

Parson

THE ABINGDONIAN



SEPTEMBER, 1951

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

THE ABINGDONIAN

Vol. X. No. 12

SEPTEMBER, 1951.

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CALENDAR, MICHAELMAS TERM, 1951

September

18 Tues. Term begins 9 a.m.

October

- 10 Wed. 1st XV v. Reading School (A).
- 13 Sat. 1st XV v. Southfield School (H).
- 17 Wed. 1st XV v. Pembroke College (A).
- 20 Sat. 1st XV v. City of Oxford School (A).
- 27 Sat. 1st XV v. Solihull School (A).

November

- 3 Sat. HALF TERM
- 7 Wed. 1st XV v. Magdalen College School (H).
- 10 Sat. 1st XV v. Henley Grammar School (H).
- 14 Wed. 1st XV v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (A).
- 17 Sat. 1st XV v. Windsor County Boys' School (A).
- 21 Wed. 1st XV v. Newbury Grammar School (A).
- 24 Sat. 1st XV v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (H).

December

- 1 Sat. 1st XV v. Radley College 2nd XV (H).
- 2 Sun. CONFIRMATION SERVICE.
- 8 Sat. 1st XV v. OLD ABINGDONIANS (H).
- 12 Wed. Inter-House Cross Country Race
- 18 Tues. Term ends 10.15 a.m.

Lent Term begins 9 a.m. on Friday, 18th January, 1952 (Boarders return Thursday, 17th January).

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL, MICHAELMAS TERM, 1951.

SCHOOL PREFECTS

D. FREE (Head of the School)

A. G. B. KING (Head of School House);

J. WESTALL (Head of Day Boys)

D. R. G. Andrews (S)

R. S. M. Millard (S)

B. W. Boddington (S)

E. G. R. Peedell (D)

H. R. Leach (D)

N. A. C. Darroch (S)

B. W. T. Leech (S)

M. J. Biggs (W)

N. J. Shurrock (D)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House

P. H. B. Amey

M. J. Brackley

R. G. Beere

M. C. Glassbrook

C. H. Banwell

Day Boy

M. W. Matthews

S. R. Mills

C. S. Wiggins

G. W. Crockford

C. Tompson

J. Norman

B. A. Whiteford

J. C. Ivatts

Waste Court

P. J. Millard

P. M. Glassbrook

Larkhill

(P. R. Sale)

J. G. Guimaraens

Captain of Rugger—B. W. T. Leech

Secretary of Rugger—D. R. G. Andrews

Secretary of G.G.C.—D. Free

"The Abingdonian"

Editor: B. W. Boddington

Assist. Editors: D. Free, N. J. Shurrock
and R. S. M. Millard

O.A. Editor and Hon. Treas.: Mr. Duxbury

EDITORIAL

In this Festival Year, we have been pleased to observe the efforts made by Abingdon to provide a more cheerful aspect. The alterations to the thoroughfares in the town aroused considerable controversy in the columns of the local press but they have been accepted and generally agreed to be a change for the better. Consequently, the Town looks smarter and cleaner to the people who just pass through Abingdon.

We note with particular pleasure the gaiety added to the Roysse Courtyard and the old School-room. It seems strange to us now, but this court was once enclosed by the Two Brewers Tavern, which was pulled down, we understand, for more reasons than that of being unsafe. Early in the year, the Courtyard was ploughed up and planted with flowers and a lawn laid. A fountain of simple design was erected and the exterior of the Roysse Room was tastefully re-decorated. The result is very satisfactory.

Furthermore, the towing path, long derelict, where the banks had collapsed into the river near the Bridge, was mended. A very fine exhibition, which included some exhibits from the School, was arranged and there were numerous fetes and garden parties. Among other useful contributions to the Festival Year was a newly produced Guide and an anthology of local poetry, a review of which was published in the Easter edition of the Abingdonian.

Then School, too, has been undergoing great changes, which are discussed in detail in the article that follows. New buildings arise, and numbers increase. But material developments are not as important as those indefinables which make up the character and the tone of a School: and what really matters is that in these days of expansion the School should preserve and strengthen those traditions on which its strength has been built up through the centuries.

End of term was saddened by the news of the death, so shortly after Founder's Day, of Mr. W. T. Morland, whose connection with the School had been so long and intimate. A memoir will be found on a later page. Here we would respectfully offer to Mrs. Morland and her daughters our deep sympathy in their great loss.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL

The past twelve months have indeed been an *annus mirabilis* for the School. They have seen not only the opening of the new Science Block but also the acquisition of Lacies Court and the purchase of the W. Memorial Field. Each of these ventures has far-reaching effects on the economy of the School: and it is felt that a general note on the School 'Development Plan' may be of interest, especially to those Old Boys and friends of the School who have not been able to revisit us within recent months.

The New Science Block has now become an accepted part of our landscape and our life. The flat roof, forced upon us by the shortage of timber, has provided a nature reserve where the biologists can tend a varied assortment of flora and fauna. The attractive lay-out of the ground in front of the block has attracted much favourable comment: and for this we are deeply indebted to the combined efforts of the Bursar and his staff and of Mr. Talbot. The Prefects' Lawn now presents a sward of unbroken green. It will shortly be embellished by a mulberry tree, presented by the School Prefects of 1951 to commemorate the Festival of Britain. A suitable inscription will remind the School Prefects of 2051 (?), as they lie beneath the tree and catch the ripe fruit as it falls into their mouths, of the provenance of the tree.

At Lacies Court, work is still in progress on the extensive alterations which are necessary to adapt it for its new life. Meanwhile, transfer of the Library to the Dining Room (now renamed the Library) and the adjoining room (the Radcliffe Room) began as soon as the certificate examinations were out of the way. The Drawing Room (now the Heylyn Room) will be in use next term for the Sixth Form, and the Hall will serve as a useful room for meetings of School societies and the like. The Kitchen will become the Scout Headquarters, and the Butler's Pantry, under the name of the Wardrobe, will provide a Green Room for the Dramatic Society. Two entrances have been made from the School grounds—a formal oak doorway leading from the Main Drive into the Jekyll garden, and an attractive wrought-iron gateway, for everyday use, behind the Science Block. To the South our very good friend Mr. Rudd is in residence at the Cottage, now transformed into a charming residence.

The removal of the Library has meant a little more elbow room in the main buildings. The old Library has reverted to its traditional name of the Pembroke Room and will provide a spacious form room, especially adapted for the teaching of history. The Reeves Room is being converted during the Summer holidays into a large book-room and office, with one corner divided off as a private office for the Bursar—who will at last have adequate if not luxurious accommodation. The old Bursary is also being divided; the Southern half of it, under the name of the Reeves Room, will be used primarily as a Vestry, and the Northern half will form an annex to the Art Room.

Externally, the repainting of the buildings in green and white will be completed by September, and the complete remaking of the main drive is expected to start very shortly—a major undertaking of especial interest to those who have occasion to visit the School by car or cycle.

Mention was made in our last number of the extensive and carefully planned programme of felling and planting which was being undertaken to embellish our grounds in this Festival year. Practically all the trees scheduled for removal have now been cut down, and we can assure those who instinctively fear the sound of the woodman's axe that even at this stage, before replanting has started, there is no question of the grounds appearing denuded. It may be of interest to add that when the giant elm in front of Waste Court, towering over Bath Street, was felled, it was found to be completely hollow, even to a depth of two or three feet below ground level. Now we are looking forward with interest to the arrival of the large and varied assortment of saplings that are on order, to replace the trees removed and to fill up the bare spaces around the Lower Field.

At the end of September we enter into occupation of the War Memorial Field, and we hope to start the work of levelling very soon afterwards. By 1953 we can look forward to having an extra cricket square and two more rugger pitches at our disposal.

Inside the School, the Governors have recently approved a scheme for improving our amenities which will ultimately provide a new and scientifically-planned pantry, adjoining the dining hall, and better changing accommodation, with ample provision of showers, both for boarders and for dayboys. It will be some time before the whole of this programme can be completed, but any inconvenience caused during the transitional period will be well worth it!

And that, for the moment, is as far as our development plan goes—officially; though the fact that the East wall of the new Science Block is devoid of windows may indicate that the possibility of some day erecting a new Assembly Hall, at right angles to it, has at any rate not been overlooked. But this is looking very far ahead, and we may well have to wait for the quatercentenary of our re-foundation before we can translate this particular dream into bricks and mortar. And beyond the Hall may then lie our swimming pool . . .

J.M.C.

CONTEMPORARIES

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Magazines from the following Schools:—Aldenham; Henley Grammar; King Alfred's, Wantage; King Edward's, Stratford; Leighton Park; Magdalen College, Brackley; Magdalen College, Oxford; Newbury Grammar; Oundle; City of Oxford; Reading; Southfield; St. Edward's, Oxford; Wallingford Grammar; Windsor County.

SCHOOL NOTES

We were sorry to hear that Miss Grundy had to be taken to the Radcliffe Infirmary during the holidays, and we hope that by the time these words are read she will be back at Heathcot, fully restored to health.

It is with mixed feelings that we congratulate Mr. Baynes on his appointment as Senior History Master at Denstone College; but there are no reservations in the good wishes we extend to him on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Delphine Crews on 2nd August.

We shall always remember with gratitude the enthusiasm and work of Mr. Baynes—as House Tutor at Waste Court, as form-master, as instructor to the post Cert. 'A' trainees, in the library, on the rugger field and on the river, and, most important of all, as a teacher of History. We wish him all good fortune.

We welcome, in the place of Mr. Baynes, Mr. A. A. Hillary, B.A., Open Exhibitioner of Jesus College, Cambridge. Mr. Hillary obtained second-class honours in both parts of the History Tripos. He captained his college at hockey and is also a cricketer of some note, having played on occasion for Cambridge University. He, like Mr. Baynes, will live as House-Tutor at Waste Court.

Mr. Baynes' mantle as Form Master of the Lower Sixth will fall on Mr. Holloway, who will, we hope, wear it with equal distinction.

We also offer our congratulations to our Chaplain, Mr. Burgess, whose marriage to Miss Joan Dyke took place in St. Michael's Church, on 8th September, and (from afar) to Miss Newenham, whom School House will remember with affection, who was married to Mr. George Stoney at Carrigaline on 8th August.

We are glad to welcome Miss Kinder and Miss Roberts as assistant matrons at School House and Waste Court respectively. We hope their stay with us will be long and happy.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Fiori on the birth of a daughter, Jane Clare, on 24th August.

It gave us real pleasure to see Mr. Bevir back in harness as Chief Invigilator of the Certificate Examinations.

Among visitors to the School during the past term was Professor H. K. Hunt, Professor of Classics in the University of Melbourne, Australia, who spent a whole day in the form rooms and subsequently helped us to cement the bonds of Empire at the O.A. Dinner.

Since our last issue the War Memorial Fund has benefitted by the following amounts:

Collections on Founder's Day	£18	0	5
Speeches and Music	£18	18	6
Sale of clothing (Mr. G. Tudor)	£3	8	0
Sale of clothing (Mr. R. N. Roff)		4	0

Information about the current development of the school property will be found in a separate article. Here we should like merely to thank the volunteers from Middle School who have done so much to tidy up the grounds of Lacies Court, under the appropriate name of the 'Nun's Gardeners'.

A special word of praise and thanks too to C. J. Lockhart Smith, who has blazoned as many of the shields on the school walls as public opinion would allow.

We congratulate M. J. Wareham, who has been awarded the County Scholarship in Agriculture at Reading University: M. Bateman, whose Pembroke Scholarship has now been supplemented by a State Scholarship: and Ian McNaughton and R. J. Taylor who have been allotted County Awards at Oxford and Reading respectively.

We congratulate also J. D. Hall, W. N. R. Stevens and J. A. Howard, who have been awarded respectively a School Foundation Scholarship, the Young and Summers Scholarship, and a Foundation Exhibition.

We are always grateful to receive challenge cups from friends of the School. Very warm thanks to Major V. C. Buckley who has given a most attractive silver tankard which was awarded this year for the first time as a Senior Tennis Challenge Cup.

Four senior boys, A. G. B. King, B. W. T. Leech, and the Millard brothers, have recently been consolidating the reputation they gained from their Fools' Dance in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by reproducing it at festivals in Abingdon and Reading. Our thanks are due to Mr. Mills who coached them and to S. R. Mills, their accompanist.

A match between the Clergy of the Dioceses of Oxford, and of Bath and Wells, was played on the School Ground on 15th May. The sight of so many clergymen was as unusual as the sight of so many Headmasters when we offered hospitality on 30th May to the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Branch of the Incorporated Association of Headmasters.

The Headmaster and some of the senior prefects represented the School at the opening of the Roysse's Court Garden on 7th June. Congratulations to those responsible for what is now a very pleasant amenity!

The School was also represented by the Headmaster at the induction of the Rev. A. E. Hayton as Vicar of the combined parishes of Abingdon and Shippon in St. Helen's Church on the eve of Founder's Day.

