

THE ABINGDONIAN

Vol. X. No. 5

APRIL, 1954

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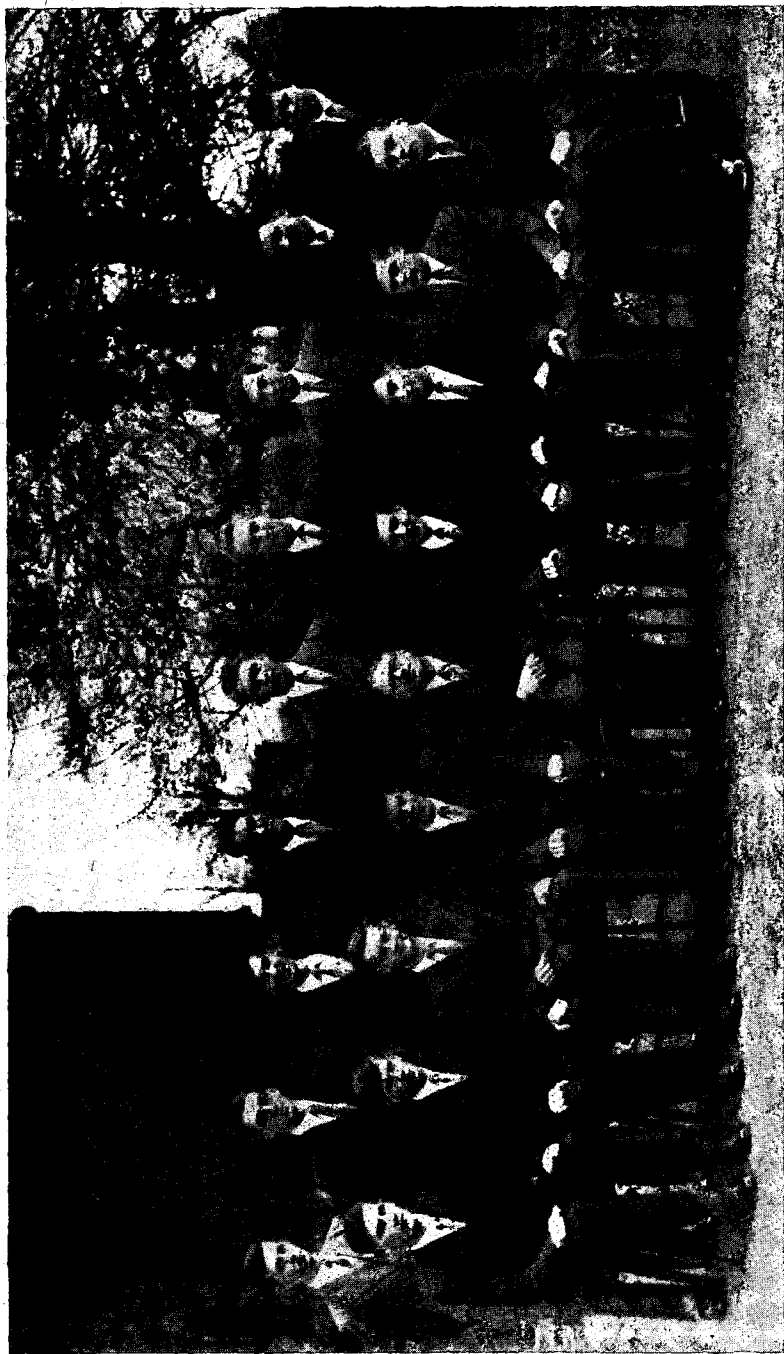
CALENDAR, SUMMER TERM 1954

| | |
|----------|--|
| April | |
| Tues. 27 | Term begins. |
| May | |
| Sat. 8 | 1st XI v. Newbury Grammar Sch. (a). |
| Tues. 11 | Field Day. |
| Wed. 12 | 1st XI v. Berkshire Gentlemen (h). |
| Sat. 15 | 1st XI v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h). 1st IV v. Prince Henry's Grammar Sch., Evesham (h). |
| Wed. 19 | 1st XI v. St. Edward's Sch. 2nd XI (h). 1st IV v. Culham College (h). |
| Sat. 22 | 1st XI v. Oratory School (h). 1st IV v. Sir Wm. Borlase's Sch., Marlow (h). |
| Wed. 26 | 1st XI v. Reading School (a). 1st IV v. Reading School (t). |
| Sat. 29 | 1st IV v. Cheltenham College, and King's School, Worcester (a). |
| June | |
| Fri. 4 | Half term begins (12.30 p.m.) |
| Wed. 9 | School recommences (9.0 a.m.) 1st XI v. Staff XI (h). |
| Sat. 12 | 1st XI v. City of Oxford School (a). |
| Sat. 19 | 1st XI v. King Alfred's Sch., Wantage (a). 1st IV at Marlow Regatta. |
| Sat. 26 | OLD BOYS' DAY. 1st XI v. O.A.s (h). 1st IV v. O.A.s (h). |
| July | |
| Sat. 3 | 1st XI v. Parents XI (h). |
| Sat. 10 | 1st XI v. Abingdon C.C. (h). |
| Wed. 14 | 1st XI v. Windsor County School (h). |
| Fri. 16 | C.C.F. Annual Inspection. |
| Sat. 17 | 1st XI v. Magdalen College Sch. (a). |
| Wed. 21 | Swimming Sports, 2.30 p.m. |
| Sat. 24 | FOUNDER'S DAY. |
| Tues. 27 | Term ends, 10.15 a.m. |

Michaelmas Term begins Friday, 17th September, 1954.

(Boarders return Thursday, 16th September, 1954)

SCHOOL PREFECTS, LENT, 1954.



Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

SCHOOL OFFICERS

SCHOOL PREFECTS

M. J. Brackley (Head of School)
D. S. Lloyd (Head of Day Boys)
H. G. Williams (Head of School House)

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| J. C. Ivatts (S) | E. G. Rockall (D) |
| D. A. Jones (W) | B. J. Hiscock (S) |
| R. M. Marchbanks (S) | M. J. Ralfe (S) |
| P. G. Cope (D) | B. L. O. Walker (D) |
| P. J. Lay (D) | A. J. Pickford (D) |
| C. J. Lockhart-Smith (C) | R. N. Paxman (W) |
| J. F. Heavens (D) | J. Blinman (D) |

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| J. D. Hall | R. J. Banwell |
| R. E. J. Packer | P. J. Simmonds |
| R. H. Redknapp | J. A. Nichols |

Larkhill

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| K. H. Smith | M. K. C. Grigsby |
|-------------|------------------|

Waste Court

A. R. Pezaro

Crescent House

P. W. Kemp

Day Boys

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| J. M. Pulsford (abs.) | T. R. Lay |
| J. M. Thistlewood | T. C. Glücklich |
| J. R. Pratt | K. W. Viney |
| P. Stroud-Viney | B. M. Roberts |
| P. O. Older | S. A. Crawley |
| D. M. P. Jones | J. T. Page |
| J. A. Nichol | |

Captain of Cricket—M. J. Brackley
Secretary of Cricket—D. A. Jones
Captain of Boats—H. G. Williams
Secretary of Boats—P. J. Lay
Captain of Tennis—J. A. Nichols
Secretary of G.G.C.—M. J. Brackley
Secretary of Minor Games—J. A. Nichols

'The Abingdonian'

Editor: C. J. Lockhart-Smith

Asst. Editors: M. J. Brackley, R. E. J. Packer, D. Lloyd

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

EDITORIAL

Traditionally the Lent term is the most uneventful of the year, but no term could be so called in which one of the playing fields has been converted into a mammoth slide, in which Sports Day has been held for the first time upon a new track (and for once blessed with fine weather) and in which the School has, in spirit at least, ascended Mount Everest.

The great freeze came in the first half of term and for two weeks we should have been deprived of the use of all the fields but for the ingenious flooding of Upper Field. On the sheet of ice thus provided exercise was possible and indeed many found the sport of sliding most fast and furious than they had expected.

The combination of really fine weather and the ideal conditions of a new track, extraordinarily well prepared, on the War Memorial Field made Sports Day this year a memorable occasion. The new field is so vastly superior to Waste Court as a venue for athletic events that after the smooth running of this year's Sports, it is difficult to imagine how we ever managed before.

The film, "The Conquest of Everest", gave to the whole School a morning's entertainment which was remarkable and unforgettable. The determination and endurance of the expedition set a most inspiring example, and when later in the term we had the opportunity of listening to a member of the party, Mr. Gregory, we were once again struck by the modest heroism of these men.

Such perhaps were the outstanding features of the Lent term. There were not however alone, for there were other unusually good things in the term—the visit of Miss Elsie Suddaby, the recital of Church Music in St. Helen's Church, and the Boarders' Concert, to name only three. We may indeed look back upon the events of the term with satisfaction and pride.

SCHOOL NOTES

As Alderman Holmes vacates the office of Mayor of Abingdon we should like to thank him for the interest he has taken in the School and at the same time to offer him our respectful congratulations on the indefatigable way in which he has faced the responsibilities of office in an unusually eventful year.

He will be succeeded as Mayor by Dr. G. Fitzgerald O'Connor, whom we welcome to the Governing Body. We hope that Dr. O'Connor, a former Cambridge rowing man, will take a particular interest in the fortunes of the Boat Club.

We were very sorry to hear that our Vice-Chairman, Mr. H. J. Thomas, had been laid low with pneumonia and we send him our best wishes for a speedy and uninterrupted convalescence.

We congratulate Mr. Airey Neave, M.P., on his appointment as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation—a happy choice of office for one who is not without experience of hurried and uncomfortable journeys.

All those who have had occasion to visit the new Malthouse Surgery will be interested to learn that the enterprise of the School Doctors provided the material not only for an article in the "Lancet" but also for a leader in "The Times" of 29th January; though the traditional reticence of the profession permitted reference merely to "a group of Berkshire doctors".

At Easter we said good-bye with great regret to Miss St. John, who has been house-keeper at the School House since January 1949. It is largely due to Miss St. John that the catering side of the School now runs so smoothly; and in thanking her for all she has done for the School we offer her our very best wishes for the future. At the same time we greet her successor, Mrs. Morrison, and we hope that her stay at the School will be long and happy.

Our thanks and good wishes too to Miss Adams who is vacating the appointment of Assistant Matron at Waste Court. Fortunately Miss Adams is remaining in Abingdon and we shall hope to see her at the School from time to time. We welcome as her successor, Miss Ann Hurst; and we offer sympathy and good wishes to Waste Court's senior Matron, Mrs. Brown, who is at present recovering from an operation.

We congratulate Mr. Barker very warmly on his engagement, recently announced, to Miss Felicity Martindale. Less pleasant is it to record that we shall be losing Mr. Barker in July when he leaves us to take up an appointment at the War Office: but fortunately it is not yet time for us to say good-bye to him.

During the past term we welcomed three students in training, two from Oxford, Mr. Everest (History) and Mr. Riley (Modern Languages), and one from Cambridge, Mr. Dumbrill (Geography). Mr. Dumbrill maintained the Rattee/Evans tradition of 'living-in', so we had more opportunity of getting to know him. To all three we offer our thanks for services rendered and our good wishes for the future.

We were indeed sorry when Mr. Griffin was struck down in the middle of the term with an infection of the eye, which led (with apparent inconsequence) to the removal of his tonsils. Fortunately he recovered in time to lead the Italian party (of which more below). During the latter part of his absence we were glad to welcome back to school Mr. David Free who very kindly took over his timetable for him.

