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THE ABINGDONIAN.

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SCHOOL NOTES.

Dr. B. W. Henderson, Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, has been appointed a Governor of the School in place of the late Alderman J. T. Morland, while the vacancy caused by the retirement of Professor H. Stuart Jones has been filled by Professor G. H. Hardy of New College, the Savilian Professor of Geometry. Another recent appointment to our Governing Body is that of Sir A. Mortimer Singer, K.B.E., in place of the late Mr. A. K. Loyd, K.C., while Mr. E. A. Lessing, M.P. for the Abingdon Division, becomes *ex officio* a Governor in succession to Mr. A. T. Loyd.

The number of boys on the School Register this term is 156—78 boarders and 78 day-boys; but two of this number, A. J. Williams and K. L. Aldridge (day-boys), have left in the course of the term. *Valeant*—but their formal notices will appear in next term's issue. B. L. J. Johnson arrived late in the term.

Valete.

VI. Form.—R. W. Snell (1918). 1st XI. Football, 1923. Colours, 1923. 2nd XI. Cricket, 1923. O.S.L., 1922.

VA. Form.—B. A. Clarke (1920).

II. Form.—J. E. F. Tomlins (1921).

Salvete.

Vb. Form.—A. F. Bragg-Smith.

III. Form.—R. G. Spiller.

II. Form.—B. L. J. Johnson.

We regret that the name of T. A. Wiggins was inadvertently omitted in our last issue from the list of those who passed the Oxford School Certificate Examination.

Very hearty congratulations to J. F. Sinclair on his success in gaining the Pembroke Scholarship in Classics.

Classical Scholarships have been awarded to the following:—C. H. Wykeham-Martin, Merton House School, Hove, and C. F. Baumann, Ripley Court School, Surrey.

The following have been made School Prefects this term:—V. J. Relle, S. W. D. Shallard, B. W. L. Buckland and J. S. Fox.

Mr. R. B. Southern has been appointed Handicraft Instructor under the Reading Borough Committee, but we are glad to say that we are still able to retain his services in the School.

Rowing Colours have been awarded to the following:—J. F. Sinclair, W. E. Steele and W. G. Hancock.

The following have gained their Athletic Colours :—S. W. D. Shallard, H. W. D. Charleton, F. G. H. Allen, and R. Taylor.

On Wednesday, 20th Feb., members of VI. and VA. Forms were enabled to attend a meeting in the Corn Exchange addressed by Professor Gilbert Murray on the work of the League of Nations. It is not every week that we are privileged to listen to an eminent public man, speaking with first-hand knowledge on a subject that lies near to his heart, and it is not surprising if some of us found it an inspiring as well as an instructive experience.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following :—*The Aldenhamian, The Alfredian, The Aluredian, The Bloxhamist, The Chigwellian, The Laxtonian, The Leightonian, The Lily* (2), *The Log of the Nautical College, Pangbourne, The Magazine of the City of Oxford School, The Monktonian, The Totnesian.*

This term ends on Thursday, 27th March, when there will be the usual Rag Concert in the evening.

Next term begins on Tuesday, 29th April, boarders returning on the previous day.

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL CONCERT.

Owing to the increase in our numbers, this year it was found necessary to take the Corn Exchange, and we were able to receive about 300 visitors.

The School was responsible for a number of items, and gave evidence of the careful training the boys had received from Miss Sheldon Peach, who conducted throughout. She is to be congratulated on the excellence of the tone and quality of the pieces rendered.

We received a great treat through Mrs. Jacobs so kindly coming and playing four violin solos. We shall never forget her charming rendering and hope she will come again. We offer her our best thanks, and to Miss Couldrey for so kindly accompanying her.

It was very nice to have N. A. Carr, O.A., amongst us again, and his pleasing baritone was heard to advantage in the songs he chose. We hope he will come on a future occasion.

Mr. Bevir caused much amusement with his humorous songs, and we offer him our best thanks for so willingly helping us once more.

The ladies' orchestra, under the direction of Mrs. Fairthorne, came again and helped us, and we all enjoyed their playing and offer them our sincere thanks. Miss Sheldon Peach sang to us and received well merited applause as usual.

The trios, part songs, unison and pianoforte items were all capably rendered and added to the success of the evening.

The accompanists were :—Miss Couldrey, Miss Sheldon Peach, Miss B. Tyrell, Round, Martin I., Squire I.

Programme :—“Cebell” (H. Purcell), The Orchestra ; “Welcome Yule” (Parry), The School ; Pianoforte Solo, (a) “Am Bron Mara” (b) “Sea Rapture” (Marjorie Kennedy-Fraser), Hancock ; Two-part Song, “Night Wind” (H. Campbell) Trebles ; 1st Violin Savage, 2nd Violin Stathacopulos, 'Cello Raymont, Piano Martin I ; Song, “Gipsies” (Graham Peel) Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach ; Violin Solos, (a) “Canzonetta.” (Ambrosia), (b) “Poeme Hongroise” (Lederer), Mrs. Jacobs ; Part song, “The Cameron Men” (Granville Bantock) The School ; song, N. A. Carr, O.A. ; Unison songs (a) “Where go the boats,” (Houston Macdonald), (b) “Foreign Lands” (Frederick Nicholls) Junior Trebles ; song, “Bashful Tom” (David Kemp) W. Bevir, Esq. ; Interval. Part II. Pianoforte solo “Mazurka” (Chopin) Ogle ; Part song “The Song of the Gale” (Myles Foster) The School ; Song, N. A. Carr, O.A. ; Violin solos, (a) “Sérénade.” (Schubert), (b) “Un Soir a Portici,” (Papini), Mrs. Jacobs ; Song, “Hats off to the Stoker” (Charles Tree) W. Bevir, Esq. ; Part song, “The Tide Rises” (Adam Carse) The Choir ; Songs with descant, (a) “The Miller of the Dee” (Arranged by Alan Gray), (b) “The Men of Harlech” (Arranged by Nicholas Garry) III. Form ; Trios, (a) “Who comes so Dark” (Dr. Callcot), (b) “Glorious Apollo” (Samuel Webbe) Hancock, Fox, Theophilus, Shallard II., Thatcher, Shallard III ; Ballet Music from Rosamunde, (Schubert) The Orchestra ; Song, “Go Down to Kew in Lilac Time” (Graham Peel) Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach ; Carol, “Come listen to my Story” (From the Cowley Carol Book) The School ; God Save the King.

