

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo.

# THE ABINGDONIAN.

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## SCHOOL NOTES.

The Jubilee Celebrations necessarily claim pride of place in this record of events. May 6th being a national holiday for all schools, long week-end leave was given to all boarders who wished to avail themselves of it. The remainder spent an active week-end with a varied programme. On Saturday evening they went in to Oxford to see "Lives of a Bengal Lancer"; on Sunday they spent an enjoyable day at Whipsnade, where in addition to the animals, there was gliding to be watched, and on Monday many of the boys took part in, and the remainder watched, the historical pageant of Abingdon history. The history of the School was well represented, Miss Grundy figuring as the first housemistress Dionysia Mundy, Mr. Bevir as John Roysse, while "present" boys represented very 'old boys' of different ages and centuries. It is unnecessary to add to the eulogies on the weather that have already been uttered.

We regret that we omitted in our last issue to record the death of James Herbert Benyon, Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire, which occurred on February 14th. He had been a member of the Governing Body since 1902 and Chairman from 1908—1927. He took a keen interest in the progress of the School, presenting the prizes on Founder's Day, 1920 and contributing generously to all appeals.

The School officers this term are as follows :—  
Captain of the School and Head of the House : D. G. Brown. Other School Prefects : A. R. M. Adams, A. N. Elley, R. P. F. Mills, D. E. Mills, F. A. Bennett, H. L. G. Livingston (Waste-Court) and M. R. T. Cooper. Sub-Prefects : D. F. W. Newman, G. M. Stevens.

Captain of Cricket : D. E. Mills.

Secretary : F. A. Bennett.

Librarian : H. A. Lunghi.

The *Abingdonian* Committee consists of: G. F. Duxbury, Esq. (Editor), E. J. P. Ross-Barker, Esq. (Treasurer and O.A. Correspondent), F. A. Bennett, D. F. W. Newman and H. A. Lunghi.

Founder's Day will be celebrated on Friday, June 21st. The Regatta will be held on Thursday, June 20th and the Past v. Present Cricket match on Saturday, June 22nd.

Mr. J. E. Stenning, C.B., C.B.E., the Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, has very kindly consented to distribute the prizes on Founder's Day and at the Service in St. Helen's Church before the ceremony the preacher will be Canon C. H. Lenton, Vicar of Hessele, E. Yorks.

First IV. Rowing Colours were awarded last term to A. R. M. Adams, D. R. H. Brown and M. R. T. Cooper, and Second IV Colours to P. R. Wood, G. M. Stevens, P. J. Hill, R. Emmett and D. B. West (Coxing).

Full Athletic Colours were awarded this term to O. E. Clarke, D. R. H. Brown and L. E. J. Luker and Half Colours to M. R. T. Cooper and P. J. Hill.

The Bayley Cup for Junior House Football was won last term by Green House.

The Inter-House Athletic Cup was won by Red House.

We are much indebted to the Rev. R. E. E. Frampton, late Rector of Halstead, Kent, for his presentation to the Common Room of a portrait of Charles Buller Heberden, D.C.L., sometime Principal of Brasenose College and a member of the School Governing Body 1914-21; and to the School Library of several volumes of the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* and the *Classical Quarterly Review*.

We also wish to express our thanks to J. B. Reeves, Esq., O.A. for presenting to the School Library books to the value of three guineas.

Activities of the Music Circle this term have included several visits to the Oxford Bach-Handel Musical Festival. On June 2nd some dozen people heard the London Symphony Orchestra playing in the Sheldonian, under the conductorship of Reginald Jacques. Keen listeners have also had the opportunity of hearing a number of the London Musical Festival Broadcasts.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries:—*The Bracklean*, *The Brighton College Magazine*, *The Chigwellian*, *The City of Oxford School Magazine*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourne*, *The Monktonian*, *The R.M.A. Magazine*.

This term ends on Monday, July 29th, the O.T.C. leaving for camp and boarders returning home on the following day. The Christmas Term begins on Thursday, September 19th, boarders returning on the previous day.

#### VALETE.

VI FORM.—R. F. W. Andrews (1930, iii). School Prefect, 1934; O.S.C., 1934; 1st XV Rugger, 1933, 1934; 1st XV Colours, 1934; 1st XI Cricket, 1931—1934; 1st XI Colours, 1933; Captain, 1934; Full Athletic Colours, 1934; Sergeant, O.T.C., 1935; Cert. "A", 1935; 1st Class Shot; Hon. Sec., L.S.D.S.

A. A. Bristow (1930, ii). School Prefect, 1935; 2nd XV Rugger, 1934.

P. A. Town (1929, i). O.S.C., 1934; 1st Class shot.

VA FORM.—G. W. J. England (1930, iii). 2nd XV Rugger, 1934.

VB FORM.—C. E. M. Hayes (1934, ii).

S. G. Burt (1932, i).

G. H. Salt (1935, i).

#### SALVETE.

VB. FORM.—A. C. Dean.

III FORM.—D. A. Culmer, J. E. G. Davies, P. W. Pullen.

II FORM.—J. A. Pullen, J. W. Rayson, B. R. Woolfe.

#### ROWING.

Weather conditions throughout were somewhat mixed but in spite of one or two impossible days we managed to carry through the season without serious inconvenience, though it is true the races with Magdalen College School were postponed from the 27th February to the following day owing to a blizzard.

With the material at our disposal we were able to form two prospective crews at an early date and to concentrate on working them up to the desired state of uniformity. D. G. Brown, F. A.

Bennett and D. F. W. Newman as cox were the nucleus of the 1st IV, remaining from the previous year and A. R. M. Adams, the only surviving member of the 1934 2nd, was given the position of '3' in the first crew.

This necessitated a completely new 2nd, but the previous year's work had proved valuable to them and they quickly settled down together—keeping for the most part the same order of seats throughout their training.

It may be profitable for those who, though not called upon to row for either the 1st or the 2nd in a particular year, to remember that they are still "possibles" and are fitting themselves for a future season. Consequently they should not regard their rowing as mere "excursions" but should try to put into practice the advice and instruction they receive in the "tubs." Previous experience is of inestimable value when it comes to racing.

