

The ABINGDONIAN



*Misericordias in aeternum
Domini cantabo*

SUMMER TERM, 1941

Vol. VIII. No. 2

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

THE ABINGDONIAN

CONTENTS

	PAGE				
CALENDAR	17	WAR WEAPONS WEEK	-	-	-
EDITORIAL	18	POEM: ANNIVERSARY	-	-	-
SCHOOL OFFICERS	18	ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS	-	-	-
SCHOOL NOTES	18	RUGGER PROSPECTS, 1941	-	-	-
ATHLETIC SPORTS	20	SALVETE AND VALETE	-	-	-
FOUNDER'S DAY—SERMON	21	EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE	-	-	-
CRICKET	22	POEM: EPITAPH	-	-	-
J. T. C. AND HOME GUARD	25	FIFTY YEARS AGO	-	-	-
A.T.C. AND FIELD DAY	26	O.A. NOTES	-	-	-



CALENDAR—CHRISTMAS TERM, 1941

Wed.	Sept. 17.	Boarders return to school.	Sat.	Nov. 15.	1st XV v. Bloxham School (Home).
Thurs.	„ 18.	First day of term.	Wed.	„ 26.	1st XV v. Radley College 2nd XV (H.
Sat.	„ 27.	1st XV v. Southfield School (Away).	Mon.	Dec. 8.	O.S.C. begins.
„	Oct. 25.	1st XV v. City of Oxford School (Home).	Tues.	„ 16.	Last day of term.
„	Nov. 1.	1st XV v. Leighton Park School (A.).	Wed.	„ 17.	Boarders return home.
Wed.	„ 5.	1st XV v. Eastbourne College 2nd XV (Away).	A Confirmation Service will be held towards the end of the Term.		
„	„ 12.	1st XV v. Magdalen C.S., Oxford (A.).			

EDITORIAL

We were interested to note the following in a popular newspaper which specializes in heavy-headed headlines, dated May 31, 1941, 'The Old School "Mag." is Doomed.' This pessimistic journal then proceeded to state that 'many school and college magazines have stopped publication. Very few will be circulated among pupils at the end of the present summer term,' etc. Discounting necessary journalistic exaggeration, we are nevertheless glad to feel that we are still one of the 'very few,' nor do we take such a pessimistic view of the future. As has been stated before, *The Abingdonian* is not only the medium for conveying current School news to past and present, but also an official record of the School and its members' activities, and as such would only cease publication temporarily under the direst of necessities. We therefore present number 2, Volume VIII, with a somewhat altered outer cover, which we trust will meet with general approbation.

As we stated in our previous issue, it is the hopeful intention to publish this Magazine in future during the last week of the term from which it derives its date. Some slight disadvantages which might arise from this policy are, we consider, greatly outweighed by its advantages.

This is the examination term. More and more does the passing of the School Certificate (with adequate credits) become the first essential, the prime necessity, the initial stepping-stone to a career both in civil and service life. The normal number of candidates have entered this term for the Higher and School Certificates. As the examinations do not end until July 23rd, we shall have to defer publication of results until the next issue; but meanwhile we wish our candidates all success and good fortune in their efforts to satisfy the examiners.

We welcome correspondence on any pertinent matter, and we wish to draw our readers' attention to our correspondence columns. We would particularly commend to their notice, especially parents, a letter we have received from a parent living in Abingdon on the subject of school

clothes. Under the coupon system the question of obtaining clothes for growing children is an increasingly serious one, and we would like to suggest that perhaps parents might get into touch with each other with a view to organizing some sort of clothes exchange.

SCHOOL OFFICERS. SUMMER TERM, 1941

Captain of the School and Head of the House :

H. J. Clarke.

School Prefects.

E. O. Jones.

B. Arundale.

J. M. Leftwich.

M. Hedger.

Sub-Prefects.

J. A. D. Cox.

A. C. Randle.

C. R. Howell

G. E. T. Trudgian.

(Waste Court).

K. G. Walker.

A. L. Leigh.

R. W. F. C. Westgate.

J. R. Owen.

Captain of Cricket : A. L. Leigh.

Hon. Secretary of Games : B. Arundale.

School Librarians : G. E. T. Trudgian and

R. D. Gibaud.

SCHOOL NOTES

Founder's Day, June 20th, was this year of necessity shorn of most of its pleasant and social trappings. It was confined to the service in St. Helen's Church—the service being taken and the sermon preached by the Chaplain, Rev. G. R. Palmer—and to the Regatta at the School Boat House in the afternoon, where Miss Grundy was At Home to all O.A.s and parents who could manage to be present. As was the case last year, there was no Prize-giving. The gorgeous June weather, though somewhat belated, helped to compensate somewhat for the curtailment of the usual arrangements.

We were very fortunate in having one of the very few pleasant days in May for the Sports. It was in fact an ideal day for the meeting. The times for the shorter distances maintained a good average; and we congratulate H. J. Clarke on winning the Heber Clarke Challenge Cup, and P. S. Wilsdon on winning the Shallard 'Under 15'

Challenge Cup, in the course of which he broke the Under 15 Quarter Mile record by $\frac{2}{3}$ seconds.

1st Athletic Colours were awarded to P. Carter (Easter Term), G. Hill, A. C. Randle, J. A. D. Cox (Summer Term); 2nd Athletic Colours were awarded to G. Lewington (Easter Term), E. S. N. Hazel, J. Cantle, K. R. Sims (Summer Term).

The Ladies of Abingdon Challenge Cup was won with some ease by Blue House, Green and Red Houses being 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The weather has more influence on the activities and enjoyment of the Summer Term than on any other. In common, we presume, with the rest of the country, for seven long weeks we shivered in the cold north-east wind, unable to bathe, and biting the blue finger in the cricket field. At long last, Nature decided that we had been tried enough, and so June finished in a blaze of splendour. But meanwhile illness had been indirectly marring the season for the cricket teams. Though the School has had a splendid bill of health, being unvisited by any epidemic for four successive terms (in the Easter term this is no mean feat), the Cricket team was extremely unlucky in that three of their important school matches—those against Magdalen College School, Bloxham, and Wantage—had to be cancelled owing to their opponents' quarantining restrictions. We wish, however, to congratulate the Cricket XI on a successful season. Up to the last match they held an unbeaten record: it therefore seemed hard that in our last match it was our own Home Guard (with reinforcements) who should inflict upon us a reverse. *Et vos 'Brutes'!*

1st XI Cricket Colours were awarded to P. Carter; 2nd XI Colours to M. Packer, C. R. T. Heard, P. H. Harris, J. M. Leftwich.

The Fletcher Cup and the bat given by the Common Room for the best batsman in the XI were won by A. L. Leigh, and the Headmaster's bat for the best bowler by P. Carter. H. J. Clarke won the bat for the best fielder.

