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The ABINGDONIAN



*Misericordias Domini
in aeternum cantabo*

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1943

Vol. VIII. No. 7

**Misericordias
Domini**



**in aeternum
cantabo**

THE ABINGDONIAN

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SCHOOL OFFICERS

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1943

Captain of the School and Head of the House:
I. M. Crudgington.

School Prefects:

M. F. C. Brook.	R. H. S. Lesser.
D. E. P. Jones.	A. J. Betterton.
P. M. King.	R. Grey.
P. M. McLeod.	

Sub-Prefects:

C. Calvert-Fisher.	P. B. Keys.
M. J. Cullen.	A. R. King.
R. Deval.	C. F. Trevor.
K. R. Dudley.	R. H. Tompsett.
J. A. Hill.	A. J. Walters.
B. C. Jakeman.	M. D. Waterfall.

Captain of Football: P. M. King.

Hon. Secretary of Games: R. Grey.

School Librarians: M. F. C. Brook, P. M. King.

Lending Library: T. W. Green.

Abingdonian Committee:

Editor: Mr. S. Punton Smith.

Literary Editor: Mr. D. Burke-Gill.

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

Hon. Secretary: M. J. Cullen.

M. F. C. Brook, T. W. Green, D. Beattie.

CALENDAR—EASTER TERM, 1944

Mon.	Jan.	10.	Boarders return to School.
Tues.	"	11.	First day of Term.
Sat.	"	29.	Hockey XI v. Home Guard, Abingdon (Home).
Sat.	Feb.	5.	Hockey XI v. R.A.F., Abingdon (Home).
Wed.	"	9.	Under 15 XV v. City of Oxford School (Home).
Sat.	"	12.	Hockey XI v. Home Guard, Abingdon (Home).
Wed.	Mar.	1.	J.T.C. Field Day (provisional).
Sat.	"	4.	Rowing 1st and 2nd IV v. Magdalen College School (Home).
Thurs.	"	9.	Miles (provisional).
Sat.	"	11.	Hockey XI v. R.A.F., Abingdon (Away).
Tues.	"	21.	Last day of Term.
Wed.	"	22.	Boarders return home.

EDITORIAL

The opening term of another school year finds the school as full as ever; in fact we have reached satiety.

Mention is made elsewhere of Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker's departure from Waste Court. Though he has found it necessary to resign the editorship of O.A. news, we are very glad that he is able to continue to be Hon. Treasurer of the Old Boys' Association, the Trust Fund, and the Magazine. We wish to take this opportunity of thanking him sincerely for all the painstaking work which he has given to the *Abingdonian* and for the keen devotion which he has displayed in its interests.

Up to the time of writing the weather has been very kind to us, so that no curtailment of our fixture list has been necessary, while we have been able to show a clean bill of health.

Since the publication of the last Christmas number such an enormous change has taken place in the development of the war that we can justly call 1943 *annus mirabilis*. We can therefore with a lighter heart, but withal without complacency, wish our readers a happy Christmas and bright prospects for the New Year, 1944.

SCHOOL NOTES

The results of the Oxford Higher School Certificate and School Certificate for July, 1943, were as follows:

The following passed the Higher School Certificate: M.F.C. Brook in main subjects Latin and History and subsidiary subject Greek (marked Good).

M. F. Packer in Pure Mathematics (marked Good), Applied Mathematics and Physics.

J. L. Taylor in Classics (marked Good).

Although they did not get the Higher School Certificate the following passed in main subjects: P. M. King (Latin); P. M. McLeod (Pure Mathematics); P. A. S. Scott (Physics); T. W. Smith (History).

P. A. S. Scott and T. W. Smith reached the subsidiary standard in the subjects Pure Mathematics and English respectively.

In the Oxford School Certificate 17 boys passed (where the distinction mark was obtained the subject is put in brackets after the boy's name).

D. Beattie (Latin), R. F. Bedson (Mathematics), P. R. Betterton (Mathematics, General Science), M. J. Cullen, R. Deval (General Science), K. R. Dudley, T. W. Green (Latin General Science), P. H. Harris (Chemistry), A. N. James (General Science), P. B. Keys, J. H. Luker, J. P. Mortimore, N. A. Palmer, F. L. Sanders, C. F. Trevor, A. J. Walters, M. D. Waterfall.

Supplementary credits were obtained as follows

Physics—A. J. Betterton (Distinction), A. J. Burborough, F. W. G. Carter (Distinction), F. Heston, J. A. Hill, D. E. P. Jones (Distinction), G. L. Jones, A. R. King, R. H. S. Lesser (Distinction), C. B. F. Milne. Chemistry—A. J. Betterton (Distinction), A. J. Burborough, F. W. G. Carter, D. E. P. Jones (Distinction), A. R. King. Trigonometry—A. J. Burborough (Distinction), F. Heston, G. L. Jones, R. H. S. Lesser. Higher Geometry—F. Heston, R. H. S. Lesser. Higher Algebra—F. Heston (Distinction), R. H. S. Lesser. Mathematics—P. M. King. History of Architecture—J. A. Hill (Distinction).

The Prize List for the Summer Term will be found on page 116.

The Confirmation Service was held in the School Chapel on Sunday, November 28th, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Reading. The following boys were confirmed: P. M. King, M. D. Waterfall, T. W. Green, A. N. James, R. S. Barnes, L. Lacey Johnson, G. W. Dodge, G. H. S. Jordan, J. M. Lewington, M. H. Jones, C. S. Cullen, T. W. J. Jordan, S. J. Harper, M. J. Green, G. E. Ellis, M. Chase, M. J. J. Newport, P. A. Dexter, F. C. Stott, T. L. Nudds.

Though of necessity, the radius for football fixtures must be restricted, yet the Games Secretary was able to arrange a fairly full fixture card.

We congratulate the following on being awarded their Rugby Football Colours. 2nd XV Colours: A. J. Betterton, P. Hayter, C. G. Calvert-Fisher, P. M. McLeod, A. J. Walters, A. R. King, B. O. Crook, L. A. Lewis, M. J. Cullen, R. H. Tomp

tt, T. W. Green, A. J. Sansom, D. E. P. Jones,
D. Slingsby.

