Misericordias Pomini



in aeternum cantabo.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The following awards have been made on the results of the School Examinations:—

To a Senior Bennett Scholarship—E. F. Slatter. To a Junior Bennett Scholarship—L. J. F. Godwin.

To a Blacknall Scholarship—R. A. Langford.

Cricket Colours have been awarded to H. R. Lansdown, S. A. Fabes, L. P. Mosdell and L. L. Baumann.

Presentation bats have been awarded as follows:

—For batting, to W. W. Brown (given by the Masters' Common Room). For bowling, to S. A. Fabes (given by the Headmaster). For fielding, to L. L. Baumann (given by H. V. Stone, O.A.). For Second XI. batting, to F. H. G. Taylor (special prize given by Dr. B. W. Henderson). For the best all-round cricketer under 15, to L. P. Mosdell (given by Dr. B. W. Henderson).

The Meredith bowling competitions were held on July 19. The senior prize was won by W. W. Brown and the junior by G. E. Sinclair.

A second concrete practice pitch has been laid this term in the lower field. These "en tout cas"

(concrete plus matting) pitches have proved invaluable under all conditions of weather, and, combined with Mr. Winter's coaching, have done much to improve the batting of the teams.

As in previous years the Sixth Form, all Colours and all First Class Shots were granted a whole holiday on the Saturday of Henley Week (July 2), to enable them to cycle into Henley and see the finals of the racing.

There was a half-holiday for all boys on Whit Monday, when several of us went over to Oxford to see the match between the New Zealanders and the O.U.C.C.

The following now form the "Abingdonian" Committee:—Mr. Ross Barker (*Editor*), N. V. Pearson, W. W. Brown, S. R. Hunt, A. M. Thatcher, C. R. Hall, E. A. Passam, E. G. Langford and T. G. Austin.

There will be a Rag Concert as usual on the last evening of this term—Monday, July 25.

Next term begins on Thursday, Sept. 15, boarders returning on the previous day.

FOUNDER'S DAY.

Founder's Day this year was observed on Friday, June 24th, when the usual programme was successfully carried out. The preacher at the service in St. Helen's Church was the Rev. H. E. Salter, Fellow of Magdalen College. The singing, which, owing to the untimely dismantling of the Church organ, was unaccompanied, under the able direction of Miss Sheldon Peach was highly successful.

After the service a large company assembled in the Corn Exchange for the distribution of prizes by Mr. A. E. Preston, F.S.A., J.P.—a former pupil and present governor of the School. Sir George Young and Mr. W. Brewer were also present on the platform.

The Headmaster first made his customary report of the year's work and successes. After thanking the Rev. H. E. Salter for his kindness in coming to preach to us, the Headmaster proceeded to enumerate the examination successes of the past year and the achievements of Old Boys, which have already been recorded in our pages. He then called upon Mr. Preston to present the prizes. The prize-winners were:—

VIA. Classics:—N. V. Pearson; VIB. Classics, T. G. Austin; Meredith Greek Prose Composition, E. G. Langford; Meredith Latin Prose Composition, N. V. Pearson.

VI. Mathematics:—1st Division, S. R. Hunt and A. M. Thatcher; 2nd Division, E. P. Rice.

VI. Physics:—1st Division, N. J. Banes; 2nd Division, M. K. S. Girdler.

VI. Chemistry:—J. A. Squire.

VI. French:—E. G. Langford.

Form Prizes:—VA., J. G. W. Randall; VB., J. E. Spencer; Remove, H. G. R. Constable and J. H. Taylor; III., K. H. Sorrell; II., G. H. Beazley.

Mathematics:—VA., D. C. K. Wright; VB., W. A. Hedges; Remove, H. R. Lay; III., R. L.

Triggs; II., G. J. Goodey.

Latin:—VA., J. G. W. Randall; VB., G. E. Sinclair; Remove, D. G. Lovibond; III., A. E. B. Foxwell.

Greek:—VA., M. Ogle; VB., G. E. Sinclair; Remove, S. P. Austin.

Science:—VA., R. F. Martin; VB., A. B. Blackmore.

Divinity VI.:—E. A. Passam; VA., H. F. Good; VB., B. J. Pedlar; Remove, W. G. C. Denny; III., B. G. Steff; II., J. E. Barber.

Art:—R. S. L. Robinson.

Singing:—H. R. Lay.

Piano Playing:—W. B. Smith. Nature Study:—L. Sinclair.

Mr. Preston then addressed the gathering in a speech which should be of the very utmost interest to all Abingdonians. Those who are members of the O.A. Club will receive in due course a separate copy of the speech, issued under the Club's auspices; but as many of our readers—present boys, for instance—do not come under the above category, we reprint for their benefit the report already published in the North Berks Herald. In any case we make no apology for enshrining in the pages of the school magazine this brief outline of the school's history by the foremost authority on the subject.

