

THE ABINGDONIAN



JANUARY, 1952

ABINGDON SCHOOL

THE GOVERNING BODY

(as at 1st January, 1952)

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(appointed by the County Council of Berkshire)

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(appointed by the Corporation of Abingdon)

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(appointed by the Master and Governors of Christ's Hospital,
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(co-opted)

Clerk to the Governors and Bursar:
Commander R. I. Hoyle, R.N. (ret.)

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Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

THE ABINGDONIAN

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JANUARY, 1952.

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CALENDAR, LENT TERM, 1952

January

- Fri. 18 First Day of Term.
Wed. 23 1st XI v. Staff XI (h).
Wed. 30 1st XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (a).

February

- Wed. 6 1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (h).
Sat. 9 1st XI v. Abingdon Town H.C. (h).
Wed. 13 1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).
Sat. 16 1st XI v. Windsor County School (a).
Wed. 20 1st XI v. St. Edward's School, Oxford, 2nd XI (a).
Wed. 27 1st XI v. Solihull (h).

March

- Sat. 1 1st XI v. Old Abingdonians (h).
Tue. 11 Field Day—C.C.F., Scouts, Cubs.
Wed. 12 1st XI v. Old College, R.M.A., Sandhurst (h).
Sat. 15 Athletic Match v. C.O.S. (a).
Wed. 19 Schools Hockey Tournament.
Wed. 18 Athletic Match v. C.O.S. (a).
Sat. 22 O.A. Sports
Sat. 29 School Sports

April

- Tue. 1 Term Ends, 10.15 a.m.

Summer Term begins 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 29th April, 1952 (Boarders return, Monday, 28th April).

Misericordias
Domini



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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL LENT TERM, 1952

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)

B. W. T. Leech (S)

R. S. M. Millard (S)

N. J. Shurrock (D)

B. W. Boddington (S)

M. W. Matthews (D)

E. G. R. Peedell (D)

P. R. Sale (L)

H. R. Leach (D)

P. J. Millard (W)

N. A. C. Darroch (S)

S. R. Mills (D)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House

P. B. H. Amey

C. H. Banwell

M. J. Brackley

C. A. Full

Larkhill

J. G. Guilmarens

Waste Court

J. B. Archer

J. W. Hullett

Day Boys

C. S. Wiggins

P. J. Downer

G. W. Crockford

N. G. Nicholls

J. Norman

M. M. Grant

B. A. Whiteford

P. C. Madley

J. C. Ivatts

Captain of Hockey—P. J. Millard

Secretary of Hockey—M. J. Brackley

Captain of Boats—R. S. M. Millard

Secretary of Boats—H. R. Leach

Captain of Athletics—N. A. C. Darroch

Secretary of Athletics—A. G. B. King

Secretary of Rugger—D. R. G. Andrews

Secretary of G.G.C.—D. Free

Secretary of Minor Games—N. A. C. Darroch

'The Abingdonian'

Editor: B. W. Boddington

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

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

EDITORIAL

Much of international significance has happened in the past four months: His Majesty the King has suffered a serious illness, the electorate has voted a new Government into office, the Festival of Britain has run its course, and the depressing events in Korea, Malaya, Persia, Egypt and Indo-China over-shadow the free world.

Here in this pleasant country town, sheltered from the sordidness of world politics, it is easy to imagine that these things do not concern us. This illusion is readily dispelled; however. The Member of Parliament for Abingdon is, *ipso facto*, a member of the Governing Body of this School, part of a film on atomic physics is photographed in our Science Block, we listen to the General Election results, and some of us have to register for National Service: we are in all aspects of our daily life in contact with, and form part of, the life of the nation.

At this time the nation must make the most stringent economies, must impose more austerities, must make more sacrifices. You will find on another page a reference to waste-paper collectors; their task does not merely provide pictures for form-rooms, but helps, in two ways, to stabilise the national economy; they are bringing into the School money which would otherwise have to come from parents' pockets and, more important still, the more paper scrap collected in Britain, the less paper pulp has to be imported from dollar countries.

By practising these small economies in our daily life, we can make a worth while contribution to the effort of the country; that is why this issue of *The Abingdonian* is much thinner than last term's issue. Printing and paper costs are now so high that, were the magazine to retain its former size, the price would have to be increased, either directly to the reader, or indirectly by means of subsidies. The Editors are therefore making all economies consistent with the standing and dignity of *The Abingdonian*.

ERRATA

Readers are asked to amend the heading 'Vol. X, No. . . ' on pp. 249, 281, 325, 367, and 407, of the present volume to read 'Vol. IX, No. . . ' Vol. X will, in fact, commence with the January, 1953, issue of *The Abingdonian*.

SCHOOL NOTES

We offer the congratulations of the School to Sir John Cockcroft on being awarded a Nobel Prize for his work in atomic physics.

We congratulate Sir Ralph Glyn on his re-election as Member of Parliament for the Abingdon Division (and therefore as a Governor of this School) and on his appointment as Chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Estimates.

We also congratulate two other members of the Governing Body—Mr. Lake on his election as Chairman of the Brewers' Society and Lt.-Col. Wheaton on the award of the Cadet Force Medal.

The School is extremely grateful to Sir Ben Lockspeiser, who has marked his association with the New Science Block by presenting to us a collection of his printed 'casual papers'; and has also promised us a photograph of himself which we can hang in the entrance hall of the Block to commemorate the part he played at the opening ceremony.

Messrs. Morland, of Abingdon, have recently offered to present an annual prize in memory of W. T. Morland, O.A., to be known as the Morland Prize, and to be awarded for all-round merit. This is a particularly appropriate way of commemorating one who was so closely linked with the School and with the Firm, and the School is grateful to accept the offer, which was made with the full approval of Mrs. Morland.

The School sent a telegram of good wishes to Mr. Grundy on the occasion of his 70th birthday in November. This anniversary was celebrated more officially on the day of the Old Boys' Dance of which full details will be found later in the magazine. The Captain of Rugger was present to represent the School at the presentation of the portrait.

Visitors to the School during the past term included Professor F. E. Adcock, the retiring Regius Professor of Ancient History at Cambridge, who very kindly talked to the Sixth Form and to a number of the staff, on the morning of October 13th, about the Art of War in the Ancient World.

We were glad to welcome on 19th November two distinguished American educationalists, Dr. Cornog and Mr. Fels, respectively the Chairman and the Secretary of the United States College Entrance Examinations Board, who were paying a brief visit to this country under the auspices of the British Council.

Towards the end of November we had another guest from overseas in the person of Dr. Pauly, a German schoolmaster who spent several days observing our work and our life, and living as a member of the Masters' Common Room. We hope he took back with him to the new Germany a pleasant picture of English school life: and we are grateful to Mr. (and Mrs.!) Moore for providing material hospitality.

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term, Mr. J. R. W. Owen (O.A.) of the University College of the South West, Exeter, spent several weeks with us as a student master.

Parents' Evening (First and Second Forms only) was held this term on 11th October; and the Ruri-decanal Conference met at the School on 1st November.

Mr. Barker once again acted as assistant conductor to Professor Westrup in the Christmas production of the Oxford University Opera Club.

The number of boys in the School at the beginning of the Michaelmas term was 365 (Dayboys 231, School House 81, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

We congratulate D. S. Lloyd on being awarded the Blacknall Scholarship; and A. G. B. King on passing the written part of the Cranwell Examination.

Ninety-nine boys, together with four masters, visited the South Bank Exhibition on 27th September. A report of their findings and adventures will be printed in the next issue of the *School Literary Magazine*. An interim report, however, shows not only that our Scientists learned much, but also that everyone enjoyed the visit greatly.

The Scientists had another treat, too, on 18th October, when Sir Ronald Nesbitt-Hawes, Chief of Educational Administration to the English Electric Company, spoke on 'Careers in Engineering'.

On the first evening of the second half of term, 6th November, a party from the School heard the Rev. G. R. Dunstan, M.A., talk to the *Friends of Abingdon* on 'History from a Bishop's Register'. The vote of thanks to the Speaker was proposed by the Headmaster.

The Scientists wore their best smiles again on 24th October, for on that day a section of the Crown Film Unit visited the Science Block to film a sequence for a new documentary film on 'Radio-active Isotopes', which will be generally released in the new year. A full account of 'Operation Hollywood' must await the *Literary Magazine*; but we can say here that some members of Fourth Science showed an unsuspected talent for the screen.

The Guard of Honour and the buglers for the Remembrance Day Services in the town were again provided by the School, and the contingent of cadets from the army and naval sections deservedly drew high praise.

Members of the School Rugger Teams watched two first class matches during the term. On 15th November, a party saw Oxford University lose to the South Africans in Oxford and on 11th December the 1st

XV travelled to Twickenham to see Oxford beat Cambridge. We are extremely grateful to a parent, Mr. H. P. Marshall, for defraying the cost of the Twickenham trip and for providing us with excellent seats.

The half-holiday asked for by Mr. Jacks at the Prize-giving last July was granted on 15th November. Thank you, Mr. Jacks! On the same day, a party of Fourth-formers visited the Morris Motor Works in Cowley, where they were shown how a car body is built and assembled.

Three Seniors took part in the Sutton Courtenay Singers' performance of Haydn's 'Creation' on 23rd November.

The Rev. Peter Martinson, of Accra, on 26th November talked to middle school forms about the work of the S.P.G.

Two major events in the School year now followed. The Lord Bishop of Oxford held a Confirmation Service on 2nd December, and the O.A. Match was played on 8th December. Details of both are to be found under their respective headings.

After this, end of term activities began in earnest, with a fine start on 10th December, with carols performed at key-points in the locality by the Brass Band and re-inforced Choir. The next night, this Task Force penetrated to the Isolation Hospital, where they were equally successful. Honourable mention must also be made of the diverting production of F. Morton Howard's playlet 'Money makes a Difference' by five members of Larkhill before a select audience of House and Staff on 10th December.

On the 13th December, a large party from the School attended the Abingdon and District Musical Society's Christmas Concert.

The School Play, Kesselring's 'Arsenic and Old Lace' was performed to crowded houses on 14th and 15th December. We print a review by a well-known author, radio speaker and critic, Mr. Geoffrey Trease.

