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The ABINGDONIAN



*Misericordias Domini
in aeternum cantabo*

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1942

Vol. VIII. No. 5

*Misericordias
Domini*



*in aeternum
cantabo*

THE ABINGDONIAN

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CALENDAR—EASTER TERM, 1943

Mon. Jan.	11.	Boarders return to School.
Tues. "	12.	First day of Term.
Wed. Feb.	10.	Under 15 XV v. City of Oxford School (Home).
Sat. "	20.	Hockey XI v. Bloxham School (Home).
" "	27.	Hockey XI v. R.A.F. Abingdon (Away).
" Mar.	6.	Rowing 1st and 2nd IV v. Magdalen C.S. (Away).
" "	13.	Hockey XI v. R.A.F. Abingdon (Home).
Tues. "	16.	Miles (provisional).
" "	23.	Last day of Term.
Wed. "	24.	Boarders return home.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1942

Captains of the School:

C. R. T. Heard and M. G. H. Holt.

Head of the House.

M. G. H. Holt.

School Prefects.

E. S. N. Hazel.	M. F. Packer.
C. B. F. Milne.	T. W. Smith.
J. L. Taylor.	P. A. S. Scott.

Sub-Prefects.

M. F. C. Brook.	F. G. Smith.
P. M. McLeod.	K. R. Sims.
G. L. Jones.	P. Anag.
P. H. Harris.	I. M. Crudgington.

Captain of Football: C. B. F. Milne.

Hon. Secretary of Games: J. L. Taylor.

School Librarians: J. L. Taylor, M. F. C. Brook.

Abingdonian Committee.

Editor: Mr. S. Punton-Smith.

Literary Editor: Mr. D. Burke-Gill.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker.

Hon. Secretary: J. L. Taylor.

T. W. Smith, M. F. Packer, M. J. Cullen,
C. B. F. Milne.

EDITORIAL

A School Magazine has two main classes of readers (and subscribers)—present boys and Old Boys linked by a common interest. It is to the latter class that the Editor would like to appeal. News of O.A.s, especially in war time, is of great interest to all of us, and so are the adventures and experiences of Old Boys scattered ('owing to the exigencies of the Service') far and wide. We have ample evidence that such accounts greatly interest the present generation—natural hero worshippers—and requests are constantly being made for more.

The Editor therefore again invites contributions from O.A.s, only asking that the 'copy' should be as concise as possible and should be such as to comply with the Censor's regulations.

The Abingdonian Committee is continuing its policy, as announced in the Christmas number, 1941, of publishing from an economy point of view two issues only a year—at Christmas and in the summer. Our next issue will therefore be at the end of the Summer Term, 1943.

A slight innovation is being made in this issue. As additions and corrections to the Roll of Service accumulate, it was decided that it would perhaps be more suitable to insert in each magazine a printed slip stating the latest corrections.

We take this opportunity of wishing our readers happy Christmas, as far as circumstances will allow, and a prosperous New Year.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries: *The Aldenhamian*, *The Luredian*, *The Bloxhamist*, *The Chigwellian*, *The City of Oxford School Magazine*, *The 'Dog Watch' Worcester Magazine*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Eightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourne*, *The Monktonian*, *The Recorder*, *The St. Edward's School Chronicle*.

SCHOOL NOTES

The beginning of another School year, with a large influx of new boys, has brought our numbers to a higher level than ever. So much so, that Form I cannot be accommodated in Chapel: (they have their own Service in their classroom).

The Headmaster, Mr. W. M. Grundy, whom we mentioned in our last issue as having been appointed a Justice of the Peace for Berkshire, was sworn in at Reading on October 5th, and is now fulfilling his duties on the Bench of the Abingdon Petty Sessions.

The results of the Oxford Higher School Certificate and School Certificate for July, 1942, were as follows:

G. Hill obtained the Oxford Higher School Certificate, his main subjects being English and History. Although they did not get the H.S.C., the following passed in main subjects as follows: C. R. T. Heard (Physics and Mathematics); R. D. Gibaud (History). Two passes were obtained in the subsidiary subjects in Latin and in French.

In the O.S.C. the following 22 boys passed (where the distinction mark was obtained the subject is put in brackets after the boy's name):—

J. A. C. Barnes, A. J. Betterton (Gen. Science), A. J. Burborough (Latin, Greek, French), J. C. Cattle, J. S. Capel (French), F. W. G. Carter, P. H. Harris, D. Hayter (Eng. Lang., Latin, French), F. Hesten (Mathematics), J. A. Hill, D. E. P. Jones, G. L. Jones, D. B. Ker (Eng. Lang., Latin); A. R. King, P. M. King, E. Lay, R. H. S. Lesser (History, Latin, Greek, Mathematics), J. McMahon (Greek), G. B. C. Myall, D. W. Olliffe, K. R. Sims, F. G. Smith (General Science).

Supplementary credits were obtained as follows:

Mathematics—E. H. Aldworth, E. S. N. Hazel, C. B. F. Milne. Trigonometry—P. M. McLeod, M. F. Packer (Distinction mark), J. W. Rayson, W. D. Richardson. Add. Maths.—M. F. Packer (Distinction), P. A. S. Scott (Distinction). Physics—P. M. McLeod, M. F. Packer (Distinction), W. D. Richardson, P. A. S. Scott. Chemistry—E. H. Aldworth, E. S. N. Hazel, W. D. Richardson.

The Prize List for the Summer Term will be found on page 81.

The Confirmation Service was held in the School Chapel on Sunday, November 29th, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Reading. The following boys were confirmed: J. S. Capel, F. W. G. Carter, D. E. P. Jones, A. J. Betterton, J. A. Hill, P. R. Allum, R. Deval, N. A. Palmer, N. F. Horwood, C. D. Slingsby, E. G. B. Whitfield, G. Barrett, G. H. Willson, M. G. Budden, W. S. Ogden, E. P. Bastin, C. W. G. Pulford.

Though the lack of travelling facilities has restricted the areas for football fixtures, nevertheless by concentrating on the adjacent neighbourhood the Games Secretary was able to arrange a fairly full fixture card. Moreover, the weather has been good for football. We congratulate the following on being awarded their Rugby Football Colours—1st XV: C. B. F. Milne, E. S. N. Hazel, G. L. Jones, K. R. Sims, P. M. King, F. G. Smith, J. L. Taylor; 2nd XV: J. L. Taylor, P. M. King, F. G. Smith, P. Anag, A. J. Burborough, F. W. G. Carter, R. Grey, M. G. H. Holt, P. H. Harris, L. D. Parrott, T. W. Smith.

It must be recorded, though perhaps belatedly, that Red House won the Brewer Bowl for the Junior House Cricket. The Awards for cricketing Merit for the Summer Term, 1942, will be found under the heading Cricket.

The Steeplechase has again had to be abandoned for the third year in succession owing to the impossibility of using the course.

We congratulate Mr. W. A. Rudd on having published in the September-October number of the *A.M.A.* his solution to the last 'Mahatma' puzzle. The problem was to prove the well-known areas formula for the triangle without using Pythagoras' Theorem.

The *Abingdonian* award for an original contribution was adjudged to J. A. C. Barnes for his poem 'Brother Ambrose.'

C. B. F. Milne has been accepted by the Selection Board, subject to medical fitness, for a University short course for training for the Royal Artillery.

Valete

Left, July, 1942

Vith Form. G. E. T. Trudgian (1938, iii). Captain of School; Head of the House, 1942 O.S.C., 1940. 1st XV Rugger, 1939-41 Colours, 1941. Captain of Boats, 1942 J.T.C.; C.S.M.; Cert. 'A,' 1939; 1st Class Shot School Librarian. Home Guard. A.S.P.R.S.