The Henderson and Meredith bats for batting and bowling were awarded as follows: the best batsman under 16, M. F. Packer; the best bowler under 16, C. R. T. Heard; the best batsman and bowler under 15, P. H. Harris.

We must congratulate the Officers, N.C.O.s and Cadets on the satisfactory result of their J.T.C. Annual Inspection carried out by Colonel R. McCalmont, C.V.O., D.S.O. This result was only obtained by very strenuous and conscientious hard work in preparation on the part of all concerned. In spite of the inclement weather, the whole inspection was conducted smartly and efficiently. As a mark of commendation, the Inspecting Officer asked for an extra half-holiday for the Corps, which was immediately granted by the Headmaster.

We wish to congratulate E. O. Jones on being awarded a Major Scholarship by the Berkshire County Council.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra visited the Corn Exchange, Abingdon, on May 22nd and 23rd, under the conductorship of Sir Adrian Boult and Dr. Malcolm Sargent. A considerable number of the members of the School were able to avail themselves of the pleasure of being present at the performances.

The Abingdon War Weapons Week, April 26th to May 3rd, was an outstanding success. The original aim of £100,000 appears a very modest one in view of the actual total reached of £448,800. Mr. Ingham and Mrs. Alston organized the School effort with most satisfactory results. A report is given elsewhere.

We understand that a considerable number of members of the School have made arrangements to assist the national farming effort during the holidays.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries: *The Aldenhamian*, *The Bloxhamist*, *The City of Oxford School Magazine*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourn The Recorder*, *The S. Edward's School Chronicle*, *The 'Worcester' Magazine*.

SCHOOL SPORTS, 1941

The Sports were held on Saturday, May 17th, in Waste Court, and we were lucky in enjoying for the occasion one of the few fine days of May. It was an ideal day for sports, and this helped to increase the amenities for a large crowd of spectators, which consisted not only of boys, their parents and friends, but also a good number of Old Boys.

Performances varied. While the short distance races maintained a good standard, some of the other events failed to do so. One record was broken—the junior quarter-mile—by P. S. Wilsdon, who succeeded in lowering J. Lay's record of 62 seconds, set up in 1935, by $\frac{2}{5}$ of a second. The Open quarter-mile was the best race of the day and produced a very fine finish with H. J. Clarke and J. A. D. Cox dead-heating in the excellent time of $54\frac{3}{5}$ seconds, which was only $\frac{1}{5}$ second outside the record. The times of all three 100 yards races compare favourably with the records, and in the Junior Relay, Blue House came very near to breaking their own record of two years ago.

As was the case last year, no prizes were given owing to the war, but the Challenge Cups were presented at the conclusion of the Sports by Mrs. Punton-Smith.

The whole proceedings went with a swing with no delays and were very well organized by Mr. Alston, assisted by an able committee and stewards.

The Officials were—*President*: The Headmaster. *Starter*: E. F. Le Feuvre, Esq. *Judges*: W. A. Rudd, Esq; W. Bevir, Esq.; H. M. Gray, Esq. *Time-Keepers*: J. Y. Ingham, Esq.; G. F. Duxbury, Esq. *Stewards*: E. O. Jones, M. Hedger, K. Walker. *Committee*: W. A. Rudd, Esq. (*Chairman*), J. B. E. Alston, Esq. (*Ex-officio*), H. J. Clarke, J. M. Leftwich, B. Arundale (*Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*). (*Elected*), A. Leigh, D. Richardson, G. B. C. Myall, M. J. Cullen (i), D. A. Heard (ii), A. B. Beadle (ii), J. T. Cullen (iv).

The Results were :

The Heber Clarke Challenge Cup for Seniors :
H. J. Clarke (19 points).

The Shallard Challenge Cup for Juniors : P. S. Wilsdon (18 points).

Ladies of Abingdon Challenge Cup : Blue House (118 points).

1. LONG JUMP (Open)

(Record : 21 ft. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

1. G. Hill (B). 2. B. Arundale (R). 3. T. W. Smith (R).
Distance, 17 ft. 6 in.

2. LONG JUMP (Under 15)

(Record : 17 ft. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

1. A. J. Burborough (G). 2. B. O. Crook (G).
3. K. R. Dudley (R).
Distance, 14 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

3. HIGH JUMP (Open)

(Record : 5 ft. $4\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

1. B. Arundale (R). 2. G. Hill (B). 3. J. Rayson (B).
Height, 4 ft. $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.

4. HIGH JUMP (Under 15)

(Record : 4 ft. $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.)

1. P. S. Wilsdon (B). 2. F. W. G. Carter (B).
3. A. J. Walters (R).
Height, 4 ft. $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

5. HURDLES (Open)

(Record : 16 sec.)

1. A. C. Randle (G). 2. E. S. N. Hazel (R).
3. J. Rayson (B).
Time, $20\frac{1}{2}$ sec.

6. HURDLES (Under 16)

(Record : $17\frac{2}{5}$ sec.)

1. C. F. Milne (R). 2. G. Hill (B). 3. G. L. Jones (B).
Time, $19\frac{2}{5}$ sec.

7. 100 YARDS (Under 12)

(Record : 13 sec.)

1. E. G. B. Whitfield (R). 2. N. Parker (G).
3. D. J. Leach (B).
Time, $13\frac{1}{2}$ sec.

8. 100 YARDS (Under 15).

(Record : $11\frac{3}{5}$ sec.)

1. P. S. Wilsdon (B). 2. A. J. Betterton (B).
3. A. J. Burborough (G).
Time, 12 sec.

9. 100 YARDS (Open)

(Record : $10\frac{1}{5}$ sec.)

1. H. J. Clarke (G). 2. A. C. Randle (G).
3. J. M. Leftwich (B).
Time, $10\frac{4}{5}$ sec.

10. PUTTING THE WEIGHT (12 lb.)

(Record : 46 ft. 9 in.)

1. H. J. Clarke (G). 2. P. Carter (B). 3. G. Farnsworth (B).
Distance, 33 ft.

11. 220 YARDS HANDICAP (Under 13)

1. J. S. Draisey (46 yd.). 2. M. D. Millichap (46 yd.).
3. A. W. H. Riggott (53 yd.).

12. QUARTER MILE (Under 15)

(Previous record : 62 sec.)

1. P. S. Wildon (B). 2. D. Parrott (R).

3. P. Harris (B).

Time, 61 $\frac{3}{4}$ sec.

13. QUARTER MILE (Open)

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

1. H. J. Clarke (G) and J. A. D. Cox (B), dead-heat.

3. J. M. Leftwich (B).

Time, 54 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec.