The Lin Cup for Senior House football was
on by Green House.

The Reeves Cup for Shooting was won by
Green House, while the West Cup for the best
individual shot was gained by J. L. Taylor.

The Steeplechase had again to be abandoned
owing to the impossibility of using the course.

It must be put on record that Red House won
rewer Bowl for Junior House cricket this summer.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the
following contemporaries: *The Aldenhamian*, *The
Immedian*, *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 LIBRARY

We are pleased to be able to acknowledge with
any thanks a number of recent presentations
to the Library. By the generosity of J. B. Reeves,
A.A., we have purchased *English Saga* and *Years
Endurance* by Bryant; *The English Countryman*
by Massingham; *The English People* by Brogan;
The Russian Peasant by Maynard; *Reflections on
the Revolution of Our Time* by Laski; *One World*
by Wendell Willkie and *U.S. Foreign Policy* by
Walter Lippmann.

From the executors of the late A. W. Morland,
A.A., we have received a number of handsome
volumes, prizes won by him when a boy at the
school.

Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker also presented a
number of books, on his departure, including a
set of Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman
Empire*, complete texts of *Plato*, *Livy*, and *Epictetus*,
and Sellar's *Roman Poets*. From D. C.
Urley we received last term several books on
aircraft and kindred topics.

The Library has been fairly well patronized
this term, but we would ask borrowers to be more
careful and regular in recording withdrawals and
returns, as the librarians are caused much un-
necessary trouble.

G. F. D.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1943

We give below the results of matches played
by the 1st XV:

W. G. Bradfield's XV—Home. Lost, 27-28.

Southfield School—Home. Lost, 0-18.

City of Oxford School—Home. Won, 16-14.

Southfield School—Away. Lost, 8-21.

Oxford Exiles—Home. Won, 41-3.

Radley College 2nd XV—Away. Lost, 8-26.

City of Oxford School—Away. Lost, 3-22.

Magdalen College School—Away. Lost, 0-54.

Old Abingdonians—Home. Lost, 11-20.

These results indicate that the team was very
inconsistent in performance, and played much
better in home than away matches. The reasons
for this were, that many of the members of the
team were exceptionally young and inexperienced,
and that the team as a whole was very variable in
its moods. For example, in its first match with
the City of Oxford School and its games with the
Oxford Exiles and Radley, it played with an
energy and determination which were completely
absent from the second City of Oxford School
match, and both the matches against Southfield
School.

The forwards took a long time to settle down,
and were always handicapped by lack of weight
and height; nor had they sufficient speed and
spirit to make up for these deficiencies. Con-
sequently, unless the opposing pack was weak,
they got the ball back slowly and infrequently.

The centre three-quarters, Hayter and Lewis,
are promising, and the former has considerable
powers of penetration; but both are young and
would have profited greatly from association with
a good pair of halves. Unfortunately King and
Betterton were unable to get much practice to-
gether, and the latter did not come up to expecta-
tions as a constructive fly-half.

The wings, if not particularly enterprising, ran
with determination when near the line, but their
defence was shaky. At full-back Walters, weak
in the early matches, improved greatly towards
the end of the season.

An outstanding weakness of the team was its
kicking, both of the touch-finding and the goal-

getting variety. The tackling too was only moderate, especially among the forwards. But Hayter throughout the season tackled magnificently, often doing the work of two players in this respect.

Undoubtedly the season has been a lean one; yet there are reasons for optimism as regards the future. But even if, as should be the case, more experienced players are available at the beginning of next season, much will depend on the keenness and readiness of all concerned to undertake the practice and training which are the pre-requisites for success.

The XV was as follows: Full-back: A. J. Walters; Three-quarters: B. O. Crook, L. A. Lewis, P. Hayter, C. D. Slingsby; Halves: A. J. Betterton, A. R. King; Forwards: C. Calvert Fisher, R. Grey, P. M. King (Captain); M. J. Cullen, R. H. Tompsett; P. M. McLeod, T. W. Green, A. J. Sansom.

C. R. Burborough played in five matches, J. A. Hill and D. E. P. Jones in four matches.

1st XV Matches

v. W. G. Bradfield's XV (home). Lost, 27-28.

The School played vigorously if crudely, and the three-quarters combined well. Our defence was weak, and our opponents scored six tries, four of them by interceptions: Philip Carter converted five. We obtained nine tries, but could not convert one! Bradfield's team included 11 past and 3 present members of the School.

v. Southfield School (home). Lost, 0-18.

Weakened by the absence of Betterton and King (P. M.), the School were slow and ineffective. Though Southfield had few attacking movements, they kept us on the defensive by their kicking and superior pace. Walters was completely off form. Southfield scored two tries in the first half and four in the second, none being converted.

v. City of Oxford School (home). Won, 16-14.

This, in some respects our best match of the season, was similar to the corresponding match of last year. After being behind at half-time, we

scored 10 points to 3 in the second half. Our tackling and kicking were weak, and the handling of the three-quarters uncertain; but the forwards played much better, and Walters was improving. Our tries were obtained by Hayter (2), Crook and Lewis. Walters converted two.

v. Southfield School (away). Lost, 8-21.

The School gave a very poor exhibition: they were very lifeless, and on a sticky ground had no reply to the forward rushes and effective kicking of their opponents. The outsiders saw little of the ball, but once Hayter obtained it and scored the best try of the match with a strong elusive run from half-way. King (P. M.) played well and was always on the ball.

v. Oxford Exiles (home). Won, 41-3.

The visitors, weakened by absentees, could not hold the School outsiders, who, in spite of faulty handling, scored eight tries between them. The forwards obtained two more. Crook kicked three goals (1 penalty) and Walters two. The School forwards played together well, but were not extended by the opposition.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (away). Lost, 8-26.

The School forwards held a heavier pack well but the outsiders, given many opportunities, could not press home their attacks. In this, as in other matches, we were apt to break down when harassed near our own line. Hayter's tackling was again good, and he scored our only try. Walters converted it and kicked a penalty goal.

v. City of Oxford School (away). Lost, 3-22.

