

The ABINGDONIAN



*Misericordias Domini
in aeternum cantabo*

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1946

Vol. VIII. No. 14

Misericordias
Domini

in aeternum
cantabo



THE ABINGDONIAN

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CALENDAR—EASTER TERM, 1947

Mar.	Jan. 13.	Boarders return.
Tues.	" 14.	First day of Term.
Wed.	" 22.	Under 15 XV v. City of Oxford School (Home).
Wed.	" 29.	Under 15 XV v. City of Oxford School (Away).
Sat.	Feb. 15.	Hockey XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (Away).
Wed.	" 19.	Hockey XI v. Wantage School (Away).
Sat.	Mar. 1.	Hockey XI v. Wantage School (Home).
Wed.	" 5.	Field Day.
Sat.	" 8.	1st, 2nd, and 3rd IVs v. Magdalen College School (Away).
Wed.	" 12.	Field Day.
Thurs.	" 20.	Mile Races.
Sat.	" 22.	Hockey XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (Home).
Tues.	" 25.	Last day of Term.
Wed.	" 26.	Boarders return home.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

Christmas Term, 1946

Captain of the School:
D. Beattie.

Head of the House:
M. J. Green.

School Prefects:

G. L. Sanders.	D. H. Wheaton.
P. R. Betterton.	A. B. Beadle.
M. H. Jones.	W. S. Ogden.
J. P. Mortimore.	D. J. Leach.
K. J. Weston.	I. H. McNaughton.
C. S. Cullen.	V. E. Welch.
J. T. Moore.	

Sub-Prefects:

H. D. Baecker.	J. A. Garner.
N. A. Parker.	T. D. Thomas.
F. C. Stott.	J. R. Wake.
G. J. Good.	R. J. Pezaro.
W. G. Olscher.	R. A. Clay.
T. W. J. Jordan	C. G. W. Pulford.
B. G. Budden.	N. C. J. Badley.
D. M. Cullen 2.	M. J. Aplin.

Captain of Football: D. Beattie.

Hon. Secretary of Games: B. G. Budden.

School Librarians: J. P. Mortimore and D. H. Wheaton.

Abingdonian Committee:

Editor: Mr. D. O. Willis.
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E. J. P. Ross-Barker.
O.A. Correspondent: Mr. G. F. Duxbury.
Hon. Secretary: C. S. Cullen.
Committee: D. Beattie, H. D. Bæcker, D. H. Wheaton, M. J. Green, M. H. Jones.

EDITORIAL

Editorials should be brief and to the point. The new management, therefore, makes no apology for the diffidence with which it has produced No. 14, Vol. VIII. It will be only too pleased when the magazine appears on time and with its various parts arranged in order.

Much has happened this term, especially in the last few weeks. The daily round and common task is being carried on amidst thoughts of things to come. Mention is made below of the future successor to the Headmaster, but for the present the School is more acutely conscious of its impending loss at the retirement of Mr. Grundy at the end of next Easter Term. To most of us—past and present—Mr. Grundy is the School, and it is difficult to imagine it without him.

We wish Miss Bennell a complete recovery from her illness and acknowledge the services of Mr. G. L. Jones who has temporarily held the Form I fort.

After over thirty-three years as Headmaster of the School, Mr. W. M. Grundy is resigning at the end of the spring term next year. He will be succeeded by Mr. J. M. Cobban, at present Senior Classical Master at Dulwich College, London. Mr. Cobban was educated at Pocklington School, Yorkshire, and at Jesus College, Cambridge, and spent a short time at the universities of Rome and Vienna. At Cambridge he was placed in the First Class in both parts of the Classical Tripos, and gained five distinctions, four College prizes, and three University prizes. He began teaching at King Edward VI's School, Southampton, and from 1936 to 1940 was Senior Classical Master at Dulwich College.

During the war he was attached to the Directorate of Military Intelligence, and he served on the

Control Commission in Germany with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

He is married with two children.

SCHOOL NOTES

This term has seen a slight, but highly important, reorganization in School life. Gymnastics has now its own mentor, and the increase in enthusiasm for 'horse' and 'parallel bar' is already noticeable. In this connection, we welcome as Gym. Instructor, Mr. R. H. Coleman, late of the Army P.T. Corps and of Glamorgan Social Services. Mr. Coleman is also assisting with the J.T.C. and will assist with Woodwork. In 1939, Mr. Coleman represented Wales at the International Gymnastic Competitions held in Stockholm.

A welcome addition to the Staff this term is Mr. F. J. Sewry, B.Sc., of London University, who will assist mainly on the Maths. and Science side. Mr. C. E. T. Moore, M.A., of Hertford College, Oxford, has also rejoined the Staff after a term's absence with the University Education Department.

On the evening of October 31st a large party from the School enjoyed a Musical Concert given at the Corn Exchange by the Abingdon and District Musical Society and the Arts Council of Great Britain. The artistes were Ena Mitchell, soprano, Laurence Holmes, baritone, and Maurice Cole, piano.

On November 12th a few members of the English Sixth were privileged to see a production of *Vanity Fair* at the Comedy Theatre, London. A full account appears elsewhere in this issue.

We congratulate those awarded Colours for Rugby Football. Details will be found in the review of the term's sport.

The Brewer Bowl for Junior Cricket was won last term by Green House. The Carr Cup for Senior Cricket went to Red House.

The results of the Oxford Higher Certificate and School Certificate examinations held in July were as follows:

The following eleven passed the Higher School Certificate examination: A. B. Beadle in main subjects, Physics (marked good), Chemistry, Sub-

subsidiary French and Applied Mathematics (marked very good). D. Beattie in Classics (marked good). P. R. Betterton in Pure Mathematics (distinction), Applied Mathematics (good), Advanced Mathematics (subsidiary standard), Subsidiary French and Physics (marked very good). F. Hesten in Pure Mathematics (good), Applied Mathematics (good), Advanced Mathematics, Subsidiary French. A. N. James in Physics, Chemistry, and Subsidiary French and Applied Mathematics. D. J. Leach in Physics, Chemistry, Subsidiary French and Applied Mathematics (marked good). J. P. Mortimore in Classics. G. L. Sanders in Pure Mathematics (marked good), Applied Mathematics, Subsidiary French and Physics (marked good). M. D. A. Vickers in Physics, Chemistry, Subsidiary French and Applied Mathematics. V. E. Welch in Physics, Chemistry, Subsidiary French (good), Applied Mathematics (very good). D. H. Wheaton in Classics (good). T. W. Green, who won the Pembroke Scholarship in History, passed in History (marked good).

The following who did not enter for the whole Certificate passed in main subjects: M. M. Mosczytz in Latin and Greek. J. L. Platnauer in History.

In the Oxford School Certificate examination fifteen boys passed. Where the distinction mark was obtained the subject is put in brackets after the boy's name. B. G. Budden. R. A. Clay. D. M. Cullen. J. A. Garner (History). G. J. Good. I. J. M. Jamieson. T. W. J. Jordan (General Science). M. D. Millichap (History). W. G. Olscher. R. J. Pezaro (History). C. W. G. Pulford. F. C. Stott (History, General Science). T. D. Thomas (History). J. R. Wake. A. J. Williams.

Supplementary credits were obtained as follows: Biology—P. V. Aldiss (very good), C. S. Cullen (very good), I. H. McNaughton (very good), W. S. Ogden (very good). Chemistry—P. V. Aldiss, I. H. McNaughton, W. S. Ogden, H. D. Baecker (very good), C. S. Cullen, K. J. Weston, M. R. White (very good). Physics—H. D. Baecker (very good), W. S. Ogden (very good),

K. J. Weston, M. R. White. Art—P. V. Aldiss. English Language—I. H. McNaughton. Trigonometry—H. D. Baecker (very good). History—M. J. Green (very good). Mathematics—P. R. Sims.

The Prize List for the Summer Term will be found below.

A Confirmation Service was held on Sunday, December 1st. The Bishop of Oxford officiated. The confirmees were: P. R. Betterton, N. A. Parker, B. G. Budden, J. L. Wyatt, J. B. Rich, W. C. Woodley, D. McMahon, J. R. B. Williams, J. S. Draisey, R. D. M. Grant.

A party of Staff and School witnessed the annual rugby fixture between Oxford University and Major Stanley's XV in Oxford on Thursday, November 28th.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries: *The Aldenhamian*, *The Almedian*, *The Chigwellian*, *The City of Oxford School Magazine*, *The 'Dog Watch' Worcester Magazine*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Recorder*, *The St. Edward's School Chronicle*, *The Monktonian*.

PRIZE LIST

Summer Term, 1946

Form VI

Mathematics.	Hesten, F.
Mathematics (extra prize).	Betterton, P. R.
Classics.	Beattie, D.
Physics.	James, A. N.
Chemistry (2nd and 3rd year).	Leach, D. J.
Chemistry (1st year).	White, M. R.
English and History.	Green 1, T. W.
Senior Art Prize.	Parker, N. A.

