

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

THE ABINGDONIAN

Vol. X. No. 1

JANUARY, 1953

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CALENDAR, LENT TERM, 1953

January

- Fri. 16 First Day of Term.
Wed. 28 1st XI v. Staff XI (h).
Sat. 31 1st XI v. Abingdon Town (h).

February

- Wed. 4 1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (a).
Sat. 7 1st XI v. Wallingford Grammar Sch. (h).
Wed. 11 1st XI v. King Alfred's Sch., Wantage (a).
Wed. 18 1st XI v. Solihull School (a).
Sat. 21 1st XI v. R.A.F. Halton (h).
Wed. 25 1st XI v. Mr. A. A. Hillary's XI (h).

March

- Sat. 7 1st XI v. Old Abingdonians (h).
Wed. 11 1st XI v. Windsor County Sch. (h).
Athletic Match v. City of Oxford Sch. (a).
Sat. 14 1st XI v. Old College, R.M.A., Sandhurst (a)
Tues. 17 Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts
Sat. 21 Athletic Match v. O.A.s (h).
Wed. 25 Athletic Match v. Southfield Sch. (h).
Sat. 28 School Sports.
Tues. 31 Term ends 10.15 a.m.

Summer Term begins on Tuesday, 28th April.
(Boarders return Monday, 27th April).

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cantabo*

OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL, Lent Term, 1953

School Prefects

J. WESTALL (Head of the School)

P. J. MILLARD (Head of School House)

E. G. R. PEEDELL (D)

P. B. H. AMEY (S)

H. R. LEACH (D)

B. A. WHITEFORD (D)

N. J. SHURROCK (D)

J. C. IVATTS (S)

P. R. SALE (S)

P. J. DOWNER (D)

M. J. BRACKLEY (S)

M. M. GRANT (D)

S. R. MILLS (D)

D. A. JONES (S)

C. S. WIGGINS (D)

D. R. ELLIS (W)

House Prefects

School House—H. G. Williams, R. M. Marchbanks, C. J. Lockhart Smith, P. R. J. Gregory, B. D. Guimaraens, D. Y. Candy.

Larkhill—D. L. Banfield, T. W. S. Downs.

Waste Court—A. C. Marshall, R. N. Paxman.

Day Boy—(N. G. Nicholls), P. G. Cope, D. S. Lloyd, A. F. R. Crockford, M. J. Hudson, C. G. Brown, L. M. Bolton, D. J. James, J. F. Heavens, P. J. Lay, E. G. Rockall, E. L. Brown.

Captain of Hockey—P. J. Millard

Secretary and Vice-Captain—M. J. Brackley

Captain of Boats—J. Westall

Secretary—H. R. Leach

Captain of Athletics—B. D. Guimaraens

Secretary—D. R. Ellis

Secretary of Rugger—P. R. Sale

Secretary of G.G.C.—J. Westall

Secretary of Minor Games—P. J. Millard

The Abingdonian

Editor: N. J. Shurrock

Asst. Editors: E. G. R. Peedell, C. J. Lockhart Smith,
J. Westall

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

EDITORIAL

When we look back upon the past term, our thoughts naturally dwell upon the activities which brought it to an end—the School play, the Service of Lessons and Carols, the House celebrations. Nevertheless a retrospect over the less spectacular weeks of the term reveals much to cause us real satisfaction. The School has both worked and played hard.

During the fall of the year, Rugger is, in the nature of things, more than ever at the mercy of our capricious climate. But a mild autumn was bestowed upon us, and while the sun shone, the Rugger XV, despite many handicaps, enjoyed a good season. Then, suddenly, the face of the land was changed, and lingering snow and ice wrought havoc with our fixture list. To our intense disappointment the Old Boys' Match had to be cancelled, but it was fitting that the true climax of the season should have been our breath-taking victory over our rivals, hitherto unbeaten, from High Wycombe. The Cross-Country Races, too, were run in unenviable conditions and the competitors emerged with credit from their double battle against each other and—no less formidable—the elements.

As usual, the School play stamped its impression upon the whole term. The Gymnasium was early invaded by the Dramatic Society and its perquisites; the bustle of the stage-hands and the declamations of the players constantly vied for supremacy. The result, well worthy of their untiring efforts, was a memorable production of "King Richard II", which was performed before appreciative audiences on each night of its three-day run. Nothing succeeds like success; and the ever-mounting standard of its productions gives us good reason to expect great things in future years from the Dramatic Society.

Old Boys all over the world will join with us in congratulating Mr. Grundy on successfully surmounting a serious operation on his hip. We all hope that his convalescence will be smooth and uninterrupted, and that he will very soon be able to take up his public duties—and his golf clubs!

We announce with deep regret the death of Mr. John Etty, which took place on Thursday, 18th December. After coming down from Queen's College, Oxford, Mr. Etty taught at a number of schools, including Wellington, Sedbergh, and Magdalen College School. He was for some years Warden of Wantage Hall at Reading University and later a lecturer at Ruskin College, Oxford. After retiring to Abingdon he took a prominent part in the public and cultural life of the town. He was on the Commission of the Peace for the Borough and was Mayor of Abingdon during the war. Only a few days before his death he was elected Master of Christ's Hospital for the year.

Mr. Etty had always taken a great interest in this School and at the time of his death he represented Christ's Hospital on the Governing Body. It was not inappropriate that the last function he attended should be the December meeting of the Governors. To Miss Etty, who shared her brother's interests, we offer our most sincere sympathy.

The funeral took place privately at Headington on the 23rd December.

SCHOOL NOTES

We very much appreciated the kindness of the Chairman of the Governors, Vice-Admiral Clifton-Brown, in coming over to read the "Governors' Lesson" at our Service of Lessons and Carols on the last Sunday evening of the term.

We heard recently from Sir Reader Bullard, another of our Governors, who has been lecturing in the United States, and we were interested to learn that he had met our friend Colonel Van Wagenen at Princeton University.

A mural tablet in memory of the late Arthur E. Preston, sometime Mayor of Abingdon, Chairman of the Governors, historian and benefactor of the town and of the School, was unveiled by the Vicar of Abingdon, the Rev. A. E. Hayton, at Morning Service in St. Nicolas' Church on Sunday, 3rd November. The Headmaster gave the address, in which he outlined Mr. Preston's long record of public service. Among those present were the Chairman of the County Council, the Mayor of Abingdon, Alderman Booth (representing the Governing Body) and several past and present masters of the School. School Prefects acted as ushers for the service.

In our last issue we expressed our pleasure at welcoming Sir Francis Wylie to Founder's Day; it is with regret that we now record his death, which took place at the end of October.

We offer our congratulations to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban on the birth of a fourth daughter, Helena Rosemary, who arrived, very opportunely, on Friday, 31st October, in time for the Headmaster to add an extra half-day to the half-term break.

At the same time we send our best wishes to far-away Mr. and Mrs. Baynes, to whom a daughter, Phyllida Mary, was born on 1st November.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Johnston on the grievous blow they suffered in the loss of their ten-day-old daughter on 10th November.

At the beginning of term we welcomed an Old Boy of the School, David Beattie (Head of the School 1946/47) who returned to us for a short time from Exeter University College on student practice.

We were also very grateful to Mr. C. M. H. Barker, who kept the music from falling flat during the unavoidable absence of his elder brother at the beginning of the term.

We thank Brigadier Carthew and Mr. de Lotz for a programme of the concert held to celebrate the opening of the New School in 1870, and also Mr. H. P. Marshall who has sent us an engraving of a griffin by Stephen Gooden, R.A.: this was made for the Griffin Club of Amersham, Bucks, which dates from 1791. Only fifty prints were made from the plate which was then broken. Mr. Marshall, a member of the Club, presented the engraving to the School in view of our own heraldic associations with the griffin. We hope that it will very soon be displayed in the Library.

We are grateful to Mrs. Scott for her kindly thought in passing to us some beautiful books on Botany belonging to her late husband, Dr. Scott, whose death we announced in our last issue.

We would gratefully acknowledge also gifts of clothing from L. Courtney, Esq., N. Stimpson, and G. H. Brown.

A more domestic benefactor is Mr. Alston, thanks to whose untiring efforts Thomas Woods' historic clock in Big School (aet. 210) has been so far rejuvenated as to show the correct time and to strike the hours.

Our warm gratitude too to Mr. Lloyd, who has lately presented a bagatelle table to Larkhill; and to Mr. B. Bosley, J.P., of Didcot, who has just given us a magnificent silver bowl for use as a sports trophy.

We would also thank Miss Bunting of Middlebury College, Vermont, who has kindly presented us with a year's subscription to the (American) 'United Nations World'.

Once again the School had the honour of providing the guard of honour and the buglers at the Abingdon Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial. In addition we were represented by a large contingent of both army and naval sections of the C.C.F. We also provided buglers for Remembrance Day Services at Culham and Brightwell.

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term was 387 (Dayboys 250, School House 84, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

Congratulations to D. M. P. Jones on the award of the Lady Wantage Scholarship, and also to H. R. Leach on passing the written part of the Sandhurst Examination.

Parents of new boys were entertained at a Parents' Evening on 9th October; and the Autumn Ruri-decanal Conference was held at the School on 20th November.

We are grateful to the following lecturers who featured in the Saturday evening entertainments:

4th Oct.—Mr. Cecil J. Allen: 'One Hundred Miles an Hour by Train.'

25th Oct.—Mr. W. H. Thompson: 'Guarding a V.I.P.'.

22nd Nov.—Mr. J. Kearton: 'Bird Life in England'.

Films shown during the term were:

11th Oct.—'A Night at the Opera'.

8th Nov.—'Southern Cross'.

29th Nov.—'Madame Curie'.

The final film programme included a documentary 'Atoms at Work' made by the Crown Film Unit, part of which was shot in the Biology Laboratory with the assistance of last year's Fourth Science. The scenes in which they appear are brief but memorable, and it is pleasant to think that this film, which received high praise at the Venice Film Festival, is now introducing us—anonously—to audiences all over the world.

Apropos of films, we are following with amused and admiring interest the activities of the Camera Club, who are busily engaged in taking a film of school life. We are now quite accustomed to arc lights in the corridors and trip-wires on the stairs.

A Sixth Form Conference, to which a small number of Senior girls from St. Helen's School was invited, was held in Ladies Court on 29th September; it was entitled 'Asia Awakes'. Three representatives of the Student Christian Movement, Messrs. Appleton, Bagalley and Vicary, addressed the Conference; Mr. Bagalley spoke of the Communist coup in China, Mr. Appleton of life and conditions in India, and Mr. Vicary of the history and future of Burma. After these addresses the Conference split up into discussion groups, and group leaders presented reports. On the whole, it was a very successful and valuable day, though the programme was, if anything, too ambitious.

Subsequently, three Sixth Formers attended a Conference entitled 'The Challenge of Islam', organised by the Student Christian Movement, and held at St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate, London, on 11th October.