There is quite an encouraging array of promising material, but weakness seems to prevail amongst would-be coxswains. To be proficient they have to cultivate a voice that can be heard, a fairly quick judgment and a power of concentration. It is not too easily realized how inefficient coxing can spoil the efforts of a good crew—and rasp their nerves.

#### FIRST IV.

In addition to the inclemency of the weather already mentioned the crew suffered considerably from unavoidable disturbance of training. D. G. Brown was unable to row for the first three weeks, and examinations then interrupted his training so that he was never really fit enough to give the valuable backing that he would certainly otherwise have done. Moved to stroke at a late stage of training he put more life into the crew. His body swing and blade work were good and he set a very fair rhythm, but his tactics were rather at fault in races. As Captain he gave most valuable assistance in coaching new material. F. A. Bennett the other Old Colour showed gratifying improvement. His bladework was much better, particularly on stroke side, and his sliding began to be more controlled. He deputised as stroke very well in the last two races. A. R. M. Adams at '3' did not quite fulfil hopes. His heaviness of hands was apparently incurable, and all his troubles were due to this. A conscientious worker but rather slow starter. D. R. H. Brown at '2' is

a light but promising oar. His form was quite good and with a little more practice—and weight—should be very useful. Of D. F. W. Newman, last year's cox, we need only say that he was as efficient and helpful as a cox could be. M. R. T. Cooper rowed 'bow' in the last two races. He had plenty of life and considering the little practice managed his slide quite well. As to the boat as a whole, we had once again a crew slow off the mark gradually warming up to finish very strongly—but races—especially our races—are usually won or lost over the first half of the course. The paddling was very good—showing balance and bladework but the rowing lacked the snap on the beginning that makes all the difference between a fast crew and an average one. The racing record was satisfactory without being distinguished.

#### 1ST IV RACES.

v. Magdalen College School, Oxford, at Oxford on Thursday, February 28th. Lost by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lengths.

Postponed from the previous day owing to snow the race took place in fair conditions. The School made a fair start, but between the Ferry and the Stone, Magdalen went away very fast and came out of the Gut a good two lengths ahead, taking our water. From there to the finish the distance remained about the same, the School making up some ground at the Boat House and Magdalen drawing away at the finish. A good row but not quite up to racing pitch.

Crew:—F. A. Bennett (bow), 10st. 0lb.; D. R. H. Brown, 9st. 4lbs.; A. R. M. Adams, 11st. 3lbs.; D. G. Brown, 12st. 2lbs. (str.); D. F. W. Newman (cox), 8st. 8lbs.

v. Keble College, Oxford, at Abingdon, on Saturday, March 2nd. Lost by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lengths.

We rowed too slow a stroke in this race for a short course and a light crew. Keble were well together and a length up at the Big Tree and gradually increased the lead from there to the finish.

Crew as in last race.

v. St. John's College, Oxford, at Abingdon on Wednesday, March 6th. Won by 2 lengths in 3 min. 45 secs.

St. John's rowed in the Blue. After being down on the start we recovered and shewed ahead at the Tree and gradually drew ahead. Striking a higher rate this performance was a great improvement on the last.

Crew as in last race.

*v.* Pembroke College, Oxford, at Abingdon on Saturday, March 9th. Won by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in 4 mins. 26 secs.

A bitterly cold day with strong headwind. Again we were down on the start but crept up slowly and rowing well went away steadily. A very good performance especially considering the conditions.

Crew:—M. R. T. Cooper (bow), D. R. H. Brown, A. R. M. Adams, F. A. Bennett (str.), D. F. W. Newman (cox).

*v.* Dorchester College, at Abingdon, on Wednesday, March 20th. Lost by 6 feet in 3 mins. 34 secs.

Conditions were very good. The School went off rather slowly and were a length down at the Big Tree. From there they made a good effort to get on terms but Dorchester rowing long and steadily just held a winning lead. The School rowed in the 'Blue.'

Crew:—M. R. T. Cooper (bow), P. J. Hill, A. R. M. Adams, F. A. Bennett (str.), D. F. W. Newman (cox).

#### 2ND IV.

For the second consecutive season the 2nd IV has an unbeaten record and must be congratulated on the effort. In the words of an old Oxford expert they were "the best 2nd IV seen on the river for some years." This high compliment was won by their keen spirit and determination. Very quick off the mark they kept up their rate of striking without losing form and rowed strongly over the whole course. A great measure of their success was due to P. R. Wood who stroked with commendable judgment and liveliness—and the others were always ready to back him up: this provides a combination that is difficult to beat. Where all worked so well together it is invidious to make any distinction, but the most improved oar was 'bow.' "2" and "3" always did their share in making up a crew that showed the true racing spirit with a determination to win.

Crew:—G. M. Stevens (bow), 11st. 2lbs.; P. J. Hill, 10st. 6lbs.; M. R. T. Cooper, 10st. 7lbs.; P. R. Wood (str.), 9st. 9lbs.; D. B. West (cox), 5st. 11lbs.

R. Emmett, 8st. 5lbs., row at bow against the O.A.'s, Cooper rowing bow in 1st IV *v.* Pembroke.

#### SECOND IV. RACES.

*v.* Magdalen College School, on Thursday, February 28th, at Oxford. Starting from Long Bridges. Won by 2 lengths in 4 mins. 24 secs.

Both boats were nearly level up to the O.U.B. House, where we began to show ahead. From this point we kept in front up to the finishing post, rowing very nicely together and in good form.

*v.* Keble College, on Saturday, March 2nd, on Culham Reach. Won quite comfortably. Keble rowed in the John Roysse but failed to make any impression on our crew, who put up a good hard row over the whole course.

*v.* O.A.'s on Saturday, March 9th. Won by 6 lengths in 4 mins. 40 secs. Conditions were uncongenial—a strong head wind and very cold. There was very little advantage gained by the School up to the Minute Tree, but superior fitness and training enabled them to keep up the rate of striking to the winning post which was passed with a comfortable lead.

O.A. Crew:—G. A. R. Boyd (bow), D. H. Blake, J. Ranger, H. B. Healy (str.), M. H. Wheat (cox).