The Orchestra was composed as follows :—1st Violins, Mrs. Fairthorne, Mrs. Humfrey ; 2nd Violins, Mrs. Reynolds, Miss Pennell ; Viola, Mr. Cox ; 'Cellos, Mrs. Scott, Miss C. Lowry ; Piano, Miss Couldrey, L.R.A.M.

O.T.C.

Last November five candidates sat for the written part of Certificate “A” and all were successful. The names of these in order of merit are :—A. F. James, R. Taylor, G. S. Sturrock, J. F. Sinclair, B. W. L. Buckland.

As a result of certain proposals suggested at a Conference at the War Office, the organisation of platoons in the Junior contingents of the Officers Training Corps is now brought into line with that of the Regular Army. So, while our numerical establishment remains the same, the contingent now has two platoons. The platoon officers are Sgt. K. T. Wood and Sgt. G. S. Sturrock. The following promotions have also been made:—To be Sgts. A. F. James, C. C. Woodley. To be Corporals, R. Taylor, J. F. Sinclair, B. W. L. Buckland.

With no sighs of regret we packed and returned the leather equipment—a product of the Great War—to the place whence it came. It was perhaps better than the accoutrements or, shall one say, the medley which the contingent at one time sported. But it was a war time production and much inferior to the new web equipment, which can be almost made to fit some of our bantams.

By the time this is in print it is hoped that we shall have had a successful House shooting match.

The Inspection next term will be held on June 2nd.

We are going to Tidworth Park for our annual camp, and cadets are reminded that this is one of the duties. All cadets who have already or will have by Dec. 31st of this year attained the age of fifteen, are eligible to attend. Thirty-one cadets went last summer. Can we have forty at camp this year?

ROWING.

Our season has been short but merry. The weather, though bitterly cold at times, has been on the whole very kind to us, and only once was it thought advisable to postpone any outing. At times there have been as many as four crews out in the course of an afternoon, and on two occasions the 3rd Four were promoted to seats in one of the racing craft; an experience which was satisfactory and profitable. Beginners have not received as much attention as in past years owing to lack of suitable instructors. The two crews, when once in the light boats, are more than enough for one individual to look after. We should like to thank Mr. H. A. L. Donkin for so kindly devoting his spare time to our needs, and his advice and encouragement are on all occasions warmly appreciated. Of the three races—details of which are appended—we lost two and won one. No fixtures could be arranged with Sutton Courtenay Lodge.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL RACES.

Magdalen College School, Oxford, brought over two Fours to row the School 1st and 2nd Fours on Saturday, March 1st., together with two motor charabancs filled with supporters. It was a bright sunny day, but a strong cold wind was blowing off the Berks bank. The 2nd Fours rowed first. Magdalen won the toss and chose the Berks side. The visitors got a good start, and rowing a slightly faster stroke well together they quickly took the lead. The School crew through over-eagerness got a bad start, and finding their opponents drawing away they became flurried and in consequence short and scrappy. Magdalen continued to row well, though still at a fast rate of stroke, and this fact began to have its effect after passing the Big Tree. Had the School settled down, lengthened the stroke and rowed hard with their legs, they might have had a chance of catching up; but they never recovered from their bad start and could make no impression upon their opponents' lead, which was increased to two lengths at the winning post. Time 3 min. 52 secs.

Crews:—Abingdon Magdalen Coll. School.

	st. lbs.		st. lbs.
(bow) H. D. Shallard	8 10	G. D. C. Taylor	9 7½
(2) P. H. Barwell	9 4½	G. D. S. Sandiford	9 4¾
(3) K. C. Smith	9 3½	B. J. R. Smith	10 8¼
(str) S. W. D. Shallard	9 3	K. H. Arnold	9 4
(cox) G. E. Sinclair	5 7	C. I. F. Mackay	6 0

The Magdalen 1st also won the toss and chose the Berks side. Both crews got off well together. By the Big Tree Magdalen were half a length up, but from this point they began gradually to go ahead, rowing a long stroke well together.

"2" and "3" in the School boat were getting very short and tired, and though "stroke," who was rowing well, tried to spurt at the finish, they failed to back him up, and the visitors again passed the post with two lengths to the good. Time 3 min. 41 secs.

