

# THE ABINGDONIAN



JANUARY, 1951

GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOL

As at 1st January, 1951

Vice-Admiral F. Clifton-Brown, C.B., C.M.G., D.L., C.C.,  
*Chairman and Representative on the Governing Bodies Association;*  
*appointed by the County Council of Berkshire.*

The Mayor of Abingdon (Mrs. Bromley Challenor): *Ex-officio.*

The Recorder of Abingdon (S. R. Benson, Esq.): *Ex-officio.*

The Member for the Division (Sir Ralph Glyn, Bt., M.C., D.L., J.P.)  
*Ex-officio.*

R. B. McCallum, M.A.  
G. R. F. Bredin, M.B.E., M.A. } *Appointed by a board of electors  
from the University of Oxford.*

Alderman A. E. Tombs, J.P.  
Alderman F. Stimpson, J.P.  
C. G. Stow, Esq., B.A. } *Appointed by the Corporation of the  
Borough of Abingdon.*

J. Etty, Esq., M.A., J.P.  
*Appointed by the Master & Governors of Christ's Hospital,  
Abingdon.*

H. J. Thomas, Esq., J.P., C.C.  
S. Freeman, Esq., C.C.  
H. Wheaton, Esq. } *Appointed by the County Council  
of Berkshire.*

J. H. Morrell, Esq., D.L., M.A., J.P., C.C.  
*Appointed by the County Council of Oxfordshire.*

H. Booth, Esq., B.A. A.R.C.C.

Sir Reader Bullard, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.I.E,

H. W. Lake, Esq., M.C.

J. D. Wood, Esq., F.R.I.A.B., A.M.T.P.I., (O.A.),  
*Co-opted*

*Clerk to the Governors, and Bursar:*

Comdr. R. I. Hoyle, R.N. (Ret.).

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo

# THE ABINGDONIAN

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## CALENDAR, LENT TERM, 1951

### January

- Fri. 19 First day of term.  
Sat. 27 1st XI v. Staff XI (H).  
Wed. 31 1st XI v. Lincoln College (A).

### February

- Sat. 3 1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (A).  
Wed. 7 1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (A).  
Sat. 10 1st XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (H).  
Sat. 17 1st XI v. O.A.s (H).  
Wed. 21 1st XI v. Solihull (A).  
Sat. 24 1st XI v. Abingdon H.C. (H).

### March

- Wed. 7 1st XI v. R.A.F., Halton (H).  
Sat. 10 1st XI v. Pangbourne N.C. 2nd XI (A).  
Tue. 13 FIELD DAY—C.C.F., Scouts, Cubs.  
Wed. 14 Schools Hockey Tournament.  
Sat. 17 Athletic Match v. C.O.S. (H).  
Sat. 24 O.A. Sports.  
Mon. 26 School Sports.  
Fri. 30 Term ends.

## OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL (LENT TERM, 1951)

## SCHOOL PREFECTS

M. BATEMAN (Head of the School)

H. B. Stevens (Head of School House)

A. E. Wilson

W. L. Wooldridge

D. R. G. Andrews

R. J. Taylor

F. P. Field

J. Westall

D. Free

A. G. B. King

D. J. Heavens

R. S. M. Millard

B. W. Boddington

E. G. R. Peedell

H. R. Leach

## HOUSE PREFECTS

*School House.*

N. A. C. Darroch

J. A. M. Brakspear

B. W. T. Leech

A. J. Taylor

P. H. B. Amey

*Dayboy.*

A. C. Wright

M. W. Matthews

N. Purnell

N. J. Shurrock

S. R. Mills

C. S. Wiggins

*Waste Court.*

J. R. W. Ireland

M. J. Biggs

J. Furby

G. W. Crockford

*Larkhill*

M. J. Wareham

Captain of Hockey: W. L. Wooldridge

Secretary of Hockey: F. P. Field.

Captain of Boats: J. A. M. Brakspear.

Secretary of Boats: R. S. M. Millard

Captain of Athletics: M. Bateman.

Secretary of Athletics: D. J. Heavens.

Secretary of Rugger: H. B. Stevens.

## 'The Abingdonian'

Editor: A. E. Willson.

Assist. Editors: M. Bateman, W. L. Wooldridge,

B. W. Boddington.

O.A. Editor and Treasurer: Mr. G. F. Duxbury.

## EDITORIAL

This autumn has been a season of change as well as of mists and mellow fruitfulness. The powerful machinery of the Science Block has finally geared itself into being and a large proportion of the School's population is daily housed within its walls. But apart from restoring order in its own house the School has evinced a progressive external policy; it has advanced on two fronts, its policy being as much Drang Nach Norden as Osten and it has enveloped the War Memorial Field on the one hand and Lacies Court on the other. These splendid acquisitions and re-acquisitions have added greatly to the School's material potentialities.

Of this period of transition, this issue is born. The change, however, has been noticeable both within and without the School precincts and world events have inevitably modified the outlook of every one of us. All through the summer muffled war drums had been throbbing and the tempo was increased to fever pitch in the last days of November. Sabre rattlings have occurred in various parts, and if the clashing of metal from the Nile delta sounded a trifle tinny to our practical ears there was nothing unrealistic about the vituperative invective and even armed intervention of the further Orient. The outlook too has often been changed by the vagaries of the weather, the mention of which is inevitable and, I hope, excusable.

Sometimes the scene has been overcast by heavy rain-clouds, sometimes a ray of sunshine has for a moment pierced the all-pervading gloom; sometimes the scene has been shrouded in snow and sometimes blotted out altogether like those of 'the Dynasts', only with dense fog or torrential rain. It was as if to forget the chilliness of the early winter that we embarked on 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' when 'A Winter's Tale' would more have matched the elements; Mr. Cooper's greenery was very refreshing and contrasted pleasingly with the ice-bound fields without.

There must be changes too in Waste Court Field this new term for many of the trees there have grown old and rotten. Thus, sadly, we must say goodbye to them and plan a new lay-out of young saplings; the way the trees are planned can much alter the view of Waste Court and Larkhill and we should like suggestions as to this composition which must be carefully considered.

A revolution is taking place before our eyes: "Happy the young, for their eyes shall see it."

## SCHOOL NOTES

On Tuesday, 7th October, the Headmaster represented the School at the Dedication, in Culham Parish Church, of a War Memorial Tablet which includes the name of an old boy, H. H. Whitfield (1931-1936).

After the Dedication, two members of the School Corps, D. J. Heavens and H. R. Leach, sounded the Last Post and the Reveille.

We offer our very warm congratulations to A. E. Willson on his election to an Open Scholarship in History at Lincoln College, Oxford. It was an achievement that was recognised by the grant of a half-holiday on Friday, 15th December.

The Governing Body has lately been brought up to full strength by the co-option of Sir Reader Bullard, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.I.E. Sir Reader, who is no stranger to the School, retired recently after a varied career in the Consular and Diplomatic Services. This culminated in his appointment as His Majesty's First Ambassador to Iran; indeed, the record of his life, as given in 'Who's Who' has a flavour of the Arabian Nights. In his time Sir Reader has been Third Dragoman, Consul at places as far apart as Leningrad and Addis Ababa, and Military Governor of Baghdad; so he should be able to handle the affairs of the School in his stride. We congratulate both him and ourselves on his appointment.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. K. M. D. Holloway on the birth of a daughter; this is the fourth little lady to join the staff within a year.

We congratulate Miss Newerham, one of the matrons at the School House, on her recent engagement to Mr. George Stoney.

We were pleased indeed to see Miss Peach over at Abingdon for the end-of-term festivities; and we thank her for her generous donation to the Chapel Funds, that rather unprepossessing name for a very vital cause.

Professor Westrup would be the first to acknowledge that the success of the recent production of 'Les Troyens' by the Oxford University Opera Club was largely due to the efforts of the assistant conductor, our own Mr. Barker. We congratulate Mr. Barker on his success in leading a double life and we thank Mr. Ponsonby of Oriel College, Oxford, who kindly deputized for him in his School duties.

The increase in the number of pianoforte pupils has presented a problem: the answer has been found in the services of Mr. H. H. Fowler, A.R.C.O., the organist of St. Helen's Church. We are grateful to him for agreeing at very short notice to take charge of the overflow.

Once again we have been enabled to welcome our old friend, Mr. Stevens, who has come over from Cumnor each Friday afternoon to take special classes in Mechanical Engineering.

It should be put on record, too, how grateful we have been to our two latest guests from the Oxford Department of Education, Mr. Beaumont and Mr. Brookfield. These gentlemen have given much help on the rugger field—far more, in fact than we had any right to expect from them. We congratulate them on their respective appointments to Dean Close Junior School and to Simon Langton School, Canterbury.

The number of boys at the beginning of the Michaelmas term was 344 (Dayboys 213, School House 78, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

Thanks to much work behind the scenes by the Science Staff and a band of willing helpers the change-over to the new Science Block took place far more smoothly than we could have hoped; all the three laboratories were in full use from the beginning of the Michaelmas term. In fact they were used rather more extensively than we had expected for we were able to help the County Authorities by providing accommodation for certain evening classes and also to offer hospitality during the first part of the term to some of the young ladies of St. Helen's School who joined our ordinary Science Classes during an interregnum before the arrival of a new Science Mistress. The process of 'running in' has inevitably revealed certain minor deficiencies, most of which we hope will have been righted before the beginning of the Lent Term. In general, however, the best testimony to the New Block is that now we just cannot imagine how we ever managed without it!

Plans for the detailed lay-out of the triangle of waste space in front of the New Block have been agreed upon and we hope that a Prefects' Lawn will soon come into being there. The old Tuck-Shop has already been demolished—to rise again behind the New Block as a store-room for the Dramatic Society. Tuck-Shops, it may be seen, as well as matter, are indestructible.

When the School re-assembles in January it will find that the Strange Room—née Chemistry Laboratory—has been re-decorated with a new colour-scheme of cream and green. This should do much to relieve what is, at present, one of our dullest form rooms.

School House has lately been enlivened and enhanced by the acquisition of a naval bell which originally hung in a Canadian Frigate, H.M.C.S. Glen Morlich. Yet we are informed that there are prefects whom even this tintinnabulation fails to arouse in the mornings.

Further aid to punctuality will be provided by two massive clocks which are being purchased for use in School and School House respectively: clockwork ones, not the old-fashioned kind which only go when the electric power is on.

The new School Cap is still very much *sub judice*. SHOW specimens of various models have been obtained which are the material expression of many of the admirable ideas suggested by parents and others. Production will begin as soon as the many interested parties have agreed

on the prototype: to put it in less technical language it is proving difficult to agree on a design which is at the same time distinctive, attractive, serviceable—and inexpensive.

The Editor has received two letters dealing with the cap controversy, one from an Old Boy and one from a present Scholar at the School. As these missives took opposite view points they rather cancelled one another out and owing to the lack of space it was decided to omit them.

Congratulations to N. J. Shurrock on the award of a Bennett Scholarship, the first of its name to be awarded under the new system.

In the last School Certificate Examination (December, 1950) we finished well, in that both our candidates for the full certificate, M. J. Strickland and C. Tompson, were successful. Strickland obtained a 'Very Good' in General Science.

We thank the following gentlemen who gave lectures at the School during the Michaelmas Term:—

- Saturday, 23rd September: Mr. Donald Grant on "American Travelogue".
- Saturday, 7th October: Mr. B. Vesey-Fitzgerald on "Natural History as a Hobby".
- Saturday, 21st October: Mr. Guy Butler on "Athletics in Britain, 1950".
- Saturday, 11th November: Captain Peter Churchill, D.S.O., on "Behind the Lines in Occupied France".

