

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

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EDITORIAL.

We make no apology for our late appearance: in fact we intend to be later still in future. For some years past we have published our spring number at the beginning of the summer term. In future we propose to do the like with our other issues too. The advantages of this are obvious. In the first place we shall be publishing at equal intervals of times—January, May, September. Secondly we shall be able to include in each issue *all* the news of the preceding term. No longer need we write in March of belated football in December, or wait till Christmas ere we chronicle successes in the summer examinations. Thirdly—but this concerns ourselves. Suffice it to say that the end of term is a heavy time for the editorial staff.

This number then, to be published in the holidays, may be regarded as a transition number—between the old system and the new. Christmas will be over before it appears, but it will not be too late to wish our readers a very happy new year.

SCHOOL NOTES.

We warmly congratulate Mr. Reynolds on his appointment to the Headmastership of Bishop's Stortford School. Mr. Reynolds has been with us since 1920, when he succeeded Mr. Walker as chief History Master and O.C. of the Officers Training Corps. During his tenure of office the Corps has been increased from one to two platoons, and the various camps and field-days have been run with vigour and success. Mr. Reynolds has helped with the coaching in Rugby football and has taken one of the cricket games under his care. While he lived at Avondale before Waste Court was bought by the School, he acted as house-master to some half-dozen boarders. Apart from the interest which he has instilled by his History and English teaching he has thrown himself into the general life of the School, and his interest in boxing and swimming has been serviceable to a number of boys. He will be missed here by a wide circle of friends, and we hope too that he will look back with pleasure on a period of service during which

he has entered into married life and has taken Orders in the Church. All connected with the School wish him and Mrs. Reynolds every happiness and success in their new sphere of work.

Mr. Reynolds' successor next term will be Mr. R. C. Bateman, B.A., late Exhibitioner of Lincoln College, Oxford. Mr. Bateman, we understand, was Captain of his College Cricket XI at Oxford, and represented his College at Rugger. He was also reserve man for the Oxford University Hockey XI, played hockey for Oxfordshire, and is a Vice-President of the Oxfordshire County Hockey Club. We wish him success and happiness in his life at Abingdon.

With regard to Waste Court we have been instructed to include the following among our Notes :—

"We have to state with much regret that Mr. Rudd will be resigning the charge of Waste Court at the end of the Easter term. Mrs. Rudd unfortunately finds the care of the boys too great a tax upon her. This is a great disappointment to us. We had hoped that Mr. and Mrs. Rudd would have remained in residence there for many years. We are sure however that all friends of the School will be glad to know that Mr. Ross Barker will take charge of Waste Court as resident housemaster. We are very fortunate in being able to place it in such capable hands. He will be assisted by a duly qualified matron under the control of the School authorities."

[For ourselves as Mr. Rudd's successor we can only add that, while thanking our sponsors for their confidence in us and for their all too flattering estimate of our slender capabilities, we shall accept our new charge, when the time comes, in all humility, and endeavour ourselves to prove not unworthy of it. At the same time we do desire to put on record our own deep personal regret that a successor to Mr. Rudd should be so soon needed. We too had hoped that he would continue for a long time in the tenure of an office for which he is so admirably qualified.—*Editor.*]

Our successes in the July Oxford School Certificate Examination were as follows :—

First Class Honours :—D. G. Lovibond, B. J. Pedlar, G. E. Sinclair.

Second Class Honours :—L. P. Mosdell, P. B. Squire.

Third Class Honours :—R. F. Brown, W. G. C. Denny, A. M. Greenwood.

Passed :—J. Ashby, S. P. Austin, L. S. Bailey, G. Garton, D. S. Kite, S. J. Lansdown, P. W. Lay,

E. R. Leslie-Smith, S. A. Paige, S. D. Plummer, V. E. Pollard, E. F. Slatter, P. D. Smith.

G. E. Sinclair gained distinctions in Greek and in Latin, and L. P. Mosdell in Greek.

There are 141 names on the School Books this term : 78 Boarders and 63 Day Boys.

G. E. Sinclair is Head of the School and of the School House. The other prefects are (in order of seniority)—L. P. Mosdell, W. R. A. Kettle, G. A. Wood and B. J. Pedlar. Sub-prefects are (in alphabetical order)—S. P. Austin, L. S. Bailey, R. F. Brown, P. W. Lay, E. R. Leslie-Smith, J. G. Milsom, P. D. Smith and J. H. Taylor.

G. E. Sinclair is Captain of Rugger, with L. P. Mosdell Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

B. J. Pedlar has been appointed School Librarian.

The "Abingdonian" Committee is composed as follows :—Mr. Ross Barker (Editor), G. E. Sinclair, L. P. Mosdell, G. A. Wood, B. J. Pedlar, E. R. Leslie-Smith, P. D. Smith.

First XV Rugger colours have been awarded to G. A. R. Boyd, G. A. Wood and E. R. Leslie-Smith, and second XV colours to W. B. Badcock, H. B. Healy, D. E. Healy, W. R. A. Kettle, P. W. Lay, P. B. Squire, J. H. Taylor. R. F. Brown, J. G. Milsom and S. F. Thatcher received their second XV colours last year.

We are glad to state that the School Literary, Scientific and Debating Society has, after a season of inertia, again awakened to a vigorous and enterprising life. This is all the more matter for congratulation as the Abingdon Town L. and D. Society seems to be, in its turn, for the time being in abeyance. A record of School debates in the Pembroke Room and other doings of the Society will be found in another column.

No less than four members of the School were guests this summer at the Duke of York's camp at Littlestone-on-sea. These were :—W. R. A. Kettle, R. A. Langford, P. J. Squire and G. A. Wood.

The Rev. J. W. Reynolds was ordained priest by the Bishop of Oxford at Cuddesdon on Sunday, December 22nd.

In a second competition held at the end of last term the winners of Miss Meredith's bowling prizes were J. H. Taylor and C. Spalding, of the seniors and juniors respectively.

Members of the 1st XV have availed themselves on several occasions of permission to visit Oxford to watch the performances of the Varsity XV.

The whole of the first team was enabled to witness the excellent match *v.* Gloucester.

The preliminary levelling has been done and grass seed sown upon three of the four prospective lawn tennis courts on the Waste Court property. So far the results seem quite satisfactory, in spite of the summer drought.

Those who learn Greek in VI and Va Forms spent a delightful evening at the Oxford Playhouse on Thursday, Nov. 21st, at the performance of the "Iphigeneia in Tauris" of Euripides. The play was given in English—Professor Gilbert Murray's translation—by Anmer Hall's Cambridge Festival Theatre Company. The boys made the journey to and fro by motor-bus.

Another pleasant evening, though of a less "high-brow" type, was spent by the whole School on November 29th at the Corn Exchange, where the Abingdon "Guild of Abbey Players" gave an excellent rendering of "Ambrose Applejohn's Adventure."

The School attended the Armistice Day service in the Square, as in former years, with the O.T.C. contingent among those "on guard" around the War Memorial.

We have to thank the Rev. Canon Oldfield for his present to the School Library of two further volumes of the *Journal of Roman Studies*.

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

This term ends on Tuesday, December 17th. We are trusting to Mr. Ingham's versatility to provide the usual "Rag" Concert in the evening.

Next term begins on Tuesday, January 14th, boarders returning on the 13th.

The following dates have also been fixed:—
Last day of Easter Term, Wednesday, March 26th.
First day of Summer Term, Tuesday, April 29th.
Last day of Summer Term, Monday, July 28th.
[N.B. These are the days on which the terms officially begin or end: not those on which the boarders arrive or leave.]

VALETE.

VI. FORM. M. Ogle (1923 iii.) School prefect 1928; Captain of School and Head of House, 1928-9; O.S.C. exam., 1927; H.S.C. exam., 1928; Pembroke Scholarship, 1929; 2nd XI Football, 1927; 1st XV Rugger, Captain, Colours, 1928; 2nd IV Rowing, 1929; Sgt. O.T.C.; Certificate A;

1st Class Shot; School Librarian.

K. R. Savage (1922, iii.) School prefect, 1928; O.S.C. exam., 1926, 7; 2nd Class Honours, 1927; distinction in Greek twice and Latin once; London Matriculation, January, 1928; H.S.C. exam., 1928; 1st XI Football, 1926, 7, Colours, 1926; 1st XV Rugger, Colours, 1928; Athletic Colours, 1928; 1st XI Cricket, 1928, 9; Sgt. O.T.C.; 1st Class Shot.

R. A. Langford (1919 ii.) School prefect, 1928; O.S.C. exam., 1926, distinction in Greek; 1st IV Rowing, Colours, Captain of Boats, 1929; 1st XV Rugger, Colours, 1928; Sgt. O.T.C.; Cert. A.; 1st Class Shot.

P. J. Squire (1921, iii.) School prefect, 1928; O.S.C. exam., 1927, 8, 3rd Class Honours, 1928; 1st XV Rugger, 1928; 1st IV Rowing, Colours, 1929; Sgt. O.T.C.; 1st Class Shot.

S. S. Bates (1921 iii.) School prefect, 1929; O. S. C. exam., 1928, 3rd Class Honours; 1st Class Shot.

M. A. Drewe (1924 iii.) School prefect, 1929; O.S.C. exam., 1928, 3rd Class Honours; 2nd XV Rugger, 1928.

G. Garton (1926 ii.) O.S.C. exam., 1928, 9; 2nd XI Football, 1927; 1st XI Cricket, 1929; 1st Class Shot.

V. E. Pollard (1924 iii.) O. S. C. exam., 1928, 9; 2nd XI Cricket, 1929; 1st Class Shot.

Va. FORM. A. M. Greenwood (1920 iii.) O.S.C., 1929, 3rd Class Honours; 1st Class Shot.

T. H. Hodgson (1925 iii.) 2nd XI Cricket, 1929; L/C. O.T.C.; 1st Class Shot.

E. F. Slatter (1925 i.) O.S.C., 1929.

Vb. FORM. H. R. d'Almaine (1923 iii.) 1st Class Shot.