Mr. Preston said that, having listened to the Headmaster's satisfactory account of the achievements of the School and having performed the pleasant task of distributing the prizes to the lucky winners, they had reached the point where the trouble began. He begged them to believe that a speech by the prize-distributor was not of his invention, and had not even the sanction of ancient custom. It was quite of modern origin. For longer years than he need enumerate, he had been present at those gatherings in some capacity or other. His earliest attendance was amongst the boys, but it never fell to his share to receive any prize. He felt almost a sham in dealing out prizes on an occasion like that, when he had to confess that during the whole of his school days his efforts were not thought worthy of a reward of any kind. He was not saying that for their encouragement or imitation, but for the consolation of those who had not that day been successful, they might remember that prizes were sometimes to be won in the world after school days were over.

He wanted to say something about the past but could not in the time at his disposal attempt any résumé of the history of the School, and could only touch briefly one or two isolated phases. For example, almost everybody knew that in the midsixteenth century John Roysse did certain good things for the School, and from that it came to be thought in an uncritical age that he was the first founder of Abingdon School. That was an entire misconception. For two centuries before Roysse, and probably much longer, there had been a flourishing public grammar school at Abingdon. Not a monastic school and not within the walls of the Abbey, but in the town outside, and at first under the care of sinecure rectors of St. Nicholas,

who were then men holding the highest university degrees obtainable outside theology. The first great crisis of the School was in the Black Death of 1349-61, when it managed to survive the devastation to which so many other mediæval schools succumbed. In 1372 there was clear documentary evidence of it as fulfilling the functions of a grammar school of the first class, and populous enough to require three separate hostels for the accommodation of its boarders. The school-house was quite separate and in Stert Street near St. Nicholas' Church. The next great crisis in the School's history arose after the fall of the Abbey. For a quarter of a century, between 1538 and 1563, the School was carried on under great difficulties through loss of pupils and want of suitable premises. That was where the benefactions of John Roysse came in. He was an Old Boy, and waiting till the grand climacteric of his own age coincided with the years of the century in 1563, he gave a relatively small sum of money to fit up part of the old Hospital of St. John as a schoolroom for sixty-three boys. There was no house attached, and the schoolmaster for the next half-century resided in one of the tiny rooms that had formerly served as almshouses. Roysse performed the further service of providing a small endowment for the Headmaster's salary. But it was a mere pittance, and hardly kept the wolf from the door. Time did not allow of their looking at Roysse's idea of education, as expressed in his Ordinances. His main desire was to make the school free, i.e., free from tuition fees. He thought more of that than maintaining or raising the educational status of the school. The slender endowment that he provided made his scheme visionary, and freedom from payment did not last

Very soon after Roysse came another Old Boy, Thomas Tesdale, who conferred even greater benefits. Starting life with practically nothing, he made a large fortune by his own industry and ability, and towards the end of his life began to think what he could do with it. Remembering that it was practically impossible to carry on a school with sixty-three boys unassisted, he provided money for an usher. That was for the advantage of the boys whilst at school. But he did a greater thing for them after leaving school. Passing over all details, Tesdale left a sum equivalent to about £50,000 of modern money, for the support of thirteen boys from Abingdon School at Oxford. He wanted to give them a university career. Negotiations with Balliol and other existing

colleges having broken down, one of the smaller Halls was raised to the dignity of a College to be called "Pembroke," for the express purpose of receiving Tesdale's scholars, supplemented by seven others endowed by one Wightwick. The point to remember was not only that all these boys were to come from Abingdon School, but that at first Pembroke could take no others. It was created solely and entirely for the reception of scholars from Abingdon School—a thing unique in the relationships between schools and colleges. That state of affairs did not last very long, and Abingdon was now only getting four scholarships, worth together some £300 a year, in return for Tesdale's munificent gift.

The next phase of importance was the removal of the old School to its present position in 1870. More room and better premises were wanted, and the results proved how beneficial the change had been. The need for enlargement had not stopped. The pressure to get into Abingdon School was such that more room and more dormitory accommodation were required. Fortunately an opportunity offered of acquiring a neighbouring estate, as the Headmaster had pointed out. So far the bulk of the money had again been found by the Old Boys and their friends, and if any present were minded to walk up with a cheque book to the Headmaster, they would find themselves received with the utmost enthusiasm.