14. THROWING THE DISC

1. H. J. Clarke (G). 2. J. Cantle (G). 2. A. C. Randle (G).
Distance, 91 ft.

15. HALF MILE (Under 15)

(Record : 2 min. 27 $\frac{4}{5}$ sec.)

1. A. J. Burborough (G). 2. P. Harris (B).

3. D. J. Penny (R).

Time, 2 min. 34 $\frac{4}{5}$ sec.

16. HALF MILE (Open).

(Record : 2 min. 12 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec.)

1. P. Carter (B). 2. K. R. Sims. (B). 3. G. B. C. Myall (B).

Time, 2 mins. 22 $\frac{4}{5}$ sec.

17. RELAY RACE (JUNIOR) 8×220 yd.

(Record : 4 min. 4 sec.)

1. Blue House. 2. Red House.

Time, 4 min. 6 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec.

18. RELAY RACE (SENIOR). 8×220 yd.

(Record : 3 min. 29 sec.)

1. Blue House. 2. Green House.

Time, 3 min. 37 sec.

HOUSE POINTS for Ladies of Abingdon Challenge Cup—Blue House, 118 pts. Green House, 56 pts. Red House, 50 pts.

The results of the Miles were reported in our previous issue.

FOUNDER'S DAY SERMON

*Preached at S. Helen's Church, Abingdon,
June 20th*

Rev. G. R. Palmer, Chaplain of the School, preached the Founder's Day Sermon. He took as his main theme that the only true building of character was based on the foundations laid down by Jesus Christ. A school comprised more than a present generation and far more than the buildings, however ancient and historic they might be. On Founder's Day when the School commemor-

ated the *refounding* of the Abingdon School in 1563 by John Roysse (not the founding, as is sometimes erroneously thought, which can be traced back at least another two centuries), he was irresistibly led to think of his own school of S. Peter, Westminster, which had shared the fate of the Abbey in being bombed and battered, and in part laid in ruins. Those beautiful and historic buildings could never be replaced with their former associations, but the School went on. The glory of a school therefore lay in the spirit and type of character of the boys whom it educated, and the rock-like foundations of that education, as pious founders had willed, was the Christian life.

In that wonderful letter of 'An Airman to his Mother' published by *The Times* a year ago, that young officer, later killed in action, put the matter clearly. 'We are sent to this world to acquire a personality and a character to take with us that can never be taken from us. . . . I firmly and absolutely believe that evil things are sent into this world to try us ; they are sent deliberately by our Creator *to test our metal* because He knows what is good for us.'

War was an evil thing and was one of God's great testing times. National character was being put through the crucible, and because we were fighting with a good conscience for Christian ideals our people had been able to endure the relentless brutal blows of the enemy. Our schools had helped to build that national character ; but each generation had to dedicate itself anew, because education was a two-edged weapon. The German use of that weapon had educated the youth of Germany to a cynical disregard of all standards of honour and decency, to a ruthlessness and inhumanity which was purely devilish. Hence to eradicate such satanic qualities from a whole nation would be the greatest of post-war problems. Only Christ could cast out Satan. Education therefore in English schools must be definitely and increasingly Christian, and it was only upon those foundations that hopes for the solution of post-war problems and restoration of happiness could rest.

CRICKET, 1941

Various circumstances beyond our control reduced the number of matches actually played to seven. Only three were against other schools, and these three we won, although it was a near thing in two of them. In the other four matches the team gave as good as it got, two being drawn with honours about even, one lost, and the other won. Judging purely by results, therefore, the season was a distinct success.

It cannot be denied, however, that this success was achieved by unexpected means. We had seven of last season's XI available, including the best batsman, and it appeared that the strength of the team would lie in its batting. Actually, however, only Leigh really 'came off' with the bat; which he did so effectively as to score nearly three times as many runs as any one else in the team. Bradfield, of whom much was expected, had a disappointing season and never really got going, while Hill, apart from one good innings, could not score at all freely. Of the rest Packer had one good innings which contributed largely to our victory over Leighton Park School, and Carter came to the rescue with a bold knock against the City of Oxford School just when it was most needed. There was, however, a distinct tail to the team, with the result that only an exceptional individual performance with the bat or ball averted defeat on at least three occasions.

The bowling of the team was not strong. Here again one player, Carter, was outstanding, as his very fine average indicates. Farnsworth and Leftwich were both too erratic to support him effectively. Ball, while not fulfilling the promise of last season, was a useful change bowler. Heard by his length and spin usually kept his opponents on the defensive, and achieved very fair results. With more experience and assistance from the wicket he should be extremely useful next season.

The fielding reached a high standard in the later matches, and in this department of the game perhaps the team gave the clearest evidence of the keenness and determination which they undoubtedly possessed, and which were encouraged by the captaincy of Leigh, whose lively

batting and efficient wicket-keeping were an example and an inspiration to them.

We should like to thank Mr. Strutt for his coaching of the team during the last three weeks of the season. It was greatly appreciated by the team especially in view of the absence, on war service, of Mr. Martin and Guilfoyle, who between them had done so much to raise the standard of the 1st XI during the previous two seasons.

Cricket Characters, 1941

A. L. Leigh (1940-41 Colours). Has proved a good captain, handling his bowling and field well. By far the most consistent bat in the team, he has played some excellent innings. His wicket-keeping is very workmanlike and sound. A very promising cricketer.

W. G. Bradfield (1940-41 Colours). He has had a very disappointing season and has been unable to settle down. His fielding has improved greatly and he has held some good catches.

P. Carter (Colours 1941). He has bowled consistently well throughout the season, taking nearly twice as many wickets as any one else. He is a natural hitter but failed to use this asset to the best of his ability. A safe field.

Hill. Although this has not been a very good season for him, he has batted well at times but has been rather slow in scoring. Fielding always reliable.

Clarke. He has had a disappointing season although he could be relied upon to make runs in a critical position. He has distinguished himself as a brilliant fielder.

Ball. He has failed to come up to expectations as a bowler. Had he concentrated more with leg breaks he would have met with more success. He proved himself a very reliable cover point.

Farnsworth. As a bowler he has failed to 'come off'; he is too erratic to open the bowling and should concentrate on length rather than speed. Slow in the field.

Packer. He has proved himself a useful opening bat and has often managed to wear down the

brunt of the opposing attack. Is a fair field and has held some very good catches.

Heard. He has been a very useful slow left-handed bowler, but should learn to vary his bowling. A fair field, but his batting is rather weak.

Harris. He has batted very steadily throughout the season and has played some very patient innings. He is a promising batsmen who should be very useful next year, when he has had more experience. Slow in the field.

Leftwich. His medium-paced bowling was fair, but should try to be a little more enthusiastic when fielding.