H. N. Trye (1924 iii.) 2nd XV Rugger, Colours, 1928; 1st Class Shot.

J. H. Guy (1928 iii.) 2nd XV Rugger, 1928.

REMOVE FORM.—C. J. Hedges (1926 iii.)

H. G. Hedges (1926 iii.)

II FORM.—I. F. Carleton (1927 i.)

(S. P. Austin left in November. His *vale* notice will appear in our next issue.)

SALVETE.

Va. FORM.—J. B. Ottiker, P. A. D. Jones, R. W. Slatter.

Vb. FORM.—T. J. H. Charley.

REMOVE FORM.—E. A. N. Robinson.

III FORM.—N. H. Crossland, R. Stross, O. E. Clarke, E. H. Pollard, E. S. Willey, R. A. Woodley, R. F. Cox, L. E. J. Luker, K. Mills, J. S. Randle, D. E. Mills.

II FORM.—S. K. Muir, R. Emmett, P. H. G. Walker.

“ST. NICHOLAS, ABINGDON, AND OTHER PAPERS.”

By A. E. Preston, F.S.A. (Oxford University Press. 21/-.)

Of the first of the three papers comprised in this volume we shall not attempt a review. It is all of absorbing interest, and much of it is new material—information at first hand, derived by the author from the original sources of our social and religious history. Here we must confine ourselves to the section on “the early Grammar School,” and to that part of the third paper (“Fitzharris—an Old Abingdon Manor”) which deals especially with the Tesdale and Wightwick endowments.

Since 1907, when A. F. Leach, in the *Victoria County History*, referred the beginnings of Abingdon School to “the dim and distant days before the conquest,” we have grown used to the idea that John Roysse, for all his services to the School, was not by any means its first and original founder. In the pages before us, after stating and weighing the evidence for a pre-conquest origin (in favour of which Professor Stenton’s conjecture in his *Early History of Abingdon Abbey* might have been cited) Mr. Preston considers the relations of the medieval School to the great Benedictine monastery under whose protection it sheltered. Not that the School was a property of the Abbey, or financially dependent on it. Mr. Preston makes this abundantly clear. Indeed it seems to have given as much as it got. It may have flourished under Abbey patronage and supervision, and its scholars may have been mostly drawn from the ranks of the Abbey tenants and higher lay officials; but its masters were their own masters too; they were men of scholarly attainments—graduates of Oxford in all cases—and discharged educational functions, on occasion for the actual protégés and novices of the Abbey, of which the monks themselves would seldom have been capable. For the rest they paid a rent to the Abbey for their premises, which were situated in the town outside the Abbey precinct, and supported themselves from the fees of their pupils—boarders as well as day-boys.

For there were boarders then as now. The first actual mention of the School, in documents dated 1372, refers not only to *magistro scholarum grammaticalium Abendonie et servientibus suis* (would these include his assistant masters?) but to *scholaribus cum eo commorantibus* and certain others *in domo cujusdam Dionysie Mundy*. The School,

Mr. Preston concludes, was “evidently well-established . . . more hostels than the one or more in actual occupation of the head-master were required for the accommodation of the boarders, and recourse was had to an additional tenement in the hands of Dionysia Mundy, who was acting, we may suppose, in the capacity of house-mistress.” Other hostels were added later, for which Mr. Preston quotes documentary evidence. Their exact site cannot be determined, but mostly they appear to have been on the eastern side of the Stert (at that time an open stream) and near to the Grammar School itself; and this, we learn, “was a separate building in Stert Street, almost adjoining St. Nicholas Church.” All through the fifteenth century, as Mr. Preston shows, and on into the sixteenth, this same condition of things continued. “The master of the Grammar School, his household and scholars, were still living under the wall of the convent garden in Stert Street; the boarding-house system was also going on as before.”

In his list—necessarily incomplete—of medieval head-masters Mr. Preston includes among the earlier names four Rectors of St. Nicholas Church, and in the section on “the Church and Parish of St. Nicholas,” the first of the three in this book, he gives reasons for concluding that for many years the two offices were held conjointly. The later names are all those of professional school-masters. These, as we have seen, were men of high qualifications, and from this we may infer that the curriculum also was of an ambitious type. Indeed towards the end of this period there are clear indications that Greek as well as Latin was among the subjects taught, though Greek scholarship in those days must have been the treasure of the few. Of the men themselves we have otherwise little personal information, save references in early MS. records to the rents they paid for their school-premises and the tenements they held for the housing of their boarders. Upon one name, however, Mr. Preston dwells at greater length—John Tesdale, *alias* Clyffe, who, after a tenure of thirty years or more, was still headmaster at the time of the Dissolution. Unlike his predecessors he was a monk of the Abbey: actually he became third prior. As such he furnishes perhaps an unique example of a monk at the head of an outside medieval Grammar School.

Beyond doubt the School suffered with the town in the difficult years (1538 to 1563) that followed the Dissolution. That it maintained its continuity is placed equally beyond doubt by

more than one reference to it in contemporary documents, to which Mr. Preston alludes. With the loss of the Abbey connection the supply of boarders may well have temporarily ceased. The old school-building had served its turn, and in the prevailing poverty good teachers were hard to secure. But a school was still needed for the sons of Abingdon parents, and it was to assist this need with new premises and endowments that John Roysse and his successors were moved to their timely benefactions.

Of John Roysse and his work we have a well-considered estimate, not wholly favourable. However good his intentions, his buildings and endowment were alike inadequate to their purpose, while his Ordinances, which gain fresh interest from Mr. Preston's trenchant criticisms, are evidence in themselves of his lack of educational vision. "Cheapness," we read, "not quality, was Roysse's aim. A good or a liberal training found no place in his mind, and the School as Roysse re-started it was inevitably on a lower educational plane than the medieval school that preceded it." To disparage a traditional reputation is never a grateful task, and to many these criticisms may come with something of a shock; but on the strength of the evidence cited we cannot deny that they are just. At the same time they allow much room for praise, and they leave us on the whole with the impression of a kindly man, "upright in his dealings and desirous of doing good,"—a man, in fact, towards whom we may still feel respect and gratitude, as the first, if not the greatest, of our disinterested benefactors.

And so we come to Thomas Tesdale, "first scholar" at the re-constituted School and, as Mr. Preston interprets the evidence, head-boy at the older establishment before the re-foundation. But he was much more than this. Among all our benefactors no name deserves greater prominence, whether for the extent or the wisdom of his bequests. It was perhaps inevitable that, in the developments of recent years, his endowment for an Usher, which he entrusted to the care and discretion of the Governors of Christ's Hospital, should have been merged in the general capital of the School; but it seems almost a pity that no titular office should survive in the School to perpetuate the benefactor's memory. About the same date William Bennett, who was a nephew of Thomas Tesdale and had been brought up by his uncle as a pupil at Roysse's School, made provision in his will for the education at the School of six poor children of Abingdon. In recognition of

this bequest we still speak on occasion of Bennett Scholars, though their special privileges and distinctive dress have long since fallen into desuetude. Then why not in name at least revive the Tesdale Usher?

But more vitally at variance with the testator's wishes was the diversion in the nineteenth century of Tesdale's "almost regal bequest for Abingdon Scholars at Oxford." To this Mr. Preston alluded briefly in his speech to the School on Founder's Day 1927. In these pages—in his chapters on Fitzharris and the Tesdales—he treats it at greater length; and we trust that all Pembroke men, and not only Abingdon Scholars, will read his fair statement of the matter with a heightened and chastened interest in their own College and its beginnings. It should be noted too what part the Borough of Abingdon played, financially and otherwise, in the foundation of Pembroke College; and what part the School itself played, in the person of its brilliant headmaster, Dr. Thomas Godwyn, who became the first Fellow of the College. And what has been said of Thomas Tesdale's bequest applies in like manner to that of his co-founder, Richard Wightwick, B.D., the Rector of East Ilsley. Whether he too, like Tesdale, was an *olim alumnus* of the School, there is unfortunately no evidence to show, though the supposition would accord well with his manifest practical interest; but whatever the reason may have been, there can be no doubt that his main object was not to found a new college at Oxford, but to provide an University education for scholars from Abingdon School.

In his paper on "the Early Grammar School" Mr. Preston does not profess to take us beyond the close of the sixteenth century. From what has been said above it will be clear that his researches, extending over a number of years, have added enormously to our knowledge of the medieval School. In an "Appendix of Annotated Head Masters"—some fifty-eight pages in all—he carries on the history in outline from John Roysse's time to the present date. Outline as it is, it makes interesting reading, containing in chronological sequence a record of *memorabilia* during three and a half centuries and more of our varied and eventful existence. From 1600 onwards the list of headmasters is believed to be complete. Of the earlier names several owe their rescue from oblivion to Mr. Preston's untiring researches. It is possible that a few before 1600 may not have been recovered; the dates in some cases are uncertain, and in the plague-infected hovel which at that period constituted the headmasters' residence, the

rate of succession was rapid and the tenure of office brief. If Mr. Preston's list is complete, then our present headmaster is the thirty-second since John Roysse refounded the School in 1563.

As we put down this book, one or two outstanding impressions are left on our mind. The first of these is the evidence the book affords of the greater antiquity that may be claimed for the School than used to be supposed, and of the large part it must necessarily have played in the spread of learning in its higher forms throughout the medieval period in this part of Berkshire. Most of the well-known public schools of to-day are seen to be its juniors by centuries. Another impression remaining with us is of the unbroken continuity of the School over such a long stretch of time. Many of the medieval schools were brought to a standstill by one or other of the great crises in our national history, or by the crash of the monastic system in the sixteenth century. But with us it was happily different. We may justly take pride in the thought that Abingdon School has survived all the various perils to which so many other similar institutions had to succumb, and is still to-day pressing forward with no less vigour and success than at any stage of its long history.