#### HOCKEY.

Only two members of last year's strong team were left and as practically everyone else in the Hockey Game was starting hockey for the first time, this year's team could not be expected to be strong. Hockey is a game which is far from easy for those just beginning; there is an inevitable tendency to wildness, and the art of getting a moving ball under proper control and of hitting it cleanly to the desired place requires much practice and experience. The match *v.* Lincoln College had to be scratched owing to rain, but the other two games, against the Old Boys and Wantage School, although they both ended in decisive defeats of 6—1 and 6—0 respectively, were well-played and thoroughly enjoyable matches. The Old Boys have never won this match before, and they certainly played much better than ever previously, thereby showing in a welcome (if to us slightly ruthless) manner that they had mastered many of the finer points of hockey. Their forward line combined well and had a great advantage in speed, Mosdell and Laybourne being especially dangerous, while the defence, when tested, was very sound, as was only to be expected when the brothers Lansdown form part of it. G. A. R. Boyd, heroically playing in goal for the first time, made some spectacular and deservedly applauded clearances. Mosdell, in the centre of the forward line, had a field day in scoring, shooting five goals, and this also exhibited the unselfish combined play of the whole forward

line; Laybourne scored the other goal. For us, Luker (from right back) made a fine dribble up the field into the circle, lost the ball, recovered it again and shot a spectacular goal, while D. E. Mills at centre-forward had bad luck twice in not scoring. He played well, and Luker and Town, especially the former, worked tirelessly in defence, while Wimberley at half did his best; but the half-back line, never at all strong, was weakened by the absence of Burt.

The team played better as a whole against Wantage School, although the result was much the same; Wantage have the advantage of playing hockey all through the School, and the boys start at an early age, so that they were naturally much quicker on the ball and neater in their control of it. We did well in the second half, as the score at half-time was 5—0, and they only scored one more goal after this; except for a period of 15 minutes in the first half, when Wantage scored several times, the game was quite even territorially. We pressed on many occasions, but could not force home our advantages and score the goals; we might well have scored three times. D. E. Mills again played well at centre-forward and Whitfield backed him up well at inside-right; Luker was as usual invaluable at back, and Town, the other back, and the half-back line, Burt, Wimberley and Hicks worked hard and did their best, although often, through lack of experience, they were not quick enough to cope with the opposing forward line.

D. E. Mills and Luker were the only two remaining from last year's team, and with their experience and hard work they both gave invaluable service. Mills was the mainstay of the forward line and he was well supported by Whitfield, who for his first season showed considerable promise; he made the most of his pace and was a distinctly good shot at goal. England and E. F. Stevens both had pace, but were inexperienced and did not have sufficient control over the ball. Burt and Wimberley always worked hard among the halves, and Wimberley showed that he had quite a good idea of stick-work and of hitting the ball with the reverse stick. Ownsworth in goal made some progress in a difficult position; on the whole he showed good judgment in running out to meet the opposing forwards on the edge of the circle, and at times he made some surprising saves. Occasionally, however, he was rather slow and would be beaten by a shot much easier than some of those he had previously stopped. Luker and Town, however,

were the mainstays of the defence, and both worked indefatigably; Town, though overshadowed by Luker, was generally effective in stopping his man and clearing hard, though sometimes too vigorously. Luker also hit too hard sometimes, but that is a fault in the right direction for a back, and he certainly played exceedingly well throughout the season. He was very quick about the field, a safe tackle, neat in controlling the ball, and as a rule very clean in his hitting. Above all he had the determination to rob the other man of the ball at all costs, and he generally had his way; he was constantly coming across to the help of the defence when all seemed lost.

House matches, which included the oarsmen, were played on the last day of the term, and as a result of some spirited encounters, in which some rather wild hitting was seen at times, Red House emerged victorious.

### JUNIOR RUGGER.

The "Under 15" met St. Edward's School Colts on February 10th at Oxford and lost. Against a team greatly superior in size and pace they were on the defensive almost from the start. The tackling was weak and St. Edward's soon found that they could run through pretty well as they pleased, with the result that they ran up a big score, eventually winning by 53—0.

The second match played at Bloxham in a gale against Bloxham School "Under 15" resulted in a victory after a thrilling struggle. Bayley and Hutchinson scored a try, and a penalty goal respectively, and Bloxham replied with a goal to make the score at half-time 6—5. Then tries were obtained by Bayley, Lunghi, and Hutchinson, who also converted two, while Bloxham again scored a goal. Final score, 19—10.

In the House Matches Green House beat both Blue House and Red House very easily, the former by 37—3, and the latter by 46—nil. Practically all the scoring was done by Bayley and Hutchinson. The match between Red House and Blue House was won by the former the score being 29—12. And so the Cup, after being held for three years by Blue House, passes back into the hands of Green House, its original holders.

### PLAY READING.

The Play Reading Group held five meetings last term, occupying itself principally with light comedy, which is no doubt most suitable at this

stage of its existence. "The Admirable Crichton" and "The Dover Road" supplied the whimsical, "The Witness for the Defence" the dramatic, "The Private Secretary" and "The Sport of Kings" the farcical element. Each was enjoyed by some and some by all—and readers can still be relied upon to contribute some unconscious humour and unrehearsed effects. The reading is suspended during the Summer Term, but it is hoped to revive it with renewed vigour and some fresh voices in September.

#### A CAMP AND SHOOT IN THE SHANGANI RESERVE, SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

That great pioneer and founder of this colony, Cecil John Rhodes, having decreed that the second Monday and Tuesday in July should be public holidays for all time, a number of us decided that a camping and shooting party was the best way to employ this respite from our daily toil. Weeks beforehand the necessary preparations were commenced, and permission was obtained from the powers that be for us to camp and shoot game in the Shangani Native Reserve, which is situated right out in "the blue," about 120 miles north of Bulawayo towards the Zambesi River.

