Honours in Classical Moderations at Oxford, and R. L. C. Footitt a 3rd Class in the Mathematical Tripos, Part I, at Cambridge.

R. E. Eason has accepted a post upon the staff of Radley College, and enters upon his duties next term.

In the department of Rowing, it is not too late to congratulate Eason upon his "Blue"—the first Rowing "Blue" that the School has ever achieved. Though the Oxford Boat was well beaten, we noticed that the critics all spoke favourably of Eason's performance in the race.

In the Eights at Oxford Eason again stroked the Trinity Boat, while C. V. Davidge stroked the Pembroke Boat with E. O. Hills at "4." Footitt was rowing "5" for the Lady Margaret 2nd VIII in the May Races at Cambridge.

At Henley Eason stroked the Trinity IV which was entered for the Stewards', and likewise put in for the Silver Goblets again with Godden, his last year's partner. But this year Fortune seems to have transferred her favours to the sister University, and the Trinity, Oxford, oarsmen were beaten in the Stewards' racing by Third Trinity, Cambridge, and for the Goblets by Eley and McNabb, the Cambridge pair.

We regret to report that J. D. L. Robinson has been seriously ill at Carcavellos, near Lisbon, whither he had gone to begin his work with the E.T.C. He is now home on sick-leave, and we understand that he is convalescent.

W. J. L. Robinson has meanwhile gone out to the E.T.C. station at Ascension Island, and G. S. Sturrock is now in the same place, staying there with his people for the benefit of his health.

J. S. Fox, who is now convalescent after his illness, is going into the Cotton Trade in Liverpool.

O.A.C. BALANCE SHEET (year ending June 30, 1924.)

1923.		£	s.	d.	1923.		£	s.	d.
	Balance at Bank ..	56	7	5	July 16.	Mayhead B.S., dinner ..	18	7	6
July 1.	35 Dinner Tickets ..	18	7	6	"	Tips etc. do. ..	3	0	0
"	Tub Pair Fund ..	1	10	0	"	Postages ..	1	0	0
"	20 Life Subscriptions ..	21	0	0	"	Hooke, Printing ..	16	0	0
"	1 Yearly ditto. ..	5	0	0	"	Vincent, do. Menus ..	1	5	6
1924.					"	Bryan, do. ..	13	6	0
June 30	3 Dinner Tickets 1924 ..	1	11	6	"	Ross-Barker, E. J. P.			
					"	Abingdonian %c ..	32	19	6
					"	Bevir, W.. Tub Pair Fund	4	4	0
					1924.				
					April.	Burgess & Son, Printing			
						Booklet ..	6	0	9
					"	Postages, ditto ..	1	10	0
					June 30.	Balance at Bank ..	32	1	8
		£99	1	5			£99	1	5

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Balance at Bank ..		32	1	8	To credit Dinner %c 1924 ..		1	11	6
					Balance in hand ..		30	10	2
		£32	1	8			£32	1	8

H. A. L. DONKIN,
Hon. Sec.,
O.A.C.

Audited and found correct.
JOHN KNOWLES.
9-7-24.

9-7-24.

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