In conclusion, Mr. Preston said that with a little imagination the boys could conceive of themselves as forming with their predecessors a sort of body corporate which stretched back in an unbroken line for centuries. For example, long before Eton, Rugby or Harrow were thought of, their former school-fellows were joining in the shouting and the cheering which greeted the news from Agincourt, and also without doubt were similarly manifesting themselves at the previous victories of Cressy and Poitiers. When Shrewsbury and Westminster had only just started, Abingdon school-boys were witnessing bear-baiting in the School court by the servants of the Queen and Lord Leicester. Whilst Uppingham was only an infant institution, their predecessors were taking part in the bonfires and beacon lights that signalised the approach of the Armada. Many other illustrations could be given. He wanted them to realise that they had a great inheritance, and belonged to a School with a proud, honourable history, which was far and away the senior school of the county, and indeed had its place amongst the more ancient and

distinguished schools of the country. Although put off to this point, he wanted to acknowledge with sincere thanks the too flattering words concerning himself which had fallen from Mr. Grundy. He felt, however, that the chief title he had to be present that day was that he was an Old Boy himself. For his final words he gave them the sentiment Floreat Abendonia.

When cheers had been given for Mr. Preston, the Headmaster and Miss Grundy, and the visitors, the company adjourned to the School. Much rain had fallen in the morning, and it had been deemed advisable that the tea should be served in the Gymnasium and some of the class-rooms. This was the first time for twenty years that the weather on Founder's Day had played us false;

O.T.C.

The contingent was inspected on June 7th by Major J. J. Powell, who commands the Depot of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

We go to Mychett Farm, Aldershot, from July 26th to August 3rd, for our annual camp, at which there will be about two thousand five hundred cadets. By War Office allotment we can take thirty-five cadets, and it is gratifying to know that more than this number are ready to give up nine days of their own for the purpose of increasing their efficiency as possible officers of the future.

The following promotions have been made:—Corporal S. A. Fabes to be Sergeant; Lance-corporal M. Ogle to be Quarter-master Sergeant.

[We regret to state that camp has been scratched at the last minute, owing to two cases of German Measles.—Ed.]

and even on this occasion it had cleared up sufficiently by the afternoon to allow the visitors to walk about the grounds after tea and enjoy the music of the Oxford City Band outside.

Our best thanks are due to Mrs. Scott who very kindly made the wreath for John Roysse's tomb, and to the following donors of the prizes:—

Rev. P. C. Bevan, Dr. H. S. Challenor, Mr. H. T. Clarke, Mr. J. D. Godfrey (Mayor of Abingdon), Mr. W. M. Grundy, Mr. J. Knowles, Mr. R. W. Langford, the Rev. Canon W. M. Meredith, Mrs. Miles, Mr. W. T. Morland, Mr. W. H. Nash, Miss Sheldon Peach, Mr. A. E. Preston, Mr. W. W. Richardson, Mr. H. P. Simpson, Mr. T. Skurray, Mrs. Stevens.

REGATTA.

The annual School Regatta was held on Thursday July 23rd, at 2 p.m. The weather was somewhat rough and several showers did not add to the pleasure of the afternoon. However, good racing was witnessed and there were close finishes in several races.

The amateur rowing of some of the competitors added to the amusement of the spectators, as did also the immersions of sundry "canoists." After the last event Mr. Bevir presented the prizes to the winners. They were as follows:—

prizes to the winners. They were as follows:—Senior House Fours, "Red" House; Junior House Fours, "Red" House; Senior Pairs, J. C. R. Gardner, D. C. K. Wright, R. A. Langford; Junior Pairs, S. S. Bates, S. H. L. Walford, E. G. Hunt; Canoes, J. C. R. Gardner, G. V. Cook; Dongola, A. C. Smith, L. L. Baumann, F. H. G. Taylor, S. H. L. Walford, S. S. Bates.

CRICKET.

We have been more fortunate this season than last as regards the weather, which has not interfered with any of our matches. Twelve were played by the 1st XI., who won five, drew four and lost three. An extremely exciting finish was seen in one match, that against the City of Oxford School, on our ground, when our opponents' score was passed only in the last over of the day. The Old Boys were defeated in a match which at one stage looked like being very close.

The batting of the XI. was, on the whole, fairly strong, although in the middle period, when we lost three matches in succession, it failed rather unaccountably, and in one at least of the drawn matches we scored too slowly to make a win possible.

The fielding, apart from one match in which it was really bad, was keen and fairly sound, though there was room for considerable improvement in the standard of picking up and returning the ball to the wicket. The weak point of the team was undoubtedly its lack of change bowlers. Brown and Fabes bowled with great perseverance and determination, but were overworked.

The 2nd XI. played seven matches, winning four, drawing one, and losing two; a fairly satisfactory record. Jennings, Hall, and G. E. Sinclair bowled quite well, while F. H. G. Taylor was the most successful batsman and played several good innings.