A Parents' Evening was held on 24th May for the parents of all boys in the Third Forms.

The visit of the Balliol Players, who gave an open air production of Aristophanes' 'Acharnians', in English, in the garden of Lacies Court on 19th June, was a welcome innovation. We look forward to a return visit next year.

On 5th July, a school party attended a production of 'Cymbeline' in Oxford; and on 19th July some of our classicists went by kind invitation to Radley to see an extraordinarily good production of Sophocles' 'Trachiniae' in the original Greek.

Visiting speakers in the Summer Term, other than those who came down under the auspices of School Societies, were as follows. To all we offer our sincere thanks:

1st May—Rev. G. E. Bussell, A.K.C., on 'The Work of the S.P.C.K.'

25th May—Mr. Jerome Willis on 'The Defence of the West'.

28th May—Commander F. Stovin-Bradford, D.S.C., R.N., on 'The Naval aspects of the Korean Campaign'.

17th July—Mr. F. I. Venables, B.A., Principal of Culham College, on 'Teaching as a Career'.

Practically every form in the School in turn was taken to visit the special exhibition of Abingdon History organised in June by the Friends of Abingdon; at which, incidentally, some of the treasures from our own Library were conspicuous.

After the examinations a number of visits was organised to places of interest in Abingdon and Oxford, including the Festival Exhibition in the Bear Room of the Guildhall; the Oxford University Press; the Offices of the Oxford Mail; Messrs Morland's Brewery; and (in contrast) the Oxford Waterworks. Our thanks to all concerned!

On the Thursday before Founder's Day the Lower Sixth Form celebrated the second anniversary of its existence in the hands of Mr. Baynes. A section of the brass band was present to assist at the celebrations, and Dog Tanner, who has now almost graduated to the official dignity of school mascot, was a special guest of honour.

Visitors to the Art Room during the first week of the holidays had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Grundy sitting for his state portrait by Mr. Hailstone. Even at this early stage it is clear that it is going to be a picture of outstanding merit.

All friends of the School—and of Abingdon—will be glad to learn that the Corporation has now decided to restore the Royssse Gateway and retain it in its present position. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to all who responded to the appeal for funds made above the signatures of Mr. Longland, K.C. (Chairman of the Friends of Abingdon) and the Headmaster; and also to the North Berks Herald, whose leader on the subject really inspired the appeal.

We look forward to the School visit to the South Bank Exhibition on Thursday, 27th September,—a date deliberately chosen so that parents who wish to accompany their sons during the Summer holidays will not find that their appetite for it has already been sated.

As we go to press we hear that B. D. Guimaraens, on holiday in Portugal, put Mr. Coleman's training to good effect by saving the life of a lady who was swept out by the current while bathing in a heavy sea. Well done!

The number of boys in the School at the beginning of the Summer Term was 334 (Day boys 201, School House 80, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19). It may be of interest to note that the number of new boys in September is expected to reach the record total of 63—a figure that will surely delight the heart of John Roysse.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

The results of the first examination for the new General Certificate of Education have now been received. As this is a 'subject' examination it is not possible to publish a list of boys who passed the examination as a whole, nor would it be either practicable or desirable to record each boy's performance in detail. We propose therefore in this and future years to make mention only of success at the 'Advanced' level.

A list follows. In general it may be said that results in the Sixth Forms were very satisfactory, and in the Fifth Forms about up to expectations.

Three Subjects: D. Free (L, G, AH): S. R. Mills (Pure M, App M, Ph): N. J. Shurrock (L, G, AH): R. J. Taylor (Ch, Bot, Zoo): M. J. Wareham (Ch, Bot, Zoo): C. S. Wiggins (Pure M, App M, Ph).

Two Subjects: D. R. G. Andrews (L, H): M. Bateman (E, A): M. W. Matthews (Ph, Ch): R. S. M. Millard (H, A): N. Purnell (Ch, Bio): J. Westall (Ph, Ch).

One Subject: B. W. Boddington (E): F. P. Field (H).

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

The Bishop of Oxford has kindly consented to hold a Confirmation Service in the School Chapel at 3 p.m., on Advent Sunday (December 2nd).

One reason why the Chapel services have been more and more vital is the wealth of talent available at the organ. Apart from Mr. Barker and Mr. Burgess, F.R.C.O., we have been able to make increasing use of our own Roger Packer. We will not embarrass him by references to infant prodigies but we have heard extremely high praise of his perform-

ance in St. Helen's on Founder's Day. Nor, it may be added, has the occasional introduction of a part of the brass band into morning chapel seemed at all irreverent.

The Chapel Committee has had a busy term and discussion has ranged from increasing the volume of the organ, an operation, incidentally, which would cost over £100, to providing kneelers, proper and efficient ventilation, and light shades more in keeping with the atmosphere of a chapel. Another item under discussion has been the provision of a vestry: now that this is in hand the Chapel Committee can rejoice that one at least of its major suggestions has borne fruit.

The annual Choir Outing took place on July 7th, when a large party visited the London works of the Compton Organ Company. We are extremely grateful to Mr. J. I. Taylor, the Chairman of the Company (and one of our own parents) who went to considerable trouble to arrange for a conducted tour of the works, and who entertained the whole of the party to tea. A most successful and enjoyable excursion.

We are very grateful to the many outside preachers who visited us during the summer term. Visiting preachers during the Michaelmas term will be as follows:—

7th Oct.—Rev. Paul Ashwin, M.A. (S.P.G.).

21st Oct.—Rev. A. E. Morris, M.A., former Archdeacon of Western Queensland.

28th Oct.—Rev. C. W. Dugmore, M.A., B.D., of the University of Manchester.

25th Nov.—Mr. T. S. Nevill, M.A., Headmaster of Wellingborough School.

9th Dec.—Rev. A. E. Hayton, Vicar of Abingdon.

We should also like to express our thanks to H. B. Stevens for a most unusual and welcome 'leaving present' which took the form of a pair of magnificent vases to stand in the apse.

Collections during the Summer term were allocated as follows:—

St. James' Church, Nevis	£3	3	0
S.P.C.K.	£1	10	0
Abingdon School Mission	£2	9	4
Trinity Methodist Church	£2	4	9
Berks Fund for the Blind	£1	12	6

The collection at the annual School Service in St. Nicolas' Church on 29th July (amounting to over £3) was given to St. Nicolas' Church Funds. The collections at the Founder's Day Service in St. Helen's and at the Morning Service in Chapel on the following day (over £18 in all) were given to the War Memorial Fund. All other collections were devoted to Chapel Funds.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Founder's Day was held on Saturday, 28th July and was generally acknowledged the most successful of recent years. At the morning service in St. Helen's Church, the address was given by the Headmaster of Bradfield College (Mr. J. D. Hills, M.C., M.A.). In a most inspiring and direct talk, Mr. Hills spoke of our school as a training ground for 'leaders of the people', and of the ways in which, with God's help, real Christian leadership can be given. The choir's singing of the Anthem, "The Heavens are Telling" from Haydn's 'Creation', was especially memorable this year. The wreath for the tomb of John Roysse was again prepared very beautifully by Mrs. Bevir, to whom our thanks are given as well as to the Misses Challenor for decoration of the altar.

The main ceremony of the afternoon, the Prize Giving in the Corn Exchange, is detailed below. After the Prize Giving, the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban met what must have been a record gathering at a garden party on Upper Field. The weather, fortunately, was again most kind and conditions were perfect. The School Brass Band played during tea, and afterwards the junior forms gave a short display of massed physical training. As in previous years, visitors were invited to tour the School and, in addition to numerous displays and exhibitions, were able to see the gardens and the alterations that have been carried out at Lacies Court. At the end of the afternoon, there occurred the interesting ceremony reported immediately following this article, and to conclude the day's celebrations a programme of Speeches and Music was enjoyed in the Corn Exchange by a large audience.

On the evening of the next day, Sunday, the traditional service was held in St. Nicolas' Church, at which the Headmaster preached in accordance with the terms of the Cheney Bequest. While this service is by way of being a quiet domestic epilogue to the strenuous excitements of Founder's Day, we were very glad to welcome to it so many parents and friends of the School.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE TROWEL

This pleasant little ceremony took place on the gravel in front of the new (1901) buildings, when Mrs. Frank Morland handed over to the Headmaster for safe keeping the silver trowel presented to her father-in-law, the late Mr. J. T. Morland, when as Mayor of the Borough he laid the foundation stone of the extensions. The Headmaster, in introducing Mrs. Morland, explained that the trowel had an added interest in that it had been sent from Australia by Mrs. Morland's son, John, who was born on the day the stone was laid (30th July, 1901). Mrs. Morland expressed her great pleasure at being able to give the trowel

to the school, and Mr. Grundy, whose reign as Headmaster spanned a great part of the intervening 50 years, thanked her on behalf of the School. The ceremony ended with the presentation of a bouquet to Mrs. Morland by one of the youngest boys in the School, Peter Gray.

PRIZE GIVING

The guest speaker was Mr. M. L. Jacks, M.A., Director of the Department of Education of Oxford University and former Headmaster of Mill Hill School, who also presented the prizes, and the ceremony was presided over by Vice-Admiral F. Clifton Brown, Chairman of the Governors.

In his Annual Report, the Headmaster gave a review of the year's activities and revealed the fact that in the coming year the numbers in School would reach 360. Following this Report, Mr. Jacks presented the prizes and then spoke to parents and boys upon the liberties of the mind. The threat to the liberty of the mind, he said, could best be met in school, where we are taught to think for ourselves. Thinking should not be secondhand or done by proxy with the aid of such modern devices as advertisements, daily newspapers and the radio. The country needed people who could think and we must exercise the right to think for ourselves at all times.

The ceremony closed by the Headmaster thanking Mr. Jacks for presenting the prizes.

AWARD OF PRIZES

THE ENDOWED PRIZES: The Thomas Layng Reading Prize—M. Bateman, The Smith Chemistry Prizes: Sixth Form (Upper)—M. J. Wareham, Sixth Form (Lower)—P. J. Downer, Fifth Forms—A. D. Burton, Fourth Forms—R. M. Marchbanks, The Ball Science Prize—C. S. Wiggins, The Bevan Essay Prize—J. C. Ivatts, The Bevan Scripture Prizes: Fifth Forms—C. G. Brown, Fourth Forms—F. L. Allsworth, Third Forms—R. P. Warren, Second Forms—B. D. Winkett, First Forms—J. T. Buckland

THE SCHOOL PRIZES: The Headmaster's Prize for Efficiency in School and House—M. Bateman, H. B. Stevens and D. J. Heavens, The Mayor's Prize for History Essay (presented by Mr. H. G. Mullard, J.P.)—N. J. Shurrock, The Old Boys' Prize for English Essay—W. L. Wooldridge, The Old Boys' Prize for English Verse—C. J. Lockhart Smith, The Van Wagenen Essay Prize (presented by Col. R. W. Van Wagenen of Princeton University, U.S.A.)—D. R. G. Andrews, The Prize for Character (presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Ellis)—B. W. Boddington, The Prizes for Efficiency in the C.C.F.—C.S.M. H. R. Leach, Sgt. H. B. Stevens and L/S. W. L. Wooldridge, The Junior Reading Prize (presented by Mr. C. C. Woodley, O.A.)—A. J. Gardner, The Music Prizes: Senior (presented by Mrs. Rayson)—B. W. T. Leech, Junior (presented by Miss Sheldon Peach)—R. E. J. Packer, The Art Prizes—R. S. M. Millard and P. Thompson, The Handicraft Prizes—B. A. Whiteford and J. E. Cowles.

THE FORM PRIZES; Sixth Form (Upper): Classics—D. Free, English—M. Bateman, Maths. and Physics—S. R. Mills, Biology—N. Purnell, Sixth Form (Lower): Arts—J. C. Ivatts, Science and Maths—A. G. B. King, Form 5 Arts and Science—M. J. Morris and C. E. Stopps, Form 5 General—M. A. Candy and P. M. Glassbrook, Form 4 Arts—D. A. Jones and J. Blinman, Form 4 Science—D. S. Lloyd and P. G. Cope, Form 4 General—C. G. P. Aylin, Form 3A—R. E. J. Packer and J. D. Hall, Form 3B—M. K. C. Grigsby, Form 2A—B. D. Winkett, C. Hiles, M. C. Rallings, Form 2B—P. O. D. Song, Form 1A—P. M. D. Gray and W. W. Budden, Form 1B—B. R. Smith.

SPEECHES AND MUSIC 1951

'Speeches and Music', now no longer an experimental leap in the dark, once again rounded off a very busy Founder's Day. This year it had to face an audience that was at the same time less suspicious and more keenly critical. It could no longer claim the indulgence traditionally accorded to the maiden effort and in fact it had no need to do so. Judged on its own merits, it provided an admirable conspectus of the School's cultural activities and extremely good entertainment, and I for one enjoyed it thoroughly. What pleased me most about it, I think, was the happy atmosphere of informality which redeemed it from the 'stuffiness' of similar shows I have seen elsewhere without detracting at all from the dignity of the occasion. And I am going to pay it the compliment of criticising it very frankly.