Richardson. He has had a very disappointing season, his batting was unreliable, but his fielding was steady if not spectacular.

2nd XI

The 2nd XI were unlucky to have all their fixtures cancelled owing to epidemics breaking out in the various schools.

Scores.

SATURDAY, MAY 31st (Home).

<i>Abingdon Home Guard C.C.</i>		<i>Abingdon School C.C.</i>	
Craig, b Heard	65	W. G. Bradfield, run out	28
Dickinson, run out	14	Packer, lbw, b Dickinson	14
Brown, b Farnsworth	3	Hill, run out	10
Steptoe, b Carter	5	Richardson, c Jakeman,	
Dudley, b Carter	3	b Steptoe	1
Willets, b Heard	6	A. L. Leigh, not out	83
Holmes, b Ball	1	Ball, b Steptoe	7
Paton, lbw Ball	4	Harris, c Jakeman,	
Jakeman, c Packer,		b Brackley	5
b Heard	1	Heard, not out	2
Brackley, not out	5	Farnsworth	
Turner, b Heard	2	Carter	
		Leftwich	
Extras: byes 4	4	Extras: l-byes 3, byes 4	7

Total	113	Total	157 for 6
O M R W		O M R W	
Carter 4	7 — 34 2	Brackley	5 — 18 1
Farnsworth	4 — 30 1	Dickinson	10 2 39 1
Heard I	5.5 — 41 4	Holmes	3 — 16 —
Ball	3 1 4 2	Steptoe	5 1 18 2
		Jakeman	4 — 32 —
		Brown	1 — 24 —

Won by 5 wickets.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11th (Away).

<i>Abingdon School C.C.</i>		<i>Leighton Park School C.C.</i>	
W. G. Bradfield		Talbot, st Leigh, b Heard	13
b Macmichael	8	Harrison, b Carter	1
Packer, not out	27	P. J. Hobson, c Clarke,	
Hill 3, c Burton,		b Ball	18
b Macmichael	7	R. H. K. Burton,	
Clarke, b Thorpe	1	c Clarke, b Carter	13
A. L. Leigh,		Hawtin, b Carter	8
lbw Macmichael	1	Sara, b Carter	6
Ball, b Macmichael	2	Macmichael, lbw Heard	0
Richardson,		Minchin, c Leigh,	
b Macmichael	2	b Carter	0
Heard 1, b Smart	5	Smart, b Carter	0
Farnsworth, run out	4	Collier, st Leigh, b Heard	1
Leftwich, b Smart	0	D. H. Thorpe, not out	1
Carter, c Sara, b Smart	7		
Extras: byes 3, l-byes 2	5	Extras: byes 2, l-byes 1	3
Total	70	Total	64

	O M R W		O M R W
Thorpe	12 3 15 1	Carter 4	9 4 12 6
Macmichael	15 5 22 5	Ball	5 — 30 1
Smart	7.2 — 22 3	Heard	4 — 19 3
Burton	4 1 5 —		

Won by 6 runs.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14th (Home).

Ashford School C.C. *Abingdon School C.C.*

Pearson, b Carter	6	W. G. Bradfield,	
Lacey, b Carter	0	lbw Jeffery	5
Pearson, c Packer,		Packer, run out	0
b Carter	21	Hill, b Skinner	15
Aston, c Packer, b Carter	6	Clarke, not out	13
Owen, b Carter	3	A. L. Leigh, lbw Skinner	0
Jeffrey, lbw Carter	2	Harris, st Aston,	
Barnes, b Heard	0	b Pearson	5
Garner, b Heard	0	Richardson, c Barnes,	
Jackson, c Bradfield,		b Skinner	1
b Carter	0	Ball, c Skinner	
Attwood, c Farnsworth		b Pearson	1
b Carter	2	Heard, b Pearson	0
Skinner, not out	4	Farnsworth, b Pearson	11
		Carter, c Owen,	
		b Pearson	0
Extras	0	Extras: byes 1	1
Total	44	Total	52

	O M R W		O M R W
Carter	8.6 3 12 8	Skinner	8 1 27 3
Farnsworth	4 — 24 —	Jeffery	4 — 16 1
Heard	3 — 6 2	Pearson	3.7 — 8 5
Ball	1 — 2 —		

After the match 2nd XI Colours were awarded to P. Carter 4.

Won by 2 wickets.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18th (Away).

R.A.F. Abingdon C.C.					Abingdon School C.C.				
Henry, c Bradfield,					W. G. Bradfield,				
b Leftwich	11				b Henry	3			
Ainsworth, c Harris,					Packer, b Henry	0			
b Leftwich	2				Hill, c Starcliffe,				
Pitt, c Bradfield,					b Henry	7			
b Heard	27				Clarke, lbw Pitt	6			
Bretherton, c Hill					A. L. Leigh, not out	41			
b Ball	9				Harris, c and b Pitt	5			
Starcliffe, not out	28				Richardson, b Pitt	0			
Nelson, b Ball	4				Ball, hit wkt., b Pitt	0			
Swinscoe, b Leftwich	0				Carter, b Bretherton	1			
Pulman, lbw Leftwich	0				Heard, not out	2			
Monaghan, b Ball	0				Leftwich, did not bat				
Bircher, b Ball	0								
Garland, c Leftwich,									
b Carter	6								
Extras: bye 13, 1-byes 4	17				Extras: byes 9	9			
Total	104				Total	74 for 8 wks.			
O M R W					O M R W				
Carter	6 1 19 1				Henry	6 — 24 3			
Leftwich	9 2 30 4				Swinscoe	2 — 4 0			
Ball	7 3 10 4				Pitt	5 — 18 4			
Heard	5 — 28 1				Bretherton	3 — 10 1			
					Ainsworth	2 — 9 —			

Drawn.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21st (Home).

Abingdon School C.C.					Mr. Alston's XI.				
W. G. Bradfield, lbw Cox	0				Dean, c Bradfield,				
Packer, c Cox, b Pimm	11				b Farnsworth	20			
Hill, c Le Feuvre, b Rodd	42				Rodd, c and b Carter	8			
Clarke, c and b Cox	0				Fisher, b Leftwich	2			
A. L. Leigh,					Cox, st Leigh, b Heard	6			
lbw Jakeman	43				Strutt, not out	35			
Harris, st Le Feuvre,					Alston, b Ball	14			
b Cox	17				Jakeman, b Carter	23			
Ball, not out	11				Le Feuvre, b Carter	0			
Farnsworth, st Le Feuvre,					Pimm, not out	0			
b Cox	1				Paton				
Heard, not out	1				Jackson				
Carter					Did not bat				
Leftwich					Did not bat				
Extras: byes 8, wides 1	9				Extras: byes 5	5			
Total for 7 declared	135				Total	113 for 7 wks.			
O M R W					O M R W				
Cox	11 2 24 4				Carter	6 1 13 3			
Pimm	5 — 27 1				Leftwich	8 — 34 1			
Rodd	6 — 34 1				Farnsworth	4 1 17 1			
Strutt	2 0 17 0				Heard	4 — 19 1			
Jakeman	2 — 9 1				Ball	3 — 25 1			
Alston	3 — 15 —								

Drawn.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2nd (Away).