Crews:—Abingdon. Magdalen Coll. School.

	st. lbs.		st. lbs.
(bow) W. G. Hancock	10 3	C. G. Hey	9 5
(2) W. E. Steele	9 11	W. A. Ebbritt	10 11½
(3) J. S. Fox	10 4	M. B. Higgins	9 5½
(str.) J. F. Sinclair	10 9	R. H. Ryan	9 6¾
(cox) D. M. Brown	7 5	T. A. Kirk	7 0

The 1st crew were unlucky in their training, "3" being away for the best part of a week, and "2" for two days, but they might have done better. Sinclair stroked the boat well throughout but did not get much support. With training he should make a good oar. "3" and "2" could

never be made to understand that they must sit up and drive off the stretcher with their legs, without dragging in the finish with their arms. "Bow" rowed hard but needs to improve his body work and so get more length in the water.

The 2nd crew all had quite a good idea of what to do—"stroke" especially showing quite good style—but they were very disappointing both in their practice rows and in the race. They will never win races until they learn to steady themselves and then row themselves clean out, using their legs and not their arms.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB.

The O.A.s brought down a crew on Saturday, March 8th. It was a nice sunny afternoon, with a slight following wind off the Oxon bank. The Old Boys won the toss and chose the Berks station.

The School crew got off the mark well at a faster stroke and by the Big Tree were a length to the good. "2" and "3" again got very short and ragged, but they still continued to go up. Meanwhile the O.A.s, rowing a longer stroke, were kept going well by Davidge, whom Stevens at "3" was backing up well. At the Willows Davidge called on his crew, who spurted well and reduced the School lead to 2 lengths, the official verdict. Time 3 mins. 50 secs. Considering that the O.A.s had only been out together on the Saturday morning with a substitute at "bow," we must congratulate them very heartily on their performance. The School crew was the same as against Magdalen.

O.A. Crew —C. Ellis, (bow)
H. D. Stiles (2)
W. H. Stevens (3)
C. R. Davidge (str.)
H. T. Haynes (cox).

LIFE.

A little fluttering at the flame of life,
A breath of passion and the scent of flowers,
A moment's hovering on the brink of strife,
A careless spending of the sunlit hours,
And then oblivion. Prayers nor tears can stay
The steadfast purpose of remorseless fate,
And he that would recall one wasted day
Must vainly beat upon a fast-closed gate.

A.F.J.

JUNIOR HOUSE FOOTBALL SIXES.

As usual junior sixes were played off between the three Houses. The method of arranging the sixes was the same as that of last year, namely each House was represented by three sixes, A, B, and C, the A six being the strongest, and the two weaker sixes receiving bonus goals.

There was only time to get in two full rounds, although a third one was started.

The winners were Blue House who got 426 points, next came Red House with 226 points, and then Green House with 219 points.

The actual scores in the two rounds are given below:—

		1st Round.	2nd Round.	Total.
Blue	A.	107	97	204
	B.	65	73	138
	C.	47	37	84
				House Total
				426
Red	A.	71	56	127
	B.	27	40	67
	C.	12	20	32
				House Total
				226
Green	A.	59	86	145
	B.	22	4	26
	C.	20	28	48
				House Total
				219

SONNET.

Dusk, and the summer shadows softly creep
Over the bosom of the silent stream.
Night, the old nurse of Nature, lulls to sleep
Her child, with chants of th' old eternal theme.

The willows droop their tired heads, and dream;
The last faint whispers of the daylight die;
And Evening's own undying melody
Thrills through the fragrant air; a faëry steam,

A mist, steals down upon the silent river,
Shrouding it, as it fearless hastens on
To meet the unknown terrors of the night,

Content to find peace, and a cool delight.
Not as frail human hearts, straining for ever
Through Death's dark veil, to what may lie
beyond.

C.C.W.

THE FAIRS AND MARKETS OF MEDIÆVAL ABINGDON.

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

(Previous articles appeared in Vol. VI. Nos. 7, 9 and 10.)

Nearly forty years of struggle and strife had elapsed since the first inception of *St. Edmund's fair* in 1290 and the innovation was now about to bear its bitterest fruit. The abbey was approaching the greatest crisis of its history and the furious tumults that broke out just after Easter 1327 nearly laid it in ruins. The national circumstances were favourable and in the first weeks of Edward III. serious risings took place in some of the more important monastic towns. In the months of January and February the men of St. Albans and Bury St. Edmunds set the example, in both cases with the object of winning a measure of self-government for themselves. News of the success at first attained, quickly spread over the country and unmistakably encouraged the later outbursts at Abingdon, Canterbury, Dunstable and some other places. Of these the outbreak at Abingdon in April 1327, was the most considerable.

It would be beyond the purpose of this article to examine in any detail the events of this feverish period—closely bound up as they were with questions of fairs and markets—and they must here be passed over with brief mention that does not even amount to an outline. There is no trace of any fresh oppression on the part of the abbey or any fresh quarrels since the troubles of 1316; and the abbot himself was a man of easy and inoffensive disposition, more likely to make friends than enemies. The new revolt, therefore, can only be viewed as a repercussion of old grievances. Fairs and markets were still at the root of the trouble. The example of other monastic towns fanned into fresh flame fires that were still smouldering and agitators from Oxford and London did the rest. With the encouragement and assistance of a vast company of Oxford citizens and students the men of Abingdon with the help of villagers round broke into and looted the abbey for nearly a fortnight, the damage and loss being put in the official documents at an enormous sum. Two of the townsmen and one of the abbey servants were killed. The Oxford invaders seem to have taken the leading part. Their forces were headed by the mayor and town clerk and included a good sprinkling of past mayors with a crowd of present and past aldermen and other officials. It was almost in their corporate