On 8th October, a party of senior boys attended a lecture by Mr. Lawrence E. Tanner, M.V.O., F.S.A. (Keeper of the Muniments of Westminster Abbey) entitled 'Westminster Abbey and the Coronations of our Sovereigns', arranged by the *Friends of Abingdon*, in the Church Hall. The Headmaster proposed the vote of thanks to the lecturer.

On 12th November, Handel's "Messiah" was performed at the Trinity Methodist Church, Abingdon; a party from School were present.

A large number of boys watched the Rugger match between Oxford University and Major Stanley's XV at Oxford on 20th November, and the 1st XV travelled to Twickenham on 9th December to see Cambridge beat Oxford. We are extremely grateful to a parent who defrayed the whole cost of the excursion.

Many boys were present at the Abingdon Drama Club's presentation of 'Arms and the Man' by Bernard Shaw, at the Corn Exchange on 20th November; and some of our number again visited the Corn Exchange on 4th December to attend a concert given by the Abingdon and District Musical Society.

Sixth and Fifth Forms attended a lecture by Mr. S. C. H. Woolrych on 'The Work of the Council of Europe' on 27th November.

The Rev. L. Wenger, M.A., B.D., a Baptist Missionary from East Bengal, addressed Third Forms on 1st December; his talk was entitled 'Life in East Bengal'.

A highly successful Prefects' Dance was held in the Roysse Room on the night of 2nd December; a report will be found elsewhere in this issue.

On Wednesday, 10th December, almost the whole school underwent the novel experience of examination by the Regional Mass Radiography Unit at Oxford; special coaches transferred the "patients" to and from Oxford, and this major operation was carried out with commendable celerity.

The School choir, attended by the Brass Band, toured the locality in traditional Christmas weather on the evening of 15th December, singing carols. The proceeds, amounting to £2 7s. 8d., were sent to the Church of England Children's Society.

This year the Dramatic Society extended its scope by giving three public performances of the School Play, "Richard II"—an ambitious and memorable production which is reviewed on another page.

The new school cap at last became available after half-term; and its generally favourable reception makes us think that it was well worth waiting for. It is of plain blue material with the griffin appearing on an heraldic shield instead of in a lozenge. Perhaps the most important feature of the new cap is the more prominent peak which will make it of use for cricket and tennis.

One more amenity is now provided by the Tuckshop—white handkerchiefs, which will be a boon to the forgetful.

The final chapter appears to have been written in the Fitzharrys controversy by the official announcement that the house will be demolished. Without expressing any opinion whatsoever on the merits or demerits of this decision, we must add that we shall say goodbye with regret to a building which was so closely connected with the School during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

The cryptic initials and abbreviations which appear in brackets in the 'Valete' notices of Upper Sixth Formers may call for explanation. They represent—we hope, clearly enough—the subjects in which a boy has passed at advanced level in G.C.E.; and as a generation grows up which knows naught of 'O.S.C.' they will be the only evidence we can provide, without resorting to complicated algebraic formulae, of academic attainment.

The photograph of the First XV in this issue appears by courtesy of Mr. Milligan.

And now we are looking forward to the Coronation. All we can say at the moment is that the School will certainly play a full part in the local celebrations.

CONTEMPORARIES

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following Schools (to 3rd January, 1953):—

Aldenham School; City of Oxford School; Henley Grammar School; Magdalen College School, Oxford; Magdalen College School, Brackley; Newbury Grammar School; Reading School; St. Edward's School; Southfield School; Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe; Chigwell School; Oundle School, and also from the Honourable Artillery Company and the R.M.A., Sandhurst.

MAINLY ABOUT PROPERTY

(a note by the Headmaster)

The new Dayboys' Changing Room is in full use. As with the Science Block, we now wonder how we ever managed without it. (Some day, far hence, we shall feel the same about the School Hall . . .). We very much hope that in the New Year we shall get the necessary licences for the new washing-up pantry.

There is not much time for major decoration during the Christmas holidays but School House boarders on their return will notice that the untidy little lobby outside Big Dorm has been freshened up. Plans are in hand too for a new 'high table' in the Dining Hall to give us a little much-needed elbow room.

Over in Lacies Court our friend Mr. Drew has made a first rate job of the Mayott Fireplace, which is now safely ensconced in the Heylyn Room. One of the upright stones has been bisected vertically, and the rear half reversed and set in the plaster over the mantel-piece so as to display a fine piece of carving which probably came from one of the tombs in Abingdon Abbey.

A good house needs good furniture; and over the years we hope gradually to equip Lacies Court in keeping with its dignity. It is therefore with especial gratitude that we record the loan of two magnificent Jacobean dressers—one of them has the date 1643 carved on it, and the other is of the same period—which the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College have very kindly lent to us for this purpose. One of them will stand in the Hall and serve as a Muniment Chest, the other will be in the Heylyn Room. This is a loan which we shall appreciate for itself and also as a further expression of the close link between College and School.

An now for No. 21 Park Crescent, where so many of our future hopes are centred. The Governors have recently agreed that when we enter into occupation—and the date is yet unknown—it shall be adapted

to provide for at least two senior classrooms; more than twelve additional boarders; and a married master to take care of them. This is deliberately an interim policy. In a few years' time it can be decided in the light of existing circumstances either to expand it into a full-size boarding house or to convert the boarders' accommodation into a further flat for a married master. Meanwhile we are glad to record that Mr. Talbot has accepted an invitation to be the first Warden of No. 21. We hope that it will not be too long before he and his charges are in residence. Before then we must choose a suitable name for the house. Crescent House, Tesdale House, Preston House—all these have been suggested. Not one of our major problems but it is as well that eponymous glory should be bestowed discreetly!

May I take this opportunity of saying how grateful my wife and I were for the many good wishes we received at Christmas time from parents (past, present and prospective!) and from Old Boys? More cards than ever before overflowed our mantelpieces—far more, certainly, than we could ever hope to acknowledge individually. But we appreciated them all very much, especially perhaps those that came from Old Boys overseas. Cards from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia, Gibraltar, Malta, Libya, Singapore, Hongkong, Germany, Portugal, Tanganyika and Borneo reminded us that our old boys are scattered all over the world. We shall display these cards at the beginning of the term so that everyone may share our pleasure that Old Boys do not forget the School. Meanwhile, to all of you—thank you very much!

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

On Advent Sunday, the 30th November, the Lord Bishop of Oxford, conducted a Confirmation Service in the School Chapel, at which thirty-four candidates were presented. After the Service, the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban entertained the candidates, with their parents and godparents, to tea in the Gymnasium. The Confirmands were:— D. C. Adams, J. A. Battam, C. P. H. Blake, H. C. Bowen, J. T. Buckland, W. W. Budden, R. Cooper, C. R. Coxeter, A. J. Foden, J. Fry, G. A. Gingell, B. J. Hedges, J. A. Howard, M. E. Humby, J. M. Iredale, N. R. Kearsey, P. W. Kemp, B. P. Kibble, D. J. Langton, S. Linnegar, J. M. Mobbs, R. J. Paige, R. Pinniger, B. E. Price, J. F. Pridham, M. C. Rallings, P. J. Simmonds, A. M. Smith, B. R. Smith, B. E. Stacey, W. N. R. Stevens, P. J. Walker, G. F. Wastie, B. Westbrook.

Over the weekend of Sunday 7th December, special collections were taken for the National Memorial Fund for King George VI; and the services were suitably adapted to suit the occasion. As a result a cheque for twenty five pounds was sent to the Mayor of Abingdon as the school's contribution to the fund.

The collections at the Carol Service, supplemented by the contents of the alms box and a part of the collection at the confirmation service, enabled us to send a cheque for sixteen guineas as a Christmas present to Dr. Barnardo's Children's Home at Oakley House.

Other collections allotted to outside charities were as follows:—

S.P.G. £3 9s. Od.; Salvation Army £3 10s. Od.; Homes for Aged Clergy £6 0s. Od.; St. James' Church, Nevis £4 15s. Od.

We are grateful to the outside preachers who visited us in the Michaelmas Term, and especially to Rev. I. M. Haines, the new Vicar of Marcham, who came over at short notice to fill an unexpected gap in our calendar.

We are looking forward to 8th February, when Mr. P. W. Martin, M.A., Headmaster of Chipping Norton School, who was one of our own masters before being called up during the war, will be coming over to preach at Morning Service. Other visiting preachers will include:—

Jan. 25th. Rev. B. J. Tidball, B.D., of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

March 1st. Rev. George Palmer, A.K.C., Vicar of Benson, Oxon.

March 15th. Rev. C. E. B. Neate, Chaplain of Radley College.

The new hanging lights, kindly presented by Wing Commander Viney and the family of the late Mrs. Alice Mayne, have now been installed and have added much to the dignity of the Chapel. A simple memorial tablet, executed in bronze by Messrs. Mowbray, has been mounted on the West wall of the Chapel.

Last term we expressed the hope that the school would return in September to find that many of the windows had been made to open. Many of the panels had indeed been removed but we had to wait some weeks until the new hinged windows arrived. We were very glad to see the last of the army blankets which had served as unsightly but fairly efficient substitutes. Now we are used to the new windows we are well pleased with them though we shall have to wait until the sultry days of July to feel their full benefit.

Further plans for improving the Chapel are in hand. There will be a certain surplus left in the War Memorial Fund after the New Field has been completely laid out: and the Trustees of the fund have agreed to devote a part of it to the purchase of oak joint stools to replace the pitch-pine benches which at present line the centre aisle. These are now being designed, and will be made by local craftsmen.

The Chapel Committee is also considering the provision of individual kneelers, which would be a great help in promoting reverent worship.

Next year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the dedication of the School Chapel, on Trinity Sunday, 1903, by the then Bishop of Oxford. A special service will be held to mark the occasion on the Sunday after Old Boys' Day, 28th June (Trinity Sunday itself would of course fall too near the Coronation to be a suitable date). In anticipation we are asking old boys to present psalters to the Chapel; of this more on a later page.

The Carol Service

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in the Chapel on the last Sunday evening of the term, 14th December, and was attended by many Governors, parents and friends of the School. The service was repeated on the Monday morning, mainly for the benefit of those boys who had been unable to attend on the Sunday evening.

The singing of the Choir was, as always, delightful. Their performance of 'The Falcon' calls for special mention as it was a carol composed for the occasion by Mr. Graham Dixon and dedicated (a nice honour, this!) to 'Royd Barker and the Abingdon School Choir'.

Lessons were read, in accordance with custom, by the Head of School House, the Head of the School, the Senior Master and the Headmaster. Other readers, on Sunday and Monday respectively, were as follows: A New Boy—O. M. L. Rhys, C. F. M. Kitching; A School Scholar—C. J. Lockhart-Smith, J. A. Howard; A House Tutor—Mr. R. H. Coleman, Mr. K. M. D. Holloway; An Old Boy—Wing-Commander J. M. Viney, Mr. N. J. Holmes; The Governing Body—The Chairman of the Governors, The Bursar.

CHRISTENING

On Advent Sunday, 30th November, by the Lord Bishop of Oxford, assisted by the Rev. F. W. Burgess, Helena Rosemary, fourth daughter of James and Lorna Cobban.