One or two general remarks about the speeches to begin with. In the first place, there is a certain standard of technical competence which one should and must be able to assume before discussing the merits and demerits of interpretation. To put it bluntly, we have not yet reached this standard and we shall not do so until, for instance, false quantities and bad vowel sounds are eliminated, and the voice of the prompter is no longer heard in the land. Secondly, the choice of passage deserves far greater consideration. The governing factor throughout must be the realisation that it is to be heard out of context by an audience to whom it may be—probably is—unfamiliar. This applies particularly of course to excerpts in foreign languages; and here the wise man, or boy, chooses a passage of sufficient emotional content to allow him to 'get it over', by means of voice and gesture, to a hearer with small Latin, less Greek and no German. But it is a factor which must not be overlooked even in the choice of English passages. A twentieth century imitation of Chaucer, for example, may be extremely amusing when read on the printed page. Declaimed from the stage, it becomes unintelligible. At all events the only thing I could understand in the 'Povre Fyshe' was a reference to the 'ragge-bagge': and lest the fault might be in myself I compared notes with a highly intelligent neighbour, and he was in exactly the same plight.

It follows as a corollary that unusual words, names and phrases call for especial care in enunciation—an elementary lesson which some of the speakers have yet to learn. I wonder how many people, other than dyed-in-the-wool Elians, picked up the reference to 'rabidus furor'?

And lastly, you can only persuade your hearers to share your emotions if you give the impression that you believe in them yourself. It is this feeling of gusto, of 'fire-in-the-belly', on which ultimately the success or failure of declamation depends. Some speakers had it; some had not. Perhaps Bateman was outstanding in this respect. He chose (I wonder why?) a very hackneyed piece; and he represented Henry V as the exhausted leader of a forlorn hope rather than as an exultant Paladin. But he was not afraid to pull out all the stops on the organ and as a result his interpretation was credible and quite literally thrilling.

For the rest, very brief notes must suffice, based on memories that float to the surface as I write. John Hall's French readings were assured and efficient, though a little metallic; Andrews was equally at home in the German. Dido disappointed (no tragic queen this, but a jilted shop girl). Jabberwocky delighted. Congratulations to those who devised this fantasy: I could have wished that Monsieur Mortimer had added some programme notes on the life of von Schwindel whom I have not met in my studies in German literature. I liked 'The Cloud': and I thought the scenes from the Alcestis extraordinarily moving and pathetic. Hassan, quite bluntly, I found meaningless. At least one of the performers, to judge from his casual attitude, seemed to share my opinion. A disastrous irruption, this, into what was otherwise a well-constructed programme.

I have little space left in which to discuss the musical side of the programme, but it was a joy to see how much more 'body' there was in it this year. The choral items showed us what Mr. Barker has achieved by disciplined enthusiasm. The division of the choir on military lines was a pleasant conceit. 'Over the Sea to Skye' haunted me for days afterwards. I liked the catch 'On Tobacco', though it suffered from under-rehearsal (pardonable but no less regrettable). The consort of recorders (I am always glad to add a new collective noun to my collection) made a happy debut. Mr. Fiori successfully tackled the difficulties of a Flute Sonata. Especial thanks to our 'guest performer' Miss Ellis, and to Headmaster-Parent who came over with Mrs. King, at such a busy time, to strengthen our modest strings.

And the Brass Band? Last year we admired it as Dr. Johnson would have admired a woman preaching ("It is not done well: but you are surprised to find it done at all"). This year we were genuinely amazed at the verve and confidence shown by the performers. All honour to Mr. Clack and his pupils. It was a stroke of supremely successful insolence to remind us of modest beginnings by prefixing Belphegor with a few bars of 'Drink to me only —'.

Lastly, a word of gratitude to all those who helped so unobtrusively behind the scenes—qualified only by a commination upon the vagaries of the flood-lighting during the first half of the programme: and sincere congratulations to Mr. Griffin whose guiding hand was to be seen behind the whole of the programme, and more particularly, I suspect, behind some of the individual speeches. It can too easily be forgotten that the whole of the entertainment has to be prepared, practically speaking, within the last fortnight of a very exhausting term. To put on a show like this under such conditions is indeed worthy of the highest praise.

J.M.C.

PROGRAMME

1. SOLO AND CHORUS Strings and Chorus
Tenor Solo—G. H. Cooper
How blest are Shepherds (from King Arthur) . . . Purcell
2. TWO READINGS IN FRENCH John Hall
L'Homme a ri . . . Victor Hugo
Noël . . . Théophile Gautier
3. SONG. Sweet Polly Oliver . . . Traditional Choir
4. CREATION HYMN . . . Beethoven Brass Quintet
5. SCHOOLMASTERS THROUGH THE AGES
16th Century—from 'The Schoolmaster' by Roger Ascham Bryan Boddington
18th Century—a description of James Boyer from 'The Essays of Elia' by Charles Lamb Peter Amey
19th Century—Mr. Squeers from 'Nicholas Nickleby' by Charles Dickens John Westall
20th Century—'Povre Fyshe', an imitation of Chaucer by S. F. Downing Bryan Boddington
6. MINUET FROM BERENICE . . . Handel Consort of Recorders
7. SONG C.C.F. (Army) Singers
Marching through Georgia . . . Traditional
8. A READING IN LATIN Peter Field
from Virgil's Aeneid (iv. 362—392)
9. THREE SONGS Margaret Ellis
Come Calm Content . . . Arne
O del mio dolce ardor . . . Gluck
O Mistress Mine . . . Roger Quilter
10. A FANTASY
Jabberwocky . . . Lewis Carroll Tony King
Gaberbochus . . . Hassard Dodgson David Free
Le Jamaisroche . . . R. G. Mortimer William Wooldridge
Der Jammerwoch . . . 'Herman von Schwindel' Robin Mills
11. MARCH. Belphegor . . . E. Brepsant Brass Band
12. A READING IN GERMAN David Andrews
from Bismarck's "Gedanken und Erinnerungen"
13. SONG. Over the Sea to Skye . . . Traditional C.C.F. (Navy) Singers
14. CATCH. Little Jack Horner C.C.F. (Combined Ops.) Singers

15. SPEECH BEFORE HARFLEUR Michael Bateman
from Henry V by Shakespeare (Layng Reading Prize Winner)
16. SONATA No. 3 in G . . . Handel Flute—J. V. Fiori
Piano—J. F. H. Barker
17. POEM. The Cloud . . . Shelley Tony Gardner
(Junior Reading Prize Winner)
18. CATCH F. W. Burgess, J. F. H. Barker
J. B. E. Alston, C. E. T. Moore
On Tobacco . . . Dean Alarich
19. A READING IN GREEK Clayton Armstrong, Alan Pezaro
David A. Jones, Jonathan Blinman
John Hines, David M. P. Jones
from Alceste, by Euripides (ll 379—415)
20. FOLK SONG Choir
Just as the Tide was flowing . . . arr. Vaughan Williams
21. THE PROLOGUE AND EPILOGUE TO HASSAN
James Elroy Flecker Richard Millard, Peter Field,
Peter Amey, Tony King, Bryan
Boddington, Neil Darroch, Julian
Brakspear, David Andrews, John
Lockhart-Smith, David Heavens
22. NON NOBIS DOMINE . . . Byrd Choir

VALETE

Left—March, 1951

Upper Sixth Form:

A. E. Willson (iii, 1940) (Modern); School Prefect 1949, O.S.C. 1948, H.S.C. 1950, Lady Wantage Scholarship 1949, Open Scholarship in History to Lincoln College Oxford 1950; C.C.F., Cert. 'A', G.G.C., Secretary Roysse Society, Dramatic Society, Chairman Turnor Society, Committee Debating Society, Editor 'Abingdonian'.

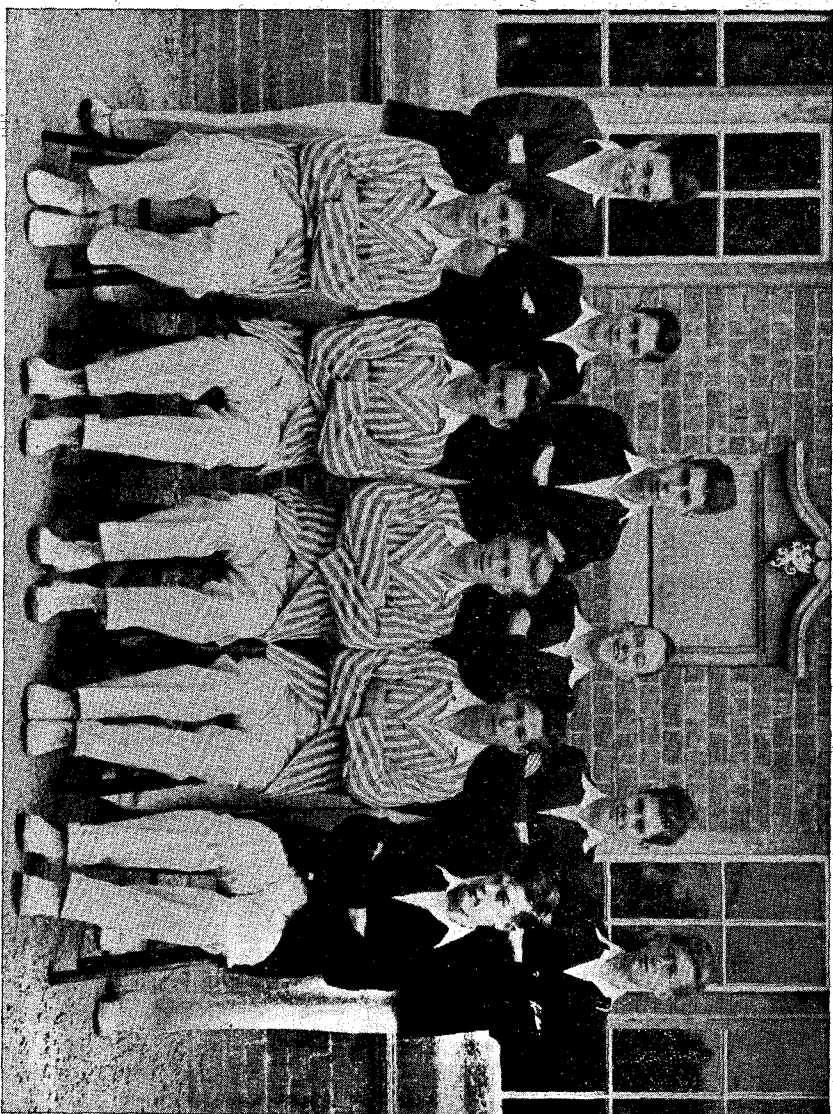
Lower Sixth Form:

H. A. Wilson (II, 1948) (Modern); House Prefect 1951, O.S.C. 1950, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. I, Naval Section, Leading Seaman, Dramatic Society.

Form 4G: D. W. Hall (I, 1946); 'Under 15' XV 1950, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. I.

Form 3B: C. A. Mason (I, 1947); C.C.F.

Form 1A: W. P. Tomalin (I, 1950).



P R Sala M T Randall E R W V C T

1st XI 1951

(Photo by Milligan)

CRICKET, 1951

This season has been a very patchy one: but there is one feature which augurs well for future years. In the second half of the season the performance of the 1st XI did not depend merely upon the success or failure of one or two stars,—it was really a team. Whiteford, Brackley, the Glassbrook brothers, and Purnell, all bowled well at times, and the batting honours were shared throughout the team. The fielding in some matches reached a very high standard, with Free, Brackley and Biggs catching the eye.

In the first few matches there was a lack of confidence which reached tragic proportions against the Berkshire Gentlemen. Against the Town, however, a transformation came over the side: the fielding and bowling improved considerably for the remainder of the term. Regrettably this transformed team was soundly beaten in their last match, against Newbury, the only excuse being that they were unaccustomed to a fast wicket.

We congratulate B. A. Whiteford, M. C. Glassbrook and P. M. Glassbrook on being awarded Full Cricket Colours; also M. J. Brackley, C. E. Stopps, N. Purnell and M. J. Biggs on being awarded Half Colours.

The following awards were made:—

The Lake Bat (presented by H. W. Lake, Esq., M.C.) M. C. Glassbrook.
The Henderson Awards: Senior—B. A. Whiteford; Junior—R. J. Hines.
The Fletcher Cup: M. C. Glassbrook.

1st XI CHARACTERS

M. BATEMAN (Captain, Colours). As a captain, if somewhat unorthodox in handling the bowling, he has set a high example of keenness both on and off the field, and he has been a first-class 'administrator'. Himself a very good fielder, he has on occasions made a useful score by concentrating on the drive which he executes well.

(S.C.P.)

B. A. WHITEFORD (Colours). The fast bowler of the side, he is always reliable and keeps a good length, although his lack of height is a handicap. As a batsman he has some useful strokes, but needs to develop a more orthodox defence. A smart close-in fielder.