At the beginning of the Lent Term the number of boys on the School Roll was 413 (Dayboys 261, School House 83, Crescent House 16 Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

We congratulate D. S. Lloyd on his election to the Abingdon Scholarship (in Natural Science) at Pembroke College, Oxford; and T. W. S. Downs on his appointment to a Regular Commission in the Royal Marines.

We are pleased to record that both our candidates, D. C. Shaw and J. H. Thewlis, were successful in the recent Theory Examination (Grade V) of the Associated Board of The Royal School of Music. Congratulations too to C. D. Loukes and S. Freedman on their success in Grade I and Grade IV respectively of the Pianoforte Examinations.

The School offers its very warm thanks to Mr. J. S. Candy, Governor of the School, and father of Abingdonians past and present, who has marked his unusually close connection with the School by presenting a beautiful silver cup to be awarded for 'Under 13' House Rugger.

We would thank also another Governor, Mr. J. H. Morrell, who has very kindly offered to present a challenge cup for Junior House Rowing in order to commemorate the achievement of our First IV last year in winning the Morrell Cup at the Oxford Coronation Regatta.

And thank you, too, to Wing Commander Gammack, for a most generous donation to the School Sports Fund; to Mr. Lemon and to Mr. Probert for the gift of some boxing kit; and to Mr. F. J. Lee for a donation of £5 to the War Memorial Fund.

For the benefit of future generations, it should be noted that during the Great Frost at the beginning of February the River Thames was frozen over at Abingdon, though we have not been able to confirm reports that it was crossed on foot just below the bridge.

The frost naturally brought ordinary games to a standstill. But some of us went skating at Sutton Courtenay, others slid on Upper Field, a large part of which was flooded for the purpose.

Subsequently the weather treated us more kindly; and on Sports Day the sun smiled warmly down on the large gathering assembled for the first time in the new War Memorial Field—a happy augury indeed.

The health too of the School was good throughout the term. Occasional cases of chicken pox and laryngitis justified the existence of the sick bays but we had nothing in the way of an epidemic. We sympathised however with the three 'chickens' who had to remain at School until the end of the first week of the holidays.

Mr. Newby Robson, of the Public Schools' Appointments Bureau, visited the School on 11th February.

Parents of boys in the Sixth and Fifth Forms were entertained at a Parents' Evening on 11th March.

We offer far more than the conventional thanks to the following visitors who have entertained us so memorably on Saturday evenings during the past term:—

23rd January—Miss Elsie Suddaby (Soprano) supported by Mrs. Fry ('cello).

13th February—Mr. Herbert Milton—"An Evening of Magic."

13th March—Lt. Col. J. H. Williams, O.B.E.—"The Most Intelligent Animal—The Elephant."

Saturday evening films were as follows:—

20th February—"Louisiana Story."

27th February—"The Lavender Hill Mob."

6th March—"Scott of the Antarctic."

The Lavender Hill Mob had actually visited us on 30th January. But our (newly overhauled) projector let us down after half an hour and the remainder of the evening had to be devoted to impromptu entertainment (a good test of versatility). It was generous of the distributors to let us have a second, and more successful, performance a month later without extra cost.

Never can the Turnor Society have had a more distinguished list of speakers than during the last term. Here we would merely thank very warmly for their kindness Mr. Airey Neave, Mr. Graham Hutton, Major Lunghi (O.A.) and Mr. Colin Roberts. Perhaps we can add that during the war Mr. Grundy had the pleasure of opening his newspaper and seeing a picture of 'Bertie' Lunghi, one of his old boys, standing with Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt and Mr. Stalin.

Parties from the School attended two lectures organised by *The Friends of Abingdon*. On 17th February Mr. John Betjeman entertained us with a lantern lecture on 'Victorian Architecture'; and on 23rd March Mr. Burchart, in his talk on "Heraldry", may have introduced some of us to a new hobby.

During the term we twice ascended Everest in spirit, once when the whole School visited the Regal Cinema on 25th February to see the official film "The Conquest of Everest", and again on 17th March when a very large contingent had the great privilege of hearing Mr. Gregory, one of the members of the Expedition, who gave a talk on his experiences and showed some of his remarkable slides. We are indeed grateful to the Sister Superior of St. Helen's School, who first suggested that we should

join forces for this occasion, and who very kindly organised Mr. Gregory's visit.

We were glad to welcome the Rev. T. H. Dart who visited us on 8th February and talked to a cross-section of the Middle School on the work of the S.P.G. Subsequently Mr. Dart came down on two Saturday evenings, 20th and 27th February, to show us a couple of extremely good films, "The Last Candle" and "Praise and Proclaim", as curtain raisers to our feature films.

On 1st March a film on banking, entitled "A Worth While Career", was shown to senior boys. We are grateful to Mr. Williams-Gardner, the local manager of the National Provincial Bank, who came along to answer any questions arising out of the film.

On 22nd March Mr. R. O. Williams, Lecturer in Classics at the University of Reading, gave a masterly lecture on "Horace", with special reference to the third book of the Odes, to an audience of senior Latinists. Those with G.C.E. impending found this lecture of particular value: but we all enjoyed it much.

The visit of the Achilles Club on 23rd March is more fully reported elsewhere. Here we would say how much we hope that this stimulating innovation will become part of our regular tradition.

On 24th March Mr. Churcher visited the School to talk to the senior boys on the work of Toc H.

On the following day Mr. Ingham took a small party of prospective 'big-business-men' from Upper School to London to spend the day as the guests of Messrs. Harrods.