In addition, there have been three 'Saturday film shows', the feature films including 'Vice Versa', 'The Black Sheep of Whitehall' and 'The Young in Heart'.

On Thursday, 19th October, a School party attended a performance of 'Elijah' in the Trinity Methodist Church.

On Friday, 20th October, a small party of Sixth Form Biologists were shown over the new Imperial Forestry Institute in Oxford which had been officially opened a day before by H.R.H. Princess Margaret. This privileged visit was largely due to the kind offices of Professor Champion and Mr. Richardson, and we thank these gentlemen for their kindness.

On the same evening some senior boys heard a lecture by Sir Frank Stenton, F.B.A., arranged by the *Friends of Abingdon*, on 'The Early History of Abingdon'.

On Monday, 2nd October, the Ruridecanal Conference was held, as usual, in the School Library.

On Tuesday, 5th October, there was a Parents' Evening at School, primarily for parents of boys in Forms 1A and 1B.

A party was amused on Thursday, 26th October, in the Corn Exchange, by the Australian Artiste, Miss Thea Rowe.

On Friday, 10th November, a party of members of the School Dramatic Society attended the production of 'The Brontes' by the Abingdon Drama Club in the Corn Exchange.

On Sunday, 12th November, Boarders attended Remembrance Day morning service in St. Helen's; the Collection was for Earl Haig's Appeal Fund. The School Corps provided the Buglers and the Guard of Honour for the ceremony which took place near the Abingdon Cenotaph before the Service.

On Thursday, 16th November, a party from the School was present at the match in Oxford, between Major Stanley's XV and the O.U.R.F.C.

On Monday, 20th November, Mr. Voss, of the Headmaster's Employment Committee, gave a lecture, to senior boys, at the School on Careers, and he was available afterwards for private interviews.

On Friday, 24th November, a party heard, in the Church Hall, a Brains Trust, arranged by the *Friends of Abingdon*, which discussed questions relating to Abingdon and its amenities. We were pleased to see the Headmaster as a member of the Team.

On Thursday, 7th December, a party of boys attended the Abingdon Musical Society's Christmas Concert.

On Sunday, 17th December, a Service of Lessons and Carols was held in the School Chapel. This was so successful that it was repeated for the School the next morning. Details will be found elsewhere.

On the last evening of term the Boarders' Christmas Supper took place and was followed by various House Christmas Parties which were enjoyed by all.

Now that the School Tuck Shop has extended its activities it has been decided to set up a Committee, broadly representative of Staff and boys, to discuss and advise on such questions as administration, range of stock and allocation of profits. This Committee will meet for the first time in the New Year. It may be added that the latest addition to its stock is a new aerial photograph of the School, available in postcard form.

We are very grateful to Miss Baker who has kindly passed to us a delightful photograph of W. B. Ball (O.A.) who died in 1947 at the age of 87. Mr. Ball was probably the last Bennett Scholar to join the School before we moved to our present buildings, and the photograph, taken in the late 'sixties, shows him in his gown as a Bennett Scholar.

We are also grateful to Mr. R. A. R. Townsend (O.A.) who has given to the archives some very interesting reproductions of celebrated issues of the *Times*; a reproduction of Magna Carta; and an original issue of the *Times* of French Revolutionary era.

Just as we go to press we have received a copy of "Local Colour", an anthology of local poetry collected by Mrs. Josephine Phillips "to greet the 1951 Festival of Britain". It includes poems by Oswald Couldrey (O.A.) and Willoughby Weaving (O.A.), and also two poems by a very present Abingdonian, A. E. Willson, one of which is reprinted, by permission, from the School Literary Magazine of July, 1950. Copies are obtainable from Mr. John Hooke at the Abbey Press, price 5/-.

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of contemporaries from the following Schools and colleges. (Dated to 19th December): Aldenham School; City of Oxford School; Henley Grammar School; King Alfred's School, Wantage; Magdalen College School, Oxford; Newbury Grammar School; Reading School; St. Edward's School, Oxford; St. Helen's School, Abingdon; Solihull School; Southfield School, Oxford; Wallingford Grammar School; Culham College; Oundle School; King Edward VI School, Stratford; Leighton Park School.

#### THE WAR MEMORIAL FIELD

The long and protracted negotiation for the purchase of just under 5 acres of ground to the north of the Faringdon Rd. as a War Memorial Playing field have at long last been brought to a successful conclusion: and at their meeting on 29th November the Governors were able to sign the conveyance which transferred the property to the School. Notice had already been given to the present agricultural tenant to terminate his agreement with effect from Michaelmas of 1951 so that within the course of the year the School authorities will be able to enter into occupation and to begin the work of levelling the field and laying it out in a manner worthy of its object. Their task will be made the more easy by two very good friends of the School, one of them an Old Boy, who have generously offered to put their plant at our disposal.

What we are hoping to do ultimately is to lay down two new rigger pitches, with a Second XI 'table' sandwiched between them. At least three sides of the new field will have to be properly fenced, and the main entrance to the field will call for gates of some dignity which can be suitably inscribed. There is plenty of time, of course, for detailed planning. Meanwhile we can enjoy the pleasure of looking over the hedge at the crops that are for the last time growing on what is now our land. And as we do so, let us think in gratitude of those private individuals and public authorities but for whose sympathy and understanding we should never have been able to acquire the field. Thank you—everybody!

While the War Memorial Appeal has been officially closed we are still very glad to receive contributions. We acknowledge gratefully the following amounts which have been received since our last issue.

A. F. H. O'Brien	£10 10 0
H. S. Berry	£1 1 0
Abingdon C.P.S. Parent-Teachers' Association	£1 0 0

In addition, the Fund has benefitted to the extent of £2 10 0 by the sale of clothing kindly given for this purpose by D. H. Wheaton; smaller amounts have been contributed by B. R. Perry, F. A. Dunkley, and T. A. W. Walker. Refund of income tax on covenanted subscriptions for the last year has provided a further nest-egg—very welcome—of £114 18s. 1d.

J.M.C.

### LACIES COURT

In our last issue we tempted Providence by mentioning the unfinished negotiations for the purchase of Lacies Court. We are now glad to announce that the Old Boys' Committee have completed the transaction. The whole of the property has been bought from Lady Radcliffe, whose generosity in treating us as a 'most favoured nation' went far beyond what we had any right to expect. The cottage on Bath Street, with half an acre of ground, has been sold to Mr. Rudd, who has very kindly undertaken that it shall revert to the School on the death of himself and Mrs. Rudd; and the remainder of the grounds, together with the house itself, has been conveyed direct to the Governors.

The School is turning this latest acquisition to immediate use. The two upper floors of the house can be very easily adapted to form three self-contained sets of married quarters for assistant masters and a licence has been obtained for the necessary work. These quarters have been allotted in the first instance to Messrs. Griffin, Holloway and Fiori—and in fact they are already in residence with their families, living under picnic conditions until the alterations can be completed. Two of what the house agents would call the reception rooms on the ground floor will provide an admirably dignified home for the School Library which will be transferred there early in the New Year. The large room in the School vacated by the Library will of course provide additional form room accommodation. The spacious entrance hall of Lacies Court, with its Tudor linen-fold panelling over the mantel-piece, and the adjoining drawing room, the oldest part of the house, will subsequently be adapted for use by the Sixth Form and by school societies; and the last stage of the adaptation will be the conversion of the domestic quarters into changing accommodation for the day boys. But this is a matter that will call for careful planning. In any case, we shall have to proceed step by step, and it will be some time before this final stage can be completed.

Outside the house the School authorities will do their utmost to preserve existing amenities. The Italian garden, laid out by Miss Gertrude Jekyll, will be kept as the family garden of the resident masters. The Nuns' Garden, with its high yew hedges, and the sunken garden that adjoins it, will for the present remain untouched. In the north-west corner of the grounds there is a disused tennis court which has been very tentatively earmarked as a suitable site for the construction—some day—of an open-air swimming bath.



The photograph reproduced in this issue of the magazine will give some idea of the beauty of Lacies Court—as it was before the war, and as it will be once again when the creepers have been trimmed. Thanks to the loyal devotion of the Old Boys and the generous co-operation of Lady Radcliffe, the School has not only safeguarded its eastern frontier, but has acquired a property the value of which is enhanced by its historic associations. It is indeed pleasant to think that the traditions of Lacies Court, which date back to Edward the Black Prince, are now merged in, but not submerged in, those of the School.

More of this in our next issue, when we hope to publish a short article on the history of Lacies Court. Meanwhile we can only say, as we have already said above about the War Memorial Field—thank you, everybody!

J.M.C.

#### FOUNDER'S DAY.

Founder's Day will be celebrated on Saturday, 28th July, 1951. The programme will be much as last year. We shall, of course, have no new Science Block to open: but we hope that the ground floor of Lacies Court and the grounds will be open to parents as an additional attraction.

Details later; please note the date now.

#### CHAPEL NOTES

On Advent Sunday, 3rd December, the Bishop of Oxford conducted a Confirmation Service in the School Chapel. After the Service, the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban invited all the candidates, with their parents and god-parents, to meet the Bishop at Tea in the Gymnasium.

The Confirmands were: H. C. A. Armstrong, D. B. Austwick, K. J. Beckett, E. L. Brown, T. G. Bungay, M. D. G. Butler, J. Carter, R. P. Clewley, J. Cooper, B. C. Costin, G. S. A. Dunn, J. A. Edwards, M. B. Enser, B. K. Hill, M. J. J. Hilton, R. J. Hines, B. J. Hiscock, M. D. Howes, B. James, D. A. Jones, D. M. P. Jones, P. B. Light, D. L. J. Littlewood, I. L. McLoughlin, R. G. Marshall, C. A. Mason, A. Maxwell, A. M. Messenger, L. B. Miell-Ingram, R. N. Paxman, A. Pearman, A. J. Pickford, J. H. Pinniger, J. R. Pratt, B. H. E. Roberts, M. J. Sale, D. C. Shaw, G. R. H. Slack, K. H. Smith, P. Strodder, J. M. Thistlewood, P. Thompson, I. W. Trenaman, K. W. Viney, B. L. O. Walker, T. A. W. Walker, R. W. Westcott, H. G. Williams, J. S. Williamson, and also Miss Judy Pearce.

Deliberately, there was no collection at the Confirmation Service: but we are very grateful to those parents who have followed up the suggestion of the Headmaster that they might like to present a new hymn book to the Chapel to mark the occasion.

We are deeply grateful to the anonymous donor of the magnificent new altar frontal which arrived, with its accessory furnishings, just in time for Advent Sunday. We would also thank another anonymous donor whose generosity has enabled us to order a new linen altar cloth.

Visiting preachers for the Lent Term include Mr. F. I. Venables, B.A., The Principal of Culham College (11th February); Mr. A. W. Westall, J.P., Headmaster of Abingdon County Modern School (25th February) and Canon Liddiard, M.A., R.D., Vicar of Abingdon (4th March).

We are afraid that this will be by way of a farewell visit on the part of Canon Liddiard, for we have heard with deep regret of his intention to retire from parochial work at Easter. The School would join with his countless friends in wishing him and Mrs. Liddiard many years of happy and fruitful retirement.

Allocations to charities, apart from those given to Chapel funds, from the Chapel collections during the Michaelmas Term were as follows:—

The Dockland Settlement (Abingdon School Mission)	£2	7	6
St. Helen's Church, Abingdon	£3	7	6
St. James' Church, Nevis, W.I.	£3	0	0
The Mission to Lepers	£2	15	0
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	£3	0	0

In addition the sum of £8 0 3 was collected over the weekend of 11th-12th November for Earl Haig's Appeal. We are grateful to Mr. Cooper who has kindly taken over the mantle of Miss Peach, agreeing to be responsible for organising this collection each year.