A very disappointing match, the School making no effort to hold a side which they had previously beaten, but remaining strictly on the defensive. Our defence was weak, and we allowed our opponents to exploit the blind side. Hayter scored his usual try, and tackled well, and Walters kicked effectively, but there was very little else of merit in our team, which played as though under a spell.

v. Magdalen College School, Oxford (away). Lost, 0-54.

Although the School played with more li

ian in the previous match, and never lost heart, they were completely outclassed and unable to cope with the intensity and variety of their opponents' attack. In spite of the big score, we were not on the defensive all the time, much of the play being in midfield. Occasionally our forwards got the ball back, but it took so long to reach the three-quarters that they were given no room in which to manoeuvre. The Magdalen halves were allowed to do as they liked in attack, with the result that their three-quarter line usually had one man, and sometimes two men, never on the wing. Half-time score, 0-27.

. Old Abingdonians (home). Lost, 11-20.

Most of the game was very even, and the score was level (11-11) a quarter of an hour before the end. Then the O.A.'s gained the ascendancy in the tight scrums, and scored three tries. The School team was greatly weakened by illness, only two regular members of the back division being available. The defence was consequently very shaky, and could not cope with the resolute attack of the O.A. halves and centres. Tries were scored for the School by Sansom, P. M. King, and Crook, who also converted one.

The O.A.'s team was: R. F. Cox, T. C. Davies, P. Hayter, P. S. Wilsdon, A. J. Burborough, A. E. Carter, F. W. G. Carter, W. G. Bradfield, E. O. Jones, M. G. H. Holt, K. T. B. Sayer, C. R. T. Heard, J. L. Taylor, R. Wilsdon, E. H. Aldworth.

1st XV Characters

P. M. King (Capt., Colours, 1942). An energetic wing-forward with a good knowledge of the game. His handling, dribbling, and kicking are neat and effective, and he tackles well. His unflagging energy and enthusiasm were an example to his team.

R. Grey (2nd Colours, 1942). Forward. At his best, a bustling forward who uses his weight to advantage in tight and loose. His footwork is still clumsy, and he has not quite fulfilled last season's promise.

A. J. Betterton (2nd Colours, 1943). Stand-off half. Quick off the mark, but inclined to overrun his partner. Handling and picking-up rather unsound; kicking weak. Often made a lot of

ground, but did not play to his three-quarters enough.

P. Hayter (2nd Colours, 1943). Right Centre. Undoubtedly the best of the outsides. Deceptively fast and hard to stop. His handling is good and his tackling deadly. A good kick. With more experience he should be really first-class.

C. G. Calvert-Fisher (2nd Colours, 1943). Has made good progress as a wing-forward. Breaks away quickly and dribbles well. Tackling fairly good.

A. J. Walters (2nd Colours, 1943). Full-back. A fairly good kick, he must improve his positioning and anticipation, as his pace is only moderate. Handling uncertain under pressure. Can tackle well when roused.

L. A. Lewis (2nd Colours, 1943). Left-centre. Has improved greatly in every respect during the season, and his kicking, handling, and tackling are now quite sound. A very promising player.

A. R. King (2nd Colours, 1943). Scrum-half. Though still rather slow getting the ball away from the scrum, he has improved considerably. A determined player in attack, but weak in defence.

B. O. Crook (2nd Colours, 1943). Left-wing. Runs hard when near the line, and has improved his handling. Does not yet tackle low enough. A strong kick, he has not achieved enough steadiness and accuracy for success as a goal-kicker.

P. M. McLeod (2nd Colours, 1943). Forward. A hard-worker in tight and loose, he controls the ball well and his kicking for touch is effective. Inclined to tackle too high. Has made good progress during the season.

R. H. Tompsett (2nd Colours, 1943). An unobtrusive player, who keeps up well and is improving steadily.

M. J. Cullen (2nd Colours, 1943). Forward. Has made fairly good use of his height in the line-out. A very keen player, he is at present apt to get offside and kick ahead when dribbling. Should be good next season.

T. W. Green (2nd Colours, 1943). Brought in as hooker, he has justified his inclusion. Though handicapped by lack of height and weight in line-

out and loose, he is a neat player who keeps well up with the game.

A. J. Sansom (2nd Colours, 1943). Rather clumsy and inexperienced at present, but tries hard and pushes well in the tight. Should tackle more resolutely.

C. D. Slingsby (2nd Colours, 1943). Right wing. Moves quite fast but is apt to slow up in the face of opposition. His handling is rather unsound and his defence unreliable.

D. E. P. Jones (2nd Colours, 1943). Gets off the mark quickly and runs with determination, but is apt to fumble his passes and his tackling is none too sound. Lacks experience.

C. R. Burborough. Played as hooker in the earlier matches, but without much success. Slow and rather clumsy in the loose.

J. A. Hill. Forward. His play is often vigorous but lacking in constructive powers. When he has acquired more control and knowledge of the game, he should be a useful forward.

2nd XV

The results of the 2nd XV matches were:
v. City of Oxford School (home), Won, 6-3.
v. Magdalen College School, Oxford (home), Lost, 0-9. *v.* City of Oxford School (away), Won, 11-0.

Team: Jones 7 (Capt.), Sims, Chase, Luker, Oughton, Horwood, King 3, Lewington, Green 4, Lacey-Johnson, Penny, Crudginton, Woodward 1, Burborough, Hill.

An 'Under 16' match was played against the Nautical College, Pangbourne, the School just losing an even and exciting game by one point. Score, 13-14.

Colts XV (under 15)

The Colts have had a very fair season so far, though it was difficult to get a team together for regular practice.

Results: *v.* Southfield School (away), Won, 14-0. *v.* City of Oxford School (away), Won, 6-3. *v.* Magdalen College School (home), Lost, 5-14. *v.* City of Oxford School (home), Draw, 3-3.

Two matches under 14 were also played against Headington Senior School, both of which were lost.