A new departure this term has been the introduction of a hand-writing class, for hard cases whose writing is particularly illegible. We hasten to add that none of the present Editors of the magazine is involved. Experiments are also taking place in the teaching of chancery script; and from September we hope that the first forms will have special periods set aside for the art of calligraphy which has now once again become so fashionable.

We have been much pleased to note the progress of the School Orchestra under the able guidance of Mr. Barker, Mrs. Kitching and Mrs. Fry. On Friday, March 5th, it made its first public appearance at the North Berks Musical Festival at Faringdon, under the eagle eye (or rather ear) of the Chairman of the Governors. The festival was not competitive but the adjudicator's comments were most encouraging.

The activities of the Film Unit continue to add to the gaiety of life. Their main interest at the moment is the production of a thousand-

foot comedy entitled provisionally 'Thanks a Million', which, as far as we can gather from the trailer, is going to be most entertaining. A section of the Unit, cryptically styled Unit Four (Productions), used the members of the Achilles Club as raw material for an instructional film on Athletics which will shortly be completed.

It is a pity that the Film Unit was not on parade to record for posterity the entertaining behaviour of the 10.33 ex Abingdon on the last morning of term. Its attempts first of all to link up with a second coach, and then to rid itself of what had become an encumbrance, would have delighted the heart of Mr. Emmett.

An informal boarders' concert was held as usual the last night of the term. In general the standard of the production was sufficiently high to justify a full-length review, which will be found on another page. Here we should like to add our own especial thanks to the boarders who got up at an incredibly early hour to clear the Gymnasium after the show and to the two middle-school boys who helped to remove the platform after the School had dispersed.

During the holidays Major Parker led some fifteen members of the Corps to what has now become our regular holiday haunt, the Royal Marines' Establishment at Browdown. Individual cadets attended various other courses.

Even more exciting was the visit to Italy—the School's first excursion overseas since the war. Led by Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, who were supported by Messrs. Cooper, Hillary, Helliwell, Mortimer and Horrex, some thirty-five boys spent ten memorable days in Rome and Florence before their return to School. We hope to publish a full report of their journey in our next issue.

Two minor amenities deserve a brief welcome. One is the new light outside the Tower Steps; the other is the series of six pictures which we have acquired on loan (by courtesy of the Tuckshop) under the School Prints Circulating Scheme. These will be changed each term for another series.

The photographs in this issue are reproduced by courtesy of Mr. H. J. Milligan, Photographer, Abingdon.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Magazines from other Schools.

OFFICIO FUNCTOS SALUTAMUS

This year sees the retirement of three public servants whom we are glad to call friends of the School.

Our own H.M.I., Mr. R. H. Barrow, C.B.E., whose wise counsel has always been such a help to the School, retired from office on April 1st. We hope however that we shall not lose touch with him for he has chosen to settle in South Moreton: we can assure him that he will always be a very welcome visitor to the School.

On the same date Mr. W. F. Herbert, M.Ed., vacated the office of Director of Education for Berkshire. It is common knowledge that it is largely due to Mr. Herbert that the County has grappled so successfully with the problems raised by the Education Acts of 1944 and 1946. What is less obvious but perhaps even more important is the personal influence of Mr. Herbert which has extended throughout the Education Department. All Berkshire knows that in this County 'the Shire Hall' is not an impersonal bureaucracy but a team of people dealing with the individual problems of parents and children. As far as this School is concerned, our relations with the County throughout Mr. Herbert's tenure of office have been of the happiest. It is significant of Mr. Herbert's kindness that he should recently have come down to the School, not on an official visit, but to give an informal talk to the Camera Club: and it is pleasant to think that he will now have a little more time for his hobby of photography.

Later in the summer comes the retirement of the Bishop of Reading, the Rt. Rev. A. G. Parham, M.C., M.A., who preached the Founder's Day Sermon for us in 1949. He too is settling down in this part of the world, near Little Wittenham, so we shall look forward to seeing him again.

To Mr. and Mrs. Barrow, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, and the Bishop of Reading and Mrs. Parham, we offer our warm good wishes for many happy years of retirement. At the same time we offer our greetings to the new Director of Education, Mr. T. D. W. Whitfield, M.A., no stranger to the School, who took over from Mr. Herbert on 1st April.

J.M.C.

SCHOOL AND GROUNDS

(A note by the Headmaster)

To those of us who have waited so long for that day it was indeed an historic occasion when for the first time we saw hockey and junior rugger being played on the War Memorial Field. Later in the term we were able to hold our athletic meetings on it; and the extra elbow-room it provided made all the difference to the smooth running of a close-packed programme of events. Thanks to the untiring labours.

of so many good friends of the School—and here we must put in a special word of thanks to Alec, the head groundsman—we now have a sports field of which any School could be proud. The cricket square too is looking very healthy. As yet, of course, the field is inevitably bare and exposed, but as the surrounding trees grow up it will become more and more attractive. Our only remaining problem, for the moment is the provision of some very simple form of shelter. The rival claims of pent-house, cycle-shed, garden-shed and bus-shelter are being considered. It is not easy to find something that is at once practicable, pleasing and inexpensive.

On Upper Field, a series of pegs marks the agreed site of the New Pavilion. The plans have been approved by the Council. Some delay has occurred owing to the difficulty of obtaining the right materials, and our hopes of having the Pavillon ready for use at the beginning of the Summer Term have proved to be too optimistic. But we are still hoping that it is from its embryonic shadow that we shall watch the defeat of the Old Boys' XI on 26th June . . .

There are further pegs in Lacies Court to trip the unwary and to mark the ground plan of the new class-room block. It does seem that we shall be able to fit it in very nicely, without impinging too closely on the Lacies Court House. At the same time there will be room for us to build a new Assembly Hall, if ever we wish to do so, running North and South between the Science Block and the New Block.