Form V

1st	Stott, F. C.
2nd	Good, G. J.

Form IV

1st	Lovegrove, P. C.
2nd	Rich, J. B.

<i>Remove</i>	
1st	Richardson, P. C.
2nd	Lucas 2, P. R.
<i>Form IIIa</i>	
1st	Wilson 3, N. G.
2nd	Mills, S. R.
<i>Form IIIb</i>	
1st	Boddington, B. W.
2nd	Crook 2, B. M.
<i>Form IIa</i>	
1st	Wiggins 2, C. S.
2nd	Matthews, M. W.
<i>Form IIb</i>	
1st	Greenman, D. A.
2nd	Ivatts, J. C.
2nd	Banfield, D. L.
<i>Form Ia</i>	
1st	Rhodes, M. G.
2nd	Lockhart Smith, C. J.
<i>Form Ib</i>	
1st	Carter 3, J.
Junior Art Prize	Smith, P. A. F.
<i>Form V</i> Greek	Stott, F. C.
<i>Form IV</i> Greek	Lovegrove, P. C.
<i>Remove</i> Greek	Richardson, P. C.
Pianoforte.	Mills, S. R.
Singing.	Evans, J. B.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1946

This year's XV has proved to be a good, though not in any way a spectacular, team. Much time was spent at the beginning of term in experimenting with various players for the positions of scrum-half, right wing three-quarter, and full-back. The scrum, too, gave quite a bit of trouble, and for that matter is still far from perfect. Despite the interruptions consequent upon these experiments, the XV has played extremely well, and the season has been a reasonably successful one.

Apart from the first game against the City of Oxford School, which was not played well, every match saw a definite improvement. This was particularly noticeable in the forwards, whose packing up, line-out work, and general cohesion was extremely good in, for instance, the second

match with the City of Oxford School and in that against Magdalen College School. At the moment, one great fault still remains in the pack—the ball, usually well hooked, very rarely came out of the back row either cleanly or quickly. Throughout the term, back play has not been nearly so satisfactory, possibly for a variety of reasons, of which the chief must be a certain slowness at scrum-half, bad passing by all three-quarters, and above all weak tackling.

It would be invidious to single out individual performers, because, in the long run, it is always the spirit which pervades a team that brings success, and in this connection the XV deserves nothing but congratulation.

During the term the following Colours were awarded:

1st XV Colours: K. J. Weston, A. B. Beadle, J. A. Garner, and D. M. Cullen.

2nd XV Colours: P. R. Little, A. H. Cherrill, P. R. Brown, P. A. F. Smith, J. A. Garner, T. D. Thomas, F. C. Stott, B. N. Margrave, and B. G. Budden.

The XV was as follows: Full-back: B. N. Margrave; Three-quarters: P. R. Little, P. R. Betterton, K. J. Weston, A. H. Cherrill; Halves: D. Beattie, P. R. Brown; Forwards: M. J. Green, D. M. Cullen, J. A. Garner, P. A. F. Smith, T. D. Thomas, G. L. Sanders, A. B. Beadle, F. C. Stott.

Also played: W. G. Olscher in two matches, J. R. Wake in three matches, D. M. Aldworth in four matches, and N. C. J. Badley in three matches.

1st XV Characters

D. Beattie (Captain, Colours, 1945). Stand-off half. A good, neat, strong player with plenty of thrust. Tackles and kicks well and has a safe pair of hands. A tendency to crowd his backs must be corrected. Always a good and enthusiastic captain.

M. J. Green (Colours, 1945). Wing forward. A very good hard-working forward, who has led the scrum with competence. Backs up well, and is a good example in the loose. Wing forward is not perhaps his ideal position, but he has played

there to great advantage. Possesses a fine hand-off.

P. R. Betterton (Colours, 1945). Left centre. A good steady player who combines well, but lacks penetrating power. In defence can always be relied upon to fall on the ball, though his tackling has room for improvement.

G. L. Sanders (Colours, 1945). Front-row forward. Always plays a hard game and uses his weight well in both tight and loose. Has successfully curbed a tendency to hold on to the ball too long. Tackling on occasions good.

K. J. Weston (Colours, 1946). Right centre. A constructive, thrustful three-quarter who uses his speed and swerve with great effect. Is quick to see an opening in attack. His tackling is good.

A. B. Beadle (Colours, 1946). Hooker. An indefatigable player whose efforts have been rewarded by a fair share of the ball. Speedy, and dribbles well.

D. M. Cullen (Colours, 1946). Forward. Has improved considerably. Locks well and is always up well to the ball. A good worker in the line-out, and a useful place-kick. Tackling fair.

P. A. F. Smith (2nd Colours, 1945). Second-row forward. A strong, hard-working forward, admirably suited to his position. Good in tight and generally in the loose, but has a bad tendency to emulate the three-quarters. Should become a really good forward with experience.

J. A. Garner (Colours, 1946). Wing forward. Has proved a great success, and shown himself a really intelligent winger. Always well up with the ball and on all occasions backs up with enthusiasm.

F. C. Stott (2nd Colours, 1946). Front-row forward. Not an ideal size for the front row, but has packed well at all times. Is especially useful in the line-out and is good in the loose. Tackling fair.

P. R. Little (2nd Colours, 1946). Left wing. A fast and determined wing three-quarter who has had, unfortunately, too few opportunities. Sound tackler, but tactical kicking somewhat weak.

A. H. Cherrill (2nd Colours, 1946). Right wing. A keen young player, whose place-kicking has been a great asset. Should learn to run hard

for the corner flag. A very determined tackler, and can be a good full-back.

P. R. Brown (2nd Colours, 1946). Scrum half. Handicapped by a lack of confidence, he is not yet quick enough. His long passes are good and he should in time become an excellent scrum half. Kicking and falling safe and tackling resolute.

T. D. Thomas (2nd Colours, 1946). Second-row forward. Better in the loose than in the tight, where he must learn to bind effectively. Quick, he might possibly make a wing forward.

B. N. Margrave (2nd Colours, 1946). Full-back. A tendency to be nervous, but has a good sense of positioning, catches well and clears effectively. Should improve considerably with experience, especially in tackling. Combines intelligently with the three-quarters. Is also a good forward.

1st XV Matches

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

We had an unfortunate start to the season when we lost our first match to a good C.O.S. team. The match was played in uncommonly warm weather, and we were short of practice. Nevertheless, the scrum started off the match in excellent fashion, and the only reason why at least two tries were not scored was that the three-quarters' handling was very shaky. The effect of the first ten minutes wore off, and our scrum began to have the worst of the loose play, and Oxford's forwards took advantage of this. Smith had bad luck with two penalty kicks in the first half, and we were 6-0 down at the interval. After Cullen had kicked a penalty for us, we tired fast after half-time and the score might well have been more than 22 against us.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (home). Won, 9-6.

This was a good match, and we did well to win by the odd one in five unconverted tries. The sides were equal in all departments, although the link between our halves was not a happy one. Green scored for us early on, and Lewinsky equalized for Radley. Weston's pass enabled Cullen to put us 6-3 ahead at half-time. Beattie scored for us, and Yates replied for Radley in a gruelling second half. Radley only just failed to save the match in the last few minutes.

v. Magdalen College School (home). Lost, 6-21.

The score of this match flatters Magdalen, and without Manger, their scrum-half and best man on the field, a different tale might have been told. Both sides played well, and our pack excelled itself. Manger opened the scoring with an unconverted try after fifteen minutes' even play. Five minutes afterwards Little scored a very fine try for us, due to a grand passing movement. Manger again scored, and our visitors were 8-3 up half way, as Mumford converted Manger's second try. Due to an unfortunate cross-kick, Watters added another try for them and Manger got another try which was converted. After Cullen had kicked a penalty for us, Magdalen ended the match with another converted try.

v. Oxford Exiles (home). Won, 11-8.

After being 8-0 down with less than twenty-five minutes to go, we eventually won in the last minute. We ought, however, to have made the issue safe long before this, as we had been presented with numerous chances of scoring. Germer scored the only try before half-time for the Exiles after a long run. This player scored again after the resumption and Mallinson converted. After this, with the Exiles tiring, we pressed hard and Betterton, Little, and Weston scored tries, of which Cherrill converted one. Weston had a very good game, and was afterwards awarded 1st XV Colours.

v. City of Oxford School (home). Lost, 3-10.