J. T. CORPS

The Summer Vacation was notable for the Fieldcraft and Map Reading Course at Devize which twenty-three cadets and N.C.O.'s were privileged to attend. The long convoys of buses striking demonstrations, and realistic close-up of mechanized warfare, will long remain as vivid images in the memories of those who attended. M. J. Cullen and J. A. Hill were selected to attend the Southern Command Physical Training Course, and we congratulate Cullen on the good report on his leadership.

The Whole Day Exercise was held early in the term in the Blewbury area. A high standard of map reading was demanded in the morning and few leaders were found 'wanting.' Sgt. R. H. Lesser and Sgt. A. J. Walters were in command of the Defence Bases, and they sent out four of C. patrols under C. D. Slingsby, B. C. Jackson, L. Lacey-Johnson, G. W. Dodge as leader. The first two patrols successfully evaded the Attackers and accomplished their mission. I. Johnson's patrol met trouble and suffered casualties, while Dodge was last seen heading for the distant railway. C.S.M. I. M. Crudginton commanded the Attack with M. J. Cullen, P. N. King, C. Calvert-Fisher as Section Leaders, and Sgt. A. R. King as 2 i/c. The Attackers soon discovered one enemy base and liquidated it, but they were uncertain for some time about the location of the other base and the honours then go to the Defenders.

A/Cpl. Calvert-Fisher is now i/c Armoury with A/L/Cpl. Slingsby as 2 i/c. The senior Instructors are C.S.M. Crudginton, C.Q.M. R. Grey, Sgts. Lesser, Walters, King 2, while Grey, Walters, Cullen, and Hill are in charge of the Physical Training.

We are greatly indebted to Sgt. Wiblin for his voluntary work this year with the Certificate 'A' candidates. He has done much to raise the standard of weapon training and shooting. In the latter connection the recent improved results of Squad 'B' were particularly noteworthy, and we congratulate T. W. Green on his fine score. We also owe our gratitude to C.S.M. Redrup who

as been giving regular assistance. He has done much to bring on the junior N.C.O.s, and get the Cert. 'A' candidates through their T.O.E.T.'s.

PROMOTIONS (September): To be C.S.M.—M. Crudgington. To be C.Q.M.S.—R. Grey. To be Sgts.—R. H. S. Lesser, A. J. Walters, R. King. To be Cpls.—M. F. C. Brook, A. J. Cullen, R. Deval, D. E. P. Jones, P. B. Leys.

The results of the Certificate 'A' Examination held on December 1st were as follows:

Passed Part II (Section Leaders): C. Calvert-isher, P. M. King, L. L. Lacey-Johnson, H. Tompsett. Passed Part I (Individual): P. Bastin, A. N. James, M. Lawrence, J. H. Elson, S. L. Green, I. N. Kimbrey, P. G. Lingard, E. G. Whitfield.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

No. 2 SECTION, 'B' FLIGHT, 106 SQUADRON

Though the numbers of this section are slightly lower than those of last term, it has been carrying on steadily with the new prescribed pre-service training syllabus. We wish again to thank Mr. Weston, Mr. Gray, and Mr. Ingham for their valuable help in instruction.

With the helpful co-operation of the R.A.F. authorities, Cadets have been able to pay weekly visits to the aerodrome, where a specially arranged course of instruction has been of great practical value in training. Many Cadets have also been taken for flights.

About a dozen Cadets attended the Summer camp, which was a great success this year.

The results of the Proficiency Test were very satisfactory, all the candidates being successful. The following obtained their Proficiency Test part in July—F. W. G. Carter, A. J. Burborough, Anag, J. A. Hill, P. M. McLeod, thus reclassifying as Leading Cadets; while J. H. Luker, D. A. Heard, D. E. P. Jones have classified as 1st Class Cadets.

PROMOTIONS: Leading Cadet P. M. McLeod was promoted to the rank of Sergeant with effect from February 1, 1943.

Valete

Left Summer, 1943

Vith Form. C. B. F. Milne (1936, i). Captain of the School and Head of the House, 1943. O.S.C., 1941. Captain of Rugger, 1942; 1st XV Rugger, 1941-42. Captain of Boats, 1943; 1st IV, 1942-43. 1st XI Cricket, 1942-43; 2nd XI Colours, 1942. 1st Athletic Colours, 1942. J.T.C.; C.Q.M.S.; Cert. 'A,' 1941. Home Guard. *Abingdonian* Committee. A.S.P.R.S. Committee.

J. L. Taylor (1939, iii). School Prefect (Waste Court), 1942. O.S.C., 1940. H.S.C., 1943. Pembroke Scholarship (Classics), 1942. 1st XV, 1942; Colours, 1942. J.T.C. Sgt.; Cert. 'A,' 1942; 1st Class Shot. Home Guard. Hon. Sec. of Games. Hon. Sec. *Abingdonian* Committee. Hon. Sec. A.S.P.R.S. School Librarian.

M. F. Packer (1940, i). School Prefect. O.S.C., 1941. H.S.C., 1943. Captain of Cricket, 1943; 1st XI, 1941-43. Hockey XI, 1942-43. 2nd XV Rugger, 1942. Half Athletic Colours, 1943. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i) 1943; 1st Class Shot. *Abingdonian* Committee. Sports Committee.

T. W. Smith (1939, iii). School Prefect, 1942. O.S.C., 1941. 1st XV Rugger, 1942; 2nd XV Colours, 1942. 1st IV, 1943. Half Athletic Colours, 1943. J.T.C., Cert. 'A,' 1941. Sgt. A.T.C., Proficiency Test (pt. i), 1942, Sgt. A.S.P.R.S. Home Guard. *Abingdonian* Committee.

P. A. S. Scott (1936, i). School Prefect. O.S.C., 1941. 2nd XV Rugger, 1942. 2nd XI Cricket, 1943. J.T.C., C.S.M.; Cert. 'A,' 1941; 1st Class Shot. Sports Committee.

G. L. Jones (1938, iii). School Prefect. O.S.C., 1942. 1st XV Rugger, 1941-42; Colours, 1942. Athletic Colours, 1942. Hockey XI, 1942-43; Captain of Hockey, 1943. Cricket XI, 1942-3; 2nd Colours, 1942. Captain of Athletics. J.T.C., Sgt., Cert 'A,' 1942.