The Chapel Choir goes from strength to strength. The Service of Carols and Lessons is reported separately. It was not, unfortunately, possible to arrange a suitable 'choir outing' during the past term, but it is hoped to hold one early in the New Term.

*Occasional Services: Holy Baptism*

October 29th: Marilyn Anne, infant daughter of Harry and Betty Johnston.

November 5th: Hilary, infant daughter of Captain Lionel Lacey-Johnson, (O.A.), and Corinne Sybil Lacey-Johnson.

## THE CAROL SERVICE

On Sunday, 16th December, the School and its friends celebrated the Christmas season by holding a service of Lessons and Carols in the Chapel. An unexpectedly large number of parents accepted an invitation to be present, and in view of this a repeat performance was held the following morning for the School generally.

The Readers were broadly representative of the Governors, the Staff, the Old Boys and the School itself. We are grateful to the Mayor for consenting to represent the Governing Body and she is probably the first lady reader the School Chapel has heard. We were fortunate, too, in securing the services of David Allen, lately returned from the high seas, to represent the Old Boys.

The Choir sang beautifully and Mr. Barker is to be thanked for what obviously represented very hard work. The rest of the congregation sang their Carols with gusto and all present entered into the joyful spirit of Christmas. So ended a very full term for the School Chapel.

## VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—left August, 1950

*Upper Sixth Form A:*

P. F. C. Berry (i, 1942) (Modern); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1948; 2nd XI Cricket 1949; 2nd XV 1949; 2nd XI Hockey 1949.

R. F. Hamer (iii, 1945) (Modern); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1947; 2nd XI Hockey 1950; Under 15 XI Cricket 1946; 1st IV Cox 1946; 2nd IV Rowing 1949; Coxing Colours 1947; Tennis VI 1948; C.C.F. Sgt. Cert. 'A'; G.G.C. Secretary; M.G.C. Secretary; Secretary of Tennis; Secretary of Turnor Society; Secretary Debating Society; Secretary Roysse Society; Dramatic Society; Editor Abingdonian.

P. R. Lucas (i, 1943) (Classics); School Prefect 1950; O.S.C. 1948; 1st XI Cricket 1949; Half Colours 1949; 1st XV Rugged 1947, Colours 1948; 2nd IV Rowing 1949, Half Colours 1949; C.C.F. Sgt., Shooting Team 1948; Roysse Society; Dramatic Society;

*Upper Sixth Form B:*

John Furby (iii, 1948) (Science); House Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1949; 1st XI Cricket 1949, Colours 1950, Vice-Captain 1950; 3rd XV Rugged 1949; 2nd XI Hockey 1949.

M. A. C. Heavens (ii, 1942) (Science); Second School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1947; H.S.C. 1949; 1st IV Rowing 1950, Colours 1950; C.C.F. Under-Officer, Cert. 'A', Cert. 'T'; Roysse Society; Chairman Turnor Society; Vice-President Debating Society; Secretary Holiday Club; Dramatic Society; Editor Abingdonian.

- R. Klein (ii, 1943) (Maths.); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1948; 2nd XI Cricket 1949; 1st XV Rugger 1948, Colours 1949; 2nd IV Rowing 1949, Half Colours 1949; Tennis VI 1950; C.C.F. Cert. 'A'; Roysse Society; Secretary Chess Club; G.G.C.
- P. C. Richardson (i, 1942) (Science); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1948; H.S.C. 1950; Sec. Turnor Society; Sec. Gramophone Society; Roysse Society.
- A. W. H. Riggott (ii, 1941) (Science); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1947; 2nd XV Rugger 1948; 2nd XI Cricket 1948, Captain 1949; 1st XI Hockey 1949, Half Colours 1949, Secretary 1948, Vice-Captain 1950; C.C.F. C.S.M., Cert. 'A'; Roysse Society; Dramatic Society; G.G.C.; Sports Secretary Holiday Club.
- B. H. Wiggins (i, 1942) (Maths.); School Prefect 1948; O.S.C. 1947; 1st XV Rugger 1948, Half Colours 1948; 2nd XI Hockey 1948; Tennis VI 1949; C.C.F. Cert. 'A'; Roysse Society; Secretary Aero Club; Holiday Club Committee; Joint Club Committee; H.S.C. 1950.

*Lower 6th Form:*

- R. D. M. Grant (iii, 1943) (Modern); School Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1949; 2nd XV 1949; 1st XI Hockey 1950; 2nd XI Cricket 1950; C.C.F., Naval Section, A.B. i/c.
- B. J. Noyce (i, 1946) (Science); House Prefect 1949; O.S.C. 1949; 2nd IV 1949, Half Colours 1950; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Naval Section; Dramatic Society; R.L.S.S. Bronze Medal 1950.

*Form 5A:*

- F. J. Garrett (i, 1945); Under 15 XV 1949; C.C.F.
- T. O. Inwood (iii, 1946); O.S.C. 1950; 1st XI Cricket 1948, Half Colours 1948; 1st XV 1948, Colours 1949; 1st XI Hockey 1948, Colours 1948; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Pt. I, Naval Section; Dramatic Society.
- B. H. Islip (ii, 1945); O.S.C. 1950; 'Under 15' XV 1949.
- I. Juggins (i, 1943); House Prefect 1950; O.S.C. 1950; 3rd XV 1949; 1st IV Rowing 1950, Colours 1950; C.C.F. Cert 'A', Sgt. Armourer.
- T. W. Packer (i, 1945); C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.
- P. A. Tavinor (iii, 1946); C.C.F.
- D. L. Treacher (i, 1945); O.S.C. 1950; Athletics Team 1948.

*Form 5B:*

- M. Buzzard (iii, 1948).
- J. S. Draisey (ii, 1941); O.S.C. 1950; House Prefect 1950; 3rd XV 1948; 2nd IV 1950, Half Colours 1950; Athletics Team 1948, Half Colours 1949; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Cert. 'T', C.Q.M.S.; Dramatic Society; Secretary Locomotive Club.
- F. S. P. Gee (i, 1946).

- G. E. Holford (iii, 1945); O.S.C. 1950; 4th IV 1950.
- J. H. Light (i, 1943); 3rd IV 1949; C.C.F. Cert 'A', Pt. I, Naval Section, A.B., 1950; Dramatic Society.
- B. R. Perry (ii, 1942); (left 17th May, 1950); House Prefect 1950; 1st XI Hockey 1949, Half Colours 1949; Athletics Team 1949, Half Colours 1949; 2nd XV 1949; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.
- I. M. Pickford (i, 1947); House Prefect 1949; 1st XI Cricket 1948, Colours 1949, Captain 1950; 3rd XV 1949; 2nd XI Hockey 1949; Athletics Team 1950, Half Colours 1950; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.; Sports Secretary Holiday Club.
- R. W. J. Porter (iii, 1946).
- D. W. H. Ridout (ii, 1944); 1st XI Cricket 1947, Half Colours 1950; 3rd XV 1948; 1st XI Hockey 1949, Half Colours 1949; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Pt. 1, Naval Section.

*Form 4:*

P. M. O'Brien (ii, 1944); Colts XV 1948; C.C.F. Cert 'A', Pt. 1, Naval Section; Dramatic Society.

*Form 2A:* J. T. Young (i, 1948).

*Form 2B:* J. P. Turck (iii, 1946).

*Form 1A:* G. Ponticorvo (iii, 1949). P. R. Turck (ii, 1948).

*Form 1B:* P. H. McPherson (i, 1949).

*Preparatory Form:* J. A. Dancy (iii, 1948); R. J. H. Haskins (i, 1948).

**Salvete—came 19th September, 1950**

**Form 4 (Arts):**

H. C. A. Armstrong, S; M. C. Burdge, S; G. E. G. Campbell-Dykes, S; P. B. D. Glover, D; D. M. P. Jones, iii, D; M. J. Sale, ii, S;

*Form 3A:* R. W. Westcott, L.

*Form 3B:* D. C. Adams, D.

*Form 2A:* P. C. Sarsfield-Hall, L.

**Form 2B:**

M. C. B. Dicker, i, D; D. P. Rawlins, L; I. W. Trenaman, i, L.

**Form 1A:**

J. C. Bines, D; D. H. Bragg, D; G. J. Brown, vi, D; C. K. D. Cobby, D; P. E. Fitzsimons, D; G. A. Gingell, D; R. S. Green, ii, W; W. L. H. Horlick, D; B. P. Kibble, D; M. J. Killeen, D; L. A. Knight, D; D. J. Lanham, D; M. A. Lisemore, D; M. G. Nichol, ii, D; I. A. Oliver, D; C. T. Owen, D; R. Powell, W; A. G. Stevens, iv, D; W. P. Tomalin, D; E. G. Westbrook, ii, D; A. E. Woodward, D; R. A. Worth, D.

## Form IB:

A. R. Binning, D; M. S. Bretscher, D; W. C. Broad, ii, D; J. T. Buckland, D; P. S. Candy, iii, D; C. J. Dicker, ii, D; D. J. Exon, iii, D; P. J. Greenman, D; R. D. Hill, ii, D; M. R. H. Hill, iii, D; A. J. Jones, v, D; P. Lagden, L; N. G. C. Norman, ii, D; I. R. Peedell, ii, D; M. A. L. Randell, D; J. B. Robins, ii, D; R. J. Trenaman, ii, L; P. Venvell, W; P. J. Walker, iii, W; J. F. Warren, ii, D; P. W. J. Williams, ii, D.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1950

Although not without its disappointments, this season has been a most successful one, and the XV in many respects has shown considerable improvement upon last season's team. A very good, hard working pack, well led by Wooldridge, has been the foundation of our success. This is in contrast to last year, when back play was the strong feature, and it represents a most satisfactory state of affairs, the successful outcome of efforts during two seasons to develop forward play as the basis of a winning XV.

On the other hand, we have had many anxious moments with the backs. In the captain, J. T. Cullen, we possessed a dangerous player, whom we determined to play at centre, whilst Free was an obvious choice for scrum-half, but these apart almost every other position presented a problem. Bateman, although he had his successful matches, was unreliable at stand-off and this position was finally most successfully filled by the promotion of M. C. Glassbrook from the 2nd XV. We had a similar worry over the full back position, although the answer was found much earlier in Brackley, who proved a player of great natural ability. Frequent changes and experiments were also made with the wings, and Heavens, who settled down fairly quickly as the other centre, was unable to complete the season owing to injury.

As regards matches, we have to record only three defeats, two unfortunate cancellations—games with Stowe 2nd XV and Oratory—because of frost, and nine victories. The defeat of an exceptionally good O.A. side was, perhaps, the high-light of the season and partly atones for an unexpectedly severe defeat at the hands of Magdalen College School.

During the season the following colours were awarded:

Full Colours—Brackley, Beere, Free, King, and Stevens, H. B.

Half Colours—Archer, Darroch, Heavens, D. J., Glassbrook M. C., Millard R. S. M., and Winter.

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows—Brackley; Millard R. S. M., Stopps, Cullen J. T., Archer; Glassbrook M. C., Free; Wooldridge, Winter, Andrews, King A. G. B., Beere, Stevens H. B., Darroch, Leech.

The following have also played—Bateman (7 times), Heavens D. J. (7 times), Glassbrook P. M. and Millard P. J. (once each).