Abingdon School C.C.					City of Oxford School C.C.				
W. G. Bradfield,					Smith, lbw Carter	4			
c Mathews, b Morris	10				Read, b Carter	9			
Packer, b Morris	7				Course, b Leftwich	1			
Hill, lbw Morris	6				Morris, run out	0			
Clarke, c Porter, b Smith	3				Mathews, c Heard,				
A. L. Leigh,					b Farnsworth	24			
lbw Mathews	12				Emerson, b Farnsworth	0			
Harris, lbw Morris	4				Everett, c Farnsworth,				
Ball, c Mathews,					b Leftwich	2			
b Morris	0				Porter, c Bradfield,				
Farnsworth,					b Ball	0			
c and b Morris	4				Bean, b Heard	2			
Carter, b Bean	42				Lichtstein, lbw Leftwich	2			
Heard, b Mathews	3				Levy, not out	0			
Leftwich, not out	5								
Extras: byes 3	3				Extras: byes 14, 1-byes 1	15			
Total	99				Total	59			
O M R W					O M R W				
Morris	15 3 32 6				Carter	12 6 12 2			
Smith	11 2 28 1				Leftwich	6 2 11 3			
Mathews	6 0 36 2				Farnsworth	3 — 17 2			
Bean	14 1 0 1				Ball	3 — 4 1			
					Heard	1 1 — 1			

Won by 40 runs.

After the match 1st XI Colours were awarded to P. Carter 4 and 2nd XI Colours to M. F. Packer, C. R. T. Heard, P. H. Harris, and J. M. Leftwich.

SATURDAY, JULY 5th (Home).

Abingdon School C.C.					Abingdon Home Guard.				
W. G. Bradfield,					Dickinson, b Carter	16			
b Dickinson	9				Craig, c Hill, b Carter	0			
Packer, c Owen, b Pratley	0				Strutt, run out	4			
Hill, lbw Dickinson	0				Owen, run out	50			
Clarke, c Dudley,					Paton, b Farnsworth	0			
b Owen	20				Cox, b Heard	6			
A. L. Leigh, b Owen	37				Pratley, c Packer,				
Harris, b Alston	7				b Heard	15			
Ball, lbw Owen	2				Jakeman, b Harris	35			
P. Carter, c Cox, b Alston	6				Alston, b Harris	2			
Farnsworth, c Craig,					Howell, b Clarke	18			
b Owen	6				Dudley, not out	5			
Heard, not out	0								
Leftwich, st Howell,									
b Owen	0								
Extras	9				Extras: b 7, 1-b 2, w 1	10			
Total	96				Total	161			
O M R W					O M R W				
Dickinson	5 2 8 2				Carter	9 2 30 2			
Pratley	5 2 1 13				Leftwich	2 — 24 —			
Cox	2 — 20 —				Farnsworth	3 1 4 1			
Jakeman	3 1 10 —				Heard	5 — 27 2			
Alston	5 1 29 2				Ball	2 — 16 —			
Owen	4 1 7 5				Clarke	3·7 1 30 1			
					Hill	1 — 11 —			
					Harris	2 — 8 2			

Lost by 4 wickets.

A.S.C.C. BATTING AVERAGES.

	Innings.	Runs.	Times not out.	Highest Score.	Average.
A. L. Leigh	7	217	2	83*	43.4.
Hill -	7	87	—	42	12.42.
P. Carter	5	56	—	42	11.20.
Packer -	7	59	1	27	9.83.
W. G. Bradfield	7	63	—	28	9.00.
Clarke -	6	43	1	20	8.60.
Harris -	6	43	—	17	7.16.
Farnsworth	5	26	—	11	5.20.
Heard	7	13	4	5	4.33.
Ball -	7	23	1	11*	3.83.
Leftwich	3	5	1	5*	2.50.
Richardson	4	4	—	2	1.00.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	O.	M.	R.	W	A.
P. Carter	57.6	15	132	24	5.5.
Ball	24	4	85	9	9.4.
Heard	27.5	1	140	14	10.
Leftwich	20	5	99	8	12.4.
Farnsworth	18	2	92	5	18.4.

Also bowled :

P. Harris 2—0—8—2.

Hill 1—0—18—0.

Clarke 4—1—30—1.

The following are the members of the Cricket 2nd XI :

R. C. Howell, E. H. Aldworth, K. R. Sims, A. E. Carter 5, C. B. F. Milne, J. C. Cantle, J. E. Cutteridge, R. H. Wilsdon 2, P. A. Sitch, D. Hayter 1, G. L. Jones 6, J. C. Petty.

Colts.

Three matches, of which two have been lost, have been played this term.

Scores :

On June 11th at Leighton Park.

Abingdon School, 28. Leighton Park School, 54.
Lost by 9 wickets.

On June 18th on the Upper Field.

Abingdon School, 115. Wantage School, 90.
Won by 25 runs.

On July 2nd on the Upper Field.

Abingdon School, 30. City of Oxford School, 117.
Lost by 7 wickets.

The following played for the Under 15 XI—P. M. McLeod (Capt.), F. W. G. Carter, C. D. Slingsby, J. E. Cutteridge, R. H. Wilsdon, D. M. Cullen, B. C. Jakeman, P. S. Wilsdon, P. M. King, P. R. Allum, D. Vollasky, A. J. Burborough, D. A. Heard, J. M. Cullen.

J. T. C.

The Annual Inspection was carried out on June 10th by Col. R. McCalmont, C.V.O., D.S.O. The Inspecting Officer expressed himself pleased with the work of the Corps as a whole and especially complimented the N.C.O.s on their instructional ability.

A successful whole day Exercise was held on June 25th, on the Lambourn Downs. The principle of infiltration and the technique of umpiring were the chief lessons. The Commanders were Sgts. Trudgian and Leftwich; the Umpires C.Q.M.S. Clarke and Sgt. Arundale; while the duties of Chief Umpire were ably carried out by C.S.M. Jones 5. It is hoped to hold a further Exercise toward the end of the term.

We must thank Sgt. Wiblin for his assistance in weapon training and shooting. Under his expert coaching a noticeable improvement has occurred. A high standard of weapon training is now demanded, and the T.O.E.T. exams. are showing that to do the simple things properly calls for constant practice and attention to detail.