It will be understood that there are still many hurdles to cross before we are enjoying the use of the new classrooms. But the Governors have now put their hands to the plough (the metaphor remains agricultural though the imagery is mixed) and have approved the draft plans. Much discussion of detail is going on behind the scenes. The question of financing such a project calls for delicate negotiations. It will be some comfort to us in the next few terms to watch the progress of the block and to know that we can at any rate look forward to easement of the worst of our overcrowding.

Other projects are in hand, less in scale but of no less interest. Among them is the removal of the boat house to a new and far more convenient site lower down the river. The generous co-operation of the Council has turned what seemed at first a pipe dream of Mr. Duxbury and Mr. Mortimer into a practical proposition. But I will leave it to the Boat Club themselves to explain exactly how Birnam Wood is going to come to Dunsinane.

Lastly, Old Boys in particular will be interested to hear of the progress that has been made with the plaques. The stone tablets, carved by a local stonemason, Mr. Puffit, are already in place on the gate-pillars of the War Memorial Field. The teak plaque for the new

Pavilion, executed by Messrs. Mowbray, is temporarily stored in the Bursar's Office. The bronze tablets for Waste Court and Lacies Court are now being prepared by Messrs. K. S. Neale of Urdington. These tablets will serve as a fitting record of the generosity of successive generations of Old Boys and Friends of the School.

J.M.C.

VALETE ET SALVE

Valete—Left 18th December, 1953

Upper Sixth Form A:

M. J. HUDSON (Arts), (H (Distinction) E. Geog), L. 1952, School Prefect 1953, 2nd XI 1953, 1st XV 1953, Half Colours 1953, 1st XI Hockey 1953, Colours 1953, Roysse Society, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'. (left 10th December).

P. J. MILLARD (Arts), M. 1945, School Prefect 1951, Head of School House 1952, Head of School 1953, 1st XI 1953, Half Colours 1953, 1st XV 1951, Colours 1951, Captain 1952, 1953, 1st XI Hockey 1951, Colours 1951, Captain 1952, Secretary Tennis 1952, Dramatic Society 1949-53, Roysse Society, Chairman Turnor Society, Committee Debating Society, Chapel Committee, Captain Bennett House, G.G.C., Secretary M.G.C., Assistant Editor *Abingdonian*, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Sgt.

Upper Sixth Form B:

T. W. S. DOWNS (Science), M. 1944, School Prefect 1953, 2nd XV 1952, 2nd IV 1953, C.C.F. Cert. 'A', C.S.M.

M. J. MORRIS (Science), (Ch. Bot. Zoo), M. 1948, House Prefect 1953.

Lower Sixth Form:

P. THOMPSON (Science), M. 1948, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'. (left 24th October).

Form Sixth General:

J. COOPER, M. 1947, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

B. D. GUIMARAENS, M. 1946, School Prefect 1953, 1st XV 1952, Half Colours 1952, 3rd IV 1952, Athletics Team 1952, Colours 1952, Captain 1953, Committee Debating Society, G.G.C., C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Part I, Naval Section, Leading Seaman.

A. C. MARSHALL, M. 1946, School Prefect 1953, 1st XI 1952, Half Colours 1952, 1st XV 1951, Colours 1951, Secretary 1953, 1st XI Hockey 1952, Colours 1952, Captain Reeves House, G.G.C., C.C.F. Cert. 'A', Sgt. Armourer.

Form 5 Arts:

A. C. BRODRICK, M. 1947, C.C.F., Cert 'A', Shooting VIII Bisley 1953. (left 12th December).

Form 5 General:

K. J. M. TAYLOR, M. 1948, 2nd XV 1953, Half Colours 1953, C.C.F., Cert. 'A'.

Form 4 General:

N. R. KEARSEY, M. 1948, C.C.F.

G. M. PRICE, M. 1949, 2nd XI 1953, C.C.F., Cert. 'A', Part I.

K. W. VERNON, M. 1952, C.C.F. (left 29th October).

Salve—came 15th January, 1954

Form IX: C. B. GOSLING, W.

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Founder's Day this year will be celebrated on Saturday, 24th July, The provisional programme is as follows:

11.30 a.m. Service in St. Helen's Church, Abingdon. Address by the Rt. Rev. Roscow Shedden, D.D., formerly Bishop of Nassau.

2.30 p.m. Distribution of Prizes in the Corn Exchange by the Rt. Hon. Lord Burghley, K.C.M.G., LL.D., former Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda.

4.30 p.m. The Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban will be 'At Home' at the School House to Parents, Old Boys, and friends of the School.

5.30 p.m. The School and the grounds will be open for inspection and there will be displays of various School activities.

7.30 p.m. A programme of Speeches and Music in the Corn Exchange.

On Sunday, 25th July, the Chaplain will preach at Morning Service in the School Chapel (10 a.m.); and the Headmaster will preach at 6.30 p.m. at the Annual School Service. It is hoped that the work of restoration will be sufficiently advanced for this service to be held, in accordance with tradition, in St. Nicolas' Church.

Invitations to Founder's Day will be sent to all parents and to friends of the School; but *Old Boys* are asked to regard this note as a personal invitation. Any Old Boy who would like to attend the Prizegiving or the 'At Home' is asked to write to Mr. F. J. Sewry at the School. Tickets for 'Speeches and Music' can also be obtained from Mr. Sewry, price 3/6 and 2/6.

The O. A. Cricket Match, the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and the O.A. Dinner, will be held on Saturday, 26th June. Details of these events will be circulated later to all members of the O.A. Club. Old Boys are also specially invited to attend Morning Service in the School Chapel on the following day, Sunday, 27th June; and subsequently to take coffee with the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban in the garden of the School House.

CHAPEL NOTES

We were very glad to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress of Abingdon (Alderman and Mrs. Percy Holmes) to our Morning Service on 7th March.