## 1st XV CHARACTERS

J. T. CULLEN (Captain, Colours 1948). Centre. He has continued to play an extremely useful game, and has captained the side well throughout the season. Determined running, fine tackling and kicking and very great enthusiasm are still his strong points. He is to be congratulated on a most successful third year of office.

D.O.W.

W. L. WOOLDRIDGE (Vice-Captain, Colours 1949). Front row forward. A robust forward who has played consistently well throughout the season. In leading the pack he uses example rather than voice, but through fine work in forward rushes and in the loose is always effective.

B. W. T. LEECH (Colours 1949). Wing forward. A more whole-hearted and enthusiastic player of the game could not be found. His liveliness and skill contributed in no small degree to the success of the team.

M. J. BRACKLEY (Colours 1950). Full back. This young player shows great promise for the future. His tackling, positioning and kicking have about them a mark of confident polish. His place kicking is consistently excellent.

D. FREE (Colours 1950). Scrum half. He has developed a long and accurate pass which has been the foundation of many successful three-quarter movements. In defence his kicking and tackling are reliable. His game could be improved by a little more personal attack and running.

A. G. B. KING (Colours 1950). Second row forward. Although one of the best forwards of the pack he has not fulfilled the promise of last season. In the line-outs he has often shone, but he must endeavour to become quicker in the loose.

H. B. STEVENS (Hon. Sec., Colours 1950). Wing forward. He has been a big factor in the winning of matches. His quickness in the loose and in getting round the scrum is admirable, but he must go on improving his tackling—one of the wing forward's most useful weapons.

R. G. BEERE (Colours 1950). Second row forward. He has played with remarkable steadiness throughout the season and is a player who is quite unaffected by the attentions of his opponents. An excellent second row forward.

C. E. STOPPS (Half Colours 1949). Wing three-quarter. This season has been one of development and for that reason should be of value to him. During mid season he played some games for the 2nd XV which improved his defence greatly and enabled him to come back at the end of the season a better player, and one who fully justified his re-instatement in the XV.

N. A. C. DARROCH (Half Colours 1950). Lock forward. At last experience has reaped its reward for this player, who has steadily improved throughout the season. He has speed and spirit but he must realise that the well-tryed principles of scrummaging are probably the best ones.

J. B. ARCHER (Half Colours 1950). Wing three-quarter. A young player of courage and moderate rucker sense. His tackling is very good but he has much to learn in other aspects of the game. But, with more experience, he should be a good player.

D. R. G. ANDREWS (Half Colours 1949). Front row forward. A steady, hardworking player who has well backed up his leader in the front row. More life in the loose will considerably improve his game.

D. J. HEAVENS (Half Colours 1950). Centre three-quarter. An unlucky injury at the end of term kept him out of games when he was most needed. He has speed and a good pair of hands though he is handicapped by lack of weight. He needs to develop his kicking but his tackling is always determined and effective.

J. A. WINTER (Half Colours 1950). Hooker. This player can always be counted upon to win his share of the ball in tight scrums. Although not tall enough for effective line-out he is a hard-working player in the loose.

M. BATEMAN (Half Colours 1948). Stand-off. The latter part of the season has been a most unsatisfactory one for him; a badly sprained ankle bringing about a complete loss of form. But for the first half of the season he played well, scoring tries and making many others. He has a good tactical sense and his kicking in defence is adequate. However, at times his tackling leaves much to be desired.

M. C. GLASSBROOK (Half Colours 1950). Stand-off. Both he and his brother were unlucky not to find permanent places in the XV; however, lack of experience accounts for this. During the latter part of the season he played in the XV and played well, his tackling being of high quality. Experience will bring all-round improvements.

R. S. M. MILLARD (Half Colours 1950). Wing threequarter. A powerful runner who, when going for the line, is not easily stopped. However bad eyesight makes his handling poor and so chances are thrown away. His kicking and his tackling, though the latter was often too high, are usually sound.

J.T.C.

#### 1st XV MATCHES

*v. Southfield School (A), Sat., 23rd Sept., Lost 6—19.*

Lack of training lost the School this game. There was little combination between backs and forwards, although some individuals showed good form. The game was not as uneven as the score suggests, and was a fair pointer to the team's capabilities.

*v. Henley Grammar School (A), Wed., 4th Oct., Won 22—3.*

In their first win the team showed good combination; the backs had plenty of thrust and were not called upon to do much defence work—which was their weakness. The pack showed its superiority in the loose, although their line-out work and set scrumming left much to be desired. The tries were scored by Cullen (3), Bateman (1), Darroch (1), Free (1), Leech (1), the latter two being converted by King.

*v. Solihull School (H), Wed 11th Oct., Won 9—0.*

Hard tackling by Solihull prevented the School from scoring in the second half. The School pack once more showed superiority in the loose, and a failure to bind in set scrums. Stevens and Leech, the School wing forwards, stopped many possible movements through their quickness. Brackley, playing at full back, was a great asset to the defence.

*v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (H), Sat., 14th Oct., Won 40—0.*

Despite a greasy ball, the game was very open, St. Edward's finding no answer to the thrust in the School three quarter line. The pack gave their backs every opportunity to score. Cullen and Bateman carried out one fine scissors movement, sending Leech over to score. Tries scored were: Cullen (4), Archer (2), Heavens (1), Leech (1), Bateman (2), Millard (2). Cullen and King converted one each.

*v. A Staff XV (H), Thurs., 6th Oct., Won 22—8.*

The Staff managed to field 8 players for this most enjoyable game, completing their team from the 2nd XV. The first half was a very even affair, but the School scored heavily after half-time when the staff XV grew somewhat weary.

*v. Pembroke College (H), Wed, 1st Nov., Won 33—3.*

Aided by three members of the staff, Messrs. Baynes, Holloway and Willis, the School gave the College a sound beating by 6 goals and a penalty to a try. The outstanding feature of the game was Brackley's goal kicking. The first try came from Cullen after a fine breakaway by Mr. Holloway, and other tries followed from Mr. Willis (2), Cullen (2) and Bateman. The penalty goal was kicked by Brackley, who also converted all the tries.

*v. City of Oxford School (H), Wed., 8th Nov., Won 20—6.*

As in previous matches the School made the most of their opportunities in the first half. In Brackley the School found a valuable place kicker; indeed he converted all four tries. The second half was a grim battle between the two scrums, and C.O.H.S. did not score again after their determined dash in the first few minutes of the second half. The tries were scored by Cullen, Stevens, Leech and Bateman.

*v. Newbury Grammar School (H), Wed., 22nd Nov., Won 11—8.*

Although the School were without Cullen and Bateman, they won a ding-dong struggle, in which the pack showed excellent form. The backs played a determined game but lacked cohesion. Tries were scored by Glassbrook and Stopps. Brackley kicked one goal and a penalty goal.

*v. Royal G.S., High Wycombe (A), Sat., 25th Nov., Lost 0—6.*

This match was played on a soggy pitch and the slippery ball did not allow for any fast three-quarter play. The School pack was the liveller of the two, and played a fine game. The backs did not manage to stop their opposite numbers, and R.G.S. invariably had one man over.

*v. Radley College 2nd XV (H), Wed., 29 Nov., Won 13—3.*

Played on a bitterly cold day, the pack had a hard game against heavier forwards. Millard scored in the first few minutes, followed soon afterwards by Cullen scoring on the blind 'side', whilst a try by Glassbrook came later. Brackley converted two of these tries.

*v. Old Abingdonians (H), Sat., 2nd Dec., Won 8—5.*

The Old Boys fielded their strongest side for many years. It was an ideal day for rugger, the game being well-balanced, backs and forwards alike having an even share of the ball. Glassbrook at stand off half opened the scoring with a fine cut through. Garner then scored between the posts for the Old Boys, Aldworth converting. Darroch scored the final try for the School which Brackley converted.

*v. Magdalen College School (A), Sat., 9th Dec., Lost 3—17.*

Played on Christ Church ground, this was a decisive win for Magdalen. The School played below the standard they had previously shown, several players being off form. The first half was very even, but in the second half the School went somewhat to pieces—Magdalen scoring with orthodox movements. The School's only score was through a penalty kicked by Brackley.

### HOUSE MATCHES

The cold weather at the end of term made it impossible to complete the Senior House rugger competition, and the Lin Cup was therefore shared between two Houses, Tesdale and Bennett, for the first time in its history. The Junior matches, however, were decided earlier in the term and Reeves House proved the victor thereby gaining the Robinson Cup. Results were—

Senior: Mon., 13th Nov., Blacknall v. Tesdale, 0—14.

Thurs., 16th Nov., Reeves v. Bennett, 3—6.

Junior: Mon., 16th October, Reeves v. Tesdale, 16—13.

Wed., 18th Oct., Blacknall v. Bennett, 16—0.

Thurs., 2nd Nov., Blacknall v. Reeves, 0—11.

### 2nd XV

The 2nd XV has had a variable career this season. Nevertheless, it proved itself, on the whole, a good side, capable at the beginning of the season of giving the 1st XV a hard game. Several of the team played for the 1st XV on occasions, and one or two received well deserved promotion. Field showed himself a capable, enthusiastic captain throughout the season and was ably supported by Millard P. J.,

the Glassbrook brothers, Amey and Ivatts, all of them rugger players of considerable promise.

The final arrangement of the team was as follows:—Hullett; Biggs, Full, Glassbrook P. M., Candy M. A.; Glassbrook M. C., Ireland; Crockford G. W., Wareham, Amey, Field, Cullen D., Ivatts, Millard P. J., Sale P. R.

Also played:—Stoppes (5 times), Stevens P. S. G. (4 times), Patching (3 times), Prior (twice), Archer, Bateman and Millard R. S. M. (once).

#### Results:

- v. Solihull (A), Wed., 11th Oct. Drawn 8—8.
- v. Radley College 3rd XV (A), Sat., 21st Oct. Won 11—3.
- v. Leighton Park School (H), Wed., 25th Oct. Won 20—5.
- v. St. Edward's Sch. 3rd XV (A), Wed., 8th Nov. Lost 3—19.
- v. Thame Grammar Sch. 1st XV (A), Sat., 11th Nov. Lost 13—30.
- v. Thame Grammar Sch. 1st XV (H), Sat., 18th Nov. Drawn 8—8.
- v. Newbury Grammar Sch. (H), Wed., 22nd Nov. Lost 0—9.
- v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (H), Sat., 25th Nov. Won 11—0.
- v. Magdalen Coll. School (A), Sat., 9th Dec. Lost 9—12.

#### 3rd XV

Efforts to give the 3rd XV a more attractive programme this season unfortunately came to nought. Three games were cancelled and the three games that were played proved to be heavy defeats. The team, apart from one or two players of potential value was not very strong; it was enthusiastically captained by Carter D. R.

#### Results:

- v. Reading School (A), Sat., 14th Oct. Lost 3—27.
- v. Radley College 4th XV (H), Sat., 21st Oct. Lost 0—24.
- v. Newbury Grammar Sch. (A), Sat., 18th Nov. Lost 0—22.

#### 'UNDER 15' XV

The Colts have had another very good season, although the side was not up to the standard of last year. The captain, Marshall A. C., proved exceptionally good both as a forward and as an inspiring 'skipper'. His example was so infectious that one is almost tempted to say the team was a one man side. Nevertheless, mention must be made of Pickford, Armstrong, Linnegar and Cope, all of whom show considerable promise.

The final arrangement of the team was as follows:—Linnegar; Allen, Allsworth, Cope, Banwell R. J.; Pickford, Armstrong; Round G., Slesser Candy D. Y., Hall D. W., Bloor, Bungay, Williams H. G., Marshall A. C.