W. D. Richardson (1937, iii). School Prefect 1942. O.S.C., 1941. 1st XV Rugger, 1940-41 2nd XV Colours, 1941. 1st XI, 1939-42; 2nd XI Colours, 1939. 2nd IV Colours, 1941; 1st IV, 1942. J.T.C.; Sergeant; Cert. 'A,' 1941 A.T.C.; Proficiency 'A,' 1941. Home Guard A.S.P.R.S.

R. C. Howell (1937, iii). School Prefect (West Court), 1942. 2nd XV Rugger, 1940-41. 1st XI Cricket, 1942; 2nd XI Colours, 1942 Captain of Hockey, 1942. 2nd Athletic Colours. J.T.C.; C.Q.M.S.; Cert. 'A,' 1940; 1st Class Shot. Sports Committee, 1942. Home Guard.

G. Hill (1936, iii). School Prefect, 1942 O.S.C., 1940. H.S.C., 1942. 1st XV Rugger 1940-41; Colours, 1941. 1st XI Cricket, 1940-42; Captain of Cricket, 1942. 1st Athletic Colours, 1941; Captain of Athletics, 1942. 2nd IV, 1942. J.T.C.; Sergeant; Cert. 'A,' 1941 1st Class Shot. A.T.C.; Corporal; Proficiency 'A,' 1941. Hon. Sec. Games, 1941-42. Home Guard. Committee A.S.P.R.S.

R. D. Gibaud (1937, ii). School Prefect, 1942 O.S.C., 1940. 1st XV Rugger, 1941; 2nd XV Colours, 1941. 1st IV, 1942. J.T.C.; Sergeant; Cert. 'A,' 1941. *Abingdonian* Committee. Home Guard. Hon. Treas. A.S.P.R.S.

J. R. Owen (1934, iii). School Prefect, 1942 O.S.C., 1940. A.T.C.

E. H. Aldworth (1936, i). School Prefect, 1942 O.S.C., 1941. 1st XV Rugger, 1941; 2nd XV Colours, 1942. 1st XI Cricket, 1942; Colour 1942. Hockey XI, 1940-41. J.T.C. Sgt Cert. 'A,' 1941.

J. W. Rayson (1935, iii). School Prefect (Waste Court), 1942. O.S.C., 1941. 2nd XV Rugger, 1941. 1st XI Cricket, 1942; 2nd XI Colours, 1942. 1st Coxing Colours, 1941. 2nd Athletic Colours, 1942. 1st IV, 1942. J.T.C. Sgt., Cert. 'A,' 1940; 1st Class Shot. A.T.C.; A/Flt. Sgt.; Proficiency Pt. I, 1941. Hon. Treas. A.S.P.S. Sports Committee, 1942. Home Guard. A.S.P.R.S.

P. A. Sitch (1938, i). Sub-Prefect, 1942. O.S.C., 1941. 2nd XI Cricket, 1941-42. J.T.C. Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1941; 1st Class Shot. Home Guard.

J. C. Cattle (1940, ii). O.S.C., 1942. Sub-Prefect, 1942. 1st XV Rugger, 1941; 2nd XV Colours, 1941. 1st XI Cricket, 1942; 2nd XI Colours, 1942. 1st Athletic Colours, 1942. Hockey XI, 1941. J.T.C.; L/Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1941. 1st Class Shot. A.T.C.

th Form. D. Hayter (1939, ii). O.S.C., 1942. 1st XV Rugger, 1941. J.T.C. Cert. 'A,' 1942. 1st Class Shot. A.T.C.; L/Cdt.; Proficiency Test, Pt. I, 1942.

G. B. C. Myall (1938, i). O.S.C., 1942. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' Pt. I, 1942. A.T.C.

D. W. Olliffe (1938, i). O.S.C., 1942. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' 1942.

C. V. Stone (1936, iii).

J. McMahon (1935, iii). O.S.C., 1942. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' 1941. A.T.C.

P. G. Nowell-Usticke (1940, ii). J.T.C.; L/Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1941.

J. A. C. Barnes (1939, ii). O.S.C., 1942. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' 1942. A.T.C. L/Cdt.; Proficiency Test, Pt. I, July, 1942. Home Guard.

Vth Form. L. Vollasky (1941, i).

P. S. Wilsdon (1936, iii). 1st Athletic Colours, 1942. 2nd XV Rugger, 1941. 2nd XI, 1942.

J. E. Cutteridge (1935, iii). J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' Pt. I, 1942.

G. R. Amey (1935, iii).

remove. D. G. Bedford (1938, iii).

G. C. Moore (1941, iii).

IIIrd Form. R. G. Peggs (1941, iii).

IIInd Form. A. D. Turner (1941, i).

E. A. Urquhart (1941, i).

Ist Form. A. M. P. Wakeham (1941, ii).

E. M. G. and R. G. L. Halfpenny (1941, iii).

Salvete

Came, Christmas Term, 1942.

Vth Form. R. H. Tompsett.

IVth Form. M. G. Budden.

Remove Form. M. Chase, S. J. Harper, M. J. Green.

IIIrd Form. T. L. Nudds, G. S. Diplock, B. G. Budden, J. Pask, K. N. Hume, W. G. Olscher, D. A. Pask.

IIInd Form. R. J. Nudds, G. H. Brown, A. E. Reeve, P. F. C. Berry, P. C. Lovegrove, D. M. Aldworth, W. C. Woodley, A. H. Garrett, B. H. Wiggins, A. L. G. Milligan, A. H. Cherrill, B. J. Wurr, W. J. Dunkley, D. McMahon, R. E. P. Bartlett, J. R. Bosley, P. R. Brown.

Ia Form. J. E. Mockett, P. C. Richardson, R. Tinson, A. R. Medley.

Ib Form. B. D. Wolfenden, P. J. Chamberlin, S. A. L. Vickers.

CRICKET

Summer Term, 1942

The following Awards for Merit were made:

Best Batting Average and Fletcher Challenge Cup: G. Hill. Best Bowling Average: E. H. Aldworth. Best All-Rounder: C. R. T. Heard.

Henderson Awards: Best Bat (under 16), Not awarded. Best Bat (under 15), P. M. King.

Meredith Awards: Best Bowler (under 16), P. H. Harris. Best Bowler (under 15), M. C. Oughton.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1942

The outlook at the beginning of the season was none too promising, owing to the acute shortage of experienced material. Only nine members of the 1st and 2nd XV's of 1941 remained! Of these Hazel, Jones, Milne, and Sims had played in last season's 1st XV, and round them the new team was built. To Hazel, the only forward left, was entrusted the task of leading the pack, and this he did excellently, both during the period of training and in the matches. Jones, who had played at full-back in the 1941 team, went to stand-off half, where his speed and sureness of handling and kicking were invaluable to the side. Milne and Sims again formed the right wing of the three-quarter line, and in combination with Jones formed the spearhead of the attack. Burborough played on the left wing and was partnered either by Betterton or Harris. These three, and the scrum-half Carter, are players whose promise at present exceeds their performance; but they are all improving rapidly. The necessity of moving Jones up to strengthen the attack left a vacancy at full-back which was not easy to fill. Anag was chosen because of his determined defence; his lack of speed and moderate kicking powers were a considerable handicap. The forwards, outweighed in every match, contrived to hold their own by effective wheeling in the tight scrums, while in the loose they frequently gained the upper hand by the sustained pressure of their attacks, in which they were admirably led and kept together by Hazel. Their heeling, however, was apt to be slow and Carter had not the quickness to make up for this defect.

In the first two matches the team showed remarkable powers of recovery. They drew the match with Southfield School after being 11 points down, and in the other match they were 13 points down at half-time, but then scored 23 points without reply! Inexperience and weak tackling got us into these tight corners, but our rapid scoring in the match with City of Oxford School was the result of exploiting the Jones-Milne-Sims line of attack. In the match with Oxford Exiles we sustained our heaviest defeat.