It only remains to say that Mr. Preston's book is well documented and cross-referenced throughout. It is admirably indexed and well supplied with illustrations, plans and pedigrees. In the compilation of it Mr. Preston has once more laid both town and School under an inestimable debt of gratitude. For our own part we account ourselves singularly fortunate that our own ranks and our own governing body should have furnished us with a chronicler at once so competent and so devoted.

FOOTBALL.

Eleven matches were arranged for the 1st XV this term. Three of these could not be played for various reasons. Of the remainder we won four, drew one, the O.A. match, and lost three. One of the matches 'scratched' was unfortunately the M.C.S. match. An adverse fate seems to prevent this match being played. Let us hope that next season, our third—and theirs—will bring us face to face with them at last!

The long-continued drought rather upset our practice at the beginning of the term. Games had to be played in gym. shoes, and tackling was impossible, so hard was the ground. To vary the monotony of this somewhat restricted form of training, which went on for a fortnight, a paperchase

was run on the second Saturday of term. This was a welcome change and enjoyed by all; but the hard going caused a number of strains, which may have been partly responsible for the great number of injuries, most of them fortunately of a minor character, which kept so many members of the team out of one match after another. Only six played in all the matches; altogether twenty-four were tried in the XV at one time or another; and no two teams which represented the School were exactly alike.

In spite of these handicaps good progress has been made in all departments of the game, and in the last few matches especially the team has played with something of the dash and élan which are the mark of a good XV.

No difficulty was experienced with the full-back and half-back positions. Boyd, Sinclair and Taylor have all come on tremendously and their experience will be very valuable next year.

The three-quarters have been our greatest problem. The scanty material available, and the numerous casualties, prevented us from forming a good line. The best one would probably have been Badcock, Brown, Lay and Mosdell. But owing to injuries these four did not play together in a single match, and the constant changes were detrimental to the cohesion of the line. Mosdell and Badcock are both very promising wings, but lack experience and have received few opportunities from their inside three-quarters. Lay has improved tremendously during the term, but wants another season to make him really good.

The forwards have made great progress and are now beginning to play the game at something approaching its proper pace. Truly the forward's lot is not a happy one, unless he is a glutton for work. For he has to push his weight in the scrums, break up quickly, be always on the ball and always backing up and breaking through, from start to finish. He must not be content to play at the pace of his opponents. He must set the pace himself, and a hot one at that.

In the tight scrums the forwards have been handicapped by lack of weight in the rear, but have packed well. The outside front-rankers might do still more to help the hooker secure the ball. The outside leg must be swung in vigorously after the ball. The wing-forwards should break up even more quickly than they do. They can do so much to make life a burden for the opposing halves.

In the loose the standard of play is higher than last season, the pack combining better and playing

a much more intelligent type of football. There is still room for improvement in the line-out, where the jumping for the ball and breaking through are weaknesses.

The pack has been led very ably indeed by P. D. Smith, who has been a source of inspiration to the forwards at all times.

Now a word or two about tackling. The tackling of the 1st XV, though weak in the early matches, improved greatly. But outside the team the standard is very poor. Something must be done to improve the standard of this all-important branch of the game. In this matter everyone must work out his own salvation. The most that anyone else can do is to give a few hints which may prove helpful. Here are one or two :—

A. GENERAL.

(1) The art of tackling is by no means a gentle art. Half measures are worse than useless, and will only leave the tackler the worse for wear and wishing that he had left well alone.

(2) Though tackling is a defensive measure, its execution calls for an offensive spirit. Anything in the nature of a friendly embrace will only meet with a rude rebuff.

B. PARTICULAR.

The vulnerable area is between hips and knees. First choose your spot on your victim. Then, using all your weight and speed and keeping your eyes on the chosen spot, launch yourself bodily at him, taking him sideways on, and bowl him over.

N.B. Go low and use your weight.

Remember that tackling is the most valuable defensive weapon in the armoury of the rugby player; and furthermore, the player who cannot tackle properly misses what is perhaps the biggest thrill that the game has to offer.

Three pitches have been available this term, one in each field, matches being played on the Waste Court pitch.

The Senior House Matches were contested with great vigour during the last full week of term. The results are given below :—

Red v. Blue :—Red 44. Blue 0.

Green v. Red :—Green 0. Red 0.

Green v. Blue :—Green 8. Blue 5.

In the first of these matches Blue had three of their best men absent and were outweighed by their opponents, though they resisted well for the first half of the game.

The match between Green House and Red House was a tremendous struggle throughout. Reds, though decidedly the stronger team on paper, were unable to pierce Green's defence in spite of repeated attacks.

In the third match Green scored twice in the first half, playing with the wind, and Blue once in the second half.

It has been decided to play two rounds of Junior House Matches next term, and an 'Under 15' fixture has been arranged with Bloxham School.

FIRST XV CHARACTERS.

G. A. R. Boyd (Full-back). Colours 1929. Has the safe hands, sure kick and speed of a first class full-back. His sense of position is excellent and he opens up the game with good judgment, but is apt to go up too far before passing the ball. In defence he falls on the ball well, but his tackling is only fair.

W. B. Badcock (Left-wing). 2nd XV Colours 1929. A very promising player who is at present handicapped by lack of experience. A knee injury unfortunately prevented him from playing for a time and frequent changes in the three-quarter line have given him no opportunity of combining with his inside partner. Has a strong kick, which he exploits too soon in attack. Should learn to gain every possible inch of ground before kicking. Neglects the inside pass. Tackles fairly well.

R. F. Brown (Left-centre). 2nd XV Colours 1928. Has improved greatly this season. Gives and takes his passes well. Was beginning to develop his powers of constructive centre play when knee trouble overtook him. Must mark his man better and improve his tackling.

P. W. Lay (Right-centre). 2nd XV Colours 1929. Probably the most improved player in the team. In the latter half of the term especially he has made great progress. Tackles well and plays with great dash and vigour. Has an elusive run and is developing a dangerous cut-through, but is apt to delay his pass too long and so starve his wing.

L. P. Mosdell (Right-wing). Colours 1928. Fast and gets into his stride very quickly, but is apt not to make the most of his pace. Should go for the corner flag more resolutely when an opportunity offers. If he can develop a side-step and hand-off he will become a really dangerous wing player. At present he is too easily checked by the opposition.

F. H. G. Taylor (Stand-off half). Colours 1928. Has played some very good games this season. Very quick and cool, he uses his head and varies his

tactics well. Defensive touch-kicking has been an outstanding feature of his play. There is just a danger of his overdoing this, for after all the primary aim of the halves should be to let the three-quarters have the ball whenever the circumstances are favourable. Another player whose tackling leaves something to be desired. A good place-kicker, he has been very successful in this respect.

G. E. Sinclair (Scrum-half). Captain. Colours, 1928. With his partner he has proved the mainstay of the team. His defence is as sound in every respect as it was last year, and he has improved his penetrative powers greatly in attack. He played at stand-off half with great success in one match, and we are inclined to think that this or the inside three-quarter position will eventually prove to be his proper place. It would be difficult to imagine a keener captain or a better one, considering his limited experience of the game.

Forwards :—

S. F. Thatcher, 2nd XV Colours 1928. An untiring front row forward, who pushes his weight in the tight and is always on the spot. A good tackler. His handling is still weak and his control of the ball when dribbling is indifferent, but he has learned a lot about the game this season. The type of player who is invaluable in a hard forward game.

P. B. Squire, 2nd XV Colours 1928. A very successful hooker, who has kept his place in the pack without difficulty. A neat dribbler and good tackler he backs up well and is always there for the scrums.

J. G. Milsom, 2nd XV Colours 1928. Has been greatly handicapped by injury. A hard worker, who is useful in the line-out and dribbles on occasion. A fair tackler. Handles the ball well.

P. D. Smith, Colours 1928. Has made an excellent leader of the pack and knows when it should have the ball back and when it should keep it. Combines very well with G. A. Wood and E. R. Leslie-Smith in dribbling. In the loose he is hard to stop, and in the line-out always outstanding. Tackles well.

G. A. Wood, Colours 1929. Packs down with P. D. Smith in the second-row, and like him is very good in the line-out and in footwork generally. Always uses his head. Has played a hard game throughout the season.

E. R. Leslie-Smith, Colours 1929. As right wing-forward is a very hard worker, who breaks up quickly and plays a good spoiling game and tackles very well. The most dangerous of the

forwards when he gets near the enemy's line. Unfortunately he was injured in the match with R. E. Eason's XV and has not played since.

W. R. A. Kettle, 2nd XV Colours 1929. Was kept out of all but two matches by an injury. Rather light but quite neat and effective. His tackling is a weak point, and he is not very sound in the line-out.

H. B. Healy, 2nd XV Colours 1929. Also played in the back rank. Must break up quicker and improve his tackling. Quite useful in the line-out and has some idea of dribbling. Will be good next year, if he can speed up his game.

J. H. Taylor, 2nd XV Colours 1929. Left-wing forward. Very light, but plays a hard game and marks his man well in the line-out, and always backs up efficiently.

FIRST XV MATCHES.

v. Oxford Exiles. Played away. Won : 3 tries (9 points)—0.

The ground was still very hard and it rained incessantly throughout the match. Soon after the start Mosdell scored from a combined three-quarter movement. Mr. Alston then cut through and scored under the posts ; and just before half time Taylor added a third try. None of these tries was converted.

After half time the Exiles improved and a strenuous forward struggle ensued, neither side being able to score in this half.

The School forwards were good in the tight, but scrappy in the loose, and at times got hustled by their opponents' dribbling tactics. Behind the scrum the handling and tackling were weak.

Team :—G. A. R. Boyd : Badcock, Brown (R. F.), J. B. E. Alston, Esq., L. P. Mosdell : F. H. G. Taylor, G. E. Sinclair : Milsom, Squire, Thatcher, Wood (G. A.), P. D. Smith, Healy (H. B.), Kettle, Leslie-Smith.

v. Oxford Exiles. Played at home. Won : 8 points—6 points.