Total	lagdalen College School. Played at Oxford, lay, June 4th. "all-day" match, played on the Magdalen d. The scoring on both sides was very slow, whing and fielding in both teams being very. The School were rather unfortunate in their first three batsmen by being run out. played a very useful innings. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.
K. Biggers, c Brown, b Fabes 2 good. J. J. Thomas, c Cook, b Brown 2 losing to Cook p J. Plows, b Fabes 6 Cook p E. Brown, b Brown 1 The cook p R. Kimbell, c Alston, b Fabes 14 The cook p A. Green, lbw b Brown 2 D. P K. Tripé, c Rice, b Brown 4 L. K	The School were rather unfortunate in their first three batsmen by being run out. played a very useful innings.
R. R. Kimbell, c Alston, b Fabes 14 A. Green, lbw b Brown 2 K. Tripé, c Rice, b Brown 4	MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.
F. Goodger, c Lansdown, b Fabes 5 E. D F. Rolfe, not out 48 H. W W. Hall, c Brown, b Cook 8 E. S. Extras 9 I. C. G. A Total 149 W. F E. J.	P. McKeown, lbw b Fabes 0 K. Gilling, b Brown 11 J. England, c Rice, b Short 10 D. C. Higgs, lbw b Short 15 W. Lee, b Brown 9 J. Brown, c Cook, b Short 5 C. Rigby, c Lansdown, b Short 9 A. Turner, c and b Brown 18 P. Anderson, b Brown 3 A. Lunn, b Brown 1
v. Abingdon C.C. Played at Abingdon, Saturday, May 28th. A.S.C.C.	7. S. Scott, not out
W. M. Grundy, Esq., b Winter 10 H. R. Lansdown, c Stone, b Parker 10 E. P. Rice, c Donkin, b Parker 0 W. W. Brown, c Clinch, b Winter 8 R. E. Broadbent, b Parker 1 L. P. Mosdell, not out 31 R. W. Taylor, b Parker 3 F. H. G. Taylor, lbw b Parker 0 L. L. Baumann, lbw b Parker 3 S. A. Fabes, c Sinclair, b Winter 3 R. M. Short, c Taylor, b Winter 8 Extras 11 S. A.	A.S.C.C. A.S.C.C. A.S.C.C. A.S.C.C. A. Lansdown, run out

THE

J. F. Sinclair, lbw b Jennings

R. A. P. Moore, b Jennings

H. D. Thomson, c Rice, b Fabes

J. H. Combes, c Baumann, b Brown ...

J. V. Bailey, b Brown.....

G. T. Whiteman, not out

J. B. E. Alston, Esq., b Pocock

E. P. Rice, b Bailey

W. W. Brown, not out

H. R. Lansdown, b Gilbert

R. E. Broadbent, not out.....

G. V. Cook, S. A. Fabes, R. W. Taylor,

W. Jennings, did not bat.

ground, Saturday, June 25th.

L. L. Baumann, N. V. Pearson, F.

Extras

Jennings bowled very successfully for the

v. Old Abingdonians. Played on the School

O.A.C.C.

J. F. Sinclair, lbw b Brown

H. A. L. Donkin, run out..... R. Taylor, c Rice, b Brown

W. Cottrell, run out

W. G. Hancock, b Fabes

F. M. Cole, b Fabes

P. T. Thomas, b Brown

W. T. Morland, b Brown

H. V. Stone, c and b Fabes

I. Williams, b Brown

C. Ellis, not out

E. P. Rice, c Ellis, b Thomas

H. R. Lansdown, b Taylor.....

W. W. Brown, run out

R. E. Broadbent, c and b Ellis

L. P. Mosdell, run out.....

G. V. Cook, st. Cottrell, b Taylor

S. A. Fabes, b Hancock R. W. Taylor, not out.....

L. L. Baumann, b Morland

Extras

A.S.C.C.

Total 157

School, taking 4 very useful wickets for 44 runs.

Total (for 3 wickets)

Extras

A.S.C.C.

21

13

26

7

10

4

0

4

7

37

30

11

96

1

37

53

24

11 2

15

5

1

4

1

31

16

49

0

0 3

23

18

27

16

v. Dorchester College, on June 1st. Drawn, 104—39 for 5 wickets. The School batted first and amassed 104. Taylor batted well for 28 and Garton made 20. Although Jennings and Hall bowled well and there were frequent bowling changes, the match resulted in a draw.

v. Magdalen College School, on June 4th. Won, 106—79. Magdalen were all out before lunch for 79, Hall securing 5 wickets for 25. The School replied with 106, thanks to Garton, who make 32, and to steady scoring by other members of the

team.

v. The City of Oxford School, on June 18th. Won, 77—74. The School batted first and made 77, Kettle playing an invaluable 25 not out. C.O.S. were dismissed for 74, due to excellent bowling by Sinclair (4 for 25) and Langford, and good fielding. This was the most exciting match of the season.

v. Leighton Park School, on July 6th. Won, 108 for 8 dec.—68. Leighton batted first and scored 68. Sinclair, 3 for 18, and Hall, 4 for 19, bowled well. The School replied with 108 for 8 declared. Taylor played admirably for 52 and was well backed up by Steff.