We congratulate the cadets chosen to attend the P.T. and N.C.O. courses during vacation, and hope they will have an enjoyable and instructive time.

Promotions : To be Sgt.—J. M. Leftwich. To be Cpl.—J. A. D. Cox. To be L.-Cpls. : R. E. Ball, J. W. Rayson, G. Hill 3.

July, 1941.

HOME GUARD

W. M. Grundy appointed 2nd Lieutenant, April 21, 1941.

The members of the Home Guard have combined with the local company in a route march and an attack on an aerodrome, and have helped successfully to defend a factory from other Home Guards. There has usually been one hundred per cent turn out on parades. Members of the Section have attended helpful demonstrations in tactics and the employment of weapons of various kinds. Distinct progress has been made during the term; and duties have been carried out efficiently.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

The composition and status of the A.T.C. have now been clarified ; we have seventeen members and are No. 2 Section of B Flight of No. 1056 Squadron. The Squadron is commanded by 2.-Lt. V. R. C. Brown of Radley and consists of cadets from Radley, Eastbourne, Abingdon (town), and from ourselves. At present we share flight with Eastbourne. In addition to the normal A.T.C. parades and lectures we have visited an aerodrome and attended a Squadron parade. On July 6th the Squadron is attending Church Parade at S. Helen's Church. The names of the original members are : Sgt. Clarke, Cpl. Westgate, Cadets Arundale, Cantle, Collett, Dorby, Farnsworth, Hazel, Hicks, Hill 3, Owen, Petty, Rayson, Richardson, Scott, Sims, Trudgian. Hedger was a member but has resigned. Mr. Ingham is giving instruction in Morse ; while the A.T.C. was teething Mr. Gray gave both navigation lectures and very valuable advice.

Appointment of Officers : E. F. Le Feuvre, Acting Flying Officer, March 3, 1941.

Appointments and Promotions : Cadet Clarke, I. J., to be Cpl., June 9, 1941. Cadet Westgate, R. W. F. C., to be Cpl., June 9, 1941. Cpl. Clarke, H. J., to be Sgt., June 16, 1941.

FIELD DAY, JUNE 25, 1941

From our Special Correspondent.

June 25th provided enjoyment to all those who went in two buses to Lambourn Downs.

Umpires and khaki-clad figures scurried like rabbits through woods and nettles with mixed feelings and exclamations. Camouflage, in the shape of leaves tucked in hats, and feathers to every part of the body, was the order of the day. Field glasses were focussed on non-existent enemy ; platoon sergeants and section commanders held hurried conversations in hushed voices ; section leaders crawled for hundreds of yards to throw a 'bomb' on a group of umpires. A stutter of machine-gun fire, a frenzied sound of firing blanks—and the final mêlée has begun. 'A' Platoon after crawling on its stomach for three and a half miles (or thereabouts) has attacked! Alas! a 'technical

hitch'! The chief umpire is vainly trying to induce some sort of order amongst his subordinates. The result? Indecisive. (No one knows.)

Déjeuner logé à la belle étoile. A hue and cry for umpires and N.C.O.s ensues.

Hush! the C.O. is in conference with his henchmen.

Lunch over, artillery formations are practised in the heat of the sun ; angry comments are wafted from man to man as they are ordered to deploy at the double. '—' those flies! 'Whose idea was this afternoon's mopping-up operation? What can you do when you are surrounded by no cover, menaced by figures behind Lewis guns, and sniped at by blokes who don't know the business end of a rifle?'

Cease fire! The gallant band of parachutists find six feet of solid earth most comforting, but are brought back from the grave by means of a bun and ginger beer. Home at last. Rifles, machine-guns, and flags are put away until warfare shall call them into use once more. . . . The bathe in the river afterwards never was so welcome.

J. L. T.

WAR WEAPONS WEEK

The opening of term found Abingdon engaged on a War Weapons Week, and the School at once joined in the endeavour of putting every penny into national savings of one sort or another. Naturally the Savings Group took a leading part in the effort, and the amount contributed daily by each form was posted on the notice board. It soon became clear that the honour of first place would go to the Remove, the Fourth, or the Fifth, and at the end of the week the last form headed the list. This of course was not the only way that savings and investments were effected by members of the School ; and, all told, a total of well over £400 was contributed through our united efforts.

For the competition held by the town and district for posters in connection with war savings, A. C. Randle, R. W. F. C. Westgate, and P. A. S. Scott sent in interesting entries, and Westgate's was adjudged the winner, being on show throughout War Weapons Week at the exhibition held in the town.

ANNIVERSARY

by Bryan Matthews.

Do you remember May last year
 When we dug ?
 Do you recall our silent fear
 That Hitler and Goering would soon be here,
 So we set ourselves to a task severe
 And we dug ?
 That May was a month of rainless skies
 When shirtless boys mid hungry flies
 Carved out that trench as a big surprise
 For a Nazi thug.
 As soon as we thought it was quite complete
 And had emptied the gravel from round our feet
 And promised ourselves a rest for a treat—
 We still dug—
 For it wasn't enough ; there was more to be done
 For the school to be safe from the parachute Hun,
 There were roofs to be made, and a place for a gun,
 So we dug.
 We dug till it stretched to the long-jump pit,
 And struggled with stanchions which wouldn't quite
 fit,
 Till finally grass seed was spread over it
 For we'd done!
 Now a year has elapsed and it stands there still,
 A tribute to energy, labour, and skill ;
 But the grass has been eaten—'tis the hens take their
 fill,
 Not the Hun.
 And I'll never forget till my last living day
 That laborious, evergreen, memorable May.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Unedited)

The Rising Bell

The rising bell is past its prime ;
 Ah! Once it used to sweetly chime
 And rouse us up at waking time—
 Now, it can only rattle.
 While once it used to gently ring
 And people from their beds would bring ;
 To-day the poor old worn out thing
 Sounds like stampeding cattle.
 But when Invasion comes along,
 And we are fighting ding, ding-dong ;
 I'll hear its erstwhile gentle song
 Above the noise of battle.

T. W. S.

RUGGER PROSPECTS, 1941

After a rather disappointing Rugger season last year there seems little chance of anything better in the Christmas term of 1941. The team as a whole will be average, tending to be weak rather than the strong side, and will probably have to depend on its scrum to do most of the work until the latter part of the season, by which time the School may have found enough material to form a useful three-quarter line. In general the defence of the team should be fairly good but its attacking power will probably be weak.

There are many gaps in last year's team, in fact only about four members will still be at the School. But the scrum should have no difficulty in refilling its ranks. The difficulty will come when the team starts looking round for its three quarters. However, the attacking line may eventually be formed with success, but there will be one bad gap in the team—the full-back. Unless someone discovers one really good man for the job, it looks as if the position will be occupied by several different men in turn, each as good, or bad, as the other (exactly what happened last year). The position of full-back is very important, and it is that man's job to stop his opponent and not to tear the rugger vests off their backs.

