# **M**isericordins **D**omini



# in aeternum cantabo.

## THE ABINGDONIAN.

No. 14. Vol. VI. MAY. 1925. Price 1s. CONTENTS. School Notes ... Amateur Wireless ..... 209 Athletic Sports School Concert..... 210 A Plea for Summer Rowing ..... ASCC. Fixtures ..... 211 217 212 O.A. Notes Literary, Scientific and Debating Society ...... War Memorial Fund . 213 Waste Court Purchase Fund :.... Bacilli Delani

#### SCHOOL NOTES.

As we have already notified our subscribers, the late appearance of this number is due to an outbreak of Mumps in the School last term, and to the consequent postponement of our annual sports meetings and the cancellation of other School events.

Mumps claimed a number of victims, including one member of the teaching staff; in fact most of those who had not previously had it succumbed to the infection. Chicken-pox supervened and some boys managed to bring off the double event. To all concerned we herewith tender our sympathy, and more especially to our matron, who, after nursing so many, herself was attacked by the mumps-germ in the holidays. At the same time we would put it on record that this is the first serious epidemic that we have had for several years; and this is a thing to be proud of. Perhaps we were getting unduly proud, and this visitation was sent to remind us that we are but human after all, and must bear our afflictions like other Schools.

Our sports have been held this term in glorious weather, and to judge by the results of the com-

petitions, it would seem that the health of the School has been in no wise impaired.

We welcome George Sturrock among us again. He has come back after a year's absence in Ascension Island for a last term at the old School before proceeding to Cambridge. He takes his place again as head of the School and of the House.

The other prefects are A. F. James, C. R. Wright, W. G. Hancock, K. C. Smith, H. W. D. Charleton, W. J. Smith, T. T. Theophilus and N. C. Wood. The last two were appointed last term.

Hearty congratulations to A. F. James on gaining an open scholarship for classics at Exeter College, Oxford, last December. We wish him all success in his University career.

#### VALETE.

#### (*December*, 1924.)

VI. Form.—J. H. S. Dodwell (1921). School Prefect, 1924. 2nd XI. Football, 1924; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1924; O.S.L. (3rd Class), 1924; L. Corpl. O.T.C., 1924. E. N. Packer (1921). O.S.L. (3rd Class), 1924. VA. FORM.—F. G. H. Allen (1921). School Prefect, 1924; 2nd XI. Football, 1923; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1923; Athletic Colours, 1924; L. Corpl. O.T.C., 1924. H. J. K. Genders (1920). 1st XI. Football, 1924. L. Corpl. O.T.C., 1924.

VB. FORM.—D. L. D. Dunkin (1917); N. P.

Stathacopulos (1923).

III. FORM.—L. D. Hutchison (1922); D. Genders (1922).

#### (March, 1925.)

VI. Form.—N. P. Wiggins (1919). O.S.L., 1923. A. C. Croasdell (1923). O.S.L., 1924.

O. I. C. R. Round (1921). 2nd XI. Cricket, 1924. 1st IV. Rowing, 1925; Colours, 1925;

O.S.L., 1924; 1st Class Shot, 1924.

P. H. Barwell (1922). 1st XI. Football, 1924; 1st IV. Rowing, 1925; Colours, 1925; L. Corpl. O.T.C., 1925; Certificate "A," 1924; 1st Class Shot, 1923.

V.B. FORM.—R. S. Fox (1923.)

J. M. Wheeler (1922). 1st XI. Football, 1924; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1924.

Remove Form.—S. W. R. Royse (1922); P. L. T. Robins (1922); A. W. Baker (1924).

II. FORM.—S. S. Fox (1924).

#### SALVETE.

(January, 1925.)

Remove Form.—D. J. Stilwell. II. Form.—W. G. C. Denny.

(April, 1925.)

REMOVE FORM.—J. C. Toogood.

III. FORM.—G. A. Wood.

II. FORM.—S. F. Thatcher, D. B. Groves, E. J. Emmett, R. C. Clarke, H. A. Rogerson, L. Sinclair.

#### ITERUM SALVE.

(April, 1925.)

VI. FORM.—G. S. Sturrock.

Rowing Colours were awarded last term to H. D. Shallard, P. H. Barwell, O. I. C. R. Round, W. G. Cullum and W. W. Brown.

Athletic Colours have been awarded to C. R. Wright, A. F. James, H. D. Shallard, N. C. Wood, G. F. Powell, and J. G. Brewerton.

G. S. Sturrock is captain of cricket this term, and T. T. Theophilus hon. secretary.

Hockey was played last term as usual, but the matches arranged with other Schools were scratched in view of the prevailing epidemic. We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries:—Aldenhamian, Alfredian (2), Bloxhamist, Chigwellian (2), Laxtonian (2), Leightonian (2), Lily, Liverpool College Magazine (2), Magazine of the City of Oxford School (2), Monktonian (2).

Last term ended on March 25 and this term began on April 28.

This term ends on July 27, boarders leaving on the following day. The School Regatta, Founder's Day, and the O.A. Cricket Match have been fixed for July 9, 10, and 11 respectively. The Prizes will be given away by the Rt. Hon. Lord Faringdon, C.H. The Summer Exams. begin on July 14.

#### THE SCHOOL CONCERT.

The annual school concert took place on Friday, December 12th, in the Corn Exchange. It was very nice to see so many guests, there being between three and four hundred present. The platform had been very tastefully decorated and we thank Mr. Wright for his kindness in giving so much time and energy to this. The programme was given entirely by the School, with the exception of the "Ladies' Orchestra," who, once more, came and helped us, and for their two charming items we sincerely thank them. We also offer our best thanks to Mr. Bevir for his kind and willing help, and, as usual, his two songs were a feature of the programme. Of the boys it must be said that all they did they did well, and the attention they gave to their conductor showed they had their heart in their work.