Also played: Pezaro. (5 times), Paxman (5 times), Rockall (twice), Nichols, Downs, Stroud-Viney (once).

Results:

- v. Newbury Grammar School (H), Sat., 30th Sept. Lost 0—15.
- v. City of Oxford School (H), Sat. 7th Oct. Won 14—13.
- v. Solihull (A), Wed., 11th Oct. Won 9—3.
- v. Leighton Park School (A), Wed., 25th Oct. Drawn 9—9.
- v. Thame Grammar School (H), Sat., 11th Nov. Won 18—0.
- v. Henley Grammar School (H), Wed., 15th Nov. Won 9—8.
- v. Magdalen College School (H), Sat., 9th Dec. Won 8—0.

'UNDER 14' XV

The successful re-introduction of 'Under 14' rucker matches has been the brightest feature of the term and marks the final stage of our post-war recovery. Three matches were played and the main impression gained was that junior rucker is in a most healthy state and augurs well for the future. The experiment is to be continued in the Lent Term. The team played well and presented few difficulties. Griffith R. D. P. was an able Captain.

The team was as follows:—Linnegar; Alberry, Nichols, Talyor K. J. M., Mott; Griffith R. D. P., Pezaro; Pinniger R., Austwick, Enser, Swainston, Broad R. D., Eustace, Viney, Light.

Humby (twice) and Payne also played.

Results:

- v. Solihull (H), Wed., 11th Oct. Won 28—0.
- v. Reading School (A), Sat., 14th Oct. Lost 3—8.
- v. City of Oxford School (H), Wed., 29th Nov. Drawn 3—3.

MINOR GAMES

A variety of games has been played and in general it has been a good term for Minor Games. Squash, having lost its novelty to some extent, fell off considerably during the term, but basket ball remained popular being played a lot by members of the School XVs. Fixtures have been arranged incidentally in this game for the Lent and Summer terms with the R.A.F., Abingdon. Boxing continues to flourish and fives has gained a few more adherents, although there is room for many more players.

W.L.W.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

There was again a serious lack of enthusiasm for cross country towards the end of Michaelmas term and with one exception—Reeves—House teams were not up to strength. The races were held on the afternoon of Saturday, 16th December, and the course was the one used on previous occasions. But conditions were far from good—snow and frost under foot and a biting cold wind, which probably had something to do with the poor entry.

Details of the House Competitions were as follows:—

Senior: Reeves 89 points; Bennett, 72; Blacknall 34; Tesdale, nil.

Junior: Tesdale, 100 points; Reeves, 84; Bennett, 22; Blacknall, 11.

The over-all winner was Reeves House with 173 pts., as against Tesdale's all Junior effort of 100 pts. Bennett House and Blacknall House scored 94 and 45 points respectively.

Those gaining points in the Senior race were:—Biggs, Be, 21 mins. 27.1 secs.; Carter D. R., R; Hüllett, Be; Sale P. R., R; Glassbrook P. M., Bl; Stevens H. B., R; Field, R; Crockford G. W., Be; Whiteford, Be; Brown C. G., R; Full, Bl; Fay, Be; Roff, Bl; Wareham, R; Banwell C. H., R; Ellis, Be.

Those gaining points in the Junior race were:—Allen R. W., 13 mins. 37.2 secs.; Allsworth, T; Griffith R. D. P., R; Marchbanks R. M., T; Miell-Ingram, T; Pinniger R., T; Cope, T; Armstrong, R; Clewley, R; Brown E. L., R; Corderoy, T; Nichols J. A., Bl; Campbell-Dykes, Be; Taylor K. J. M., Be; Alberry, Be; Creevy, Be; Trenaman, I. W., Bl.

The Captain of Cross Country, D. J. Heavens, was unable to run owing to an injury received at rugger, but M. J. Biggs ran well to win the Senior event. He was subsequently awarded Athletic Half-Colours.

D. J. H.

#### C.C.F. NOTES

This term, the most noteworthy things have been on the "A/Q" side. Our numbers, with an intake of 68, have again increased and it seems that, while the organisation of the School remains unchanged, we have expanded almost to the limit. The establishment now is 6 Officers and 204 cadets, the actual strength being 6 and 202. This is a creditable and satisfactory state of affairs, when it is remembered that recruitment is voluntary. Putting the matter another way,—of the boys who are eligible by age to join the Corps, only 18 remain outside it.

Completion of the new C.C.F. hut was slower than we had hoped; it is, however, very much in being now, with its model Clothing Store—the pride and joy of a model C.Q.M.S.—and a pleasant little office. In this latter sanctum, the ruling authority is, of course, not the C.O., but the Orderly Room Clerk: when we "lived" in the Common Room, there was always the chance that the paper one was looking for might be on a table somewhere; now there is no hope of this; Boddington alone is able—sometimes!—to lay hands upon it. Furniture for the Information Room has not yet been fully assembled; it is hoped, however, that it will be in operation as from the beginning of next term. It may be of general interest to know that the expense to the Corps of this new accommodation,—although the actual hut, and the erection of it, have been paid for from Army funds,—will be not less than £150. The price of liberty . . . !

We welcome to the Corps a new officer, Mr. K. M. D. Holloway, late of the Royal Marines. Because of this background of his, there has been some delay in getting his commission through. "Domestically", however, he is one of us, and has long ago made his mark as the officer i/c. training for Cert. 'A', Part 1. At the next examination, in May, we shall have an entry of between 60 and 70 cadets—which is very much a record. We congratulate, also, Mr. Griffin on his well-deserved promotion to Lieutenant, R.N.V.R. The search for a full-time P.S.I. continues. At one time during term it was thought that the bird was coming to hand, but, alas, it flew away again.

Field Day was held very early in the term, on 26th September. A combined operation had been planned, involving an opposed crossing of the 'Naktong river', represented on this occasion by old Father Thames. Our own 'navy' was to ferry us across. In spite of the early date, the day was cold, bleak, and wet, and although much combination was in fact seen, there was little about the day's work that could be described as operational. We have resolved to wait until the summer-time before attempting any repeat.

Remembrance Sunday was this year a bigger occasion than usual: we were asked to provide the buglers and guard of honour at the Cenotaph, an addition to the usual contingent for the March Past. The special squad practised for this parade under the orders of Mr. Baynes, and all, on the day, acquitted themselves with honour. The other big parade of the Michaelmas term was the visit, on 21st November, of Brigadier Taverner, Deputy Comdr., Salisbury Plain District. Much preliminary spitting-and-polishing was done and it was therefore a disappointment that the weather should, on the day, have been so bad that we were driven indoors. Brigadier Taverner, however, seemed to be quite well pleased with what we had to show him.

During the holidays, 18 cadet N.C.O.'s will be attending a course in Platoon weapons at the Small Arms School, Royal Marines. This will be the second year in succession that, by private arrangement, the Commandant of the School has agreed to run a course especially for us. The courses arranged by high authority are often unsuitable for Senior Cadets, who want instruction at advanced level and coaching in instruction. These private courses thus meet a very real need, and their popularity suggests that, if the Commandant is willing, they may become a regular feature of our training. Six other cadets, mostly junior N.C.O.s, will be attending an R.A. course, to be run by the 33rd Light Airborne Regt., R.A.

A Cert. 'A' examination was held on 12th October, at which the following 21 Cadets completed Cert. 'A':—Acklam, Amey, Banwell C. H., Brackley, Brown C. G., Cowles R. J., Crockford A. F. R., Downer, Downs, Edelsten, Ellis, Fay, Griffiths M. J. C., Heavens J. F., Norman I., Reeve, Robbins C. W., Sale P. R., Strickland, Taylor A. J., Willson A. E.

At the beginning of term, the following appointments and promotions were made:—

To be C.Q.M.S.—Cpl. Leach, H. R.

To be Sgts.—Cpl. Darroch, N. A. C.; Cpl. Stevens, H. B.;  
Cpl. Winter, J. A.

To be Cpls.—L/Cpl. Free, D.; L/Cpl. Ireland, J. R. W.;  
L/Cpl. Leech, B. W. T.

#### R.N. SECTION

The Michaelmas Term was a reasonably quiet term for the Section. Field Day, early in the term, took the form of a Combined Operation in which our part was a long pull upstream to a rendezvous where we had to act as ferries. A broken pintle was rather a drag on one whaler, otherwise all went well.

We welcomed three new members this term, D. W. Hall, B. D. Guimaraers and T. S. Reeve.

In the examination for A.B. held at the end of term, five boys passed—M. A. Candy, C. S. Wiggins, H. A. Wilson, M. J. Biggs, G. W. Crockford.

Congratulations to them, and commiserations to those who failed.

L.C.J.G.

#### THE SCOUT TROOP

This Michaelmas term was, as usual, fairly quiet; the only two events of importance were Field Day, early in the term, and the attendance of a few members of the Troop at the Remembrance Day service.

Field Day was again held at Youlbury, though the weather was anything but kind to us. This time, however, instead of cycling, everyone travelled by bus to Hinksey Hill top and started from there.

The quietness of the term did enable a large number of tests to be passed—most of the new scouts being well on their way to completing their tenderfoot tests and several of the older members of the Troop having passed nearly all of their second class tests.

The "Light Cup" for General Proficiency was awarded to Peter Light for the Summer term and to Anthony Maxwell for the Michaelmas term to both of whom we give our heartiest congratulations.

H. J.

#### CUB PACK

Cub-Master: Rev. F. W. Burgess.

Sixers: Winkett (White), Brown G. V. (Red), Paige R. V. (Black),  
Brown, J. L. (Brown).

We have been very fortunate in receiving so much conscientious and generous help from Mr. Fiori, especially when I was unwell in the early part of the term. No trail was too far for him to track—and the adventurous spirit of the cubs in these longer trails along the river, or in the snow, and the perseverance of the trackers who eventually caught them, deserves commendation.

We hope for continued interest next term in passing tests and in the playing of team-games, and for better punctuality and smartness.

F.W.B.

## 'A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM'

On the last Friday and Saturday of term the School Dramatic Society presented a production of "A Midsummers Night's Dream" in the Corn Exchange. One of the principal features of this production was the fine backcloth and scenery, and Mr. Cooper and his team deserve special praise for their work. For a critique of the purely dramatic side of things we are indebted to Mr. John Morely, the County Drama Organiser, who has sent us the following:—

"On the evening of 16th December I was warmly received by the Head Master who made the request that my criticism should be honest and thorough. I also met a parent who begged me 'to be kind to them' . . . which really implied that I should overlook the faults and encourage everyone by saying how nice it all was. I find it a very difficult criticism to write. I want to be kind but it would be most unkind of me as a critic of Dramatic Art in this instance to gloss over the faults, criticism of which, when kindly meant, will help you in the future. You will have received lots of praise from people like parents who are inclined to overdo it and excuse too much. My own mother thought I was just 'too sweet' as Portia and as it was said I spoke 'nicely' that was sufficient for her to believe me to be a good actor. But at 13½ I know full well that I did not understand the half of what I was saying!

My own knowledge of the 'Grammar School' actor assures me that you will already be aware of your short comings . . . that you are not likely to mistake your knowledge of the play for ability to act, and will realise that most of you have been running without the chance to learn to walk. How else can it be when the boy actors of the Elizabethan companies were very highly trained in every aspect of the art?

My general feeling about the show as a whole was that it lacked 'magic'. It is a fairy play, produced in the 'picture' style of presentation using the Mendlessohn music. But it wasn't until the final scene that it was used to any extent—only then did the fairies come into their own. The wood scene lacked movement and business for the fairies—there was no sense of frolic and mischief. We had been so delightfully 'thawed' away from the icy outside into these warm glades but the night on the stage was too still. I felt unhappy for the King and Queen who obviously were over burdened by the poetry—Oberon looked unhappy and probably was—added to which he would have been helped a lot had he been given a more fairy like costume and make-up. Oberon must hold the reins of the play as soon as Act 2 opens, which is, of course when the play starts.