M. C. GLASSBROOK (Colours). A left-handed batsman of great promise who moves quickly to the ball and has a wide range of strokes on the off-side. At present, however, he has no adequate answer to a good length attack on his legs. A useful fielder and a reliable change bowler.

P. M. GLASSBROOK (Colours). A dour opening batsman who concentrates hard. His style is a little stiff, but the strokes are there, and it will become freer as confidence grows. Has bowled his off-breaks well at times. An improved fielder.

D. FREE (Secretary, Half Colours). An excellent cover-point with a deadly throw. He would be a useful hitter if he acquired some defence.

J. R. W. IRELAND (Half Colours). A player who lacks determination. He has some good shots but has never stayed in long enough to produce them. A safe fielder.

C. E. STOPPS (Half Colours). A very good wicket-keeper whose previous experience with Whiteford has been helpful. Some of the balls he has taken on the leg side have shown the stamp of class. If he could develop a sound defence he would be a useful hitter.

M. J. BRACKLEY (Half Colours). In the team as a bowler he got into difficulties with his action, and at the end of the season lost form completely. A good defensive batsman and a safe fielder.

N. PURNELL (Half Colours). His bowling is unreliable at the present because he changes over from leg-breaks, which are generally effective, to short in-swingers. He badly needs to have the courage of his craft as a slow bowler. A careful batsman and a sound fielder.

M. J. BIGGS (Half-Colours). A useful person to have in the team as a hitter because of his unruffled temperament which is suitable for the tensest of games. A good fielder with an accurate return to the wicket.

F. P. FIELD (Vice-Capt.). Came into the team as an all-rounder. He has, on occasion, broken up a stand, and generally defended his stumps with resolution. Safe slip-field, but slow in anticipation.

P. R. SALE. Another batsman lacking determination. His back shots are weak because he takes his eyes off the ball. A safe fielder usually.

P. S. G. STEVENS. Discovered late in the season he played several aggressive innings. He has a good eye, and drives well for one of so small a size. A smart fielder close to the wicket.

J. FURBY. Played several innings, and his batting, although unreliable, shows promise. In the field he must show more determination in getting to the ball.

M.B.

1st XI MATCHES

v. A Staff XI (H). Wed., 9th May. Draw.

For this match against the Staff, rain postponed the start until quite late. Making an early declaration at 87 for 5, the School was unable to get all the Staff wickets in time, and when play ended the Staff score was 52 for 7. Glassbrook, M.C., made a polished 32, and for the Staff S. C. Parker's 22 not out was a delight to watch.

v. City of Oxford School (H). Sat., 12th May. Lost.

Against City of Oxford School the form of the home team was disappointing and City of Oxford won by 7 wickets comfortably. Batting first the School did not make use of the advantage and wickets fell regularly owing to lack of confidence among the batsmen, rather than to the good bowling of the visitors; before tea the side was all out for 71. City of Oxford carefully settled down to master the bowling, and Robinson made a dour 29. The score mounted slowly, but the winning hit was made in good time.

School: 71 (Free 20, Moore 3—7).

City of Oxford School: 72—3 (Robinson 29).

v. Pembroke College (H). Mon., 14th May. Won.

On Whit-Monday the School beat Pembroke College by thirty runs. Batting first, the School pushed the score along at a healthy rate, but a good display of batting was marred by two unnecessary run-outs, and by bad running between the wickets. Declaring at 118—8, they left themselves just enough time to dismiss the College, and despite stubborn innings from Govett and Page, the last wickets fell with two minutes to spare.

School: 118—8 dec. (Glassbrook, M. C., 34; Field 20).

Pembroke College: 88 (Govett 30; Page 24; Whiteford 4—23).

v. Berkshire Gentlemen (H). Wed., 16th May. Lost.

The players took the field at 11.30 a.m. under a dark sky, which was in sharp contrast to the bright innings of the Gentlemen. The School bowlers suffered a long and painful task against some powerful batting, both Stow and Waites passing the 60 mark. When the last wicket fell at 244 the School was thoroughly demoralised, as the subsequent batting collapse showed. Lincoln Gordon and Flatman shared the wickets.

Berkshire Gentlemen 244 (Waites 66, Stow 63).

School 56 (Lincoln Gordon 5—10).

v. Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe (A). Sat., 19th May.

Draw.

High Wycombe made a slow start in this game, and it was not until Woodbridge and Carrick came together in a fourth wicket partnership that the runs came quickly. A late declaration at 103—9 decided the

ate of the game, although at one time it seemed that Bateman and Whiteford were set for the runs. A collapse in the middle left the tail end struggling for a draw, and the match ended inconclusively.

High Wycombe: 103—9 dec. (Carrick 26, Woodbridge 23).

School: 67—7 (Bateman 29).

v. Abingdon C.C. (H). Sat., 26th May. Draw.

A miraculous change came over the school in this match, for with first rate bowling and fielding they dismissed the Town side for 38. This out began with a wicket the first ball of the game, and, encouraged by his, Whiteford bowled 13 overs unchanged, taking five wickets for 14 runs. Heavy rain after tea caused the match to be abandoned.

Abingdon C.C. 38 (Jamieson 16, Whiteford 5—14).

School 5—1.

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (H). Wed., 2nd June. Won.

This victory by eight wickets over Wantage was due to some good bowling by Whiteford, well backed up in the field, and to a very competent innings by M. C. Glassbrook. Wantage batted first and made 80 and after tea the School batsmen, looking very confident, knocked off the necessary runs in good time. For Wantage, Kenny bowled well on an uncompromising wicket.

Wantage: 80 (Whiteford 6—37).

School: 83—2 (Glassbrook 39 not out).

v. Old Abingdonians (H). Sat., 9th June. Lost.

The key match of the season provided plenty of excitement. Good weather was promised by Ministry forecasts, but when the O.A. side took the field in the morning the sky was overcast. Off the first ball Bateman hit a six, but he was soon back in the pavilion; M. C. Glassbrook settled down quickly, only to be caught out to a brilliant catch by Budden at 14. A stand by Furby and Whiteford took the score up to 95, and it came as a surprise when Whiteford was bowled for 43. Furby's contribution was 33. P. M. Glassbrook made 17, and the last wicket fell at 143. Jamieson bowled well, taking five for 14, and the standard of fielding was very high.

In ten minutes three O.A.s were out for four runs. The position was saved by Cullen and Weston who made 37 and 30 respectively. Heavy rain at tea nearly caused the match to be abandoned, but the rain topped and the captains agreed to an extension of play. The score mounted as quickly as the wickets fell, but 26 runs were needed to win when Carter, last man in, joined Inwood at the wicket. With a violent innings he brought the score to 141, and after a dramatic over from Whiteford, drove the winning hit past him to the sight-screen.

School: 143 (Whiteford 43, Furby 33, Jamieson 5—33).

O.A.s: 145—9 (Cullen 37, Weston 30, Carter 21).

v. Reading School (H). Wed., 13th June. Draw.

Reading batted first and, whilst Steward and Rudd were in, the score mounted rapidly. Jarvis carried on competently on their dismissal, but the bowling of M.C. Glassbrook and Brackley, which was well-supported by the fielding, kept the Reading score down to 103. Bateman and M. C. Glassbrook pushed the score along slowly for the School, but a sudden collapse saw four wickets fall quickly. Biggs, P. M. Glassbrook and Brackley all batted well to save the game, and bring the score up to one hundred. With only a few minutes remaining the frantic effort of the last four batsmen caused great tension, and, facing the last three balls, Field was only able to score one of the four runs needed for victory. The main feature of the game was the performance of Howe Jones who took eight School wickets for 38 runs in 18 overs.

Reading: 103 (Rudd 35, Jarvis 34, M. C. Glassbrook 4—25).

School: 101—9 (M. C. Glassbrook 24, Howe-Jones 8—38).

v. Oratory School (A). Sat., 23rd June. Lost.

Oratory owed much to a fine innings by Arundell who scored 42 in polished style. On what seemed a bowler's wicket they did well to make 105. Whiteford bowled well in taking four wickets for 12 runs. A disastrous start saw seven School wickets down for 26, but a fighting partnership by Stopps and P. M. Glassbrook brought the score up to a respectable total, and the last wicket fell at 76. Arundell's off breaks had the earlier batsmen in trouble and at one stage he had five wickets for nine runs.

Oratory: 105 (Arundell 42, Whiteford 4—12).

School: 76 (Stopps 25, P. M. Glassbrook 20 n.o.; Arundell 6—44).

v. Magdalen College School (H). Sat., 30th June. Draw.

The School batted first, and after losing a wicket in the first over, there was a good stand by the Glassbrook brothers. Later in the innings Biggs and Brackley had a quick scoring partnership, and Stopps played a good carefree innings, bringing the side's total up to 132. Magdalen were not left time to make the runs in comfort, and the first four batsmen were back in the pavilion with 12 runs on the board. The remaining batsmen played carefully, and Carter and Jones saved the game for Magdalen in a long stand. Whiteford, Brackley and Purnell bowled well, taking two wickets each.

School: 132 (P. M. Glassbrook 20, Biggs 30, Stopps 23 not out).

Magdalen: 61—7 (Carter 29 not out).

v. A Parents' XI (H). Sat., 7th July. Lost.

The School, in batting first, made slow headway against the accurate bowling of Clewley and Brackley. Although no batsman made as many as twenty runs, a score of 121 was reached. The highlight of the parents' innings was a rapid 38 from Nicholls who hit nine boundaries and was caught brilliantly by Whiteford at short leg. Woodley an

Gingell made 21 and 28 respectively, and Brackley made the winning hit by driving Purnell for four. Purnell took the six wickets which fell for 45 runs, and in a continuation of the game brought his total up to eight. The other bowling was below form, but much of it was saved by good fielding.

School: 121 (Brackley 3—17).

Parents: 124—6 (Nicholls 38, Gingell 28, Purnell 6—45).

v. Newbury Grammar School (A). Sat., 14th July. Lost.

Batting first on a dry wicket the School was unable to muster more than 58 runs. Wakeford bowled effective in-swingers, and in his last six balls he took four wickets. Abbott made 37 of the runs for Newbury in a forceful innings, and they passed the School's total with eight wickets in hand. Whiteford and M. C. Glassbrook bowled steadily, but seldom looked dangerous. In a continuation of the game Newbury proved that the wicket was a batsman's paradise.

School: 58 (Wakeford 8—19).

Newbury: 59—2 (Abbott 37 not out).

2nd XI

The 2nd XI enjoyed a moderately successful season, playing under three different captains. Most of the players were young and next year should form a really strong 2nd XI. The fielding was generally of a high standard, and Stevens and Furby lent vigour to the batting. Purnell bowled well whilst in the team, and Full's wicket-keeping deserves special praise.

The team was as follows:—Ireland, J. R. W. (Capt.); Stevens P. S. G.; Furby; Edelsten; King, A. G. B.; Full; Millard, P. J.; Banwell, R. J.; Buxton; Robbins and Hiscock. Also played:—Field; Purnell, N.; Sale; Wareham; Andrews; Taylor, R. J., and Ellis.

Results

- v. Magdalen College School (A). Lost 57, 135-7 dec.*
- v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (H). Drawn —, 57, rain stopped play.*
- v. Leighton Park School (A). Lost 37, 70.*
- v. Caxton Casuals (A). Drawn 21-3, 63, rain stopped play.*
- v. City of Oxford School (H). Won, 71, 48.*
- v. Old Abingdonians (H). Drawn 1-1, 116-8 dec., rain stopped play.*
- v. Reading School (A), Won, 97-7, 95.*
- v. Radley College 3rd XI (A), Lost 52, 55-4.*
- v. St. Edward's School Colts (A). Drawn 89-3, 138-2.*

3rd XI

The third eleven was inaugurated this year by way of an experiment, to provide an attraction for the increasing number of seniors who stand little chance of a place in the 2nd XI. That they lost their two matches

we attribute to lack of experience, and not to lack of keenness, and they have shown that there was a need for such a team.

The team was as follows:—Ivatts (Capt.), Ellis, Hiscock, Wareham, Roff, Aylin, Redknapp, Madley, Shurrock, Nicholls and Paxman, R. N.

Results

v. Reading School (H). Lost 56, 115.

v. Newbury G. S. (A). Lost 71, 142-7 dec.

'UNDER 15' XI

The success of the 'Under 15' XI this year was due to the immense enthusiasm and keenness of the team both on and off the field. The batting was good all through, and Armstrong, Nichols J. A., Clewley, and Hines, all of whom have some attractive strokes, made a quartet difficult to dislodge. Hines and Jones shared most of the wickets, and on occasion Lewis was dangerous with his leg-breaks. The fielding was at times very good.

The team was as follows:—Hines (Capt.); Jones, D. A.; Clewley; Nichols, J. A.; Armstrong; Marshall, A. C.; Stroud-Viney; Glover; Brown, E. L.; Lewis; and Maxwell. Also played:—Cowles, J. E., and Carter, J.