In contrast to the first match against the City of Oxford School, the improvement in the School XV was most marked. Although Oxford won by two goals to a penalty goal, it is not an exaggeration to say we had the measure of our opponents for most of the game. From the start, the correct policy was adopted of playing right up on the Oxford team. The School pack was especially good, particularly in the marking and energy of the wing forwards, Garner and Green. Both teams excelled in marking every threat from their opponent's backs and it was a fine, fierce struggle. The Oxford halves, Wheatley and Samsworth, were a

better combination than our own, but both the Oxford tries, scored by Samsworth, were individual opportunist ones. In the second half, Cherrill kicked a penalty goal for us.

v. Magdalen College School, Brackley (away). Won, 52-3.

Playing M.C.S., Brackley, for the first time since 1937, we recorded our largest win ever. We scored 26 points in each half. Strangely enough, Brackley won most of the tight scrums, but here their superiority ended. Our backs encountered little opposition, and, but for dropped passes, the score might have been many more. Margrave, Cherrill (who scored 20 points himself), and Weston were our best players. Cherrill had nine kicks at goal and only failed with one, from the touch-line. Beattie, Weston, Sanders, Little, and Green scored tries in the first half, while Cherrill converted four of these, and kicked a penalty. Weston (2), Sanders, Little, Betterton, and Cherrill added further tries after half-time, and Cullen and Cherrill (3) made converts. Cooper scored Brackley's only points with a penalty goal.

v. Mr. Morris's XV (home). Won, 6-3.

In a good hearty game we beat a strong XV, representative of the Abingdon Town club which it is hoped to form. The teams were evenly matched, but the deciding factor was that our visitors' three-quarter line never got moving properly. Good tackling by our backs was the cause of this, and the game demonstrated that we could play well in defence, as well in attack, when the occasion arose. We were altogether the better-knit team, and the pack combined admirably with the backs. No tries were scored, the points being confined to penalty goals. Cherrill kicked a good one for us in each half, and our visitors' full-back replied with one near the end. He had an easy chance with another one right in front of the posts, but screwed his kick.

v. Brasenose College (away). Lost, 0-28.

We were outplayed by a heavier and speedier College team. Our chief trouble seemed lack of

determination, and the team as a whole appeared overawed by the opponents. Beattie was the only one of the outsides who played anywhere near his usual standard. We held Brasenose for a quarter of an hour, but then they took gradually increasing control, and we never looked like scoring. They scored a goal and two tries before the interval, and a goal, a penalty goal, and three tries afterwards.

v. Southfield School (away). Won, 14-8.

We were the better side for three parts of this game, but could not hold Southfield's desperate attacks in the closing minutes. Our three-quarters were in good form and got quick service from the scrum. We pressed hard from the kick-off and a fine movement sent Weston over for an unconverted try. Cherrill fastened on to a stray kick and added three points, and Weston touched down for a third unconverted try. This made the half-time score 9-0. In the second half, Beattie passed to Smith, who ran some distance to touch down for Cherrill to convert. Southfield then rallied and scored a goal and a try.

v. Pembroke College (home). Lost, 11-17.

We were outplayed in the scrum by a heavier and faster set of forwards. Consequently our backs were not given as many chances as those of Pembroke were. Beattie made the most of some rather erratic passes from Brown, and with Margrave, the full-back, was our best man. Beattie's and Margrave's counterparts in the Pembroke side were, strangely enough, their outstanding men. The stand-off was especially good. Cherrill scored all our points. All the scoring in the first half was done in the first quarter of an hour. Cherrill kicked two penalties for us, while Pembroke replied with a penalty and a try. Pembroke added a goal (in thirty seconds) and two tries in the second half, and Cherrill scored a goal for us.

2nd XV

The 2nd XV have had a most successful season, and must be congratulated, not only on their achievements, but also upon the enthusiasm which made them possible. Strong running by the backs

and a lively pack contributed much to the success.

Results: *v.* City of Oxford School 2nd XV (away), Lost, 0-3. *v.* Southfield School 2nd XV (away), Won, 19-3. *v.* Magdalen College School 2nd XV (away), Won, 9-6. *v.* City of Oxford School 2nd XV (home), Won, 22-3. *v.* Southfield School 2nd XV (home), Won, 19-3.

Team: B. G. Budden (Captain), N. C. J. Badley, D. M. Aldworth, R. J. Pezaro, W. G. Olscher, W. S. Ogden, D. J. Leach, J. E. Holloway, M. H. Jones, G. H. Brown, J. T. Moore, C. S. Cullen, J. R. Wake, P. C. Lovegrove, G. J. Good, and T. W. J. Jordan.

3rd XV

The 3rd XV, too, has had a good term, and has shown much enthusiasm.

Results: *v.* City of Oxford 3rd XV (away). Draw, 6-6. *v.* Southfield School 3rd XV (home). Won, 30-6.

Team: J. P. Mortimore (Captain), M. J. Aplin, N. A. Parker, J. A. Beary, R. M. Reed, D. H. Wheaton, I. H. McNaughton, J. R. B. Williams, A. H. Garrett, A. V. Crook, R. A. Clay, C. W. G. Pulford, J. B. Rich, A. F. Bastin, J. L. Wyatt.

An 'Under 16' match was again played against the Nautical College, Pangbourne (home). Result, Won, 23-0.

Under 15 XV

The team made considerable progress during the season and was better balanced than usual. Handling and kicking were above the average. The outsides combined well in attack, though faulty passing caused the breakdown of many promising movements. Millichap was a distinct asset at full-back; the centres, Lucas and Pegler developed a good understanding of each other's play, and the halves, Klein and Cullen, were the team's strongest feature in attack and defence.

The forwards held their own in tight scrum and line-outs, but did not show to advantage in the loose, where their efforts were not sufficiently united. Fathers and Trethewey frequently made ground, but were not closely supported. The tackling of the team, while it definitely improved was never, with one or two notable exceptions

resolute enough to be deadly. It must be realized by all who aspire to distinguish themselves at this game, that tackling is an art which must be mastered when young; failure to master it deprives the individual of one of the biggest thrills in the game, and the team of that rock-like defence which takes the heart out of the enemy and so paves the way to victory.

Results: *v.* Southfield School (home), Won, 28-0. *v.* Southfield School (away), Won, 20-3. *v.* M.C.S., Oxford (away), Lost, 3-19. *v.* City of Oxford School (away), Drawn, 3-3.

The following played for the team: Millichap, M. D. (Captain), Perry, B. R., Pegler, R. C., Lucas 1, P. R., Bowman, A. F., Klein, R., Cullen 4, J. T., Fathers, K. A., Allen 1, D. E., Andrews, D. R. G., Venables, M. H., Trethewey, J. E., Brookes, C. W., Dunkley, W. J., Howse 1, P., Evans, J. B.

CRICKET

The following match was too late for inclusion in last term's magazine:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17th (Away), Lost.

v. MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

Abingdon School

M.C.S.

E.G.B. Whitfield, b Avery	18	F. A. Mumford, b Barrett	4
D. Beattie, b Manger	0	P. H. Avery, b Barrett	21
G. Barrett, b Bush	9	T. M. Long, b Barrett	0
D. M. Cullen, not out	23	J. E. Bush, st Walters,	
K. J. Weston, b Bush	5	b Weston	50
Sims, c Bush, b Manger	7	A. D. Manger, c Beattie,	
Budden, c Sharpe,		b Cullen	11
b Manger	2	J. W. Sharpe, retired	
Badley, b Manger	3		hurt 10
Walters, b Bush	1	D. A. Jones, not out	12
Aplin, not out	9	D. Topping, M. W. Swallow, E. T. Walters, and S. Oswin did not bat.	
Faulkner did not bat			

Extras	27	Extras	4
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Total (8 wks. dec.)	104	Total (5 wks.)	112
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	O	M	R	W		O	M	R	W
J. W. Sharpe	11	5	13	0	G. Barrett	13	3	42	3
A. D. Manger	18	3	33	4	Faulkner	4	0	18	0
E. Bush	15	4	19	3	D. M. Cullen	4	0	26	1
P. H. Avery	7	2	12	1	K. J. Weston	4	2	0	22

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete

Left, Summer, 1946

With Form. A. J. Walters (1938, iii). Captain of the School, 1945-46. O.S.C., 1943. 1st XV,

1942; Colours, 1944. Hockey XI, 1943; Full Hockey Colours, 1946. 1st XI, 1946; 2nd XI Colours. Full Athletic Colours, 1946. J.T.C.; C.S.M.; A.P.T.C., 1944; Cert. 'A,' 1943. A.S.H.C. A.S.D.S.

F. Hesten (1941, i). School Prefect, 1944. O.S.C., 1942. H.S.C., 1944, 1945, and 1946. 2nd XI Hockey, 1945. Sports Committee. Games Committee. A.S.H.C.