The following have played for the second eleven:
—C. R. Hall (Capt.), N. V. Pearson, E. G. Langford,
L. P. Mosdell, K. R. Savage, F. W. Jennings, C.
J. E. Steff, F. H. G. Taylor, G. E. Sinclair, G.
Garton, W. B. Smith, R. L. Dawson, R. M. Short,
R. S. L. Robinson, W. R. A. Kettle, J. C. R.
Gardner, P. O. Darbishire, H. W. Stone.

"under 15" eleven.

v. City of Oxford School, on June 8th. Lost. The School batted first and after quite a good start collapsed and were all out for 81, F. H. G. Taylor (36) and P. O. Darbishire (16) being the only two batsmen to reach double figures. C.O.S. lost their first wicket quite early, but after that they found the School bowling easy to play and went on to score 120.

v. City of Oxford School, on June 22nd. Lost C.O.S. batted first and scored quite freely, making a total of 157. Then the School went in and fared very badly, G. E. Sinclair (14) being the only batsman to reach double figures. The School total was 36.

v. New College School, on June 29th. Drawn. N.C.S. won the toss and batted first. The play was slow for some time, but brightened up later. N.C.S., thanks to Haynes, who scored 48, made 86. F. H. G. Taylor bowled well and took six wickets for nineteen runs. Given a good start by F. H. G.

Taylor and G. E. Sinclair the School scored 58 for the loss of one wicket.

The following played for the "under 15" eleven:—L. P. Mosdell (Capt.), F. H. G. Taylor, G. E. Sinclair, F. C. L. Humphrey, J. E. Spencer, J. H. Taylor, P. O. Darbishire, G. A. Wood, J. E. Emmett, R. C. Clarke, E. G. Hunt, E. F. Slatter.

FIRST ELEVEN CHARACTERS.

W. W. Brown (Captain, Colours 1925).—A good all-round cricketer, whose batting and bowling contributed largely to the success of the eleven. which he captained with ability and enthusiasm. He batted well throughout the season and was especially successful in the last four matches, in which he made 211 runs and was twice not out. He has a sound defence, and though not a rapid scorer, possesses a variety of strokes. He is strongest on the off and makes most of his runs by square and late cuts. A medium-pace bowler. he has a fairly good command of length and can turn the ball. He might with advantage vary his pace more. Owing to the paucity of bowling talent in the team he had to bowl for long periods, and, though fairly successful, would probably have done better had he been able to rest himself more. (Batting average, 34.5. Bowling, 12.14.)

E. P. Rice (Colours 1926).—Has played several very useful innings, but was disappointing on two or three occasions. Is a very good opening batsman and a very useful change bowler. (Batting average 14.6. Bowling 19.1.)

R. E. Broadbent (Colours 1926).—Has played a steady game throughout the season. A safe catch in the slips. (Batting average 13.7.)

H. R. Lansdown. (Colours 1927).—A very pleasing bat to watch; plays good shots all round the wicket, especially on the leg-side. Must learn to call. An energetic fielder; has improved greatly. (Batting average 13·3.)

S. A. Fabes (Colours 1927).—Has bowled consistently well throughout the season, though inclined to bowl short at times. His batting, though still rather weak, has improved immensely. He must learn to watch the ball and play it with greater freedom. (Batting average 10.2. Bowling 11.25.)

L. P. Mosdell (Colours 1927).—Shows very great promise indeed. Although our youngest member he has batted extremely well and plays with the utmost confidence. Has saved a total collapse on two or three occasions. His fielding is very

weak. He must learn to concentrate on the game and keep awake. (Batting average, 20.6.)

- L. L. Baumann (Colours 1927).—Is too eager to hit, with rather disastrous results. Would be quite a good bat if he would have more patience. Is an excellent fielder and by far the best on the side. His keenness is very worthy of imitation. (Batting average 5.83.)
- F. W. Jennings.—Came into the team rather late in the season. Has proved himself a very useful change bowler. His fielding is quite good. His batting, though improved, still leaves plenty of room for improvement. He must get out of the habit of 'poking.'
- habit of 'poking.'
 R. W. Taylor.—A left-hand bat of the stone-wall type, he has improved immensely since the beginning of the season, and has been very useful on more than one occasion. Though rather slow in the field, is quite good, and seldom misses a catch. (Batting average 13.)
- G. V. Cook.—Very erratic as a batsman and has been on the whole rather a disappointment. His bowling is very uncertain, but ought to be good if he could settle down to bowl a steady length. His fielding has improved greatly and is now good. (Batting average 4.85.)