Results

v. Newbury G.S. (H). Drawn 50-9, —, rain stopped play.

v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (A). Won 35-4, 33.

v. Magdalen College School (H). Won 40-7, 39.

v. City of Oxford School (H). Won 31-4, 30.

v. Radley College (H). Won 86-4, 84.

v. Oratory School (A). Won 50-6, 49.

v. Leighton Park School (H). Won 86, 76.

v. Reading School (A). Lost 75, 78-3.

HOUSE MATCHES

Junior

Reeves beat Tesdale by 102 runs. 139-2 dec. to 37.

Blacknall beat Bennett by 3 wickets. 63-7 to 62.

Final:—Reeves beat Blacknall by 45 runs. 116 to 71.

Senior

Blacknall beat Reeves by 7 wickets. 44-3 to 42.

Bennett beat Tesdale by 46 runs. 75 to 29.

Final:—Blacknall beat Bennett by 74 runs. 159 to 85.

OTHER MATCHES

Dayboys beat Boarders by 2 wickets. 88-8 to 87.

Army beat Navy by 7 wickets. 112-3 to 110-7 dec.

ROWING, 1951

In spite of some disappointments and hopes not fully realised, the rowing season has been very enjoyable and reasonably successful. The weather in the Summer term was quite kind but conditions were never fast, as compared with last year. The highlight of the year, of course, was a pipe-dream come true, the gift of a new racing four, presented in the name of the O.A. Club. Words cannot express our appreciation of such a generous act of encouragement to the rowing and we can only hope that future successes will show that it was made to some purpose. We have been fortunate enough to secure a boat without indefinite delay, a very nice craft built by Talboys in 1939 from pre-war wood and never launched until it was rowed down to Abingdon in July. On that trip she proved comfortable and easy-running; the only problem now is to find a suitable name for her. At the other end of the scale we managed to secure at bargain prices from Eton College two fixed seat gig pairs for the beginners, which should materially assist the grounding process and lighten the burden of our aged fleet of fours. The only snag about these welcome additions is that the Boathouse is now so crowded that some of the boats have to be boarded-out. To round off this account of the 'state of the fleet', we offer our very real thanks to an anonymous O.A. for a generous donation to the Boat Club funds.

As to the rowing, the chief difficulty was to find a stroke for the 1st IV who could weld the crew together and get the best out of a crew that was always hardworking and individually quite competent. Archer had length and rhythm but lacked life and fire; Brakspear drove himself too hard and consequently tended to become short and wash out, while Millard, who had proved very successful with the different technique of the 2nd IV, did not find the 1st crew easy to control. The 2nd IV without being particularly stylish was quite fast and only lost one School race by a narrow margin. The 3rd IV after taking a long time to settle down came on rapidly and registered another victory for the School against Magdalen College School.

This year for the first time, we had a triple fixture on our water against Magdalen and King's School, Worcester. The weather was perfect, but the occasion was virtually ruined by a swivel instead of fixed-pin four being sent from Oxford for the King's School crews. Consequently they had to borrow School boats at the last moment and through a series of mishaps suffered disaster in the 1st IVs race—and that despite a re-run. We can only offer our sympathy and regret that such things should have happened through no fault of ours.

In addition to the racing crews there were generally two more fours and tub pair crews on the river and the enthusiasm of the juniors was greatly fostered by the regular coaching provided by Mr. Baynes and

Mr. Fiori. The departure of the former will be a sad blow to the Club, and as a token of appreciation of his enthusiastic labours he was presented with a pewter tankard, suitably inscribed, in the course of the 'Boating Evening' at the end of term. The 'Evening'—it could hardly be called a regatta—was an innovation that proved most hilarious and enjoyable. It included the final of the House Races: a race between the 1st IV rowing in reverse order and a Staff crew consisting of Messrs. Duxbury, Mortimer, Baynes, Fiori and Barker (cox) which ended in a dead-heat over 2 furlongs; a sculling race—the first ever held by the Club—won by R. G. Mortimer, who managed to keep going over the gruelling course of $1\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs; and concluded with a procession of boats in which all the Club craft took part, and the Headmaster was once again enabled to handle the rudder-lines. Music was provided by the Brass Band, duckings liberally administered by the spectators and a good time had by all. We should like to thank Mrs. Cobban for kindly presenting mementoes to the crews of the Staff race.

1st IV

Bow—A. J. TAYLOR (Col. 1951). 9 st. 9 lbs.

A neat and hardworking oar.

'2'—J. A. M. BRAKSPEAR (Col. 1950. Capt.). 10st. 11 lbs.

A powerful and enthusiastic oar, if somewhat lacking in polish.

'3'—W. L. WOOLDRIDGE (Col. 1951). 10 st. 12 lbs.

Backed Stroke up well. Has a tendency to lie back too far at the finish, and is a little heavy-handed.

Stroke—R. S. M. MILLARD (Col. 1951). 10 st. 10 lbs.

A strong, determined stroke. With more experience in racing technique he should do well.

Cox—H. R. LEACH (Col. 1950). 7 st. 8 lbs.

His confident orders are inspiring, though he tends to shout too often, which distracts attention of the crew from listening to the running of the boat.

In general they were a crew with drive and determination but lacking in polish and the cohesion that makes a really fast crew. Individually there were faults of bladework, slide-control and lack of leg-drive. Nevertheless, particularly in later races, they returned some creditable times, and only lost to manifestly superior opponents.

Up to, and in, the Magdalen, Worcester race, J. W. HULLETT (10 st. 4 lbs.) rowed bow and J. B. ARCHER (10 st. 10 lbs.) '2'. The subsequent re-organisation of the 1st Crew was an attempt to achieve homogeneity which was only partially successful.

1st IV RACES

v. Culham College. Wed., 16th May (H.)

Won by $5\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 4 mins. 7 secs.

There was a strong stream and considerable head wind.

v. Reading School (A). Sat., 19th May.

Lost by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 4 mins. 30 secs.

After gaining a lead at the start the School were gradually overhauled by a crew with superior length.

v. King Edward's School, Stratford-on-Avon (A). Wed., 23rd May.

Won by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 2 mins. 21 secs.

Over the short course with Brakspear stroking the School returned a fast time.

v. Prince Henry's G.S., Evesham (H). Sat., 26th May.

Won easily, 3 mins 52 secs.

Against a slight stream and wind the School, striking 38, went straight into the lead.

v. Culham College (A). Wed., 30th May.

Won by $4\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 4 mins. 14 secs.

Conditions were slow but this was an unimpressive performance.

v. King's School, Worcester, and Magdalen College School (H).

Sat., 2nd June. Lost by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Conditions were good. Owing to a slide breaking in the Worcester boat there was a re-run, but the accident was repeated and the order of finishing the same. Under normal conditions it is probable that King's would have won the race. 1. Magdalen College School (3 mins. 28 secs.). 2. Abingdon School (3 mins. 37 secs.). 3. King's School, Worcester.

v. Old Abingdonians (H). Sat., 9th June.

Won by 3 lengths, 3 mins, 28 secs.

The Old Boys took the lead at the start and held on to it till nearly half-way when superior training began to tell.

O.A. Crew: Bow—K. Donkin; '2'—M. A. C. Heavens; '3'—C. Calvert-Fisher; Stroke—I. Juggins; Cox—A. R. Pezaro.

v. Wallingford R.C. (H). Sat., 30th June.

Lost $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 3 mins. 26 secs.

This was the fastest time and best performance generally of the season. Wallingford took the lead at the start, but the crews were level at half-way. From that point the School, though striking a higher rate, just failed to hold their stylish opponents.

MARLOW REGATTA

In a preliminary heat on Friday evening, 22nd June, the School were drawn against King's School, Canterbury, and Tonbridge School, who had already met twice previously this year. Conditions were calm but rather miserable with a steady drizzle. The School had the Berks station and there was little between the crews for the first furlong. Tonbridge then took the lead and though hard pressed by King's School all over the course won by a narrow margin in the fast time of 5 mins. 5 secs. with Abingdon $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths behind. The School became rather short and unsteady at half-way over but pulled themselves together for the finish. We should like to congratulate our friends from King's School Worcester, on winning the final in 5 mins. dead.

2nd IV

Bow—P. B. H. AMEY, 10 st. 6 lbs.

'2'—J. WESTALL, 12 st. 0 lbs.

'3'—A. J. TAYLOR, 9 st. 9 lbs.

Stroke—R. S. M. MILLARD 10st. 10 lbs.

Cox—A. R. PEZARO, 6 st. 8 lbs.

This was a lively and enthusiastic crew who lost only one school race by a negligible margin. Without being polished they rowed well together and drove their boat hard over the course, responding well to the inspiring leadership of stroke.

RACES

v. Culham College (A). Wed., 16th May.

Won easily, 4 mins. 22 secs.

v. Reading School (A). Sat., 19th May.

Won easily, 4 mins. 19 secs.

v. King Edward's School, Stratford-on-Avon (A). Wed., 23rd May.

Won by 5 lengths, 2 mins. 30 secs.

v. Prince Henry's G.S., Evesham (H). Sat., 26th May.

Won by 2 lengths, 4 mins. 7 secs.

v. Culham College (H). Wed., 30th May

Won by 2 lengths, 4 mins. 13 secs.

v. Magdalen College School and King's School, Worcester (H).

Sat., 2nd June.

1. Magdalen C.S., $\frac{3}{4}$ length, 3 mins. 35 secs.

2. King's School, Worcester, 3 feet.

3. Abingdon School.

Magdalen went into the lead at the start and held their small advantage all over—but the School and Worcester had a ding dong struggle which was always in doubt.

v. Wallingford R.C. (H). Sat., 30th June.

Lost by 2 lengths, 3 mins. 26 secs.

This was a good race and the winners returned a very fast time. The School crew on this occasion was as follows: Bow—J. W. HULLETT; '2'—P. B. H. AMEY; '3'—J. WESTALL; Stroke—J. B. ARCHER; Cox—A. R. PEZARO.

3rd IV

The 3rd crew after a somewhat chequered beginning improved remarkably, especially after their first race, and in the race against Magdalen they rowed very nicely to win easily.

The crew was as follows: Bow—P. J. LAY; '2'—T. S. REEVE; '3'—C. TOMPSON; Stroke—R. G. BEERE; Cox—T. W. S. DOWNS.

RACES

v. Culham College (A). Wed., 16th May.

Lost by 3 lengths, 4 mins. 32 secs.

Though rowing on fixed seats and with little practice together the crew benefitted greatly by this race.

v. Magdalen College School (H). Sat., 2nd June.

Won easily

With Beere stroking confidently the School went straight into the lead and were never threatened by their very light opponents.

HOUSE RACES

This year it was decided to row House 1st and 2nd IVs, on slides and fixed seats respectively, rather than Senior and Junior.

In the 1st IVs race for the Bennett Cup, Blacknall beat Tesdale by 2 lengths over a course of $2\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs from the Corporation Farm, while in the 2nd IVs race Reeves beat Blacknall easily. The winning crews were: Blacknall House: Bow—P. J. Lay; '2'—P. B. H. Amey; '3'—A.

J. Taylor; Stroke—J. B. Archer; Cox—H. R. Leach.

Reeves House: Bow—P. J. Simmonds; '2'—H. B. Stevens; '3'—C. Tompson; Stroke—D. R. Carter.

G.F.D. and R.G.M.

ATHLETICS

In the Summer Term, the Athletic Club was not idle, and the star members devoted themselves to raising the prestige of the School at various athletic meetings. D. J. Heavens excelled himself and added more laurels to his already flowing crown. In the Berkshire Championships he ran a fine 440 yards against stiff opposition to win in 52.2 secs. At the same meeting N. A. C. Darroch won the shot with a put of 41ft. 10½ins. In the Reading Championships D. J. Heavens won the half-mile in 2 mins. 0.3 secs. (the official school record is 2mins.

9½ secs.). A. G. B. King acquitted himself well with the senior discus, throwing, on occasion, as the Reading A.C. second string. Between the three of them they represented the School and Reading A.C. at some seven meetings, competing in the shot, discus, javelin, 220 yds., 440 yds., and 880 yds. Well done!

M.B.

TENNIS

This summer tennis has spread itself. The newly sown grass court was in use, although it was closed down for the last month of the term in order to rest it. We are indebted to Major V. C. Buckley who presented an individual tennis Challenge Cup. We look forward to the day when he himself will present it. Another boost to tennis was the nine-runged tennis ladder, which was in play for the first time this term. Experience tells us that there is not time enough for a full blooded tennis tournament, and so the Cup was played for amongst the top four players on the tennis ladder, and was won by Wooldridge.

Unfortunately the standard of match play was low this year. In a match against the Staff, the School VI, Wooldridge and Brakspear, Heavens and Andrews, Biggs and Carter, were soundly defeated, losing every set. Playing Abingdon L.T.C., the VI although strengthened by three staff, Mr. Mortimer, Mr. Moore and Mr. Gray, suffered defeat by 7 games to 2. The Staff playing a stronger VI from Abingdon L.T.C. were beaten in a very close match, by 5 games to 4.