Perhaps one item that should be mentioned was the quartet "There Rolls the Deep" (Parry). Each part was in sympathy with every other, and so the blending of the voices brought out the desired effect.

Miss Ivy Sheldon-Peach, who was responsible for the training of the boys, conducted, and also sang to us again.

#### PROGRAMME.

#### PART I.

1. Piano Solo (a)	Moments Musicaux.	Schubert.
(b)	Mazurka.	Chopin.
. ,	Ogle.	-
2. Part Song	"The Vikings"	C. Taylor
O	The School.	· ·
3. Instrumental	(a) " Prelude "	Sir Hubert
	(b) " Allemanch "	Parry

4. Song "The Adjutant" H. Fisher.
Mr. Bevir.

5. Part Song "As Tarrento in Summer" Elgar.
The Choir.

6. Song & Violin Obligato

"Hindoo Lament" Bemberg.
Miss Sheldon Peach and Mrs. Fairthorne.

 Part Song "An Old Rat's Tale" F. Bridge.
 Hancock, Shallard II., Theophilus, Edsall, Pearson, Foxwell, Brown III.

8. Two-part Song "The Swallow" Ethel Boyce.

1st and 2nd Trebles.

#### PART II.

1. Piano Solo "Chant D'Amour" Mendelssohn
Squire 1.

2. Part Song "The Lee Shore" C. Taylor.
The School.

3. Instrumental (a) "Slow Minuet" Sir Hubert (b) "Bourrée" Parry.

4. Song "O'Lovely Night" L. Ronald. Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach.

5. Part Song "The Tide Rises" Adam Carse.
The Choir.

6. Song "The Mistress of the Master" Lyall Mr. Bevir. Phillips.

7. Two-part Song "The Willow Wrens" Ethel Bouce.

Squire I., Wood III., Greene, Martin I., Girdler. Holmes, Baumann I.

8. Part Song "There Rolls the Deep" Sir Hubert Parry.

Hancock, Theophilus, Martin I., Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach.

9. "Jerusalem" Sir Hubert Mr. Bevir and The School. Parry.

The Orchestra consisted of the following:—First Violins, Mrs. Fairthorne, Mrs. Humfrey, Miss R. Pennell; Viola, Mr. Cox; 'Cello, Mrs. Scott; Piano, Miss Couldrey; Accompanists, Mrs. A. Mills, Round and Fabes.

#### ROWING.

Our season began on Monday, January 19th. For the first fortnight attention was given to tub pair instruction and a certain amount of intensive tuition in the tub Four. Hancock was unfortunately incapacitated in the early stages, and it was found that he would not be able to get himself fit enough to do the long course at Oxford when the races against Magdalen College School came off on March 28. These races were not,

however, held, owing to the prevalent epidemic. The material at our disposal was in consequence extremely limited in experience, but a gradual improvement was shown amongst the enthusiastic members of the prospective crews, and at last it became necessary to select two Fours for the light racing boats.

As finally constituted the seats in the "John Roysse" were occupied by Cullum (Str.), Round (3), Barwell (2) and H. D. Shallard (bow). The second Four was more of a toss up as to "who and where," but a definite order of seats was settled with N. C. Wood (Str.), K. C. Smith (3), Powell (2) and Edsall (bow).

We were unable to occupy the light boats till February 7th, and it meant some strenuous effort to get ready for our first race with the O.A.s by February 21st.

At first both crews were extremely uncomfortable and failed to make the boat travel on an even keel; but when they learnt to make a better use of their leg thrust, matters improved.

The First Crew were not a particularly powerful lot, but they acquired a steady swing and uniformity. H. D. Shallard at bow rowed consistently well throughout and was by far the neatest oar of the two crews. Cullum at stroke made great improvement, but was too stiff and clumsy in the early stages; he rowed better than he paddled.

Round and Barwell failed to realize the importance of a good back and soon tired. W. W. Brown as cox was good and managed to keep his crew together, keeping them well up to their work and marking out the time.

The Second Four's "spot" man was K. C. Smith at three. He has a good swing and rhythm, and with patience and perseverance may become really good. Theophilus was unlucky to be out of the boat through illness. He was doing good work at stroke, but has a great deal yet to learn. Wood, who took his place, being moved from No. 2, improved, but gets his work on in the wrong place. Edsall at bow was disappointing and failed to maintain his early promise. Powell who came into the boat at a late stage in the training did his best, but he must learn the first principle of "not hoicking with his arms." G. E. Sinclair's coxing was not all that one could wish, but he steered a good course during the race, and is learning something about the difficult art.

We have unfortunately not been able to see much of the raw material so necessary for future years, but there are one or two "bright hopes" whom we hope to meet again.

#### PAST V. PRESENT RACES.

On Saturday, February 21st, the O.A. Club brought two fours to row the School. It was an ideal day, for although there was a certain amount of stream, as there must be at this time of year, the floods had gone down and there was a complete absence of wind.

As usual the O.A.s were unable to get any practice together and were also one man short. They are much indebted to Hancock, the School Captain, for filling bow's thwart in their second crew, at the same time offering him their sympathy on being prevented by illness from going into training with his own First IV.

The School won the toss in both races and chose the Berks station.