RICHARD II

We print below a critique of the Dramatic Society's production of Shakespeare's "Richard II" at the Corn Exchange, on the evenings of 11th, 12th and 13th December. We are indebted for the critique to Mr. Alan Kitching, the County Drama Organizer for Oxfordshire. As will be seen the tenor of the critique is somewhat astringent; we welcome such forthright and constructive criticism, but in order to restore the balance and to represent the impression gained by the majority in the audiences—most of them, we admit, laymen—we reproduce also, by kind permission of the *Oxford Times*, Mr. F. W. Dibb's report of the play.

"The School Dramatic Society must be congratulated on its courage in tackling this exacting play after only five years of existence. It is obviously building up a tradition which, though still capable of improvement, will accomplish great things.

Already its actors have achieved a confidence and a clarity of speech (with one or two exceptions) which bodes well for the future. It was a pleasure to find among this long cast so many small parts played with such conviction,—right down to "Second Herald" who spoke up manfully. And this standard was maintained to the end of the three hours "traffick of the stage" which the play demands.

I was not so happy about characterisation, which seemed to have been insufficiently studied. Lines were too often recited rhetorically without considering feelings and motives. Richard himself, though showing admirable authority and an unshakeable belief in his divine right, seemed unwilling to give due stress to the poetic and introspective strain which is implicit, for instance, in the scene of his return to England. Bolingbroke was suitably tough but did not grow in domination with the play. On the whole the best characterisation came from York, a troubled old man to the life (though occasionally overplayed), Aumerle, a real fourteenth century cad, Green, the smoothest of plotters and, above all, the Queen, who was all graciousness and pathos, even in the difficult garden scene.

The production, making use of an apron stage and extending the action into the auditorium, achieved a commendable continuity. (An even smoother flow—essential in Shakespeare—could have been achieved if the next group of actors had entered *while* the previous group were still leaving the stage). A background of frequent fanfares (played on real live brass instruments!) helped enormously to create an authentic, warlike, atmosphere.

The society's greatest weakness at present is on the visual side. The importance of this cannot be overrated. If the audience's eye is pained or distracted, it cannot listen to the play!

I should like, therefore, to make these, I hope, constructive suggestions for future consideration:

1. If an architectural set is attempted, could it perhaps look a little more solid? (Thickness in the arches and a canopy in the place of borders would have helped).

2. Could the new Corn Exchange lighting be used more imaginatively—to create stage depth and help the atmosphere of the play in general?

3. Could the costumes be considered more carefully as a stage picture? I know very well how difficult it is to dress plays at all nowadays, but in this case, although the home-made heraldry was a splendid achievement on its own, the grand hired velvets somehow refused to "belong".

4. Could an attempt be made to study the art of make-up—preferably by the actors themselves? (Special attention to beards—which grow under as well as over the chin—and special warning against black lines).

If some of these improvements can be added to the society's already considerable achievement in speech, in certain pieces of characterisation, in heraldic design, in music and in general flow of action, then it will be taking a great step forward towards the high standards which it has commendably set itself." A.K.

"Shakespeare's 'Richard II' is one of the most exacting of his plays for performance by relatively inexperienced players, amateur or, indeed, professional. With the banishment of Mowbray and the death of Gaunt, and in the event of the part of York falling to an indifferent actor, the play, from then on, rests with an almost overpowering weight on the shoulders of Richard. Despite these odds, the presentation of the play by pupils of the Abingdon School scores many effective points.

Peter Amey, as Richard, bears his heavy burden with a great deal of confidence and character. He has a good musical voice with which he often gives eloquent expression to a sensitive feeling for the cadences of Shakespearean writing. His realisation of his displacement by Bolingbroke is excellently done, but he still needs to act with more consistent forcefulness, to make all his vowels round and to make his gestures, some of which are good, with more point and precision. David Lloyd's Duke of York is very well characterised as a finicky, sententious, Polonius-like stickler for diplomatic etiquette. Peter Millard's Bolingbroke captures much of both soldier and plotter, and his resonant voice is a great asset, although occasionally clearer articulation would enhance his performance.

Kenneth Prentice, as Gaunt, has a suggestion of age, but like Peter Simmonds as the swaggering Aumerle, Michael Brackley as Northumberland and Michael Creevy as Mowbray, he needs more drive and uninhibited attack. In the thankless part of the Queen, Anthony Gardner acts with admirable stage presence and with almost the best voice in the cast.

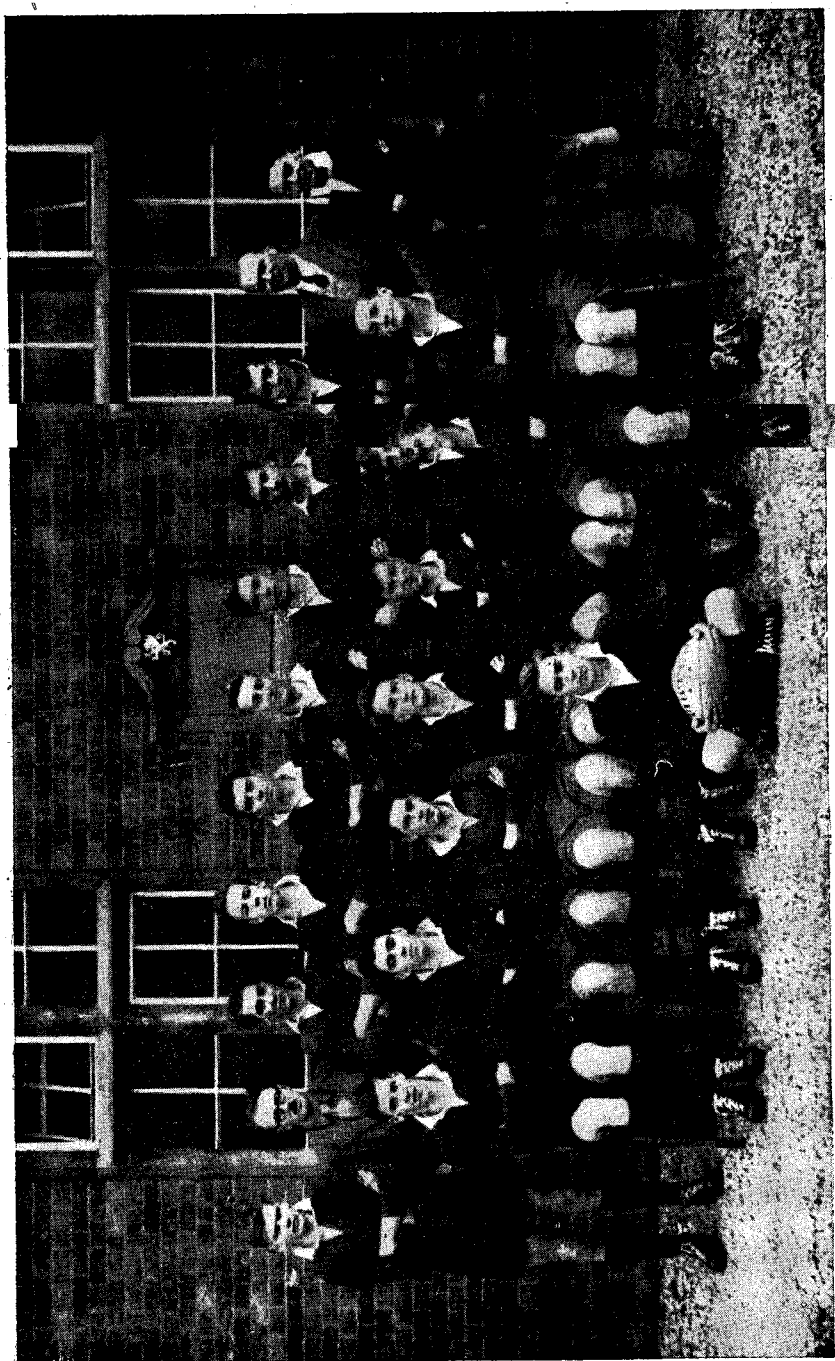
L. C. J. Griffin, the producer, who clearly has a deep insight into the play and a sharp realisation of its problems, is to be congratulated on his imaginative use of the generous space afforded by the Corn Exchange stage. G. H. Cooper, whose decorative and practical set, enhanced

(often with the eye-taking effect of an illuminated medieval missal) by his heraldically apt and brilliantly colourful tabards and banners, has co-operated no less imaginatively with Mr. Griffin. The fanfares, composed by J. F. H. Barker, also helped powerfully to establish the period atmosphere."

F.W.D.

CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, uncle to the King	Kenneth Prentice
Sir Henry Green	John Howard
Sir William Bagot	Ian Baxter
Sir John Bushy	John Nichols
Thomas Holland, Duke of Surrey, Earl of Kent	Patrick Sale
Edward, Duke of Aumerle, Earl of Rutland, son of York	Peter Simmonds
Two Heralds	Roger Green, Bryan Winkett
Richard Plantagenet, King of England	Peter Amey
Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Hereford, son of Gaunt	Peter Millard
Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk	Michael Creevy
Eleanor Bohun, Duchess of Gloucester	Alan Pezaro
Edmund of Langley, Duke of York, Brother to Gaunt	David Lloyd
Isabella, Queen of England	Tony Gardner
Ladies attending the Queen	David Meakins, Martin King
William de Ross, Lord Ross of Hamlake	Jeffrey Heavens
William, Lord Willoughby D'Eresby	Roger Marchbanks
Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland	Michael Brackley
Servant to York	Michael Sale
Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur, son of Northumberland	Ian Trenaman
Thomas, Lord Berkeley	John Hall
John Montacute, Earl of Salisbury	Michael Grigsby
A Welsh Captain	David Jones
Thomas Merks, Bishop of Carlisle	John Lockhart-Smith
Sir Stephen Scroop	Robin Mills
A Gardener	Harold Williams
Under Gardeners	Michael Rallings, Paul Lagden
Walter, Lord Fitzwater	Norman Shurrock
William of Colchester, Abbot of Westminster	John Westall
Sir Thomas Erpingham	Paul Older
Isabella of Castile, Duchess of York. Mother of Aumerle	Christopher Cobley
Sir Piers of Exton	John Ivatts
A Groom	Nicholas Antrobus
A Jailer	John Battam
Soldiers	Robert Exon, John Carter, John Howard
	John Hines, Philip Kemp, Richard Paxman
Attendants	Anthony Pearman, Tony Maxwell, Norman Carter
Drummer	Geoffrey Slack
Coffin Bearers	Barry Westbrook, David M. P. Jones, Terence Lay, William Budden



RUGBY FOOTBALL

What a strange season this has been! Twenty-seven players turned out for the Fifteen, which in consequence never settled down properly; and yet match results were good and we were defeated by only two school teams. This unusual state of affairs can be partly explained by initial mistakes in building up a side from a nucleus of only three of last year's XV, but chiefly by a heavy crop of injuries throughout the term. Unfortunately, too, the serious injuries sustained by Guimaraens and Pickford robbed us of an excellent forward and our only dangerous centre.