The four veterans from last year will be B. Arundale (Colours, 1939), G. Farnsworth (Colours, 1940), J. M. Leftwich (Colours, 1940), and G. Hill (2nd XV Colours, 1940). There may be more staying on and there may be less. At present it is impossible to say. Arundale will again lead the forwards and will have the heavy and good support of Farnsworth (who with his present experience and a little more practice should make a very good long-distance place kicker). The scrum will probably be good at tackling, rather slow at heeling, and distinctly weak at handling the ball. It is not often that a school pack can handle the ball as well as the three-quarters, but this should be developed as much as possible. Otherwise 'forward movements' except 'taking with the feet' are out of the question.

The outsides will have the leadership of Leftwich, but their strength will not be very great. If they get as far as carrying out orthodox full-line attacks, that is all that could be expected from them. The line would be considerably strengthened if Hill was put in as an 'inside' and somebody else found for the position of scrum half. In any case a new stand-off will have to be found, so there is no reason why an entirely new half-back combination should not be made. Hill's speed and good handling will be wasted at scrum half.

There will probably be a great deal of kicking among the three-quarters next term, but this should be discouraged unless it is definitely kicking for touch.' Merely kicking forward to save the situation, or to attack, is dangerous and only successful when employed by a good, fast, and experienced team—qualities which school teams only achieve at the end of the season. Tackling is the defensive weapon that the three-quarters should understand and use to their utmost. Let me quote from a previous edition of *The Abingdonian* which aptly sums up the present school situation :

"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 every one must work out his own salvation. The most that any one 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.

Little can be added to that. It is up to the player now. The prospect of a good 2nd XV team at present is negligible, but with all the new juniors the Under 15 team should produce some good results. I will leave that as it stands, hoping the 1st XV will win at least fifty per cent of its matches.

H. J. CLARKE,
Captain of Rugger, 1940.

Valete

Left, March, 1941.

VIth Form. K. Donkin (1933, iii). Sub-Prefect, 1941 ; O.S.C., 1940. 1st IV Cox, 1939 ; Coxing Colours, 1939. Marlow IV Cox, 1939. J.T.C., Cpl., Cert. A., 1940.

I. S. Holland (1935, iii). Sub-Prefect, 1941. 1st XV Rugger, 1940 ; 2nd XV Colours, 1940. Home Guard.

IVth Form. D. W. Twiggs (1940, iii).

Salvete

Came, April, 1941.

IIInd Form. E. N. Aves, A. M. Strong, P. A. F. Smith, R. M. Reed.

Ist Form. R. R. Peck, V. T. R. Lidsey, A. Wakeham, J. A. Penning.

Iterum Salve

Remove Form. R. F. Bedson (1940, ii to 1941, i).

THE RELUCTANT CONTRIBUTOR

(a tribute to the Magazine Committee)

I am fully aware that many have taken it upon themselves to write indignant letters to this journal, splashing slanders right and left, complaining of this and that in tones raised above the normal pitch. I am not one of these. On the other hand I have suffered everything that could possibly exacerbate my inner feelings—I have been roused at unearthly hours by potential fire-watchers and would-be Home Guards; I have been dragged bodily from my bed by energetic swimmers who feel that another presence is required by the steaming waters—all this I can tolerate.

But I feel that the herd of committee members which has surged round me and pestered me for a contribution to their magazine is more than I can abide. Not that I should wish to say a word against the committee. I realize how hard they work and how much they are handicapped, and it is for that reason that I have done my best.

I apologize profoundly.

J'AI D'ICI.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sir,

Perhaps the most alarming feature of this term has been the appearance of knives and daggers attached to the belts of many senior boys. There is a rumour that a boy on one occasion drew his knife in form and watched with amusement the master quivering behind his desk. However, in practice, these daggers are put to very tame uses, such as sharpening pencils and opening letters. Furthermore, much time is wasted in the School porter's quarters sharpening these ferocious (?) instruments, ostensibly to be ready for the invasion. In view of this I think it is about time the head forms of a so-called Public School realized that the British Army has more effective weapons than knives to beat off any Germans that dare pollute the holy ground of Abingdon; and also that steel does more damage as bombs than as blades.

Yours, etc.,

Cagey Dubelieu.

PS.—The writer wishes to remain anonymous as he thinks there have been too many 'stabs-in-the-back' in this war already.

Sir,

July 3, 1941

In view of the restrictions imposed recently upon the purchase of clothing and the difficulties of obtaining supplies, I am wondering whether consideration may be given to a suggestion that a system be evolved for the transfer of clothing as between boys at Roysse's School.

Although the actual details would have to be worked out, the general scheme might follow the lines of that adopted in regard to second-hand books. It would appear that such a scheme would be not only a contribution to the war economy effort, but also of advantage to the School, the Parents, and the Boys, and particularly useful in the cases of the younger members of the School who outgrow clothing, including sports' attire, long before it approaches the end of its wearable life.

Yours faithfully,

Parent of Day Boy living in Abingdon.

Sir,

I should be glad if you could find space in your Magazine for the following request. Would it not be possible for the Music Master to give us some recitals on the organ and/or piano at suitable times during the coming two winter terms? This, I believe, is customary at most public schools, and would, I am sure, be much appreciated here by many music lovers. If the works performed could be accompanied by explanatory remarks so as to assist one's understanding and appreciation, not only would interest in music be stimulated but entertainment and learning would be pleasantly combined.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

Music Lover.

Sir,

The event of Throwing the Discus which has recently been introduced into the School Sports is a worthy addition; but I note that in the published programme no school record is given for this event. Would it be possible to adopt A. C. Dean's throw of 113 feet 10 in. made in 1940 as the existing official record, at which future throwers may hurl themselves and the discus? This would be a fitting gesture to Dean, who, I believe, presented the discus which is used at the Sports.

Yours faithfully,

Recorder.

(We would suggest that the writer should get into touch with the Sports Committee.—Ed.)

WAR NEWS

Casualties

l'Almaine (1929), R.N. Posted missing.
 Morland, J. W. (1917), Australian E.F. Posted missing.
 Seazley, G. H. (1927). Posted missing.