This was largely due to the absence of Jones without whose effective covering the defence on the outsides was very shaky. Play in the match with Magdalen College School could hardly have been more even. Each side could only score on a try, but a dropped goal and the conversion of the try gave our opponents the victory. W. G. Brafield brought against us a team of Old Boys which gave us a good game, and though we always appeared to have the situation well in hand several good opportunities of scoring were lost owing to faulty handling and fumbling by our outsides.

It was a pity that the return matches with Southfield and City of Oxford Schools could not be played. The XV had made great progress during the first half of the season, but it was difficult for it to improve much more without the stimulus of frequent matches.

The composition of the XV was as follows: Full-back: P. Anag; Three-quarters: A. J. Burborough, P. H. Harris, C. B. F. Milne (Captain), K. R. Sims; Halves: G. L. Jones, F. W. Carter; Forwards: P. M. King, E. S. N. Haze, J. L. Taylor, R. Grey, M. G. H. Holt, L. I. Parrott, F. G. Smith, T. W. Smith.

The following also played: A. J. Betterton in five matches, A. J. Walters in three matches, M. J. Cullen in three matches. P. R. Allun, A. R. King, and A. J. Sansom played in the match against the Old Abingdonians.

1st XV Matches

v. Southfield School (home). Drawn, 11-11.

We took a long time to settle down, and weakness in the line-out enabled Southfield to score two tries before half-time. A penalty goal gave them a lead of 8 points. Our defence then improved and good forward play led to tries by King and Milne, one of which was converted. Resolute tackling by the School prevented any further score.

v. City of Oxford School (home). Won, 23-13.

The visitors were on top throughout the first half, our tackling being very weak. At half-time the score was 0-13. The School then gained control by the vigour of their attack, which resulted

the forwards scoring twice, through King and Yorlor. Good three-quarter movements led to us obtaining four more tries, and a stiffening of our defence kept the visitors from scoring.

Radley College 2nd XV (home). Lost, 0-13. Considering that Radley, aided by superior height and height, secured the ball in almost every scrum and line-out, the School did well to keep the scoring down to 5-0 until ten minutes in the end. The visitors' three tries were due to good work by their capable halves and gaps in our defence. The School forwards stuck to their work well, but heeled too slowly.

Oxford Exiles (home). Lost, 3-23.

Though the School forwards played well and even gained a lot of ground their efforts were nullified by the slow and uncertain play of the sides, whose handling was very poor. The visitors repeatedly pierced our defence by kicking hard and fast following up. Our try was obtained by Burborough.

Magdalen College School, Oxford. Lost, 3-9. Play was fast and largely confined to the forwards in the first half. The School pack wheeled well in the tight scrums. Magdalen exploited the kick ahead, but without result. The only score before half-time was a goal dropped by the Magdalen stand-off half. The visitors scored again in a three-quarter movement, and converted, to lead 9-0. The School forwards' bustling play led to a try scored in the corner, after which either side could gain an advantage in this very open game.

W. G. Bradfield's XV (home). Won, 13-8.

The School scored twice in the first half through us, and the visitors once through Gibbs, who came through at top speed from twenty yards out to score between the posts. The half-time score was 8-5. In the second half the School lost possession for a period, but rallied, and Jones, after breaking through the centre, sent Milne forward for a try between the posts. The visitors kicked a penalty goal, but could not get near our goal again.

Bradfield's team was: D. Butler, J. A. D. Cox, L. Leigh, P. Carter, D. Hayter, E. G. Gibbs,

E. H. Aldworth, R. W. F. Westgate, A. E. Carter, P. Hicks, C. R. T. Heard, J. Lidsey, K. Sayer, P. Leach, W. G. Bradfield.

v. Old Abingdonians (home). Won, 31-6.

The O.A.s played one short; the School team, owing to illness could only muster nine of its regular members. The substitutes, however, rose to the occasion splendidly. By their spirited play and excellent teamwork, the best we have seen from them this season, they completely dominated the game, scoring seven tries, five of which were converted by Burborough. The O.A.s two tries were the result of good individual runs by P. Carter and J. A. D. Cox. The School tries were obtained by King (P. M.) 2, Sims 2, Betterton, Hazel, and King (A. R.) one each.

The O.A.s' team was: C. R. T. Heard, A. L. Leigh, J. A. D. Cox, D. Hayter, P. Carter, E. G. Gibbs, E. H. Aldworth, G. Farnsworth, W. G. Bradfield, P. Hicks, J. Lidsey, A. E. Carter, D. E. Jarvis, R. D. Gibaud.

Analysis: 7 Matches played—3 won, 3 lost, 1 drawn. Points for, 84; points against, 85.

1st XV Characters

C. B. F. Milne (Capt., 1st XV Colours, 1942). A keen captain who plays a vigorous game at right centre and tackles fairly well. Has some idea of constructive play but tends to keep the ball too long. There is room for improvement in his handling.

E. S. N. Hazel (Colours, 1942). A very energetic and speedy forward, especially good in the open. Tackles very well and has a good knowledge of the game. A first-rate scrum-leader who worked wonders with the material at his disposal.

G. L. Jones (Colours, 1942). Stand-off half. His speed, excellent kicking, and handling made him by far the best outside in the team. He was ubiquitous in defence and never spared himself. In attack he sometimes failed to make the best use of his three-quarters, owing to that tendency to do too much himself which is a common failing of outstanding players.

K. R. Sims (Colours, 1942). Right wing three-quarter. Has the pace and build for this position, and is very effective when he makes up his mind

to go hard. Might with advantage develop his hand-off.

F. G. Smith (1st XV Colours, 1942). Forward. Has hooked well, considering the lack of weight supporting him. Good in the loose; tackles well.

J. L. Taylor (1st XV Colours, 1942). A very hardworking wing-forward, who is always well up with the game. Controls the ball well when dribbling, and tackles effectively.

P. M. King (1st XV Colours, 1942). A promising forward, neat and speedy. Very good in the loose, especially at dribbling. His positioning and backing up are excellent, and his defence is sound.

T. W. Smith (2nd XV Colours, 1942). Forward. Rather awkward at first, he improved rapidly, and played a hard game when roused. His height and weight were a great asset to the pack.

R. Grey (2nd XV Colours, 1942). A hardworking forward in both loose and tight scrums; he only needs experience to become first-class. His footwork in the loose is clumsy at present. Should endeavour to improve his kicking.

M. G. H. Holt (2nd XV Colours, 1942). Forward. Though unobtrusive he keeps up well with the game and gets through a lot of work. Has improved considerably during the season.

L. D. Parrott (2nd XV Colours, 1942). Forward. Despite his youth and inexperience he has played some useful games, and earned his place in the team. Can be good in the loose, but is apt to indulge in winging tactics. Must improve his tackling, which is too high.

F. W. G. Carter (2nd XV Colours, 1942). Scrum-half. Given time he gets the ball out well to Jones; but his handling at the base of the scrum is rather clumsy. His defensive work has improved greatly, and he backs up well.

P. H. Harris (2nd XV Colours, 1942). Left centre three-quarter. Is developing into a good attacking player who combines well, and has an effective swerve. Has a lot to learn about constructive and defensive play, but is keen and would benefit greatly from the experience of a few more matches.

A. J. Burborough (2nd XV Colours, 1942).

Left wing three-quarter. Handicapped in this position by lack of speed, he handicaps himself with weak handling. Should put more determination into his running. A very good kicker.

P. Anag (2nd XV Colours, 1942). His chief assets are his coolness and pluck in defence. His kicking is fairly effective if he is given plenty of time. Must try to improve his positioning by anticipating his opponents' tactics. Tackles well.

A. J. Betterton. Three-quarter. Has a useful turn of speed, but is too often out of position. His handling is uncertain and his tackling weak. In spite of these defects, however, he shows a good deal of promise, and may be good next season.

A. J. Walters. Played at scrum-half and full back. Has a good kick and safe hands, but as scrum-half his passes were erratic and his defence rather unreliable. Will probably play better when he settles down to a definite position.