In the circumstances, much of the credit for a comparatively successful season must go to the hard core of regular players, of whom Brackley, Sale, Marshall and Millard were outstanding. The latter's leadership both on and off the field was also a factor in our success. Once again the pack was the mainstay of the XV, although every now and again there was the promise of things to come in our back play. After a long experiment with Redknap, the final selection of Viney for the scrum half position provided the discovery of the term. With more experience next season, Viney is likely to carry on worthily the tradition of good scrum-half play established during the past few years.

It was unfortunate that snow and frost resulted in the cancellation of the O.A. match and the match against the City of Oxford School, potentially our sternest opponents, but in one sense there could have been no more fitting climax to a season than that provided by the High Wycombe game. By a combination of grim resolve and excellent place kicking on the part of Stroud-Viney, we robbed R.G.S., High Wycombe of their unbeaten record, when it seemed inevitable that victory must go to them.

During the season the following Colours were awarded:

Full Colours—Sale P. R.

Half Colours—Cope, Crockford A. F. R., Cox, Downer, Ellis, Guimaraens, Paxman R. N., Pickford, Rockall, Stroud-Viney, Viney, Whiteford.

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows:—Cox; Ellis, Cope, Paxman R.N., Whiteford; Brackley, Viney; Rockall, Marshall A.C., Downer, Stroud-Viney, Crockford A.F.R., Sale P.R., Ivatts, Millard. The touch-judge was Lewis.

The following have also played:—Pickford, 10 times; Amey, Redknap, 6 times; Brown E. L., Candy D. Y., 3 times; Guimaraens, Linnegar, twice; Carter N. A., Banwell, Taylor K. J., once.

1st XV CHARACTERS

P. J. MILLARD (Captain, Colours 1951). Wing forward. A good skipper to whom credit must be given for the excellent spirit of the XV during a difficult season. An extremely quick forward round the scrum, he was excellent in the loose and particularly adept at the dribble. His corner flagging in defence was not perhaps always up to scratch, but at all times he set the highest example of enthusiastic and energetic play. (D.O.W.)

M. J. BRACKLEY (Vice-Captain, Colours 1950). Stand-off half. His excellent defensive tackling and spirited attack, plus a first class kick with either foot, has made him an invaluable member of the side. His ability to score and to get his line moving has made him an ideal half.

A. C. MARSHALL (Colours 1951). Hooker. He has hooked consistently well throughout the season. His tackling and kicking are sound enough and he is invaluable in a desperate game, but he must cultivate more variety in his own play.

P. R. SALE (Secretary, Colours 1952). Wing-forward. A fast and able forward who has achieved a high standard of play. His ability in attack and anticipation in defence show him to be a player of excellent promise.

J. C. IVATTS (Half-Colours 1951). Lock-forward. He has had something of a 'raw deal' this term. Brought back to the scrum after a lean period in the three's, he has not lived up to the promise of last season. His tackling is unsound, but towards the end of the season there was a return to his old confidence.

P. J. DOWNER (Half-Colours 1952). Front row forward. A hard-working player who has improved as the season has progressed. Although on the slow side, he has done very well in the tight and line-out. He plays with intelligence.

A. F. R. CROCKFORD (Half-Colours 1952). Second row forward. His line-out work and enthusiasm in the loose have made him an effective player despite lack of weight. His tackling is good but his kicking needs practice.

A. J. PICKFORD (Half-Colours 1952). Left-Centre. An ankle injury mid-season was hard luck on such a promising player. He kicks intelligently, tackles strongly, and makes good use of the gap. His long stride makes him most difficult to tackle. He promises well for next season.

P. G. COPE (Half-Colours 1952). Left Centre. A powerfully built player who uses his weight to good purpose. His tackling and kicking are effective but he is somewhat slow to seize his opportunities and could handle more safely.

R. N. PAXMAN (Half-Colours 1952). Right Centre. He has played well in this new position and has scored some good tries. He possesses both speed and a good swerve and he tackles strongly. His handling and passing however, must be improved.

P. STROUD-VINEY (Half-Colours 1952). Second row forward. His work in line-out and set scrummage has compensated for slowness in the loose. His tackling is good and he possesses an exceptionally long and accurate place kick which has proved a match winning factor.

K. W. VINEY (Half-Colours 1952). Scrum Half. New to this position, he has progressed well and possesses a neat, accurate pass and serves his line well. Possessing plenty of courage, he is exceptionally good under pressure and promises well for next season.

E. G. ROCKALL (Half-Colours 1952). Front row Forward. He uses his weight well in the set scrum and is a useful player in the line-out. Although somewhat inexperienced in the loose, he has improved greatly in all phases of the game.

D. R. ELLIS (Half Colours 1952). Right Wing. An extremely fast player who relies on speed rather than skill to get him through the defence. His tackling is weak and he needs determination when going for the line.

B. A. WHITEFORD (Half Colours 1952). Left Wing. His play has improved considerably and he has scored some good tries, whilst his tackling and kicking are sound. He uses an intelligent kick ahead and cross kicks most effectively.

B. D. GUIMARAENS (Half Colours 1952). Front row forward. A dislocated shoulder sustained in his second match was ill-fortune to this most promising player. He is especially effective in the loose, tackles very well, and uses his weight in the tight.

N. COX (Half Colours 1952). Full Back. A finger injury mid-season prevented him from really showing his paces. A determined tackler and a useful kicker, he unfortunately lacks a real sense of positioning.

P. B. H. AMEY. Front row Forward. A useful if somewhat inconsistent forward who could have achieved more success if he had played hard all the time. He must realise too, that self discipline on and off the field is an essential quality in a 1st XV player.

R. H. REDKNAP. Scrum Half. He possesses a long and accurate pass out and combined well with his partner. His defence however in both tackling and falling was very weak.

P.J.M.

MATCH REPORTS

v. D. O. Willis' XV, (h). Wed., 1st October. Lost 9—18.

This match, played in drizzling rain, saw the school beaten by heavier and more experienced opponents. At half-time the school led 9—3, the scorers being Sale and Millard (2). It was in the closing stages that the school collapsed, and let through three more tries.

v. Windsor County Boys School, (a). Sat., 4th October. Lost 8—14.

This game produced excellent rugby from both sides. Windsor scored first, but the school fought back and Millard scored a fine try which Brackley converted. Windsor, however, then started to go ahead, although in the concluding minutes the school scored again through Cope. This final effort was unfortunately too late.

v. Reading School, (h). Wed., 8th October. Won 9—6.

The school showed more enthusiasm than their heavier opponents, and deserved to win this game. They opened the scoring with a scrum try. Brackley kicked a penalty goal a few minutes later, and Whiteford scored a fine try just before half-time. In the second half Reading scored twice, but the school defence remained firm and their lead was maintained.

v. Pembroke College, (h). Wed., 15th October. Lost 0—21.

In this game, the school team included Mr. Willis and Mr. Holloway, and Pembroke did us the honour of fielding a very fast and useful side. In the first half the school held their own, but in the closing stages Pembroke found a gap in the centre, and scored several tries, using their fast three-quarters well. It was a most enjoyable game despite the fact that it was our heaviest defeat for some years.

v. Newbury Grammar School, (h). Sat., 18th October. Won 8—3.

An excellent game fought out in good conditions. The play was open, but Newbury, with a heavier pack, got more of the ball. However, neither side had scored by the interval, although the school were reduced to fourteen men. Newbury opened the scoring with a fine try, which was unconverted. Then the school went ahead when Brackley scored and then converted his try. The battle raged from end to end, and the school were ultimately reduced to thirteen men. Brackley made the game safe when he kicked a penalty goal in the closing stages. The school's defence was excellent in this match.

v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV, (h). Wed., 22nd Oct. Won 11—8.

A dull game, in which the school played without showing any of the spirit displayed against previous opponents. After only a few minutes' play, Guimaraens was injured and left the field. Millard opened the scoring for the school, but we had lost the lead by half-time. In the second half Paxman scored a try which Brackley converted, and shortly afterwards, Brackley kicked a penalty goal. In the last minute St. Edward's kicked a penalty goal.

v. Solihull School, (h). Sat., 25th Oct. Drawn 3—3

An evenly contested game played under ideal conditions. The only score before the interval was a penalty goal by Brackley. Soon after half-time Solihull scored an unconverted try to equalise. The school were in the Solihull half for long periods in the second half, and were unlucky not to score again.

v. Radley College 2nd XV, (a). Wed., 29th Oct. Lost 3—9.

The school played badly in this match, showing lack of spirit and no thrust in the three quarters. The score was 3—3 at half-time, Pickford having scored for the school. In the second half Radley scored two more tries, and the school, although pressing hard, failed to reduce the lead.

v. Magdalen College School, (a). Wed., 5th Nov. Drawn 6—6.

The Magdalen pitch was under water, and the game was therefore played at Headington on an uneven pitch. The school were slow to settle down, and Magdalen led 3—0 at half-time. This lead was increased to 6—0 shortly afterwards. Thereafter the school fought back strongly, and Sale scored a try. The situation was becoming desperate when Brackley equalised by kicking a fine penalty goal from thirty-five yards.

v. Henley Grammar School, (a). Wed., 12th Nov. Won 35—0.

The school easily won this game, and the lighter Henley side gave them little opposition. Unfortunately Pickford broke an ankle, and was put out for the rest of the season. The tries were scored by:—Sale (4), Paxman (2), Millard and Whiteford; Brackley converted four, and kicked a penalty goal.

v. Southfield School, (a). Sat., 15th Nov. Won 9—3.

The school started well; Stroud-Viney kicked a penalty goal, and Ellis scored a try, in the first five minutes. But there was no more scoring before the interval. Shortly afterwards Paxman scored a try to put the school nine points up. Southfield then fought back, and scored a scrum try in the corner, which was unconverted. This was not a very good game and we were lucky not to have another try scored against us.

*v. Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, (h). Sat. 22nd Nov.
Won 16—15.*

In an excellent game the school relieved Wycombe of their unbeaten record. The winning factors were team spirit, the excellent kicking of Stroud-Viney, and the failure of Wycombe to convert their tries. After a few minutes Brackley ran through to score beneath the posts, and converted the try himself. Wycombe scored straight from the restart, and then again shortly afterwards. Stroud-Viney kicked a magnificent penalty goal from the half-way line, and another shortly afterwards from a little nearer, but Wycombe scored again before half-time. Wycombe scored two tries just afterwards and led by four points until five minutes from the end when Viney scored near the flag, and Stroud-Viney converted. This game produced the best rugger of the season with an ending that will long be remembered by players and spectators alike.

P.R.S.

2nd XV

In general, the 2nd XV has had a satisfactory season. The term began badly with a heavy defeat by Thame 1st XV but thereafter the team had its share of victory and was not again defeated by any very large margin. The fluid nature of the 1st XV meant that many members of the 2nd XV were able to gain valuable experience by playing in the senior side and this should stand us in good stead next season. The backbone of the team was in its pack, ably and enthusiastically led by the captain, Williams, but the back division, with the exception of full back Linnegar and wing threequarter Banwell, was not up to standard.