Our opponents were a much improved side and had a far better back division.

In the first half Badcock scored through a combined three-quarter movement far out. Taylor's kick failed. Soon after this, Taylor intercepted a pass and ran through, kicked ahead and touched down. He finished off his effort by converting a difficult kick.

In the second half our opponents' weight began to tell and they pressed hard. Wood got off-side and they scored a penalty goal. Thirteen minutes from the end they scored a try from a forward rush, but the kick failed. With only two points

difference the School forwards rallied splendidly and were unlucky not to score before time.

The team was the same as in the previous match except that Lane and Smith (A.C.) came in for Milsom and Kettle, who were injured, while Smart came into the three quarter line in the place of Mr. Alston.

v. St. Edmund Hall. Played at home. Lost : 11 points—18 points.

In the first five minutes our opponents scored twice, and once again just before half time. P. D. Smith scored two splendid tries in the first half, one of which Badcock converted. At half time the score was 8—9.

In the last fifteen minutes our opponents scored three more unconverted tries, while P. D. Smith again scored for the School by an excellent break-away.

With the exception of P. D. Smith and Squire, the School's tackling in this match was deplorable, and our opponents' three-quarters were fairly fast. Otherwise Brown and Taylor played well for the School, but the forwards were beaten by the speed and weight of their opponents.

The team was the same as in the first match, except that Triggs came in for Kettle, who was still unable to play.

v. Radley College 3rd XV. Played at home. Won : 6 points—5 points.

The School scored soon after the start, Wood getting over after a forward dribbling movement. Radley then scored under the posts through a three-quarter movement when the School defence failed badly. The kick at goal was successful. There followed a keen struggle till half-time, the forwards on both sides playing at a very fast pace.

Soon after half time Leslie-Smith broke away and scored a good try in the corner. The last fifteen minutes were very exciting and the dash and spirit of the Radley forwards seemed to inspire our own pack with fresh determination. But the end came without further score. P. D. Smith, Wood and Leslie-Smith were as usual the back-bone of the team, and F. H. G. Taylor's touch-kicking was splendid. G. E. Sinclair was unable to play in this match, and L. P. Mosdell deputised as captain.

Team :—G. A. R. Boyd : Smart, Brown (R. F.), Lay (P. W.), L. P. Mosdell : F. H. G. Taylor, Healy (D. E.) : Lane, Squire, Thatcher, Wood (G. A.), P. D. Smith, Emmett (J. E.), Taylor (J. H.), Leslie-Smith.

v. Berkshire Wanderers "B". Played at home. Won : 16 points—0 points.

Soon after the start L. P. Mosdell scored for the School and F. H. G. Taylor converted. Just before half time Sinclair and Taylor broke away and the latter converted his own try.

Near the end of the match Pfordten and Lay scored for the School, but both kicks failed. The end came without any further score.

The whole team combined well and the forwards kept together all through the match, Leslie-Smith being especially prominent.

Team :—G. A. R. Boyd : Pfordten, Badcock, J. B. E. Alston Esq., L. P. Mosdell : F. H. G. Taylor, G. E. Sinclair : Lane, Squire, Thatcher, Wood (G. A.), P. D. Smith, Emmett (J. E.), Taylor (J. H.), Leslie-Smith.

v. Leighton Park School. Played away. Lost : 0 points—11 points.

Our forwards held their own and played with plenty of spirit. Our opponents scored twice in the first half, once through a forward rush and once from a three-quarter movement. The second try was converted.

Our defence had improved considerably as the result of the previous match. In the second half Leighton Park scored once again through a good three-quarter movement.

The opposing three-quarter line was fast and was provided with many excellent opportunities by a very quick scrum half.

Taylor and Boyd again saved the School many times through their kicking. P. D. Smith, Wood and Leslie-Smith were again the mainstay of the forwards.

Team :—G. A. R. Boyd : Pfordten, Badcock, Lay (P. W.), L. P. Mosdell : F. H. G. Taylor, G. E. Sinclair : Milsom, Squire, Thatcher, Wood (G. A.), P. D. Smith, Healy (H. B.), Taylor (J. H.), Leslie-Smith.

v. R. E. Eason's XV. Played at home. Lost : 5 points—16 points.

The first half was a very even struggle, though the game was very slow. A dropped goal by Seabrook however enabled our opponents to secure a lead of four points before half time.

The second half was more open but rather lacking in spirit on the School side : Boyd however played a splendid game at full back. Shortly after half time our opponents scored an unconverted try, which was followed by another clever dropped goal. The School pressed hard but another try was scored against them and converted. Leslie-Smith had to go off the field with a sprained ankle, while at the same time R. E. Eason's team lost the services of Mr. Alston, who slipped his knee.

The School rallied well in a final effort and Boyd, Lay and F. H. G. Taylor combined in a good movement to send Badcock over between the posts. Taylor converted on time. G. A. R. Boyd was subsequently awarded his 1st XV colours.

The team was the same as in the previous match, except that Emmett came back in the place of Healy (H. B.) and Hill took Mosdell's place, the latter being injured.

v. Old Abingdonians. Played at home on December 7. Drawn : 8 points—8 points.

F. H. G. Taylor, Leslie-Smith and Brown (R. F.) were unable to play through injuries. Sinclair moved to stand-off half, his place at scrum half being filled by Healy (D. E.)

Soon after the start R. E. Eason scored for the O.A.s by kicking ahead and beating the School backs for the touch-down. K. T. Wood failed to convert. Though playing against a strong wind the School then attacked strongly and, the forwards heeling cleanly in their opponents' twenty-five, a good three-quarter movement sent Badcock over near the corner-flag. Boyd failed to convert in the very difficult conditions. Shortly afterwards Smart had to retire with a broken collar-bone. Despite this handicap the School successfully withstood the strong pressure of the Old Boys' attack until half time.

In the second half the Old Boys went ahead very soon with a try obtained by Powell, whose weight and speed made him very dangerous on the right wing. Ogle converted. With the help of the wind the School pressed hard and scored through Badcock from a cross-kick by Mosdell, Sinclair converting. With the score at eight all both sides made strong efforts to score, the O.A.s doing their best to give Powell every chance on the wing. But the three School three-quarters were equal to the occasion, and the end came with the School forwards pressing strongly against the heavy but tiring Old Boys' pack.

This match was one of the best played and brought the season to a fitting conclusion. The whole team played keen football and gave a clear demonstration of the progress they have made in the game.

G. A. Wood was awarded his 1st XV Colours. It was also decided to award 1st XV Colours to E. R. Leslie-Smith, although his injury prevented him from playing in this match.

School Team :—G. A. R. Boyd : Badcock, Smart, Lay (P. W.), L. P. Mosdell : G. E. Sinclair, Healy (D. H.) : Milsom, Squire, Thatcher, Wood

(G. A.), P. D. Smith, Healy (H. B.), Kettle, Taylor (J. H.)

O.A. Team :—S. A. Fabes : M. Ogle, H. R. Lansdown, O. T. M. Raymont, G. F. Powell : W. W. Brown, A. M. D. Greene : K. T. Wood, N. C. Wood, R. E. Eason, G. T. Eason, H. F. Good, P. J. Squire, J. A. Howard, R. A. Langford.

OTHER MATCHES.

2nd XV v. Oxford Exiles. Played at home on October 16. Lost : 5 points—22 points.

The team was very inexperienced and the scrum very light. In the first half the visitors scored 13 points. After half time the School rallied and Pfordten got a try which was converted, while the Exiles got three more tries. Pfordten and Badcock were the best of the School backs.

Team :—Hill : Badcock, Lay (P. W.), Smart, Pfordten : Healy (D. E.), Kite : Taylor (J. H.), Page, Clarke (R.C.), Healy (H.B.), Triggs, Fisher, Lane, Milsom (captain).

School 'A' XV. v. Oxford Exiles. Played at home on November 2nd. Won : 15 points—6 points.

Our pack was quite good and Squire hooked well. The first half was very evenly contested and the score at half time was 3—3. Afterwards we scored four tries and our opponents one. Boyd ran strongly and Lay cut through in great style, but the passing was mediocre at times.

Team : Triggs : Hill, Lay (P. W.), Smart, Pfordten : Healy (D. E.), Kite : Taylor (J. H.), Smith (A. C.), Clarke (R. C.), Healy (H. B.), Lane, Thatcher, Squire, Milsom (captain).

A FORWARD'S LAMENT.

The whistle's gone : come back ! come back !
 Down, forwards, quick ! get down and pack !
 Bless that front rank !—they're always late :
 Now shove, you fellows, shove like hate !
 Rough knickers rub our ears to tatters !
 Our eyes see red and nothing matters !
 Good gracious ! you would almost think
 These blighters never learned to link !
 A frenzied yell—" It's coming left !"
 The hooker hooks ; my head is reft !
 The referee—" Feet up, both sides"—
 Removes the hope that still abides.
 At last the ball's heeled safely out :
 We break up at the scrum-half's shout :
 But when we back up the attack
 We hear the " 3 Qs. " murmur " slack !"

Scrum-cap.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir,

It was most entertaining to the old hands to read the contributions from Reeves and Digby in your issue giving some recollections of football in the Eighties.

Soccer really originated with a Master who did not relish the rough and tumble of Rugger, as played in those days, and who was not at all happy when he had the ball, as was evident by the immediate and wild passes he made; so to put an end to his terror he introduced Soccer.

The Rugger team, and their satellites, were much opposed to the game, and although the team were much too dignified to shew their anger, they did not take any steps to restrain their small satellites, who openly jeered at the new game.

Rugger was not really interfered with and very soon was again the only game played; and even down to 1885, when the School was very low in numbers, we made a hard struggle to hold our own.