The camp organizer-in-chief left for the site early on Friday morning with his wife and one other of the party. My party of three left after lunch on the same day. We consisted of three humans and a never-ending pile of luggage, which all had to be stowed into a Baby Austin Tourer of early vintage. We rolled a dozen blankets into a kaross and tied this sausage-like bundle over the spare wheel at the back; and then the three of us got ourselves inside. We were surrounded by a medley of clothes, boots, rifles and shot-guns, and had a full canvas water-bag tied on each door-handle!

We left after one or two mild protests from the car, and arrived at the Turk Gold Mine, about 35 miles from Bulawayo, without incident. We took  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours to do this portion of the trip, as the road was indescribably bad and the propeller-shaft tried hard to come adrift, necessitating 20 minutes' attention with spanner and screwdriver. At this spot we were due to tranship to a larger car owned by one of our party, who farms in that district. We still had 90 miles to do, and it was 4.30 p.m.; so we decided against going further that night, and, leaving the baby car in the safe hands of the mine-manager, went across to our friend's farm, intending an early start next day.

After dinner at the farm we stowed our luggage in the larger car ready for the morning and went to bed at an early hour, having instructed the native servant to call us at 4 a.m. I was assigned a rondavel just away from the farmhouse; but sleep did not come easily. At periodic intervals I was awakened by the blood-curdling cries of a pair of jackals that were roaming the neighbourhood. At 1.10 a.m. I sat up in bed, to see through the open door a lantern bobbing about. Our host also was not sleeping well, and was passing down the stoep to the sitting-room to find out the time. At 3.30 I got up and found the rest of the party wide-awake and quite prepared to get up too. Such is the enthusiasm aroused by the prospect of a trip out on the veldt! The native servants however were sleeping soundly, and I had to shout at them and finally kick them in the ribs before I could get them to prepare breakfast. This meal was soon consumed, and we left in search of adventure at 5 a.m.—a cold and unsociable hour.

After a few miles along the main road to the Victoria Falls we turned off and were well on our way across country by the time the sun came over the horizon, about 6 o'clock. We saw quite a lot of game from the car, large and small buck, pheasant and guinea-fowl; and at one spot, having to slow down for a sharp bend, we suddenly came upon two magnificent kudu bulls standing almost in the road. (The kudu is one of the larger species of antelope, though not so large as the roan or the eland.) We stopped the car and these two graceful beasts stood staring at us for some appreciable time before they turned and galloped off with a slow, raking stride, taking a six-foot wire fence with no apparent effort.

Here I must explain that, when I mention "roads," one must not imagine the superb tarred surfaces of England, but a dirt-track across the veldt consisting in many places merely of two ruts worn by the passage of ox-wagons, with appreciably deep channels cut across the route by the flooding of the previous season's rains. A speed of 30 m.p.h. is possible in stretches, but constant application of the brakes is necessary by reason of the various obstructions. The writer was riding in the back seat of the car with all the kit, and was repeatedly bucked all over the place, and on one occasion hit the roof with unpleasant violence.

We passed the Native Commissioner's station about 10 a.m. and arrived at the camp site, some

14 miles further on by the banks of the Shangani River, about half-an-hour later. The river was not running, as it was the middle of the dry season; but in places there were deep pools, and good fresh water could be had by digging a hole in the sand. (Precautions were taken to boil the water before drinking it.) The first arrivals, who had slept in camp, had already recruited native helpers from a neighbouring kraal, and a much-needed cup of tea was soon provided for us while we unpacked our kit and made ourselves comfortable. The other campers had been out shooting since dawn, and returned for breakfast soon after, tired but triumphant, having succeeded in finding meat for the larder in the shape of an impala ram, a species of medium-sized buck.

In the afternoon we all went out shooting in different directions to try our luck, as a good deal of meat was needed to feed our party, as well as about a dozen natives who were assisting to make the camp a success. One of the party was sufficiently optimistic to go out after a pair of lions that were reported to be doing damage in the district; but although he found spoor of these beasts, the animals themselves were not sighted by this enthusiast, in spite of a long trek.

The remainder of our party arrived from Bula-wayo that Saturday evening, and the Native Commissioner came over to join us for dinner. Eventually he was persuaded to spend the night in our camp, and did not finally return to his duties until we broke camp on the following Tuesday afternoon!

We spent three happy days out on the veldt, going in search of various sorts of game with fair success and walking many miles across country of different types from thick bush to open stretches, in which stately palms grew in profusion. There is a great thrill in getting up before dawn, having a cup of coffee and then setting off on a long walk, with a rifle slung over one's shoulder and a native guide carrying a shot-gun. One never knows what one will meet during the trek, and until the eyes become accustomed to the veldt it is almost impossible to pick out a buck even 100 yards off, unless the animal betrays its presence by some slight movement—so excellent is Nature's camouflage. I have been warned by the sharp intake of the breath of my guide that there is something close, and have stood motionless, peering at every bush, tree and clump of grass within sight, and yet been unable to see the game until they have actually taken fright and run off.

On one occasion my bearer and I left camp at 5.30 a.m., and except for a herd of impala which we stumbled on whilst climbing out of a river-bed, and which took fright before it was possible to fire a shot, we saw no game at all for nearly five hours, when I shot a rietbuck. We were then well over five miles from camp, and by the time a boy had been fetched from a kraal to help in carrying in the carcass, which had to be trussed up to a pole to make it possible for the two natives to lift it, and we had trudged back under a blazing sun, I had had plenty of exercise for one day.

During our stay we managed to get some quite good bird-shooting, including pheasant, guinea-fowl and a few duck. The one morning spent pheasant-shooting was suggestive of a Sunday School picnic, as the whole party set off *en masse*, each of us carrying some type of weapon. The first time birds were put up everyone missed his shot; whereupon an epidemic set in for the whole morning, and the resultant bag was one brace about ten guns! However, as the "boys" made us an excellent breakfast of ham and eggs, right in an open grass-covered patch surrounded by high palms, the quiet and beauty of the scene soon helped us to forget our poor display.