The now traditional Service of Lessons and Carols took place on the evening of Sunday, 16th December, and was repeated the following morning.

Also on 16th December, the Abingdon Youth Council held its Annual Carol Service, which was attended by the Choir and Brass Band. We congratulate them on the success with which they carried out this double commitment.

The boarders enjoyed their Christmas Supper on the last night of term, 17th December, and the party games which followed them in the various houses.

Evening entertainments during the term included three film shows, featuring 'We Dive at Dawn', 'Passport to Pimlico' and 'It's not Cricket', and also the following Lectures:

29th September.—Mr. J. E. Morpugo: 'America Sings'.

8th November—Mr. Eric Hosking, F.R.P.S., M.B.O.U.: 'Birds in Action'

27th November—Mr. C. J. Allen: 'Amazing Railways of the Alps'.

At the beginning of the term, the Biology Lab. acquired, on loan, a binocular microscope. The School is grateful to Mr. P. L. Howard for the loan of this useful and valuable instrument.

We are very grateful to Mr. Holloway and his band of willing workers who have undertaken the dull but worth-while task of collecting waste-paper for salvage. This work is primarily undertaken in the interests of the national economy, but it has a more immediate benefit for the School: and the first-fruits of their labours is to be seen in a new picture which will grace the Pembroke Room in the new year. The more paper we can collect, the sooner we shall be able to buy more pictures for other form rooms.

The drastic but necessary lopping of the avenue of limes in Park Road has opened up considerably the view of the town from the School: but all those who loved this magnificent avenue look forward to the day when it has regained its former glory.

It does seem that the vexed question of the new school cap is at last within sight of a solution, for there is general agreement that a plain blue cap, to match the blazers, with an heraldic shield on the front of it, would be most practicable and economical. Prototypes are now being produced.

It is hoped that the War Memorial Fund will benefit considerably when the accounts for 'Arsenic and Old Lace' are finally cleared. Meanwhile we can record that no less than £115 has accrued to the Fund during the current year as refund of income-tax on covenanted subscriptions.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following Schools (to 31st December, 1951):—Aldenham School; City of Oxford School; Henley Grammar School; Magdalen College School, Brackley; Magdalen College School, Oxford; Newbury Grammar School; Reading School; St. Edward's School; Solihull School; Southfield School; Wallingford Grammar School, and also from the R.M.A., Sandhurst.

The Photograph of the 1st XV in this issue appears by courtesy of Mr. Milligan, Photographer, Abingdon.

"PROGRESS REPORT"

The adaptation of Lacies Court for School use has now been almost completed, though of course it will be many years before we get the house and the grounds just as we want them. Meanwhile the transfer of the Library has been carried through very smoothly and all four main rooms on the ground floor are now being used—and very fully used—for teaching or study purposes.

Levelling operations have now begun on the War Memorial Field. The next step will be to sow it down to grass and to provide suitable wire fencing. Then we shall see how much money is left in the Appeal Fund to cover the cost of a formal gate-way from the Faringdon Road.

As far as the main buildings are concerned, the acquisition of a second-hand Nissen hut provides the first stage of the phased programme of improvement of the washing and cleaning accommodation. All the necessary licences have been obtained and this will very shortly be erected in line with the armoury where it will be discreetly hidden from view. Messrs. Kinglerlee of Oxford, who built the Science Block, have undertaken to equip it with showers and with sufficient racks and hangers to provide changing accommodation for some two hundred day-boys. An additional advantage of the site is that a constant supply of piped hot water will be available from the Science Block. Once the day-boys have moved out of their present changing room, it in its turn will be equipped with showers and will become a changing room for School House. The final stage will involve the rebuilding of the present School House changing room and boot room as a new and scientifically planned washing-up pantry.

During the Autumn an extensive programme of replanting was carried out, as foreshadowed in the last issue of the magazine. The prefects' mulberry (a very comely young tree) was the harbinger of a variety of trees and shrubs which will improve the appearance of the grounds more and more as the years go by. The main features of this replanting, briefly, are a formal belt of flowering trees and shrubs along the west side of Lower Field, with some larger specimen trees on the south side which will eventually mask the somewhat untidy rear view of the buildings between the school grounds and Ock Street: a belt of standard apples along the walled garden in Waste Court, with a group of larger trees in the north-east corner: an irregularly planned orchard of apples and plums in the southern half of Lacies Court: and (very long term planning this!) three oak trees planted between the elms in Upper Field to take their place in the fullness of time. The planting of so many fruit trees is deliberate. We look forward to the day when there will be plenty of fruit for boys as well as for the School larders.

We are very deeply indebted to Mr. Oliver Sale, of Wokingham, for the personal attention he has given to our requirements in this matter; and above all for his kindness in offering to present to the School a *Metasequoia Glyptostroboides* to complete the operation. This little gentleman with the long name lives in a pot at the moment; but some day he will become a magnificent specimen tree of a most unusual kind. The story of the discovery of the metasequoia in 1945 is one of the romances of the twentieth century and calls for an article of its own. Perhaps our Botanical Correspondent will supply one for the next number. Meanwhile, thank you, Mr. Sale!

And lastly, all Old Boys and friends of the School will be interested to learn that the School has recently purchased No. 21 Park Crescent, the large house overlooking the School grounds, whose long garden marches with the present north-west boundary of the Waste Court Field. For the present the property will continue to be requisitioned by the Borough Council, but it is indeed a relief to know that the north-west frontier of the School is 'safe-guarded' in this way: and some day, when we come into possession, we shall find a very good use for the extra accommodation which the house will provide.

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

On Advent Sunday, 2nd December, the Lord Bishop of Oxford conducted a Confirmation Service in the School Chapel, at which fifty candidates were presented. After the Service, the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban invited the candidates, with their parents and god-parents, to meet the Bishop at Tea in the Gymnasium. The Confirmands were:— M. V. A. Alberry, D. E. Aldworth, W. H. Ashworth, I. S. Baxter, A. E. Brown, J. Budgen, M. C. Burdge, A. E. Bush, G. E. G. Campbell-Dykes, N. A. Carter, A. G. Caswell, D. Conway, J. W. Corderoy, J. E. Cowles, M. B. Culley, W. St. A. R. Dady, M. C. B. Dicker, D. G. Dunkley, P. D. Exon, D. Fry, P. J. A. Fysh, R. D. Gammack, A. J. Gardner, I. J. Glenney, N. J. H. Grant, R. D. P. Griffith, R. F. Hale, J. D. Hall, N. K. Hammond, R. K. Le Voi, C. R. Lucas, J. R. May, H. E. Midwinter, J. A. Nichols, J. R. Packer, R. E. J. Packer, D. P. C. Parker, K. H. S. Prentice, G. M. Price, B. J. Rogers, P. C. Sarsfield-Hall, P. A. Smith, J. J. Swainston, K. J. M. Taylor, R. D. Taylor, J. Tuck, W. C. J. White, S. C. Woodley, C. S. Woodruff, C. Young. R. K. Le Voi was presented by the Chaplain of the R.A.F. Station, Abingdon. In addition, T. Staniland was prepared by the School Chaplain and confirmed in St. Helen's Parish Church, Abingdon, by the Bishop of Oxford on 25th November.

The New Vestry (alias the Reeves Room) has already proved its value, and we wonder now how we ever managed without it.

Allocations from Chapel Collections to outside charities were as follows

S.P.G.	£4 19 0
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	£2 15 6
The Schools of Jamaica	£3 15 0
St. James' Church, Nevis	£7 10 0
The Dockland Settlement	£2 2 0
St. Helen's Church, Abingdon	£2 10 0

In addition the sum of £8. 1. 5. was collected during the weekend of 10th-11th November for Earl Haig's Appeal Fund, apart from £1. 15. 0. specifically contributed for the purchase of poppy wreaths for the Memorial Tablets; and as a result of the collections taken by the Carol Party and at the Service of Lessons and Carols a cheque for £9. 9. 0. was sent to the Church of England Children's Society ('The Waifs and Strays').

Warm thanks to Mr. Coleman, who made the alms box which has been placed by the Chapel door. It is of simple design, without inscription, and it harmonises well with its surroundings.

From 26th November to 1st December a short service of dedication and prayer was held each evening at 6 p.m. for the Confirmation candidates, and on the last Saturday of term a special service of preparation was held before their first Communion.

Visiting preachers for the Lent Term include: Wing Commander Patrick Hamilton (Feb. 3rd); Rev. Peter Curgenven, of Cuddesdon College (March 2nd); Rev. L. J. Hopkins, of the Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon (March 9th); and Canon R. W. Howard, Master of St. Peter's Hall, Oxford, and late Headmaster of Liverpool College (March 23rd).

THE CAROL SERVICE

On Sunday, 6th December, a service of nine lessons and carols was held in the Chapel. A large number of parents and friends of the School were present, so many, in fact, that a second performance, with different readers, was held on the following morning for the benefit of those members of the School who had been unable to attend the earlier Service.

The readers represented the Governors, the Staff, and the boys, and we were very fortunate to have Sir Ralph Glyn, the Member for the Division, to read one of the lessons on Sunday evening in his capacity as a Governor of the School.

The singing of the Choir was outstanding, and we owe a deep debt of gratitude to them and Mr. Barker for the hard work which this obviously represented.

This delightful Service brought to an end a term full of activity for the Chapel.

PRESENTATION OF STAINED GLASS

We are very grateful to Mrs. Louis Davis who has kindly presented to us a specimen of the work of her late husband, an Old Boy of the School, who was well-known as an artist in stained glass. Among his best work was a series of windows in Dunblane Abbey, representing the Benedicite, and he himself made a copy of one of the panels depicting the North Wind. It is this panel that Mrs. Davis has chosen to give to us, and we plan to have it inserted in the South West window of the Chapel where it will remain as a thing of beauty and a memorial of Mr. Davis.

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—Left, August 1951.