Reeves I remember as of very sturdy build, an excellent Oar, and an enthusiast at Soccer; and a very clever player he was. If I remember correctly, he was first placed in goal, but unfortunately his "understandings" were not built in the proper form to negotiate the low shots, and he was moved forward. Here he developed the useful trick of heading the ball, and became most accomplished; but he had to pay dearly for this skill, for by constantly using his head he injured his hair; but beyond hastening on a venerable appearance no real harm was done.

The Rugger teams of 1881, 2 and 3 were good, far above the average of Schools of a similar size; but in 1883-4 more reliance had to be put on the Masters, and one Owen Jones was a tower of strength. The record of the team was excellent, and out of fourteen College teams played that year, the School won twelve matches.

"One of the Eighties."

O.T.C.

At the end of last term thirty-five cadets went to camp at Tidworth Pennings from 30 July to 7 August—the wettest week of the summer. Nevertheless it was a very enjoyable camp and everyone appeared to be extremely happy. The Tidworth Tattoo, which we saw on the Bank Holiday, was a great attraction and very impressive as an historical pageant. Some of our people figured in the boxing contests and suffered a little for their enthusiasm. But all were delighted with the well-deserved victory of L/cpl Leslie-Smith,

who won the final of his own weight.

The contingent was given a very good report on its discipline, work and turn-out. All are to be congratulated on this, and it should be added that Q. M. Sergt. J. G. Milsom deserves special mention for the efficient way in which he ran his side of the business.

This term six cadets attempted and passed the practical examination of Certificate A. Their names are G. A. R. Boyd, D. P. Edsall, D. S. Kite, E. R. Leslie-Smith, B. J. Pedlar, F. H. G. Taylor. A good piece of work! The results of the written examination will be out early next term.

Sgts. L. P. Mosdell and P. D. Smith are platoon commanders, and G. E. Sinclair and W. R. A. Kettle are platoon sergeants.

Captain J. W. Reynolds ceased to command the contingent on 21 August and from that date Mr. Alston has been officially responsible for its welfare.

The writer, who is about to lay down his pen (and his sword), would wish the Corps all success and prosperity in the years to come. J.W.R.

LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Society met together, after a lapse of one year, on Saturday, September 28th, for the purpose of electing officers and new members. Mr. Grundy took the chair. The following were elected officers of the Society:—

President :	Mr. W. M. Grundy.
Vice-President :	Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker.
Hon. Sec. :	Mr. L. P. Mosdell.
Hon. Treas. :	Mr. B. J. Pedlar.

All in the VIth Form and nine of Va were elected to fill up the roll of membership.

The first meeting for debate was held on Oct. 5th, with the Vice-President in the chair. After some private business, Mr. E. R. Leslie-Smith was called upon to propose 'that in the opinion of this House the Channel Tunnel Scheme would not prove a boon to this country.' Mr. P. D. Smith seconded this motion, and Mr. G. E. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. G. A. Wood, opposed. The following members also spoke:—Pro.: Messrs. B. J. Pedlar, D. S. Kite, W. R. A. Kettle, J. G. Milsom, R. L. Triggs, S. A. Paige, H. B. Healy. Contra.:—Mr. W. G. C. Denny. Neutral:—Mr. L. P. Mosdell. The motion was carried by 16 votes to 5.

On the following Saturday the Society met, with the Vice-President in the chair. Mr. D. S. Kite, seconded by Mr. S. A. Paige, proposed 'that in the

opinion of this House the penny morning paper is not a credit to our civilization.' Mr. D. P. Edsall, seconded by Mr. H. B. Healy, opposed. The following members also spoke:—Pro:—Messrs. B. J. Pedlar, D. G. Lovibond, J. H. Taylor. Con:—Messrs. G. E. Sinclair, L. P. Mosdell, P. D. Smith, A. C. Smith, W. G. C. Denny, J. Ashby, S. D. Plummer, G. A. Wood. Neutral:—Messrs. A. E. B. Foxwell, W. R. A. Kettle. The motion was lost by 6 votes to 16.

Saturday Oct. 19th saw us together again with the President in the chair. Mr. K. W. Ewing was called upon to propose 'that in the opinion of this House the time is ripe for the nationalization of the basic industries of this land.' This motion was seconded by Mr. D. P. Edsall. Mr. B. J. Pedlar, seconded by Mr. R. L. Triggs, opposed. The following also spoke:—Pro:—Messrs. J. Y. Ingham, W. G. C. Denny. Contra:—Messrs. G. E. Sinclair, S. J. Landown, E. R. Leslie-Smith. Neutral:—Mr. S. A. Paige. The motion was lost by 7 votes to 18.

At the meeting on Oct. 26th the Vice-President took the chair. Then followed an Impromptu Debate, which proved to be highly amusing, but unfortunately much too long to be described here.

At an extraordinary meeting of the committee held on Friday, Nov. 8th, Messrs. J. Y. Ingham and G. E. Sinclair were co-opted members of the committee.

We met again on Nov. 9th with the Vice-President in the chair. Mr. W. G. C. Denny then proposed that 'in the opinion of this House present day society is far too snobbish.' Mr. A. F. R. Fisher seconded this motion, which was opposed by Mr. D. P. Edsall, seconded by Mr. K. W. Ewing. The following also spoke:—Pro:—Messrs. G. E. Sinclair, D. G. Lovibond, B. J. Pedlar. Contra:—Messrs. H. B. Healy, R. F. Brown, S. A. Paige, A. C. Smith. The motion was carried by 10 votes to 6.

Yet again we met on Nov. 16th with the Vice-President in the chair. This proved to be a novel meeting, for Mr. J. Y. Ingham, having first made some introductory remarks on the subject of Ghost Stories, kindly read to the House a Ghost Story entitled 'The House of the Invisible' by Hope Hodgson. This was followed by another Ghost Story, kindly read by Mr. G. E. Sinclair, entitled 'Lost Hearts' by M. R. James. The Hon. Sec. then proposed a vote of thanks to the readers, after which the meeting broke up, having enjoyed a most thrilling and highly interesting evening.

The House met again on Saturday, Nov. 23rd, with the President in the chair. Mr. G. E. Sinclair, seconded by Mr. B. J. Pedlar, proposed 'that in the opinion of this House a classical education is to be preferred to a modern one.' Mr. A. F. R. Fisher, seconded by Mr. A. C. Smith, opposed. The following also spoke:—Pro:—The President and Messrs. D. G. Lovibond, A. L. Fleet. Contra:—Messrs. J. Y. Ingham, R. L. Triggs, W. G. C. Denny, S. A. Paige, P. D. Smith, K. W. Barr, R. F. Brown, H. B. Healy, J. B. Ottiker.

The motion was lost by 11 votes to 12.

The next meeting was held on Nov. 30th with the Vice-President in the chair. Mr. H. B. Healy proposed 'that in the opinion of this House the custom of tipping should be abolished.' Mr. K. W. Ewing seconded this motion. Mr. D. P. Edsall, seconded by Mr. S. A. Paige, opposed. The following members also spoke:—Pro:—Messrs. G. E. Sinclair, L. P. Mosdell, B. J. Pedlar, R. F. Brown, E. R. Leslie-Smith, W. G. C. Denny and the Vice-President. Contra:—Messrs. W. R. A. Kettle, R. L. Triggs, A. F. R. Fisher, S. J. Lansdown. Neutral:—Mr. A. C. Smith. The motion was carried by 13 votes to 9.

On the evening of the Old Boys' Rugger match, Saturday, Dec. 7th, we met once more with the Vice-President in the chair. At this debate there were three Old Boys present. Mr. W. R. A. Kettle proposed 'that in the opinion of this House living in the country is to be preferred to living in a town.' Mr. P. D. Smith seconded this motion, which was opposed by Mr. W. G. C. Denny, seconded by Mr. R. L. Triggs. The following also spoke:—Pro:—Messrs. D. G. Lovibond, J. Ashby, G. E. Sinclair, K. W. Ewing. Contra:—Messrs. A. E. B. Foxwell, S. J. Lansdown, D. P. Edsall, H. B. Healy, A. C. Smith and the Vice-President. This motion was lost by 10 votes to 11.

Thus ended a successful half-session of the Society. Quite a record number of meetings has been held, and whatever may have been the quality of the oratory, at any rate there has been no lack of keenness. Hon. Sec.

THE SCHOOL CONCERT.

The Annual School concert was given in the Corn Exchange on Friday, Dec. 6th. Owing to the very severe weather there were not so many visitors present as in past years.

Mr. Wright was responsible for the artistic

stage arrangements; and we sincerely thank him.

The Oxford Quartette performed. "Figaro" was played in good time but instruments seemed not to have got used to the atmosphere of the room, and the tone was not as good as it might have been. "Petite Suite de Concert" was a great success, the ensemble being good. "Patience" was the best thing they did and was played with spirit. They seemed to understand it well.

The items given by the School were:— (a) "Beyond the Spanish Main." This seemed to go with a swing. (b) "The Leprehaun," a very difficult song, but tackled pluckily and with great success. (c) "I sing the Birth." In this the tone was good and the general body of sound seemed better than in other pieces.

The Choir gave "Oh, What hath overwrought" and "Alister MacAlpine's Lament." In the first the tone was good and well sustained. In the second the basses made a very noble effort to supply good ground work, but they seemed to rely on volume rather than on tone. The general effect was good.

The madrigals given by part of the choir were sympathetically sung and the balance was perfect throughout. But the "Doncato" was sung better than the "Sullivan," because they seemed happier in chorus than in solo parts.

The whole School could take a lesson from the third form, for they sang without copies, and therefore kept their eyes on the conductor, the leads being all to time and the voices together throughout. If the School could be persuaded to lift their eyes from their copies, they would sing with more precision and confidence.

The pianoforte duet was a delightful performance, and the balance and time were both excellent, and there was a good understanding between the two. In the "Elegy" Muir produced a most pleasant and successful organ pedal effect.

J. B. O. Durell, O.A. gave a very pleasing rendering of Handel's Recit. and Aria and in his well deserved encore, "Simon the Cellarer," was delightful. "Une Perdriole" was perfectly interpreted, and in the encore "Hoppity" he charmed his audience. It was very nice to have him with us again.