Throughout the season of Lent the usual voluntary mid-week Lenten service was held in the Chapel every Thursday evening. The theme of the series was provided by the question "Where are we going?": and on the whole the attendance at the services was noticeably better than in previous years.

Of the eleven collections taken during the past term, five were allotted to outside charities, three to Chapel Funds, and three to the Chapel Kneeler Fund. Contributions to outside charities were as follows:

| | |
|---|---------|
| St. James' Church, Nevis | £3 10 0 |
| Royal School of Church Music | £3 14 0 |
| Church of England Pensions Board | £4 0 0 |
| Korea National Council of Churches (for orphaned children) | £4 17 0 |
| St. Nicolas' Church Restoration Fund | £4 0 0 |

The collection for St. Nicolas' Church was supplemented by the contents of the alms box which amounted to a further £1. 2. 0.

Now that the Chapel Kneeler Fund has achieved its purpose, the Chapel Committee has agreed that it should be closed and replaced by a new fund—the Chapel Seating Fund—which will eventually serve to finance the improvements at the East end of the Chapel mentioned in our last issue. Meanwhile we hope it will not be long before the remainder of the new Kneelers arrive so that the whole of the pews may be equipped with them.

We are grateful to the outside preachers who visited us during the past term. We were indeed sorry that Mr. Talbot Griffith, Headmaster of Oakham, was prevented by indisposition from coming to us, but we look forward to hearing him on 9th May.

Other visiting preachers for the Summer Term will include:

May 16th—Rev. Dr. G. M. Gibson, Professor of Preaching at the McCormick Theological Seminary of Chicago.

May 30th—Rev. G. H. Relfe.

June 20th—Mr. D. G. R. Martin, M.A., Headmaster of the Ranelagh School, Bracknell.

June 27th—Mr. C. E. Kemp, M.A., Headmaster of Reading School.

On the last Saturday evening of term the School Choir, conducted by Mr. Barker, gave a programme of English Church Music in Saint Helen's Church, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Primarily this was intended as the School's own 'Easter Offering' but a number of parents and friends who had been at the Sports were welcome members of the congregation.

The main item was a performance of a choral setting of five psalms by Christopher Le Fleming. Rarely can the Choir have given a more sensitive performance than in this work. Nothing was more moving than the simple beauty of the arrangement of the 23rd Psalm, nor more exhilarating and joyful than the setting of the 150th Psalm. The final exultant 'Alleluia' ringing round the Church will long be remembered by those who attended the performance.

The Choir was accompanied at the organ by Roger Packer who displayed more than his usual deep understanding and ability.

The programme included also a short series of English readings by Mr. Helliwell.

The retiring collection, of over £6, was given to the Funds of St. Helen's Church. Details of the musical items are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| TE DEUM LAUDAMUS | <i>Ireland</i> |
| O MAGNUM MISTERIUM | <i>Byrd</i> |
| MAGNIFICAT ANIMA MEA | <i>Sumston</i> |
| FIVE PSALMS | <i>le Fleming</i> |

1. Ps. 120. When I was in trouble
2. Ps. 121. I will lift up mine eyes
3. Ps. 23. The Lord is my Shepherd
4. Ps. 107. vv. 23-24. They that go down to the sea in ships.
5. Ps. 150. O praise God in His Holiness

HOCKEY

The season has been a disappointing one from several points of view. Just as practice was getting under way the snow came, and for fortnight or so we were unable to have any hockey at all. When we could resume, illness interfered with the composition of the Eleven, and it rarely seemed able to settle down to the smooth combination of which we knew it to be capable. The weakness was, usually, in the defence, although the forwards in general lacked finishing power in the role.

There is, however, plenty of promising material coming along and we hope for a more successful season next year.

During the season the following colours were awarded:

Full Colours—Banwell.

Half-Colours—Campbell-Dykes, Light, Maxwell.

The final arrangement of the team was—Light; Pezaro, Bush; Maxwell, Hiscock, Cowles; Ivatts, Brackley, Clewley, Glenny, Banwell. Rawlins also played.

FIRST XI CHARACTERS

M. J. BRACKLEY (Captain, Colours 1952). Inside Right. His control of the ball has been outstanding, and he has combined well with his winger. He has been the only member of the side with a really hard shot, but he must overcome a tendency to hang back in attack which has often meant missing a chance of shooting. As captain he has provided admirable encouragement and leadership.

(A.A.H.)

B. J. HISCOCK (Vice-Captain, Hon. Sec., Colours 1953). Centre-half. He settled down to his new position but then illness prevented him from playing until the last match. He is, however, a sound player with much natural ability.

J. C. IVATTS (Colours 1953). Right Wing. He has made good use of his speed and has a hard centre. But he sometimes holds on to the ball too long and he must learn not to wander.

R. J. BANWELL (Colours 1954). Left Wing. A player with good stickwork and a hard hit. He can be relied upon to penetrate even an experienced defence and altogether has had a very successful season.

J. E. COWLES (Half-Colours 1953). Left Half. He has shown improvement since last season. He hits the ball hard and passes intelligently. He must, however, speed up his play. He has, perhaps been somewhat unsettled by having to deputize as centre-half.

I. J. GLENNY (Half-Colours 1953). Inside Left. He has good stickwork and is a thoughtful and constructive player, but is too slow-moving and he must learn to hit hard especially inside the circle.

R. P. CLEWLEY (Half-Colours 1953). Centre-forward. He has not lived up to expectations after a promising start to the season. He is quick to seize an opening, but to score goals he must be more vigorous in the circle.

G. E. G. CAMPBELL-DYKES (Half-Colours 1954). Left Back. Illness caused him to miss two matches at the beginning of the season.

He has a hard hit and is quick on the ball, uses his intelligence in passing and is calm in a crisis.