But the best part of all perhaps of the days spent out in the open were the evenings in camp. After a bath in the river—we had to be careful of the spot chosen for this, as there was crocodile-spoor in the sand round several pools—we always found a splendid dinner prepared by the most efficient cook-boy, generally consisting of a stew made from the most dainty morsels of the day's kill. When our wants in the matter of food were satisfied we grouped ourselves round a roaring fire, for it was cold after sun-down, and smoked and joked and sang songs. There was not a little horseplay too among the more energetic members of the party. Bed, however, always called strongly at an early hour, and once we got accustomed to sleeping on the hard ground, it took a lot to disturb our slumbers. It was wonderful to lie under one's blankets and look up through the branches of the tress, that formed our only roof, and watch the stars shining in the heavens. A tent is an unheard-of luxury in this country except in the rainy season, and no one who has slept in the open ever really wants to sleep under canvas again.

But the time to return to civilisation came all too soon, and by mid-day on Tuesday we had to pack up and set out on our 120 odd miles to town. The return journey was uneventful, and we

arrived in Bulawayo tired, happy and sunburned, and all vowing to repeat the experience at the next available opportunity.

K.T.W.

### O.T.C.

Last term was fully taken up with the training of candidates for Certificate "A" and in this connection we must congratulate L. G. Cather, L. E. J. Luker, D. E. Mills (3), G. M. Stevens (2), and P. R. Wood, on obtaining their certificates. The term's training was brought to a successful conclusion with a tactical exercise held on the Lambourn Downs in which the contingent participated in conjunction with Radley College O.T.C. and Magdalen College School O.T.C. The weather proved unexpectedly warm and sunny making the day's outing most enjoyable. No. 1 Platoon under Sgt. Bennett, and No. 2 Platoon under Sgt. Livingston were both in the forefront of the attack and all the N.C.O.'s had the fullest opportunity to demonstrate their powers of leadership and initiative.

This term we have before us the Annual Inspection which is to be carried out on June 4th by Colonel C. E. Boyce, D.S.O., R.A. Platoon drill and rifle exercises are now receiving their final polish under the vigilance of Sgt. Eyre. The end of term will see many of us entraining for Tidworth Pennings to make or renew our acquaintance with the rigours and pleasures of camp life.

Promotions:—To be Sgt. : H. L. G. Livingston ; to be Cpl. G. M. Stevens (2) ; to be L.Cpls. : J. O. Bury, L. G. Cather, P. J. Hill, D. E. Mills, L. E. J. Luker.

### SCHOOL SPORTS.

The School Sports were held on Saturday, May 11th. The weather was fine but cool and the track in very good condition. The fact that four new records were established proves that the School can still turn out promising athletes but we should like to see better performances over the longer distances, even on our rather slow track. Records were broken in the Open Hurdles by D. G. Brown, the "Under 15" Quarter Mile by J. Lay, Putting the Weight by D. G. Brown and the Junior Relay by Green House. O. E. Clarke did a very good High Jump for his height, while the running of several of the juniors showed much promise.

The officials were:—*President* : The Head Master ; *Starter* : J. B. E. Alston, Esq. ; *Judges* : R. C. Bateman, Esq., W. A. Rudd, Esq., W. Bevir, Esq. ; *Time-Keepers* : G. F. Duxbury, Esq., J. Y. Ingham, Esq. ; *Stewards* : A. N. Elley, J. A. Fletcher, D. F. W. Newman ; *Committee* : W. A. Rudd, Esq. (Chairman), J. B. E. Alston, Esq. ; *Ex-officio* : D. G. Brown, D. E. Mills, A. R. M. Adams, F. A. Bennett (Hon. Sec. and Treas.) ; *Elected* : M. R. T. Cooper, L. E. J. Luker, R. Goodey, J. Lay, N. J. Holmes, A. L. Lines.

### RESULTS.

1. LONG JUMP (Open).  
(Record : 21st. 3½ins.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. L. E. J. Luker.  
Distance, 20ft. 1in.
2. LONG JUMP (Under 15).  
(Record : 17ft. 3½ins.)  
1. H. A. Lunghi. 2. G. V. Bayley.  
Distance, 15ft. 9ins.
3. HIGH JUMP (Open).  
(Record : 5ft. 3ins.)  
1. O. E. Clarke. 2. M. R. T. Cooper.  
Height, 5ft. 2¼ins.
4. HIGH JUMP (Under 15).  
(Record : 4ft. 8½ins.)  
1. A. C. Dean. 2. R. Goodey.  
Height, 4ft. 5ins.
5. HURDLES (Open).  
(Previous Record : 16½/5)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. O. E. Clarke.  
Time, 16 secs.
6. HURDLES (Under 16).  
(Record : 18²/5 secs.)  
1. P. J. Hill. 2. S. R. Ashby.  
Time, 19³/5 secs.
7. 100 YARDS (Under 12).  
(Record : 13 secs.)  
1. B. Arundale. 2. A. Lines.  
Time, 15 secs.
8. 100 YARDS (Under 15).  
(Record : 11³/5 secs.)  
1. J. Lay. 2. G. V. Bayley.  
Time, 12²/5 secs.
9. 100 YARDS (Open).  
(Record : 10¹/5 Secs.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. O. E. Clarke.  
Time, 10²/5 secs.



## 10. 220 YARDS HANDICAP (Under 13).

1. R. Goodey (4 yds.) 2. D. E. Smith (14 yds.)  
3. P. C. Goddard (24 yds.).

Time,  $30\frac{4}{5}$  secs.

## 11. QUARTER-MILE (Under 15).

(Previous Record :  $62\frac{1}{5}$  secs.)

1. J. Lay. 2. G. V. Bayley.

Time, 62 secs.

## 12. QUARTER-MILE (Open).

(Record :  $54\frac{2}{5}$  secs.)

1. D. G. Brown. 2. M. H. Holme.

Time,  $55\frac{3}{5}$  secs.

## 13. PUTTING THE WEIGHT (12lbs.).

(Previous Record : 39ft. 0ins.)

1. D. G. Brown. 2. L. E. J. Luker.

Distance, 41ft. 1in.

## 14. HALF-MILE (Under 15).

(Record : 2 mins.  $29\frac{1}{5}$  secs.)

1. J. Lay. 2. H. A. Lunghi.

3. G. V. Bayley.

Time, 2 mins. 36 secs.

## 15. HALF-MILE (Open).

(Record : 2 mins.  $17\frac{1}{5}$  secs.)