The first IV.s paddled down first and were soon sent off by Mr. Bevir on a very level start, the O.A.s gaining slightly in the first few strokes. The School, however, soon got going and began to go up quickly, and by the time the Big Tree was reached were well clear. By this time the O.A.s. were getting tired, especially two, but Davidge was keeping the stroke going well, and Eason was working manfully to pull the boat along. However, the School crew were going farther ahead, Cullum keeping the stroke long and steady. The crew looked rough, but they certainly worked hard and kept their boat running wonderfully well. We must congratulate them on being the first School Crew we have seen for several years who really rowed themselves out. By the Plantation they were very tired but pulled themselves together and finished hard, gaining the verdict by five lengths in 4 mins. 15 2 5th secs.

#### CREWS.

School.	O.A.s.
H. D. Shallard (bow)	H. D. Stiles (bow)
P. H. Barwell (2)	J. F. Sinclair (2)
O. I. C. Round (3)	R. E. Eason (3)
W. G. Cullum (stroke)	C. R. Davidge (stroke)
W. W. Brown (cox)	H. T. Haynes (cox)

The second IV.s then went down to the starting point, the O.A.s in the "John Roysse." They looked a very scratch crew paddling down and the race looked a very easy thing for the School. But after a very level start, in which the O.A.s gained a trifle in the first few strokes, for some time it was a magnificent struggle. The crews rowed stroke for stroke and there was not a foot in it. By the Big Tree fitness had begun to tell and the School

were gradually getting their nose in front. The O.A.s were looking "cooked," although Buckle did his best to keep them at it. The School crew, although gradually going ahead, were also beginning to feel the effects, especially bow who lost his form altogether. If it had not been for Smith at three, it would have been a close race all the way; but rowing magnificently with the best form in either School crew, he took them along to such good purpose that they won by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in 4mins. 27 3/5th secs. Considering the conditions they had to contend with in training—strong streams, high winds and also continual illness—we must congratulate the School on their performance. Smith should be very useful next year.

#### SECOND CREWS.

School.	O.A.s.
B. V. Edsall (bow)	W. G. Hancock (bow)
G. F. Powell (2)	W. E. Steele (2)
K. C. Smith (3)	C. Ellis (3)
N. C. Wood (stroke)	S. L. Buckle (stroke)
G. E. Sinclair (cox)	H. T. Haynes (cox)

#### A PLEA FOR SUMMER ROWING. DEAR SIR.

As a mere Old Boy I may perhaps be criticized for writing to you to air my views on this subject. But the fact is, I have always been very interested in the question, even when at school, and I think it will do the topic good even if my letter merely provokes a series of other letters, airing other views. This at least would show interest in the Boat Club's activities.

I have two principal reasons for urging the adoption of Summer Rowing.

Firstly the numbers of the School are shortly to be increased by, I believe, about 40 boys. By this one of the old points against summer rowing could be set aside, namely "that there are not enough people to row and at the same time form two good cricket elevens." With about 200 in the school there should be ample to row and play cricket, and I defy the Dry Bobs to deny this.

My second point is that "cricket is not the game for the multitude." I know very well personally an old Captain of Cricket at Wellington College (Berks.), and he tells me that owing to there being no river at Wellington they are constructing tennis courts for the use of those who dislike cricket, and he further assures me that this has led to no falling off in the standard or number of cricket devotees. Although a very Dry Bob himself he agrees with me

that "cricket is not the game for the multitude." May I, in my few last words, mention one or two further advantages in urging the adoption of

Summer Rowing? Firstly, the House Races will be made more serious and thus resemble the other House competitions (similarly the Regatta). Secondly, it might in time be possible to send the School crew to Marlow Regatta to compete for

the Public Schools Cup.

Lastly, sir, by adopting Summer Rowing you will be making the finest of all sports and "manly exercises" more pleasurable. The weather in the summer is not subject to such sudden falls of temperature and rise of winds as in February and March, when most of the school rowing at present

Again the increased interest in, and quantity of rowing would lead eventually to the adoption of Eights and Slides with the consequent gain in interest and comfort, which Eights and Slides give

rise to respectively.

May I, sir, as my very last word point out something which is very often overlooked, especially by the Dry Bobs? I refer, of course, to the excellent rowing conditions in Abingdon. To row for, at the most, two or three months in the year is a really wicked waste of the good conditions and opportunities which are at the School's disposal. When one compares these conditions with those of, say, King's School Canterbury, or Tonbridge, both of whom row on a river more resembling the Ock than the Thames, and yet send a "four" regularly to Marlow, one realises what opportunities the School is allowing to slip out of her grasp.

Although not a literary masterpiece I hope this letter will emphasise the points I have endeavoured to indicate, and with which, I know very well,

many O.A.s agree.

Believe me, dear Sir, Most hopefully yours, W. H. STEVENS,

Hon. Sec. Royal College of Science Boat Club. Imperial College Union, South Kensington, S.W.7.

March 15th, 1925.

#### FOOTBALL.

#### O.A. MATCH.

On the School Ground, on Saturday, December 13th. Lost 1-3.

A good match, in which the first half was very evenly contested and provided many thrills. W. J. Smith scored for the School early in the game, and

this lead was kept till after half time. got together well in the second half and secured three goals, through Donkin (2) and Steele, the latter heading into the net from a corner. S. W. D. Shallard played on the left wing after the interval, as substitute for P. E. Rowlandson who sustained a slight injury towards the beginning of the game. The School forwards played up well in the closing stages and were unlucky in not scoring. The teams were as follows: -School: Goal, A. J. A. Watson; backs, H. D. Shallard and W. G. Hancock; halves, P. H. Barwell, H. W. D. Charleton and M. J. Bosley; forwards, C. Stacey, W. J. Smith, C. R. Wright, P. T. Thomas and H. J. K. Genders. O.A.s: Goal, J. F. Sinclair; backs, S. L. Buckle and C. R. Davidge; halves, W. H. Stevens, R. E. Eason and A. W. Mason; forwards, P. E. Rowlandson, W. E. Steele, H. A. L. Donkin, R. Taylor and R. W. Snell.