M. J. Cullen. A very keen forward, who is at his best in the loose. With more weight and experience he should be really good.

2nd XV

The 2nd XV played the City of Oxford School which resulted in a draw—12 points each.

Colts XV (under 15)

The Colts have had a somewhat disappointing term. Owing to various reasons it proved somewhat difficult to arrange opportunities for the probable team to practise together; but just as they were beginning to look like a team, the maining matches had to be cancelled owing to epidemics. We hope for better results next term.

The backs have not yet learned how to time their passes and are constantly tackled in possession; the forwards, however, ought to train into a very fair scrum.

Team: Oughton (Capt.), Crook 1, Lewis, Somers, Burborough 2, Horwood, Hayter, Whitfield, Badman, Penny, King 3, Hadley, Slingsby, Luker, Green 4, Kimbrey.

Results: *v.* City of Oxford School, (home) Lost, 8-5; *v.* Magdalen College School, Oxford (home), Lost, 23-0; *v.* Southfield School (away) Lost, 11-9.

J. T. CORPS

The Whole Day Exercise was held early in the term, on Wednesday, October 7th. Section exercises were held in the morning, and a platoon assault in the afternoon. Cpl. Jones 6 proved the best section commander in the morning, while Sgt. Heard showed himself a wily tactician in both the morning and afternoon. Sgt. Holt led the afternoon assault with dash, but the defence had the advantage and final honours.

On the whole the weather this term has been favourable, and much outdoor work has been done. Excursions have been made on cycles for both map reading and fieldcraft, and there has been a noticeable improvement in these subjects.

We were pleased to receive a visit from the sub-area Commander, Col. Stephenson, on November 3rd. He has kindly arranged to provide some local assistance for the weapon training.

Physical Training now forms an integral part of the Certificate 'A' syllabus for both Part I (individual) and Part II (Section Leaders). Certain standards of agility, endurance, and strength are demanded at different ages, and training is progressive. K. R. Sims and F. G. Smith attended the Southern Command P.T. Course in the Summer vacation and with C. B. F. Milne are running the special physical training classes now held on Thursday mornings.

C.S.M. Scott has continued to render invaluable service in the care of arms and stores. Sgt. Holt, now promoted C.Q.M.S., was privileged to attend a North-Western Command Junior Leaders Course during the Summer vacation; he learnt a great deal and has become an accomplished instructor. Sgts. Hazel, Milne, and Sims are the other senior cadet instructors.

Passed Cert. 'A,' Part II, December, 1942:
(Section Leaders). A. R. King (2), F. G. Smith (2).

Promotions: To be C.S.M.—P. A. S. Scott. To be C.Q.M.S.—M. G. H. Holt. To be Sgts.—E. S. N. Hazel, C. R. T. Heard, C. B. F. Milne, K. R. Sims. To be Cpls.—J. L. Taylor, G. L. Jones, P. Anag, T. W. Smith. To be L.Cpls.—I. M. Crudington, D. B. Ker, A. R. King, F. G. Smith.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

No. 2 SECTION, 'B' FLIGHT, No. 1 NORTH
BERKS. (1056) SQUADRON

The A.T.C. continues to carry on with its ever-expanding course of Pre-Service Training. Not only has the Proficiency Test Part I been stiffened, but the syllabus of Part II which covers almost the whole I.T.W. Course is now being studied by those who have passed their Part I.

Captain Gray again deserves our gratitude for continuing to coach in advanced Navigation, while Mr. Ingham has transferred his attentions to Meteorology, Mr. Alston kindly taking over the Signals.

A Proficiency Test Part I is being held shortly. But the work has not been all theoretical book-learning and routine P.T. A certain amount of flying has been possible, and our A.T.C. Liaison Officer at the aerodrome has been able to arrange for a series of instructional visits for the Squadron on Sunday afternoons, which have given opportunities of acquiring a practical knowledge of the activities of an aerodrome. A sumptuous tea as part of the programme has not been the least of the attractions. Flt.-Lt. V. R. C. Brown, now D.I.O., has been giving a series of lectures at Radley College on the 'Principles of Flight.' The Summer Camp held at the aerodrome at the end of the summer term was a great success.

On Sunday, November 8th, the Squadron attended a District Church Parade at Oxford Cathedral, in which squadrons Nos. 150, 1250, 1315, 1056, and 527 Flight (S. Edward's), together with the Girls' Training Corps, took part. After falling in at Merton College field, the Parade marched via the High Street to the Cathedral for an inspiring service, the address being given by the Bishop of Dorchester. The return was by way of Cornmarket; and outside S. John's College the salute was taken by Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, who later addressed the parade informally.

Promotions and Appointments: Flt.-Lt. V. R. C. Brown has been appointed District Inspecting Officer. Flying Officer S. H. Paton has assumed

Command of the Squadron (vice Flt.-Lt. Brown) with promotion to the rank of Flight Lieutenant. Leading Cadet E. S. L. Hazel was promoted to the rank of Corporal with effect from 17/9/42. Cadets P. Harris and T. W. Smith were remustered as Leading Cadets, September, 1942. F. G. Smith, P. Anag, as 1st class Cadets.

HOME GUARD

The Home Guard Section went to Churn to practise shooting, etc. Cpl. H. M. Gray got top score in the Company Shooting competition. He was two points ahead of anybody else. There have been several tactical exercises, including a Battalion assault on an Aerodrome. Sgt. A. G. Wiblin has been in control of the Section.

THE PLAY READING SOCIETY

A general meeting was held in October to elect officers. They were elected as follows: Hon. Secretary, J. L. Taylor; Hon. Treasurer, M. G. H. Holt. Mr. J. B. E. Alston was in the chair. A casting committee was also elected composed of the officers, Mr. D. Burke-Gill and C. B. F. Milne.

Three plays were read: 'The Cat and the Canary,' 'Rope,' and 'Nothing but the Truth.' The number of members was well maintained, and the reading was enthusiastic and entertaining.

THE RAG CONCERT

There was no lack of variety in the Rag Concert given at the end of the Summer Term.

Following a medley of song-hits on the piano by Mr. Burke-Gill which afforded an opportunity for the electricians (J. W. Rayson, W. D. Richardson, and I. M. Crudgington) to provide coloured lighting effects, members of the Fourth presented 'In Abingdon To-Night.' R. Grey, as compere, brought to the microphone, with unflagging zest and goodwill, an assortment of 'local' worthies who rapidly gained in notoriety all they may have

lacked in fame. M. J. Cullen's stationmaster was the embodiment of pessimism; N. A. Palmer and C. R. Burborough brought the 'simple joys' of the farm to the studio; A. N. James's schoolboy, infuriating in his precosity, reverted at the end disarmingly to type; C. F. Trevor and G. W. Dodge reminded us of the 'glamour' that women workers contribute to the 'war effort'; R. I. W. Hadley and M. G. H. Holt, the latter deputising most effectively at the last moment for C. Calver Fisher, invested our heroic Commandos with native wit and resourcefulness; T. W. Green and B. C. Jakeman successfully debunked the Prussian militarist and the British Blimp during a purely local air-raid; while N. F. Horwood and A. J. Walters as Larry and Looney exploited their borrowed technique with considerable skill. The fact that each character was responsible for his own script, with the exception of Horwood and Walters who had D. Beattie and R. F. Bedson to thank for theirs, deserves notice.

Duets by Mr. Ingham and Mr. Alston preceded a short thriller—'Post-dated Murder.' J. W. Rayson gave a very forceful performance as the wronged man; C. B. F. Milne, sinister and suave got what he hoped was coming to him; while W. D. Richardson and T. W. Smith acted with dignity and restraint. Our attention was held through minutes of suspense to a thrilling climax.