From a purely musical point of view "Tre Giorni Sonche Nina" was probably the best performance of the evening: it was sung most sympathetically. "Violette" is a delightful thing and very typical of Scarlatti. We were pleased to have our old friend the "Fuchsia Tree" again,

and its well deserved encore prevented our being robbed of "Si mes vers avaient des Ailes."

Mr. Bevir and his gloves were quite magnificent in "The Leader of the Town Brass Band." Never have we seen in the School concert such good acting or such amusing vocal acrobatics. His encore was uproariously applauded and demanded. "When the Sergeant Major's on Parade" fulfilled the high hopes which Mr. Bevir had inspired; but we did rather miss the gloves.

W. G. C. Denny accompanied some of the part songs and must be complimented on the accuracy of his performance.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. "Figaro Overture." *Mozart*
The Oxford Quartette.
2. Two-part Song "Beyond the Spanish Main."
The School. *Armstrong Gibbs*
3. Pianoforte (a) Folk Song. *John Kinross*
Duet (b) Elegy.
Keith Muir and Miss Sheldon Peach.
4. Recit. and "Be comforted." *Handel*
Aria "The Lord worketh wonders."
J. B. O. DURELL, O.A.
5. Four-part Song "Oh, What hath
overwrought." *Peter Warlock*
The Choir.
6. Songs (a) "Tre Giorni Sonche Nina."
G. B. Pergolesi
(b) "Violette." *Alessandro Scarlatti*
Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach.
7. Four-part Song "The Leprehaun." Arr. from
an Irish air by *T. Keighley*
The School.
8. Song "The Leader of the Town brass band."
Mr. Bevir. *Ernest Longstaffe*
9. Madrigal "All ye who music love."
Balthazar Doncato
Part of the Choir. (1548—1603)

PART II.

1. "Petite Suite." *Coleridge*
The Oxford Quartette. *Taylor*
2. Unison Song "My Father bought at great
expense." *Alan Burr*
The Third Form.
3. Song "Si mes vers avaient des Ailes."
Reynaldo Hahn
Miss Ivy Sheldon Peach.
4. Four-part Song "Alister MacAlpine's Lament."
Arr. by *Vaughan Williams*
The Choir.

5. Song "When the Sergeant Major's on parade."
Mr. Bevir. *Ernest Longstaffe*
6. Selections "Patience."
The Oxford Quartette. *Sullivan*
7. Song .. "Une Perdriole."
J. B. O. Durell, O.A. *Emile Vuillermoy*
8. Madrigal "Brightly Dawns our Wedding Day."
Part of the Choir. *Sullivan*
9. Carol .. "I Sing the Birth."
The School. *Parry*

L'ECOLE.

Oft I look back on those few years of mine
Impatiently in thine encircling wall
Endured—ah me! now vanished past recall:
Think where we worshipped at Apollo's shrine,
Or culled some knowledge from the Muses nine,
Or bandied thunderings rhetorical
That raised up dynasties, saw empires fall,
Careless of time or space. What castles fine,
Structured of dreams, would confidence uprear!
Our souls, by Life's fair promises caressed,
Always thy roof were eager to forget.
Ah! solid Foster-Mother, thou wast e'er
A priceless gift, unvalued while possessed,
And yet, once lost, our mightiest regret.

K.C.S.

THE CAVE MAN.

O, careless might I dwell and simple,
Taking my food from Nature's hand,
Where quiet waters dance and dimple,
Beside a cave on golden sand;

Where flaxen sails do belly out,
And snowy billows laughing roll
From pouting prows, and sailors' shout
Comes ringing o'er the ocean's bowl;

When heather covers purple cliffs,
And sunlight dances in the pools,
And children's happy laughter lifts
An echo on the breeze that cools.

Squatting at ease within my lair
Beside my fire in evening's dusk,
I'd watch the blue smoke curling there
From smouldering gorse and acorn husk,

Till the red embers, slowly dying,
Should let the darkness come anear me,
And happy, weary, dreamless lying,
Sleep's shadowy arms should gently bear me.
Pedny.

A VISIT TO JUNKER'S (DESSAU).

Taking the good weather with us, as we did when we went to Berlin, it was particularly appropriate that the last unbroken day of our stay should have been reserved for the visit to Professor Junker's works at Dessau. Dessau is situated about a hundred kilometres almost due south of Berlin. The train takes between two and three hours, but we were accorded the special privilege of completing the journey in 40 minutes by the simple expedient of flying, for which purpose the Junkers company sent three monoplanes to the Tempelhofer aerodrome, there being 28 in the party. It is sufficient to say that for most of us this was our first flight, and this fact was not the least among the reasons which we have for treasuring the memories of this occasion.

The flight, made on a clear sunny day, was sufficient to indicate the varied nature of the German landscape, which despite the flatness which prevails in Northern Germany is not without its own charm. Few of us, I think, realised the areas over which the lakes, rivers and intersecting waterways extend in this neighbourhood, and the large tracts of forest, largely coniferous, which differentiate the country from anything we have at home.

Approaching Dessau we "buckled up" for the landing, which was accomplished without the bursting of the aeroplane's tyres (to the writer's surprise). We were met by two representatives of the firm, who accompanied us throughout our stay and to whom we should wish to extend our best thanks for their kindnesses. A joint photograph, including the personnel of the machines, was then taken, and the prints shown us later in the morning were extremely good. Copies were very kindly promised to those who wished for them.

We walked through the yards of the Aeroplane Works, up the road, and entered the office buildings, where we were entertained to some substantial refreshments (11.0 a.m.) and the plans for the day were outlined. Dr. Friedman welcomed us on behalf of the Company.

Following a brief sojourn on the flat roof of the building in the fresh breeze and bright sunlight prevailing we returned to the original room, which was now transformed into a cinematograph theatre. An hour was spent here watching a very remarkable and interesting film dealing entirely with the cleanly subject of washing. The film, stated to have cost £3,000 in the making, was by Ufa, and consisted of an original treatment of the apparently

old-established practice of bathing. We saw how they bathed in the Tropics, in Ancient Rome, in Mediæval Europe. We saw men bathing, animals bathing, birds bathing. We visited the Ganges, the Congo and New York. In every way an interesting film and in no way propaganda.

A visit was then made to the Geysers works. It may be noted that the Company makes the rather assorted collection of Geysers. Aeroplanes, Diesel Engines and Calorimeters. Those who have recently noted references in the English press to trials of heavy oil engines in automobiles and aeroplanes will be interested to know that Junkers are also working in this direction, which of course has for its object the utilization of the heavier mineral oil fuels in place of the volatile petroleum fractions.

The works at Dessau employ about 5,000 men, but only a part of these, of course, are engaged in the geyser works, which nevertheless are stated to supply of the world's geyser requirements (excluding North America) about 80%. The men in the works are engaged from seven in the morning to four in the afternoon and most of the work is the turning and cold pressing of the sheet metal used in making the geysers. Copper is very much in evidence, but an imitation copper is made with an appropriate lacquer. Oil enamels and cellulose lacquers both find employment. A fair amount of nickel plating and soldering was going on. A cyanide bath was appropriately denoted by a sign bearing the skull and cross bones!

Following the works proper we visited the workers' welfare department and saw the usual ultra violet ray apparatus, etc. The company's playing fields were pointed out and we returned towards the offices for a visit to the 'School.' Here complete technical instruction in connection with geysers is given, and in addition it was very interesting to hear that free lessons in English, French and Spanish are regularly given. The importance of the latter in connection with the South American trade will be appreciated. An idea of this company's export trade will be gained by the fact that one of our hosts was engaged in flying to Moscow every week to deal with the Russian geyser trade.

Returning to the offices at 2.15 a query as to the bust standing in the hall was raised. This bore the superscription 'Otto Knick,' who we were told was Prof. Junker's first workman and who was responsible for persuading him to commence manufacturing.

The serious work of the day being over we were conducted on a delightful expedition to the Eisenhart Park (once belonging to the Duke of Anhalt) at Wörlitz, about 12 miles from Dessau. Repairing there in nine important-looking cars the party had an opportunity of seeing the German landscape and of tasting the German dust! A stay was made at the Restaurant for a good lunch at 3.45, the German custom of serving stewed cherries and pears with roast goose being a new feature to most of the party.

We then adjourned to the picturesque lake taking our coffee in the boats, which were preceded by the boat supporting the brass band! After going a short way at a very steady speed we landed and walked through the delightful grounds of the park, visiting such interesting spots as the Venus temple, grotto and crazy bridge. Returning we again took to the boats and got back to Wörlitz about 6.15. Thence by cars to the Aerodrome and back to Berlin with a most delightful flight "in der Dämmerung"!

W.H.S.

"ABSENT."

Alan, Peter, John and I
In our beds securely lie:
In comes Kim, so sleek and black,
With his master on his track.

Friday, as you all must know,
Is the Sanny's day of woe:
Through the door the doctor peeps:
O'er his face a smile there creeps.

"Out you go to-morrow, John!
"Your rest cure's been over long.
"George, I hear, is very ill:
"George had better have a pill.

"Peter—he looks very mild:
"Really he's a wicked child.
"Alan—he's progressing fast:
"To-morrow he'll be out at last!"

Chorus.

In to-day and out to-morrow,
Comes our round of joy and sorrow!
The doctor's verdict's very candid—
"That young gang must be disbanded!"
Hors de Combat.

ROMANCE.

Above the tree-tops rose the harvest moon,
And bathed in light the terraced garden fair ;
Naught broke the silence but the distant tune
That rose and fell, riding the fragrant air.

The winds seemed dead ; even the water slept,
Wherein day-long the fountain-fairies played,
As slow they paced and sweet their vigil kept
'Neath the dark trees, the lover and the maid.

Now comes at last the great, un hoped-for hour,
When heart greets heart with passion's welcome
clear,

And he must own Love's world-without-end power,
With " I am all thy own, my darling dear."