Additions and Corrections to Roll of Service

Astell, H. F. (1936), R.A.F.
 Bernthal, L. L. (1938), R.A.F.
 Bosley, B. N. J. (1937), O.C.T.U.
 Champion, F. N. T. (1937), R.A.F.
 Edey, F. H. (1904), Capt., Army Dental Corps.
 Fleet, A. L. (1934), Capt., Royal Marines.
 Foy, T. J. (1936), I.T.W., R.A.F.
 Gardiner, T. E. (1925), Assistant Observer Group Officer, R.A.O.C.
 Greening, J. W. (1937), I.T.W., R.A.F.
 Hedger, R. (1940), 2nd Lieut. Royal Berkshire Regiment.
 Hendley, L. A. G. (1938), O.C.T.U. (Infantry).
 Kitto, D. A. (1931), R.A.F.
 Laing, G. (1919), Adjutant, East Africa Force.
 Lansdown, S. J. (1931), 2nd Lieut., Royal Corps of Signals.
 Lewington, G. H. (1941), Royal Warwickshire Regiment (I.T.C.).
 Page, J. W. (1928), R.A.F.
 Pearson, J. G. L. (1939), Fleet Air Arm.
 Ronan, C. A. (1937), O.C.T.U., R.A.
 Rowlandson, P. E. (1922), O.C.T.U. (late Sergt., Rifle Brigade).
 Simmonds, R. F. (1937), transfer to R.A.F.
 Wells, M. D. (1937), 2nd Lieut., transfer Indian Army.
 West, D. B. (1939), 2nd Lieut., R.A.
 Whitfield, H. H. (1936), transfer to R.A.F.
 Wright, D. C. K. (1921), 2nd Lieut., R.E.

VISITORS

The following have visited the School during the term: Aldersley, J. P.; Bailey, H. B.; Bayley, G. V.; Blacknell, E. H.; Bosley, G. A. H.; Brown, D. G.; Bury, J. O.; Cox, R. F.; Cracknell, D. H.; Dean, A. C.; Healey, H. B.; Jackson, R. F.; Kettle, W. A. R.;

Lunghi, H. A.; Mr. B. Matthews; Pearson, J. G. L.; Pimm, D.; Potter, W. M.; Randle, J. S.; Robertson, P. E.; Rev. H. F. Shepherd; Sinclair, G. E.; Taylor, C.; Taylor, J. H.; West, D. B.; Whitfield, H. H.

EPITAPH

(Men of the Fighter Squadrons)

From

'Purple Testament' by Willoughby Weaving, O.A.

Obedient to no bleak Spartan law
 But to the call of their own hearts they lie
 So still, they that like eagles stormed the sky,
 Lie here in earth, these young men who foresaw
 Only the foe's defeat and felt no awe
 Of death but like a cobweb brushed him by.
 For their memorial, stranger, look on high:
 Earth only on mortality can draw.

The azure vault, the star-encrusted dome,
 The flowing winds, the stationary air,
 The splendid colours on the cloudy hem
 Of Dawn and Sunset, the eternal home
 Of transitory time and all things fair
 That fade like dreams—all these remember them.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

An 'Old Captain' writes to the Editor: 'I have often wondered, both when playing for the School, and also when only watching a match going on within the School grounds, why it is that the boys who are not playing in the School team show so very little interest in the game or the success of the School XI. . . . Whenever we have played against other schools I have always been struck with the evident amount of interest shown by *their* boys who were not playing.'

From the Editorial, No. 3, Vol. I, July, 1891: 'When members of our Eleven persist in the pernicious practice of bathing on the morning of a match, we begin to doubt that cleanliness stands next to godliness, despite the time-honoured adage. Without doubt, bathing makes one slack and unequal for an afternoon's hard work in the cricket field.'

O.A. NOTES

Birth

BLACKMORE.—On May 20th, at Lima House, Reading, to Margaret, wife of Major John C. Blackmore, R.A.O.C., a son.

Marriages

LANSDOWN—BOYDEN.—On January 4th, S. J. Lansdown to Joye Olga Boyden.

RANT—CLARIDGE.—On June 7th, at Bewdley, Worcestershire, Victor G. E. Rant to Kathleen Claridge.

We have received the following from J. B. Reeves (1882) and would like to add a special word of sympathy with the writer. It was, as O.A.s are aware, through his good offices as a member that the O.A.C. has been allowed, year after year, to use the City Livery Club's premises at the Chapter House in S. Paul's Churchyard as their rendezvous for London O.A. dinners. To him the destruction of this fine building with its treasures must have brought a very personal sense of loss; and as though this were not enough, we have learnt since that his own office premises in Queen Victoria Street were burnt out in a subsequent raid.

To the Editor of *The Abingdonian*,
Abingdon School, Berks.
Sir,

It is with much regret that I have to report the destruction of the Chapter House, S. Paul's Churchyard, by enemy action.

Many attempts have been made on its neighbour, S. Paul's Cathedral, and it was in the attack on December 29, 1940, that the demolition took place. The skeleton of the house still stands, but the interior, together with the old prints and the priceless table made from the wood of the old S. Paul's Cathedral, which was burnt down in 1666, have been lost.

I am sure those members of the Old Abingdonian Club, who have been present at the annual London dinners which had been held there for many years until the outbreak of war, by kind permission of the City Livery Club, will share in this regret.

Yours faithfully,

J. B. Reeves, O.A.

'Northways,' Hadley Green,
Barnet.

We welcome a new book of poems by Willoughby Weaving (1905)—fifty War sonnets published by Basil Blackwell, Oxford. A review of this book will appear later in our columns, and here we will only wish the author a good sale and a wide recognition of the high merits of his work.

We have heard from N. C. Wood (1926) of the East Africa Force, who writes from Addis Ababa. He describes the town as a large modern one built on a hillside and developed on ribbon lines and he is not too favourably impressed with Italian efforts at sanitation. He has met there an old school-fellow, George Laing, who was here as a small boy in 1918-19, until he moved with his people to Blackheath, where he subsequently distinguished himself as a Rugby three-quarter playing for Blackheath and Kent. He is now adjutant of Wood's battalion.

W. H. Stevens (1923) has gone to the United States on a Government sponsored mission in connection with synthetic rubber for the Ministry of Aircraft Production.

G. V. Bayley (1938) has passed Part IV of the Institute of Actuaries examination—the last one for the Associateship of the A.I.A.

R. F. Jackson (1939) has been awarded Second Class Honours in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos at Cambridge.

N. A. R. Carlton (1939) has won a three years' exhibition at the Slade School of Art, Oxford.

Victor Rant (1932), whose marriage we announced above, is living at Kidderminster—1 Comberton Road—where he is employed in the Inspection Department of Aircraft.

H. G. Elphick (1941), who joined the R.A.F. last term under the University A.T.C. scheme, is now in the Air Squadron of St. Andrew's University, where he is counted as a matriculated student of the University.

I. S. Holland (1941) is in the M.G. Works at Abingdon.

K. Donkin (1941) is working in an Aircraft Factory at Bristol.

R. E. Dew (1941) is in Parnell's Aircraft Factory, near Kingston.