N. V. Pearson, wicket-keeper.—Came into

the team half-way through the season. He is still rather slow but stops the ball well. His batting is not good, but he might make runs occasionally. (Batting average 8.)

HOUSE CRICKET.

In the first Senior match, between Blue House and Green House, Blue House, thanks to steady work on the part of the whole side, and particularly Rice, Steff and Kettle, obtained 187. Through the bowling of Rice and E. G. Langford, Green House were dismissed for 67, of which Povey made 20. Blue House thus won by 120 runs.

The second match resulted in victory for Red House over Green House. The latter batted first and made 91, to which Fabes contributed 49. Red House scored 130 for 5 in reply, Brown making 101 not out. Reds thus won by five wickets.

The third match was again to be a victory for Red House, once more through the efforts of Brown, the captain. Blue House, batting first, scored 49. Red House passed this score with one wicket down, and went on to score 123, thus winning by 9 wickets. The best effort for Blue House in this match was that of Waldron, who was top scorer of his side with 16 not out, and succeeded in taking five wickets for 14 runs.

TOWN PLANNING

ANCIENT AND MODERN.

As Town Planning is a subject which is fast becoming one of national importance, and indirectly effects every class from the humblest to the highest, I hope that the following article will prove of some interest.

The study of this subject shows that it is by no means a "modern idea"; in fact, it has been quoted as being "one of the oldest of the Arts," so that, first of all, I will take you back 2,000 years to the Hellenistic age of Greece, and to the Roman World

The old cities of Greece in the sixth and fifth centuries B.C. consisted of narrow winding streets bounded by poor houses, such as to-day exist in the older parts of our towns and cities. The central and important sites were occupied by the Temples of the Gods, the Senate House, the Town Hall and other Public Buildings, whilst surrounding them were narrow and foul alleys and wretched and squalid houses. We are told that water was fetched from wells or springs, refuse was thrown into the streets, and there was no sanitation.

It is very surprising then to realize we have only to go back a century or less, to see that such unhealthy conditions were still prevailing in this country.

Towards the end of the fifth century B.C. Aristotle tells us in "The Politics" that "an Ionian Hippodamus of Miletus, a famous philosopher and savant, invented Town Planning and was employed by Pericles, the great Statesman of Athens in her best days, to improve the planning of that famous city." That city, together with others, was thereupon planned, the streets being laid out at right angles to each other; but there is little doubt that architectural beauty was considered to be as essential a factor in design as convenient and rapid transit facilities are to-day.

The Ionian town of Priene (which has been excavated by German Archaeologists and a plan of which I have before me) is a remarkable example of a regular scheme, however, (attention being paid also to architectural effects), and compares with the modern American cities. The Market Place is shown in the centre surrounded by Public Buildings, while the whole Town is cut up into square blocks of uniform size, with almost mathematical precision, by straight streets which run

through the town from wall to wall. On the outskirts of the Town, just inside the walls, are the Gymnasium and Stadium, the equivalent of our

modern playing fields.

It is impossible, in the space at my disposal, to dwell on this subject, but it is very interesting to learn that, after the death of Hippodamus, and during the time of Alexander the Great and his successors, Town and City Planning was even more extensively carried on. It was the policy of the Macedonian Conqueror to re-found the cities he conquered, and settle in them colonies of Greeks and Macedonians. In a very short while these towns and cities, laid out as they were with every thought of convenience and hygiene, became populous and wealthy, and eventually played a great part in history.

It is an extraordinary fact that, civilised and educated as we imagine we are to-day, we can turn back two thousand years and discover that in matters of architecture, science, and the planning of cities, the Greeks were our equals, possibly our superiors, save that under existing complex conditions we have, without doubt, greater difficulties with which to contend. In the Roman cities there were no such striking examples. aimed at systematic layouts, but excavations prove that the streets were in some instances irregular and architectural effects were missing. Examples of their planning in this country are almost negligible. There are one or two exceptions, but the original layouts have to a great extent been obliterated by time: it is naturally quite easy to realise that an old street plan has disappeared, even though the site has been continuously inhabited.

Having made a quick survey of conditions prevailing in ancient times, I will now refer briefly to those of modern times. It has been said that this subject is "an intermittent science which comes into activity only in certain ages and under certain circumstances." From the above, it can be seen that in both ancient Greece and the Roman World the need was realised, as towns grew and slums and overcrowding developed; and thus at the present day, when the call for houses is greater than ever before, it is obvious that the time is mature for Town Planning on a comprehensive scale. Under the Housing and Town Planning Acts, it is compulsory for all communities with a population of over 20,000 inhabitants to prepare a scheme before 1929; thus it can be seen that in the next half-century or more our towns will grow up in a systematic manner,

and not in the haphazard way they have grown in the past. With the gradual expansion of a town or city, elimination of slum areas will follow as a matter of course, and it is *only* by this method that such can be effectively accomplished.