E. S. N. Hazel led D. B. Ker, J. C. Cantle, J. A. C. Barnes, P. G. Nowell-Usticke, G. L. Jones, and F. G. Smith, members of the 'overworked' Fifth in an all too short interlude of Hill-billies sung nostalgically round the old camp fire 'way out West.'

The Concert ended with a slightly shortened version of A. A. Milne's 'Wurzel-Flummery.' Gibaud gave a convincingly sustained performance as Mr. Crawshaw, and J. L. Taylor an amusing burlesque of his wife. They received very competent support from G. Hill (Mr. Meriton) P. M. McLeod (Viola), and Mr. Burke-Gill (Denis Clifton). The play, though approved by all, could only be fully appreciated by a minority.

PRIZE LIST **SUMMER TERM, 1942**

Form VI

Mathematics A and Physics A.	Heard 1, C. R. T.
English.	Gibaud, R. D.
History and Latin.	Hill 3, G.
Classics A.	Taylor 1, J. L.
Mathematics B and Physics B.	Packer, M. F.
Chemistry B and Divinity.	Hazel, E. S. N.
Senior Art.	Scott, P. A. S.
Pianoforte.	Gibaud, R. D., and Rayson, J. W.

Form V

French and Latin.	Hayter 1, D.
Divinity.	Jones 6, G. L.
Mathematics.	Lesser, R. H. S.
History and English.	Hayter 1, D.
Science and Greek.	Lesser, R. H. S.
Science.	Hayter, 1, D.

Form IV

English and History	Cullen 1, M. J.
Mathematics.	Bedson, R. F.
French.	Betterton 2, P. R.
Science.	Green 1, T. W.
Latin.	Beattie, D.
Greek.	Walters, A. J.
Divinity.	Hadley, R. I. W.
Singing.	Deval, R.

Remove

French.	Cowling, J.
Latin and Mathematics.	Pask, W. G.
Science.	Rose, J. A.
History and Greek.	Wheaton, D. H.
Divinity.	Welch, V. E.

Form III

English and Science	Vickers, M. D. A.
Science.	Cullen 3, C. S.
French.	Beadle 2, A. B.
Divinity and History.	Aldiss 1, J. B. H. J.

Latin and
Mathematics.

Beadle 2, A. B.

Form II

English and French.	Good, G. J.
Divinity.	Absalom, E. R.
Mathematics and Nature Study.	Stott, F. C.

Form Ia

Mathematics.	Heavens, M. A. C.
English and Nature Study.	Cullen 4, J. T.
Divinity.	Willson 2, A. E.

Form Ib

Mathematics and Nature Study.	Lamburn, C. H.
English.	Free, D.

CHRISTMAS CARD

The white owl keeps her vigil,
Where the iron tongues hang dead;
The earth a steel to mirror
The canopy of lead.

The sacrament of winter
Binds the cruelty of scars,
In the garden soil of Eden:
The battle-field of Mars.

The robin picks the berries,
Blood-red upon the tree;
The Baby in the manger
Feels the thorn of Calvary.

The sacrament of winter
Shrouds the throne, whereon He lies
In the arms of every mother:
The Hands that hold the skies.

The white owl keeps her vigil,
Till the bells shall ring again,
And the robin, dyed in scarlet,
Consecrate all pain.

D. B.-G.

WAR AT SEA

Our ship, a well-known liner, carried nearly one thousand souls, several million pounds' worth of bar gold, and sufficient crude rubber to meet war needs for three months—a valuable prize for Jerry.

After six weeks' lone sailing in eastern and southern waters, we found in mid-Atlantic a convoy of forty-six ships escorted by a battle-cruiser, an aircraft carrier, and four destroyers. Enemy surface raiders were at sea and everybody was on their toes. We spent four uneventful days with this convoy. On information, however, that the enemy ships had gone into port, accompanied by the cruiser, carrier, and two destroyers, we forged ahead of the slow convoy.

A few hours later the cry, 'Submarine on the star-board bow,' was heard and a periscope, moving on a parallel course, could be clearly seen. The cruiser attempted to ram but the submarine crash-dived and escaped. Meanwhile the carrier had flown off a plane, and within five minutes of the first alarm a depth charge was dropped on the spot where the submarine was last seen. A few minutes later a second charge was dropped, after which the sea appeared to 'boil' for many seconds, but a 'kill' was not claimed.

Later we were joined by two further carriers and six more destroyers, giving us the protection of twelve ships of war, but in spite of this just after sunrise on a cold morning in the North Atlantic the cry 'Torpedo!' rang out. The officer on the bridge showed no excitement but watched the track as it got nearer and nearer and, at the psychological moment ordered a turn of the helm and the 'tin-fish' passed harmlessly astern. While this was happening the destroyers were 'covering' the area where the submarine was with depth charges, finishing up with their bows all together like terriers round a rat hole, but the 'rat' failed to come up, so again no 'kill' could be claimed.

A home port was reached without further adventure after a voyage of seventy days, thanks to the Navy and the R.A.F. To them it was just another job of work, but to the passengers on the liner it was a grand adventure safely carried through by the boys in dark and light blue.

K. A.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Stone Wall

Call-over's gone and off we go,
Not too fast and not too slow
Through the little gate, with ease
Round the Crescent, 'neath the trees.

Past Saint Helen's; several stop—
And admire that beauty spot;
Then, remembering their job,
They hurry on, catch up the mob.

Well, we've reached the aerodrome,
Half-way round, and half-way home;
A 'Pre' stands there with little book,
Crossing off the names he took.

Round the corner, off we go
Past the pill-box, very low;
To the stream we slowly dash;
There below the waters splash.

Up the alley (slowly crawling);—
Then we hear a voice start bawling,
'You'll run again to-morrow, now,
Don't you know you're late? (And how!).'

Clamber up the old school tower,
Rest and change in half an hour;
Then, dear reader, pity me!
Two more hours before our tea.

T. W.-G.

Reverie

There is almost silence:
Save for the humming of the bees,
The sleepy chirping in the trees
Of birds; the day is warm. . . .
A tiny noise is born—
A bubbling stream across the stones
Sings to herself in happy tones;
The pebbles' talk is spent.
Here I listen, silent;
A perfect harmony of sound
Comes to me on my grassy mound,
The sound of a lazy summer day.

P. H. H.

OXFORD LETTER

OXFORD,

November, 1942.

The Editor of 'The Abingdonian.'

Dear Sir,

Oxford remains much as it always was—with a few minor exceptions. Large parties of U.S. troops are to be seen enthusiastically admiring our beautiful colleges; cycling—our traditional mode of transport—becomes more hazardous as pedestrians monopolize the road. Indoors, in common with all true patriots, we shivered until November 1st, and since then have contrived to obtain the maximum amount of heat from the minimum amount of coal.

E. O. Jones went down last July into the R.A.F., after distinguishing himself by getting a second in Honour Mods. B. Arundale successfully survived his six-months' course and has passed on to the Royal Signals' O.C.T.U.

K. G. Walker (Pembroke) feared that he would be the only O.A. up this term, but his fear was dispelled by the last minute acceptance by Magdalen of D. B. Ker, who has started to read for medicine.

Without giving details, let me assure you, dear alma mater, that your sons are behaving as Abingdonians should; serious in their work, light-hearted in play, and enjoying to the full Oxford and all that it stands for.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THE OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

ESCAPE FROM SINGAPORE*(continued)*

After six hours in one uncomfortable position we entered the maze of the Rhio Islands, Dutch territory, south of Singapore. We put ashore, cold and stiff, deciding to sleep till daylight. Morning came, but no boat—the Malays had pushed off home! We had paid them too much in advance, and the prospect of twice as much again at the journey's end evidently did not entice them. So we pledged our last dollar for another boat and crew and about mid-day set off once more.