P. Anag (1939, iii). School Prefect. O.S.C., 1942. 2nd IV cox, 1941. 1st XV Rugger, 1942; 2nd XV Colours, 1942. J.T.C., Cert. 'A,' 1941; Cpl. A.T.C., L/C; Proficiency (pt. i), 1943. Home Guard.

P. H. Harris (1939, iii). Sub-Prefect, 1942. O.S.C., 1942. 1st XI Cricket, 1941-43; Colours, 1943. 1st XV, 1942; 2nd Colours, 1942. Athletic Colours, 1943. 1st IV, 1943. J.T.C., Cert. 'A' (pt. i), 1942. A.T.C., Cpl., Proficiency 'A,' 1942. A.S.P.R.S.

A. J. Burborough (1938, iii). Sub-Prefect. O.S.C., 1942. 1st XV Rugger, 1942; 2nd Colours, 1942. Hockey XI, 1941-42. 2nd XI Cricket, 1943. Half-Athletic Colours, 1943. J.T.C., Cert. 'A' (pt. i), 1942. A.T.C., L/C, Proficiency Test (pt. i), 1943.

F. W. G. Carter (1937, iii). Sub-Prefect. O.S.C., 1942. 1st XV Rugger, 1942; 2nd Colours, 1942. 1st XI Cricket, 1943; 2nd Colours, 1943. J.T.C., Cert. 'A' (pt. i), 1942. A.T.C., L/C, Proficiency Test (pt. i), 1943.

P. B. Keys (1940, ii). Sub-Prefect. O.S.C., 1943. J.T.C.; Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1943.

N. A. Palmer (1939, iii). O.S.C., 1943. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A' (pt. i), 1943.

Vth Form. R. F. Bedson (1939, ii). O.S.C., 1943. D. C. Burley (1939, ii). J.T.C.

IVth Form. J. W. J. Freeston (1939, iii). J.T.C.; Cert. 'A' (pt. i), 1943.

M. G. Budden (i), (1943, iii).

IIIrd Form. M. D. Cruickshanks (1941, iii). D. J. Wilsdon (iii), (1939, iii).

M. J. Lee (1939, ii). J.T.C.

IIInd Form. J. E. Mockett (1942, iii). C. Hilton (1940, iii).

A. J. Springett (1942, i).

Ist (a) Form. R. R. Peck (1941, ii).

Erratum—Left Easter, 1943. For R. E. Blackwell read R. E. Blacknell.

Ia Form. J. H. Light, W. R. Jackson, I. Juggin P. R. Sale, M. J. Haes (i), J. D. Haes (ii) B. W. T. Leech (ii), N. G. Wilson (iii).

Ib Form. D. H. Taylor (iii), W. F. Cullum, F. I. Bartlett (ii), I. D. Clark, C. E. Stopps, D. M. Pointer.

Addition: Came Summer Term, 1943. Ib, A. I. Dawson.

'R.-B.'

Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker has retired, on November 19th, from his post as Master-in-Charge of Waste Court. He has gone, temporarily, to live in Exeter, but we hope to have him back in Abingdon when he can find a suitable house here. He has rendered long and valuable service to the school. He was Classical VI Form Master from 1899 to 1905 and returned to the post in 1911. He retired from his teaching work in April, 1933, but has carried on since then in charge of Waste Court. For a record of his services on the staff we refer our readers to the *Abingdonian* of March 1931. To quote from it, 'His charming personality, clarity of judgement, unselfish persistence in seeing through whatever he undertakes, his kindness, and sincerity have made the name R.-B. a talisman among his old pupils.' The same personal qualities have been invaluable to the many boys that have been under his care at Waste Court. We hope for his speedy return to the town so that his kindly influence may continue to permeate among us, and that old boys returning to the school may still find their old friend in the town to greet them. In latter years the Old Abingdonian Club has been deeply indebted to him for his work as Treasurer to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund and for his editing of the Old Abingdonian news in the *Abingdonian*.

Salvete

Came Christmas Term, 1943

IIIrd Form. D. H. Randall, J. B. Rich, D. E. Allen.

IIInd Form. J. B. Evans, P. R. Lucas, A. R. Upton, A. F. Bowman, D. F. Dance, G. H. F. Cleaver, S. F. Eeles, F. J. W. Lacey, K. A. Fathers, J. W. H. Beazley, R. Hobday.

PRIZE LIST

SUMMER TERM, 1943

Form VI

Classics A.	Taylor 1, J. L.
Mathematics A and	
Physics A.	Packer, M. F.
Physics A and Senior	
Art.	Scott, P. A. S.

English and History A.	Smith 1, T. W.
Divinity.	Jones 6, G. L.
Form VI	
History B.	Brook, M. F. C.
Latin.	King 1, P. M.
Mathematics B and	
Physics B.	Lesser, R. H. S.
Mathematics B.	Hesten, F.
Chemistry.	Harris, P. H.
Form V	
French and Latin.	Green 1, T. W.
Divinity.	Beadle 1, M. G.
Mathematics.	Waterfall, M. D.
Form V	
History and Science.	Cullen 1, M. J.
English.	Green 1, T. W.
Greek.	Beattie, D.
Pianoforte.	Barnes, R. S.
Form IV	
Mathematics and	
Latin.	Pask 1, W. G.
History and French.	Cowling, J.
Science and Divinity.	Wheaton, D. H.
Form IV	
English.	Welch, V. E.
Greek.	Pask 1, W. G.
Remove	
French and Science.	Lawrence, M.
Latin and Greek.	Mosczytz, M. M.
History and Divinity.	Jones 8, M. H.
Mathematics.	White 2, M. R.
English.	Moore, J. T.
Form III	
Science and	
Mathematics.	Stott, F. C.
English and Divinity.	Cruickshanks, M. D.
Singing.	Smith 3, P. A. F.
Form III	
French and Latin.	Stott, F. C.
Latin.	Wake, J. R.
History.	Cruickshanks, M. D.
Form II	
English and Divinity.	Brown 1, G. H.
French.	Cherrill, A. H.
Mathematics.	Berry, P. F. C.
Nature Study.	Aldworth, D. M.