#### House Matches.

The House Football Cup was won this year by Green House. In the Senior matches, Green beat Red in a very even game, W. J. Smith scoring the only goal. Red beat Blue, scoring twice, through C. R. Wright and Garton, whilst the Blue forwards, missing several good opportunities, failed to score. The match between Green and Blue was very fast and even right from the start. Green, however, getting the all-important goal in the last minute through Smith.

Of the Junior matches only two were played, as the third would have had no bearing on the result. Red drew with Green, each scoring once,

and were beaten 0-3 by Blue.

#### Junior House Sixes.

Junior Sixes were played off as usual between the three Houses. The method of arranging the Sixes was the same as that of the last two years, viz. each House was represented by three Sixes, A, B, and C, and played, in turn, all the Sixes of the other two Houses. The scoring of points was as follows:—For a win, two points; for a draw, one point. Also each team scored one point for every goal it scored. A "B" six playing an "A" six, or a "C" six playing a "B" six, started the game with one goal as a "bonus." Likewise a "C" six playing an "A" six received a "bonus" of two goals.

Two full rounds were played. The winners were Blue House who got 195 points, Green being second with 172, and Red third with 120 points.

## LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

On the 13th December, 1924, the Society met for a short time in the Pembroke Room for an official opening of the School Wireless.

Mr. C. R. Wright took the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed.

Mr. S. E. Clark officiated at the wireless set.

The Society met on the 24th January, 1925, in the Pembroke Room, for its next meeting, with Mr. J. B. E. Alston in the chair.

Two motions were debated at this meeting, the first being "that in the opinion of this House the use of slang is to be deprecated." Mr. B. V. Edsall proposed, and Mr. A. F. James opposed the motion.

Also spoke:—Pro: G. F. Powell, H. M. Insley, Contra: T. E. Gardiner. Neut.: J. B. O. Durell. The motion was lost by four votes to eight.

Mr. W. G. Cullum was then called upon to propose "that in the opinion of this House rear lights should be compulsory for bicycles." Mr. C. Stacey opposed the motion.

The following members also addressed the House:
—Pro: E. M. Holbrook, W. J. Smith. Contra:
C. R. Wright. Neut.: B. V. Edsall, G. F. Powell,
J. B. O. Durell.

On a show of hands the motion was lost by two votes to 9.

We held another meeting on the 31st January, 1925, at which Mr. J. W. Reynolds occupied the chair

The Honorary Secretary was called upon to propose "that in the opinion of this House a middle course is undesirable." Mr. G. F. Powell opposed and Mr. H. D. Shallard seconded the motion. The Honorary Treasurer seconded the opposition.

These gentlemen also spoke:—Pro: E. M. Holbrook, J. G. Brewerton, J. Y. Ingham. Contra: J. W. Reynolds, C. R. Wright, T. E. Gardiner, H. M. Insley, C. Stacey, J. B. O. Durell, A. W. R. Foxwell, O. T. M. Raymont.

Ten votes against three were registered in favour of the opposition.

. The meeting was notable for the fact that all who attended, except one, addressed the House.

The Society met again on the 7th February, 1925, with Mr. W. G. Hancock in the chair.

The chairman called upon Mr. G. F. Powell to propose "that in the opinion of this House capital punishment should be abolished." Mr.

A. F. James opposed and Mr. O. T. M. Raymont seconded the motion. Mr. C. Stacey seconded the opposition.

The following also spoke:—Pro: B. V. Edsall, The Hon. Sec., J. B. O. Durell, O. I. C. R. Round. Contra: C. R. Wright. Neut.: W. G. Hancock.

After a most exciting debate the votes registered were eight all. After due consideration, the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the motion.

The final meeting of the 1924-25 session was held on 14th February, 1925, in the Pembroke Room at 6 p.m., the Vice-President in the chair. It was celebrated with Impromptu Debate.

The first motion, "that in the opinion of this House Abdul de Bulbul Ameer is better than Ivan Petroffski Shivah," was proposed by Mr. Edsall, and opposed by Mr. Raymont. Mr. Raymont kindly sang the song, "Abdul de Bulbul Ameer," for the edification of the gathering.

Mr. Raymont won the day, the motion being lost by eight votes to five.

The Hon. Sec. was then called upon to propose "that in the opinion of this House it is better to be born in the purple than live in the pink." Mr. Foxwell opposed.

The motion was lost by ten votes to two.

The final motion was proposed by Mr. Clark. It was "that in the opinion of this House a wagtailpie is superior to a pied-wagtail." Mr. Durell opposed.

The motion was won by eight votes to five. Thus ended a highly successful session.

#### BACILLI DELANI.

There are microbes that batten on butter,
There are others that fatten on jam,
And then there's the kind, that will penetrate rind
Of the toughest old bacon or ham.
But of all the detestable "cocci"
That ever set out for a meal
The hungriest, I wot, were those that we got
From the couple returning from Deal.

They vented their spleen upon Wheeler, With Tabby they soon made away, And, really, I feel that poor Tab was a meal That would satisfy me for a day. But not these insatiable gourmands. No sooner they'd tucked him inside Than with many a whoop from the whole blessed troop

To masticate Jumbo they tried.