T. W. Green (1940, iii). Head of the House, 1945-46. O.S.C., 1943. H.S.C., 1945. Pembroke Scholarship (History), 1946. Hon. Sec. Games, 1945. 1st XV, 1943-45; Colours, 1944. Captain of Rugger, 1945. 1st IV, 1945-46; Colours, 1945. Captain of Boats, 1946. J.T.C.; C.Q.M.S.; Cert. 'A,' 1944; 1st Class Shot; Shooting VIII, 1945; Armourer. Hon. Sec. *Abingdonian* Committee. Sports Committee. Games Committee. Lib., Lending Library, 1943-45. Hon. Sec. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.D.S. Hon. Treas. A.S.L.S.D.S.

A. N. James (1942, ii). School Prefect (Waste Court), 1945. O.S.C., 1943. H.S.C., 1946. 1st IV, 1946; Colours, 1946. 2nd XV, 1945. J.T.C.; Sgt.; Cert. 'A,' 1944; Armourer. Games Committee. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.D.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

J. L. Platnauer (1940, i). School Prefect, 1945. O.S.C., 1945. 2nd XV, 1945-46; 2nd XV Colours, 1945. 2nd IV, 1946; 2nd IV Colours, 1946. J.T.C.; Cpl.; Cert 'A,' 1945; 1st Class Shot; Shooting VIII, 1945. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.D.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

M. D. A. Vickers (1940, iii). School Prefect, 1946. O.S.C., 1944. H.S.C., 1946. 1st XI Umpire, 1946; 2nd XV, 1945. J.T.C.; Lance-Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1945. A.S.H.C. A.S.D.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

P. R. Sims (1938, iii). School Prefect, 1945. O.S.C., 1944. 1st XV, 1943-45; Colours, 1944. 1st Hockey, 1944-46; Colours, 1944. 1st XI, 1944-46; 2nd XI Colours, 1944. Captain of Athletics, 1946; Full Athletic Colours, 1944. J.T.C.; Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1945; 1st Class Shot. Games Committee. Sports Committee. A.S.H.C.

J. B. H. J. Aldiss (1940, iii). School Prefect, 1946. O.S.C., 1945. 1st XV, 1945; 2nd XV Colours, 1945. 1st IV, 1946; Colours, 1946. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1944. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.D.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

M. Chase (1942, iii). School Prefect (Lark Hill), 1946. O.S.C., 1945. 2nd XV, 1945. J.T.C.; Cpl.; Cert. 'A,' 1945. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.D.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

M. M. R. H. Mosczytz (1939, iii). O.S.C., 1945. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

M. R. White (1940, iii). O.S.C., 1945.

P. V. Aldiss (1941, i). O.S.C., 1945. 3rd XV, 1945. Half Athletic Colours, 1946. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1945. A.S.P.R.S. A.S.L.S.D.S.

Vth Form. I. J. M. Jamieson (1941, iii). O.S.C., 1946. 1st XV, 1944-45; Colours, 1944. 1st Hockey XI, 1944-46; Colours, 1945. 1st XI, 1944-46; Colours, 1945. J.T.C.; Sgt.; Cert. 'A,' 1944. Hon. Sec. A.S.H.C. A.S.D.S.

G. Barrett (1939, iii). 1st XV, 1945; 2nd XV Colours, 1945. 1st XI, 1945; 1st Cricket Colours, 1945. 1st Hockey XI, 1946; Half Hockey Colours, 1945. J.T.C.; Lance-Cp.; Cert. 'A,' 1945. A.S.H.C.

E. R. Absalom (1941, iii). 2nd XV, 1945. 2nd XI, 1945.

A. J. Williams (1942, ii). O.S.C., 1946.

H. L. Harvey (1941, iii). J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' 1945.

E. G. B. Whitfield (1940, iii). 2nd XV, 1944-45; 2nd XV Colours, 1945. Hockey XI, 1945-46; Full Colours, 1946. 1st XI, 1944-46; Colours, 1946. J.T.C.; Sgt.; Cert. 'A,' 1944.

T. S. Stimpson (1940, iii). 3rd XV, 1945. J.T.C.

J. P. N. Langford (1939, iii). 3rd XV, 1945. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1945.

IVth Form. R. H. Shaw (1941, ii). 1st Coxing Colours, 1946. 3rd XV, 1945. J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1945; Asst. Armourer. A.S.D.S.

D. R. Barrett (1941, i). J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' 1946. A.S.D.S. A.S.H.C.

C. A. Bycroft (1944, ii). J.T.C.; Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1946.

R. E. P. Bartlett (1943, iii).

Remove. C. E. W. Shuffield (1941, iii).

D. B. C. Augur (1941, iii). J.T.C., Cert. 'A,' pt. (i), 1945.

IIIa Form. N. G. Wilson (1943, iii).

I. L. Lakatos (1945, iii).

R. Tinson (1943, iii). J.T.C.

IIIb Form. L. J. Walters (1944, ii).

Ist Form. M. G. Rhodes (1945, ii).

Salvete

Came, September, 1946

VIth Form. J. L. Wyatt.

Vth Form. M. H. Venables.

Remove (a). G. A. J. Terpstra, B. J. Noyce, H. B. Stevens (ii).

IIIb Form. D. R. Carter (iv), G. D. Knight. A. F. R. Crockford (ii), S. A. Prior, B. A. Whiteford, G. N. Nicholls, I. P. A. Tavinor, J. V. King (ii), R. W. J. Porter, K. W. Henman. M. M. Grant (ii), F. S. P. Gee, E. R. Holloway (ii), J. H. Keeping, K. W. Hawtin, P. Gurbutt. L. M. Bolton, D. Cullen (v), R. E. Dodd, D. J. James.

IInd Form. J. R. Jarvis, D. W. Hall, A. C. Marshall, M. J. Brackley, R. J. Cowles, M. J. Tanner. R. J. Hines, R. P. Clewley, R. W. Allen (ii), J. Blinman, J. H. Pinniger, D. A. Jones (ii).

Ist Form. A. G. Caswell, J. W. Corderoy. R. D. P. Griffith, T. G. G. Hodges, J. A. Howard, K. H. S. Prentice, J. J. Swainston. J. P. Turck, J. L. Brown (v).

J.T.C. NOTES

Numbers in the Corps this year are seventy-five this figure including some cadets who are a present under fourteen. These last especially welcome into our ranks, and we are proud of the spirited keenness they have shown. At the end of the Summer Term the Corps lost many of its senior N.C.O.s; the following appointments and promotions were therefore made this term:

C.S.M.—G. L. Sanders. C.Q.M.S.—P. R. Betterton. Sgts.—D. Beattie, D. M. Cullen, C. S. Cullen, K. J. Weston. L.-Sgt.—M. J. Green. Cpls.—T. W. J. Jordan, C. W. G. Pulford, J. T. Moore, M. H. Jones.

The duties of second-in-command have been assumed by Lieutenant Moore, formerly of the Leicestershire Regt., who served for several year

with the Intelligence Corps in East Africa during the war.

Field Day was held early, on Wednesday, October 2nd, on familiar ground in the area Chilton-Upton-Blewbury. The morning exercise, in which some of the 'troops' appeared as members of the 'Stern Gang,' consisted of a number of Section stalks, culminating in a battle against the 'terrorists' at Saltbox Farm. This scheme was carried out with much dash and enthusiasm, Sgt. Green and Cpl. Jordan distinguishing themselves particularly as Section leaders. For many of the cadets this was a first experience of work in the field, and their performance was highly commendable. In the afternoon a Platoon attack was attempted, but this—for lack of training in command at that level—was perhaps too ambitious: the attack could hardly have succeeded, even against Latin opposition. Let us console ourselves with the thought that 'a good battle was had by all.'

Chief emphasis in the latter half of the term has been on shooting. In an inter-J.T.C. competition organized by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs, the School was represented by the following team: C.S.M., C.Q.M.S., Sgts. Cullen 2, Cullen 3, Green, L.—Cpls. McNaughton, Ogden, and Cadet Smith. The shooting on the day fell somewhat below our expectations, but much keenness was shown throughout. Sgt. Cullen 3 recorded the highest score (84 out of a possible 100), while the team averaged 60.25. The School's place in this competition will not be known until next term. At the time when this issue of the magazine is going to press, a second, individual, match is in progress—the 'Forces Day' competition, open to all J.T.C., Army Cadet Force, and Regular Army units. The winner within this J.T.C. will compete next term, in later rounds, against winners from other units. We wish him in advance every success in his championship of our 'cause.'

We have been fortunate enough to obtain some new equipment this term, while greatcoats will be available soon. With these advantages, and with the added assistance of C.S.M. Coleman, we look

forward confidently to next term, when we expect to reach a very high standard of smartness and efficiency.

Camp (AUGUST, 1946)

At the kind invitation of the 4th Cadet Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment, twenty-one members of the Corps, under Sergeants Sanders and Whitfield, were this year able to attend the A.C.F. Camp at Braunton, North Devon, from August 4th to 11th, as part of the local Platoon under Lieutenant R. V. Allison, O.A.