Upper Sixth Form A:

M. Bateman (L. 1944) (Arts); Head of the School 1951, Head of School House 1950, School Prefect 1949, O.S.C. 1948, 1st XI 1947, Captain of Cricket 1951, Colours 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1948, Half-Colours 1949, Vice-Captain 1951, Athletics Team 1948, Colours 1949, Captain of Athletics 1950, 1st XV 1948, Half-Colours 1948, Captain Blacknall House, Berkshire Public Schools Hockey XI 1949, Dramatic Society, Roysse Society, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Sgt., Pembroke Scholarship 1951, State Scholarship 1951, Editor *Abingdonian*.

F. P. Field (M. 1947) (Arts); School Prefect 1950, O.S.C. 1949, 2nd XV 1949, Captain 1st XI Hockey 1951, Half-Colours 1951, Sec. 1951, 1st XI 1951, Vice-Captain 1951, Dramatic Society, Sec. Roysse Society, Sec. Turnor Society, C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

W. L. Wooldridge (M. 1947) (Arts), School Prefect 1949, O.S.C. 1948, 1st XI Hockey 1948, Colours 1950, Capt. 1951, 1st XV 1948, Colours 1949, Vice-Capt. 1950, 1st IV 1951, Colours 1951, Athletics Team 1950, Sec. Swimming 1950, Bronze Cross R.L.S.S. 1950, Basketball V 1951, Tennis VI 1949, Vice-Captain Tesdale House, Hon. Sec. M.G.C. 1950, Captain Berkshire P.S. Hockey XI 1951, Berkshire P.S. XV 1951, Dramatic Society, Roysse Society, Vice-Chairman Debating Society, C.C.F. Cert 'A', Naval Section, Leading Seaman, Joint Club Committee, Asst. Editor *Abingdonian*.

Upper Sixth Form B:

Jim Furby (M. 1948) (Maths.), House Prefect 1951, O.S.C. 1949, 2nd XI 1950.

N. Purnell (M. 1949) (Science), House Prefect 1950, 1st XI 1951, Half-Colours 1951, 2nd XI Hockey 1951.

R. J. Taylor (S. 1942) (Science), School Prefect 1950, O.S.C. 1948, 2nd XI 1950, 2nd XI Hockey 1950, 3rd XV 1950, Dramatic Society, Royse Society, Sec. Debating Society, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

M. J. Wareham (M. 1944) (Science), School Prefect 1951, O.S.C. 1949, 2nd XV 1950, 2nd XI 1951, C.C.F. Certs. 'A' and 'T', Cpl., County Scholarship in Agriculture at Reading University, 1951.

A. C. Wright (M. 1947) (Science), House Prefect 1950, O.S.C. 1949.

Lower Sixth Form:

J. A. M. Brakspear (M. 1948) (Arts), School Prefect 1951, 1st IV 1950, Colours 1950, Hon. Sec. of Boats 1950, Captain 1951, Hon. Sec. of Squash 1950, Tennis VI 1951, M.G.C., Joint Club Committee; C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Pt. I, Naval Section, Able Seaman.

D. J. Heavens (S. 1943) (Arts); School Prefect 1950, O.S.C. 1950, Athletics Team 1949, Sec. Athletics 1950, Vice-Captain 1950, Colours 1949, Captain of Cross Country 1950, Heber Clarke Cup 1951, 1st XV 1950, Half-Colours 1950, Tennis VI 1950, Basketball V 1951, Capt. Bennett House, Berks. Jnr. Athletic Championship 1951, Bronze Medallion 1949, Dramatic Society, Royse Society, Sec. Holiday Club, C.C.F. Cert 'A', Sgt. Chapel Committee 1951.

J. R. W. Ireland (S. 1945) (Science), House Prefect 1950, 1st XI 1950, Half-Colours 1950, 2nd XV 1949, 2nd XI Hockey 1951, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Cpl.

H. B. Stevens (M. 1946) (Science); Head of School House 1951, School Prefect 1949, O.S.C. 1950, 1st XV 1949, Colours 1950, Sec. of Rugby 1950, 1st XI Hockey 1949, Half-Colours 1949, 2nd XI Cricket 1948; Basket Ball V 1950, Philatelic Society Librarian, Sec. Aviation Club, Captain Reeves House, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Cert. 'T', Sgt. Armourer, Joint Club Committee 1951, Chapel Clerk 1948.

A. J. Taylor (S. 1946) (Science), House Prefect 1950, O.S.C. 1950, 1st IV 1951, Colours 1951, C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

T. C. Wells (L. 1951) (Science).

Form 5 A/S:

S. Prior (M. 1946), 2nd XV 1950.

T. S. Reeve (M. 1944), 3rd IV 1951, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Naval Section, Able Seaman.

Form 5 G:

R. B. Atkinson (L. 1946), Coxing Colours 1949, C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

D. R. Carter (M. 1946), 1st XI Hockey 1951, 3rd XV 1950, Captain Athletics Team 1950, Half-Colours 1951, Junior Cross-Country Cup 1949, Tennis VI 1951, C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

K. W. Henman (M. 1946), C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

J. H. F. Keeping (M. 1946).

D. F. Patching (M. 1949), 2nd XV 1950, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Pt. I.

Form 4 S:

J. M. C. Bishop (L. 1947), Dramatic Society, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Pt. I.

Form 4 G:

R Acklam (M. 1947), C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

T. E. Bloor (M. 1947), 1st XI Hockey 1951, Half-Colours 1951, Under 15 XV 1950, C.C.F. Cert 'A', Pt. I, Naval Section.

T. G. Bungay (Left, June 22nd 1951) (M. 1947), Under 15 XV 1950, C.C.F.

E. R. Holloway (M. 1946).

P. F. Marcks (M. 1947).

R. H. Roff (M. 1949), 3rd XI 1951, C.C.F.

G. F. Round (L. 1945), C.C.F.

Form 3A: B. H. E. Roberts (M. 1948), C.C.F.

Form 3B: B. C. Costin (L. 1948).

Form 2B: J. S. Keene (M. 1949).

Form 1A: J. L. Brown (M. 1946).

Salvete—Came, September 18th, 1951

Form 3A: J. F. Pridham, S.

Form 3B: J. R. May, D.

Form 1A: J. Barnett, D; J. M. H. Becker, L; M. J. Blythe, D; R. F. Branch, D; N. T. Brogden, D; D. E. Camplin, D; D. Cook, D; G. M. Crow, D; D. G. Darroch, W; P. R. Davis, D; J. M. Foster D;

J. Grosvenor, D; N. D. O. Hall, D; L. T. Harrington, L; A. P. Haynes, D; J. M. Iredale, L; M. C. Lay, D; C. D. Loukes, D; D. J. Meakins, L; D. G. Morris, W; S. L. Norris, D; P. N. North, W; D. G. Nurton, D; C. Parry, D; B. G. Phillips, D; D. J. Privett, D; P. A. Smith, D; J. H. Thewlis, D; A. W. Thistlewood, D; T. J. Wond, D; C. R. Woodley, D.

Form 1B: R. J. Baldwin, D; H. W. Beachey, D; R. A. Beckett, D; P. Benson, D; R. A. N. Bolton, D; A. J. Costley, W; G. Dimond, D; R. L. Elliott, W; B. P. Gardner, D; P. M. C. Hampson, L; M. R. Harvey, D; A. K. Hatherall, D; P. A. Jenner, D; B. C. Jones, D; E. R. J. Jouault, W; L. J. Kirby, D; E. F. Lier, W; J. P. Lord, D; C. B. Maloney, D; N. K. Moseley, W; P. J. Penney, L; J. Phillips, D; C. J. Redknap, D; M. Roberts, D; R. T. Russell, D; R. A. N. Saunders, D; D. J. R. Skipper, D; B. J. Trinder, D; D. Wiggins, D; C. J. D. Wray, W; R. H. Young, W.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1951

In general, this has been a successful season. The XV has lost only four matches, one of them against an adult team, whilst its ten victories include a good win over Magdalen College School, Oxford, whom we had not beaten since 1940. Success was largely due to a good, lively pack, ably led by P. J. Millard, to the excellent play of Free at the base of the scrum and to the enthusiastic example of the captain, Leech.

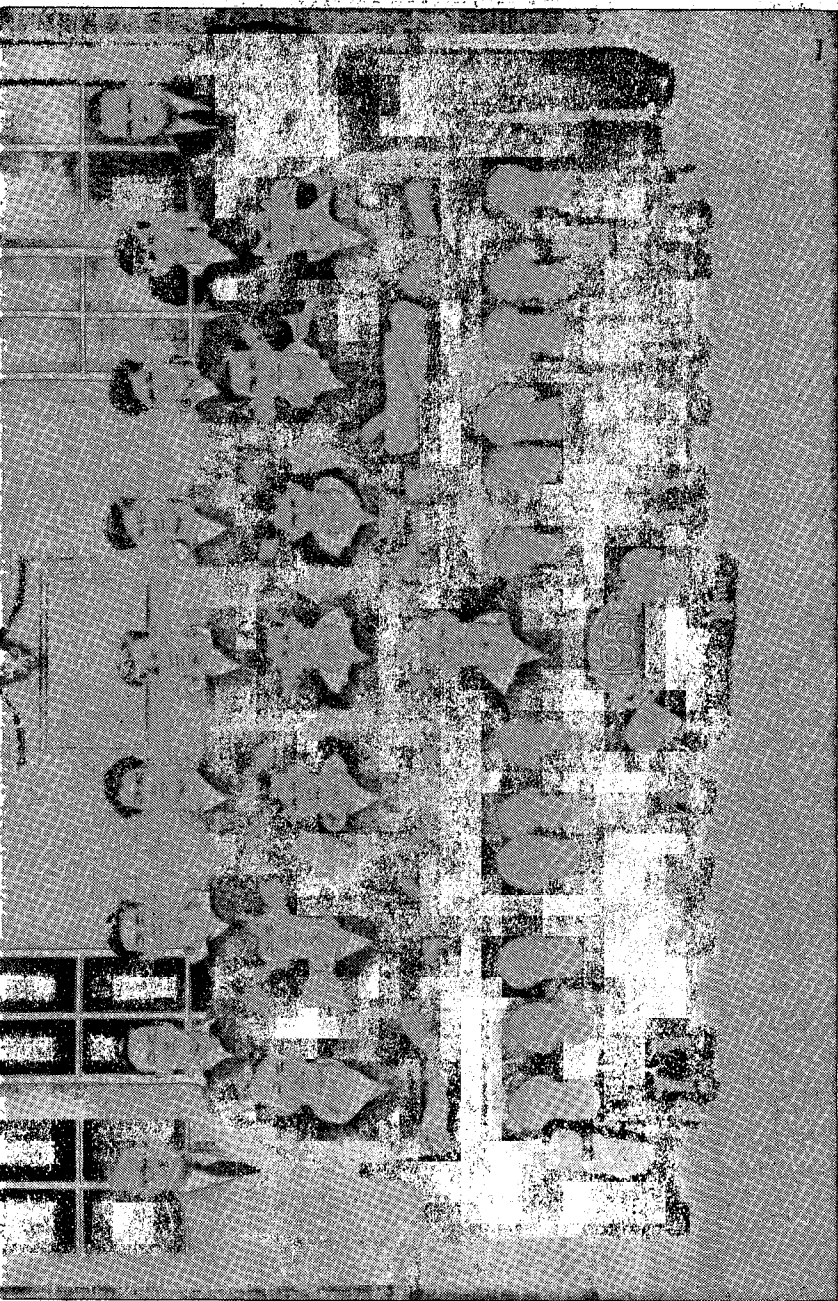
The team took some time to settle down, the stand-off half position presenting some difficulty. After experiments with Biggs and Glassbrook, Brackley was moved up from full back and played at stand-off with marked success for the rest of the season. Glassbrook proved himself a good attacking and grand defensive player at centre, whilst Full eventually ended up as a competent full-back, who gained confidence with every match. Perhaps our backs have on the whole lacked penetration this season, but on the other hand, defensive play has improved considerably; the fact that our line was crossed only once in the last five matches speaks for itself.