Later in the play I found myself worrying about an actor of obvious ability, with the voice for an Oberon, but who refused to disguise it with the rusticity that the uneducated Weaver demanded. I was tempted to feel he was mis-cast as Bottom, or shall I say, his vocal powers were wasted. The 'mechanicals' are the easier parts to cast and act and can usually be cast twice over in most boys' schools. The saviour of the

magic was Puck. This actor was too young to be self-conscious and did not suffer from adult imposition of training. He was as we say 'quite natural'.

The fairies might have helped the 'players' had they been given those mischievous pranks which their lines suggest. Thus, the group of men became rather isolated. In these actors we had some excellent bits of character work; the smaller parts out-shining either Quince or Bottom. They assumed individual personalities, and with little dialogue to help. Their 'big' scene was the high spot in the show it should be; but I hope you have realised for yourselves that if you want to take the audience's attention away from anything or anybody on the stage there is one sure way to do it—bring on a live animal, (or baby or 'tiny tot'). Nothing else will be noticed at all! During Pyramus's 'big' scene the audience was entirely distracted by the dog scratching his hind quarters.

The unfortunate curtain mishap which displayed the energies of the stage staff interested the audience as much as the play itself. To me it revealed the cause of the long scene waits, which is a point. Does one, in a 'school' production (where we look to have team work), design the sets to give the hard-working band of helpers something to get down to or does one plan for economy and simplicity, which in this case would benefit the play? This play demands the continuity which is achieved in the open air where we do not worry about the interior settings any more than did the Elizabethans worry about the woodland glades. Even in a theatrical and stage presentation scene waits should be avoided, and since a difficult stage was involved in this case much simpler sets would have prevented this. For me the fairy spell was repeatedly broken by scene waits with the house lights up. If a 'curtain' is necessary on these brief scenes then the atmosphere must be cunningly held by music and lighting or else it evaporates and each scene starts 'cold'.

There are several schools of thought concerning the production of 'School' Shakespeare; one, that all effort should be given to the lines, and that acting comes before effect. I, having decided that the limitations of 'boy' actors is soon reached and should not be strained, believe in going all out for effect. Hence the accent on production in this notice. I judge the acting in this production as being as good as one should expect to find. But for my own personal taste I looked for more effect. The stricter presentation of the Elizabethan style demands everything of the acting. But once one 'goes Mendlessohn' with the 'Dream' then it must be magic with the spell unbroken from start to finish.

But do not think I have lost sight of all the hard work behind this production, and knowing just how many vicissitudes the producer and his co-workers are likely to have faced, then let me conclude with a sincere and wholehearted 'congratulations' to him and to you all.

JOHN MORLEY,  
County Drama Organiser.

The Cast was as follows:—

Theseus, Duke of Athens	David Andrews
Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus	Peter Simmonds
Philostrate, Master of the Revels to Theseus	Nell Darroch
Egeus, an Athenian Nobleman, Father to Hermia	David Lloyd
Hermia, his Daughter, in love with Lysander	Anthony Slesser
Lysander } in love with Hermia	{ Michael Bateman
Demetrius }	{ Jeremy Cullen
Helena, in love with Demetrius	John Bishop
Quince, a Carpenter	Robin Mills
Snug, a Joiner	Brian Leech
Bottom, a Weaver	Tony Willson
Flute, a Bellows-mender	Peter Millard
Snout, a Tinker	Richard Millard
Starveling, a Tailor	Tony King
Puck	Bryan Winkett
A Fairy	Anthony Gardner
Oberon, King of the Fairies	David Free
Titania, Queen of the Fairies	Clayton Armstrong
Moth } Fairies	{ John Howard
Peaseblossom }	{ Alan Pezaro
Cobweb }	{ John Carter
Mustard Seed }	{ Clive Costin
Other Fairies	{ Norman Carter, Jeremy Legh-Smith, Brian Rogers, Barry Westbrook
Lords Attendant on Theseus	John Hall, Jeffre Heavens
A Changeling Child	Trevor Sewry

The Play Produced by L. C. J. Griffin

## ROYSSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings this term and welcomed the following new members: D. R. G. Andrews, B. W. Boddington, F. P. Field, M. W. Matthews, R. S. M. Millard, R. J. Taylor, J. Westall and W. L. Wooldridge. David Free read a paper entitled "The Colour-Bar" to the Society on Wednesday, 11th October. It dealt with this polemical subject both fully and fairly and afterwards we were entertained by the various reminiscences of members who had made coloured contacts.

On Wednesday, 15th November, R. J. Taylor read a stimulating paper on "Post-War Germany". This paper, though dealing with German internal affairs for the most part, gave rise to animated debate in which the future foreign policy of the British Government was clearly laid down.

The ensuing discussion on the third paper to be heard this term was also delightfully wide of the subject in hand. This latter was "Egypt" which was the title of a paper read to us by D. R. G. Andrews on Wednesday, 6th December. This paper was a good one and came at a happily topical moment, whilst the debate which followed was both lively and interesting though it was difficult for some to rid their minds of the haunting and tantalizing "Riddle of the Discs," which was subsequently explained.

We are again indebted to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their hospitality at all these meetings.

A.E.W.

## TURNOR SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster

Chairman: A. E. Willson

Hon. Secretary: F. P. Field

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. O. Willis

Committee: D. R. G. Andrews, B. W. Boddington, R. S. M. Millard.

At a meeting of the Society at the beginning of the term the above officers were either elected or re-elected.

The activities of the Society during the Michaelmas term consisted of three talks dealing with widely varying subjects. At the first, Mr. G. Trease, writer, novelist and broadcaster, dealt fully with the stages by which a book is written and published. The lecture was both interesting and instructive, especially to the younger members of a literary turn of mind.

The next talk, given by Mr. C. W. Dawson, C.M.G., was on remote little Sarawak, where Mr. Dawson was once Acting Governor. The speaker dealt fully with the racial problem and analysed the attitude of the native before, during and after the second World War. He then

turned to the political problems of a country so near the scene of armed combat: the talk was of undoubted value and reminded members of Britain's duty to her Empire.

Finally, the Society was indebted to Mr. J. S. Candy who gave an excellent and entertaining eye-witness account of the gauchos of Argentina and how they deal with livestock. The speaker also interested his audience by exhibiting such articles as knives and lassos which are used so much there.

Next term it is hoped to have more speakers of the quality shown this term.

F.P.F.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster

Hon. Secretary: R. J. Taylor

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. O. Willis

Committee: J. T. Cullen, A. E. Willson, W. L. Wooldridge.

The Society was unfortunate during the term in losing many of its Senior members who were otherwise occupied, chiefly by the School play. It was, however, possible to hold four meetings, the first of which saw the election of a new Hon. Sec., R. J. Taylor.

At the second meeting the House decided that it was in favour of a country-life as opposed to a town one, although the voting was close. B. W. T. Leech and R. S. M. Millard proposed the motion, R. B. Atkinson and B. W. Boddington opposing it.

The second debate showed that the "Soccer" element in the School was by no means dead, when the motion that "Rugby Football is a better game for schoolboys than Association", was carried by a very small majority. The motion was proposed by Mr. D. O. Willis and opposed by C. A. Full, the third and fourth speakers being respectively M. J. Wareham and D. R. Carter.

At the Final Debate, the motion, "That this house regrets the achievements of the Wright Brothers", was proposed by J. Westall and was seconded by C. S. Wiggins; R. J. Taylor, seconded by P. J. Millard, opposed it. The motion, which aroused considerable interest from the floor of the house, was defeated by a substantial majority.

Throughout the term we found more junior members were taking an active part in the proceedings, and we hope this tendency will be continued next term.

R.J.T.

## PHILATELIC SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster                      Chairman: L. C. J. Griffin, Esq.  
 Hon. Treasurer: C. H. Banwell              Hon. Secretary: B. W. Boddington  
 Hon. Librarian: H. B. Stevens

Throughout last year the Society has been most active. On 11th May a party of 13 visited the London International Stamp Exhibition, and on 2nd June, the whole Society heard Mr. Robson Lowe, F.R.P.S.L., the internationally-famous expert on forged stamps and auctioneer, talk on "Forgeries". On 24th November, Major Antony Walker, D.S.O., F.R.P.S.L., Editor of *Stamp Collecting* lectured on "Stamp Collecting, for School-days only, or for life?" Both these talks were illustrated, and were most entertaining, and the Society thanks Mr. Lowe and Major Walker for their generosity in paying a visit to the School.

With these attractions membership has risen rapidly, and, at the census in November, 40 boys claimed membership. Membership does, however, entail a subscription, which is 6d. a term, payable to the Treasurer or Secretary, and it is hoped that anyone who is interested in stamps will pay his subscription in the Easter term.

## HOLIDAY CLUB

President: The Headmaster.                      Chairman: Mr. J. Y. Ingham  
 Hon. Secretary: D. J. Heavens              Hon. Treasurer: D. Free  
 Committee: A. G. B. King, R. J. Taylor and J. A. Winter.

The most important event during the Summer Holidays was the competition for the Brooks Challenge Cup. The Club was given a bye into the final, there being only three clubs competing.

The Final was played on Friday, 25th August, 1950, against the Cumnor Boys' Brigade XI on the School pitch. The match began at 6 p.m., the Boys' Brigade winning the toss. They elected to bat first and made 65 runs. The Club then batted but after numerous appeals for bad light, the match was drawn in conditions which made cricket impossible. The Club actually scored 40 runs for 7 wickets.

Another cricket match was played on Saturday, 12th August, against the M.G. Social and Athletic Club. The Club, who batted first, made 65 runs (J. Furby 21). After a poor start in which they lost four men for no runs, rain stopped play with the score at 26 for 8. (Pickford 3 for 0, Whiteford 4 for 9).

Other fixtures arranged for the holidays were cancelled due to the inclement weather.

M.A.H.

## CAMERA CLUB

President: The Headmaster

Hon. Secretary: D. S. Lloyd

This term the club has been rather more active than usual. The main attraction was a photographic exhibition in the Roysse Room, to which a party of ten boys went. The exhibition consisted of photographs of excellent quality, ranging from a photograph of the operating Theatre at the Warren Hospital to an aerial photograph of the R.N.A.S., Culham. Two lectures were given later on in the term on "Developing the Printing" and "Seascape and Landscape photography".

The dark room was decorated towards the end of the term and now looks brighter and is a much more pleasant place to work in. The successful term was rounded off by a meeting at which next term's programme was discussed.

D.S.L.

## THE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster

Vice-President: Mr. J. F. H. Barker

Hon. Secretary: D. Free.

The Society has again had a successful term during which six meetings have been held.

At the first, a business meeting, D. Free was elected Hon. Secretary.

At the next meeting, the vice-president played records of Jeremiah Clarke's 'Trumpet Voluntary' and Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E.

Mr. Barker also introduced the programmes at the next two meetings, at the first of which he played Dvorak's New World Symphony, and at the second Brahms's 3rd Symphony, both of which were much enjoyed.

At the fifth meeting, the Hon. Secretary played Schubert's 9th Symphony in C. Major (The Great).

To end the term's meetings, M. W. Matthews introduced a miscellany of gramophone records, which included works by Wagner, Tchaikowsky and Chopin and a piece called 'Behold Titania', beautifully sung by Gwen Catley.