A. MAXWELL (Half-Colours 1954). Right Half. A young player who is vastly improved and has justified his position in the team. He has a hard hit and a useful flick whilst his interception of the ball is outstanding. All he lacks now is confidence in himself.

P. B. LIGHT (Half-Colours 1954). Goalkeeper. He has played with courage and confidence and has been unfortunate to have so many goals scored against him.

A. R. PEZARO. Right Back. Potentially he is a good player, but he is too slow in his positioning and clearing and must try to be more constructive.

A. BUSH. Left Back. For his first season, he has played well. Experience and more training should make him a good player. His positioning and calmness are excellent. He must now develop a firmer clearance.

D. P. RAWLINS. Centre-forward. A promising young player who came into the side late in the season. He has excellent stickwork, passes intelligently but must develop a hard shot at goal.

M.J.B.

FIRST XI MATCHES

v. Reading School (a), Sat., 23rd January. Won 2—1.

The School won a game more notable for vigour than skill. The team showed good form despite a lack of thrust in the forward line. Both School goals came from Banwell.

v. Staff XI (h), Wed., 27th January. Won 5—3.

This was a game in which the play was fast and open. The defence showed uncertain form for the first time.

v. Solihull School (h), Wed., 17th February. Won 4—1.

An enjoyable game despite bad conditions. The forwards combined effectively and the defence played well.

v. Windsor County School (a), Sat., 27th February. Lost 2—3.

Against a side which was more vigorous and determined the School did not produce its best. The forwards hung back and missed several chances and the defence made mistakes through over-haste. The one exception was Light who showed great courage and earned his Half-colours.

v. Old Abingdonians (h), Sat., 6th March. Lost 1—9.

Faced by the best team the O.A.s have put out for some years, the School played badly. The forwards played fairly well but lacked effective support from the defence. Brackley scored the School's only goal.

v. Halton R.A.F. (h), Wed., 10th March. Lost 0—5.

Despite the score, the School played very well against a good side. The effectiveness of our forwards, however, was spoilt by lack of shooting power. The defence, in the face of a fast attack, was much steadier than in previous matches.

v. Old College, R.M.A., Sandhurst (h), Wed., 17th March. Lost 0—

This last match of the season was a most enjoyable one. The School's attack was not, however, very effective and the defence left much to be desired.

B.J.]

SECOND XI

Unfortunately only five matches were played. The team was particularly unsettled by constant changes due to illness in both Eleven. It is encouraging to note, however that by the end of the season several young players were showing improved form. Next season, they should be able to gain a place in the Eleven. Jones, D. A. was a good captain and Carter, N. A. in goal played with ability and confidence.

The final arrangement of the team was—Carter; Bush, Sale; Jones, Payne, Lay T. R.; Caswell, Page J. T., Marchbanks R. M., Miesingram, Song.

Also played—Lockhart-Smith, Hardy (4 times), Blinman (3 times), Nichols, Kibble, P. D. (twice).

Results:

- v. Solihull School (h.), Wed., 17th February. Drawn 1—1*
- v. Radley College 3rd XI (a.), Wed., 24th February. Lost 1—5*
- v. Windsor County School (a.), Sat., 27th February. Lost 0—3*
- v. Radley College 3rd XI (h.), Wed., 10th March. Lost 1—3*
- v. Rhine Coy. R.M.A., Sandhurst (a.), Wed., 17th March.*
Drawn 1—1

HOUSE MATCHES

This year, as was expected, Bennett won the inter-House competition. The standard of play was not as high as in previous years, but this was partly due to ground conditions.

M.J

ATHLETICS

Although this season has been only one of modest achievement so far as athletic performances are concerned, it has at the same time been a memorable and exciting one; and this in two respects—we ran on a new track and we enjoyed a new and unusual fixture.

The new 440 yards track on the War Memorial Field proved a great success and added considerably to the attraction of Sports Day and our two home fixtures. It was marked out beautifully and was in first class condition—as were also the new jumping pits—and we are very grateful to all those responsible for its preparation, particularly to the Bursar and to Alec Thatcher and his staff.

The new track found athletes worthy of its excellence when on Tuesday, 23rd March, we were privileged to entertain for the day an Achilles team which included several of the winners at the last inter-Varsity Athletic Meeting—Christopher Higham who won the High and Low Hurdles for Oxford, Alan Sexton, winner of the 100 yards and the 220 yards for Cambridge, M. C. Jenkins (Oxford) who won the Pole Vault and W. Kretzscher who won the Javelin for Oxford with a record throw of 197 feet. After a morning given over to coaching and demonstration, we competed with the Achilles team on a handicap basis in the afternoon. Only one event came our way—Griffith just managed to win the half mile—but a most enjoyable time was spent and some excellent athletics witnessed. Perhaps the most spectacular event was Kretzscher's throwing of the javelin. He achieved his personal best and beat his own Varsity record with a magnificent throw of 198 feet 7 inches.

Other meetings during the term included a somewhat heavy defeat by the City of Oxford School on a bitterly cold day, a very close and exciting match against the O.A.s and a comfortable win over Southfield School. It is pleasing to record that Mr. Talbot competing for the O.A.s won both the Discus and the Shot events. Details of all matches are given below.

During the season Full Colours were awarded to Pickford, Cope, Hammack and Griffith whilst Half Colours were won by Brackley, Inniger and Paxman, R. N.

SENIOR MATCHES

v. City of Oxford School (a), Sat., 13th March.

Long Jump: 1. Warmington (C.O.S.), 2. Steley (C.O.S.), 3. Pickford. 19ft. 3½in.

High Jump: 1. Martin (C.O.S.), 2. Phipps (C.O.S.), 3. Cope. 5ft.

ATHLETICS TEAM, 1954.