And yet it was but yesterday he cried
" Of all the flowers that in the garden blow,
The many, many thousand, each to each
Is liker than this year's to last year's snow ! "

What then has banished all his cold disdain,
Won him to worship at this single shrine ?
What whelms him in the joy that's all but pain ?
Hearken to me : the secret shall be thine !

Though yesterday she was as other maids,
To-day her cheeks disclose a lovelier hue,
A tender bloom—for her the magic aids
Which, for a florin, we will mail to you.

A touch of Cotan Day Cream first is meet,
Then a light coat of Beauty Powder fix
Thereon—you'll seem incomparably sweet
To Him. The larger size is three-and-six.

Advertising : Modern Style. A. F. James.

CROCODILE SHOOTING IN MALAYA.

(Extract from a letter from W. H. Wood, O.A.)

You know that the rivers of Malaya abound with crocodiles, and you find them occasionally at sea, crossing from one river to another. Hence one always bathes in a ' pagar ' (pagar = fence).

It is fairly dull trying to find crocs. on mud banks during the day and get in a shot before they slide down into the water—and they do usually in any case, hit or not ; but it is good fun on a dark night in a tidal river. You get a large sampan (say 20 ft. long and 4 ft. wide) with two clever Malays to paddle, and make a start several miles upstream just before dead low water—then drift down on the last of the falling tide. Two of you to one boat are enough. One is provided with a powerful electric torch, the beam of which is focussed down to as small a point as possible.

He sits in the bows, and holding the torch in front of his nose, shines it along the banks of the river. All at once he will see what looks exactly like a car's tail-lamp. You know how a cat's eyes shine in your head-lights at night ; well, so do a croc's., but a croc's. eyes are bright, bright red. Your men paddle you quietly along your beam of light—only the man with the torch can see the croc. so far, though the man with the gun (A), who is kneeling behind the man with the torch (B), may get a glimpse over B's shoulder. The croc. is, in all probability, lying on a mudbank, and you have picked him up at several hundred yards distance. When you are a few feet from him, A will put his gun over B's shoulder and B will move the torch towards that shoulder, so that A can see the two eyes distinctly ; then bang ! One barrel loaded with lethal bullet and one with buck cannot be bettered.

B has ready by the side of him a ' lembing ' or spear, with a head detachable from the haft, and connected to a long piece of rope, to stab the croc. in the event of his having enough life in him to get under way down the mud slope. There is one sportsman near Klang who stabs crocs. first and shoots them when they are dancing about.

OXFORD LETTER.

Oxford,

December, 1929.

To the Editor of " The Abingdonian."
Sir,

The Michaelmas Term at Oxford is not expected to be the best term of the year. It is easily eclipsed in goodness by the Trinity Term, and in badness by the Hilary Term. The term, however, which has just gone by, has succeeded in escaping from its usual mediocrity. It is bound to be supreme in the year as the term which has had the most peculiar weather conditions. Sometimes a sunshade, sometimes an umbrella has been indicated ; sometimes preparations for tennis, and sometimes for a polar expedition.

This remarkable variety of climate has been not without its drawbacks, and the degeneration towards the end of term has affected all branches of sport to a considerable degree. Golf-courses appear to consist of porridge, and rowing, which has become impossible on the river, seems more likely to be practicable on the flooded college grounds.

The Old Abingdonians, whose wisdom has prompted them to come to Oxford, have, as usual, been conducting themselves with a becoming blend of modesty and success. The excellent precept of

"moderation in all things" has insured that none of them shall be too much "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought," nor yet bored with a surfeit of recreation.

S. E. Clark has retired into the seclusion of Summertown, where, "far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife," he lives a life of peace and obscurity, with no companions but his books, his landlady, and his landlady's daughter.

O. T. M. Raymont has developed the latent talent which was beginning to blossom forth in his school days. He has become President of the Pembroke College Athletic Club, and has been hurdling for the college. Had his chest stuck out a few feet more, he might have run in the hurdles against Cambridge, but he was just beaten in the Trials.

J. B. O. Durell has been riding along the tow-path on borrowed bicycles, shouting certain well-worn phrases at heedless tub-fours. He was successful enough to produce a boat which rowed home third out of three in the College Fours.

A. M. Thatcher made an attempt on the generosity of the Examiners in "Maths. Mods.," but, becoming faint-hearted, retired before the last paper. Meanwhile he vents his anger on golf-balls, and, having kept to a rigid diet of Bovril, may be relied on to astonish the Examiners at his projected re-encounter next year.

A. J. K. Smith has been rash enough to enter upon a rowing career. He was stroke of Durell's four this term, but not even his Herculean efforts could counteract the sad effect of drawing the wrong station on a windy day. Even as we write he is tearing his hair in the Examination Schools, and we can only hope that the results will justify the expenditure of hair.

E. G. Langford is one of the leading lights of Oxford golf. He has played for the University on several occasions, and, provided he does not waste too much time on scholarly pursuits, we may expect to see him shortly becoming the dread of the English golfing world.

His cousin (R. A.), evidently feeling that one Langford in a college is enough, has tactfully betaken himself to St. John's. A visit to him entails a physical strain beyond the powers of all but the most active, since he lives at the top of the building in the furthest and most inaccessible corner of the college. We learn from our spies that, finding the walk to his rooms insufficient, he takes additional exercise by playing rugger and golf.

It is darkly rumoured that the gentlemen who reside under the rooms of S. S. Bates find some

difficulty in sleeping, owing to the nocturnal athletic exercises in which Bates seems to indulge. He is, however, the fortunate possessor of a room large enough for practising golf swings, and, if there is any truth in the rumour of strange noises, we would suggest that they are caused by the raising of divots in Bates' carpet.

The figure of M. Ogle is easily recognisable anywhere in Oxford, owing to the fact that he is one of the few people sufficiently daring to wear the present Old Abingdonian colours. His skill with the rugger ball needs no advertisement, for his name must by now be a by-word among present members of the School.

We must close this chronicle of virtues by expressing the hope that the School, from which we come, will thrive; and may it turn out men in the future, about whom even greater things can be said.

We remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
O.A. (Oxon.)

O. A. NOTES.

BIRTH.

DAVIDGE.—On Nov. 5 at Little Houghton House, to Catherine, wife of Cecil Vere Davidge, a son, Christopher Guy Vere: christened in St. Mary's Church, Little Houghton, on Dec. 8, by the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University (Dr. F. Homes Dudden, Master of Pembroke).

MARRIAGES.

EASON—WILLIAMS.—On Aug. 22 at St. Thomas' Church, Newport, Isle-of-Wight, Richard E. Eason, of Radley College, elder surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Eason, of Long Wittenham, to Ena Helen, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Williams, of Newport, Isle of Wight.

FRANKLIN—BLANCHARD.—On September 25 at the Priory Church of Leominster, Herbert William, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Franklin, of Abingdon, to Margery Beatrice Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Blanchard, of Leominster.

DEATHS.

JENKINS.—At the end of July at Cowes, Isle of Wight, Arthur Brian Curzon, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Jenkins, of Bathampton, Somerset, aged 22 years.

COX.—On November 1 at Spring Gardens, Abingdon, Vickers George Henry Cox, aged 39 years.

TOMKINS.—On November 21 at his residence, 281 Northfield Avenue, Ealing, Dr. Harding H. Tomkins, aged 69.

Dr. Harding H. Tomkins was a member of the old-established Tomkins family which at one time owned considerable property in the town. A son of the late Dr. Charles Tomkins, a native of Abingdon, he was himself a pupil at the School in the later 'seventies. Throughout his life he cherished a warm affection for his *Alma Mater*, and in his younger days as an Old Boy he was a regular visitor on Founder's Days and other School occasions. Qualifying as a doctor, he was for a time House Surgeon at the Gloucester Infirmary. Subsequently he set up in Leyton, Essex, where he remained for twenty-one years, taking resident patients in his house and working up a good general practice. Removing to South Ealing in 1915 he continued the same kind of useful work until compelled by ill-health to relinquish it about seven years ago. He was married and had two daughters, the elder of whom was killed in a terrible motor car accident in Lyme Regis in the summer of 1926. He himself was gravely injured in the accident and had never completely recovered from the effects of it.

V. G. H. Cox, whose son is now with us in the School, was himself a boy here from September, 1902 to July, 1908. He was a Roysse Scholar and gained a Berkshire Teaching Exhibition, being placed first on the list, at the County Council Examinations in 1905. From that time until his departure in 1908 he did consistently well in examination and brought yearly credit upon the School by his successes in the Oxford Locals. He had always intended to take up teaching as his profession; but when this avenue of usefulness was early closed to him through ill-health, he started in the dairy business at Balcombe, near Brighton. When the war came along he joined up with the Royal Naval Air Service and was stationed at the Crystal Palace. Returning to Abingdon he followed the trade of a carpenter, house-decorator, etc., winning the respect and confidence of all who had dealings with him. A keen and clever wireless expert, he had lately started the "Vhox Wireless Works" at his house in Spring Gardens, where he was developing a very prosperous business. We greatly deplore his early death.

A. B. C. Jenkins was at the School for a short time only—one year in all, from 1921 to 1922. He was never a strong boy, having suffered in early childhood from a serious disease of the heart, from which he never completely recovered. He was therefore unable to take his full share in the usual activities of the School. For all this he endeared himself to those who knew him, and we were all very sorry when a renewal of the heart-

trouble, following upon Scarlet Fever, prevented the continuance of his school career. His subsequent life had been full of interest, and happy in spite of much ill-health. Of many hobbies his favourite had long been yachting, and he was fortunate when, about two years ago, he became apprenticed to a yacht-building firm in Cowes. Here he lived on his own little yacht, cruising about when time and circumstance permitted; and of late he had become a keen Rover Scout. He died after a short illness, brave and cheerful to the last, and all his life he had never groused about his disabilities.