Thus finished a very enjoyable series of meetings. We look forward to even greater things in the future.

D.F.

## THE BRASS BAND

The Brass Band has enjoyed a fairly successful term and has progressed happily despite obvious faults. The instrumentalists blow on even though the pitch is doubtful and the speed somewhat various. But next term we must strive for greater unanimity.

On 17th December the Band undertook its first public engagement by playing carols in the Corn Exchange at a festival organized by the Abingdon Youth Advisory Council. In the previous week together with a choir of mixed voices, the Band toured selected parts of the borough playing carols and was able to present a cheque for a substantial sum to the Salvation Army as a result.

We are grateful to this latter organisation, not only for instruments—our stock pile is gradually increasing—but more particularly for the continued help, tuition and encouragement of Mr. Clack.

J.F.H.B.

### JOINT CLUB

The Joint Club had two meetings this term, at both of which we welcomed many new members.

The first meeting was in the form of a social at St. Helen's on Saturday, 30th September, the variety of games being, as always, original. The second meeting held "at home" in the music room was a concert; the high light being the two bands. One was termed "comb and paper", the other our "brass"; as a finale they joined producing some truly weird noises. Thank you St. Helen's!

W.L.W.

### THE PREFECTS' DANCE

One of the several innovations of this term was the Prefects' Dance which was held in the specially decorated Roysse Room on Friday, 8th December. The Dance was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. We were pleased to have with us the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban, Mr. and Mrs. Sewry, Miss St. John, who was so generous with the refreshments, and Mr. Barker, complete with euphonium, who acted as Master of Ceremonies. We are grateful to the Sister Superior of St. Helen's School for allowing some of her young ladies to attend the Dance to make up the numbers on the other side.

For a first effort, the Dance was indeed highly successful and it would be a pity if it were not repeated in following years.

W.L.W.

*(We see no reason why it should not be.—Ed.)*

### SCHOOL LIBRARY

In preparation for the impending move to more spacious and congenial quarters in Lacies Court, Mr. Baynes and the assistant librarians have successfully completed the formidable task of painting and staining all the bookshelves to a uniform colour of dark oak, which has greatly improved the appearance, not only of the book-stacks, but of the books themselves.

As our readers may have learned by now, Lacies Court was once,—in the mid 17th century—the residence of the noted Peter Heylyn, D.D., and we are most grateful to Lady Radcliffe for presenting to the Library Archives two volumes of the Doctor's works, *The History of the Reformation* (1674) and *Historical and Miscellaneous Tracts* (1681). She has also given us a copy of *The Life of Peter Heylyn* by George Vernon (1682). Our sincere thanks go out also to other donors of books: Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Cooper (*The Lady's not for burning*), Mr. R. W. Gardner (*Man the Maker*, and *Nelson*), Mr. R. G. Mortimer (*For whom the Bell Tolls*); and the following 'leavers', R. F. Hamer (*A Phoenix too Frequent*, *Ring round the Moon*, *Venus Observed*), I. M. Pickford (*Schoolboy Cricket*), P. F. C. Berry (*Plays of Ben Johnson*), M. Buzzard (*Hassan*), J. S. Draisey (*Poems of G. Manley Hopkins*), P. H. Frearson (*Times, Fourth Leaders*), F. J. Garrett (*Plays of Webster*), F. S. P. Gee (*Draynflete Revealed*), T. W. Packer (*Plays of Marlowe*), D. Rabson (*The Age of Elegance*), D. W. H. Ridout (*The Game of Cricket*), and D. L. Treacher (*I give you my word*).

Finally we gratefully acknowledge the regular receipt of publications from Lever Bros., Handley Page, and Shell Oil Corporation.

G.F.D.

### THE OXFORD LETTER

Sir,

As your correspondent puts pen to paper once more he is reminded of the tag—

*"Quidquid agunt homines, votum, timor, ira, voluptas,  
Gaudia, discursus, nostri farrago libelli est."*

(Just to show that we do some reading occasionally in this seat of learning). And so it has fallen to our lot to describe the farrago of Oxford life in this Michaelmas Term, 1950.

Of the Guy Fawkes' night celebrations enough has been revealed in the local and national newspapers (to say nothing of Police Court proceedings) to prove that University life is not all study: suffice it to say that the Abingdonians emerged with clean sheets, albeit one of our number has since been seen sporting a policeman's badge. With the end of Michaelmas Term Schools the Term has perhaps had a more carefree air: your correspondent is now waiting hopefully for the abolition of Trinity Term Schools. "*Nil desperandum!*"

In the field(s) of sport we are very pleased to see that Pembroke and St. John's have both earned promotion to Division II of the Rugby League; while during the term several O.A.s have been seen plodding round the "Cupper" X-Country course. We extend our hearty congratulations to J. A. Garner on being elected Hon. Sec. of Rugger at

Pembroke; he has also been running for the Varsity 3rd Cross-Country team.

We have been pleased to welcome three new faces in our midst this term: J. P. Mortimore and M. H. Jones are now up at Pemmy reading P.P.E. and Law respectively, while V. E. Welch is to be seen regularly in the vicinity of the Labs. and St. Caths. We regret that Tim Moore is no longer with us: we wish him every success in his career in the forces. Of the other O.A.s in residence we have very little news, as the majority of our number seem to be most mysteriously busy (Shame!); we would, however, put on record two "gatherings of the clans"—one at St. John's over a pot of tea and the other at Magdalen at the end of term over something stronger—with somewhat disastrous results!

In spite of everything, the Festival of Britain and the reduction of the meat ration, we would just remind potential scholars that, as an 'Oxford man said to a Cambridge proctor one memorable night this term, "Sir, there is only one University"; and now, with every good wish for the New Year, we remain, Sir,

Your Oxford Correspondent.

(D.H.W.)

## O.A. NOTES

### BIRTHS

**ALDWORTH.** On 16th August, 1950, to Monica, wife of Ernest H. Aldworth (1942) a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

**DOLPHIN.** On 9th January, 1951, at Siddington House, Cirencester, to Diana, wife of Brigadier C. E. H. Dolphin, C.B.E. (1922) a daughter.

**HANKS.** On 3rd January, 1951, at Colchester, to Nancy, wife of Major A. F. Hanks, M.C., (1925) a sister for Michael and Peter.

**HOLMES.** On 17th October, 1950, at the Warren Hospital, Abingdon, to Mary, wife of Norman J. Holmes (1938) a brother for Suzanne and Helen.

**JACKSON.** On 22nd April, 1950, to Margaret, wife of R. F. Jackson (1939) a daughter, Pauline Isabel.

**SINCLAIR.** On 30th April, 1950, at Accra, B. West Africa, to Jane, wife of G. E. Sinclair, O.B.E. (1931), twin daughters.

**STEVENS.** On 9th November, 1950, at Birkenhead, to Eileen Olive, wife of Geoffrey M. Stevens (1935) a daughter, Lesley Jean.

**TURNHAM.** On 23rd September, 1950, at Bridge House, Wootton, Isle of Wight, to Veronica (née Spencer) wife of Major A. J. Turnham R.A., (1934), a daughter.

**WHIDBORNE.** On 31st January, 1950, to Evelyn, wife of Dennis R. A. Whidborne (1940), a daughter.

### MARRIAGES

**HAZEL-HIELD.** On 22 Oct., 1950, at St. Michael at the North Gate, Oxford, Stanley N. Hazel (1942) of 14 Harwell Rd., Sutton Courtenay, to Rosemary Elizabeth Hield of Littlethorpe Hall, Ripon, Yorks.

**HEDGER-STYLES.** On 19th September, 1950, at Oxford, Mark, (1942) youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Hedger of Bracknell, Berks. to Helena Rosalie, only daughter of Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Walter Styles, of Rodmell, Lewes.

### DEATHS

**COWBURN.** On 29th December, 1950, George Edward Cowburn, aged 48.

**NAPPER.** On 29th July, 1950, at West Hagbourne, Dennis Napper, aged 57.

George Cowburn was at the School 1916-18. He had for many years assisted his father, the late Mr. J. Cowburn, who was Secretary of Milton Hill Estates Ltd. It was only at last Whitsun that he became Verger of St. Helen's Church, Abingdon. He leaves a widow and little daughter.

Dennis Napper, while at the School 1906-08 established the record for Throwing the Cricket ball. During World War I, he served in the Royal Marines, and for many years since he had been farming at W. Hagbourne.

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We offer our congratulations to Archibald B. West, J.P. (1901) on his election as Chairman of the Abingdon Bench of Magistrates.

We have been very pleased to hear recently from so many O.A.s scattered about the Empire. Kenneth Wood (1922) is now established at Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, with the Salisbury Board of Executors Ltd.

David Brown (1935) has been home from N. Rhodesia for several months, on a course which takes him to Oxford for two terms, so we shall hope to see him this term.

R. S. Barnes (1944) is stationed at Broken Hill, N. Rhodesia with the rank of Assistant Inspector of Police. He likes the country and the work which takes him about on lengthy trips quite often. He was recently spending leave with his family who are settled at Kitale, Kenya.

Pat Mosdell (1931) of course continues to interpret the law at Livingstone and his keenness for plying an oar shows no diminution.

Incidentally, R. F. Challenor (1899) and J. W. Mortleman (1900) would appear to be the two senior O.A.s in Africa—if they are still there.

Brian Perry (1950) who recently left with his parents for Singapore, is working with the firm of Sims, Darby & Co. He seems to have made an early and successful start in shouldering the responsibilities of supervising native labour working on the firm's contracts.

Julian Graff (1939) is manager of Rosetor Hotel, Torquay, and has been kept very busy organising the accommodation side of the U.N. Conference on Tariffs and Trade, which has settled down at Torquay for a five months' stay.

Another hotelier is J. B. Hill (1941) who is assistant manager of the Great Western Hotel, Paddington—so we have the right connections at both ends of the line.

Durnford Newman (1935) who has been engaged for some time on electrical installations at London Airport has been seconded to the R.A.F. for 2½ years with the rank of Squadron Leader, and expects to be leaving for Germany shortly.

W. E. Steele (1924) who is in Cables & Wireless, paid a welcome visit to the School recently, while enjoying a spell in London. He has been stationed at Bahrein in the Persian Gulf.

A. B. Blackmore (1928) has moved from Woodcote and taken a farm near Torrington in Devon with the attractive address, Broomhill Farm, Peters Marland.

Michael Wood (1938) has now escaped from London and settled in his house at Bromley. In July he passed 5 out of 6 subjects in his Finals in Architecture, which was pretty good considering he had crammed two years' work into one year. By now we hope he has negotiated the sixth.

An interesting note appeared in a recent issue of 'Rowing' over the signature of F. E. Thorn (1885) about the 12-oared races of London R.C. and the ultimate fate of the two boats. He and his brother P. A. N., had distinguished rowing careers, and the latter was for many years a mainstay of London.

Raymond Stross (1933) had a paragraph to himself in the gossip column of a national 'Daily', which described him as 'dapper and short—but his ambitions are tall'. He now owns nine cinemas and a film producing company which is at the moment engaged on a film starring Richard Attenborough.

Peter Hedger (1932) is teaching English and Geometry to Greek boys at the Mitzis School, Lemython, Cyprus. He is enjoying life but finds modern Greek rather a trial.

E. S. N. Hazel (1942) is now a medical student at St. Thomas' Hospital, where he should be meeting D. B. Ker (1943).

P. E. Wagstaff (1930) is running a wholesale and retail leather business at Kingston on Thames, while Gerald Trudgian (1942) is manager of the Granada Cinema, Sevenoaks.