capacity that the citizens of Oxford came over to join in the fray. Amongst the local people Richard de Shippon, the veteran of 1295 and 1316, was again at his old work with two of his sons. Thomas Cok although still living took no recorded part. After a few days weak attempt at defence the abbot and most of the monks fled, only the sick prior and a handful of senile monks remaining on the scene. It was not till the following autumn that the abbot dared return, and only then under the escort of an armed band of noblemen and esquires, and "a host of archers from Windsor forest." At the beginning of June the abbey was placed in custody of keepers appointed by the Crown (or rather by Isabella and Mortimer who were wielding the royal authority), but the town itself with the courts, markets and fairs remained in the hands of the rioters for many months. The loss in tolls alone was put at the considerable sum of £200. Prosecutions and outlawries on a large scale followed and the trials extended over several years. The Church thundered forth its excommunications and caused the sentences to be proclaimed with full ceremonial ritual in places as far distant as the city and diocese of York, where certain of the "sons of iniquity" were supposed to have taken refuge. "Publication of the sentences," said the Bishop of Salisbury in his letter to the Archbishop, "was more dreaded by laymen than the sentences themselves."

Killed virtually by anxiety and grief abbot Cannynges' distracted life came to an end in December 1328; in its later years his career had been a veritable tragedy. The records are vague as to the nature and extent of the punishments awarded but there were a few real hangings and a great many outlawries. In at least four cases it is known that the extreme penalty was not only pronounced but carried out. It is a noticeable fact that in the various legal proceedings a sharp distinction was drawn between injury to fairs and markets and the besieging and robbing of the abbey. Separate indictments were preferred (although the parties were oftentimes the same) and separate commissions were issued to the judges. When in 1331 prosecutions at suit of the abbey were slackening off others were commenced by landowners of the neighbourhood who in the riots had lost title deeds and valuables deposited at the abbey for safe custody. The proceedings undertaken by Sir Robert Achard of Sparsholt are a case in point and were mostly directed against the rioters from Oxford. Signs of a less rancorous feeling begin to appear when on the

accession of William de Cunnor as abbot in July, 1332, he brought with him episcopal authority to absolve from the wholesale excommunications that had been pronounced by the Church. On both sides fear and distrust slowly tended to pass away and by about 1334 a sort of truce had been established which time and circumstances in succeeding years softened into peace. Meanwhile the great revolt can be seen to have ended—as did the similar risings at St. Albans and other places—in total failure so far as the immediate objects were concerned. The townsfolk gained nothing in the way of fresh liberties; the monks still remained their overlords and continued to cramp their commercial activities. *St. Edmund's fair* and the markets are seen resuming their normal course and the aspirations of the inhabitants towards self-government were not realized. But a blow had nevertheless been struck at monasticism and at the material prosperity of the abbey from which it never fully recovered. All through these troubles the waning influence of the Church and the growing unpopularity of the clergy stand out clearly enough.

One of the monks' first cares as soon as order had been restored was to take measures for protecting themselves against future hostile attacks by embattling and putting in a defensive position the walls of the monastery, and particularly the approaches from the town side. The licence for this was obtained in 1330 and St. Nicholas' Church and the old Hospital of St. John (now the Guildhall) were brought within the scheme of fortification. If space permitted it might not be unprofitable to inquire whether any of the small army of military knights maintained out of the abbey lands came forward with their followers to aid their feudal lords in the time of need. What answer could be given? Some at least there were whose tenorial obligation it was to guard the abbot's chamber; but were they at their post and did they give any help? The rioters knew of the stores of armour, weapons, knives, bows and arrows kept within the abbey walls and were not slow to seize on and carry them away for their own aggressive purposes. Nearly half a century later the abbot was still purchasing arms out of his privy purse—presumably for the defence of the monastery. Strange accompaniments these it may seem to a house of religion and men of peace. But such topics belong to other occasions and cannot here be pursued.

Active resistance by the inhabitants to the fairs of the town—as apart from the markets—seems to

have died out with the abortive disturbances of 1327, smoothed away perhaps by the new prosperity that the trade in wool and cloth was bringing in its train. It was at the end of the year 1327 that the first summons came for “one or two of the most discreet wool merchants of the town” to be sent to the King at York “to treat concerning matters touching the profits of the wool merchants of the kingdom.” The summons was not to attend the Parliament but to confer with the King beforehand, and its importance lies in the fact that Abingdon was at the time recognized as the principal seat of the wool trade in Berks. No other town in the county was similarly summoned. Delegates were not in fact sent from Abingdon but the disturbed state of the town may be sufficient to account for that. Ten years later, a second summons arrived and on this occasion representatives were actually sent, two out of the three chosen being men who had actively taken part in the violent scenes of 1327. It was in this Parliament that the importation of foreign cloth and the export of English wool was forbidden—enactments of great importance to the trade of Abingdon. But they were not permanently enforced.

Attacks that were directed against St. Mary's and St. Edmund's fairs in 1348 and 1353 (round the first visitation of the Black Death) have little real significance as illustrating the relation of the townspeople to the abbey. The disturbances proceeded from the men of Radley and took the form of “secret and open ambushes” designed to prevent the attendance of buyers and sellers at the fairs. Disputes had arisen with the men of Radley about taking game in the abbot's park there and a forcible boycott of his fairs was their method of retaliation.