O. J. Coudrey had one of his Indian pictures—"Gunadhya"—hung at the Oxford Art Society's Exhibition this year.

The Rev. R. F. Ashwin has resigned the Headmastership of Magdalen College School, Brackley, which he has held since the spring of 1910. He is to be instituted on January 6th to the Rectory of Ashurst, near Steyning, Sussex—a Magdalen College living, where we wish him every happiness.

Most gratefully and respectfully we congratulate Mr. A. E. Preston on the publication of his admirable book. Elsewhere in our columns we have attempted an appreciation: here we would merely add that all lovers of their old School—older even than some of us had imagined—will find their interest quickened and their love refreshed, if they will procure and read the volume for themselves.

Nor is this the only publication of the year from Mr. Preston's pen. Of less direct interest to Old Boys of the School as such, but of equal historical insight and authority, is his able brochure on "Christ's Hospital, Abingdon—the Almshouses, the Hall and the Portraits," recently printed at the Oxford University Press. It is fitting that this work should have appeared during its author's tenure of the Mastership of the Hospital; and indeed nobody could be better qualified to write it. Like his larger work, it consists in great part of hitherto unpublished material, the outcome of extensive research in original documents and records.

We much regret to state that owing to continued ill-health the Rev. T. Layng has felt himself compelled to resign his living of King's Stanley, Gloucestershire. The resignation is to take effect at the end of March, when Mr. and Mrs. Layng will move to Windmill House, Minchinhampton. It is at any rate a satisfaction to know that they have found a suitable residence in the same part of the country, where they have many friends and interests, and where Mrs. Layng will be able to

continue her numerous public activities. We trust that Mr. Layng will soon feel the benefit of his well-earned rest from official work and worries.

We have had brought to our notice by an O.A. (A. G. C. Rice, who, by the way, has lately come to live at Black Bourton, near Bampton, Oxon.) a book called "A Traveller of the Sixties," being extracts from the diaries of the late F. J. Stevenson of his journeyings and adventures in out-of-the-way parts of the South American continent. The book is very well worth reading for its own sake, but doubly so to the many O.A.s who knew "General" Stevenson, as they called him, and, with boys from other schools, enjoyed his hospitality "in camp" near Clifton Hampden during many happy days of their summer holidays in the 'nineties' and earlier years of this century.

No doubt many of these boys (now Old Boys) still kept in touch with "the General" after their school-days were ended. Others may not have heard of his death, which took place in his ninetyeth year on May 2nd, 1926. The book was published in 1929 by Constable & Co. at the price of 12/6 net.

Thanks to the energy of the O.A.C. London Secretary there was holden at the Criterion Restaurant on Thursday, November 14, a most successful and enjoyable London O.A. dinner. At the head of the table was J. B. Reeves, this year's president of the O.A.C., who proposed the only two toasts of the evening—the King and the School. There were also present T. S. Wilding, last year's president, F. Edey, N. Duncan, E. A. Mortleman, E. H. Blacknell, J. D. May, W. Memory, K. Cleave, G. S. Sturrock, W. G. Hancock, C. E. Lowe, P. G. Perks-Morris, D. M. Brown, A. F. Bragg-Smith, and W. H. Stevens, the O.A.C. London Secretary,—sixteen O.A.s in all; and their unanimous verdict was that the sooner another such dinner takes place, the better.

We are glad to be able to state that R. E. Eason and his bride have found for themselves a place of residence in Abingdon, where their address is 17 Oxford Road.

G. T. Eason, of the E.T.C., who has been stationed at Aden since leaving the E.T.C. School at Hampstead, is now home on leave and awaiting further orders from his Company.

Congratulations to J. F. Sinclair on passing both the Asiatic Petroleum Company's exams in Urdu after only ten months of what must have been very intensive study in Calcutta.

C. E. H. Dolphin has been since July with his

regiment (Lincolnshire) in Khartoum. He hopes to be in England again in April, when he is to go for a two years' tour at the Regimental Depot at Lincoln.

P. L. Howard has been for the past eighteen months H.M. Inspector of Taxes in Belfast. His offices are in the Custom House, Belfast, where he is generally to be found.

A. H. K. Stevens has held for some time past an appointment in the Bank of England in London.

One would have thought it hardly possible for an amateur aeronaut to build himself an efficient aeroplane at the trifling cost of £17. Such a feat has however been accomplished by an O.A. in the person of S. L. Buckle, who recently completed a monoplane upon which he had been employed in his spare time for the past three years. For his purpose he bought up government scrap from no less than four different makes of aeroplanes, and eventually turned out a machine with a length of 23 feet and a wing-span of 31 feet, the engine being a six-cylinder Anzani. As he had not at this time fully qualified for a pilot's certificate, he was unable to make the trial flight himself. However, he seems to have had little difficulty in finding a qualified substitute, whose confidence in the machine was duly rewarded by an entirely successful trial. A portrait of Buckle with his monoplane and pilot appeared in several of the London and local papers at the time of the trial in September.

While congratulating Buckle on his achievement in aeroplane-building, we would congratulate him at the same time on his escape with only minor injuries from a nasty accident that befell a plane (not his own) in which he was flying as a passenger a few weeks later. The pilot on this occasion (likewise an Abingdon man), while flying over Port Meadow in Oxford, was forced to land on rough ground to avoid endangering the lives of spectators. In the smash that occurred he himself received a severe concussion, while Buckle saved himself by a timely jump.

A letter has been received from W. H. Wood, who has been since 1926 District Officer at Port Dickson, in the Federated Malay States. We take the liberty of publishing in another column—without his permission—his most interesting account of crocodile shooting by night. But Wood's principal recreation—an enthusiasm dating from his school-days—appears to be found in yachting. Recently he has been mainly instrumental in forming "The Port Dickson Yacht Club," under which title it was duly registered at

Lloyd's. Two years ago he collected a few kindred spirits to rig up old boats and sail. The thing caught on at Port Dickson: "we adopted a one-design class, the Dublin Water Way, and fifteen months ago we had 21 boats built at Hong Kong." Wood is now Commodore of the fleet and his boat, the "Nereid," is a very close second in this year's championship, having six wins and three seconds to her credit. Good luck to him, and congratulations on his keenness and enterprise!

Paul Kennington, who has now been for three years in Western Australia, working on various farms (fruit, dairy, wheat, etc.), has lately taken up a Government block of land, equipped with house and a good water supply and laid down to grass and fenced. The address is Forsythe, Serpentine, W.A.,—a place on the coast about 50 miles south of Perth, and in quite a civilised district. We wish Paul Kennington all success "upon his own"!

Sidney Shallard left Oeo, Taranaki, in the spring, and has been working since May upon a large sheep-farm of some 3,000 acres at Manaroa—next door to his brother Harold. His new address is c/o C. N. Harvey, Manaroa, Pelorus Sands, South Island, New Zealand.

F. M. Cole's new address in Canada is c/o Mr. Chas. Bennett, Ancaster R.R.I., Ontario.

G. S. Sturrock has severed his connection with the B.T.H. at Rugby and is now in the Patent Department of the G.E.C. in Wembley.

V. J. Relle is employed at Messrs. Haywards' Motors in Willesden (Kimberley Road, N.W. 6.)

J. W. P. Martin is in the Rolls-Royce Motor Works at Derby.

G. V. Cook is at present acting as private tutor to a boy in Switzerland.

W. B. Smith, who is working at the E.T.C. Training School in Hampstead, has been playing Rugger (in his old place at wing three-quarter) for the "Exiles" 2nd XV.

J. E. Spencer writes happily from Brussels, and says that he would rather live there than in England. He is to be found at 13 Rue d'Arenberg, or c/o the International Harvester Company.

K. L. Aldridge has been for some time employed at Kingerlee's (the builders) in Oxford.

W. W. Brown has severed his connection with the firm of tarmac road contractors in Lincoln-

shire, and is now studying for a degree in engineering at Birmingham University.

Our contingent at Oxford numbers eleven this term. A. F. James, W. G. Hancock, C. R. Wright and G. F. Powell have gone down, and M. Ogle, R. A. Langford and S. S. Bates have gone into residence from the School—Ogle and Bates at Pembroke and Langford at St. John's.

A. F. James was awarded third class honours by the Examiners in Literæ Humaniores in the summer, while W. G. Hancock and G. F. Powell took third class honours in Jurisprudence. James is now studying at home for the Home Civil Service Exam next August: Hancock is articled to the Solicitor for the Middlesex County Council, and his London address is 72 Brook Green, Hammersmith, W. 6: Powell is articled to Messrs. Johnson, Jacks and Colclough, solicitors, of 24 Austin Friars, E.C. 2: C. R. Wright sailed for India at the end of September to join the Indian Army. He is stationed at Jubbulpore.

The doings of O.A.s now at Oxford will be found set forth in order in our Oxford Letter. We should like, however, to congratulate E. G. Langford on his achievements at golf. He has been chosen five times this term to represent the Varsity, and his record shows as many victories as defeats. Though it would be over sanguine, perhaps, to prophesy for him a place in this season's team *v.* Cambridge, we are yet justified in hoping that he will gain his "blue" before he goes down.

Of the other O.A.s who left the School at the end of last term, K. R. Savage has joined the Borough Road Training College at Isleworth; P. J. Squire is at Faraday House in London, where we hear that he has gained his 1st XV. colours for Rugger; G. Garton is with the British Celanese Company in London; V. E. Pollard is with Spencer, Turner and Boldero, Ltd., Wholesale Manufacturers and Warehousemen, in Lisson Grove, N.W., where his brother T. R. Pollard is also employed; A. M. Greenwood is in the Borough Surveyor's Office in Abingdon; E. F. Slatter is a newspaper reporter on the *Banbury Advertiser*; H. R. d'Almaine is a cadet on board the "Worcester;" and J. H. Guy is learning the silk and wool trade with Messrs. Harvey, Nichols & Co., Knightsbridge. Of T. H. Hodgson and H. N. Trye we have no definite information to give at present.