Form Ia	
Mathematics and	
Nature Study.	Richardson, P. C.
English.	Free, D.
Divinity.	Pegler, R. C.
Form Ib	
English and Nature	
Study.	King 4, A. G. B.
Mathematics.	Chamberlain, P. J.

OXFORD LETTER

OXFORD

Nov. 1943.

To the Editor of the 'Abingdonian.'

DEAR SIR,

Recently a member of the school staff said to us, 'It is difficult to remember that Oxford is a university city these days.' Such an utterance from an Oxford man clearly shows that external appearances must be changing. But we hasten to assure our readers that Oxford is still a university; and that the O.A.'s in residence are eager in their pursuit of knowledge.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating—D. B. Ker (Magdalen) passed his examination in Biology, and has now, judging by the stains on his hands, passed on to organic chemistry. We are informed that in his spare time he plays squash, and he has been seen several times at meetings of the Film Society.

J. L. Taylor, having overcome the difficulties which beset all freshmen, has settled down and is taking that part in the life of Pembroke, which is expected of an Abingdon Scholar. He is an energetic member of the O.U.S.T.C., R.A.C. unit and has been driving trucks, through Abingdon among other places, with the exuberance of an amateur. He confessed that on one occasion he all but slaughtered a member of the school.

K. G. Walker has nine lectures to attend and two tutors who each demand one essay per week. Though he maintains that all this entails much work, he nevertheless finds time for theatre-going, hockey, snooker, and various other activities, and when so inclined, polemical politics.

We have also the comings and goings of other O.A.'s to report: G. Hill went down in September after distinguishing himself in athletic and academic fields, gaining a credit in his examination in Law. Two previous Abingdon scholars have visited Pembroke—H. A. Lunghi and E. O. Jones. Furthermore we were agreeably surprised to see Mr. Ingham and some members of the school at the admirable Three Choirs concert given in the Sheldonian.

We send our good wishes to our colleagues at Cambridge and other provincial universities. Judging by the report of the barbarous reception extended by one such university to its freshmen, we are thankful for the hospitality of Oxford.

Yours incognito,

THE OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

DOWNING COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

To the Editor of the 'Abingdonian.'

DEAR SIR,

There is at present but one O.A. at Cambridge, by name T. W. Smith. He is on a short course, R.A.F., and is thoroughly enjoying life, with the exception of having to get up at 6.30 every Tuesday in order to do P.T.

He is at Downing College, and is intrigued to see that College colours, magenta, are very similar to the school cerise. Nor is that all; the College emblem is a griffin, and almost the double of the school crest.

Life is scarcely dull, for in addition to R.A.F. work, of which there is plenty, he finds time to row in the First Eight, and is 'enjoying' rigorous training.

Downing College is the only one in Cambridge which still maintains the ancient custom of 'sconcing' evil-doers.

If I were to write all there is to write about Cambridge—a University far surpassing Oxford—it would require several books to contain it, so on this brief résumé I will remain

YOUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

OUR FOUNDATIONS

Our last article under this heading dealt with the history of Abingdon School as far as 1376. There is no doubt that in 1372 there was a flourishing school, for both boarders and day-boys situated on the north side of the Church of St. Nicholas facing Stert Street. There is not great deal of information about the School up to the John Roysse period, but there is enough evidence to show that the School continued to expand.

In 1387 Thomas Weston, *magister scholarum* was joint grantee with Grey, Vicar of St. Nicholas of two tenements 'on the water of Stert.' These tenements were in addition to the hostels for boarders already mentioned, and were necessary for the further accommodation of extra boarders.

Weston rented these holdings from the Abbey and the fact that it was the Trinity Warden of the Abbey who was the landlord is the probable explanation why John Roysse later named his school the 'free school of the Blessed Trinity, thus reviving the old name.

Later (about 1407) these tenements were given up and boarders were housed elsewhere—probably in more commodious quarters in Otwell Lane, a smaller thoroughfare connecting Market Place with Broad Street. But for the rest of the fifteenth century the Master of the Grammar School, his household, and scholars were still living alongside St. Nicholas.

A change, however, has occurred in the management of the School, the Headmaster being no longer a secular priest but one of the monks of the Abbey. John Tesdale (a family name intimately connected with the school), who on entering religion adopted the name of John Clyffe, was the last of the mediaeval headmasters, and remained in office till after the dissolution of the monasteries. At the dissolution, as sub-prior, he received a pension of eight pounds, but nothing as schoolmaster. It is therefore extremely probable that he carried on the school at his own risk, and that it was quite independent of the monastery. It remained a private concern, nor did the Crown have any voice in the appointment of headmasters.

But though independent, the school could not

help being badly jeopardized by the paralyzing catastrophe of the fall of the Abbey which brought poverty and distress to the town and consequently loss of support to the school. During the dark years between the dissolution and John Roysse (1536-63), the school certainly carried on, but in a very humble and almost homeless way. Probably only day-boys were accepted, the reception of boarders being impossible. That other minds were exercised about this state of affairs before Roysse's intervention is evidenced by the will of Thomas Reade of Barton who in 1556 left in his will a pounds 'to the erection of a free scole in Abingdon'; but it was left to John Roysse to re-establish and revive the old mediaeval school in 1563.

(The sources of the material of the above are: *Nicholas, Abingdon, and Other Papers* by E. Preston, and *A History of Abingdon* by J. Townsend, to which we make acknowledgements.)