The camp was well situated about half-way between Braunton village and the sea, overlooking the estuary of the Taw, and consisted of over two thousand cadets from Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucester, Somerset, and Devon, and a few cadets from the G.T.C. Our Battalion shared with the 2nd Gloucesters the distinction of being under canvas, the rest of the camp being in Nissen huts; but as the weather was not very favourable—five mornings out of seven we awoke to the sound of falling rain—we were later moved into Nissen huts, although some of us still preferred to stick to tents.

A lot of our time seemed to be spent on fatigues, such as cookhouse duty, etc., but we were still able to enjoy P.T. and sea-bathing at Saunton Sands, an Artillery demonstration, trips into the sea in D.U.K.W.s, shooting, training films, and all the other items which went to make up our week's training.

Inter-regimental rivalry was very keen, and we were pleased that the Royal Berks. should attain the honour of being the smartest regiment in camp. One member of the Corps commanded a provost patrol in the guard which won the cup for the smartest guard mounted in camp, and some half a dozen were in the guard which were runners-up.

In spite of all these duties, we had most of our evenings free, during which nearly all of us were able to visit Ilfracombe and Barnstaple, while on the Thursday evening we had a dance in the camp theatre, to which the G.T.C. were invited.

After such a varied and interesting week, we were very sorry to leave Braunton, and look forward to another camp next year.

D. H. W.

THE HOLIDAY CLUB

This year the Club's summer activities were curtailed for two main reasons, these being the inclemency of the weather and the difficulty of getting members together owing to their holidays.

In fact, the only activities amounted to playing two cricket matches in the 'E. W. J. Brooks's' Cup. Mr. Brooks is an old Surrey county player, and since he presented the cup in 1944 it has been won by the Club on every occasion.

If the matches were few, they were certainly successful, from our point of view. The Club set up a record by winning its matches by 10 and 9 wickets respectively. The A.T.C. were entertained in the semi-final, and elected to bat first. The Holiday Club bowling was very steady, as witnessed by the fact that Whitfield only conceded 9 runs in 6 overs, and Weston 12 in the same number of overs. Cullen had the best analysis (4 wickets for 18 runs) and took 3 of these for only 1 run in a devastating second spell. N. G. King and B. Kilbee were the visitors' best batsmen and made 17 runs apiece, putting on 36 for the second wicket.

Whitfield (36) and Weston (31) batted excellently for the Club and knocked off the necessary runs without being dismissed. At the conclusion of the regulation number of 20 overs, the score was 109 for 7. This, incidentally, is the highest score ever attained in this 'Cup.'

The Youth Club were the Club's opponents in the final, and were not able to put more than 25 runs to their account before they were all out. Unfortunately they had only 10 men. Barrett was apparently unplayable and took 6 wickets for as many runs. The Holiday Club passed their opponents' total with only 1 wicket down. Whitfield again batted well, and Betterton had a lusty innings of 25 not out.

On Sunday, October 20th, a few members attended a Youth Service in St. Michael's Church, and enjoyed a good service conducted by the Rev. John S. E. Harris.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

We have to thank J. L. Taylor, O.A., for the presentation of *Sophoclean Tragedy*, by Bowra, and Wm. S. Boas of Montreal for *Canada in World War II*, a well-documented record of industrial progress. Among other books purchased are: *Res Graecae*, by Coleridge; *Epigrams from the Greek Anthology*, ed. Mackail; *Fifty-Five Years at Oxford*, by G. B. Grundy; *Full Orchestra*, by Howes; *Survey of Russian History*, by Sumner; *Battlefields in Britain*, by Wedgwood; *Our Great Public Schools*, by Webster; *Dictatorship and Democracy*, by Marriott; *The Citizen and the Modern World*, by Flavell; *British Way and Purpose*; and two Contact books, *The First Spring of Peace* and *Britain between West and East*.

OXFORD LETTER

OXFORD,

November, 1946.

To the Editor, 'Abingdonian.'

DEAR SIR,

As I take up my pen to record once more the passing of a term at Oxford, I wonder if this is the same place as that of which I wrote in your last issue. True the buildings are the same, but the men and the atmosphere have changed out of all recognition. Oxford has become for the first time in her long and distinguished history a great leveller. Many an ex-major or colonel with sadly drooping moustaches meekly accepts the scorn and ridicule directed at him by an ex-'A.C. Plonk' coaching on the river.

There are now in residence what must surely be a record number of ten O.A.s, eight in Pembroke, one in St. Catherine's, and one a Rhodes Scholar.

Of perhaps the oldest vintage are Rupert and Peter Hedger, who have come up to Pembroke this term. Rupert's main activity is seen on the river, where his experience gained at school is proving a great standby. He is reading History.

Stanley Hazel has come up this term and is gracing St. Catherine's. He is in the first throes of corpse-cutting, that nefarious sport of the Medicos.

Ken Walker is now out in digs and is working

hard, but is nevertheless not quite lost to the community.

'Taffy' Jones maintains that I inferred in my last epistle that he was not exactly working at full pressure. This inference he has refuted with unwonted vigour and on pain of my life he has ordered me to say that he is working extremely hard!

Peter Jones is finding that Medicine is taking up more and more of his time and, since an important exam. is near, he finds little time for the river where he is seen all too seldom. He managed to give a good account of himself, however, at the Boat Club 'Blind.'

Michael Brook was never one to exert himself in any way, though he does find that with Finals coming soon life can be a little hard on the easygoing.

Michael Cullen is Captain of Boats this term. He stroked a Trial VIII for a fortnight before meeting with the usual doom of the also-rans.

Terence Green is finding Oxford a pleasant enough place, though I think he finds law a little abstruse at the moment. He, too, is giving a good account of himself in the Boat Club both socially and actively.

R. M. Aldwinkle is in residence as a Rhodes Scholar. This must be the first time in the history of the School that we have numbered a Rhodes Scholar amongst the O.A.s.

And so, Sir, Oxford O.A.s find that life treats them well but too infrequently and even then rather fishily.

Well, Sir, I won't keep myself any longer from my long overdue essay, so I remain, Sir,

Your Oxford Correspondent.

'VANITY FAIR'

At 10.38 a.m. on the morning of Tuesday, November 12th, six members of the Literary Sixth, under the watchful eye of Mr. Willis, departed from this busy metropolis, via the 'Abingdon Bunk,' and arrived in London in time for an excellent lunch at 'The Cumberland.'

The object of this visit was to attend a matinée of Miss Constance Cox's adaption of *Vanity Fair* at the Comedy Theatre.

To one who had not read the book, but who had a slight knowledge of the main theme of the story, the play may have seemed an excellent adaption. However, compared with Thackeray's original masterpiece, the play, although most entertaining, had been cut ruthlessly and lacked the general background. (To cram eight hundred pages into three acts, however, is no mean task.)

Miss Claire Luce coped with the role of that unprincipled adventuress, Becky Sharp, brilliantly, despite the limited scope compared with the novel.

The three characters who came out best, that is, as Thackeray portrayed them, were the generous soft-hearted Amelia, the stuttering infatuated Döbbin, and the profane old spinster, Miss Crawley. The remainder, however, although acted expertly, were Miss Cox's creations rather than Thackeray's. Jos Sedley became a buffoon with a likeness to Colonel Chinstrap, Rawdon Crawley was an unjustly injured husband instead of a gambling rogue, and George Osborne turned out to be an odious cad. Minor characters were played competently and with distinction. Despite the above criticisms it was an admirable play and was enjoyed by all.

Those concerned would like to thank Mr. Willis for a most successful day.

J. T. M.

A TROPICAL SPORT

Of all sports, spear fishing under water is, in my opinion, by far the best. It is essentially a tropical sport, dependent upon warm water and clearness of vision under the water. In the tropics, the sun penetrates the sea to a considerable depth and makes it possible for a diver to see quite easily at a depth of thirty feet.

The sport provides healthy all-round muscular development as well as much fun. Speed, agility, and a sound wind, to say nothing of a fair amount of daring, is naturally required. This daring may be just recklessness, but, it will be admitted, it takes some doing to swim after a fish into a dark cave under the water to the whole length of one's body.

This form of fishing is a truly wonderful experi-

ence for those who appreciate the beauties of the colourful marine life of the tropics. A sensation I shall never forget is that of floating along between sharp rocks and giant sea fans with just a mask on my face and a spear in my hand, seeing brilliantly coloured fish of all sizes and shapes darting in and out of dark holes and crevices.

But of course the best part is hunting for the prey. This takes time and patience and means returning to the surface many times to refill one's lungs. Then, if one is a good shot with the spear, and having found the fish to one's liking, you proceed to catch it. Often I have waited outside a hole in the coral for about thirty seconds before I have been able to spot the fish I wanted.