1. A. R. M. Adams. 2. D. R. H. Brown.

3. H. L. G. Livingston.

Time, 2 mins.  $19\frac{3}{5}$  secs.

## 16. RELAY RACE (Junior).

(Previous Record : 3 mins.  $9\frac{4}{5}$  secs.)

1. Green. 2. Red.

Time, 3 mins.  $8\frac{1}{5}$  secs.

## 17. RELAY RACE (Senior).

(Record : 2 mins. 45 secs.)

1. Red. 2. Blue.

Time, 2 mins. 48 secs.

The prizes were distributed at the conclusion of the Sports by Mrs. Palmer. The Heber Clarke Challenge Cup was won by D. G. Brown, for the fourth successive year, with 60 points, and the Shallard Cup by J. Lay with 30 points.

The House Cup, presented by the Ladies of Abingdon, was won by Red House with 166 points, Green House being runners-up with 143 points.

## MILES.

The Miles were run on Thursday, March 21st. Illness unfortunately accounted for the absence of many promising runners.

## OPEN.

(Record : 4 mins.  $50\frac{4}{5}$  secs.)

1. A. R. M. Adams. 2. L. E. J. Luker.

3. P. J. Hill.

Time, 5 mins.  $20\frac{2}{5}$  secs.

House Placings :—1. Blue House, 29 points.

2. Red House, 33 points.

## JUNIOR.

(Record : 5 mins. 23 secs.)

1. R. Goodey. 2. B. N. Bosley.

3. J. P. Amies.

Time, 5 mins.  $40\frac{1}{5}$  secs.

House Placings :—1. Green House, 28 points.

2. Blue House, 38 points.

The Subscribers to the Prize Fund, to whom we offer our best thanks, were as follows :—J. B. E. Alston, Esq., Mrs. Bailie, Mrs. Bevir, Dr. H. N. Bradbrooke, Mrs. Brewer, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Bromley Challenor, Miss B. Challenor, Miss P. Challenor, Dr. H. S. Challenor (O.A.), Mrs. Cornish, H. Donkin, Esq. and Mrs. Donkin, J. Fisher Downing, Esq., Mrs. Duxbury, Miss Florey, Mrs. Gardner, The Head Master, Miss Grundy, Miss Harris, J. Y. Ingham, Esq., Mrs. E. J. Langford, Mrs. R. Langford, T. G. M. Lewington Esq., (O.A.), Mrs. Longford, Mrs. Martin Baker, Mrs. Mayhead, Philip Morland, Esq. (O.A.), W. T. Morland, Esq. (O.A.), J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (O.A.), A. W. Morland, Esq. (O.A.), E. A. Mortleman Esq., (O.A., President, O.A. Club), Lady Norman, Miss Oliver, A. E. Preston, Esq. (O.A.) and Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Pudney, J. B. Reeves, Esq. (O.A.), E. J. P. Ross-Barker, Esq. and Miss Ross-Barker, W. A. Rudd, Esq. and Mrs. Rudd, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Scott, H. P. Simpson, Esq. (O.A.), T. Skurray, Esq. (O.A.), Mrs. Sturrock, M. T. Tatham, Esq. and Mrs. Tatham, A. E. Tombs, Esq. (Mayor of Abingdon), R. A. R. Townsend, Esq. (O.A.), A. B. West, Esq. (O.A.), A. M. Wilson-Green, Esq., Mrs. Woodford.

## O.A. SPORTS.

The Athletic Meeting between Past and Present was held on Saturday, May 18th. There was only a small number of spectators owing to the cold and wet weather, but despite the unfavourable conditions the standard of performance was high. Records were broken by D. G. Brown in the Hurdles and Quarter Mile, both very fine efforts. The Relay Race, without breaking a record was one of the most exciting in recent years. The lead changed three times and there was never more than about five yards between the runners. Special mention must also be made of S. A. Paige's High Jump of 5 ft.  $3\frac{3}{4}$  ins. and D. G. Brown's 42 ft. 1 in. Weight Putt.

The results were as follows :—

1. LONG JUMP.  
(Record : 22 ft. 2 ins.)  
1. W. B. Badcock (O.A.) 2. L. E. J. Luker.  
Distance, 19 ft. 9½ ins.  
P. J. Hill. G. E. Sinclair (O.A.)
2. HIGH JUMP.  
(Record : 5 ft 5½ ins.)  
1. S. A. Paige (O.A.) 2. O. E. Clarke.  
Height, 5 ft. 3¾ ins.  
M. R. T. Cooper. W. B. Badcock (O.A.)
3. 100 YARDS.  
(Record : 10 secs.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. W. B. Badcock (O.A.).  
Time, 10²/₅ secs.  
O. E. Clarke. G. A. R. Boyd (O.A.)
4. HALF-MILE.  
(Record : 2 mins. 9⁴/₅ secs.)  
1. A. R. M. Adams. 2. L. E. J. Luker.  
Time, 2 mins. 24 secs.  
G. A. R. Boyd (O.A.). S. A. Fabes (O.A.)
5. HURDLES.  
(Previous Record : 16¹/₅ secs.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. W. H. Mayhead (O.A.).  
Time 16 secs.  
W. D. Badcock (O.A.). O. E. Clarke.
6. QUARTER MILE.  
(Previous record : 55 secs.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. M. H. Holme.  
Time, 52 secs.  
G. E. Sinclair (O.A.). M. Thomas (O.A.)
7. MILE.  
(Record : 4 mins. 50¹/₅ secs.)  
1. S. A. Paige (O.A.). 2. D. R. H. Brown.  
Time, 5 mins. 4⁴/₅ secs.  
A. R. M. Adams. M. R. T. Cooper.  
A. L. Fleet (O.A.). W. H. D. Mayhead (O.A.)
8. PUTTING THE WEIGHT.  
(Record : 42 ft. 7 ins.)  
1. D. G. Brown. 2. W. B. Badcock (O.A.)  
Distance, 42 ft. 1 in.  
L. P. Mosdell (O.A.). L. E. J. Luker.
9. RELAY RACE.  
(Record : 1 min. 56⁴/₅ secs.)  
1. A.S.A.C. 2. O.A.C.  
L. E. J. Luker. W. H. D. Mayhead.  
O. E. Clarke. H. B. Healy.  
P. J. Hill. G. E. Sinclair.  
D. R. H. Brown. M. Thomas.  
M. H. Holme. G. A. R. Boyd.  
D. G. Brown. W. B. Badcock.