ADVICE TO THOSE CONTEMPLATING ENTERING H.M. FORCES IN GENERAL AND THE R.A.C. IN PARTICULAR

BY TWO O.A.'s IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND

1. Unless wanted for a capital offence, don't join. Then then consider carefully before making a rash move.
2. If you cannot avoid this fate, do not tell the S.P. and/or P.S.O. (this is an example of Army abbreviations which few understand) that you want to be an ex-service man. This leads to tension.
3. When saluting an officer, remove your cigarette from your mouth. This helps towards mutual understanding.
4. When blanching your equipment, don't splash your accomplice. This causes a weakening of morale.
5. Don't attempt to exceed your chocolate ration, as mutiny will be the result.
6. Don't mistake your R.S.M. for a private because he hasn't any stripes on his arm. This leads to unpleasantness, and hard words.
7. Try not to be a party to the Army voluntary system: 'You, you, and you.'

Lastly, remember that an Englishman who never stumbles should consult his doctor.

N.B.—This only touches the fringe of the subject. For further details consult a book on military law.

T. V. B., R. D. G.

CONTRIBUTIONS

BY PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL

Elogium

(Dedicated to the O.A.'s who have given their lives in the War.)

Whilst you the very last attained,
We still are here, devoid of bliss;
Whilst you have died for kings that reigned
And found a better world than this,
Nations continue everlasting strife,
And all the passion round is ever rife.
When thunder-clouds grew large
And threatened England's highest state,
And all the warlike guns loosed their barrage
In such a terrifying spate
That we, who sat and waited, feared the worst;
Men such as you did more than those who curs'd,
And sat and listened to astounding news;
We even thought we had already lost
That bloody conflict we would never choose.
While you the stormy oceans crossed;
You in the army, navy, in the air
Were paid a homage that was far more fair
Than any paid by all our hosts of men
To famed knights, of whom great deeds were told,
And handed down, and then passed on again,
Forgotten then, as on the ages rolled.
We stayed at school, and wondered what
Was happening to you, hatching many a plot
To use if Hitler should invade
And overrun us, just as he has done
In many countries—with his wild charade—
That flourished once as we beneath the sun;
But as we think of 'what it might have been,'
We're glad you died for country, king and queen;
Now, as the years roll on, we yearn,
Altho' we know how vain is yet
Our longing that you might return;
But now we've no time for regret:
You know your names we cherish still, most blest
Among the very brave—the very best. T. W.-G.

The Winter River

The river is very quiet now under the clear, cold frosty sky. There are no bathers or pleasure-steamers to break the silence; only the occasional splash of a rising fish and the far distant rumble of the water over the weir.

On the far side a heron dips slowly to the water

and stands motionless, like a sentinel, under the leafless willows. A pike rises by a clump of frost-tipped reeds sending up a shower of cold shimmering water, glistening in the cold air like so many highly polished diamonds.

There is no human being in sight save only a solitary fisherman sitting huddled up over his rods and tackle among the dead reeds—once the home of the duck and moorhen.

The lock is idle now, the boats are stored for the winter, the yachts are dismantled, the dinghys are locked in boathouses.

Yet all, the heron, the willows, and the boats, all are awaiting for one thing—the spring.

M. L.

The School Bell

WHEN Hitler's hordes with blackjacks foul
Came for our home sublime,
Three years ago in those days grim,
The School Bell ceased to chime.

From then, alas, in that dark night,
When foreign hosts patrolled our skies,
When danger sought our very homes,
The School Bell silent lies.

The pinkish hue of sunrise gay
Lights up the Eastern dome;
While all about the bells ring out,
The School Bell holds its tone.

Why do you hold your peal, Old Bell,
Your sixty chimes and three,
Till Sunday strikes the hour of ten?
Then ring in son'rous glee!

M. J. C.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

It gives us very great pleasure to have to record a considerable increase in the numbers of the School. Last term there were thirty-four boys; this term the numbers have advanced to forty-two.—Editorial, *Abingdonian*, October, 1893.

During the latter half of this term, afternoon school on Monday has been postponed from 2.30 to 3.45, to enable a game of football to take place in the afternoon. The new arrangement has given general satisfaction, and to football players is most welcome.—*Abingdonian*, December, 1893.

O.A. NOTES

Births

BAILEY—On July 9, 1943, to Margaret, w of Lionel S. Bailey (1930), a daughter.

LANGFORD—On Oct. 16, 1943, to Heath wife of Capt. E. G. Langford (1928), Intelliger Corps, a daughter (Carolyn).

MITCHELL—On Nov. 2, 1943, at Tow Maternity Home, Towyn, North Wales, to Jo (née Raby), wife of Capt. F. Mitchell, R. (1931), of 82 Five Mile Drive, Oxford, a brotl for Timothy and John (Richard Andrew).

MORLAND—On April 12, 1943, at Cathca South Africa, to Lois, wife of Sergt. C. S. M land, S.A. Tank Corps (1921), a daughter.

RANDLE—Sept. 6, 1943, at 1 Bronxville Ro Bronxville, New York, to Paymaster Lieutena Commander and Mrs. J. S. Randle (1934), a'ss Anthony Ernest.

WOOD—On October 30, 1943, to Betty, w of Fl./Lt. J. D. Wood (1926), R.A.F.V.R., a s

Marriage

June 25, 1943, at St. Nicholas Church, Harpe den, Owen E. Clarke (1926) of Bracknell Marie Irene Bryden of Harpenden, Herts.

Death

Sept. 23rd, after a short illness, Cecil Geoffi Rice, third son of Richard Rice, M.R.C.S., Harwell.

C. G. Rice was a boarder at the school fr 1902-1908. Member of Football XI. Colo for Shooting and Prizes for Swimming.

Mr. J. F. Blair has presented a case of bir eggs to the school.

R. H. Candy (1913) is a Forester in Canada P. A. Sitch (1942) was a trainee at Imper Chemical Industries (Paints) Ltd. at Slough.

N. P. Wiggins (1926) is a joiner in a Na shipyard.

G. E. Sinclair (1931) has been chosen to act Secretary to the Commission on Higher Edu tion in W. Africa.

K. Donkin (1941) has been working for two years with the Bristol Aeroplane Co. and gained the National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering.

H. P. Tame (1917) has presented a Paper on 'Roads Pre-War and Post-War,' at the Institute of Civil Engineers, Westminster. At the meeting met A. M. Greenwood (1929) who is working at a London Borough Office.