Patience is really needed in approaching the fish slowly enough so as not to scare it. Sometimes, though, the fish will be attracted by the shining tip of the spear and will come to investigate, thus bringing itself within easy range.

Many people have asked me whether or not the fish are frightened of humans. The answer is that they are, but not so much as one would suppose; they look upon a human being in the water as just some sort of clumsy sea animal to be avoided when it gets too close.

Then, in my opinion, to make a good end to a pleasant afternoon's fishing, the catch should be landed on some small island and cooked over an open fire. This is something I have done many times at home, and it was the only way I ever really enjoyed it. An absolutely flat sea, silence, the flickering fire, a well-cooked fish, and the red light of the setting sun shining on the neighbouring islands is, to my way of thinking, as near an earthly paradise as one can get.

J. L. W.

MEMORIES

(from a letter)

I was in the R.A.F. Volunteer Reserve and was called up on September 2, 1939. After a period of waiting I commenced training as a Navigator (or Air Observer, as it was then called) at the beginning of November. I did the Navigation at Prestwick in Scotland and finally Bombing and Gunnery at Warmwell on the south coast, near Weymouth. On April 15th I left Southampton in a destroyer with thirty other

air observers, with whom I had trained, *en route* for the Middle East. We travelled via Cherbourg, across France to Marseilles, and thence by sea to Alexandria, calling at Malta on the way. From Alexandria we proceeded (four of us) to Heliopolis, near Cairo, where I joined 113 Squadron—a Blenheim Bomber Squadron. At this time, of course, the war in the Middle East had not started and we spent some glorious weeks getting used to squadron life and really completing our training and becoming accustomed to desert navigation. It all seemed strange and very wonderful, this glamorous East, and Cairo, which we were able to visit several times, held, by virtue of its novelty, much attraction—an attraction which wilted completely on visits long afterwards.

The halcyon days ended some six weeks later when, on June 10, 1940, the squadron moved to Marten Bagush in the Western Desert, which at that time was our most advanced bomber base. It was at 8 p.m. that same day that we learned that Mussolini had entered the war. When we had left Heliopolis that afternoon we had no idea that war for us was so imminent. And yet by dawn on the following day, after a night of the most intense 'panic' and chaos and an hour or so of snatched sleep lying on the sand under the open sky, we had taken off on the first raid in the Middle East theatre of the war. I must confess I was in a daze for most of the time and hardly realized what was happening to me—for my total flying hours were some fifty only! That very first raid was on the large Libyan aerodrome of El Adem, where there were hundreds of Italian aircraft, and we carried out an attack at 600 feet, going six times back and forth dropping containers of 20 lb. and 40 lb. H.E. bombs and 4 lb. incendiaries! (It seems incredible now, doesn't it?) All our nine aircraft save the one I was in were riddled with holes and one was shot down in flames. With fighters forming among us we somehow or other got away, though I shall never understand how.

In looking back at these early days in the M.E. it is necessary, I think, to remember that our air force was quite ridiculously small. With literally no reserves we had a total bomber strength of thirty worn-out, short-nosed Blenheims, and a squadron of fighters—nine Hurricanes. The Italians, on the other hand, had or single aerodromes some hundreds of aircraft. I myself once counted over eighty fighters on a landing ground as distinct from an aerodrome.

I continued with this squadron until after the

evacuation from Greece in May, 1941. In the intervening period we had continued with regularity to bomb all the various targets in Libya until General Wavell's advance had reached Benghazi. We were then withdrawn from the desert and detailed for Greece, where we flew at the beginning of March, 1941. We landed first at Tatoi, just outside Athens. Here we stayed for a short while, taking part in the naval battle of Cape Matapan and carrying out attacks on the Italian Fleet during the day of March 28th. During these first days we were lucky enough to see a little of Athens. It was a great thrill to me to stand on the Acropolis and gaze to the north, east, and west on the lovely city and the Peiraeus and to the south on the 'wine-dark sea' of the Gulf of Athens. I should mention, too, that on our route for the Italian Fleet we flew along the coastline of the Peloponnese—superb in its beauty.

We left the aerodrome outside Athens on March 30th and flew north to Niamata in the plain of Larissa, which was to be our new base—a lovely spot with snow-capped Olympus just to the northward. In the distant west were the Pindus mountains with thick snow-capped peaks peeping through a grey-blue haze. It was beautiful there in the Larissa plain and the war seemed far away as each day hundreds of larks sang their little hearts out. But in fact the war was only too close, for it was a few days later that the German attack on Greece began. During those few days before this my pilot and I had made a mosaic photographic survey of the Greece-Yugoslav border, so that the army could begin to plan their defensive strategy! (So typical of our position in those early days.)

We had hectic times following upon the German invasion. Our handful of aircraft, hopelessly ineffective, were detailed to attack the endless lines of enemy motorized units streaming down the roads through Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. In addition to our utterly inadequate numbers the weather was about as bad as it could be, though maybe to the weather many of us owed our lives, because it kept the fighters from our worn-out crates of aircraft. I think the R.A.F. in Greece and Crete were unjustly criticized. Remember that in all Greece of all types of aircraft we had eighty in all while the Germans had at their disposal between three and four thousand. I have seen fighter pilots with days' growth of beard, sleeping while their aircraft were being rearmed and refuelled and going into the air for sortie after sortie, until one by one through sheer weariness they were shot down. Finer and braver men it would be difficult to find.

My squadron was completely destroyed by April 13th, our remaining aircraft on that day being strafed out of existence on the ground. Fortunately our motor transport was in the main unharmed, and after dark that night the whole squadron in the transport pulled out from the landing ground at Niamata with Athens as our destination. We passed through Larissa, already laid low by the earthquake some weeks previously and now a smouldering and burning heap of ruins after heavy German bombing attacks. It was an eerie business threading our way through the black night. In the darkness by the roadside stretched a line miles long of refugee peasants—a pitiful sight. It took us three days on the road to reach Athens, and strangely enough we enjoyed it: the gravity of the situation just did not strike us. Our flights northward from Niamata on the way to our targets had always passed by the Vale of Tempe, and now, on the night before we reached Athens, we slept in the plain of Thermopylae; and I cannot tell you how often my mind was flooded with memories of the Pembroke room and days long ago in Abingdon.

We were in Athens a few days when evacuation started in earnest. I was lucky: I left the Peiraeus in a little Greek ship manned by a Greek crew, and four days later we reached Alexandria—a very dishevelled lot. Egypt seemed like heaven, but it made one sick to notice that nobody realized or seemed to care what was going on across the sea. But that is always the way, I find. At this stage I had carried out sixty-five raids and it was considered that I was 'operationally tired.' So my next job was at H.Q. in Cairo, where I spent five miserable months kicking my heels and impatient to go back to a squadron. The 'Gaberline Swine' of Cairo with their cocktail parties in the evenings revolted me.

At last, however, I had the most tremendous stroke of fortune. On November 5, 1941, I was posted to 230 Squadron, the 'crack' Sunderland Squadron, then based at Aboukir. To be a navigator on a Sunderland was something I had dreamed about but had never thought would materialize. Aboukir was a delightful spot, some fifteen miles to the west of Alexandria—our mess nestling among date palms by a sandy shore, looking out across the wide stretch of Aboukir Bay with Nelson Island in the middle distance. During my first weeks with the squadron there was much to learn, for 'boats' are a job quite on their own, a combination of Navy and Air Force. My main task was to learn Astro-Navigation, so very essential because we worked almost entirely at night. During the

thirteen months that I was with the squadron in the Mediterranean we were kept busy on night anti-submarine patrols—almost entirely on the route to Tobruk, but occasionally off Crete, Cyprus, and the Turkish coast near the Dodecanese Islands. I was lucky in that we were fortunate enough to carry out thirteen attacks, two of the submarines being later confirmed as destroyed by the Admiralty. During this period we got to know our own submarine crews based on Alexandria very well, and magnificent chaps they were. And sometimes we went out in the submarines on trial patrols—a rare experience.

(To be concluded.)

S. D. P.

O.A. NOTES

Births

ANDREW—On August 12, 1946, to Nancy, wife of John R. Andrew (1939), a son, Malcolm Jago.

BAYLEY—On September 26, 1946, at Eastbourne, to Terry, wife of Gordon V. Bayley (1938), a daughter.

CARTER—On June 8, 1946, to Daisy, wife of C. G. Carter (1938), a daughter, Hilary.

EWING—On July 31, 1946, to Anne, wife of Kenneth W. Ewing (1930), a daughter, Miranda Catherine.

HOLMES—On November 17, 1946, to Mary, wife of Norman J. Holmes (1938), a daughter.

KITTO—On July 28, 1946, to Mildred, wife of D. A. Kitto (1931), a son, Michael Francis.

LIVINGSTON—On October 28, 1946, at Calcutta, to Mary, wife of Lt.-Col. H. L. G. Livingston, R.A. (1935), a son, Michael Stuart.