The reign of Edward III. was drawing to a close when the last of the disputes about tolls arose. Quarrels about fairs had come to an end and no open hostilities ever occurred again. But disputes over markets were not yet done with. About 1366–68 the abbot was impeached before justices of Oyer and Terminer for extorting excessive tolls and in consequence the royal officers went into possession of the town, i.e. into receipt of the abbot's revenues from tolls and court fees. A contention (clearly ill-founded) seems to have been put forward that the town was free of tolls to residents and strangers alike. The abbot, adopting a vein of humility and “not wishing to displease the King or to plead touching the premises, humbly submitted himself to his Grace as his liege lord, founder and patron.” This had its effect

and "in consideration of the evidences shewn by the abbot" an order was issued to the sheriff in July, 1369, directing him to redeliver the town to the abbot on condition that all matters in dispute were duly inquired into and settled before the King and Council. A day was given for the purpose but for some reason the complainants did not proceed to trial and the abbot went on collecting tolls as usual. This brought a severe reprimand from the King in November, 1371, and on the strength of allegations that were not—and perhaps could not be—made good when the time came the abbot was warned that unless he conformed to the arrangement made he would be severely called to account and the town would be again taken into the King's hands. The fact of this interesting monition appearing nowhere in the public records and only being preserved amongst the old muniments in Christ's Hospital Hall tells its own story of the source from which the complaints came. It may be judged from the results, however, that there was not much substance in them. A writ of November, 1372, declared that as the parties disagreed about the facts the dispute could not be determined by the Council, and it was ordained by Bill of Parliament that the abbot should be fully restored to his rights; the writ ended with a summary notification that if anyone felt himself unduly aggrieved he could sue at common-law. The days of personal intervention by the King were thus intimated to be over and the King and Council washed their hands of the whole business. In this peremptory fashion but satisfactorily enough to the abbot the strife that had intermittently been going on for three-quarters of a century at length wore itself out.

The chapel and fair of *St. Edmund* that the good intentions of the founders designed to march together in harmony and mutual support met with quite different fates. Within about two centuries the chapel that was to have lasted "for ever" had become derelict and forsaken, but the fair notwithstanding its checkered start is to-day still lingering on—decrepit but just alive. In the time of Pepys we get a momentary glimpse of it. Passing with his wife and party through Abingdon to the towns of the West he saw something of the fair and leaves us a characteristic sketch of his doings. Under date June 9 he says: "At night came to Abingdon where had been a fair of custard; and met many people and scholars going home; and there did get some pretty good musick and sang and danced till supper." It was clearly a merry evening. The party stayed at the Antelope (now

the Queen's Hotel) and Pepys eulogizes his host one Edward Harte as "an old but very civil and well spoken man." In the morning he good-naturedly saw them on the way to Hungerford on horseback. "Fair of custard" looks puzzling till we realize that Pepys was thinking more of the fare than the fair. A newspaper report of 1834 bears this out: it tells of the fair "once so noted for country cousins, hams and gooseberry pie." Here we have the clue. In Pepys' day the word 'custard' could be used for 'tart' and in his diary he was merely noting down in a facetious way the feature that lingered in his memory most—gooseberry pie. The 18th century change of the Calendar not only deprived *St. Edmund's fair* of its original date and patron saint but also took away its name. Its identity thereafter became concealed under the banal designation of "Ock street fair" and it is still known as such to-day—although Ock street has been deserted and such small assembly as there is takes place elsewhere.

(To be concluded.)

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The School Sports were held in the Upper Field on Wednesday, March 19th. It was a beautiful day and the track was in very good condition. The times and distances were altogether better than those of last year. C. C. Woodley's performances in the Long Jump and the Hundred Yards, and that of H. W. D. Charleton in the Quarter Mile, were outstanding.

The Headmaster was President and W. A. Rudd, Esq., was Chairman of the Committee. The other officials were:—Starters, J. W. Reynolds, Esq., and J. B. E. Alston, Esq. Judges, J. Y. Ingham, Esq., and E. J. P. Ross-Barker, Esq. Time keeper, C. O. Wright, Esq. Stewards, G. S. Sturrock, A. F. James, V. J. Relle, K. C. Smith, and J. K. Leon.

Results.

1. Long Jump (Open).

Challenge Cup presented by A. Stockton, Esq., O.A.

Prizes presented by T. Skurray, Esq.

1, C. C. Woodley; 2, H. W. D. Charleton. Distance 19 ft. 4½ ins.

C. C. Woodley's was a very good jump, being an improvement of just over one foot on the winning jump of last year.

2. Long Jump (Under 15).

Prizes presented by W. A. Rudd, Esq., and Miss D. Ross-Barker.

1, H. M. Inslay; 2, J. W. P. Martin. Distance 16ft. 0½ in.

3. High Jump (Open).

Prizes presented by J. G. T. West, Esq., O.A. and W. T. Morland, Esq., O.A.

1, F. G. H. Allen; 2, K. T. Wood. Height 4 ft. 11 ins.

4. High Jump (Under 15).

Prizes presented by A. E. Preston, Esq., O.A.

1, P. T. Thomas; 2, E. Tinegate. Height 4 ft. 3½ ins.

5. Hurdles (Open).

Prizes presented by Miss Grundy and Mrs. Gray.

1, C. C. Woodley; 2, F. G. H. Allen. Time 18 2-5th secs.

6. Hurdles (Under 16).

Prizes presented by H. S. Challenor, Esq., O.A. and C. A. Pryce, Esq.

1, M. J. Bosley; 2, G. F. Powell. Time 20 1-5th secs.

7. 100 yards (Under 12).

Prizes presented by M. T. Tatham, Esq., and Mrs. Tatham.

1, J. E. Mobbs; 2, G. E. Sinclair. Time 14 1-5th secs.

8. 100 yards (Under 15).

Prizes presented by H. P. Simpson, Esq., O.A.

1, R. F. L. Thomas; 2, N. P. Stathacopulos. Time 12 1-5th secs.