Of those who left at the end of last term:

C. B. F. Milne, Army University Course at Aldershot.

T. W. Smith, R.A.F. University Course at Cambridge. Rowing for Downing College, Cambridge.

G. L. Jones, R.N. University Course at Cardiff. He is playing Rugby for the University College team at full back and is their place kicker.

P. A. S. Scott, Army University Course at Manchester.

P. Anag, R.A.F. University Course at Durham.

M. F. Packer, has been awarded a State Bursary in Science and Radio at Brighton Technical College.

J. L. Taylor is at Pembroke College, Oxford.

A. J. Burborough is training at the M.G. Car Co. with a view to becoming a Cost Accountant.

R. F. Bedson is a Quantity Surveyor's Clerk at the A.M. Directorate of Works, Marcham.

Letters from abroad: W. J. Eeles (1940), D. G. Brown (1935), P. W. Martin (Staff), P. R. Wood (1935), G. F. Powell (1926), R. W. F. C. Westgate (1941).

Visitors: M. G. H. Holt (1943), J. E. Cuttidge (1942), P. Carter (1941), J. L. Taylor (1943), A. I. Collett (1941), J. S. Capel (1942), D. O. Wilks (1941), W. G. Bradfield (1941), R. E. Ball (1942), P. F. Leach (1940), W. D. Richardson (1942), J. A. D. Cox (1941), J. A. C. Barnes (1942), K. R. Sims (1943), M. F. Packer (1943).

Of Lieut. A. C. Emms, R.A., who has been awarded the Military Cross, his C.O. writes: 'He has been absolutely grand throughout the North

African and Sicilian campaigns and an inspiration to his men, who absolutely love him. No M.C. was better deserved than his.'

P.S.—'We all call him "Tiny"' (Anthony Emms is 6 ft. 7 in.).

R. W. F. C. Westgate (1941) writes from Arizona, U.S.A., where he is training, 'It is really marvellous to enjoy once again the luxury of peace-time living,' mentioning such things as eggs, ice-creams, and bananas. While in Canada he met Norman Holmes.

We have heard from Frank Sinclair (1924), from New Delhi, whither he was sent nearly two years ago to start and take charge of a petroleum branch in the Department of Supply, with the title of Director of Petroleum.

Previously he had been for some time in Calcutta with the Burmah-Shell Oil Company, and as a member of the Bengal Legislative Assembly had taken an active part in politics. Later, when the war had broken out, he had proceeded to the Staff College at Quetta, but his military career had lasted only five weeks when he was appointed to his present responsible position.

T. S. Wilding (1905) has retired from the firm of William A. Crump & Son, Solicitors, in order to become a Director of A. Bilbrough & Co. Ltd., who are managers of the London Steamship Owners' Mutual Insurance Association, Ltd.

The Rev. T. M. Layng (1906) is now an Assistant Chaplain General at the H.Q. of the Eastern Army, India Command, and in independent charge of the chaplaincy services of the army facing the Japs.

P. R. Wood (1935), who is now a Major, is commanding the Wireless Wing of the Fighting Vehicles School in India.

We were concerned to hear that H. S. Bartlett (1925) has been in poor health, and is (or was) in a sanatorium near Quebec. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

J. H. Hooke (1924) is Area Stores Officer at the No. 15 Fire Force Headquarters of the N.F.S.

P. H. Gould (1933) is serving as a stoker in the Royal Merchant Navy.

ROLL OF SERVICE*(Additions and Corrections)*

Allison, R. V. (1927), L./Cpl. R. Corps of Signals.
 Anag, P. (1943), R.A.F. (University A.T.S.).
 Candy, M. G. (1923), S./Ldr. R.A.F.
 Cox, J. A. B. (1941), L./Cpl. R.E.
 Crowe, A. L. (1940), R.A.F.
 Culmer, D. A. (1939), 2/Lt. R.E.
 Davidge, C. R. (1923), Straits Settlements Volunteers. P.O.W. Japan.
 Emms, A. C. (1934), Lt. R.A., M.C.
 Foy, T. J. (1940), R.A.F.
 Grey, A. (1941), R.N., 'Y' Scheme.
 Holme, D. G. E. (1939), 2/Lt. Royal Berks.
 Jones, G. L. (1943), R.N., University Course.
 Lovibond, D. G. (1932), R.N.
 Lucas, W. H. W. (1925), F./O. R.A.F., A.F.C.
 Milne, C. B. F. (1943), Army O.C.T.U.
 Mitchell, F. L. (1931), Capt. R.M.
 Mulkern, H. M. C. (1941), Army O.C.T.U. Rifle Brigade.
 Petty, J. C. (1941), R.N. Midshipman.
 Plummer, S. D. (1931), F./O. R.A.F., D.F.C.
 Powell, G. F. (1926), S./Ldr. R.A.F.
 Scott, P. A. S. (1943), Army O.C.T.U.

Sitch, P. A. (1942), R.M.
 Smith, T. W. (1943), R.A.F. (University A.T.S.)
 Squire, J. A. (1927), Lt. R.A.M.C.
 Thomas, D. R. (1934), R.A.S.C., P.O. Repatriated.
 Wiggins, A. C. (1938), P./O. R.A.F.
 Wiggins, T. A. (1923), Q.M.S., R.A.
 Wiggins, W. F. (1934), Lt. R.A.
 Wood, J. D. (1926), Flt./Lt. R.A.F.
 Wood, P. R. (1935), Major, R.T.R.

DISTINCTIONS

Lieut. A. C. Emms, R.A., Military Cross.
 S./Ldr. J. M. Viney (1935), Distinguished Flying Cross.
 F./O. S. D. Plummer (1931), Distinguished Flying Cross.
 F./O. W. H. W. Lucas (1925), Air Force Cross
 Flt./Lt. D. E. Healy (1931), Norwegian Award.

WAR NEWS

ELLISON—Officially reported missing in Burn in March, 1942, A./Flt./Lt. Henry V. Ellison R.A.F.V.R. (1914).

BERNTHAL—L. L. Flt.-Sgt., R.A.F. (1938 reported missing.