During the Christmas vacation, the School was represented in both the Over 15 and Under 15 County Trials. Of the Juniors, Linnegar and Pickford played in the trial game, Pickford being selected to play for the County in all four of its games and Linnegar being reserve on each occasion. Of the Seniors, Leech, Glassbrook, Brackley and the Millard brothers played in the Trial. Leech and Glassbrook subsequently played for Berkshire in two matches and later in a combined County game. It is good to know that Leech has also been chosen for the Regional Trial early in February, for which Glassbrook is a reserve.

During the season the following Colours were awarded:

Full-Colours—Archer, Andrews, Marshall A. C., and Millard P. J.

Half-Colours—Crockford G. W., Full, Ivatts and Sale P. R.



RUGGER XV, 1951

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows—Full; Millard R. S. M., Glassbrook M. C., Archer, Stopps; Brackley, Free; Andrews, Marshall A. C., Crockford G. W., Beere, King A. G. B., Millard P. J., Darroch, Leech.

The following have also played—Sale P. R. (5 times), Biggs, Ivatts and Pickford (once each).

D.O.W.

1st XV CHARACTERS

B. W. T. LEECH (Capt., Colours 1949), Wing forward. His enthusiastic leadership has been a big factor in the XV's success. At the start of the season the cares of captaincy tended to spoil his play, but more recently he recovered his old unquenchable spirit. His lively skill makes him a thorn in the flesh of all opponents. (D.O.W.)

D. FREE (Vice-Captain, Colours 1950), Scrum half. He has been consistently excellent throughout the season. His passing has continued to be accurate and long and he quickly settled down to a new partner. Tackling, kicking and falling have been well-nigh faultless. His own ability to score has been proved many times this season.

M. J. BRACKLEY (Colours 1950), Stand-off half. A strong runner with a forceful hand off and neat cut through, who has done well in a new position. He plays intelligently but is apt to watch the man rather than the ball when under pressure. His place kicking is not up to the standard of last year.

A. G. B. KING (Colours 1950), Second row forward. Still the best line out forward in the pack and much improved in the loose. But there is still a tendency to take things just a little too easily at times.

C. E. STOPPS (Half Colours 1949), Left Wing threequarter. A useful player who has not perhaps had much opportunity of showing his paces. On several occasions he has saved the day by getting back quickly in defence, and he has shown an intelligent use of the cross kick.

N. A. C. DARROCH (Half Colours 1950), Lock forward. Although he has shown plenty of speed and has corner flagged well, his play has not been altogether satisfactory and his tackling has been weak. There is also a tendency to stand off-side.

M. C. GLASSBROOK (Half Colours 1950), Right Centre. A most useful player, who has developed well and was somewhat unlucky to miss his Full Colours. He lacks weight at present and is inclined to run across. His tackling and kicking are first-class and he knows how to make an opening.

R. S. M. MILLARD (Half Colours 1950), Right Wing threequarter. Fast and powerful, he has developed an effective hand off, and this, together with better handling, has made him a dangerous man to stop. But his tackling is still too high.

C. A. FULL (Half Colours 1951), Full back. Moved to this position from centre, he settled down quickly and proved himself competent and plucky. His positioning and kicking are good and all he needs is more experience.

R. G. BEERE (Colours 1950), Second row forward. A consistent, reliable and hardworking player who gets through an amazing amount of useful work and never seems to tire. Equally good in tight and loose, he has been the foundation of the pack's effectiveness.

D. R. G. ANDREWS (Secretary, Colours 1951), Front row forward. A much improved player, who can always be depended upon to give of his best. In the tight he is excellent and his play in the loose has shown a great advance on last year.

J. B. ARCHER (Colours 1951), Left Centre. A forceful player with a deceptive run, who has scored frequently this season. His tackling is very good indeed, but he does not always think quickly enough and has been guilty of bad passing. He would do well to improve his punting.

A. C. MARSHALL (Colours 1951), Hooker. A young player, who has done well in a new position. His excellent play in the loose has resulted in some very good tries, and his tackling has been most useful on occasions.

P. J. MILLARD (Colours 1951), Wing forward. A very fast and skilful forward, who abounds in energy. He has made an admirable scrum leader.

G. W. CROCKFORD (Half-colours 1951), Front-row forward. His keenness and excellent shove in the tight scrum eventually secured him a place in the XV. He is at present a little wild in the loose, but his tackling is reliable.

P. R. SALE (Half-Colours 1951), Forward. A dependable player, especially in the loose, who should have no difficulty in making the XV next season.

B.W.T.L.

1st XV MATCHES

v. D. O. Willis' XV (h), Wed., 3rd October. Lost 16—22.

The School played well against a heavy and useful side, which included five of the Staff and players from several club teams. Free (2),

Millard R., and Brackley scored tries, the latter converting two of them. The weight and pace of their opponents won the game in the second half.

v. Reading School (a), Wed., 10th October. Lost 5—11.

This was a hard fought game with no score at the interval. A second-half lapse allowed Reading to score 11 points, and although Archer replied with a fine try, which Brackley converted, the effort came too late.

v. Southfield School (h), Sat., 13th October. Won 28—3.

Despite the wet conditions, this proved an easy win. The School pack played well and so did Free at scrum half. Free scored two tries, others being scored by Brackley, Millard R., and Marshall. Brackley converted one try and kicked three penalty goals, whilst Leech converted another try.

v. Pembroke College (a), Wed., 17th October. Won 11—8.

The team included one member of the staff, Mr. Willis, for this match. This was an excellent game, in which speed in the loose more than compensated for the heavier Pembroke pack. The School tackling, too, was very keen. Tries were scored by Full, Glassbrook and Free and Brackley converted one of these.

v. City of Oxford School (a), Wed., 20th October. Lost 8—17.

The School played badly against a good side and suffered the heaviest defeat of the season. Brackley converted a try by Marshall to give the School a half time lead of 5—3. After the interval, however, C.O.S. went quickly ahead. Although Brackley kicked a penalty goal, we eventually lost to a goal, a try and three penalty goals.

v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 27th October. Won 13—0

The School played as a team in this match and were unlucky not to score more points. Forwards and backs continued in constant attack. Tries were scored by Archer, Stopps and Brackley and the latter converted two.

*v. Magdalen College School, Oxford (h), Wed., 7th November
Won 16—14.*

This was a thrilling game throughout, with the issue in the balance until the last moment. But by beating M.C.S. by one goal, one penalty goal and two tries to one goal, two penalty goals and one try, the School were deserving winners. Quick heeling in the loose and hard running were the foundation of our success. Tries were scored by Brackley, Marshall and Archer. Brackley also converted one try and kicked a penalty goal.

v. Henley Grammar School (h), Sat., 10th November. Won 22—11.

Though the ground was heavy, this was quite a fast game. Henley fought back after losing 19—0 at half-time. The forwards dominated this game and their short passing proved most effective. Millard P. (2), Darroch (2), Leech and Millard R. scored for the School, Brackley converting two and Leech one of the tries.

*v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a), Wed., 14th November.
Won 18—6.*

The School team put up a lethargic performance and were off form. Fortunately, however, our opponents seemed equally off form. Not one try was converted. The School tries were scored by Millard R. (3), Leech, Brackley and King.

v. Windsor County School (a), Sat., 17th November. Won 5—3.

On a waterlogged pitch, the School played well, though only Archer scored, Brackley converting. Marshall hooked well against a heavier pack and Full, at full back, was confident under difficult conditions. The Windsor try, a result of their strong attack in the second half, was the last try of the season scored against us.

v. Newbury Grammar School (a), Wed., 21st November. Lost 0—3.

Both sides were evenly matched and Newbury won by a penalty goal. Despite the heavy pitch, play was lively particularly towards the end of the game. Both Millard R., and Archer came close to scoring.

v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h), Sat., 24th November. Won 6—0.

This was mainly a forward battle in which Leech was very prominent. He scored two fine tries. Neither set of three-quarters impressed but High Wycombe were very unlucky not to score on several occasions.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (h), Sat., 1st December. Won 6—0.

Some excellent rugby was produced by both sides in this game, although the School outsiders spoilt several good movements by bad passing. The pack, though outshoved in the tight, was lively in the loose. Brackley and Archer scored the tries.

v. Old Abingdonians (h), Sat., 8th December. Won 5—0.

This match was marred by rain, wind and mud. In consequence attractive play was out of the question, though the usual vigour and keenness were present. The School team was without Free and Marshall, but Glassbrook deputised well at scrum half whilst Sale and Pickford filled the vacant places effectively. The scrums battled out the issue, but Leech scored the only try of the game and converted it himself with a fine kick from near the touchline.