It has otherwise been a good tennis season, with the weather allowing many of us to play often.

W.L.W.

SWIMMING

Once again we were indebted to the Sister Superior of St. Helen's School for the use of the pool, where this summer we were able to hold not only instructional classes and the finals of our swimming sports but also to carry through a programme of heats as well. The inter-house sports were held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 25th July, under excellent conditions. Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Willis assisted in judging the open diving and after the races, Mrs. Cobban kindly awarded the certificates.

Times were not quite as good as last year, but some excellent swimming was seen. An obstacle race was won by D. J. Heavens.

The results were as follows:

- (Under 14) 25 yards free style—Dady (T.), 17.2 secs.
- (Under 14) 50 yards breast stroke—Cowles (Be.), 42 secs.
- (Under 16) 50 yards back stroke—Redknap (Bl.), 39.4 secs.
- (Under 16) 100 yards breast stroke—Redknap (Bl.), 84.5 secs.
- (Under 16) 100 yards free style—Redknap (Bl.), 70.5 secs.

- (Open) 50 yards back stroke—Hullett (Be), 38 secs.
(Open) 100 yards breast stroke—Heavens (Be.), 81.7 secs.
(Open) 100 yards free style—Darroch (T.), 64.4 secs.
(Open) Diving—Pulsford (Be.).
(Junior, 'Under 15') Relay—Bennett House, 76.6 secs.
(Senior) Relay—Tesdaie House, 53.1 secs.

The 'Green Cup' was won by Bennett House with a total of 45 points: second were Tesdale with a total of 33 points.

Instructional classes could not begin until 5th June: and it is the more to be wondered at that 20 boys were taught to swim. All credit is due to Mr. Coleman, whose tireless efforts alone have made this possible.

W.L.W.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

As is usual in the summer, this has been a busy term with four events of importance—Field Day, Cert. 'A' exams., the Empire Youth Sunday parade, and the Annual Inspection.

Field Day, held in the bleak weather of a wintry May, was a disappointment to the extent that for the third time in this school year, the weather was an enemy. A late start was made and it was found possible to complete only the programme of platoon exercises originally scheduled for the morning.

An examination for Cert. 'A' was held on 25th May, the entry being much the largest in our history: in Part 1, 55 candidates passed out of 61, with Cdt. Strodder reaching the distinction mark, and in Part 2, 14 passed out of 15. These latter were:—Banfield D. L., Beere R. G., Benson J. M., Burton A. D., Carter D. R., Glassbrook M. C., Grant M. M., Guimaraens J. G., Field F. P., Hawtin K. W., Henman K. W., Jarvis J. R., Littlewood D. L. J., Lockhart-Smith C. J.

A contingent of some 50 all ranks, including a detachment of the R. N. Section, represented the School in the parade and March Past on Empire Youth Sunday. This was in some ways a rehearsal for the Inspection as the salute was taken in Park Road and not, as usual, by the War Memorial.

The Annual Inspection was again held late in the term on Friday, 20th July, Brigadier R. L. Taverner, C.B.E., Deputy Comd. Salisbury Plain District, being the Inspecting Officer. History was made on this occasion in two ways—the numbers on parade reached the 200 mark, and we had, thanks largely to the enthusiasm of Sub-Lieut. Barker, our own band, which did itself great credit. The weather at the time was very hot and oppressive and, in consequence, Brigadier Taverner carried through the ceremonial part of the parade more perfunctorily than he would have done in cooler conditions. He was, however, well

pleased with both the turn-out and the marching, as well as with the training programme which followed; and we look forward to getting another good "chit" when the Report comes through. We congratulate all ranks on their good showing in this parade; and look forward now, with zest, to the same occasion next year when, with numbers likely to exceed 230, we shall have reached the peak of our continuing expansion.

This term the Information Room, with its small but already representative library, has been in full commission. Not much use has been made of it in the fine weather, but it is hoped that, next term, many cadets will make it their regular lunch-hour "club-room".

We have managed this term to get in a certain amount of .303 shooting, at the R.A.F. Station, while a party of some 30 senior cadets spent a full day on Churn Ranges early in May. There have been the usual Competitions for .22 shooting, with the following results:

Inter-House Shooting: Bennett.

Individual Shooting Cups: Senior—Cpl. Amey, P. B. H.

Junior—Cdt. Jones, D. M. P.

The Corps goes on—we hope, to greater strength and efficiency—but men, alas,—and officers too,—must come and go. To all 'leavers' who have rendered yeoman service we wish God Speed and good luck—and especially so to Lt. Baynes, on his transfer to the Corps at Denstone. His services as an instructor for the Post Cert. 'A' Platoon will be sadly missed. In his stead we shall welcome Major J. V. Fiori, M.C., R.E., who will be joining us next term, in the humbler rank of lieutenant. He will take over the R.E. Section which it is hoped to form for the training of selected Post Cert. 'A' Cadets.

In the course of the term, the following promotions were made:—To be Sgt.—Cpl. Westall, J.; to be Cpl.—L/Cpl. Downs, T. W. S.

S.C.P.

BOURLEY CAMP, 1951

A contingent of 3 officers and 58 O.R.s attended Bourley Camp from 30th July to 8th August. These numbers were almost identical with those for the corresponding camp in 1950—a fact, which, in view of the continued increase in the size of the Corps, was somewhat disappointing. This limited response is partly explained by the reduction in the scale of assistance from the Regular Army and the announcement that cadets would in consequence be called upon for various fatigue duties. In fact, the amount of fatigue work required—12 cadets on cookhouse duty during one day only—was negligible. This is recorded here, at the outset, in the confident belief that it will dispel all doubts for next year, when we hope that the School will be represented by a contingent more than 100 strong.

During the first days of Camp, we enjoyed fine, hot weather and training got under way in perfect conditions. On the second day, there was an interruption in normal training to allow 100 cadets from the camp to attend the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst. The R.M.A. was parading, for the first time on a ceremonial occasion, in No. 1 dress and their turnout and their drill must have been an object lesson to all. The training day was rounded off by a demonstration of Air O.P., which promised much excitement for the handful of cadets—one of them ours—who were to be taken up for a 10 minute flight. Unhappily, by the afternoon, a strong cross wind had developed and it was judged unsafe to attempt these flights. The actual demonstration, too, had to be cut short.

On the first full day in Camp, Abingdon provided the Guard for 'B' Bn., in competition with Westminster and Charterhouse, representing 'A' and 'C' Bns. The cadets concerned, under Sgt. Heavens as Guard Commander, put up a very fine show and, throughout a rigorous ceremonial lasting half-an-hour, ran 'neck and neck' with Charterhouse, Westminster being from the outset well behind. The issue was eventually decided on the final March Past, when Charterhouse were awarded an extra point.

On the Saturday morning and again from 1200 hrs. Monday until dinner time on Tuesday, rain fell continuously. This played havoc with the later training plans and robbed us of at least one success in the Sports on the Sunday afternoon. Night 'ops.', scheduled for the Saturday, were first postponed and finally abandoned. Saturday had to be spent in camp with lectures and training films to fill the gap, while, on the last day, a combined exercise with Radley was carried through on ground so sodden that the rain overhead had little or no power to add insult to the 'injury'. On the Sunday, when rain brought the Sports to an untimely end, Abingdon had figured prominently: Sgt. Heavens and Cdt. Aylin had represented the Bn. at basket ball; Aylin had won his weight in the boxing, the fight being stopped in the second round; Aylin again had romped home in the 'Under 16' obstacle race, while Brian Leech had won the hop-step-and-jump and a heat in the slow bicycle race. David Heavens had won his heat in the 100 yards in a most convincing manner; only the rain, we think, robbed him of victory in the final. Peter Fay, if less successful, was a gallant challenger in a number of events.

On the morning of Sunday, during the March Past after an indoor Church Parade, the marching of the contingent earned congratulation from the Camp R.S.M., and on the last evening our choral item in the Camp concert, with Cpl. Wareham in the lead, was much applauded. Mention must also be made of the C.S.M., whose fine word of command

attracted 'outside' comment, and Cpl. Leech, who either together or individually were constantly on parade as buglers—and not by any means for 'B' Bn. only.

Training hours apart, Camp life gives the individual cadet valuable experience in looking after himself, his weapons and his equipment, and in this respect the contingent as a whole was of higher quality than in earlier years. Again, all ranks are to be congratulated on their cheerfulness in the trying conditions towards the end. Camp, too, is a proving-ground for N.C.O.s. It was, therefore, most gratifying that a number of the junior N.C.O.s—nameless but not forgotten—consistently displayed qualities of leadership, particularly during the testing time between reveille and first parade.

And so to 1952—a year, we hope, of better weather, larger numbers and even more achievement.

S.C.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Summer term was one of practical work on the whaler and the newly-acquired Seamanship Room. The whaler has been repaired and repainted, and the Seamanship room thoroughly scrubbed out and redecorated, and we shall be using it for instruction next term.

Field day was spent at Culham and we had an enjoyable and instructive day. We were shown the workings of the various departments of flying control and afterwards went for a tour of the station where we looked at several different types of aircraft.

Ten new members have joined the Section this term, but we have lost five members, including the Senior Cadet—Leading Seaman Wooldridge,—and we wish them all the best of good fortune in their new life.

We have again had the able assistance of Chief Petty Officer Woodcock from Culham, and we are grateful both to him for the valuable work he has put in, and to the First Lieutenant of Culham for putting his services at our disposal.

SUMMER CAMP, 1951

What was by general consent the best of the three camps we have so far attended took place between 6th and 14th August, on board H.M.S. *Vacaseay*, an Admiralty Trawler which works in conjunction with mine-sweepers, by laying Dan buoys. We joined the ship at Sheerness and sailed immediately to Cowes, where we spent an interesting and instructive week. Most of the time on board was spent in working ship, and helping at such operations as anchoring and weighing anchor, hosting and lowering boats, as well as the more menial tasks such as peeling potatoes, and much insight was gained into everyday life on board ship. Hammocks were slung, and fallen out of, and most of us

found them comfortable. Outside activities included a visit to the Saunders-Roe works, where we saw the largest flying boats in the world under construction, and a motor coach tour of the Island, unfortunately in pouring and incessant rain. It being Cowes Week, the town was full of yachtsmen and all the talk was of sailing, and several of the boys had the privilege of a sail in the 'Borhum' a large yacht belonging to the Royal Naval Sailing Association, under the eye of Major General Thomas. We were delayed by bad weather for a day, which we spent in Portsmouth harbour, and then sailed back to Sheerness. The sea trips were perhaps the best part of a most pleasant and instructive camp; and we are very grateful to the Commanding Officer and ship's Company for all they did for us.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUT TROOP

Summer term started off well with an excellent 'Bob-a-Job' Week result. The purpose of 'Bob-a-Job' Week is to help meet the annual deficit in running the Scout Movement from Imperial Headquarters in London. The Week itself occurred during the Easter holidays and our Troop raised its record sum of £10 2s. 3d. Most of this, however, was generously returned to us by I.H.Q. for our own use and went a long way to help us to buy some camp equipment. The rest of the money was kindly lent to us by the School from the Activities Fund.

Field Day was early and though the weather delayed the start, it was a little kinder to us than in Lent Term as most of the rain was over by the time we set off. The destination was unknown, patrols having to solve a number of clues each of which led them a little further on the road to Sutton Pool. Only one patrol had to open a "reserve translation". After lunch a game, 'Smugglers and Customs', was enjoyed and the day finished at School soon after 4 p.m.

During the term several tests were passed, a number of boys gaining their Tenderfoot badge. On Founder's Day, a demonstration Camp Site was shown in Lacies Court, complete with a kitchen where girdle scones were being cooked.

SCOUT CAMP, 1951

The annual camp—the second in the history of the Troop—was held at Sutton Courtenay on a site next to the Thames. Total numbers were eleven, one Scouter and ten scouts, but this does not include Mrs. Johnston who visited us each day and gave advice and help with the cooking—and with the washing up!

The weather was kind to us most of the time, nearly everybody being a beautiful pink after the first two days: but the last 24 hours saw nearly continuous rain, even during the dismantling of the camp.

Activities at camp, apart from swimming, included wide games and night signalling as well as Tenderfoot and Second Class work. R. Cooper and L. Horlick were invested as Tenderfoots and P. Light, A. Maxwell and P. Exon all gained their Second Class. One day saw us playing cricket against a team of boys from Kennington, London, who were camping with the Christchurch United Boys' Club in a neighbouring field—but let us keep the score a secret!! However, they did compensate us by inviting us to a very good tea.

We had several visitors during the week but unfortunately missed the Headmaster and Mr. Mortimer who arrived unexpectedly whilst we were playing cricket.

H.J.