This was a very good race, Stathacopulos only just beating Packer for second place. The time was quite good, being a second better than last year.

9. 100 yards (Open).

Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Price.

Prizes presented by H. G. W. d'Almaine, Esq., O.A.

1, C. C. Woodley; 2, H. W. D. Charleton. Time 10 3-5th secs.

Woodley and Charleton both ran very well, and Woodley's excellent time of 10 3-5th secs. made this race one of the outstanding events of the day.

10. 220 yards Handicap (Under 12).

Prizes presented by E. A. Lessing, Esq., M.P.

This race resulted in a dead-heat between G. E. Sinclair and J. E. Mobbs, who both had a start of fifteen yards. The time was 30 3-5th secs.

11. Quarter Mile (Under 15).

Prizes presented by the Ladies of Abingdon.

1, H. M. Insley; 2, R. F. L. Thomas. Time 66 2-5th secs.

12. Quarter Mile (Open).

Challenge Cup presented by W. Pierpoint, Esq.

Prizes presented by the Ladies of Abingdon.

1, H. W. D. Charleton; 2, J. G. Brewerton. Time 57 secs.

Charleton won easily in excellent time.

13. Throwing the Cricket Ball (Open).

Prizes presented by W. R. Portal, Esq., O.A. and Mrs. Dawson Clarke.

1, G. R. D. Estcourt; 2, F. G. H. Allen. Distance 81 yards 10 ins.

14. Half-Mile Handicap.

Prizes presented by W. E. S. Carr, Esq., H. Donkin, Esq., and Mrs. Donkin.

1, A. T. Hatfield; 2, J. E. Mobbs; 3, D. F. Westwood. Time 2 minutes 15 1-5th secs.

R. Taylor was the first to finish from scratch and K. T. Wood second, the former's time being 2 minutes 28 1-5th secs.

15. Putting the Weight (16 lbs.), (Open).

Prizes presented by Miss Sandys and Lady Norman.

1, C. C. Woodley; 2, J. F. Sinclair. Distance 28 ft.

16. Relay Race (Junior).

Won by Blue House; Green House second.

Blue.	Green.
P. T. Thomas	E. N. Packer.
H. M. Insley.	R. F. L. Thomas.
N. P. Stathacopulos.	A. T. Hatfield.
E. M. Holbrook.	R. E. Broadbent.
A. W. R. Foxwell.	G. E. Sinclair.
W. H. W. Lucas.	J. E. Mobbs.
E. P. Rice.	J. W. P. Martin.
A. J. A. Watson.	R. G. Spiller.

17. Relay Race (Open).

Won by Green House; Red House second.

Green.	Red.
J. F. Sinclair.	S. W. D. Shallard.
R. Taylor.	C. R. Wright.
H. W. D. Charleton.	P. H. Barwell.
G. F. Powell.	J. G. Brewerton.
G. R. D. Estcourt.	M. J. Bosley.
W. G. Cullum.	H. D. Shallard.
R. F. L. Thomas.	T. R. Pollard.
C. Stacey.	H. J. K. Genders.

The "Heber Clarke" Challenge Cup, awarded to the winner of the greatest number of points in open events, was won by C. C. Woodley, with 40 points, H. W. D. Charleton being second with 26 points.

The "House" Challenge Cup, presented by the Ladies of Abingdon, and won by Green House for the last four years, was won this year by Blue House, with 210 points, Green House being second with 147, and Red House third with 49 points.

At the end of the events Miss B. Challenor distributed the prizes and the proceedings ter-

minated with three hearty cheers for Miss Challenor and the prize-givers.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Alston for all the work he has done in connection with the sports and for the excellent way in which everything was carried out under his direction.

The Mile Races were run on Tuesday, March 11th. The times were not quite so good as those of last year.

In the Senior Mile, S. W. D. Shallard led all the way although closely followed in the latter stages by H. W. D. Charleton, who came in second, with K. T. Wood third. The time was 5 minutes 24 2-5th secs.

In the Junior Mile, C. J. Lay, who eventually came in fourth, led most of the way, but was overtaken in the last lap by the excellent running of W. T. Taylor and A. W. R. Foxwell, who came in first and second respectively, the time being 5 minutes 51 3-5th secs.

The Steeplechases took place on the Common on Thursday, March 13th.

In the Senior, S. W. D. Shallard and H. W. D. Charleton again came in first and second respectively, with R. Taylor third. The time was 11 minutes 25 2-5th secs.

In the Junior, W. T. Taylor led nearly all the way and came in first in 6 minutes 28 1-5th secs., with R. E. Broadbent second and E. G. Langford third.

We were very lucky this year in having excellent weather for all the heats and the Sports, nothing having to be postponed, as happened last year. Altogether it may be considered one of the most successful Sports Days for a good many years past.

[We append the results of last year's Steeplechases, which, having been three times postponed, were eventually run on March 13th, too late for inclusion in our last spring number. Likewise the winners of the "House" and "Heber Clarke" Challenge Cups.

In the Senior event C. Ellis won very easily by about a hundred yards. H. D. Stiles was second and R. Taylor third. Owing to the almost incessant rain there was much more water than usual on the course. The Junior event was won by E. N. Packer, W. T. Taylor was second and W. H. W. Lucas third.

The "House" Cup was won by Green, by a narrow margin from Blue, while C. R. Davidge won the "Heber Clarke" Challenge Cup with 38 points.]

O.A. SPORTS.