A close and exciting race won by 4 yds. in the time of 1 min. 58 secs.

## THE RAG CONCERT.

The evening's entertainment was opened by "The North-Midland Trio" (P. J. Hill, G. V. Bayley, L. J. D. Hutchinson) with "Dusty Shoes" and "Who's been Polishing the Sun?" two items which they delivered with considerable verve and in attractive costume. They appeared later with "Roll along Covered Waggon" and "Winter Wonderland," the latter being an original version complete with Swiss Alpine effects—sleigh bells, luge- and ski-outfits, and some skating on thin ice.

Then we had an effective solo from Adams—"My Bonnie"—which was given with quite professional aplomb. Mr. Ingham followed with a vocal version of the adventures of one "Abdul the Bulbul," and the misadventures of a damsel whose 'age was red, and hair seventeen.'

Quite a large section of the programme was devoted to various aspects of "Car and Country." Mr. Bevir contributed two songs: "When we went to Brighton on our Famous Motor-car," and "Oh dear! What can the matter be?" which are well on the way to becoming classics of the road; whilst between these we were given a *tableau vivant* of "Motor Car In(-)Action." This lusty chassis, turned out from the works of H. L. G. Livingston, vibrated and throbbed under the efforts of its driver, H. T. Jones, to make a fair start. Further trouble followed when a tyre subsided, and there was a great to-do with jacks, spare wheels, foot-pumps and attendant noises. The episode ended with a nasty blow below the belt delivered by the juggernaut.

"Midnight in an Inn," or "The Perfect Prompters," was the title of the shorter of the two sketches in the programme. Prologue (P. J. Hill) explained the *modus operandi* of the prompters, who, working in silence, rendered the assistance required of them by displaying appropriate objects or clues. The silence, however, was on their part only, as the clues in question were responsible for frequent uproarious outbursts from the audience. As the sketch was wholly designed for the activities of the prompters, it is unnecessary to say more about it than that H. A. Lunghi as *Geoffrey*, and R. F. Jackson as his wife *Fanny*, provided the raw material for the extravaganza with quite professional flair.

After D. G. Brown's monologue last summer, we had thought that young Albert Ramsbotham's career had been prematurely but irrevocably cut short by a Blackpool lion. It was therefore an

agreeable surprise to find that this was not so, and Brown and Wallace (the lion) staged a successful 'come-back for t' lad.'

The concluding item of the concert was a one-act play: "Uncle Gussie." In this comedy we are introduced to the family circle of the *Spriggs's*, where *Mr. and Mrs. Spriggs* (G. F. Rice and P. R. Wood) are much perturbed by the arrival on the scene of *Mrs. Spriggs's* uncle, a ticket-of-leave man (R. F. Simmonds). This is most disconcerting, as *Ethel*, their daughter (R. Emmett), is engaged to *Mr. Alfred Potter*, a grocer's assistant. He is 'a very particular young man,' and 'it had taken him some time to get over *Ethel's* father being a brick-layer.' *Gussie* is accommodating, however, and suggests posing as a rich uncle from "Orstailya." The resulting complications give rise to some amusing situations and a heightening tension, till finally *Mr. Spriggs* adopts a ruse that discomfits the impostor and forces him to hurried retreat.

The stage setting was particularly effective—doors by Bury & Co., fireplace by Rice & Co., drinks by Miles & Co.—and the good team work of the actors resulted in a successful climax to the evening's entertainment.

#### O.A. NOTES.

##### BIRTHS.

**BARTLETT.**—On March 19, to Stella, wife of John Henry Bartlett, Manor Farm, Little Compton, a son.

**KITTO.**—On May 21, at Gloucester, to Helen, wife of Hugh R. Kitto, a daughter.

**REYNOLDS.**—On June 2, to the Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Reynolds, a son.

##### MARRIAGES.

**ROBINSON—KNOWLES.**—On January 26, at the British Consulate and at St. George's Church, Lisbon, Walter James Lynn Robinson, of Carcavellos, Portugal, to Margaret Knowles.

**STEFF—BULLEN.**—On March 16, at St. Mary's Church, Hampton Poyle, Oxon, Cyril J. E. Steff, of Heavitree House, Abingdon, to Mary G. Bullen, of Moor Street, Kidlington.

**STONE—JOHNSON.**—On April 17, at Milton, Berks, Henry W. Stone to Phyllis H. Johnson, of Milton Heights.

**STURROCK—LANGFORD.**—On April 20, at St. Mary's Church, Wexham, Bucks, George S. Sturrock, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Sturrock, of Netherton Cottage, Fyfield, to Muriel Joyce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Langford, of Abingdon.

**ALDRIDGE—JONES.**—On April 22, at Duffield Parish Church, near Derby, Kenneth L. Aldridge to Mary B. Jones.

**FISHER—HOEY.**—On April 22, at St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, Cyril Frank Fisher to Violet Kathleen Hoey.

**HOOKE—HANDLEN.**—On May 21, at St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, John Holden Hooke, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hooke, of Abingdon, to Mina, younger daughter of Mrs. Handlen, of Lytton, Oxford Road, Cowley, and the late Mr. F. M. Handlen.

#### DEATH.

**SHEPHERD.**—On Sunday evening, May 5, at his residence, Glyndowr, Park Crescent, Abingdon, George Williams Shepherd, in his 75th year.

We have lost a good friend of the older generation by the death of G. W. Shepherd. Born in June, 1860, at Ladygrove House, Abingdon, he entered the School as a day-boy in May, 1871. This was little more than a year after the new School buildings had been opened on their present site, and his lifelong friend the late H. G. W. d'Almaine, was one of his contemporaries. After leaving the School in 1879 he succeeded his father at the Abingdon Carpet Factory, of which he became the principal director. At the same time he maintained his interest in his old School, when occasion called for it in a practical and generous manner. After his marriage in 1889 he became its near neighbour in the Park, and in due course sent his three sons to the same Alma Mater. A familiar figure at Old Boys' gatherings, he served for some years on the Committee of the O.A.C., and was elected President for 1909-10.