CUB PACK

The Sixers during the Summer Term were Winkett (White), Cogley (Red), Powell (Brown) and Foden (Black). Good weather enabled a variety of things to take place, including the passing of tests, fire-lighting, roasting potatoes, tracking, treasure-hunting and games. Field Day, spent on Shotover Hill, was very enjoyable. It is hoped that those who are now over age to remain in the Cub Pack will have good hunting in the Scout Troop.

F.W.B.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the Summer Term, and welcomed two new members, P. B. H. Amey and D. J. Heavens.

The first meeting was held on 16th May, when J. Westall read a paper entitled "Plastics". He dealt well with a scientific subject which was by nature unsuited to general discussion.

On 4th July, Mr. R. D. Baynes read a paper on "Gerald Manley Hopkins". He produced what he considered to be the stages leading to the development of poetry, illustrating his points from the works of Hopkins. The heated discussion which followed the paper was almost wholly confined to the guests of the Society—but this by no means detracted from the value of the evening.

At the final meeting on 18th July, W. L. Wooldridge read a paper, "In Defence of Atheism". He described the stages in the growth of Atheism, and tried to justify his reasons. An interesting discussion followed.

The Society sincerely thanks the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their hospitality which has greatly helped in the successful development of the Society throughout the year.

F.P.F.

TURNOR SOCIETY

During the Summer Term, only three meetings were held. Early in the term, we had a visit from Councillor Barber who spoke to us on "Trade Unionism", dealing briefly with the rise of the movement during the 19th Century and then discussing its place in modern industry and politics. It proved to be a most instructive and interesting talk.

The second meeting concerned a very different subject. Mr. S. W. F. Patching told us "The Story of Gold", illustrating his talk by means of slides and samples of various gold bearing ores. Again a most interesting hour was spent and many members stayed on afterwards to ask questions and examine the samples.

Finally, the Society met towards the end of term to hear Mr. Holloway of the United Europe Movement describe some of the problems of European unity. A graphic picture of the dangers and the enormous difficulties facing those who deal with European affairs at Strasbourg convinced us all of the worth while nature of their aims.

F.P.F.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Summer term saw the election of two new committee members, R. S. M. Millard and P. J. Millard. The Society then debated a motion, proposed by B. W. Boddington, that 'This house considers the 'X' system to be the best method for maintaining School discipline'. M. Bateman opposed the motion and the third and fourth speakers were N. J. Shurrock and R. B. Atkinson. After a rather one-sided debate, the motion was defeated.

The only other meeting during the term was, owing to the proximity of the Certificate examinations, a hat debate, at which the subjects ranged from 'Stilts' to 'Spectroscopes'.

It is hoped that more time for debating will be found in the Michaelmas Term.

R.J.T.

JOINT CLUB

The Summer term saw a right mixture of dancing, tennis, rounders, and Will Shakespeare.

It was half way through June when Miss Hamilton renewed our acquaintance with old time dancing, an occasion for which we foregathered at St. Helen's.

The second meeting offered a choice of rounders and tennis on Waste Court Field: a really enjoyable evening backed up by fine weather.

At our final gathering, we saw a presentation of 'Cymbeline' by the O.U.D.S. at All Souls' College. It is here that we should thank Mrs. Dean for all that she has done for the Joint Club; it is with mixed feelings that we join together in wishing her the very best of good fortune as she leaves us at the end of term. We bid 'bonne chance', too, to all those members who leave us this Summer.

W.L.W.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

As forecast in the last issue of "The Abingdonian" the Philatelic Society enjoyed an interesting programme during the Summer Term. Mr. T. Dwelly, of the Oxford Philatelic Society, displayed some of his "Pre-Stamp Covers" at the first meeting, while at the two next meetings stamps were exchanged, and plans made for Founder's Day.

Mr. R. V. Sutton, the philatelic journalist, had agreed to speak to the Society on 13th May, but owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding he did not in fact arrive until three days later. At the meeting which had been called to hear Mr. Sutton, Mr. Griffin extemporized with "New Zealand" Mr. Sutton generously lent his lecture material to the Society, however, and so, on 25th July Mr. Griffin delivered the "Philatelic Curiosities", amply illustrated on the epidiastroscope.

On Founder's Day appeared the astounding map so excellently prepared by D. R. G. Andrews and C. H. Banwell, to whom the Society owes a debt of gratitude, as also to Mr. Dwelly for his gift of a number of magazines. An active term, with promise of treats in store for the winter!

B.W.B.

THE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

Owing to examinations and other activities we held only five meetings in the Summer Term but notwithstanding we enjoyed another very successful term.

At the first meeting the Secretary presented a selection of records, including works by Wagner, Mendelssohn, Elgar, and songs sung by Peter Dawson, Peter Pears and Gigli.

A fortnight later P. J. Millard gave another of the enjoyable programmes we associate with him, comprising two works—Offenbach's Overture to Orpheus in the Underworld, and Grieg's Piano Concerto.

At very short notice the Secretary introduced Beethoven's 5th Symphony at the next meeting. The Queen's Hall Orchestra was conducted by the late Sir Henry Wood. The Society is indebted to Mrs. Marlow who very kindly lent the records.

At the last meeting before half-term D. S. Lloyd presented selections from the Mikado, recorded by the Columbia Light Opera Company. It was clear to all that Lloyd had put in a considerable amount of preparation, and as a result this was the most successful meeting of the term.

At the last meeting the programme was presented by Mr. H. H. Fowler, A. R. C. O. It consisted of two works: Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis, and César Franck's Symphonic Variations, with Walter Giesecking as the solo pianist.

D.F.

CAMERA CLUB

The Summer Term has truly been 'Festival Term' since the Club managed to hold six meetings. At the first and second meetings film shows were given: 'Gipsy Love' and 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' on the first occasion; Harold Lloyd in 'Safety First' and Charlie Chaplin in 'Flirting Again' on the second. Later in the term some slides lent by Johnsons of Hendon and entitled 'How to Criticise your own Pictures' were shown. Interesting talks were also given by Mr. H. Johnston on 'Developing' and 'Portraiture'. The remaining meeting was a business one. To round off the term, the Club gave an exhibition of photographs and a display of ciné apparatus on Founder's Day.

A full programme of meetings has been arranged for the Michaelmas Term, when we hope to welcome many new members.

D.S.L.

THE BRASS BAND

In the Summer Term, we celebrated our first birthday by many public performances, the first being at the Old Boys' Cricket Match. We followed this up by playing at the General Inspection of the C.C.F. This entailed much practice and we offer our sincere apologies to the inhabitants of Park Road. We played three times on Founder's Day with great success. A quartette has also appeared in Chapel and accompanied the organ during hymns.

We have increased in number to seventeen, including three drums, which now give us a solid backing. Indeed, looking back over the past year to when we started with six instruments, we appear to have done the impossible. There is one person who is largely responsible for this—Mr. George Clack. He has given up two evenings a week for a whole year in order to coach us, and he deserves much praise for our success. We are grateful, too, for the untiring energy of our 'player-manager', Mr. Barker.

B.W.T.L.

ENVOI

It was a bright Sunday morning at seven o'clock in May as I walked down the tower steps. Disturbed by my appearance a water wagtail hopped off one of the seats and waddled away. I sat down under one of the three elms whose huge frames were covered with feathery green leaves hardly two weeks old. Birds twittered from branch to branch with pieces of straw in their beaks, and one grey dove perched idle amidst the proceedings. The fresh green Upper Field sloped down to Park Road where an arcade of lime trees revealed the low grey stone wall in patches of light and shade. Through the gaps in these trees the hazy blue Berkshire hills could be seen in the distance. In contrast with the fresh gay scene the red brick of the school buildings looked faded and tired. By the Lodge the morning shadows stretched across the field, and where once a line of old elm trees stood were new chestnut saplings. The school had reached its second childhood perhaps. It was all very peaceful. Instead of feeling glad I felt sad and reminiscent—the mood which seizes me when I hear the Vienna Woods by Johann Strauss, a feeling that there is something which I cannot hold within my grasp, a memory which runs through my fingers like water. I shook this feeling off, and recalled memories that were solid, although I know well that even they tend to become distorted as the years pass by.

Distance lends enchantment. I like to think back on the enchanted days that I have spent. But I remember how frightened I was on my first day, how I called every one I met 'sir' to be on the safe side. It caused many a laugh. I remember my first run to Shippon, *horribile dictu*. I remember my first fight which seemed very important at the time. Things which I take for granted now seemed very important then.

Forgetting my earliest days and together with them some odious nick-names, my thoughts jumped to cricket. It must have been the sight of the light green square on the Upper field. I pictured the morning before a match in late June; under the shade of an elm a master is surrounded by a group of boys squatting uncomfortably on the ground. Dotted separately over the field are senior boys engaged in revision for the exams. Some, who knows, are merely holding a book above their heads to keep the sun off their eyes as they lie on their backs. Others with busier minds sit with knitted brows and grim expressions. Another less conscientious worker leans against the sight-screen gazing blissfully at the cricket pitch in front of him. "He's in the first eleven", whispers a voice, and "With a winking eye

We pass him by."

What a wonderful English institution is the cricket match! It is a game which would not be the same without spectators. I remember a time when I could have wished there were no spectators. It was my

first year in the eleven, and I was fielding in the deep. The game had reached an important stage, and although there was only half an hour to play the result of the match was more than uncertain. We needed two or three wickets and they needed about twenty runs, and had only their weaker batsmen to get them. I was standing nervously in fear that I might get a catch. I did. It soared up, and was truly a mighty hit. Then it started to drop and I realised it was for me. I judged it carefully as it gathered speed. I grabbed at it, a fatal thing. At once I had missed it; there on the green grass gleaming hatefully at me lay the shiny red ball. There is, to my mind, nothing more discouraging than the disapproving murmur which rises in the crowd after a dropped catch. The match—I think we lost. I felt awful anyway, not only that day but for a long time afterwards. What tactless things boys say, "I 'spec' we would have won if you hadn't . . ." Cricket, it is argued, is only a game, but for all that I should not like to miss another catch like that, not for all the worlds.

The school was waking up by this time, and the sun was higher. I went inside just as the communion bell started to ring.

M. BATEMAN.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS APPOINTMENTS BUREAU

Any old member of the School who is looking for a suitable post in industry or commerce, whether at home or overseas, and who is not yet 24 years of age, is reminded that he may apply to the Public Schools Appointments Bureau, either for advice or for introductions to a prospective employer. The Bureau has at the moment applications for ex-Public School boys from firms of all kinds, and many of the posts offered are very attractive. Interviews can be arranged (by appointment only) with: The Secretary, Public Schools Appointments Bureau, 29, Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.; or it might be as well in the first instance to write to Mr. Ingham at the School.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

BAILEY. On 31st August, 1950, at Malvern, to Dora Margery, wife of Hylton B. C. Bailey (1939), a son, Stephen.

BOWDITCH. On 22nd May, Wilmar Lodge, Ewell, to Dorothy, wife of John H. Bowditch (1933), a sister for Tessa.

LANGFORD. On 30th March, to Margaret (née Sturrock) wife of R. A. Langford (1929), a daughter, Diana Katherine.

MILLS. On 28th April, at Bembridge, I.O.W. to Eve and Kenneth Mills (1932), a sister, Carolyn, for Andrew.

SIMS. On 10th July, to Joan, wife of Lieut K. R. Sims, R.A., (1943), a daughter, Suzanne Mary.

SMITH. On 11th June, at Andover, to Eileen, wife of Alan C. Smith (1931) a daughter, Rosalind Susan.

STONE. In June, to Helmi, wife of Charles V. Stone (1942), of Jasmine Cottage, Didcot, a son, Colin.

WOOD. On 27th April, at Westminster Hospital, to Marsali, wife of Michael Wood, M.B.E. (1938) a son, John Stuart.

MARRIAGES

BARNES-KIETZMANN. On 2nd June, at St. George's Church, Broken Hill, N. Rhodesia, Assistant Inspector Richard Seymour Barnes (1944), only son of Mrs. and the late Major E. S. Barnes, to Irene Neta Kietzmann, of East London, South Africa.

BEADLE-JONES. On 29th March, 1951, at St. Michael's Church, Abingdon, Mervyn G. Beadle (1944) of 65 Swinburne Road, Abingdon, to Mary P. A. Jones, of 7 The Bungalows, Caldecott Road.

CARTER-NEWTON. On 12th July, at St. Michael's Church, Abingdon, Aubrey C. Carter (1941) to Miss J. Newton.

CLARKE-RODGER. On 7th April, at Balshagray Parish Church, Glasgow, Herbert John Clarke (1941) to Christine Mary, daughter of Captain and Mrs. A. F. Rodger of Glasgow.

MOSS-HARRISON. On 6th September, 1950, in the island of St. Helena, George S. Moss (1939) to Joan Harrison.

SAYER-TAYLOR. On 14th May, at Wootton, Kenneth T. B. Sayer (1940) of Corner House, Boar's Hill, to Nina Taylor of Oxford.

DEATHS

BEAVEN. On 19th July, Edward C. Beaven (1921), of School House, Hadleigh, Essex, aged 47 years.