We sailed all day amongst islands and spent the night on an uninhabited one—but one of us slept in the boat to prevent a repetition of the previous night's experience. To have been marooned there would have been fatal. On we went next morning, across open water to our Malays' objective, Tanjong Penang, a small Dutch port where they said we should find shipping. Several times Jap planes appeared and we dived under ground-sheets and hoped for the best. Fortunately they ignored us. About mid-day we got there and stepped ashore, penniless and in a strange land, looking like tramps. Not a ship in sight, and hardly any small craft. It was deserted—almost; the only European left was the Dutch 'controleur' who did what he could, allowing us to shave and get some food in the empty Rest House. But the prospect seemed grim.

Our luck was holding, however. That afternoon two motor boats appeared with fourteen R.E. and R.A. Regulars, also Sumatra bound. They had room for us and we all set to loading up with petrol that the Dutch 'controleur' let us have; he also allowed us to take a large ship's compass, and produced some bread, ducks' eggs, a bottle of beer all round and three bottles of brandy. He said we might as well have it as the Japs, whom he expected every day. He himself was staying to hand over to them. We would have taken our hats off to him if we had any!

It was a fine night and the motor boats seemed fast after our three previous craft. After some hours it got a bit rough, so we turned up a creek in an island nearby and tied up till morning. Daylight found us stuck fast on the mud; we heaved away, up to our knees in slime, but it was no good and we had to wait till 10 a.m. before the tide had risen enough to float us again. About mid-day we could see ahead a great stretch of open water, so we stopped at the last small island in sight for a meal. Nineteen naked men bathed, lit a fire, boiled eggs and climbed trees for coconuts. All the afternoon we steered south-west, hoping that this would bring us to the right point on the coast of Sumatra. I had made a tracing from a wall map in the Harbour Master's office at Tanjong Penang, from which we knew we must make for the Inderagiri River. About 5 p.m. we saw far away and low on the horizon what looked like a coast; an hour later we could make it out, a low, flat line of mangrove trees without an opening anywhere. It would be dark about 7 p.m. and we wanted to tie up till morning, for fear of missing the river mouth in the darkness. But where? It was getting rough too, and we were ship-

ping water. Our sleeping quarters eventually proved to be the queerest I've ever experienced. About half a mile out, parallel to the shore and about a mile apart, were native fishing platforms, about ten feet out of the water, large, strongly built affairs, with a little thatched hut at one end, large enough for us all, and even piles of rice-straw to sleep on. They were deserted, and we spent quite a good night in one of the huts.

Next morning—it was Friday, February 20th—we cruised south-east for many hours, parallel to the shore, looking for the river mouth; then we turned suddenly south-west, round Baru Point, and knew we must be close. But there seemed to be a regular delta. Luckily we found some Malay fishermen, one of whom agreed to pilot us. We went on and on, the channel gradually narrowing, but still no sign of civilization. At last, after twenty-two hours, with only one stop, we reached a place called Tambilahan at four o'clock in the morning, and promptly fell asleep in the boats as we were.

In the morning we found there were hundreds of people there already, troops and civilians, and all sorts of craft, large and small, survivors from bombed evacuee ships and others who had got away in small boats after the capitulation, as we had. We were all making for Rengat, about another sixty miles up-river; we were already forty miles from its mouth. It took twenty-four hours. One motor boat had by now passed out and we were towing it; ours too stopped frequently through dirt in the petrol feed. The heat of that day and the cold of the long dreary night were trying enough, and our food was giving out. But first thing next morning we saw on the bank a sign—'Rengat ten kilometres' and then 'one kilometre'—and at last we were there.

The rest of the story is quickly told. We left the boats there as the Dutch authorities had organized the journey across to the west coast by road and rail most efficiently. There were two stops for two days each on the way, and we were housed first in a rubber factory and then in what looked like a disused brewery. The scenery, especially the last hundred miles by rail, was splendid as we ran down the steep gradients of the western mountain range to Padang. There we five were most hospitably entertained by two Dutch gentlemen. There were many hundreds of refugees by this time.

Sunday, March 1st, was the day of days. There

(Continued on p. 88.)

O.A. NOTES

Births

WRIGHT—On June 28th, at Parkstone, Dorset to Joan, wife of 2nd Lieut. D. C. K. Wright, R.E., a son, Christopher Robert.

LANSDOWN—On August 4th, to Joye, wife of Lieut. S. J. Lansdown, a son.

VINEY—On Sept 25th, to Elizabeth, wife of Flt.-Lieut. J. M. Viney, a son.

WISEMAN—On October 11th, at 72 Northumberland Road, Leamington, to Francine, wife of Capt. W. F. Wiseman, R.A.S.C., a daughter, Amanda.

Marriages

LAYBOURNE — PIKE. — On August 8th, at S. Michael's Church, Chester Square, London, Lieut. M. N. Laybourne, R.A.M.C., to Dorothy Joan Pike, of Whywoode, Marsh Lane, Stanmore.

KILLBOURN—FREESTONE.— On October 6th, at Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon, Bernard C. Killbourn to Dorothy A. Freestone.

PLUMMER—KYLE.—On November 5th, in Syria, Fl.-O. Seymour D. Plummer, R.A.F.V.R., to Betty H. Kyle, of Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Deaths

RANT.—On July 18th, at Oaklands, Bagley Wood, near Oxford, James William Rant, aged 83 years.

PAYNE.—On July 24th, at the East Cornwall Hospital, Bodmin, Arthur S. B. Payne, of Belfield, St. Austell, Cornwall, aged 54 years.

DE LA HEY—On Sept. 21st, at Hazelbury Bryan Rectory, Dorset, Richard Willis de la Hey, Rector.

CHALLENGOR.—On Sept. 25th, at Lindfield, Abingdon, Oscar Bernard Challenor, youngest son of the late Bromley Challenor and Mrs. Challenor, of Abingdon, aged 51 years.

HALLETT.—On October 30th, in London, Cyril Hallett, priest, Chaplain to the Sisters of Bethany, Canon and sometime Archdeacon of Zanzibar, aged 78 years.

J. W. Rant was a boy at the School in the 'seventies, shortly after its removal to its present site in the Park. He became a director of the firm of Rant & Tombs, provision merchants, of Abingdon, but had retired from business some years ago and had for some time been in failing health.

Not by many years his junior was Canon Cyril Lallett, who came here from Westminster School. Hence he proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford, where he distinguished himself as an oarsman, rowing for his college both at Oxford, and Henley. Ordained in 1886 he held curacies at Odd Rode, Cheshire; S. Mary's, 'Lough; and All Saints', Notting Hill, and in 1902 became Vicar of S. Barnabas', Oxford. Here he remained until 1911, when he was appointed Archdeacon of Lovumia, U.M.C.A., and a Canon of Zanzibar Cathedral. During the last war he served as a Chaplain to the East African forces, and for some part of that time was a prisoner in the hands of the Germans. In 1921 he was made Archdeacon of Zanzibar, and held that office until 1930, when he returned to England to take up the post of Warden of the House of Mercy, at Highgate. This office he resigned in 1940, and at the time of his death was Chaplain to the Sisters of Bethany, in Sloane Square. On two occasions Canon Lallett has addressed the boys of his old School from the pulpit—in 1892, when he preached the School sermon on Founder's Day, and in 1911, when he was one of several preachers invited by the Headmaster (Mr. Layng) to address the boys in the Chapel on Wednesday mornings in Lent.

The Rev. R. W. de la Hey was VIth Form master here from January, 1898, to July, 1899, when he left us to take Holy Orders. After two years as a curate at Culcoates, Hull, he was appointed Vice-Principal of the Bishop's Hostel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and domestic chaplain to the bishop. Subsequently he held several livings—S. Jude's, South Shields, Silks-worth, and Berwick-on-Tweed, at which last he remained for many years; and at the time of his death he was Rector of Hazelbury Bryan, Dorset.