The final arrangement of the team was as follows:— Linnegar; Banwell, Griffith. R. D. P., Ralfe, Downs; Humby, Redknap; Candy D. Y., Austwick, Amey, Hudson, Williams H. G., Taylor K. J., Lay P. J. and Brown E. L.

Also played:—Round, 6 times; Howes, Stroud-Viney, Nichols J. A. 3 times; Ellis, Jones D. A., Viney, twice; Beckett K., Creevy, Guimaraens, Kemp, once.

Results

- v. Thame Grammar School 1st XV (a), Sat., 4th October. Lost 0—48.*
- v. Newbury Grammar School (h), Sat., 18th October. Won 16—5.*
- v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 25th October. Lost 3—20.*
- v. Radley College 3rd XV (a), Wed., 29th October. Lost 0—16.*
- v. City of Oxford School (a), Sat., 8th November. Won 6—0.*
- v. Magdalen College School (a), Wed., 12 November. Lost 0—17.*
- v. Southfield School (h), Sat., 15th November. Won. 8—0.*
- v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h), Sat., 22nd November. Lost 0—19.*

3rd XV

The 3rd XV has had a poor season, losing all its matches. This was not entirely due to bad play although little excuse can be offered for the weakness of the threequarter line both in attack and defence. Some explanation however lies in the fluidity of all the School XVs this season; the 3rd XV skipper, Lockhart-Smith, had the unenviable task of never fielding the same side twice. The pack contained a number of useful players, several of whom earned promotion to the 2nd XV, whilst full-back Howes proved himself a courageous tackler.

The final arrangement of the team was as follows:—Howes; Payne, Nichols J. A., Page J. T., Grigsby; Kemp, Pezaro; Pratt, Lockhart-Smith, Round, Brown C. G., Roberts B. M., Hall J. D., Jones D.A., Creevy.

Also played—Hudson, 4 times; Humby, Lay P. J., 3 times; Marchbanks R. M., twice; Blinman, Gammack, Shaw, Taylor K., Griffith R. D. P., Ralfe, Paxman R. N., Hill B. K., once.

Results

- v. Reading School (a), Wed., 8th October. Lost 3—11.
- v. Newbury Grammar School (a), Sat., 18th October. Lost 3—11.
- v. Radley College 4th XV (h), Wed., 29th October. Lost 0—32.
- v. Magdalen College School (h), Wed., 5th November. Lost 3—6.
- v. Radley College 4th XV (a), Wed., 12th November. Lost 0—58.

'UNDER 15' XV

The Colts have been a useful side this season in spite of some serious defects in their play. Individually, the captain, Pinniger, has been an outstanding forward with plenty of speed and enthusiasm, and the full back, Carter, a polished player of much promise. Of the forwards, Wastie and Buckland showed up well, whilst behind the scrum Scott-Taggart was exceptionally sound at scrum half and Budgen and Mott had their moments. Defence was the greatest weakness, both tackling and falling on the ball being at times shamefully neglected and causing us defeat at the hands of Reading and Southfield. Carter was chosen on one occasion to play full back for the 1st XV.

The team was as follows:—Carter N. A.; Young C., Langton, Song, Budgen; Mott, Scott-Taggart; Rallings, Bush, Brown A. F., Buckland, Broad R. D., Fysh, Haines, Pinniger.

Also played:—Wastie, until injured; Battam, 7 times; Ashworth J. T. S., twice; Spring, Rawlins, once.

v. Thame Grammar School (h), Sat., 4th October. Won. 33—13.

v. Reading School (h), Wed., 8th October. Lost 0—12.

v. Newbury Grammar School (a), Sat., 18th October. Won 8—6.

v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 25th October. Won 18—0.

v. Magdalen College School (h), Wed., 5th November. Won 8—6.

v. City of Oxford School (h), Sat., 8th November. Won 9—3.

v. Henley Grammar School (a), Wed., 12th November. Won 19—5.

v. Southfield School (a), Sat., 15th November. Lost 15—18.

'UNDER 14' XV

Another mixed but satisfactory season has been experienced by the Junior XV, two defeats being balanced by two victories. However, plenty of good football has been played and several players will be obvious choices for next year's Colts XV—Paige at full-back was particularly outstanding.

The team was as follows:—Paige; Penney, Antrobus, Ashworth I. T. S., Le Voi; Iredale, Hasthorpe; Kibble B. P., Foden, Grosvenor, Broad W.C., Jones A. J., Candy P. S., Venvell, Peedell I. R.

Also played:—Paxman A. P., twice; Barnett, Dunman, FitzSimons, Langton, Kibble P. D., Rallings, Roberts D. H., once.

Results

v. Reading School (a), Wed., 8th October. Lost 6—20.

v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 25th October. Lost 6—24.

v. City of Oxford School (h), Sat., 8th November. Won 17—3.

v. Magdalen College School (a), Wed., 12th November. Won 9—0.

HOUSE MATCHES

The preliminary rounds of the House rugger competitions were played off fairly early in the term, but the long spell of Arctic weather towards the end of term made it seem at one time as if the finals would have to be cancelled. However by playing on snow bound pitches, after a fresh fall of snow, the competitions were decided with the result that the Lin Cup was won by Reeves House and the Robinson Cup by Tesdale House.

Results were

Senior: Blacknall v. Tesdale, 16—0

Bennett v. Reeves, 9—16

Blacknall v. Reeves, 0—9

Junior: Bennett v. Blacknall, 3—8

Reeves v. Tesdale, 6—32

Blacknall v. Tesdale, 3—16

D.O.W.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

The Cross Country running was reorganised this term, and from mid-November one day in every fortnight was available for a mass cross-country run. This raised the standard of running very considerably, and we are grateful to Mr. Willis and Mr. Talbot for devising this new scheme. The inter-house races were run on Wednesday, 17th December, and we again thank Miss Cullen for permission to use the course.

The Junior race was won by Scott-Taggart, and although the time was not fast it must be remembered that some of the course was under water, and the rest very sticky. The Senior race was won easily by the Captain of Cross Country, P. R. Sale, who led from the early stages of the race. But right until the last competitors had finished, there was great excitement, and many low placed runners are to be commended for storming finishes.

Details of the House Competitions were as follows:—

Senior: Reeves 353 points, Blacknall 284, Bennett 265, Tesdale 253.

Junior: Tesdale 135 points, Bennett 133, Blacknall 127, Reeves 123.

The overall winner was Reeves House, which is thus the first holder of the Reeves Bowl, the new inter-house Cross Country trophy.

Final Placings: 1. Reeves 476 points; 2. Blacknall 411; 3. Bennett 398; 4. Tesdale 388.

Those gaining points in the Senior race were:—Sale P. R. (R.), 20 min. 20 sec.; Marchbanks R. M. (T.), Ivatts (Be.), Humby (Bl.), Brown C. G. (R.), Amey (Bl.), Cope (T.), Clewley (R.), Parsons (T.), Jones D. M. (Bl.), Le Grys (T.), Hiscock (Bl.), Austwick (R.), Ellis (B.), Banwell (R.), Smith K. H. (Be.), Kemp (Be.), Rockall (R.), Pratt (Be.), Jones D. A. (R.), Guimaraens (R.), Nichols (Bl.), Nichol J. A. (Bl.), Brackley (Be.), Marshall A. C. (R.), Whiteford (Be.),

Paxman R. N. (R.), Banfield (Bl.), Crockford A. F. R. (Be.), Redknap R. H. (Bl.), Packer J. R. (Be.), Shaw (Bl.), Viney (R.), Lucas (T.), Hall (T.), Downs (Bl.), Downer (B.), Roberts B. M. (R.), Pezaro (T.), Miell-Ingram (T.), Mott (Bl.).

Those gaining points in the Junior race were:—Scott-Taggart (T.), 14 mins. 10 secs., Song (T), Jones A. J. (Bl.), Nichol M. G. (Bl.), Budgen (Be.), Ashworth I. T. S. (T.), Brown A. F. (R.), Bush (Be.), Rogers (Bl.), Sarsfield-Hall (R.), Woodruff (T.), Carter N. A. (R.), Hiles (R.), Rawlins (Be.), Smith B. L. (R.), Marchbanks C. J. (T.), Haines (B.), Killeen (R.), Owen (B.), Stacey (Bl.), Spring (Be.), Young (Bl.), Westbrook (Be.), Fysh (Be.), Hedges (Bl.), Paige (Bl.), Bowen (T.), Woodley (Bl.).

The Captain of Cross Country wishes to thank all markers, who carried out their duties most efficiently.

P.R.S.

MINOR GAMES

Fives, Squash and Boxing once again found many adherents during the Michaelmas Term. Under the direction of Mr. Gray and two prefects, some junior boys were introduced to Fives with varying degrees of success. However their keenness augurs well for the future, and we hope to arrange tournaments during the coming seasons. Fives suffered from the bad weather towards the end of term, for the thick layer of snow on the roof of the court, effectively excluding the light, prevented any matches from being played.

Boxing classes were unfortunately cut short because of the loan of the gym to the Dramatic Society.

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. Basketball was not played for several reasons, all of which will have been overcome before next term.

P.J.M.

C.C.F. NOTES

This term, with numbers on the roll standing at 7 officers and 233 cadets, has seen another and possibly final step in our post-war expansion. The R.A. section has been formed, with an initial strength of two gun crews under a Cadet Sergeant, the gun itself has arrived and been safely housed, after some delay, in its prefabricated home, and training of the new section, in which Capt. Willis is regularly assisted by a P.S.I. from 299 Field Regt., R.A., is well under way. A number of ex-cadets from the Contingent have been

commissioned into the R.A. in the last few years; and it is felt that the training provided by this new section will be, not only interesting, but of direct benefit, to many, in the years immediately ahead.

The "excitements" have mostly come early . . . Field Day, on 30th September, was again spoilt by bad weather. This time, however, the rain came down from an early hour, instead of waiting, as has been more usual, until after our exercise had begun. In consequence, the programme was altered: an "ordinary" training parade was held indoors, during the morning, and in the afternoon when conditions had improved we turned out for a route march. Not perhaps the most exciting of Field Days, but it did give some of us an after-taste of Camp! . . . For our night-op, a fortnight later, we were more fortunate: on a fine wild evening, we played the Lamp game, over unfamiliar ground near Wantage, with much enjoyment and some success.

On 28th October, the Contingent was visited on training by the District Commander, Major-General C. E. A. Firth, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., who stayed with us for a couple of hours, and had a close look at all squads in action. We are much indebted to him for his kindly interest, and for the helpful suggestions which he made for further improving our standards. The other big parade of the term came on Remembrance Day, when a Contingent some 60 strong, representing both Army and R.N. Sections, took part with Regular Troops in the Memorial Service at the Cenotaph, and in the subsequent March Past. In addition, we were asked again this year to provide the Buglers and Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph itself. A considerable amount of time was given up, by those taking part, and by reserves training with them, to rehearsals of the Parade which, on the day, involved not only ceremonial drill, but also long periods of absolute stillness. We all thank and congratulate the Guard on a capital performance, and the Buglers on having earned the tribute from a V.I.P. that he had never heard the Last Post played better. . .