MORLAND. On 30th July, peacefully at Thornhill Lodge, Abingdon, William Thornhill Morland (1893), sixth and sole surviving son of the late Alderman J. T. Morland, aged 76.

SHEPHERD. In December, 1950, Edward Fairbrother Shepherd (1884), of St. Lawrence, Rottingdean, Brighton, aged 85.

STOCKTON. On 17th May, at Wroxton, Banbury, Arthur Stockton (1885), aged 84.

For over seventy years the name of Morland has held an honourable place in the annals of the School, and the death of Willy Morland (which occurred, strangely enough, fifty years to the day after his father had laid the foundation stone of the new buildings) has touched us deeply. It has taken from us not only the last of eight Abingdonian brothers but also one who was a tried and trusted friend of the School throughout his life.

During his years at the School from 1885 to 1893 he made his mark as an all-round athlete, captaining the Cricket and Football Elevens and rowing in the First Four. In after years his interest in sport found practical expression in the part he played in establishing both the Abingdon Cricket Club and the Frilford Heath Golf Course.

On leaving School he qualified as a solicitor and joined the family firm of which he ultimately became the senior partner. In that capacity he held many public offices, including the appointment of Clerk of Christ's Hospital, and for nearly thirty years, until 1947, he was intimately connected with the School as Clerk to the Governing Body. It was only a year or two ago that he retired from active practice in Abingdon, after a serious illness which he endured with great fortitude.

He was President of the Old Abingdonian Club in 1926 and we shall indeed miss his familiar figure and engaging sense of humour, not only at Old Boys' functions but at the School matches which he so often attended. He retained his interest in the school until the end, and it was a bitter disappointment to him when he was too ill to accept the invitation to Founder's Day this year.

A simple commemoration of Willy Morland formed part of our service in Chapel on the last morning of the term, and at the official Memorial Service in St. Nicholas' Church on 2nd August, attended by a large gathering of his friends, the School was represented by the Headmaster and by many of the Governors, the Bursar, several Past Presidents of the O.A. Club, and four of the senior masters.

It was fitting that the keynote of both services should be pride and gratitude rather than sorrow. We remember in Willy Morland a man of fine character and simple life, a great gentleman and a real Christian, who loved his fellow men, and was loved by them in return.

To Mrs. Morland and her daughters we offer our deep sympathy in their bereavement and our thankfulness for a life of loyal service brought to a peaceful end.

Edward Beaven, whose untimely death, after great suffering borne with fortitude, we deplore, was at the School from 1915 to 1921. He was a School Prefect and played in the Soccer and Cricket Teams. From School he went to Borough Road Training College in preparation for a teaching career and after holding posts at Rotherham and Barnes, he was appointed Headmaster of Cheam School for Boys in 1937. It is only some two years since he left Cheam to become Headmaster at Hadleigh, Essex.

E. F. Shepherd, another Headmaster, spent seven years, 1877—84, at the School. On leaving he went up to Oxford to St. Catherine's; rowed in the College VIII and narrowly missed his 'Blue'.

After service in the 1914-18 war he became Headmaster of St. Lawrence School, Rottingdean, where he remained for many years until his retirement.

Arthur Stockton (1879-85) second of three brothers at Abingdon, belonged to a well-known Banbury family. At School he established the record for the Long Jump which stood till 1909, and in token of this he presented the present Challenge Cup in 1910. Like his elder brother, Oliver, he became a Solicitor and on the death of the former in 1911 he succeeded him as Town Clerk of Banbury, an office which he held for nearly 30 years. He was Colonel in the Territorial Army, commanding the 4th Oxf. and Bucks. L.I. from 1910-1918, and was President of the O.A. Club in 1930.

Old Boys will be interested and pleased to learn that the Gateway to the courtyard of the Old School in the Town is after all to be preserved in situ. It was erected in 1811 at the expense of the then Earl of Abingdon and bears the arms of the Earl, John Roysse and Thomas Tesdale, in addition to the Latin inscription relating it to the School. For many years since the demolition of the shops and widening of Bridge Street, it has remained in semi-detachment, and when recently the former gravel playground was being laid out as a garden the removal of the Archway was part of the plan, especially as the cost of essential repairs and restoration would amount to about £150. There was, however, strong feeling in the Town that the Archway should be preserved, both on sentimental grounds and as a local monument, and an appeal, launched over the signatures of the Headmaster and A. C. Longland, Esq., K.C., Chairman of the *Friends of Abingdon* and a former Governor of the School, met with such support (including a contribution from the O.A. Club) that the Borough Council generously agreed to rescind their former decision, retain the Archway where it stands and pay the balance of the cost of restoration.

We were very glad to see T. S. Wilding (1905) and T. F. Bowman (1903) in company again at the School on Old Boys' Day, and at the Dinner later in the evening the former gave a very stimulating performance in proposing the health of the Guests. Bowman unfortunately had to return home early as his duties as a Diocesan Reader in St. Alban's Diocese keep him fully occupied on Sundays.

J. N. Sanders (1918) is shortly retiring from business, and adopting Braille as a philanthropic hobby for his spare time.

C. M. Humfrey (1920) on leave from Calcutta has visited us once or twice.

George Sinclair (1931) is now in the Ministry of Defence and External Affairs at Accra, Gold Coast. He hopes to be home on leave again in 1952.

E. H. Blacknell (1921) an Actuary in the City, has unfortunately been the victim of a long illness. We hope he is now restored to health. His son, Richard (1942), who went on to Charterhouse, after serving as 2nd Lieut. in the Royal Engineers, is now a pupil to a Land Agent in Derby, with a view to becoming a Chartered Surveyor. In this connection we congratulate Roy Gibaud (1942) on passing his finals for the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors: felicitations to him also on his recent engagement.

Richard Barnes (1944) writes from Choma, N. Rhodesia whither he has returned to General Duties as Assistant Inspector of Police after 3 months in the Photographic Dept. of the Criminal Bureau. He meets Pat Mosdell (1931) fairly frequently now as the latter is the magistrate who visits once a fortnight to try the criminals that Richard and his henchmen round up for him.

E. S. Willey (1934) who has been with B.O.A.C. since the war ended, has lately been spending more time on the ground at London Airport though he still makes occasional trips. On his travels he came across H. F. Good (1928) who is also with the Corporation but stationed on the other side of the Atlantic.

We were very sorry to hear that Hugh Mulkern (1941) had met with serious injuries in a car accident in Malaya. Fortunately he is making a good though protracted recovery. He has been with the Dunlop Rubber Co. in Malaya for over two years and his address is c/o. Dunlop Malayan Estates Ltd., Bastion House, Malacca, Straits Settlements, Malaya. Doubtless he would be glad to hear from any old friends.

We congratulate Rodney Deval (1945) on graduating as B.Sc. at London and P. A. Town (1935) B.Sc. at Reading University. Also David Wheaton (1948) on gaining a good 2nd Class in Classical Honour Moderations at Oxford, and Peter Richardson (1950) who is at St. Mary's College, on passing his First M.B. The fate of the other victims of 'Schools' at Oxford is at present unknown.

M. A. C. Heavens (1950) will be entering St. Andrew's University in October as a medical student.

A. L. Leigh (1941) after passing his Accountancy Finals has now arrived at his new post in Nairobi, where his address is c/o Alexander and Ingram, P.O. Box 1968, Sadku Street, Nairobi, Kenya.

Tony Dean (1940) has been working with Andrew Weir Shipping and Trading Co., since the beginning of the year. He still puts the weight and hurls the discus for London Athletic Club and also has taken to swimming. He was hoping to raise a team from Andrew Weir to compete in the London Shipping Firms' gala this month.

Rupert Hedger (1940) is now teaching at Glasgow Academy while Mark (1942) is working as a trainee for an enamel firm in the Potteries. After two years he will probably be going to Australia as an advisory expert. Peter is still in Cyprus enjoying the rarified atmosphere and embarrassments of teaching there, where any contact with parents seems to evoke the offer of a 'consideration' in return for high marks for their offspring.

Richard James (1934) who happily manages to combine dentistry with a small agricultural holding has recently moved to Frampton-on-Severn, though his main practice is still in Stroud. He is now the father of three boys. His elder brother, whom rowers of the middle 1930s will remember as the originator of several races with Keble College crews, is deputy editor of the Times Educational Supplement among other things.

Roger Hamer (1950) has recently been gazetted 2nd Lieut. R.A., and is stationed at Larkhill. Jeremy Cullen and Robin Grant have passed into O.C.T.U.s. Glen Strachan (1949), Lieutenant, R.A., hopes to be out in time to go up to Pembroke College in October.

John Evans (1949) writing from Timatiu, New Zealand, bewails the fact that his ship's arrival at Auckland coincided with the start of a dock strike which prolonged his stay 14 weeks. He hopes to reach home this month—3 months late.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB

Old Boys' Day was celebrated at Abingdon School on Saturday, 9th June, when a large number of Old Boys revisited the School. For the first time since the war the Old Boys turned out two complete elevens to play the School at cricket. Untimely showers led to the abandonment of the Second Eleven match, but the weather cleared to enable the First Eleven match to be played out to a thrilling finish, in which the Old Boys beat the School with one wicket in hand. On the river however the School were more successful, defeating an unusually strong crew of Old Boys by two lengths. The gardens of Lacies Court, which has recently been purchased by the Old Boys for the use of the School, drew many visitors; and lunch-time music by the brass band was an added attraction.

Tea in the School House was followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Old Abingdonian Club in the Library, with the retiring President, Mr. S. Cullen, in the chair. Later came the Annual Dinner in the Royssé Room, attended by almost one hundred members and guests. The President was supported by the President-Elect (Mr. S. A. Paige), the Headmaster (Mr. J. M. Cobban) and a former Headmaster (Mr. W. M. Grundy), and the guests included the Mayor of Abingdon (Councillor H. G. Mullard), the Chairman of the Governing Body (Admiral F. Clifton Brown, C.B.), Alderman H. Booth, Sir Reader Bullard, Mr. C. G. Stow, Mr. H. Wheaton and Mr. J. D. Wood (Governors of the School), Professor H. K. Hunt (of the University of Melbourne), the Town Clerk (Mr. E. Nicholson), the Principal of Culham College (Mr. F. I. Venables), Mr. N. B. Challenor, and three of the senior prefects of the School.

After the loyal toast had been formally honoured the President proposed the health of the School and took the opportunity of outlining some of the current activities of the Club. He mentioned particularly the acquisition of the Lacies Court property and paid tribute to the generosity of Lady Radcliffe, the former owner. He also stated that the Club was undertaking to present Mr. Grundy with a portrait of himself which it was hoped would have an honoured place in the School in the very distant future.

The Headmaster in replying to the toast gave an account of the recent achievements and present position of the School and in return proposed the health of the Old Abingdonian Club. He expressed his appreciation of everything the Club was doing for the School and added a special word of thanks for the new 'racing four' which had just been promised to the Boat Club. In response, the President Elect looked forward to the day when the Club could go even further and present the School with a new pavilion.

Mr. T. S. Wilding, an Old Boy of some seniority, proposed the health of the guests in a witty and polished speech. The task of responding was shared by Mr. Norman Challenor and Mr. M. Bateman (the Head of the School). To follow such an accomplished speaker as Mr. Challenor was no easy ordeal for a schoolboy, but Bateman rose to the occasion admirably.

There was no doubt that the dinner was a great success, and much of the credit for this was due to the work of the dinner secretary, Mr. J. A. D. Cox. A fitting epilogue to the celebrations came on the Sunday morning, when about forty Old Boys attended the Morning Service in the School Chapel, where the address was given by Mr. Rudd, who was for so many years Senior Mathematical Master at the School. They were subsequently entertained to coffee by Mrs. Cobban in the garden of School House.

MR. GRUNDY'S PORTRAIT

At the Annual General Meeting of the Club in June, 1950, it was proposed and approved that a portrait of Mr. Grundy, subscribed for by Old Boys and other friends of the School, should be presented to him on the occasion of his 70th birthday in 1951. At the last A.G.M. in June the steps taken by the Committee in the interval were approved, and since then the portrait, executed by Mr. Bernard Hailstone, a London artist of note, has been completed, and has been pronounced by those who have seen it to be an excellent likeness as well as a real work of art. It is proposed to make the presentation at the beginning of the Rugger Dance on 8th December when it is hoped there will be a large and representative gathering assembled.

It is estimated that the total cost will be upward of £100, and to enable as many as possible to participate in the gift it was decided that 5/- should be the maximum subscription. We now ask all who would like to contribute to send or hand donations to G. F. Duxbury, who is acting as Treasurer. Letters should be addressed to him at Abingdon School, Berks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully record contributions to the Lacies Court Fund from Charles Taylor and A. L. Leigh—the latter by the sale of blazers. J. M. Viney has signed a form of Covenant to the O.A. Trust Fund and L. P. Mosdell and R. D. Gibaud increased their existing Covenants.