The School v. Old Abingdonians Athletic Meeting was held on Saturday, March 22nd, and resulted in a win for the O.A.s by seven events to two. The list of events was as follows:—

1. 100 yards (record 10 1-5th secs.)

1, C. C. Woodley, A.S.A.C.; 2, H. W. D. Charleton, A.S.A.C. Time 10 4-5th secs.

2. High Jump (record 5 ft. 4½ ins.)

1, F. G. H. Allen, A.S.A.C.; 2, N. A. Carr, O.A.C. Height 5 ft. 2 ins.

Allen jumped very well for the School, clearing 3 ins. more than on Sports Day, and equalling the School Record.

3. Long Jump (record 22 ft. 2 ins.)

1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, C. C. Woodley, A.S.A.C. Distance 19 ft. 4½ ins.

4. Half-Mile (record 2 mins. 9 4-5th secs.)

1, C. E. H. Dolphin, O.A.C.; 2, C. Morland, O.A.C. Time 2 mins. 14 4-5th secs.

5. Hurdles (record 16 1-5th secs.)

1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, C. C. Woodley, A.S.A.C. Time 17 2-5th secs.

This proved an extremely exciting race, Carr and Woodley running a dead-heat the first time. On the race being run again, Carr just beat Woodley after being level over all the hurdles.

6. Quarter Mile (record 55 secs.)

1, E. R. Barber, O.A.C.; 2, H. W. D. Charleton, A.S.A.C. Time 55 1-5th secs.

E. R. Barber ran very well for the O.A.s, his time being only one fifth of a second over the record.

7. One Mile (record 4 mins. 50 1-5th secs.)

1, C. E. H. Dolphin, O.A.C.; 2, S. W. D. Shallard, A.S.A.C. Time 5 mins. 5 4-5th secs.

Although Shallard ran well, C. E. H. Dolphin came in an easy first for the O.A.s.

8. Putting the Weight (record 35 ft. 5 ins.)

1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, R. L. C. Foottit, O.A.C. Distance 29 ft. ½ in.

9. Relay Race.

This was a very exciting event, and resulted in another win for the O.A.C., the time being 2 mins. 3 secs.

The following represented the School:—C. C. Woodley, H. W. D. Charleton, F. G. H. Allen, W. E. Steele, J. G. Brewerton, G. F. Powell. The O.A. team consisted of:—C. Ellis, P. E. Rowlandson, C. Morland, C. R. Davidge, C. E. H. Dolphin, E. R. Barber.

This was the 25th Past v. Present Athletic Meeting, and it is interesting to note that so far the O.A.s have won twenty and the School five.

SPORTS RECORDS SINCE 1891.

School Sports.

Hundred yds.	N. Duncan	1906	10 1-5th secs.
Quarter mile	O. B. Challenor	1909	55 4-5th secs.
Mile	C. E. H. Dolphin	1922	4 mins. 50 4-5th secs.
Long jump	G. H. G. Shepherd	1909	21ft. 3½ins.
High jump	N. A. Carr	1921	5ft. 2ins.
Hurdles	G. H. G. Shepherd	1909	16 4-5th secs.
Cricket Ball	E. S. Morley	1916	96yds. 2ft. 3½ins.
Weight	W. R. Mortleman	1907	32ft. 7½ ins.

School Records (i.e. the best performances done by any boy while at School in either the School Sports or the Past and Present Sports).

Hundred yds.	N. Duncan	1906	10 1-5th secs.
Quarter mile	C. J. Butler	1908	55 2-5th secs.
Half mile	H. A. L. Donkin	1912	2 mins. 12 2-5th secs.
Mile	C. E. H. Dolphin	1922	4 mins. 50 1-5th secs.
Long jump	G. H. G. Shepherd	1909	21ft. 3½ins.
High jump	N. A. Carr	1921	5ft. 2ins.
Hurdles	G. H. G. Shepherd	1909	16 4-5th secs.
Cricket Ball	F. Parker	1911	97yds. 2ft. 8ins.
Weight	W. R. Mortleman	1907	33ft. 9ins.

Ground Records.

Hundred yds.	N. Duncan	1906	10 1-5th secs.
	R. G. Rice O.A.	1913	"
Quarter mile	R. G. Rice O.A.	1912	55 secs.
	B. Challenor O.A.	1901	"
Half mile	B. Challenor O.A.	1906	2 mins. 9 4-5th secs.
Mile	C. E. H. Dolphin	1922	4mins. 50 1-5th secs.
Long jump	W. Leach O.A.	1911	22ft. 2ins.
High jump	R. G. Rice O.A.	1907	5ft. 4½ins.
Hurdles	H.J.A. Payne O.A.	1904	16 1-5th secs (3ft 6ins. hurdles).
Cricket Ball	F. Parker O.A.	1913	101yds 1ft. 4ins.
Weight	G.H.G. Shepherd O.A.	1911	35ft. 5ins.

"IF"—FOR GIRLS.

(With apologies to Mr. Rudyard Kipling.)

If you can dress to make yourself attractive,
Yet not make puffs and curls your chief delight ;
If you can swim and row, be strong and active,
But of the gentler graces lose not sight ;

If you can dance without a craze for dancing,
Play without giving play too strong a hold,
Enjoy the love of friends without romancing,
Care for the weak, the friendless and the old ;
If you can master French, and Greek, and Latin,
And not acquire as well a priggish mien ;
If you can feel the touch of silk and satin
Without despising calico and jean ;
If you can ply a saw and use a hammer,
Can do a man's work when the need occurs,
Can sing when asked, without excuse or stammer,
Can rise above unfriendly snubs and slurs ;
If you can make good bread as well as fudges,
Can sew with skill and have an eye for dust ;
If you can be a friend and hold no grudges,
A girl whom all will love because they must ;
If sometime you should meet and love another,
And make a home with faith and peaceenshrined,
And you its soul—a loyal wife and mother—
You'll work out pretty nearly to my mind
The plan that's been developed thro' the ages,
And win the best that life can have in store—
You'll be, my girl, a model for the sages—
A woman whom the world will bow before.