Once again we have been indebted, for regular assistance with the training, to O.C. Parachute Course Administrative Unit, who has supplied an instructor for the N.C.O.'s Cadre, and to the C.R.E., South Midland Area, who, besides providing an instructor, takes a close personal interest in the R.E. Section.

We congratulate U/O. Leach on having passed the written examination for Sandhurst.

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

To be C.Q.M.S.—Downs, T. W. S.

To be Sgts.—Brackley M. J., Grant M. M., Jones D. A., Marshall A. C., Sale P. R.

To be Cpls.—Brown E. L., Downer P. J., Millard P. J., Paxman R. N., Whiteford B. A.

Guard of Honour at the Cenotaph:—Sgts. Amey, Brackley, Jones D. A., L/Cpl. Rockall.

Buglers:—U/O. Leach, Cdt. Redknap.

S.C.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

A term of quiet work towards the Able-Seaman's Examination, held on the last Tuesday of term, and the Leading Hand's Examination, to be held early in the Easter Term. Congratulations to J. D. Hall and P. J. Simmonds on passing the A.B.'s Examination and commiserations to the four others, who failed only in Signals.

Field Day was spent in London, where we passed an enjoyable and instructive day on board H.M.S. President. We are extremely grateful to the Commanding Officer and to Surg.Lt.Cdr. Crow, for arranging our visit.

A little later in the term, we joined the Army Section for night-operations. The only untoward incident occurred when a cow walked over one member of the Section—it is not recorded which was the more surprised! We were also represented, although by a very small contingent, at the Remembrance Day Parade.

This term, we have once again had the help of C.P.O. Woodcock, from R.N.A.S. Culham, and we are very grateful indeed to him.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUT TROOP

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term, the troop was honoured by a visit of Brig. G. P. Crampton, O.B.E., M.C., M.A., the Imperial Headquarters Deputy Commissioner for Education. He was accompanied by Mr. Genese, the local Field Commissioner and they both seemed to be quite impressed with what they saw. Their visit, needless to say, provided an incentive for a smart turn-out and for once we had nearly everyone in full uniform!

The large number of new Scouts this term, more than ever before, necessitated the formation of a new Patrol, the Fox Patrol, making our present number of Patrols eight.

Field Day was spent at Sutton Pools, all Patrols having to perform certain tasks on the way there. One Patrol misread their instructions and carried a "frostbitten" comrade for one mile instead of half a mile.
H.J.

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—Left 29th July, 1952

Upper Sixth Form A:

D. R. G. Andrews (Arts), (O.S.C. 1949: L.H.), M. 1944, School Prefect 1950, 2nd XI 1948-51, 1st XV 1949, Colours 1951, Secretary 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Half-Colours 1952, Tennis VI 1951, Secretary 1952, Basketball V 1951, Secretary Royse Society, Dramatic Society 1950, Committee Turnor Society, Secretary Debating Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', C.Q.M.S., 1st Class Shot.

B. W. Boddington (Arts), (O.S.C. 1949: E.H.), L. 1946, School Prefect 1950, Royse Society, Secretary Turnor Society, Secretary Philatelic Society, C.C.F., Editor *Abingdonian*, Editor Literary Magazine, School House Librarian.

N. A. C. Darroch (Arts), (O.S.C. 1950: E.), M. 1947, School Prefect 1951, 1st XV 1949, Half-Colours 1950, Captain Athletics 1952, Colours 1951, Secretary Swimming, Secretary Boxing, Secretary M.G.C., Royse Society, Dramatic Society 1950, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Sgt., 1st Class Shot, Committee Joint Club, Assistant Editor Literary Magazine.

P. J. Emerton (Arts), (E.H.), M. 1944, House Prefect 1952, 2nd XV 1951, C.C.F., Cert 'A', Pt. 1.

D. Free (Classics), (O.S.C. 1948, H.S.C. 1950, L.G.A.H.), L. 1942, School Prefect 1949, Head of the School 1951, 1st XI 1949, Secretary 1951, Colours 1952, Captain 1952, 1st XV 1950, Colours 1950, Vice-Captain 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Colours 1952, Vice-Captain 1952, Athletics Team 1950, Tennis VI 1951, Basketball V 1951, Captain Tesdale House, Royse Society, Dramatic Society 1950, Secretary Gramophone Society, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Cpl., Secretary G.G.C., Treasurer Holiday Club, Chapel Committee, Tuck-Shop Committee, Assistant Editor *Abingdonian*, Open Scholarship in Arts at Reading University 1952.

B. W. T. Leech (Classics), M. 1943; School Prefect 1951; 3rd IV 1952, 1st XV 1949, Colours 1949, Captain 1951, 2nd XI Hockey 1952, Athletics Team 1949, Colours 1951, Captain Reeves House, Dramatic Society 1948-51, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Sgt., Chapel Committee.

R. S. M. Millard (Arts). (O.S.C. 1949, H.A.L.), M. 1945, School Prefect 1950, 1st IV 1951, Colours 1951, Captain of Boats 1952, 1st XV 1950, Half-Colours 1950, Athletics Team 1948, Half-Colours 1952, Captain Bennett House, Dramatic Society 1948-51, Roysse Society, Chairman Turnor Society, Committee Debating Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl., Assistant Editor *Abingdonian*.

Upper Sixth Form B:

C. H. Banwell (Science). (O.S.C. 1950, PM.), M. 1945, House Prefect 1951, 3rd XI 1952, Treasurer Philatelic Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

G. W. Crockford (Science). (O.S.C. 1950, Ch.Bot.Zoo.), M. 1945, House Prefect 1951, 3rd IV 1952, 1st XV 1951, Half-Colours 1951, Athletics Team 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Naval Section, Leading-Seamen.

A. G. B. King (Science), (O.S.C. 1950: Ch.), S. 1942, School Prefect 1950, Head of School House 1951, 2nd XI 1950-51, 1st XV 1949, Colours 1950, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Half-Colours 1951, Athletics Team 1949, Colours 1950, Secretary 1951, Roysse Society, Dramatic Society 1948-51, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', C.S.M., Tuck-Shop Committee, Chapel Committee.

P. C. Madley (Science), (O.S.C. 1950, PM.), S. 1945, House Prefect 1952, 3rd XI 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Committee Holiday Club.

M. W. Matthews (Science), (O.S.C. 1949, Ph.Ch.), M. 1945, School Prefect 1951, Roysse Society, Dramatic Society 1948, Joint Club Committee.

J. Norman (Science), (O.S.C. 1950, Zoo.), M. 1945, House Prefect 1951, Dramatic Society 1948, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', C.Q.M.S.

P. S. G. Stevens (Science), (O.S.C. 1950), M. 1945, House Prefect 1952, 1st XI 1951, Colours 1952, 2nd XV 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Colours 1952, Chess VI 1951.

H. C. A. Armstrong (Classics), M. 1950, 3rd XI 1952, 2nd XV 1951, 2nd XI Hockey 1952, Dramatic Society 1950, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. 1.

A. D. Burton (Arts), M. 1945, House Prefect 1952, Junior Athletics Team 1948, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

M. A. Candy (Arts), M. 1944, 2nd XV 1950, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Half-Colours 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Naval Section, Leading Seaman, 1st Class Shot.

C. A. Full (Arts), M. 1946, House Prefect 1952, 1st XI 1952, 1st XV 1951, Half-Colours 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1951, Colours 1951, Basketball V 1951, Captain Blacknall House, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

K. W. Hawtin (Science), M. 1946, 3rd XV 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

C. W. Robbins (Arts), M. 1948, 2nd XI 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1951, Half-Colours 1951, Dramatic Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

M. G. Ryman (Arts) L. 1948.

Form Remove

J. B. Archer, S. 1944, House Prefect 1952, 1st IV 1950, Half-Colours 1950, 1st XV 1950, Colours 1951, Athletics Team 1950, Colours 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Naval Section, Leading Seaman.

J. W. Hullett, S. 1944, House Prefect 1952, 1st IV 1951, Colours 1952, 3rd XV 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Naval Section, 1st Class Shot.

Form 5 Arts:

N. F. A. Buxton, S. 1944, 2nd XI 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

P. Strodger, L. 1950, 3rd XI 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

Form 5 Science:

F. L. Allsworth, L. 1947, 3rd XI 1952, 2nd XV 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

J. Edelsten, M. 1944, 2nd XI 1951, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Colours 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

J. R. Jarvis, M. 1946, Committee Camera Club, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

B. N. Parker, M. 1947, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

J. H. Pinniger, L. 1946, 3rd XV 1951, Athletics Team 1952, C.C.F. Cert. 'A'.

Form 5 General:

C. G. P. Aylin, L. 1952, 3rd XI 1951, 3rd XV 1951, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. 1.

F. E. Bartlett, M. 1943, Secretary Scientific Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Cpl.

M. J. C. Griffiths, S. 1947, House Prefect 1952, 3rd XV 1951, 2nd IV 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', L/Cpl.

R. J. Prothero, M. 1947, 3rd XI 1952, 3rd XV 1950, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

Form 4 Arts:

P. B. D. Glover, M. 1950, 2nd XI 1952, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. 1.

Form 4 General:

J. W. Corderoy, M. 1946, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

N. A. Stimpson, M. 1947.

Form 3A:

M. V. A. Alberry, L. 1947, U.14 XV 1949, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Pt. 1.

B. G. Jenkins, M. 1949, C.C.F.

Form 3B: R. B. Phillips, M. 1949.

Form 2A: R. W. Cowley, S.1950.

Form 1B: J. Phillips, M. 1951.

Salvete—came 19th September, 1952

Form 5 General: S. A. Crawley, D.

Form 4 Arts: M. R. S. Broadway, S.; P. D. Kibble, S.; J. C. Spinks, D.

Form 4 Sci.: M. J. Scott-Taggart, D.

Form 4 Gen.: J. E. Daniels, D. (came 22nd September).

Form 3B: K. W. Vernon, D.

Form 2A: R. Dickenson, D.

Form 1A: P. J. D. Anderson, D.; A. E. Auchinvole, D.; R. R. Bailey, D.; R. M. Carter, L.; M. P. Cross, D.; T. Davies, D.; T. E. R. Evans, D.; A. C. Everard, D.; R. W. Harvey, W.; A. L. Howell, D.; G. S. Howlett, D.; J. Kingston, W.; C. F. M. Kitching, D.; R. Leach, L.; D. S. Lees, D.; J. A. Longworth, W.; A. J. Mustarde, D.; D. H. Paley-Battersea, L.; P. N. Pemberton, D.; W. J. Phipps, L.; A. F. Pritchard, D.; O. M. L. Rhys, W.; M. J. Seymour, D.; R. G. Simmonds, D.; S. R. Turner, D.; A. M. Wallen, W.; R. C. Watts, D.