MOORE—On September 5, 1946, to Jean, wife of Mr. C. E. T. Moore, a daughter, Rosemary Elizabeth.

SMITH—On September 27, 1946, to Olive, wife of W. G. Smith (1935), a son, William Reginald.

TRIGGS—On November 8, 1946, at the British Hospital, Lisbon, to Anna, wife of R. L. Triggs, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E. (1931), a son.

WIGGINS—On September 26, 1946, to Josephine, wife of Tom A. Wiggins (1923), a son, Alan.

WILLIS—On October 13, 1946, to Muriel, wife of Mr. D. O. Willis, a son, David Hugh.

Marriages

LAY-COLEMAN—On August 3, 1944, at Vernham Dean, Hants, John Lay (1938) to Ann Coleman.

MILLS-PEARSON—On August 15, 1946, at Yardley Parish Church, Wt.-Off. Alan M. Mills, R.A.F.V.R. (1939), to Norma Avery Pearson.

PRIOR-GILES—On August 10, 1946, at East Shilton Methodist Church, Leics., Kenneth G. Prior (1933) to Winifred Giles.

WIMBERLEY-RUMSEY—On July 19, 1946, at St. Luke's Church, Kew Gardens, Sqdn.-Ldr. Peter A. Wimberley (1936) to Pauline Rumsey.

WYATT-LOVE—On November 9, 1946, at St. Dunstan's Church, Stepney, Herbert Roy Wyatt (1940), of Kennington, to Lilian Love.

Death

HADLEY—On July 13, 1946, at 95 Oxford Road, Abingdon, Richard Ian Windsor Hadley (1939-1945), aged 18 years.

Dick Hadley will be remembered with affection by all who knew him. At School he showed great promise at work and games before the state of his health necessitated treatment at a sanatorium. He bore it all with cheerfulness and fortitude, and at one time seemed well on the way to recovery, a hope that was all too soon proved false.

Roll of Honour

BARNARD—Michael Charles Barnard (1932-37), Sgt.-Pilot, R.A.F., killed in action January 14, 1944.

Michael Barnard came as a small boy to Waste Court, and before he left was a L.-Cpl. in the J.T.C. and a 1st Class Shot. He was the son of Mr. G. Barnard of Asheridge, Bucks., and before his death had already completed one tour of operations, mostly over Germany.

FOY—Thomas Joseph Foy (1936-40), Flt.-Sgt., No. 83 Sqdn., R.A.F., killed in action August 6, 1944.

T. J. Foy was a School Prefect and a good athlete, winning his Colours for Cricket and Athletics. He equalled the School record for the half mile, and also played for the 1st Hockey XI and the

2nd XV. He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Foy of 'Penang,' St. Peter's Road, Abingdon.

NOWELL - USTICKE—Philip Gordon Nowell-Usticke (1940-42), Lieut., Manchester Regt., killed in Greece on June 28, 1946.

Details of his death are not known, but it is believed to have been the result of a motor accident. He was the only son of Mrs. Nowell-Usticke of White's Lane, Radley.

Decorations

D.F.C.—R. M. Aldwinckle (1931), Sqdn.-Ldr., R.C.A.F.

B.E.M.—H. J. Holborow (1933), Sgt., R.A.

C.B.E.—T. M. Layng, M.C. (1906), Chaplain 1st Class, R.A.Ch.D.

C.B.E.—W. W. Brown, O.B.E. (1927), Col., R.E.

D.B.E.—G. V. Cook (1928), Cmdr., A.T.A.

M.B.E.—J. M. Wood (1938), Flt.-Lt., R.A.F.

Mention in Despatches:

T. M. Layng, M.C., C.B.E. (1906), Chaplain 1st Class, R.A.Ch.D. (four times).

R. F. Jackson (1939), Lt.(E.), R.N.V.R.

J. C. T. Jones (1931), Major, R.A.S.C.

W. H. C. Mayhead (1928), Flt.-Lt., R.A.F.V.R.

R. F. L. Thomas (1925), Lt.-Col., Mahratta L.I. (twice).

J. C. Toogood (1928), Major, R.A.S.C.

P. R. Wood (1935), Major, R.T.R.

In order to relieve Mr. Ross-Barker of some of the very considerable work he has done for so long for the O.A. Club, *Abingdonian*, and Trust Fund, Mr. Duxbury is taking over as O.A. Correspondent. He will be very glad to receive news and queries from Old Boys, and at the moment in particular asks those who have not yet done so to return Roll of Service forms, as it is hoped to publish the Roll early in the New Year. It is unnecessary to add that R.-B. will be as pleased as ever to hear from his innumerable friends, old and young.

S. M. B. Lane (1939), recently demobbed from the R.A.F. after five years' service in flying boats over most of the oceans, is taking active steps in collaboration with J. D. Wood, President of the

O.A.C. and London Secretary, to revive the London O.A.R.F.C. He is busy searching for a ground, and will be glad if any O.A.s residing in or near London, who are interested and willing to support the project, will write to him. His address is: 'Maplestead,' 67 Hodford Road, Golders Green, London, N.W.11.

For further information regarding the Rev. T. M. Layng (1906) we are indebted to Balliol College, where he had held the position of Chaplain.

From January, 1945, he was Deputy Chaplain General, H.Q., C.M.F., until his release from military service in April, 1946. In the course of the war, in addition to the Bar to his M.C. awarded after Dunkirk, he was made a C.B.E. in 1945, and was four times Mentioned in Despatches. Also, as we recorded at the time, he was in 1940 appointed a Chaplain to the King. He has now returned to parish work and been made Archdeacon of York. His address is: The Ven. Archdeacon T. M. Layng, Burnby Rectory, Nunburnholme, York. We wish him all happiness in his new sphere of activity.

We have contacted E. F. Harvey (1910), who is now living at 7 Belsize Crescent, Hampstead, N.W.3 (Tel. HAM 3166). He has been in the Civil Service since 1930 and for the last six years with the Admiralty as a Technical Inspector. Earlier he had been with an engineering firm in Chester as Assistant Manager, and that followed on nine years of soldiering in France, India, and Afghanistan during and after the first World War. Incidentally, to quote from a back number of the *Abingdonian*, he was one of 'three Old Abingdonians who were contemporaries at school and are now (July, 1920) in the Indian Army—E. F. Harvey, T. M. Layng, and Richard B. Leach, all holding the rank of major.' They had together been engaged in the campaign against the Waziris.

The third of the above trio, Richard B. Leach (1910), 'left England in 1927' (again we quote from a back number) 'to take up farming in Kenya Colony'; since when we have heard nothing of him.

E. P. Rice (1928), who left the Army Veterinary

Service a year ago, is now living, with his wife and little daughter, at Nairobi, Kenya, whither he has transferred from Southern Rhodesia. (Address: District Veterinary Office, Box 851, Nairobi.) His business naturally takes him far afield in Kenya, and if in the course of it he should happen to come across R. B. Leach, or hear news of him, we should be grateful for information.

His brother, G. F. Rice (1936), who returned from captivity in Germany last year, has resumed his studies preparatory to qualifying as an architect.

Apart from the actual fighting and business of war there surely was never a period in history, prior to this last World War, in which so many of our countrymen have seen so much of the world—travelled so far and visited so many places, albeit under abnormal and often grim conditions. For an example of this we would refer our readers to the letter from S. D. Plummer (1931), which we take the liberty of publishing. Experiences such as he describes were perhaps, as the writer asserts, quite ordinary ones in the war, but for all that the record is and will remain of extraordinary interest.

We would here mention too, in our own words, what we have omitted from the letter—that it was more than a knowledge of foreign parts that Plummer gained in his wanderings: more even than the D.F.C. awarded him in recognition of his services: for it was at Aboukir that he and his wife first met, she a Nursing Sister in the British General Hospital near Rosetta; they were married on November 5, 1942, at Sidon in Syria; and they spent their honeymoon at Tiberias, beside the Sea of Galilee.

Stanley Paige (1930) supplies another instance of far-flung experience. After many and various excursions as a Ferry Pilot from French Morocco and Italy (*vide the Abingdonian*, December, 1944) he was transferred early in 1945 to the India Command, and employed during the last period of his service in bringing troops home from the Far East.

L. P. Mosdell (1931) is another case in point. After spending most of his time abroad in North Africa with the Libyan Arab Force he was trans-

ferred in the summer of 1944 to Palestine, Syria, and the Lebanon, in training for what is called para-military work. Thence to Italy, where in October of the same year he dropped behind the enemy lines in the north. Then seven months mostly in such places as Carnia and Venezia-Guilia within measurable distance of the Yugoslav frontier, organizing the partisans; and in this connection it is interesting to note that his task, as against the common enemy, was not rendered lighter by the proselytizing fervour of Tito's many Communist sympathizers. However, he returned safe to England in June, 1945, with a warm affection for the Italians (in spite of their passion for politics) and for their beautiful country.