D.R.G.A.

2nd XV

The 2nd XV has had a somewhat mixed season. Its results on paper are not good, but with one exception its defeats have been by very narrow margins and it finished the season with two very good victories over R.G.S., High Wycombe and the City of Oxford School. The 2nd XV was always capable of giving the 1st XV a very good game and three players, Biggs, Ivatts and Sale played on occasions for the 1st XV. The team was well captained by Ivatts, whilst Amey, Cullen, Crockford A. F. R., and Sale were always prominent amongst the forwards. Biggs, Cope, Candy and Nicholls were, perhaps, the best of the outsides.

The final arrangement of the team was as follows:—Cope; Allsworth, Nicholls, Whiteford, Candy M. A., Biggs, Armstrong; Cowles R. J., Candy D. Y., Amey, Crockford A. F. R., Cullen, Sale P. R., Tompson and Ivatts.

Also played:—Pickford, Stevens P. S. G. (3 times); Fay, Paxman R. N. (twice); Darroch, Full, Hullett, Redknap (once).

Results

- v. Thame Grammar School 1st XV (h), Sat., 6th October. Lost 0—8.
- v. Leighton Park School (a), Sat., 20th October. Lost 0—6.
- v. St. Edward's School 3rd XV (h), Wed., 24th October. Lost 8—15.
- v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 27th October. Won 9—3.
- v. Radley College 3rd XV (h), Wed., 31st October. Lost 3—17.
- v. Magdalen College School, Oxford (h), Wed., 14th Nov. Lost 3—6.
- v. Newbury Grammar School (a), Wed., 21st November. Drawn 3—3.
- v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a), Sat., 24th November. Won 19—3.
- v. City of Oxford School (h), Wed., 28th November. Won 14—3.

3rd XV

This season's 3rd XV has been a most successful one. The enthusiastic leadership of Fay and a hard working pack largely account for some excellent games and four very creditable victories. Apart from Fay, who played himself into the 2nd XV on several occasions, Downer, Griffiths, Williams and Paxman deserve special commendation. Stevens proved himself a safe full back with quite a good sense of position.

The team was as follows: Stevens P. S. G.; Hullett, Prothero, Aylin, Pinniger J.; Allen, Redknap; Downer, Fay, Guimaraens B., Griffiths M. J. C., Williams H. G., Hawtin, Round, Paxman R. N.

Also played:—Lockhart-Smith (4 times), Armstrong and Cox (3 times each), Ellis (twice).

Results

- v. Reading School (h), Wed., 10th October. Lost 3—24.
- v. Leighton Park School (a), Sat., 20th October. Won 13—3.
- v. Magdalen College Sch., Oxford (a), Wed., 14th Nov. Won 12—0.
- v. Radley College 4th XV (h), Sat., 7th November. Won 12—0.
- v. Newbury Grammar School (h), Wed., 21st November. Won 9—3.
- v. Radley College 4th XV (a), Sat., 1st December. Lost 3—10.

'UNDER 15' XV

The Colts have been a more evenly balanced side this season. The results have been somewhat mixed but the team had only one really bad defeat—at the hands of a very good M.C.S. side—as against several convincing victories. The side was well captained by Taylor K. J., but the most outstanding player was undoubtedly Pickford at stand off half. Of the forwards Taylor, Stroud-Viney, and Viney were always reliable whilst Linnegar at full back was his customary courageous self.

The team was as follows:—Linnegar; Hall B. K., Griffith R. D. P., Payne, Nichols; Pickford, Pezaro; Pinniger R., Howes, Hall J. D., Brown E. L., Creevy, Viney, Stroud-Viney, Taylor K. J.

Also played:—Langton, Light and Mott (twice each); Carter N., Gammack, Song and Swainston (once each).

Results:

- v. Thame Grammar School (h), Sat., 6th October. Lost 0—15.
- v. Reading School (a), Wed., 10th October. Lost 3—9.
- v. Newbury Grammar School (h), Sat., 13th October. Won 11—5.
- v. Southfield School (h), Sat., 20th October. Won 8—0.
- v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 27th October. Won 22—5.
- v. Magdalen College Sch., Oxford (a), Wed., 7th November. Lost 3—30.
- v. Henley Grammar School (h), Sat., 10th November. Won 25—3.
- v. Windsor County School (a), Sat., 17th November. Abandoned at half time, 6—0 in our favour.
- v. City of Oxford School (a), Sat., 1st December. Lost 3—5.
- v. Leighton Park School (h), Wed., 5th December. Won 17—0.

'UNDER 14' XV

The junior side continues to flourish and the four matches played this season were all very good games. The team contains several players of promise—Langton, skipper and threequarter, Carter N., full back, Rallings and Foden, scrum, Budgen, stand-off half.

The team was as follows:—Carter N.; Langton, Albery, Mott, Song; Budgen, Hasthorpe; Wastie, Bush, Eustace, Buckland, Rallings, Rawlins, Owen, Foden.

Also played—Peedell I. R. (twice), Glenny and Ashworth I. T. S. (once each).

Results:

- v. Reading School (h), Wed., 10th October. Won 14—8.
- v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 27th October. Won 9—6.
- v. Magdalen Sch., Oxford (h), Wed., 14th November. Lost 6—8.
- v. City of Oxford School (a), Sat., 1st December. Lost 3—9.

HOUSE MATCHES

The House rugby competitions were played off somewhat earlier in the term than usual, but were characterised by all the traditional vigour. The Lin Cup went to Bennett House and the Robinson Cup again went to Reeves House.

Results were:—

Senior: Reeves v. Blacknall, 0—3
 Tesdale v. Bennett, 6—10
 Bennett v. Blacknall, 10—15

Junior: Tesdale v. Bennett, 25—6
 Reeves v. Blacknall, 3—0
 Tesdale v. Reeves, 0—26.

D.O.W.

MINOR GAMES

The Michaelmas Term saw an increase in the popularity of Minor Sports: Basketball, Boxing, Fives and Squash all saw better days than they had for many years. Interest in Boxing increased as chances of getting a ring improved. The Club now meets twice a week, an innovation justified by the number of seniors attending the second sessions.

Fives and Squash have flourished, mainly because of the encouragement they have received from Mr. Gray and Mr. Hillary respectively. The Squash Club again offers its thanks to the Officers' Mess of the R.A.F. Station, Abingdon, for allowing members to use the Mess Court.

We must not forget, also, those two members of the Fives Club who have risked their necks in patching up the precarious heights of the Fives Court Roof.

The annual Basketball match was played against the R.A.F., Abingdon, on Tuesday, 4th December. The School lost a very fast game by 44 points to 16. The difference between the scores was due mainly to the inaccurate shooting of the School Forwards. The team was: Forwards—Brackley, Darroch N. A. C., Full; Backs—King, Beere.

The Staff Match was unfortunately abandoned through lack of time.
N.A.C.D.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

The races were held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 12th December, over a course somewhat shorter than that of previous years. This was necessitated by the hard frost which made the ground near the river particularly dangerous. Nevertheless the winning time of 17 mins. 57.3 secs. returned by Glassbrook M. C., in the Senior Race was very good indeed. Glassbrook also beat the Captain of Cross Country (Biggs), who finished a close second.

Details of the House competitions were as follows:—

Senior: Reeves 73 points; Blacknall 61; Bennett 52; Tesdale 25.

Junior: Tesdale 76 points; Reeves 75; Blacknall 49; Bennett 12.

The over-all winner was Reeves House with 148 points, whilst Blacknall secured 110, Tesdale 101 and Bennett 64.

Those gaining points in the Senior race were:—

Glassbrook M. C., Bl., 17 min. 57.3 secs.; Biggs, B; Sale P. R., R; Aylin, T; Leech B. W. T., R; Hiscock, Bl; Crockford G. W., B; Brown C. G., R; Whiteford B; Hawtin, Bl; Stevens P. S. G., Bl; Armstrong, R; Pinniger J., T; Robbins, B; Clewley, R; Brown E. L., R; Allen, R; Full, Bl; Guimaraens B., R; Redknap, Bl.

Those gaining points in the Junior race were:—

Miell-Ingram, T; and Griffith R. D. P., R (deadheat) 13 min. 41 secs.; Pinniger R., T; Gammack, Bl; Parsons, T; Hall J. D., T; Eustace, R; Shaw, Bl; Rawlins, B; Rogers, Bl; Pickford, R; Dunn, R; Glover, R; Westcott, T; and Trenaman I. W., Bl (deadheat); Hiles, R; Older, R; Pridham, R; Sarsfield-Hall, R; Page J. T., Bl.

M.J.B.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

It is with satisfaction that we record a further increase in our numbers, from 204 at the end of the last School year to 226. There is still room, however, for a number of waverers, particularly from the Third forms, and we hope that numbers in the New Year will at least reach the present establishment of 238 Cadets.

As announced last term, we welcome Capt. J. V. Fiori, M.C., R.E., who already has the Sapper Section for post-Cert. A cadets well under way. Our thanks are due also to the Commanding Officer, Parachute Course Administrative Unit, who is providing a Sergeant to take charge of rifle instruction for Cert. A, Pt. II. This assistance, coupled with the continuing help we received from O.C., 4th Bn. Oxford and Bucks L.I. (T.A.) is a source of great strength, which we hope to see reflected in the spring. The entry then will again set up a "new high", the number of candidates, for Parts I and II taken together, exceeding the hundred mark.

Outstanding events of this term have been the Field Day, Night Ops. and the Remembrance Day Service and March Past. For the first two of these events the fates were against us—again. In the course of a Coy. exercise which was being carried out in the morning as a drill on Field Day, the stage had been reached at which the unwary attackers were about to be pushed back by a counter attack in strength—when it was realised that a major fire had been started in the field of wheat-stubble across which the advance had taken place!

First things first . . . Thereafter, almost literally as soon as we had got the fire out, by all available means, including our gas-capes, the rain which had been threatening all morning, came down in real earnest . . . For our night-op again the rain showered down while some energetic patrols floundered about in a highly glutinous mixture of mud and water. As a tactical exercise this was indeed a washout, but it was voted good fun by the 80 odd senior cadets who took part.