Form 1B: R. L. Antrobus, L.; C. J. Bailey, D.; D. de B. Bennett, D.; J. C. Bennett, D.; J. C. Carr, D.; B. P. A. Cork, D.; A. M. Crockford, W.; C. Elderkin, D.; N. S. Florida, D.; N. D. Gray, D.; T. P. N. Greader, L.; A. P. Gresswell, W.; A. M. Hedges, W.; D. W. Howard, D.; P. Kandiah, D.; D. P. Kirk, D.; P. J. Liles, D.; D. G. Lloyd-Davies, D.; J. M. Milne, D.; T. C. Moodey, D.; R. H. Morse, L.; A. Rowles, L.; R. B. Smith, D.; D. M. Spragg, D.; M. H. Stanley, D.; M. A. C. Stockwell, D.; M. D. Tuck, D.; R. G. Wooldridge, D.; C. P. Wyatt, W.; M. J. A. Young, W.

LIBRARY

We are very grateful to the Rev. W. Henty-Summers and the Rev. G. E. Summers for sending us a number of interesting documents relating to the school, from the papers of their father, the Rev. Edgar Summers (Headmaster 1870-83), and also a mounted die of the School arms which for many years served as a paper-weight on their father's desk. From these papers, a pencil sketch of the first block of the New Buildings, drawn shortly after their erection in 1870, was reproduced by permission on this year's School Christmas Card. To R. C. Bateman, M.A., who was History Master at the School 1930-35 we are indebted for two prints which help to beautify the Radcliffe Room; and to W. A. Rudd and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for the regular receipt of the Geographical Journal and United Empire.

The following have presented books to the Library during the Michaelmas Term, to all of whom we offer our thanks: Miss S. Shedden, I. S. Baxter, B. W. Boddington, P. J. Emerton, M. G. Ryman and T. S. Stimpson.

G.F.D.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the Michaelmas Term and welcomed the following new members: P. J. Millard, H. R. Leach, P. R. Sale, J. C. Ivatts, P. J. Downer, C. J. Lockhart-Smith and R. M. Marchbanks.

The first meeting was held on 15th October, when S. R. Mills read a paper on "Folk Dancing". The paper itself was most interesting and enlightening, but was, of course, by its nature, rather unsuited to general discussion.

On 12th November, C. J. Lockhart-Smith read a paper, entitled "The American Presidential Election". This topical subject was very competently dealt with, although the opinion of the reader was obviously slightly biased. The ensuing discussion circled various facets of the paper, finally settling on the American Constitution.

The final meeting of the term was held on 26th November, when H. R. Leach read a paper on "The Darwinian Theory and the Lysenko Controversy". Leach dealt very thoroughly with these two wide subjects, in a long and well-written paper. The discussion which followed it was both lively and relevant—the latter a rare quality.

We are extremely grateful to both the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their kindly hospitality at each meeting and also to the Kitchen Staff for the help that they have this term given to Mrs. Cobban.

P.B.H.A.

TURNOR SOCIETY

At the A.G.M., the following officers were either elected or re-elected—President: The Headmaster; Chairman: E. G. R. Peedell; Committee: Mr. D. O. Willis; N. J. Shurrock, P. J. Millard, C. S. Wiggins; Secretary: H. R. Leach.

The activities of the Society during the Michaelmas Term consisted of three talks, dealing with widely varying subjects. At the first, Mr. Broadman, of Esso Petroleum, showed a film on "Petroleum". The film dealt with the world's vast oilfield, the processes of drilling and refining oil, its distribution and transportation and proved to be of great interest to all.

The next talk was given by the President of the Society, the Headmaster, who kindly stepped into the breach at the last moment, in place of an outside speaker who was unable to come. The intriguing title "Gold Cup", which the speaker gave to his talk, proved to be the name of the operation which was responsible for collecting together the official documents of the former German Civil Service. The Headmaster, who had been on the advance party of this operation, gave us a most interesting talk.

The final talk, which was given by Mr. R. E. Spivey, was entitled "The Falkland Island Dependencies". The speaker, who had only recently returned to Britain, gave a full account of the work of expeditions, based upon the Falkland Islands, in the Antarctic. Particularly interesting were his descriptions of penguin life and of the hazards of journeying in these Polar regions.

Next term, we again look forward to hearing more talks of the same high standard which we have had this term.

H.R.L.

DEBATING SOCIETY

At the A.G.M. held on 15th September, the following officers were either elected or re-elected—President: The Headmaster; Committee: P. J. Millard, P. R. Sale, M. M. Grant; Treasurer: Mr. D. O. Willis; Secretary: H. R. Leach.

The first debate of the term took place on 10th October, when P. W. Kemp, seconded by H. G. Williams, proposed that "Co-education is desirable". P. B. H. Amey, seconded by P. J. Millard, opposed the motion. The motion was carried 61—27.

In the second debate, on 17th October, B. D. Guimaraens proposed that "Professionalism is detrimental to British sport", and P. R. Sale opposed. The motion was defeated 15—11.

On 7th November, D. Shaw, seconded by C. J. Lockhart-Smith, proposed that "This House believes the colour-bar to be a necessary evil". B. D. Guimaraens opposed, seconded by P. R. Sale. The motion was defeated 27—7.

The fourth and last debate of the term took place on 21st November when the motion was that "This House deplores the growth of government interference in private enterprise". D. A. Jones proposed, seconded by J. R. Pratt, and M. M. Grant opposed, seconded by J. C. Ivatts. The motion was defeated 20—18.

The Society has enjoyed a very successful term, the standard of debating having been high and the attendances good. In particular, some very promising maiden speeches have been made.

H.R.L.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

This young Society, which was inaugurated during the previous summer Term, has now increased its membership to over fifty. Such was the keenness shown that six meetings were held this term, two more than the number specified in the School Calendar.

On 21st September, films on "Bachelor's Peas" and "Designing Cloth for Africans" were shown, which, although presented as advertising matter, were quite interesting. "This Farming Business", a film advertising Ferguson Tractors, was shown on 10th October and this aroused considerable interest amongst potential farmers in the Society.

The following week, Mr. E. W. Pulsford gave a most stimulating lecture on the subject of "Precision Timekeeping"—we hope he will visit us again. On 14th November, R. M. Marchbanks discoursed, in a learned fashion, on "Explosives", illustrating his points by practical demonstration. Unfortunately—or perhaps fortunately—the "Big Bang" failed to go off.

On 21st November, the films "Bridging the Golden Gate of San Francisco" and "Acres of Gold", the latter dealing with hybrid corn production and of especial interest to the biologists, were shown. The final meeting of the term was something in the nature of an experiment. Two films were shown, "A study of the Argon-Shielded Electric Arc" and "The Chalampe Bridge over the Rhine", but both were French-produced with a commentary in English added later. The first was interesting, but the other could only be followed with difficulty.

Next term, it is hoped that the programme will be more varied. The Society will divide itself into groups of three, to perform approved experiments, and if possible more lectures will be given by speakers from outside the School.

R.W.W.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Society has been able to arrange only two meetings this term mainly because of the multiplicity of other school activities.

As the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer left at the end of the Summer Term, our first meeting was devoted to the election of officers: H. G. Williams was elected Hon. Secretary, R. J. Banwell Hon. Treasurer and Librarian and D. Lewis, Assistant-Librarian.

At the last meeting of the term, we disposed of 'approvals' and a few members brought their collections. Most of the time was engaged in exchanging stamps and studying other collections.

Next term we hope to broaden the scope of our activities, and to arrange some three lectures, possibly given by outside speakers.

H.G.W.

CAMERA CLUB

Once again the Club has had a very successful term and our activities have ranged from the inevitable business meetings to a tour of a local motor-car factory.

The term commenced with an amusing and instructive lecture, given by the Chairman, on "Making a Darkroom" and during the following month, we enjoyed some excellent films, on the subject of motoring, which were very kindly lent us by G. Tuck, Esq.

We are indebted to our good friend, Mr. Milligan, who, on 16th November, devoted an evening to answering some of our photographic problems. On 19th November, we made a most interesting photographic tour of the Morris Works, Oxford, which was rounded off by a film-show.

We are now engaged in making a film of the School and early results have been most satisfactory.

M.K.C.G.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

Five meetings of the Society took place this term. At the first, Mr. C. M. H. Barker introduced Tchaikovsky's Fantasy-Overture, "Romeo and Juliet", together with Richard Strauss' very popular tone poem, "Till Eulenspiegel".

The next meeting, introduced by M. B. Culley, consisted of Symphony No. 5 in C minor by Beethoven. Culley set an example in presentation which some of our younger members might well follow.

At the third meeting, P. J. Millard introduced a delightful miscellany, consisting of "The Mastersingers" Overture by Wagner, the "Allegro Moderato" from Tchaikovsky's D major Violin Concerto and the Scherzo from Beethoven's 7th Symphony. D. Lewis presented Brahms's 3rd Symphony, a work very popular with members, at the next meeting.

At the last meeting, H. R. Leach introduced Greig's "Peer Gynt" Suite No. 1, Beethoven's "Egmont" Overture, Concerto Symphonique No. 4 by Litolff and Berlioz' Hungarian March from "The Damnation of Faust".

Altogether, the meetings this term have been most enjoyable.

R.E.J.P.

MODELLING CLUB

Much time has been spent this term in the Modelling Room and many models made. The interest this term has been mainly on aero-modelling, both scale models and original designs. It is hoped next term to hold a "free flight" competition, for lightweight gliders.

We are very grateful to H. W. R. Older, Esq., for his gift of the four volumes of "Motor Repair and Overhaul" to the club early this term.

At the end of this term we lose N. Cox, who has been a very energetic Secretary; we shall miss him.

J.V.F.

JOINT CLUB

Only two meetings of the Club, as such, took place this term. The first, a social evening, was held in Lacies Court, Unfortunately, the proceedings rather tended to hang fire, mainly because the Secretary took too little account of the vast increase in numbers, which made the Heylyn Room appear quite small.

On 15th November, having partaken of light refreshments, once more in Lacies Court, we journeyed to Oxford, to see "Sweet Peril" at the New Theatre. This was a pre-London production and was enjoyed by all.

The School Prefects held a Dance, in the Roysse Room, on 2nd December, which although not an official Joint Club meeting, was attended by a large body of members. Miss St. John and her colleagues provided a most excellent buffet and the evening was voted a great success—a pleasant end to the term's activities.

J.W.

HOLIDAY CLUB

The Headmaster, once again, generously allowed the Club to use the School Gymnasium during the holidays and much use was made of it for table-tennis. Several most enjoyable table-tennis matches and two cricket matches were played, although there was no competition for the Brookes Cricket Cup this year.

A fixture-list of table-tennis and soccer matches was arranged for the Christmas holidays.

J.W.

AD MEMORIAM CORIARI

('Tanner' Cullen achieved fame two years ago when he played a walk-on part in the School production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Since then he had identified himself more and more completely with the School and its activities, and many of us will miss him now that he has had to be put to rest).

No more when dayboy dinner's done
He'll haunt the dining-hall,
No more with intermittent run
Pursue the errant ball.