A. S. B. Payne ('Tommy' Payne) was the third son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Payne, of Conduit Road, Abingdon. He joined the School in January, 1897, his brothers (C. A. W., who is now living at Burcote, near Abingdon, and H. J. A., who died in 1926) being already pupils; and before he left, in July, 1905, he had coxed the School IV and gained his

colours for cricket and football. As an O.A. his name appears in the records of many contests *v.* the School, including rowing, swimming, and athletics, and in 1911 he was a member of the O.A.C. Committee. In the last war he held a commission in the Gloucestershire Regiment, with rank of Captain, and later saw service in India. He had adopted brewing as his profession, and after the war was employed for some years at Frome; but in 1930 he was appointed manager, and later a managing director, of the St. Austell Brewery Company in Cornwall. During the latter half of his life his principal recreation was golf, at which game he showed a proficiency well above the average. He was married in 1915 to Miss N. A. Ballard, of Abingdon, by whom he had two sons and a daughter.

Oscar Challenor first came to the School in September, 1900, left in April, 1903, for a sojourn at Epsom College, but returned in January, 1907, to finish his school career at Abingdon. Before he left finally, in July, 1909, he had become a School Prefect, gained his colours for cricket, football, rowing, shooting, swimming, and athletics, and run second in the Mile at the inter-Public School Sports at Stamford Bridge. As an Old Boy he served for two years on the Committee of the O.A.C. and was elected its President for 1919, but to younger generations at the School he was little known. Probably, however, there is nobody in Abingdon whose death could have been more widely mourned. His many activities had brought him in contact with many people, and for a man of his kindly, helpful disposition that could not but mean a large circle of friends. He was a good friend himself, sincere and loyal; good company too, and 'given to hospitality.' More than this, he had practical gifts of leadership, which won him the M.C. in the last war, serving in France and Italy as an officer in the Royal Berks., and which in later years were made even more manifest to his fellow townsmen by his work with the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Brigade. Of this he was a member for over thirty years and became Chief Officer in 1933. In the blitz winter of 1940-41 he was frequently out with the Brigade on regional calls—Coventry and elsewhere—doing his full share of the work, and on the formation of the N.F.S. in August last year he was appointed a part-time Company Officer. He was also a Special Constable and held the Long Service Medal. His civic appointments otherwise included that of Clerk to the R.D.C. from 1921 onwards; deputy to his brother, Bromley

Challenor, as Clerk to the Abingdon Justices and as Coroner for North Berks.; Secretary to the Abingdon Chamber of Trade; a Governor of Christ's Hospital; and a Vice-President of the Abingdon branch of the British Legion. He was also a Freemason and in 1934 was elected Master of the Abbey Lodge. In 1937 he married Miss D. L. Ker, of West Hendred, and there are three children of the marriage—a son and twin daughters. With them, as with the other members of his family, deep sympathy is felt throughout the town and neighbourhood.

The Rev. A. S. Walker, whom many will remember as a master here (*pro tem.*) in 1920, is now Head of King's College, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

It will interest many O.A.s to learn that our good friend, Mr. D. H. Brown, father of D. M. (1924), W. W. (1927), and R. F. (1931), was awarded the C.B.E. in this year's New Year's Honours List.

H. P. Tame (1917) has been appointed Engineer and Surveyor for Woking. He has held appointments at Paddington, Air Ministry (Works and Buildings), and Leek. He is a chartered civil engineer, associate member of the Institution of Civil Engineering, a member of the Town Planning Institute and a bronze medalist, and a member of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers. He was also a prizewinner at the Public Works Congress, 1937, and is the author of numerous technical papers. In 1938 he was appointed by the Woking Council as head of Woking's Rescue and Contamination (Roads and Buildings) Services.

W. H. Stevens (1923) returned from U.S.A. in September, 1941, but continues his work—for Monsants Chemicals Ltd.—on the synthetic rubber problem, in close association with the Ministry of Aircraft Production and other Government bodies.

We have had a visit from Paymaster Commander T. T. Theophilus (1925). He was rescued from the water when his ship, *H.M.S. Dorsetshire*, was sunk in the Far East early in the year. He had suffered injury in the disaster but is now quite recovered.

Gordon H. Beazley (1927), of the Royal Armoured Corps, who was made prisoner when he was captured by the enemy, is in hospital in Italy.

R. J. Longford (1936) is a Wireless Officer in the Merchant Service, with Holt's of Liverpool.

D. E. Roberts (1939) has taken his B.A. at Cambridge. He now has a commission in the R.F. Artillery.

D. T. Nadin (1939) is with the firm of A. Monk & Co., of Warrington, Public Works Contractors, and has been employed since early in the year on Aerodrome constructional work. While at Glasgow University he played Rugby for the 1st XV and was awarded his 'blue,' being made Vice-Captain in his second year.

H. F. Astell (1939), who has 'got his wings' after a course of training in America and is now back in this country, seems to have done a lot of sight-seeing. During the eight months he was there he visited Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, and Alabama, besides the states which he passed through on his way down from Canada.

J. H. Hill (1939) has likewise 'got his wings' in Canada, and is Acting Staff Instructor. His address is: Sergt. Hill, J.H., 1315173, 41 S.F.I.S. Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Another O.A. in Canada is A. H. K. Steven (1921), who writes from Estevan, Saskatchewan. He ends his letter—'I like to let every one know that Canada has been so very kind to me, so that if they meet lonely Canadians in England they may accord to them the same frank generosity that I have been given here.' He is a Squadron Leader in the R.A.F.

Other letters from abroad have been received from—D. G. Brown (1935), G. Garton (1929), S. J. Lansdown (1931), L. P. Mosdell (1931), G. F. Powell (1926), E. P. Rice (1928), G. E. Sinclair (1931), M. Thomas (1932).

E. O. Jones (1941) has gained 2nd Class Honours in Classical Mods. at Oxford.

K. Donkin (1941) is in the Drawing Office of an Aircraft Factory in Bristol and has been doing a spell in the Tracery Office.

J. B. Hill (1941) is taking a course as a telephone operator in the Office side of the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London—not (as stated in our last issue) studying Hotel management at Christchurch.

Of those who left at the end of last term:

G. E. T. Trudgian and W. D. Richardson are taking the University Training Course for the B.A. at Aberdeen.

J. R. Owen is in the R.A.F.

R. C. Howell is with an R.A. Training Regiment, and has been playing Rugger, Soccer, and Hockey for his battery.

G. Hill has a post in Barclays Bank at Hinckley.

R. D. Gibaud is in a Surveyors' Office in Bristol (Messrs. Gleeds, Quantity Surveyors).

E. H. Aldworth is in the Engineering Department of the P.O. in Abingdon.

C. R. T. Heard is at Esso House (Petroleum Board).

J. W. Rayson is at Clare College, Cambridge—University A.T. Scheme. He has been coxing the College 1st VIII and in his spare time sampling the College organ. We hear that he has been invited to take a service.

J. C. Cattle is working with Messrs. H. Hughes & Co., Precision Instrument Makers for the Government for air and marine craft.

D. Hayter is learning draughtsmanship with a view to engineering.

G. B. C. Myall is also training as a draughtsman with Messrs. Phillip & Powis, Motor Engineers, Reading.

D. W. Olliffe is in the P.O. in Abingdon.

C. V. Stone is in the Westminster Bank in Abingdon.

J. McMahon is an engineering apprentice at Hartwell's Garage in Oxford.

J. A. C. Barnes is working on a farm in Welshpool.

J. Cutteridge is training for the Mercantile Marine at the Department of Navigation, Southampton University.

WAR NEWS Casualty List

WOOD.—Died of blackwater fever on July 14, 1942, while on active service in Nigeria, Sergt. Norman Collins Wood, Nigeria Regt., Royal West Africa Field Force, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Wood, of 2 Camden Crescent, Bath, and late of Abingdon, aged 33 years.