To redress the balance, the weather on Remembrance Day was splendid. This year the School again provided a strong contingent in the parade, representing the R.N. and Army sections, besides furnishing the buglers and Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph. The N.C.O.s on this duty carried out their task so well that they received at least one wholly unsolicited testimonial, from a Regular Officer on parade. To them we would renew our thanks and congratulations.

In this contingent we are a course-going lot. During the holidays 6 N.C.O.s are attending a course in Platoon Weapons at the Royal Marine Small Arms School, while 5 other cadets are "coursing", 4 with the R.A., and one for a Section Leading course. There were half-a-dozen other applicants, for whom vacancies were not available.

At the beginning of term, the following promotions were made:

To be C.S.M.—C.Q.M.S. King

To be C.Q.M.S.—Sgt. Andrews, D. R. G. and Sgt. J. Westall

To be Sergeant—Cpl. Amey P. H. B., Cpl. Crockford A. F. R. and Cpl. Norman J.

To be Lance/Sergeant—Cpl. Downs T. W. S. and Cpl. Leech B. W. T.

To be Corporal—L/Cpl. Bartlett F. E., L/Cpl. Brackley M. J., L/Cpl. Ellis D. R., L/Cpl. Fay P. W., L/Cpl. Heavens J. F., L/Cpl. Sale P. R.

Buglers at the Cenotaph: C.S.M. Leach, Cdt. Redknap

Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph: Sgt. Amey, Sgt. Crockford, Cpl. Brackley, L/Cpl. Griffiths.

S.C.P.

R.N. SECTION

A term of hard work. Two exams were held, one for Leading Seaman, in which Candy M. A., was successful and Hullett only just failed, and the other for A/B, in which only two passed outright, Banfield and Guimaraens B. D., although five others failed only in Signals.

Field Day was once again at Culham, where we carried out an interesting and varied programme. We are most grateful to the Commanding Officer and the First Lieutenant of Culham for all the arrangements which were made on our behalf.

The only other event of interest was the moving of the whaler to its new mooring on Nag's Head Island. The current at the time was so strong that it was decided to tow the boat as far as possible and to use oars only to pull across stream when necessary. All went well, except that the tow-rope parted on two occasions, once in mid-stream. There was an anxious moment until we saw that the two boys in the boat were able to bring it into the bank. Eventually the boat was secured to its new moorings just after darkness fell, and we returned to School—one of our number exceedingly damp.

We have again received invaluable help from C.P.O. Woodcock of Culham, and we are indeed grateful to him.

L.C.J.G.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

With the new lighting system installed the Library can now be considered comfortably established at Lacies Court. Naturally we hope to add some refinements gradually, but we are extremely lucky to have secured such congenial and convenient quarters.

Presentations, we are delighted to say, have been too numerous to record in detail, but we are most grateful to Miss Pickering, for two books on trees, C. E. Coxeter, O.A., for a fine old Prayer Book, dated 1728, to the Town Clerk for the Official Guide to Abingdon, to J. A. M. Brakspear, F. P. Field, Jim Furby, J. R. W. Ireland, T. S. Reeve, N. Purnell, R. J. Taylor and M. J. Wareham for leaving books, and

M. J. Brackley, D. H. Wheaton, O.A., and R. A. Worth for a varied assortment of excellent books. We also thank the Headmaster for a copy of his book 'The Senate and Roman Provinces'.

G.F.D.

BRASS BAND

We have had another successful term. We welcome three new bandmen, namely M. V. A. Alberry (tenor horn), P. Older (Cornet) and R. E. J. Packer (Bass), so that our total strength is now 16.

We gave three performances. On December 10, accompanied by about 30 singers we toured Abingdon playing carols, as a result of which we were able to send a handsome cheque to the Church of England Children's Society.

On the following evening, we played to the patients in the Isolation hospital and here we were able to draw on our enlarged repertoire which now includes several marches and waltzes.

Finally we played two Carols in the Corn Exchange on 16th December at the Abingdon Youth Advisory Committee's Carol Service.

So far we have no engagements for the Lent term, and so with the continued help of Mr. Barker and Mr. Clack, we hope to concentrate on correcting our greatest fault—intonation.

B.W.T.L.

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

We are indebted to Mr. Geoffrey Trease for the following critique

Some hold that school dramatic societies should stick—if not to Shakespeare—at least to some classic "with lines really worth the time spent on learning them". If, by a happy coincidence, the classic is also a set-book for the General Certificate, so much the better. And—let us be honest—there is a good deal to be said for this viewpoint. But not everything. The drama is much more than the memorization and audible delivery of famous quotations, and boys should have a chance to tackle its other problems. It may be some time before Joseph Kesselring's gruesome farce, *Arsenic and Old Lace* becomes required reading for examination purposes. The School Dramatic Society were quite right, however, not to wait; and their production of the play, on the 14th and 15th December last, was a triumphant exercise in several types of theatre-craft which could not have been learnt from Shakespeare or Sheridan. And, for all of us on the far side of the footlights—and I suspect on the other side too—it was tremendous fun.

"Somebody has to do these things," remarks a character in Act One and though any dramatic critic's guns are well and truly spiked by

half a dozen wisecracks in the script, I must rally my courage and attempt the difficult duty of criticism. Difficult because, as it happened, I had never read or seen this popular success presented in any medium, and, wondering all the time what would happen next, I enjoyed the show far more than critics are supposed to. It was an effort, every now and again, to remind myself that I *should* be picking holes. And that, when you come to think of it, is a pretty high compliment to any production.

Accidents I discount—lights which were not quite synchronised with their dummy switches, occasional interventions by the prompter. These things are common enough with professionals in weekly rep. and not entirely unknown in long West End runs. They are excusable, indeed practically inevitable, in any run where the second night is also the last. What does matter is that a play full of exits and entrances, innumerable lighting-cues and bells, and troublesome business such as a fall and the disposal of bodies, went through without any serious hitch. Movements were good—except when ladies dropped into a too manly stride—and characters did not mask one another. Mr. Griffin, as producer, had obviously drilled them well. Forced to choose between pace and audibility—an almost inescapable dilemma for amateurs—he had rightly chosen audibility, and in nearly all cases secured it. The cast acted *all* the time, not just when, individually, they had lines to say; at the same time they avoided that excessive, distracting by-play which is often the bane of school drama. Mr. G. H. Cooper had created a first class set. Mr. R. G. Mortimer, as stage director, Michael Brackley as stage manager, and Mr. Johnston in charge of the lighting contributed—together with a host of other backstage helpers, inside and outside the ranks of the School—to the really effective presentation of the play.

To turn to the cast. Ladies first . . . As the two maiden Aunts, Abby and Martha Brewster, at once so homely and so homicidal, Richard and Peter Millard were excellent. They lived every moment of their parts and were entirely convincing. There could have been very little elderberry wine consumed in Abingdon during the Christmas following their macabre performance. As Elaine Harper, Tony Gardner wore his new nylons almost—but not quite—as naturally as they wore their old lace. Though his part was much shorter it was (for a boy) peculiarly difficult, and this young actor deserves high praise for the determined and successful manner in which he attacked it.

Peter Amey, as Mortimer Brewster, shared with his "aunts" the main responsibility of holding the play together. He did this very well. He had presence and, when necessary, could dominate the stage. So, in the later scenes, did David Lloyd as Jonathan Brewster, aided by a nightmareish Boris Karlovian make-up and an excellent voice, which enabled him on occasion to disregard the elementary rule ("never

“speak with your back to the audience”) and be completely audible at the back of the hall. As Teddy Brewster, maddest but least murderous of the family, Brian Leech provided broad comedy but avoided the obvious temptation to clown. Sir W. S. Gilbert always insisted that the Savoy company should present their fantastic characters with complete, unwinking seriousness, and any actor who played to the gallery was “for it”. Gilbert would have thoroughly approved of this performance.

Tony King, as Officer O'Hara, gave us more broad comedy, in a very passable stage-Irish accent. He too knew how to take command, when his moment came, and to hold the audience. There was no need to bind and gag *them*, like the unfortunate Mortimer. Lieutenant Rooney and Officers Brophy and Klein were played, respectively, by Jeffrey Heavens, Robert Beere and Michael Creevy, with well-sustained American accents, assisted no doubt by the facilities for extra-mural language studies provided by the Regal, Ritz and other local seats of learning. As Dr. Einstein, Harold Williams seemed a trifle bothered by his German accent—it came and went, rather, and at times reduced his audibility—but otherwise he gave us an interesting characterization and proved the ideal foil for his sinister associate. Peter Simmonds (the Rev. Dr. Harper), Robin Mills (Mr. Gibbs), and John Hall (Mr. Witherspoon) used their smaller opportunities well, while Alan Pezaro and John Howard, as the much-discussed Messrs. Hoskins and Spenalzo, had ample opportunity to reflect on the old saying, “You're a long time dead”.

The Cast was as follows:—

Abby Brewster	Richard Millard
The Rev. Dr. Harper	Peter Simmonds
Teddy Brewster	Brian Leech
Officer Brophy	Robert Beere
Officer Klein	Michael Creevy
Martha Brewster	Peter Millard
Elaine Harper	Tony Gardner
Mortimer Brewster	Peter Arney
Mr. Gibbs	Robin Mills
Jonathan Brewster	David Lloyd
Dr. Einstein	Harold Williams
Mr. Hoskins	Alan Pezaro
Mr. Spenalzo	John Howard
Officer O'Hara	Tony King
Lieutenant Rooney	Jeffrey Heavens
Mr. Witherspoon	John Hall
Stage Manager	Michael Brackley
Stage Hands	John Griffiths, David Littlewood, Richard Cowles, Neil Cox, John Archer, Tony Marshall, Timothy Downs, Geoffrey Slack.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the term and welcomed three new members, N. A. C. Darroch, A. G. B. King, S. R. Mills.

Mr. J. Y. Ingham read the first paper of the term on 24th October, his subject being "Hymns". In it he traced comprehensively the early growth and development of English hymns. Discussion later centred around the virtues, or otherwise, of hymn writers and editors.