Then Wattie came in to the rescue—
"There's me, if you're wanting to eat.
Three weeks in the San.! if only I can,
I'll look upon that as a treat."
And so with their jaws wide extended
They made a few tentative feels,
Then said, "Rather not!" and now they have got
The gentle John down by the heels.

They opined then that Grandpa's young brother A toothsome young morsel would be,
So they dined upon him, with three-quarters of
Jim.

And polished off Terence for tea. But still being unsatiated With several similar fry, In the heat of the fray they decided, next day, The succulent Sixth Form to try.

First Theo made fairylike feasting.
Then Insley went down at a gulp,
Next Beryl they took and most thoroughly shook
Him until he was palpable pulp.
Then they pounced upon portly old Powell,
And to prove that they like something tough,
The manner that they at the end of the day
Devastated the Third Form's enough.

But what is this rumour a'floating?
Oh! can it be true they have dared?
They decided by lot the whole Staff should not
From their ravenous clutches be spared.
So out with your Kingsleys and Weymans,
And throw all your Maths. books away,
No more "ee's" and 'pi's" shall endanger your
eyes,
For now they have wolfed W.A.

And never when playing at cricket,
Nor yet when just aiming to shoot,
May you run your head into a microbe that's kin
to

This rampaging ravishing brute!
This germinant bacterium!
This bacteriological germ!
Which imported, for sartin', by John or House
Martin

Т.

Stopped with us the whole of the term.

SOME INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR WIRELESS NOTES.

By Walter Gearing Sherratt, R.S.G.B., T. & R.S., A.R.R.L.

Operator of British Radio G.5TZ.

A great deal has recently been read in the Press of various Wireless amateurs, located in odd corners of the world, talking to each other by wireless, either by speech or in the dots and dashes known as Morse. Little, however, has been said on how, and at what times these very interesting little conversations and tests take place. It is, therefore, proposed in this short article to briefly outline the ways and means of the Radio experimenter in calling up these distant stations, and the language they adopt.

During the past year tremendous strides have taken place in the use of short wave lengths for Wireless communication, and the results on 20 to 100 metres are to-day astonishing. These short waves have been found to reach out much further, using less power than the longer waves required. It is practically a known fact that an efficient amateur transmitting station in England, using these short waves, will work to America as easily as some of the high power commercial stations using perhaps 100 kilowatts of power on long waves.

To use a transmitter a special licence must be obtained from the General Post Office, London, granting permission and allotting a call sign, such as 6XYZ, to the station, which henceforth will always be known as such. It might be mentioned, however, that these permits are not so easy to obtain as they perhaps appear to be.

Let us now take some amateur Station such as 5TZ (my own station) and see what happens when testing new apparatus, with perhaps a transmitting range of 3,000 to 6,000 miles. If it is desired to test with America the following procedure is adopted. The word TEST is sent three times, followed by UG—UG meaning, "America, U, being called by Great Britain, G." Then the call sign, 5TZ, three times. This is repeated about six or more times, and then K is sent, meaning, "carry on."

5TZ immediately changes over to listen on about the same wave length as that on which he transmitted, using for reception about two valves, very rarely more. Usually, if the transmitter was adjusted properly, there will be heard the call 5TZ, being sent slowly and clearly a number of times, then GU (notice this is now reversed) and then the American amateur's call, say 3PXZ. 3PXZ will then send, if 5TZ's signals are being received well, OK QRK QSA, meaning "signals strong and clear." There are many abbreviations used in Morse working, such as QRZ, QRM, QRA, and others, first used years ago by ships communicating with land.

At the end of the test 5TZ will send QRU, "nothing more here," QRU? "have you any more?" If 3PXZ has nothing, he will send GN OM, "good night, old man," 73's "kind regards," HOPE CUAG, "hope hear you again," and then VA "end of work." 5TZ will then wish him good night and send his VA, and there is one test finished.

Each country has a prefix letter before its call signs, for instance Great Britain, G; U.S.A., U; France, F.; Italy, I; Finland, F.N.; and so on, so that one knows at once who it is calling.

The best time to carry out tests is at night, signals then always having two to three times more range than during the day. Hence the GN OM in the American test, just mentioned, very often is GM "good morning!" There are a number of reasons for this increase of range, but it is not proposed to discuss them here.

It is not difficult to imagine the excitement that prevails in the station after a test has been sent out, and on listening there is heard the reply of a fellow amateur perhaps 5,000 miles away; and all the power used, perhaps 50 watts, or the same amount of power as taken by an ordinary electric light. The apparatus needed for transmitting and receiving is neither very complicated nor costly, but it must be understood to get the best results from it.

In another article some personal experiences will be given, and how, even to the studious experimenter, there is a humorous side. One problem yet to be solved is, how an amateur, at business all day and at Radio all night, obtains his beauty sleep.

#### ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The School Sports were held in the Upper Field on Wednesday, 13th May. It was a beautiful day and the track was in very good condition. H. W. D. Charleton's performances in the Long Jump and Quarter Mile were outstanding. His time of 55 2-5th seconds in the latter was a School record, while his jump of 20 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches was 9 inches better than C. C. Woodley's winning jump of the previous year.

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. Timekeeper, C. O. Wright, Esq., Stewards, G. S. Sturrock and K. C. Smith.

#### Results.

#### 1. Long Jump (Open).

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

Prizes presented by T. Skurray, Esq. 1, H. W. D. Charleton; 2, G. F. Powell. Distance, 20 ft.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

#### 2. Long Jump (Under 15).

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

1. E. M. Holbrook; 2, S. Brown. Distance, 16 ft. 7 ins.

E. M. Holbrook's jump was an improvement of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches on the winning jump of last year.