Norman Wood had been with us for nine years when he left in July, 1926, as a prefect of two years' standing. He had played for the School at cricket and football, gaining his colours for the latter, had stroked the 2nd IV and gained his colours for athletics in his last year. He took up banking as his profession, starting in the London branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, and in January 1931 was sent out to Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. Here he made his home, becoming prominent in Rugger circles in Rhodesia, as did his brother Kenneth also, who had followed him to the same part of the world and was settled at Bulawayo. Norman was married in 1934 (in this it was the elder brother who set the example) and there is one child of the marriage, a daughter born in 1938.

When the war broke out, he joined the Nigeria Regiment of the Royal West Africa Field Force, and became a sergeant. As such he was awarded the East African Badge in the summer of 1940 for gallantry and efficiency in the field against the Italians in the East African campaign. In this too he was wounded and invalided back to Rhodesia. A year later he was in Abyssinia and was present in Addis Ababa when Haile Selassie made his official re-entry; and it was from here that we last heard from him.

HEALY.—Died of wounds on September 24, 1942, while on active service, Flt.-Lieut. Dennis Edward Healy, D.S.O., R.A.F.V.R., second son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Healy, of Harrow, aged 27 years.

Dennis Healy and his brother Brian both joined the School in the Easter Term of 1928 and left together in July, 1931. Dennis was young when he left, but he had already done well, showing promise both as scholar and athlete. Both brothers subsequently found employment with the Gas-Light and Coke Company (London). They kept well in touch with the School through the London section of the O.A.C., and it was not long before Dennis was chosen as Captain of the L.O.A. Rugger Club. He was also

a member of the O.A.C. Committee from 1936 onwards. He was married in 1939 and leaves one child—a son born in 1940.

Of the circumstances under which he won the D.S.O. the following from the *Evening Standard* may give some indication: 'Sometimes faithful endurance instead of gallant dash is recorded in the R.A.F.'s chronicle of the brave. There are, for instance, awards to the crew of a Catalina flying boat who have completed 9,500 miles in four flights. They were detailed for special operations, and much of their colossal journeys was flown in the most severe weather and icing conditions. Nevertheless the crew accomplished their task successfully, displaying magnificent fortitude.' Dennis Healy was one of this Catalina's crew. It was not many days later that he met his death in battle with a Hun, and under flying conditions as bad as those above described. But it was on their homeward journey, when their perilous and important mission had been successfully accomplished, as it had been on the earlier occasions; and Dennis was the only casualty. The Hun was forced to break off the fight, and the rest of Dennis' crew—about ten or eleven—got back to their base unhurt, though the plane was very severely damaged.

KORTRIGHT.—Killed on active service in June, 1942, Sergt. Air-Gunner Nicholas Henry Kortright, R.A.F., younger son of the late Mr. H. S. Kortright and Mrs. Kortright, of Grenville Lodge, de la Warr Road, Bexhill.

Nicky Kortright was a boarder at the School House from April, 1934, to July, 1939, and at the outbreak of the war had started as a student upon a course of aeronautical engineering. He joined the R.A.F. and was lost in the raid on Essen in June, while serving as Rear Gunner in a Stirling. A few days previously he had brought down an M.E. 110 while engaged on similar duties.

ELPHICK.—Killed on active service on September 25, 1942, Sergt. Pilot Henry Geoffrey Elphick, R.A.F., son of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Elphick, of 36 Eastern Avenue, Reading, aged 19 years.

Geoffrey Elphick came here as a boarder in January, 1936, and before he left, in March, 1941, had gained his colours for Rugger and Rowing and was a sergeant in the J.T.C. He was also a School Prefect, and detailed as such for duty at Waste Court; and his many and thoughtful services for staff and boys alike

secured for him no ordinary measure of general esteem and affection. He had long been keen on flying, and before he left school had been accepted for the University A.T. Scheme. St. Andrews was the University chosen for him, and after completing his course there he was attached to Booker R.A. station, near High Wycombe, where he had got his wings a bare month before the sad accident where he met his death.

The following have been reported missing:
Sergt. Pilot Michael F. Nathan, R.A.F.V.R.
Wireless Operator Graham D. Randall, R.A.
Flt.-Lieut. Henry V. Ellison, R.A.F.V.R.

Distinctions

Flt.-Lieut. Dennis E. Healy, R.A.F.V.R., was awarded the D.S.O. (See *Casualty List* above)
Lieut.-Colonel W. W. Brown, R.E., was mentioned in despatches in 1940 in connection with service on the Continent prior to the evacuation from Dunkirk.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

'We are deviating this year from the ordinary paths in the management of a Public School magazine, by enlarging our regular issue by a few short stories and by giving it the title of a Christmas number. We believe we are the first School that has ventured on such an idea. . . .'

Abingdonian, December, 189

'The object of education as conceived at our Universities and the chief Schools is not to turn out omniscient noodles or mere thinking machines but rather well-informed gentlemen, likely to go on in any of the ordinary paths of life.'

Abingdonian, Editor, November, 189.

ESCAPE FROM SINGAPORE (*continued from p. 84*)
wasn't a ship to be seen, and the Japanese were already in Sumatra, working north from Palembang. Should we be caught after all? It seemed like it. Then, like manna from heaven, in steamed the Royal Navy! Two destroyers put in for fuel. They took our fuel and us as well. Later we were transferred to cruisers. This put the crown on our good luck and we steamed proudly into Colombo Harbour on Sunday March 5th. Our run of good fortune had been astonishing. If only more of the thousands left behind in Singapore could have shared it! M. OGLE.

(Concluded.)

ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS TO
ROLL OF SERVICE

Supplementary to THE ABINGDONIAN, Vol. VIII. No.5.

Anag, P.D. (1940), R.E.
Astell, H.F. (1939), Flt. Sergt., R.A.F.
Bowditch, J.H. (1932), Gunner, R.A.
Bowerman, T.M. (1940), R.N.
Brown, R.F. (1931), Lieut., R.A.
Brown, W.W. (1927), Lieut. Colonel, R.E.
Clarke, H.J. (1941), 2nd Lieut., R.E.
Culmer, D.A. (1940), R.E.
Dockerty, B.W.O. (1939), R.A.F.
Ellison, H.V. (1914), A. Flt. Lieut., R.A.F.V.R.
ELPHICK, H.G. (1941), Sergt. Pilot, R.A.F.
Faulkner, J.H.R. (1938), Royal Corps of Signals.
Fletcher, J.A. (1936), Captain, R.A.
HEALY, D.E. (1931), Flt. Lieut., R.A.F.V.R.
Healy, H.B. (1931), R.N.
Hill, J.H. (1939), Sergt., R.A.F. [A. Staff Instructor.]
Howell, R.C. (1942), R.A. [Signal Training Regt.]
James, R.G. (1934), Surgeon Lieut. [D.], R.N.V.R.
Jones, E.O. (1941), R.A.F. [University A.T. Scheme.]
Keen, W.R. (1940), R.A.F.
KORTRIGHT, N.H. (1939), Air Gunner, R.A.F.

Laybourne, M.N. (1933), Lieut., R.A.M.C.
 Meadmore, J.E.F. (1921), Lieut. Colonel, R.A.
 Mosdell, L.P. (1931), Capt., Libyan Arab Force.
 Moss, G.S. (1939), 2nd Lieut., R.I.A.S.C.
 Owen, J.R. (1942), R.A.F.
 Plummer, S.D. (1931), Fl./O., R.A.F.
 Rayson, J.W. (1942), R.A.F. [University A.T.S.]
 Sinclair, G.E. (1931), Major, West African Force.
 Stevens, A.H.K. (1921), Squadron Leader, R.A.F.
 Theophilus, T.T. (1925), Commander, R.N.
 Thomas, M. (1932), L./Cpl., R.A.O.C.
 Wheat, M.H. (1937), L.A.C., R.A.F.
 Wood, G.A. (1929), R.N.
 Wood, N.C. (1926), Sergt., Nigeria Regt., W.A.Force.

Name in capitals denotes
"Killed or Died on Active Service".