On 14th November, C. S. Wiggins read a paper entitled "The History of Book Production" which was well-written and interesting, though it did not provoke any controversial discussion.

The final meeting, on 5th December, was in the nature of an experiment and was very successful. M. W. Matthews and P. B. H. Amey both read interesting papers on "The French Impressionists". Later, talk veered round to the contemporaries of the Impressionist painters, Zola, Baudelaire and Debussy.

The Society is once again deeply indebted to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their hospitality.

D.R.G.A.

TURNOR SOCIETY

The A.G.M. was held on 29th September. The following Officers were either elected or re-elected—President: The Headmaster; Chairman: R. S. M. Millard; Secretary: B. W. Boddington; Treasurer: Mr. D. O. Willis. Committee: D. R. G. Andrews, N. J. Shurrock, P. J. Millard.

The Society is experiencing an unfortunate dearth of speakers at the moment, and had only two engagements during the term. The first was on 9th November, when a talk was given by Mr. Harold Gibson, M.C., who spoke on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. He traced the growth of N.A.T.O. and showed that its formation was largely the result of British initiative. He explained the position of such countries as Sweden, Spain and Eire, and also Greece and Turkey who were now being included in the organisation.

Mr. J. V. Fiori, M.C., gave the second talk. His subject was "Building Bridges in War". Mr. Fiori served with distinction in the Royal Engineers in the late war, and was able to recount many personal anecdotes. The talk was amply illustrated on the epidiascope. Examples of the Italian campaign and operations in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany were shown, and they clearly demonstrated the importance of the Sapper in modern warfare.

B.W.B.

DEBATING SOCIETY

At the A.G.M. held on 21st September, D. R. G. Andrews was elected Hon. Secretary. The other Officers of the Society now are—President: The Headmaster; Committee R. S. M. Millard, P. J. Millard; Hon Treasurer: Mr. D. O. Willis.

The first debate of the term took place on 5th October, when R. S. Millard proposed that "Honesty is the worst policy", and D. C. Shaw opposed. The motion was defeated, 21—10.

In the second debate, on 19th October, B. W. T. Leech, seconded by C. A. Full, proposed that "War between Russia and the U.S.A. is inevitable". R. S. M. Millard opposed, D. R. G. Andrews seconding. The motion was defeated, 19—8.

On 16th November, B. W. T. Leech proposed the third motion of the term, that "The Policeman's lot is a happy one"; he was seconded by P. R. Sale. H. R. Leach opposed, seconded by J. Norman. The motion was defeated, 19—13.

The fourth and last debate of the term, on 23rd November, proved to be the most interesting. P. R. Sale, seconded by C. A. Full, proposed that "This House deplores the result of the recent General Election". He was opposed by R. S. M. Millard, seconded by B. W. T. Leech. The motion was heavily defeated.

The Society has enjoyed a successful term, the debating being of a markedly improved standard, while proof of the greater interest is shown by the fact that on several occasions it was necessary to apply the guillotine. However the Secretary still deplores the reticence of certain members.

D.R.G.A.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the society's first meeting of the Michaelmas term, on 5th October, Boddington and Banwell were re-elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Wastie and H. G. Williams were appointed Librarians.

On 12th October, Mr. T. J. Edwards, of H. R. Harmer, Ltd., lectured on "Propaganda Fakes and Postal Forgeries", dealing mainly with those printed during the recent war.

Mr. G. P. Arnold had also arranged to lecture on "Airgraphs", but unfortunately his visit had to be postponed. We hope, however, to welcome him during the Lent Term and also our other two lecturers, Mr. K. Chapman and Dr. J. L. Grumbridge.

The number of members has increased to 45 and attendance at meetings has been good.

C.H.B.

HOLIDAY CLUB

Despite the bad weather, many members of the Club enjoyed games of cricket and tennis during the Summer holidays. The Brooks Cup for cricket is once more held by the School, albeit we were defeated by the Bayworth Youth Club at Tennis.

Table tennis and Soccer matches were arranged for the Christmas holidays, and an augmented Holiday Club choir performed at the local Youth Carol Service at the end of the Michaelmas term.

J.W.

CAMERA CLUB

The club held five meetings during the term; two business meetings, two lectures and a film show. The first lecture by Mr. Johnston, was a sequel to his previous talk on 'Portraiture'. The other lecture, which was given by the Secretary, was intended for new members and dealt with developing and printing processes.

At the film show the Club presented a full length feature-documentary, "Drifters". This film, made in 1929, is regarded as one of the epics of the silent screen, and it was certainly enjoyed by the hundred and twenty boys who saw it here.

The Secretary, M. J. Grigsby, states that an extensive programme has been arranged for the Spring and it is hoped that the society will gain many new members.

D.L.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

Seven meetings were held during the term, at the first of which D. Free was re-elected Secretary.

At the second meeting, the Society heard the broadcast of the final concert in the 1951 series of Sir Henry Wood Promenade Concerts from the Albert Hall. The programme, which included works by Richard Strauss, Johann Strauss, Britten and Elgar, was concluded as usual with the Fantasia on British Sea Songs. This was the first time that the society had listened to a broadcast performance.

At the next meeting, the Society's Vice-President, Mr. Barker, played excerpts from Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius", with Heddle Nash (tenor) and Isobel Baillie (soprano) as soloists. The Chorus was that of the Huddersfield Choral Society, well known for its performance of the "Messiah".

A fortnight later P. J. Millard introduced a programme consisting of two works—the Overture to the Thieving Magpie and Bizet's first

Symphony. The latter work, though new to many of us, proved very enjoyable.

The programme for the fifth meeting was introduced by P. B. H. Amey, who played the first two movements of Tchaikovsky's first Piano Concerto, and the last two movements of Dvorak's New World Symphony.

Mr. Barker again presented the programme at the next meeting, when he played Beethoven's Eroica Symphony.

At the last meeting of term the programme consisted of excerpts from Handel's Water Music and Mozart's 39th Symphony. This programme was introduced by one of our younger members, R. E. J. Packer, and it is hoped his example will encourage others to present programmes.

D.F.

CHESS CLUB

The Club meetings have been well attended by the 25 regular members. A knock-out Tournament was completed and we congratulate P. S. G. Stevens, the winner and S. R. Mills, the runner-up. In the only match of the term, against Newbury G.S. at Newbury, we were heavily defeated 1—5, Fay scoring our solitary win. However there were several good games and it was a most enjoyable evening, but we obviously need to play more often against 'strangers' with fresh ideas.

We shall certainly miss Peter Fay next term, and are more than grateful to him for the hard work he has done during the last two years in getting the Club so well established.

Next term we hope to arrange more matches, an American tournament for seniors, and a knock-out tournament for juniors.

S.R.M.

JOINT CLUB

Three most successful meetings were held during the term. For the first, on 6th September, we are indebted to the ladies of St. Helen's for their excellent hospitality and for a most enjoyable, if somewhat energetic, evening of dancing.

The second meeting, on 20th September, was of a more sedentary nature, and was held in our own Ladies Court. From this meeting we learnt that a hat debate can be both amusing and instructive.

For the last meeting, that of 18th November, we enjoyed a performance of "Who is Sylvia?" given in Oxford by the Playhouse Repertory Company. Again, thank you St. Helen's!

It was not, unfortunately, possible to arrange a Prefects' Dance, but, we hasten to add, this is only a temporary interruption of what we already regard as an annual tradition.

A.G.B.K.

SCOUT TROOP

At the beginning of the Michaelmas term several of the older Scouts left to join the Corps, but the intake of new boys was so large that a new patrol—the Peewits—was formed. We should be very busy in the Lent term, for we hope to move into our new Headquarters in the Old Kitchen of Lacies Court then.

H.J.

CUB PACK

Chief Sixer: E. Jouault

Although, inevitably, few in numbers, the cubs were keen in tests and games, and have arrived promptly at meetings. This has enabled us to play many games, several of which were new to the Pack.

We are greatly indebted to Bagheera in the organization of games and tests, and also for leading the singing of Cub songs round the fire at our final meeting, while the potatoes were roasting in the embers.

F.W.B.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Dear Sir,

Your correspondent may perhaps be excused if he laments the small number of O.A.s in residence, but we realise that quality here is far more important than quantity elsewhere.

Our doyen, P. M. McLeod, is still reported to be in residence at Christ's; Jasper Rose can be seen taking the air and sunning himself on K.P.; whilst H. D. Baecker, between meditations upon a frog's duodenum, is being a nuisance everywhere in his efforts to federate Europe.

We may include A. E. Willson in this review for though not a member of the University he is often to be seen on his furtive way to morning coffee. His excuse is that he is here to learn Russian, that being his contribution to the national effort during his period of Service.

Our greetings to all for the coming year, even to those under the shadow of the bulwarks of Leviathan.

I remain, Sir,

Your Cambridge Correspondent.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

GOULD. On 27th Oct., 1951, at Santo Paulo, Brazil, to the wife of Philp Gould (1933), a son, Rodney.

LACEY JOHNSON. On 18th September, 1951, to Corinne, wife of Capt. Lionel Lacey Johnson (1944) a son, Vyvian.

LAY. On 28th September, 1951, to Barbara, wife of Joseph Lay (1933) of Harwell, Berks, a brother for William, David Peter.

MARRIAGES

CHERRILL-KIMBREY. On 13th October, 1951, at St. Nicolas' Church, Abingdon, Anthony H. Cherrill (1948) to Lois Kimbrey.

HORWOOD-ABSALOM. On 20th October, 1951, at Chipping Norton Methodist Church, Neville F. Horwood (1944) to Mary Absalom.

LEE-BROWN. On 5th September, 1951, at St. Helen's Church Abingdon, Montague J. Lee (1943) to Betty Jane Brown, of Oxford Road, Abingdon.

PENNY-STOCKFORD. On 14th August, 1951, at Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon, Donald J. Penny (1945) to Patricia Stockford.

VARLEY-WARNER. On 8th September, 1951, at Enstone, Oxon, Raymond R. Varley (1941) of 184 Wootton Road, Abingdon, to Constance Mary Warner, of Rectory Farm, Enstone.

DEATH

DICKINSON. On 17th December, 1951, at Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, Eric Charles Dickinson, aged 59 years.