There is only space for a summary of the works involved in preparing a scheme, since the scope is fairly extensive. Firstly, the area to be planned is decided upon by the Local Authority, and a resolution to that effect is submitted to the Ministry of Health. If it is approved, the planning of that area is then entirely under the control of the Local Authority. The widening of existing roads and the careful planning of a system of new roads. permitting of an easy and rapid flow of traffic to all parts, thereby opening up new areas for development, is the first consideration. areas thus created are divided up into sections (called zones). These are designated for either residential purposes, or business and manufacturing premises (such as shops, offices, mills, factories), and sites are provisionally fixed for Public Buildings, Churches, Libraries or places of amusement. Suitable sites are chosen for Open Spaces (for Recreation Grounds and Playing Fields and Public Gardens). In some of our larger cities provisions are also being made for Public Aerodromes, since it is essential that, if air transport is to be of much service, air stations should be situated as near the main part of any town as possible; but opinion generally appears to be very sceptical as to the utility of such an inclusion.

Drainage, water supply, lighting and power mains, etc., are all subjects to be considered; and provisions should be embodied for the preservation of places and buildings of Historical interest and Archaeological value. Naturally in the planning of roads and the setting aside of areas for certain purposes, circumstances and conditions govern one's decision (e.g. sites for factories, etc., should be near to main roads and railways, since speed of delivery is becoming more and more the keynote of business efficiency). There are of course numerous other considerations, but I am afraid of incurring the Editor's wrath by mentioning them all here.

It can be seen then that, under the present conditions of road and general progress, one is faced with somewhat other circumstances than in the past centuries; consequently Local Authorities are going a step further in general development, since, under what is known as Regional Town Planning, several authorities are forming joint committees, so that the ideas of one shall correlate

with those of another. It is in this respect, therefore, that we are rapidly advancing beyond the ancients. Whereas the previous ideas were limited to the development of isolated towns, irrespective of the intervening country-side, with the present system, the country will gradually be developed as a harmonious whole.

H.P.T.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR SIR,

I have learnt with concern that the Armorial Bearings as used by Abingdon School are not authentic. That is to say, they do not belong to the School. Actually, I understand, they are the Arms of a man and wife, as shown by the quarterings. Unlike Mr. Preston, I was fortunate enough to receive one prize (just one!) while at School, and I have always proudly exhibited the arms emblazoned thereon to my friends, as the School's Arms. Now the School is fortunate to number among its Old Boys many noted Antiquarians, and I shall be very pleased if any of these gentlemen, or others favouring Heraldry as a hobby, can offer any information, and more important still, advice, on the subject.

It would seem that the Arms might be those of John Roysse, Thomas Tesdale or other early benefactor of the School, together with those of his wife (respectively!). I regret that I do not know whether 'Johannes' was married or not. (I suspect not, or he would never have been a benefactor!)

Now the point is this. Arms, like Monomarks, are supposed to be distinctive, and it is not legal for a Foundation to assume the Arms of its Founder as they stand. A compromise may be effected, however; i.e. by application to the College of Arms (in London) for the necessary patent, etc., to have the Arms duly modified, registered and finally granted.

This, of course, is a common procedure. At the time of the Visitation of the Heralds to the Universities many colleges at Oxford and Cam-

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Rev. G. S. Deacon		4	0
	£4049	8	0

bridge did apply for and were granted their Founder's Arms, duly modified. The alteration was, I believe, only slight and consisted generally of encircling the original Arms with some sort of band, or frame.

In conclusion then it does seem that some alteration should be made and that the School should no longer remain under the reproach of "flying false colours." The "Senior School of Berkshire" surely deserves something better.

The only remaining point, of course, is the usual one, namely that of £ s. d. A standard charge is, of course, made for the patent, registration, etc., and all the work entailed. I only regret that for the moment I am "on the rocks" and cannot offer, as an old Hailyburian in similar circumstances did, "to put down £5 if fourteen other old Hailyburians will do the same." I must leave that to one of my nobler O.A. readers. I will, however, put down the modest sum of one guinea if fifty other O.A.s will do likewise.

I have to thank you, Mr. Editor, for once more suffering me in silence.

Yours hopefully, W.H.S.

[We have to thank our correspondent for his very generous offer on the School's behalf. On the subject of the Arms he will find much valuable information in an article from the pen of the late W. H. Richardson, O.A., F.S.A. (a first class authority upon the subject) which was published in the Christmas Number of *The Abingdonian* for 1897.—Ed.]

FRIENDSHIP.

Rose fragrance is a little thing
In June—
September's flowers fade and die
Too soon;
So friendship, in good fortune
Freely given,
In sorrow, is the greatest gift
Of Heaven.