In the life of the town too, he played a useful part. He served on the Borough Council from 1890 to 1894, and during the War was responsible for much clerical work under Lord Derby's scheme of recruiting. In 1923 he was elected a Governor of Christ's Hospital, and only last October, in spite of failing health, accepted the office of Master of that body, taking over the duties in January.

He died quite suddenly on the eve of Jubilee Day, on which he was hoping—and indeed in the act of preparing—to “do his bit” by helping in the local celebrations.

The Rev. J. W. Reynolds has been appointed Rector of Arrow, near Alcester, Warwickshire, where he took up his duties after Easter.

A. J. K. Smith, who is studying for a medical degree at Oxford, has safely negotiated the preliminary part of the course, and passed also in Organic Chemistry (part of the 1st M.B. Exam.) in December.

S. P. Austin passed the Final Exam. of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in January.

A. A. Bristow, who left us at the beginning of March, is articled to Messrs. Fairbairn, Wingfield and Wykes, Chartered Accountants, of Watling Street, London.

Congratulations to A. L. Fleet, whose name appears this year in the list of scholarship awards made by the Council of the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund. He merits our further congratulations also by gaining a place (“3”) in the Pembroke College Eight, which started the week’s racing fourth and ended third in the Second Division.

J. Ranger has obtained a post with Messrs. Gale and Polden, Publishers, London.

T. H. A. Gill is in the Humber Motor Service Station at Cricklewood.

G. W. J. England is apprenticed to Messrs. Sainsbury, Ltd., Provision Merchants, of High Street, Oxford.

S. G. Burt has a post with the Cowley Concrete Company, Ltd., Abingdon.

D. E. Mills, who left us early in the present term, has obtained a clerkship in Lloyd’s Bank at Trowbridge.

#### O.A. CLUB NOTES.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held in the School Common at 6 p.m. after the Past v. Present Cricket Match on Saturday, June 22nd.

Agenda—Minutes.  
Accounts.  
Election of Officers.  
Any other business.

Those who wish to play in the Cricket Match are requested to communicate with G. A. R. Boyd, Kingslake, Hartington Road, Grove Park, Chiswick, N.4.

The Club Dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel on Saturday, June 22nd, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 7/6.

The Golf Competition for Challenge Cup and Prize presented by J. B. Reeves, O.A., will be played at Frilford Heath on Sunday, June 23rd.

#### THE LONDON SPORTS SECTION.

The London Sports Section of the Club celebrated its inauguration with a dance at the New Burlington Galleries on April 6th. This proved an unqualified success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Among the guests present we were very glad to welcome a late master of the School, the Rev. J. W. Reynolds, but we regret that none of the present staff were able to be with us.

Will all O.A.’s please note that this function will be a yearly affair in future to be held on Boat Race night, and a larger gathering than ever is expected next year.

On May 17th, a party of 12 spent a very pleasant and instructive evening visiting the printing works of Odhams Press. For this we are indebted to Mr. T. Jones and the hospitality of the “Daily Herald.” After seeing how a news-sheet is set up and printed we all marched forth shortly after 12 a.m. flourishing the first edition of the morning paper. We now show our broadmindedness by taking the “Daily Herald” as well as the “Times.”

For the information of O.A.’s we append a of the Rugger fixtures for next season :—

Sept.	28.	Old Johnnians
Oct.	5.	Cavendish A.
„	12.	The School
„	19.	Old Gaytonians A.
„	26.	Pinner A.
Nov.	2.	Barking Modern Old Boys
„	9.	Johnson & Phillips
„	16.	Old Reigatians A.
„	23.	
„	30.	Reigate A.
Dec.	7.	O.A. Match
„	21.	P. & O. Sports Club
„	28.	Ibis B.
Jan.	18.	Mid Herts A.
„	25.	Old Purlians
Feb.	1.	O.A. Hockey Match
„	8.	Old Sennockians

Feb.	15.	Johnson & Phillips
"	22.	Old Gaytonians
"	29.	
Mar.	7.	Cavendish
"	14.	O.A. Boat Race
"	28.	P. & O. Sports Club
April	4.	Reigate A.
"	11.	
"	18.	Old Watfordians
"	25.	Pinner A.

## CRICKET FIXTURES.

## FIRST XI.

Wed. May	22.	Pembroke Coll., Oxon	Away
Sat.	"	25.	
Wed.	"	29.	Lincoln College
Sat. June	1.	Bloxham School	Home
Wed.	"	5.	Magdalen C.S. Oxford
Sat.	"	8.	Mr. R. M. Salberg's XI
Wed.	"	12.	Wantage School
Sat.	"	15.	Leighton Park
Sat.	"	22.	Old Abingdonians
Wed.	"	26.	City of Oxford School
Sat.	"	29.	Capt. G. Payne's XI
Wed.	"	3.	Magdalen C.S. Brackley
Sat.	"	6.	
Wed.	"	10.	Oxford City

## SECOND XI.

Sat. May	25.	Leighton Park	Home
Sat. June	1.	Bloxham School	Away
Wed.	"	5.	Magdalen C.S. Oxford
Sat.	"	8.	Dorchester College
Wed.	"	19.	

## UNDER 15 XI.

Wed. May	29.	City of Oxford School	Away
Wed. June	12.	Wantage School	Home
Sat.	"	15.	City of Oxford School
Wed.	"	19.	Magdalen C.S. Brackley
Sat.	"	29.	St. Edward's School
Sat. July	6.	Leighton Park School	Home

*Terms of Subscription to the "Abingdonian" for O.A.s are :—*

*For seven years (21 numbers) .. ten shillings*

*For fifteen years (45 numbers) .. one guinea.*

*Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer at the School.*

*Back numbers may be obtained at half the published price.*

*The Editor will always be glad to receive contributions from, and news of, O.A.'s in all parts of the world.*