Eric Dickinson was at the School from 1903 to 1907, leaving when he was 16. He was for some time an Art Teacher at the Oxford City Technical School before he joined the Royal Engineers in 1918. After the war he went up to Exeter College, Oxford, and while still an undergraduate produced two volumes of verse, 'The Ilex Grove' in 1919 and 'Sonnets' in 1921. After graduating he became head of the English department at Aligarh College, United Provinces; and the rest of his life was spent in the service of Indian education. In 1938 he was at Government College, Lahore, and before he returned to England last year he was Principal of Saddiq Egerton College, Bahawalpur. He was an ardent student of Indian Art as well as a collector. Among other publications were 'Laolus' (1924) 'A Florentine Night' (1931), and 'Studies in Education and Literature' (1939).

We welcome the latest offering from the muse of Oswald Couldrey (1901) 'Sonnets of East and West', and we hope to publish a review in the next issue of *The Abingdonian*. We were also very pleased to hear that the brief-review of 'The Phantom Waterfall' in the B.B.C. Third Programme provoked such a prompt demand from Indian book-sellers.

A paragraph in a Sunday paper recently recounted some of the highlights in the adventurous life of Sir Michael Bruce (1910), brother of Nigel (1912). He was successively a member of the B.S.A. Police (1913), a Gunner Officer in Gallipoli and France in the 1914-18 war, a cowboy on the Pampas, and commander of a rebel unit in a Brazilian revolution (1923). The last war found him Flying Officer in 901 Sqdn. R.A.F., and later instructor of glider-pilots. In the airborne crossing of the Rhine in 1944 his glider was shot down, and though he had a miraculous escape from death he spent two years in hospital with a broken back. True to form he made a wonderful recovery and is now flying gliders again. What the article did not mention was his adventure into authorship with 'Sails and Saddles' (1929).

The Cables and Wireless Training Establishment at Porthcurno, Cornwall, has three O.A.s in residence, H. S. Bartlett (1925) and H. L. Weaver (1921) as Instructors and K. A. Fathers (1949) *in statu pupillari*.

Bennett Aldiss (1946) having secured his Certificate is now forsaking the Merchant Marine and proceeding to South Africa to seek what fortune may offer there. His brother Peter, however, now an Officer in the P. & O. Line is sticking to the sea, for the present.

Two O.A.s have been involved in the unfortunate 'flight' from the Iran oilfields, John Clarke (1941) and Geoffrey Barnett (1933). We only hope that the future has some better employment in store for them.

Bill Wooldridge has arrived in Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, to join the Police Force, and finds himself again in company with Julian Brakspear.

The Services

Brigadier C. E. H. Dolphin, C.B.E. (1922) who we hope will be inspecting the School C.C.F. in July, is one of the Joint Secretaries in the Army Council Secretariat.

Capt. R. H. Marshall (1940) now with 30 Corps Engineer Regt., B.A.O.R., was competing last summer in the Army Tennis Championships.

Lieut. Tony Clay (1948) is now Troop Commander in his A.A. Battery in Hong Kong, and what with running an Internal Security course and acting as Father Christmas for servicemen's children, he has been leading a busy life.

2nd Lieut. Jeremy Cullen (1950) is at Paderborn in the R.A.C., and 2nd Lt. Roger Hamer, R.A., (1950) at Larkhill, where John Draisey (1951) has also arrived.

Among other Servicemen who left in July, Beville Stevens is in R.A.S.C., Neil Purnell in R.A.M.C. and Aubrey Taylor in R.A. at Oswestry. Barry Noyce (1950) is at Dortmund in R.A. Robin Grant was recently commissioned from Eaton Hall, in R. Berks and is being posted to the King's African Rifles in E. Africa.

J. G. L. Pearson (1939) who has been for 12 years in the Royal Navy as Aircraft Artificer is now stationed at Culham.

Norman Parker (1948) who is training for a permanent commission in the R.A.F. has transferred to the Supply Branch and is at Digby Air Station.

Brian Wiggins (1950) and John Beasley (1949) are in R.E.M.E. the former at Arborfield, and the latter at Fayid, Egypt, where life was reasonably interesting—before the 'troubles'.

At R.M.A. Sandhurst, Tony Riggott is shortly going on a hockey tour in Germany and Peter Lucas has been playing in the 3rd XV.

The following, to the best of our knowledge are at present in residence at Universities, Colleges and Hospitals. We apologise in advance for omissions and errors and shall be pleased to be corrected.

Oxford University:

Pembroke—P. M. King, M. J. Green, J. P. Mortimore, M. H. Jones,
C. F. Trevor, G. H. Willson, J. A. Garner, M. D. Millichap,
G. S. Strachan and M. H. Venables.

Balliol—A. J. Betterton, G. L. Sanders.

Keble—C. V. Davidge (Fellow).

St. John's—D. H. Wheaton.

St. Catherine's—I. H. McNaughton.

Cambridge University:

Christ's—P. M. McLeod.

Jesus—H. D. Baecker.

Reading: D. J. Leach.

Bristol: J. B. Rich.

St. Andrews: M. A. C. Heavens.

Univ. College, Exeter: R. Owen, D. Beattie.

Loughborough College: R. Klein.

Hospitals:

London: P. C. Richardson.

St. Bart's.: W. S. Ogden.

St. Thomas': D. B. Ker. ✓

Guy's: D. E. P. Jones.

Middlesex: E. S. N. Hazel.

Royal Veterinary College: C. S. Cullen.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB**ANNUAL DANCE**

Following the Rugby Football match, in which (as reported on another page) the School XV beat the Old Boys by 5 points to nil, the Annual Dance of the Old Abingdonian Club was held on the evening of Saturday, 8th December, in the Large Council Chamber. There was general agreement that this was the most successful and enjoyable of the dances held since the war. It was especially memorable in that it was preceded by the presentation to Mr. Grundy, to mark his 70th birthday, of his portrait in oils, which had been commissioned on behalf of nearly 1000 Old Boys of the School.

Guests were received on arrival by the President of the Club, Mr. S. A. Paige, and Mrs. Paige, who were supported by the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban, Mr. Grundy, Mr. Norman Holmes (Secretary) and Mrs. Holmes, Mr. W. Bevir (Treasurer) and Mrs. Bevir and the other members of the Committee. The Mayor of Abingdon, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, represented also Admiral Clifton-Brown and the Governing Body of the School. Other guests included the Senior Tutor of Pembroke College, Oxford, Mr. R. B. McCallum; and Mrs. McCallum, the artist who painted the portrait, Mr. Bernard Hailstone, and Mr. B. W. T. Leech, the Captain of Rugger, who represented the present boys.

When the company was assembled, Mr. J. M. Cobban, as Vice-President of the Club, introduced the proceedings with a brief word of appreciation of all that Mr. Grundy had done for the School. He deeply regretted that Miss Grundy was not able to be present, and asked that a special greeting should be conveyed to her.

Mr. S. A. Paige, in making the presentation, recalled Mr. Grundy's long tenure of office as Headmaster from 1913 to 1947, which covered the whole of two world wars with all their attendant difficulties. He spoke affectionately of all that Mr. Grundy had meant to hundreds of boys who were now Old Boys, both as Headmaster and as Housemaster of School House; and he hoped that at some far distant date

the portrait might find a worthy resting-place on the walls of the School, alongside those of other distinguished benefactors and headmasters. He then unveiled the portrait and formally invited Mr. Grundy to accept it.

Mr. Grundy, who was obviously much moved, replied in a speech of characteristic vigour. He thanked all who had been connected with the presentation, and not least Mr. Hailstone, who had taken such a personal interest in the task committed to him. He emphasised how glad he always was to see visiting Old Boys; and although he had retired from schoolmastering ("that worst-paid and most richly-rewarded of all the professions") he had plenty of interests in life, and he found satisfaction in the thought that he could still devote himself to public service. He finished on a deeper note by recalling the lesson from the First Corinthians, which he had so often read in Chapel—"Faith, Hope and Charity, these three; and the greatest of these is Charity"; and he stressed that the basis of any good schoolmaster's life must be the words of Our Lord, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

As Mr. Grundy concluded his speech the band struck up 'For he's a jolly good fellow'. There followed three cheers for Mr. Grundy, and the portrait was then conveyed for exhibition to the Bear Room by Mr. H. W. Franklin and Mr. C. E. Coxeter, whom Mr. Grundy admitted as new boys in his first term at the School. There it excited admiration throughout the evening. It represents Mr. Grundy seated in full academic robes, yet the artist has succeeded not only in producing a most impressive state portrait but also in portraying with uncanny penetration something of the essential personality of the sitter.

Dancing followed to the music of the Stardusters' Band, and continued until just before midnight. The refreshments were in the capable hands of the Abbey Cafe; and a special word of thanks must be added to Mrs. Bevir for the beautiful floral decorations, which she provides for the occasion year after year.

As a footnote to the above account you are reminded that contributions may still be sent to Mr. G. F. Duxbury at the School. The sole purpose of limiting subscriptions to 5/- was to enable as many Old Boys as possible to have an equal share in the presentation—so make sure of doing so while you can.

The new booklet of addresses has already been greeted with the customary notifications of changes, errors and omissions—all of which we welcome and regret. The high cost of production makes it impossible to produce a new edition in less than three years, but we shall continue to circulate each year slips containing additions and corrections.

Omitted from the list (with many apologies):

Beadle A. B., 7/47, 65 Swinburne, Abingdon.

New Member:

Barnett G., 3/33, 105 Oaktree Road, Tilehurst, Reading.

Changes of address:

(M) Ashwin, Rev. R. F., 'Res Angusta', Mayo Lane, Bexhill, Surrey.

Bradfield G. A., 12/97, 10 Croft Road, Thame, Oxon.

Davidge, C. R., 3/23, c/o. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 47, Colombo, Ceylon.

Gould P. H., 7/33, Caixa Postal 574, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Ranger R. J., 12/31, Thurland, Crooksbury Hill, Runfold, Surrey.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

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

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

All Subscriptions to the Club or enquiries relating thereto should be sent to the Treasurer, W. Bevir, Esq., 36 Park Road, Abingdon, Berks.

"THE ABINGDONIAN"

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

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

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