#### 3. High Jump (Open).

Prizes presented by W. T. Morland, Esq., O.A., and Lady Norman.

1, H. D. Shallard; 2, O. T. M. Raymont. Height, 4 ft.  $10\frac{1}{4}$  ins.

#### 4. High Jump (Under 15).

Prizes presented by A. E. Preston, Esq., O.A. 1, E. M. Holbrook; 2, S. Brown. Height, 4 ft.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

#### 5. Hurdles (Open).

Prizes presented by H. T. Clarke, Esq., and Miss Grundy.

1, C. R. Wright; 2, M. J. Bosley. Time, 19 1-5 secs.

#### 6. Hurdles (Under 16).

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

1, W. D. Shallard, ; 2 R. F. L. Thomas. Time, 22 4-5th secs.

#### 7. 100 Yards (Under 12).

Prizes presented by H. P. Simpson, Esq., O.A. 1, D. B. Groves; 2, W. P. H. Millett. Time, 15 1-5th secs.

#### 8. 100 Yards (Under 14).

Prizes presented by R. W. Langford, Esq. 1, A. T. Hatfield; 2, L. P. Mosdell. Time, 15 secs.

#### 9. 100 Yards (under 16).

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

1, R. F. L. Thomas; 2, E. M. Holbrook. Time, 14 secs.

#### 10. 100 Yards (Open).

Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Price. Prizes presented by H. G. W. d'Almaine, Esq., O.A.

1, H. W. D. Charleton; 2, G. F. Powell. Time, 10 4-5th secs.

Charleton won a very good race, with Powell finishing not far behind him, the time being 10 4-5th secs., 1-5th sec. more than Woodley's time of last year.

11. 220 Yards Handicap (Under 13).

Prizes presented by A. P. Iliffe, Esq.

1, F. L. Humphrey; 2, W. H. C. Mayhead. Time, 30 4-5th secs.

#### 12. Quarter Mile (Under 15).

Prizes presented by the Ladies of Abingdon. 1, E. M. Hollbrook; 2, E. P. Rice. Time 68 secs.

#### 13. 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, 55 2-5th secs.

Charleton won easily in record time.

14. Throwing the Cricket Ball (Open).

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

1. G. R. D. Estcourt; 2, W. G. Hancock. Distance, 89 yds. 2 ft. 1½ ins. Estcourt thus improving by eight yards upon his winning throw in last year's sports.

#### 15. Half Mile Handicap.

Prizes presented by H. Donkin, Esq., Mrs. Donkin and G. Saxby, Esq.

1. W. H. C. Mayhead; 2, E. G. Langford; 3, L. L. Baumann. Time, 2 mins. 18 1-5th secs.

A. F. James was the first to finish from scratch, and N. C. Wood second.

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

Prizes presented by F. H. Pryce, Esq., O.A. 1, G. F. Powell; 2, F. M. Cole. Distance, 29 ft.

 $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

F. G. Powell's was a very good put, being an improvement of over a foot on the winning put of last year.

#### 17. Relay Race (Junior).

Won by Blue House; Green House second. Time, 3 mins. 14 secs.

Blue.	Green.
E. M. Holbrook	A. T. Hatfield
K. R. Savage	R. E. Broadbent
S. Brown	G. E. Sinclair
E. P. Rice	D. J. W. Hillier
E. G. Langford	J. A. Howard
J. G. Waldron	W. H. C. Mayhead
C. J. E. Steff.	A. F. Hanks
A. M. Greenwood	W. B. Smith

#### 18. Relay Race (Open).

Won by Green House; Red House second. Time, 2 mins. 51 3-5th secs.

$\mathbf{Green.}$	$\operatorname{Red}$ .
H. W. D. Charleton	C. R. Wright
G. F. Powell	H. D. Shallard
G. R. D. Estcourt	J. G. Brewerton
R. F. L. Thomas	M. J. Bosley
C. Stacey	B. V. Edsall
W. J. Smith	W. D. Shallard
W. G. Cullum	R. B. Masterman-Wood.
T. T. Theophilus	S. E. Clark

The subscribers to the "Ladies' Prizes" were as follows:—Mrs. Barge, Miss Belcher (Northcourt), Mrs. Budgett, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Challenor (The Firs), Mrs. Challenor (Waysmeet), Miss B. Challenor, Miss P. Challenor, Miss Childs, Miss Clarke, Miss Cope, Mrs. Cornish, Miss Edwardes, Miss Florey, Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Gray, Miss Harris, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Kirkby, Mrs. Lowry, Mrs. Mainwaring, Mrs. Piers, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Reynolds (The Gables), Mrs. J. W. Reynolds (The Park), Mrs. Rudd, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Shallard, Lady Laeta Shirley, Miss Watts, Mrs. Woodford, Mrs. Wright.

The "Heber Clarke" Challenge Cup, awarded to the winner of the greatest number of points in open events, was won by H. W. D. Charleton, with 50 points, A. F. James and G. F. Powell tying for second place with 18 points each.

The "House" Challenge Cup, presented by the Ladies of Abingdon, which last year was won by Blue House, was this year obtained by Green House with 231 points, Blue House being second with 97 points, and Red House third with 92 points.

At the end of the events Mrs. Preston distributed the prizes and the proceedings terminated with three hearty cheers for Mrs. Preston and the prize donors, to whom our best thanks are due. We should also like to thank 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 STEEPLECHASES.