Since his return, in addition to his marriage Mosdell has resumed legal practice at Hove. But we now learn, not without regrets, that he is again about to set sail for foreign parts (if he has not already done so), and this time for Northern Rhodesia, where he has obtained a Government appointment, on which we congratulate him, with all good wishes.

R. F. Jackson (1939), of the R.N. and lately in the Far East, has been staying at Harwell, engaged upon Atomic business, and has of course taken the opportunity of paying us a visit. After a short visit to Canada to study Atomic research there he expects to return to Harwell.

J. McPherson (1933), after war service in East Africa and Ceylon, is now in Iraq with the Iraq Petroleum Company, and stationed a few miles from Kirkuk.

J. C. Petty (1941), after service in the R.N.V.R. and sundry voyages East and West in H.M. ship of divers ratings, is now studying at the Norwood Technical Institute for the pre-Medical examination preparatory to taking up dentistry.

We have heard from Brian Arundale (1941) of the Royal Corps of Signals. He writes from Singapore (S.E.A.C.), after six months out East preceded by eighteen months on the Continent (Versailles, Brussels, Luxembourg, Frankfurt am Main, and Berlin).

We regret to hear that J. W. Morland (1917) is still an out-patient at the Sydney Hospital—th

result of his long internment as a P.O.W. in Germany. At present he is Asst. Employment Officer of Returned Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen League of Australia.

J. Harding (1922), after three and a half years at the Admiralty during the war, has now returned to textiles. His address is: Ballintoy, The Firs, Wotton, Cheshire.

C. B. F. Milne (1943), now in India with the 4th Gurkhas, has been promoted to the rank of Captain.

We congratulate A. J. Betterton (1945), who has been awarded a valuable scholarship by his firm, the Gas-Light and Coke Company, under the will of the late Managing Director, Sir David Milne-Watson. Betterton will hold the scholarship at Balliol when he has completed his service in the R.A.F.

M. D. White (1946) has gone out to Southern Rhodesia—c/o Romsley Estate, Inyazura.

P. G. Mingard (1944) has been awarded an Engineering Cadetship in Civil Engineering.

A. N. Tomlin (1945) has gained an Agricultural Scholarship at Kent Farm Institute.

We have heard from R. G. Sandercock (1932), who is now Superintendent at the Hayle Power Station, Cornwall. At the time of writing he was in the throes of extension, which would give the station a capacity of 47,000 kilowatts with an appetite of 400 tons of coal a day—if it can be got. His brother Desmond (1939) is still in captivity in the R.C.S. but hopes to be released by Christmas and get back to journalism.

Gordon Bayley (1938) has returned to Actuarial work from anti-aircraft experiments. In May of this year he passed the final exam. for Fellowship of the Institute of Actuaries.

J. M. Wood (1938), who incidentally was awarded the M.B.E. in May, is an Architect student at University College, London. He has been rowing in the summer again with all his old zest, and finds 'a most satisfying pastime.' The U.C.L. Junior III performed creditably at several regattas, and won the cup for juniors at Kingston. He is now winning in the 1st VIII, stroked by Neame, the Cambridge stroke in the last boat race.

R. J. Lay (1925), who was a P.O.W. in Japan for three and a half years, is now coach to the Oxford University Royal Tennis Club.

L. E. Carter (1934) has returned from the R.A.F. to his teaching post at Fordingbridge, Hants. He has recently been granted a commission in the A.T.C.

Sqdn.-Ldr. P. A. Wimberley (1936) is an Instructor at Digby Air Station, Lincs., and describes himself as 'almost a schoolmaster.' He had the unenviable lot of being a P.O.W. in Germany for nearly five and a half years, having been shot down into the North Sea off Borkum on December 18, 1939. After various moves, and one 'break-out' of brief duration, he reached Stalag Luft 3, of ill fame, and there met Micky Wood.

D. R. H. Brown (1936), after a brief leave in England to recover from his privations on the Burma-Siam Railway, returned to Malaya to get the rubber plantation in order as soon as possible. He says life is very interesting, though the cost of living is very high and 'robbery is rife and increasing.' His address is: 'Mengkibol Estate, Kluang, Johore, Malaya.

Another O.A. who has returned to the East is C. R. Davidge (1923). He is still with the Union Insurance Society of Canton Ltd., but his present location is not known.

Of the O.A.s still in the Forces, we have received news or visits from the following during recent months:

B.A.O.R.—Capt. K. R. Sims (1943), H.Q., 1 Corps. J. M. Lewington (1945), Oxford and Bucks. L.I. Capt. M. Hedger (1942), R.E. R. C. Howell (1942), R.A. N. A. Palmer (1943), R.A.C. Pilot-Off. A. C. Randle (1941), R.A.F. W. D. Richardson (1942), R.A. C. V. Stone (1942), Recce Regt., R.A.S.C.

TRIESTE—Capt. A. C. Dean (1940), R.A. (While with B.A.O.R. he represented that Army in the Weight and Discus in a triangular match against U.S. Army and Luxembourg.) B. C. Jakeman (1945), Oxford and Bucks. L.I.

MALTA—C. F. Trevor (1945), Wrtr., R.N.V.R.

PALESTINE—W. G. Bradfield (1941), Sgt., 3 Coldstream Gds. (He says he has a congenial job

in the Orderly Room, but is not enamoured of the country.) P. R. Allum (1943) is in the same Regiment. Lieut. L. L. Lacey Johnson (1945), Hampshire Regt., has recently arrived. J. T. Hicks (1928), A.C.C., is with the 6 Airborne Div. C. R. T. Heard (1942), R.E., after bridging the Rhine and Elbe for the advance into Germany is now building camps and installations north of Suez. He finds time for sport, and after heading the bowling averages in the Coy. Cricket XI is now Captain of both the Cricket and Hockey XIs.

INDIA—Lt.-Col. R. F. L. Thomas (1925), Mahratta L.I., was twice Mentioned in Despatches for good work in Burma. Lt.-Col. H. L. G. Livingston (1935), R.A., is Superintendent of Proof and Experiments at Balasore, Orissa. Major R. N. Green (1933), Capt. C. B. F. Milne (1943), Lieut. T. V. Bowditch (1940), and Lieut. R. Grey (1943) are all attached to Gurkha Regts., while Capt. H. M. C. Mulkern (1941) was last heard of in a Gurkha Parachute Bn. Capt. G. S. Moss (1939), R.I.A.S.C., P. Carter (1941), B.S.M., R.A., and Capt. D. A. Culmer (1940), R.E., are still serving. Capt. J. L. Taylor (1943), attached Bihar Regt., was home on leave recently, looking very fit. M. G. Beadle (1944), R.A.F., is happily recovered from a bad attack of enteric fever. E. G. Gibbs (1940), C.Q.M.S., R.C.S., wrote from Burma where he was busy doing two men's work, and B. Arundale (1941), R.C.S., and M. S. S. Dennison, R.A.O.C., are stationed at Singapore.

Recent recruits to the Services are: M. Lawrence (1945) and E. R. Absalom to R.N.; J. B. H. and P. V. Aldiss, Merchant Navy Cadets; A. N. James, R.E.M.E.; P. R. Sims, India Army Cadet; I. J. Jamieson, R. Berks. Regt.; A. J. Betterton (1945) and F. Hesten, R.A.F.; J. H. Nelson (1944),

R.C.S.; D. J. Penny (1945) is at a Parachute Training School.

Of those who left at the end of the Summer Term: T. W. Green has gone up to Pembroke College, Oxford. A. J. Walters is at Culham College. R. H. Shaw is training at the Chadwell Agricultural Institute. E. G. B. Whitfield is learning market gardening at Culham. R. E. J. Bartlett is an engineering apprentice in Oxford. D. B. C. Augur is an electrical apprentice in Oxford. M. R. White is working at Esso House Abingdon.

Visitors—R. S. Barnes (1944), J. R. Owen (1942), K. R. Sims (1943), P. G. Mingard (1944), R. Deval (1945), H. A. Lunghi (1939), D. C. Brown (1935), R. F. Jackson (1939), T. V. Bowditch (1940), T. P. R. Layng (1913), K. D. Will (1945), J. O. Bury (1937), D. C. Burley (1943), C. R. Davidge (1923), P. R. Sims (1946), B. C. Jakeman (1945), I. J. M. Jamieson (1946), F. Hesten (1946), G. S. Diplock (1944), G. L. Jones (1943), J. L. Taylor (1943), A. J. Walters (1946), E. S. N. Hazel (1942), J. L. Plamauer (1946), J. Hedger (1940), J. D. Wood (1926), G. A. Wood (1929), A. J. Betterton (1945).

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