#### *Services News*

Lieut. K. R. Sims (1943) R.A. Heavy A.A. is stationed at Woolwich, and Peter Sims (1946) Lieut. R.A.C., after a tour in Germany is now at Catterick.

A. W. H. Riggott (1950) enters R.M.A. Sandhurst this term.

M. D. Millichap (1950) is a L/Bdr. Instructor at Oswestry where he has recently received G. S. Draisey, R. F. Hamer and P. R. Lucas. The last named has passed his W.O.S.B. and is thinking of applying for a Regular Commission.

P. R. Little (1947) in R.A.M.C. left recently for the Middle East.

W. G. Olscher (1949) is in the Intelligence Corps, stationed in Germany.

P. F. C. Berry and R. D. M. Grant have recently joined the R.A.F. and R.A.S.C. respectively.

A. F. Bastin (1949) is in Signals Section, R.A.F. at Nicosia, Cyprus, where he should come across B. C. Jakeman (1945) Sgt., R. Berks.

Of recent leavers, Peter Richardson is at Queen Mary's College, London, studying medicine, G. E. Holford is with Caribonum Ltd., and David Ridout is under the kindly eye of Hugh Insley-Fox, in the notable Estate Agents firm of that name.

D. L. Treacher has joined the 'Abingdon Group' at the Oxford School of Art, and T. O. Inwood is at Loughborough College, Leics.

M. A. C. Heavens is doing a year's teaching at New College School, prior to starting his medical studies at London Hospital, and I. Juggins is pursuing the practical side of Automobile engineering in his father's firm.

David Allen in the R.M.N. with the Frank C. Strick Line has already made a few trips to the Middle East.

## O.A. CLUB NOTES

## CLUB DANCE

The Annual Dance was held in the Council Chambers on 2nd December, 1950, and was, as in previous years, a great success. A note on the dance could not possibly pass without word of appreciation to Mrs. Bevir for the magnificent floral decorations which were admired by all, "Many thanks, Mrs. Bevir."

## COMMITTEE MEETING, 31st OCTOBER, 1950

The Committee met on 31st October, 1950, and got through a very heavy agenda. The main points of interest are as follows:

The Committee directed by a motion from the A.G.M. appointed a Sub-Committee under the Sports Secretary to help him in his arduous task. Members appointed subject to their agreement were as follows: Rowing—K Donkin, Hockey—I. J. M. Jamieson, Athletics—K. J. Weston, Cricket and Rugby—The Sports Secretary can himself organise. The Sports Secretary will however remain responsible for all sporting activities.

*Re-organisation of the Club.*

The Vice-President stated that the new organisation was working very well and the parents of boys leaving school were in the majority of cases responding admirably. 21 boys have already joined from the end of the Summer Term. Their names were read by the Treas. They were proposed, seconded, and carried en bloc to become members, their names being appended in the Minute Book.

There followed much discussion regarding the investment of the new subscriptions as they came in. It was finally agreed by all that the Club should have three banking accounts, namely:

(a) General A/c. which it now has.

(b) Trustees Savings A/c. To invest any surplus money over £50 from the General A/c.

(c) Trustees Savings A/c. To be called Magazine A/c. This A/c. should receive 5 gns. from each member's subscription immediately it is paid. If a member pays by instalment, then the first guinea should go to the General A/c. and the balance to the Magazine A/c.

It was agreed that the magazines to be set off against the Magazine A/c. should be paid for each term from the General A/c. At the end of each year when the Vice-President remitted the life subscriptions to the Treasurer the accumulated cost of these magazines should be deducted from the amount transferred to the Magazine A/c. Interest on the Magazine A/c. should be allowed to accumulate in the A/c. against the day when the cost of magazines would exceed income.

(a) The Vice-President reported that Lacies Court had been purchased and that at least £3000 would be needed for the purchase and necessary conversion. He also said that money received and promised was a most generous and gratifying step towards it. Mr. Hooke recalled that the O.A.T.F. had some £875 in hand and it was there for use when it should benefit the School most and this he thought was the time to use it. Therefore he proposed that the Trustees of the O.A.T.F. should be recommended to make an immediate grant of £800 by way of a gift to the Lacies Court appeal. Mr. Bevir seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously.

(b) The President proposed that the Old Boys should mark their appreciation of Lady Radcliffe's generosity by presenting to her a book of her choice, specially bound. The Committee agreed and left the matter in the hands of the President.

The following new members have been elected to the Club since September, 1950:

- J. W. H. Beasley, 7/49, 21 Victoria Road, Abingdon.
- P. F. C. Berry, 7/50, The Wheatsheaf, Drayton, Berks.
- M. Buzzard, 7/50, 8 Besselsleigh Road, Wootton, Abingdon.
- F. J. Garrett, 7/50, Kingston Bagpuize, Abingdon.
- F. S. P. Gee, 7/50, Harleigh, Rowstock, Didcot, Berks.
- R. M. D. Grant, 7/50, 18 Park Road, Abingdon.
- R. F. Hamer, 7/50, 18 Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay, Berks.
- G. E. Holford, 7/50, 29 Warren Road, Wanstead, N.11.
- T. O. Inwood, 7/50, Quorn Guest House, Quorn, Loughborough, Leics.
- I. Juggins, 7/50, Horwen, Northcourt Road, Abingdon.
- R. Klein, 7/50, 3 Denton Road, Wokingham, Berks.
- J. H. Light, 7/50, 118 Streetley Lane, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.
- P. R. Lucas, 7/50, 42 Valentine Crescent, Caversham, Reading.
- B. J. Noyce, 7/50, 246 Tilehurst Road, Reading, Berks.
- P. M. O'Brien, 7/50, 37 Replingham Road, Southfields, S.W.10.
- T. W. Packer, 7/50, 134 Wootton Road, Abingdon.
- I. M. Pickford, 7/50, 2 West St. Helen's Street, Abingdon.
- D. Rabson, 12/50, c/o Rev. J. V. Pixell, The Vicarage, Radley, Berks.
- P. C. Richardson, 7/50, 3 Melton Drive, Didcot, Berks.
- D. W. H. Ridout, 7/50, Athelstaw Arms Hotel, Cranleigh Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth.
- A. W. H. Riggott, 7/50, 34 South Avenue, Abingdon.
- D. L. Treacher, 7/50, 17 St. John's Road, Abingdon.
- B. H. Wiggins, 7/50, Cheriton, Radley Road, Abingdon.

### OLD ABINGDONIAN TRUST FUND

The Annual Report and audited accounts will be published in the next issue of the Abingdonian as usual, but a brief notice seems called for here. It will have been observed in the articles dealing with the purchase of Lacies Court that the Trustees have, on the recommendation of the Trust Committee, donated the sum of £850, which represents almost the whole available balance, towards the purchase. Everyone will surely agree that it was for just such an occasion as this that the Fund was founded, and also that every effort must now be made to build up the Fund again for future service. At present the gross annual income is something over £100 and thanks to the generosity of Old Boys it shows signs of increasing rather than the reverse. In every issue of the Magazine I am able to record additions to the list of those who have signed Banker's Orders and Forms of Covenant—a particularly good batch in this number—and to all of them the School, rather than the Fund, is most gratefully indebted.

Since our last publication Covenants have been signed by G. A. H. Bosley, S. A. Fabes, J. A. Garner, R. D. Gibaud, J. Graff, R. Hedger, F. C. Lucas, J. N. Paige and J. D. Wood; and Banker's Orders by D. G. Brown, C. B. F. Milne, P. E. Wagstaff and K. T. Wood.

G. F. Duxbury.

### LACIES COURT

#### *An Appeal to Old Boys*

As you will have learnt from a previous article in this magazine, a committee of Old Boys has bought the whole of the Lacies Court property from Lady Radcliffe and has arranged for the greater part of it to be conveyed direct to the Governors for the immediate use of the School

It would take too long to describe the complicated negotiations that have led up to this eminently satisfactory result or to explain in detail the financial set-up. What it boils down to is that in order to cover the purchase price of that part of the property conveyed to the School, the legal charges, the cost of immediate and urgent repairs and the initial adaptation, we needed to raise some £4,250. A preliminary appeal to a limited number of Old Boys has resulted in our raising more than half this sum: after including the contribution of £850 from the O.A. Trust Fund there remains rather less than £1000 still to be found. We now appeal to all Old Boys to help us to secure this balance, so that we can hand the property over to the School as a going concern.

Now comes the important point. We are not appealing primarily for gifts outright—welcome though they would be! Things are difficult for all of us just now, so we invite you to *lend* money, free of interest: or, if you cannot afford to do this, at a fixed rate of 3 per cent. (But for administrative reasons interest can only be paid on loans of £50 or over). The Governors have obtained the approval of the

Ministry of Education to make themselves responsible for the repayment of your money, and have authorised the issue of the following statement:—

(a) The Governors undertake to repay in full any sums lent for this purpose.

(b) In case of real necessity or emergency repayment will be made on demand; otherwise it will be decided by annual drawings of multiples of £50.

(c) The sum total of money repaid in any one year, whether in emergency or by drawing, will be not less than £150.

(d) In any case all loans will be repaid in full by 31st December, 1970.

(e) Interest on interest-bearing loans will be payable on 31st December of each year.

It should be added that the Trustees of the O.A. Trust Fund, realising that this is just the kind of purpose for which the Fund was devised, have contributed practically every penny of the available resources of the Fund to the Lacies Court Appeal. If therefore you prefer to help by spreading a contribution over a period of years, we suggest you might like to make out a covenant to the O.A.T.F. or to increase an existing covenant. This will help the School just as much as a direct contribution to the Lacies Court Fund.

Whichever way you would like to help us, whether by gift, by loan free of interest, by loan at 3 per cent, or by covenant to the O.A.T.F., will you please write as soon as possible to the Hon. Secretary of the Lacies Court Committee, Mr. G. F. Duxbury, at Abingdon School? Please note that this Appeal will not be repeated and the Fund will be closed on Old Boys' Day, 16 June, 1951. If you would like any further information, will you please get into touch either with him or with any member of the Lacies Court Committee, which is composed of the following gentlemen:— Mr. S. Cullen (President O.A.C.) *Chairman*, Messrs. W. G. Bradfield, J. M. Cobban, R. E. Eason, T. E. Gardiner, J. H. Hooke, R. W. Snell, R. A. R. Townsend, A. B. West, J. L. West, G. F. Duxbury.

It only remains to be added that a list of the names only of all those who have contributed, in any way, will be published in our next issue. Here let us raise our hats in homage to the Anonymous Old Boy who has set such a magnificent example by lending £1000 to the appeal, free of interest. Let us see how many other Old Boys can emulate him in spirit even if they cannot do so on such a princely scale! And after all, a lot of small contributions are just as valuable as a few large ones.

S.C., J.M.C., G.F.D.

### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

*The Life Membership Subscription to the Old Abingdonian Club is Six Guineas, which covers all the privileges of the Club and receipt of 'The Abingdonian' for life.*

*The Subscription is proportionately reduced for those who have left the School ten or more years ago, and may also be paid by annual instalments of One Guinea.*

### "THE ABINGDONIAN"

*Existing Members of the Club and others can obtain the Magazine in three ways:*

1. *By Banker's Order for a minimum of 5/- p.a. payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. (Forms of Covenant are available which will nearly double the value of all annual subscriptions to the Fund of One pound or more).*
2. *By compounding for Life Subscription on a sliding scale according to age.*
3. *By subscription to the Magazine at current price—at present 4/- per annum.*

*All subscriptions to the O.A.T.F. and 'The Abingdonian' or queries relating to them should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon School, Berks, who will also be glad at all times to receive news from and concerning O.A.s.*