Prizes presented by J. F. Downing, Esq., and E. J. P. Ross-Barker, Esq., for the seniors, and by Bromley Challenor, Esq., O.A., and J. G. T. West, Esq., O.A., for the Juniors.

The steeplechases were run on the Common

on Wednesday, May 6th.

In the Senior, H. W. D. Charleton soon obtained the lead, which he kept all the way, winning easily in 12 minutes 17 secs., with A. F. James second and C. Stacey third.

In the Junior also (under 14) the winner, A. T. Hatfield, led almost the whole way, his time being 8 minutes 18 3-5th seconds. H. N. Trye was second and J. H. Taylor third.

#### THE MILE RACES.

Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Burkett. Prizes presented by the Headmaster and A. W. Morland, Esq., O.A., for the Seniors, and by E. M. Challenor, Esq., O.A., for the Juniors.

The Mile Races were run on Monday, May 11th. The times were almost the same as those of last

year.

In the Senior event, A. F. James gained an early lead which he kept until H. W. D. Charleton passed him in the last few hundred yards to come in first in 5 minutes 28 3-5th secs. C. Stacey just beat J. G. Brewerton for third place.

In the Junior (under 15), W. H. C. Mayhead and E. M. Holbrook led for the greater part of the race, but E. G. Langford, R. E. Broadbent, and A. T. Hatfield ran the last lap very well coming in first, second, and third respectively. Langford's time was 5 mins. 54 1-5th secs.

#### O. A. SPORTS.

The 26th School v. Old Abingdonians Athletic Meeting was held on Saturday, May 16th, and resulted in a win for the O.A.s by seven events to two. The results were as follows:—

- 1. 100 yards (record 10 1-5th secs.)
- 1, E. R. Barber, O.A.C.; 2, H. W. D. Charleton, A.S.A.C. Time, 10 4-5th secs.
  - 2. Long Jump (record 22 ft. 2ins.)
- 1. N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, H. W. D. Charleton, A.S.A.C. Distance, 19ft. 11 ins.
  - 3. High Jump (record 5ft.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ins.)

- 1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, I. Williams, O.A.C. Height, 5 ft. 2 ins.
- O. T. M. Raymont jumped well for the School, after H. D. Shallard had hurt his leg.
  - 4. Quarter-Mile (record 55 secs.)

1, E. R. Barber, O.A.C.; 2, H. W. D. Charleton, A.S.A.C. Time, 56 3-5th secs.

This was a very close race, although the time was not so good as that done by Charleton in the School Sports.

- 5. One Mile (record 4 mins. 50 1-5 secs.)
- 1, C. Ellis, O.A.C.; 2, H. W. Hooke, O.A.C. Time 5 mins. 15 1-5 secs.

This race resulted in an easy win for Ellis, Hooke also being well ahead of James, the School first string. T. T. Theophilus ran well for the School.

- 6. Hurdles (record 16 1-5th secs.)
- 1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, I. Williams, O.A.C. Time, 17 3-5th secs.

Carr led all the way and won easily.

- 7. Half Mile (record 2 mins. 9 4-5th secs.)
- 1, J. G. Brewerton, A.S.A.C.; 2, N. C. Wood, A.S.A.C. Time, 2 mins. 25 1-5th secs.

Brewerton ran very well indeed, coming in an easy winner after taking the lead in the last lap.

- 8. Putting the Weight (record 35 ft. 5 ins.)
- 1, N. A. Carr, O.A.C.; 2, F. M. Cole, A.S.A.C. Distance, 28 ft.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

Cole had very hard luck in not winning this event for the School, as he had two "No Putts," and then was only  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch behind Carr.

#### 9. Relay Race.

This was a splendid race in which the School led all the way, and just won by a yard in a very exciting finish. The time was 2 mins. 5 secs.

School Team.	O.A. Team.
H. W. D. Charleton	N. A. Carr
G. F. Powell	K. T. Wood
G. R. D. Estcourt	E. R. Barber
C. R. Wright	C. Ellis
C. Stacey	I. Williams
J. G. Brewerton	C. R. Davidge
	O

#### A.S.C.C. FIXTURES, 1925.

#### 1st XI.

Sat. 23 May Wed. 27 ,, Sat. 30 ,, Wed. 3 June Sat. 6 ,,	Magdalen Coll. School. Brightwell C.C. St. Edmund Hall. City of Oxford School. Exeter College.	*Home. Home. Home. Away. Home.
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Wed. 10 ,,	King Alfred's Sch., Want	ige.
,	•	Away.
Sat. 13 ,,	Magdalen Coll. School.	Away.
Wed. 17 ,,	Culham College.	Away.
Sat. 20 ,,	City of Oxford School.	Home.
Wed. 1 July	King Alfred's Sch., Wanta	ge.
wou. I buly	22119	Home.
Wed. 8 ,,	Brightwell C.C.	Away.
Cot 11	Old Abingdonians.	Home.
Sau. 11 ,,	*Scratched.	
	2ND XI.	
Sat 92 May	Leighton Park School.	Home.
Sat. 23 May	City of Oxford School.	Home.
Wed. 3 June		
Wed. 10 ,,	Leighton Park School.	Home.
Sat. 13 ,,	Magdalen College School.	Home.
Wed. 17 ,,	King Alfred's Sch., Wanta	age.
	<u> </u>	Home.
Sat. 20 ,,	City of Oxford School.	Away.
Wed. 1 July	King Alfred's Sch., Wanta	
	,	Away.
""	JNDER 15" XI.	v
Sat. 30 May	New College School.	Away.
Wed. 24 June	City of Oxford School.	Away.
Wed. 8 July	City of Oxford School.	Home.
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### O.A. NOTES. BIRTH.