No more he'll join the house for prayers
Whence other dogs are barred,
Encountering disapproving stares
With well-bred disregard.

No more curled up in sleepy age
He'll dream of bygone days;
Of flood-lit triumphs on the stage,
Of chasing feline strays.

Yet still on some celestial plane,
From earthly troubles far,
I like to think that once again
He speeds the parting car.

J.M.C.

O.A. NOTES

Births

CROASDELL. On 27th August 1952, to Amy, wife of A. C. Croasdel (1925), a daughter, Madeline Ianthe.

JARVIS. On 5th October 1952, to the wife of Donald E. Jarvis (1938), a second son, Alan Michael.

POLLEY. On 27th November 1952, to Rita, wife of Vernon G. Polley (1939), a son, Roy John.

THATCHER. On 15th October 1952, at Worksop, to Joyce Mary, wife of Arthur Maurice Thatcher, M.A. (1928), a daughter, Caroline Jane.

Marriages

BALL—THOMPSON. On 27th October, 1952, at St. Paul's Cathedral, Valetta, Malta, John Meredith Ball (1946) of 120 Wootton Road, Abingdon, to Norah Eileen Thompson of Haynford, Norfolk.

BROWN—MACPHERSON. On 4th October, 1952, in Singapore, Derek R. H. Brown (1936) to Jennifer Ann MacPherson.

BYCROFT—POINTER. On 20th September, 1952, at St. Helen's Church, Abingdon, Colin E. Bycroft (1946) to Sheila R. A. Pointer.

FREARSON—FRANKLIN. On 27th September, 1952, at St. James' Church, Radley, Richard J. Freason (1941) to Patricia A. Franklin.

LEIGH—WARD. On 8th November, 1952, at the Cathedral, Nairobi, Kenya, Alfred Lea (Colin) Leigh (1941) to Lilian, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Ward of Ruiru, Kenya.

MILLS—THOMAS. On 25th October, 1952, at All Saints Church, Wokingham, Ralph P. F. Mills (1935) to Barbara Thomas.

Deaths

LACEY JOHNSON. On 1st November, 1952, Bryan Lacey Johnson (1924—25) of Barnfield, Park Road, Camberley, Surrey, aged 38 years.

Bryan, the eldest, brother of Lionel (1944), was at the Lodge as a small boy, and went on to King Edward VI School, Southampton, After studying Pharmacy at University College, Southampton, he worked with Nielsen's, Oxford and elsewhere, and at the time of his sudden death was manager of Timothy White's at Camberley. During the last war he served as Air Crew in Bomber Command. Married in 1939, he leaves a widow and one son, and we offer our deep sympathy to them and his other near relatives.

ROBINSON. On 2nd September, 1952, William Edward Robinson, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., (1880—87), aged 82 years.

The eldest of three sons of the Vicar of Drayton who were at the School in Mr. Cam's time, after graduating from St. Catherine's Society, Oxford, he pursued his medical studies at Guy's Hospital. At Oxford he gained his Trial Eights Cap twice in '88 and '89, and later rowed for several years in the London Rowing Club Grand Crew at Henley and also at Hamburg. From country practice he moved to London, where in addition to his general practice he served as anaesthetist to several hospitals and subsequently as Senior Physician at Vincent Square Infants Hospital. He was the author of several medical books. He was married in 1896 and had two daughters. He was President of the O.A. Club in 1905.

We offer our apologies and regrets for inserting in our last issue a notice of the death of F. J. S. Baker (1891). The information came from what was apparently a reliable source but we are happy to say he is alive and well, living at Crewkerne, Somerset with his sister.

From Nigel Bruce (1912) who is now to be seen at last in London with Charles Chaplin in "Limelight", we have received the following 'cutting' from the correspondence columns of the 'Scotsman', dated 24th July, over the signature of F. Grant Anderson. "I read with interest Sir Michael Bruce's letter (on the resemblance of Shetland and Southern Rhodesian ruins). In 1913 I was one of a party examining the Inyanga ruins and had cause to complain of lions killing our draught oxen. Foolishly I went but to try to get one armed only with a Martini Henry—a single barrel rifle. I fired at a lion and wounded him, and while I was trying to re-load I saw the lion commence to charge. Suddenly I was pushed aside and a young police trooper dropped on one knee, fired two shots and brought down the lion about three yards from us. A third shot brought down a lioness I had not even seen. I found the name of my rescuer to be Trooper Bruce, known to all the police as 'The Bart'."

Pat Collings (1933) on a visit to this country with his wife brought us belated news of himself and his brother Peter. During the war he was Lt.Cmdr. in command of a frigate and gained the D.S.C. At the end of the war he took his ship to South Africa for the S.A. Government and most conveniently demobbed himself there. He lives in Cape Town engaged in Insurance business.

His brother Peter, also married, lives in Johannesburg and is General Manager of a large furniture manufacturing concern.

Mr. R. C. Bateman who was History Master from 1929 to 1935 and is now Housemaster at St. Alban's School, wishes to be remembered to all his old and young friends. He still has a warm—and generous—interest in the School and continues his literary tussles with the B.B.C. on the subject of opera.

A. J. Sansom (1945) is now teaching in a Secondary School in Southampton.

'Sonnets and a Few Lyrics', the tenth and latest volume of verse by Willoughby Weaving (1905) recently published by the Abbey Press has been well received by the critics.

Gilbert Sanders (1947) who gained a 2nd Class Hons. in his Finals in Physics—not Maths—at Oxford last summer is now working for a research degree in Nuclear Physics at the Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford.

A. C. Wright (1951) is in the Production Metallurgical Laboratories of the Department of Atomic Energy at Culchett, Warrington, and is also working for his Nat. Certificate in Chemistry.

Basil Margrave (1947) is now working with Terry's of York, on the catering side.

Jasper Rose (1942) figured prominently in a recent News Chronicle investigation into the brightness of Cambridge, and if the account was to be credited, he is certainly a colourful figure.

Derek Slingsby (1944) is now in the Service Dept. of the M.G. Works, Abingdon.

John Furby (1950) working with the Abingdon Leather firm of Henry Booth, proposes to take a degree course at Reading University, and then return to the firm.

G. H. Brown (1947) has fallen on his feet in Sydney, N.S.W., and obtained a good post with the Royal Assurance Co.

Brian Perry (1950) is still happily superintending native labour at Singapore and in his spare time as a member of the Auxiliary Police, takes part in water-borne operations against bandits and smugglers.

John Edelsten (1952) is working with National Provincial Bank in London and Michael Candy (1952) having gone to Canada to join his uncle R. H. Candy (1913) in Ontario is also in a bank.

Service News

Capt. L. Lacey Johnson (1944) is in M.I.9 at the War Office.

Lieut. R. A. Clay (1948) is home from Hong Kong and stationed at Colchester.

2nd Lieut. A. W. H. Riggott (1950) is doing an L.A.A. course at Manorbier, Pemb. and then expects to go to 16 L.A.A. Regt., B.A.O.R. for 3 years. He has been playing hockey for Royal Artillery.

2nd Lieut. P. R. Lucas (1950) recently with 2nd Lancs. Fusiliers at Hythe expects to be going to Trieste in June.

2nd Lieut. R. F. Hamer, R.A. (1950) is in the Middle East.

2nd Lieut. H. B. Stevens, R.A.S.C. (1951) is at Benghazi, with a busy life concerned with some of the transport of an Armoured Division.

2nd Lieut. R. M. Grant, K.A.R. (1950) has now moved from Mauritius to Kenya.

2nd Lieut. Peter Field (1951) is with the Lincolns in B.A.O.R.

Colin Calvert Fisher, R.M. (1944) has left for Malta.

Of those who have left School in July, 1952,

Brian Leech, R.T.R. has passed W.O.S.B.

R.S.M. Millard is with Michael Glassbrook (1951) in Devon and Wessex Bde., at Topsham, Exeter.

J. Norman is in R. Corps Signals at Catterick.

A. G. B. King and C. A. Full are in R.A.F. to be joined shortly by J. B. Archer.

J. W. Hullett is in R.A., Oswestry.

R. Acklam (1951) has joined the Royal Navy (not the Merchant Navy) for a 12 year term. He is at Brainscote near Nuneaton.

Paul Glassbrook (1951) also bound for sea, has been at King Edward's Nautical College.

Clyde Aylin (1952) who returned to King Alfred's School, Plön, B.A.O.R. in September is sitting the Sandhurst Exam in May.

PSALTERS

The appeal for gifts of new psalters, made in the last distribution of literature to members of the O.A. Club, has met with a most gratifying response, and we are particularly pleased to have received donations from many Old Boys of whom we have had no news for many years. It may be worth while repeating that the object of the appeal was not to save the expense of providing the psalters but to enable Old Boys to mark in a personal—and permanent—way, the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the School Chapel, of which they must have many affectionate memories. The psalters cost 7/6 each, and donations should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon School.

On Sunday, 11th January, we were very glad to welcome to School House, Mr. H. W. Hooke who left the School in 1914 and is revisiting England, from his home in Ontario, for the first time since 1935.

O.A. Dance

The Annual Dance held on 6th December, 1952 proved as popular as ever and did much to make up for the disappointment caused by the cancellation of the afternoon's rugby match.

Just over 100 members were received by The President and Mrs. Hooke and took sherry until 8.30 when dancing commenced.

The President in his welcome said he was particularly pleased to see those members from distant parts who had braved the elements to get to the dance.

Dancing to a very pleasant band continued until midnight. Once again we would thank all members of the Committee for their hard work and particularly Mrs. Bevir for the lovely decorations.

London Dinner

It was the unanimous wish of the Annual General Meeting that a London dinner be held as a yearly event.

We are now pleased to inform you that arrangements have been made to hold this function on Monday, 9th March, at the Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C.1. Accommodation for a large party in a private banqueting hall with annexe, fitted with a bar, in which a reception will be held, is being provided. A four course dinner and coffee will be served. Cost of tickets will be 20/., including gratuities but excluding drinks. Wines, spirits and beers will be available at reasonable prices. Dinner will be served at approximately 7.30 p.m.

Tickets from S. A. Paige, 77 Watling Street, London, E.C.4.

It is hoped to arrange for a coach to run from Abingdon for the convenience of those members who would prefer to be relieved of the responsibilities of driving. The approximate cost will be 7/6 return. Will local O.A.s please notify G. F. Duxbury, Esq., as soon as possible, if they wish to avail themselves of these travel facilities.

YOUTH and AGE
(*Old Boys' Prize for English Verse, 1952*)

Youth and age in twin possess one being.
 Yet when age rules, his former youth is dead,
 And when youth reigns, his age outstretches seeing.
 Beneath the outward change there may be read
 The unchanging temper of an eternal soul,
 Tracing its steps towards the fountain head;
 And this same striving for the glorious goal;
 The common bond of all humanity,
 Knits up the life of man into one whole.
 Divided, youth and age will never be,
 For though they differ, yet they are in one,
 And shall be so to all eternity.
 Till spring and winter pass, no year can end,
 So joyous youth and weary age may blend.

C.J.L.-S.

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