[We reprint the above lines, with all due acknowledgments, from the *Guisley (Yorks) Parish Magazine*, to which they were contributed by B. M. Challenor, O.A., who was formerly a curate at Guiseley. Though they are addressed "to girls generally," we make no apologies for reprinting them in the Magazine of a boys' School ; for they will prove of interest to all our readers, and many, we doubt not, will show them to their sisters—or perhaps to other people's sisters, which will be equally useful.—Ed.]

O. A. NOTES.

BIRTHS.

EDEY.—On the 15th Dec., at Jasmine Cottage, Chislehurst, to Frank H. Edey and Mrs. Edey, a daughter.

WILDING.—On the 8th March, at 7 Willow Road, Hampstead Heath, to Sylvia and Thomas S. Wilding, a daughter (Diana).

MARRIAGE.

LAYNG—JOLLY.—On Tuesday, the 15th Jan., at St. Philip's Church, Kensington, by Prebendary E. M. Lance, Provost of Lancing College, and the Rev. Canon Gedge, Rector of Gravesend, the Rev. Thomas Layng, Rector of King's Stanley, Gloucestershire, to Eleanor Muriel, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jolly, of Stanley Hall, Selsley, Gloucestershire.

DEATH.

SHEPHERD.—On the 18th Dec., very suddenly, the result of an accident, Tom Seymour Gelston, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Shepherd, of Glyndowr, Park Crescent, Abingdon, aged 23 years.

T. S. G. Shepherd joined the School in September, 1910, but left in December, 1912, to proceed to St. Edward's School at Oxford. On leaving school he joined the Inns of Court O.T.C. and was in training at Berkhamsted when the Armistice was declared. After demobilisation he entered his father's business in Abingdon, where he won the affectionate regard of all who knew him. He was killed in a motoring accident on the Drayton road, and much sympathy is felt with his parents and relations in their sad and sudden bereavement.

We have heard recently of the death of Mr. W. M. Wilson, whom Old Boys will remember as a Master here from Sept. 1894 to April 1897. He left to become Headmaster of Hanley School, Staffordshire.

Congratulations to Capt. T. M. Layng, M.C., on his appointment to the Staff College, Quetta, India. He was allowed to sit for the examination a year ago in London, when he was home on leave, and when the lists were published his name appeared fourth. He has now taken up his residence at Quetta.

T. P. R. Layng has decided to abandon Law in favour of the Scholastic Profession, and he has this term been filling a temporary vacancy at St. Peter's College, York.

Congratulations to H. F. Shepherd, who has been offered and has accepted the living of Frindsbury, near Rochester. The living is in the gift of the Bishop.

We have heard this term from Mr. P. F. Rowland, whom many O.A.s will remember as a master here in 1903. He writes from Australia, where he has for many years been doing good work as Headmaster of Townsville Grammar School, Queensland. Old friends will be interested to hear that Mr. Rowland is married and has a family of four. Amongst other things he tells us that he has met with B. M. Challenor, who is working with the Bush Brotherhood in the diocese of North Queensland, and, to judge from the lines which we publish in another column, seems to find the rough life conducive to poetry as well as to philosophy.

A. W. Stevens (another married man, by the way, with a family of three) tells us that it is the

Congregational Church at Stone, and not the Wesleyan (as erroneously reported in our last issue) of which he is Minister. He is likewise Secretary of the Staffordshire Congregational Union. Furthermore he still plays Cricket, keeping wicket for Stone in the North Staffordshire League, and going in first to bat, while in the literary field he has busied himself from time to time with contributions (prose and verse) to *The Christian World* and other publications.

We offer sincere condolences to F. B. Glenny, who, after successfully completing his indentures in the Merchant Service, has been disqualified for his Second Mate's Examination by failure to pass the colour test.

It is a keen disappointment to all Abingdonians that R. E. Eason should again come short of a place in the Varsity Boat, and more especially so as up to within a month of the race he had occupied No. 3 thwart on all occasions. We wish that we could wish him better luck next time; but unfortunately this is his last year at Oxford.

We can only condole with him on his rank bad luck. His record already has proved him a first-class oarsman and—more than this—a man of exceptional grit and determination. These are race-winning qualities, and the Oxford crew this year must be an exceptionally good one, if it can afford to dispense with Eason's services.

R. L. C. Foottit has been rowing No. 6 in the second L.M.B.C. boat in the Lent Races at Cambridge. The College put five boats on the river, and the second boat made two bumps.

W. H. Stevens has been rowing regularly in the second VIII of the Royal College of Science, London.

Members of the O.A.C. will welcome the little booklet recently issued by the Secretaries. The list of names and addresses will remind O.A.s of former schoolfellows, and in many cases it should help to bring them again into touch with one another. Not the least interesting among the contents of the booklet is a quaint "Note on the Old Abingdonian Club," which we hope to publish by kind permission in a future number of this magazine.

P.S.—The above notes were already in the printer's hands when, to our great delight, Eason reappeared in the Oxford Boat—this time at "4," a place that should suit him well; and we gather from the newspaper critics that this arrangement is likely to be final.