C.C.W.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Club was held in the Masters' Common Room at 6 p.m., on Sat., June 25th, after the Past v. Present cricket match. The President (W. T. Morland) was in the chair, and there was quite a good attendance of members.

The accounts of the Club, shewing a balance of over £67, were passed. The Hon. Sec. reported that there were 26 new members, which was very satisfactory.

The following officers were then elected:--

President, T. S. Wilding; Vice-Presidents, Rev. W. H. Cam, Rev. T. Layng, W. M. Grundy; Committee, H. V. Stone, W. B. Coxeter, E. J. P. Ross-Barker, J. F. Sinclair, I. Williams, G. S. Sturrock; Hon. Secs. and Treas., H. A. L. Donkin, R. E. Eason; London Sec., W. H. Stevens.

The Secretaries' addresses are:—

H. A. L. Donkin, Caldecott Cottage, Abingdon.

R. E. Eason, Radley College, Berks.

W. H. Stevens, Shirley, Page Heath Lane, Bickley, Kent.

The following resolution was then proposed and carried unanimously:—"That this meeting thanks Mr. A. E. Preston for his speech on Founder's Day on the History of the School, and hopes that this will be published in some form in due course."

The Headmaster then explained that it had not been possible to design a suitable new School Cap, and the matter had been dropped.

The Headmaster further explained to the meeting the present situation of the Waste Court Scheme, which was much appreciated. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the President.

Following the precedent of the last two years, the Club held a Reception in the Council Chamber on the evening of Founder's Day at 8 p.m. There was Dancing and Bridge as usual. Eighty-two members and their friends were present, and all appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The Hon. Sec. would like to point out, however, that on Friday morning he had only about 60 acceptances. He would remind members (and others) that it is extremely difficult to cater for a function of this kind unless he is informed at least a day before-hand of the numbers coming.

The annual dinner of the Club was held on Saturday evening at 8 p.m., at the Lion Hotel. There were 36 members and their friends present. The Club was especially glad to welcome the Vicar of Abingdon as a guest.

O.A. NOTES.

We have heard with pleasure of the following examination successes:—

E. H. Blacknell—Institute of Actuaries, Final Exam.

K. Cleave and H. D. S. Stiles—Institute of Land Surveyors, Intermediate Exam.

A. W. Miles—Institute of Chartered Accountants, Intermediate Exam.

W. G. Hancock and G. F. Powell—Law Prelim. at Oxford.

Stiles especially distinguished himself by gaining first place on the list for the Oxford, Berks and Bucks Division. He is for the time being at Brighton (2 Albert Road), where he is working in connection with the revaluation of the West Sussex district under the new Rating Act.

C. C. Woodley, who has just finished the Honours Degree course in English at London University, has obtained an appointment as English master at Hanley Castle Grammar School, near Worcester, Of senior Old Boys we were glad to receive a visit in June from H. M. Digby, who joined the School in 1875 and won distinction for himself as an oarsman both here and afterwards at Oxford. He is now living at Harvard Cottage, Osterley, Middlesex, and would be pleased to renew acquaintance with his contemporaries.

Walter Cottrell, of a later but still comparatively early date, was playing against us in the O.A. Cricket Match this year. Since he left us in 1900 the years, which have added weight to his personality, would seem to have dealt lightly enough with his powers as a mighty hitter. We were glad, too, to find that he still retains so much of his old skill as a wicket-keeper. He is now in Holy Orders, and Vicar of a parish in Acton, where St. Thomas' Lodge, Acton, W.1., is his address.

N. V. H. Riches, who was Cottrell's contemporary, was again selected this year to play for the Gentlemen v. Players at the Oval. Though in the

first innings he fell an early victim to the onslaught of the redoubtable Kennedy, he managed to amass a quite respectable score in the second.

We congratulate O. J. Couldrey on the success of his recent exhibition of drawings and water-colours. This was held at the Ock House on July 5, 6 and 7, and—to judge by the comments which we heard—the numerous visitors were not a little pleased with the work of their fellow townsman.

We were represented at Henley this year by C. R. Wright and G. F. Powell, who rowed stroke and "5" respectively in the Pembroke College Eight. This was entered for the Thames Challenge Cup, but they were unfortunately beaten in their heat by the L.M.B.C., Cambridge. In the "Eights" at Oxford they had been very successful, and

finished the week's racing with four bumps to their credit.

W. H. Stevens has obtained an appointment at Greenwich as Chemist to the Cable Company.

News has been received of Richard B. Leach, who left England in April to take up farming in Kenya Colony.

C. A. W. Payne is now on leave in England, and was present at the O.A. Dinner. On the eve of sailing from Calcutta he himself gave a dinner to sundry O.A.s there resident. A full list of the O.A.s now in India and the East would be of great interest and value to many of our readers, and we shall be grateful to anyone who will supply us with the needful information.