BATE-PRESTON.—On Christmas Day, to Captain and Mrs. Bate-Preston, a daughter—Sylvia Noel.

#### DEATHS.

WESTBROOK.—On March 29, at 23, Victoria Road, Abingdon, after a short illness, Joseph Westbrook, aged 69 years.

CHALLENOR.—April 16, at Durban, South Africa, Octavius Scrase, eighth son of the late Bromley Challenor, of Abingdon, aged 59 years.

We are proud to note that a picture by an Old Boy—Louis Davis—is to find its way into the National Gallery. The picture, entitled *Nisi Dominus Frustra*, has been acquired by the Commissioners, and will come into their possession at the death of the artist, or by arrangement.

Military Honours have been gained by Capt. T. M. Layng, M.C., of the Indian Army, who has been awarded the M.B.E. (Military Division) for valuable services rendered in the field in connection with the operations in Waziristan from April 1923 to March 1924, and to Capt. H. A. A. d'Almaine, Reserve of Officers, who has been granted the Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers' Decoration.

The engagement is announced of Sir Michael W. S. Bruce, Bart., to Miss Emmeline Grace,

daughter of the American steel millionaire, Mr. Eugene Gifford Grace.

Congratulations to C. W. Lloyd and to J. E. A. Clarke, who have recently passed the Final Examination qualifying for the profession of Chartered Accountant. Likewise to C. E. Lowe, who has successfully negotiated the Law Prelim. and is now articled to a solicitor in Hastings.

We are glad to record that C. M. Humfrey has been promoted to the export department of the British Thomson-Houston Engineering Company at Rugby, and this before the period of his apprenticeship is normally ended.

W. G. Sherratt, who contributes an article on Amateur Wireless elsewhere in this issue, has been having interesting successes in his recent experimental work. Last term he picked up a message from GHH (Mosul, Mesopotamia) calling CQ (all stations) on 95 metres. Sherratt at once started up his transmitter and got into communication with the Mosul operator, from whom two important messages for the Air Ministry, London, were received with instructions to phone the Ministry as soon as possible. Every message was quickly passed without a single repeat, the signals from both stations being received clearly on two-valve sets. Mosul is about 3,000 miles away.

More recently Sherratt succeeded in establishing communication with Iceland (BG1) on 98 and 100 metres respectively. He was informed by BG1 that he was the first person in the world to open up communication with Iceland by amateur radio work. The power Sherratt used was 30 watts, and he was received on two valves at almost loud-speaker strength. BG1 is situated at Reykjavik.

A picture of W. G. Sherratt at work in his "station" (Cowes, I.W.) appeared recently in Popular Wireless and Wireless Review for March 28.

An engaging little book called "Going Fishing," with the sub-title "Letters to a Brother Angler," has recently been published by Arrowsmith, London. It is published anonymously, but we trust we are not betraying a confidence if we state that the author is the Rev. H. G. Hughes (O.A.), B.D. of the Gregorian University, Rome, whose present address is 5, Litfield Place, Clifton, Bristol. He has presented a signed copy to the School Library, for which we tender our best thanks.

Two at least of our Olim Alumni seem to have deserted soccer for rugger. J. F. Sinclair has been playing pretty regularly for his College 1st

XV. at Oxford, and we now hear that C. E. Lowe has joined the Hastings and St. Leonard's Rugby Football Club and has played in some of their matches.

We have had a letter from Tom Johnston, who tells us that he has "swallowed the anchor" and left the sea for a position ashore, under Government. His new address is Captain T. Johnston, Post Office. Calicut. Malabar. South India.

Of the O.A.s who have left the School since our last number was published, J. H. S. Dodwell has joined the London Polytechnic and is studying for the London Matric.; F. G. H. Allen has gone back to Singapore to help in his father's business; L. D. Hutchison has joined the training ship "Worcester"; N. P. Wiggins has a clerkship at the Abingdon Union; A. C. Croasdell is in his father's, the Town Clerk's, office in Abingdon; O. I. C. R. Round is in a bank in Birmingham; P. H. Barwell has passed into the Eastern Telegraph Company; J. M. Wheeler is in Gossage's Soap Works in Widnes; and S. W. R. Royse has gone to Canada as a cadet on the "Saturnia" (Mercantile Marine).

#### WAR MEMORIAL FUND.

In January last the Hon. Secretaries of the War Memorial Fund handed over to the School Extension Fund a sum of £1,798 14s. 4d., being the balance standing in their name at the Westminster Bank from the sale of the National War Bonds purchased in 1920, interest, and later subscriptions, thus closing their account with the Bank under this head. We publish below a supplementary list of subscribers, whose donations have not hitherto been publicly acknowledged in our columns.

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Amount from subscriptions already

acknowledged .. .. Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mitchell..

Mr. C. W. Davidge				5	0	(
Mr. R. A. Parnell				5	0	(
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The balance of the total sum handed over by the Hon. Secretaries is made up from appreciation of the Stock purchased in 1920 (5 per cent. National War Bonds 1927), interest on the same, and deposit interest at the Bank, deducting the sum of £75 12s. 6d. paid to Mowbrays, of Oxford, for the Memorial Brass in the Chapel, and the necessary expenses of printing, stationery, postage, etc.

#### WASTE COURT PURCHASE FUND.

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Mr. G. R. Kirkby	• •			5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Mason	••			5	0	0
Dr. R. Jennings				3	3	0
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