(Back Row): W. W. Budden, D. O. Willis Esq., I. C. Spinks, H. Bowen, H. G. Williams, M. J. Brackley, A. J. Jones, J. M. Iredale, N. Antrobus, J. Talbot, Esq., K. W. Viney.

(Seated): R. H. Redknapp, P. I. Lav, P. S. Viney, P. G. Cope, (Secretary), A. J. Pickford (Captain), R. D. Gammack, R. D.

100 Yards: 1. Warmington (C.O.S.), 2. Gammack, 3. Pickford.
10.5 sec.

Shot (12 lbs.): 1. Rockall, 2. Stroud-Viney, 3. Martin (C.O.S.).
34ft. 3in.

Discus: 1. Bolton (C.O.S.), 2. Combey (C.O.S.), 3. Rockall. 108ft.

880 Yard: 1. Griffith, 2. Phipps (C.O.S.), 3. Pinniger. 2 min. 19.6 sec.

440 Yards: 1. Warmington (C.O.S.), 2. Gammack, 3. Brunson
(C.O.S.). 57.5 sec.

Javelin: 1. Combey (C.O.S.), 2. Ralfe, 3. Hill, B. K. 156ft.

Mile: 1. Dennis (C.O.S.), 2. John (C.O.S.), 3. Griffith. 5 min. 16.4 secs.

Relay (4 x 220 yards): 1. City of Oxford School; 2. Abingdon School.
1 min. 44.2 secs.

Result: City of Oxford School 71 pts. Abingdon School 42 pts.

v. Old Abingdonians (h), Sat., 20th March

Long Jump: 1. Betterton P. (O.A.), 2. Pickford A. J., 3. Pickford
I. M. (O.A.). 17ft. 3in.

Mile: 1. Sale (O.A.), 2. Griffith, 3. Draisey (O.A.). 5 min. 8.5 secs.

High Jump: 1. Cope, 2. Lay P. J., 3. Pickford I.M. (O.A.). 5ft. 2in.

100 Yards: 1. Heavens (O.A.), 2. Gammack, 3. Pickford A. J.
10.8secs.

Discus: 1. Talbot (O.A.), 2. Lay P. J., 3. Williams. 114ft. 2½ins.

800 Yards: 1. Draisey (O.A.), 2. Sale (O.A.), 3. Griffith.
2 min. 18.6 secs.

Shot (12 lbs.): 1. Talbot (O.A.), 2. Stroud-Viney, 3. Rockall.
38ft. 10ins.

440 Yards: 1. Heavens (O.A.), 2. Gammack, 3. Brackley. 56.4 secs.

Javelin: 1. Parsons, 2. Aldworth (O.A.), 3. Redknap. 132ft. 8ins.

Relay (6 x 220 yds.): 1. School, 2. Old Abingdonians. 2 min. 33 secs.

Result: School 45 pts. Old Abingdonians 44 pts.

v. Achilles A.C. (h), Tues., 23rd March

100 Yards: 1. Sexton (Cambridge), handicap minus 4 yds., 2. Gam-
mack, 3. Pickford. 10.2 secs.

Long Jump: 1. Jenkins (Oxford), handicap 1ft. 6in., 2. Pickford. 19ft. 4ins.

880 Yards: 1. Griffith, 2. Gordon (Oxford), handicap 12 secs. 2min. 18.2 secs.

Shot (12lbs.): 1. Kretschamar (Oxford), handicap 5ft. and 16lb. shot, 2. Stroud-Viney and Lay (tie). 39ft. 7in.

440 Yards: 1. Parkinson (Cambridge), handicap minus 20 yds., 2. Gammack, 3. Brackley. 54.8 secs.

High Jump: 1. Marwood (Cambridge), handicap 5ins. 2. Cope, 3. Lay. 5ft. 10ins.

220 Yards: 1. Sexton (Cambridge), handicap minus 15 yds., 2. Gammack, 3. Viney. 25.2 secs.

Discus: 1. Kretschamar (Oxford), handicap senior discus, 2. Williams, 3. Lay. 126ft. 9ins.

Mile: 1. Suddaby (Oxford), handicap 30 secs., 2. Griffith, 5 min. 3.2 secs.

Javelin: 1. Kretschamar (Oxford), handicap 40ft. and senior javelin, 2. Parsons. 198ft. 7ins.

Relay: 1. Achilles (Jenkins, Higham, Gordon, Suddaby of Oxford; Marwood, Parkinson of Cambridge) who ran 4 x 110 yds. and 2 x 220 yds.

2. School (Cope, Griffith, Kempinski, Brackley, Fysh, Viney. Pickford, Gammack) who ran 8 x 110 yds. 1 min. 38.2 secs.

The result of this meeting was a victory for Achilles by 10 events to one. Apart from Kretschamar's javelin throw, there were a number of other very good individual performances, of which Suddaby's mile in 4 min. 31.2 secs. was perhaps the most spectacular from the point of view of those watching.

v. Southfield School (a), Wed., 24th March

High Jump: 1. Hayward (S.) and Cope (tie), 3. Scott-Taggart M. J. 4ft. 11ins.

100 Yards: 1. Pickford, 2. Gammack, 3. Netherton (S.). 11.2 secs.

880 Yards: 1. Griffith, 2. Pinniger, 3. Grant (S.). 2 min. 15 secs.

Javelin: 1. Furby (S.), 2. Fenn (S.), 3. Parsons. 160ft. 9ins.

440 Yards: 1. Gammack, 2. Brackley, 3. Hall (S.). 55.8 secs.

Shot (12 lbs.): 1. Stroud-Viney, 2. Furby (S.), 3. Rockall, 33ft. 10½ins.

- 220 Yards: 1. Gammack, 2. Viney, 3. Netherton (S.). 24.8 secs.
 Long Jump: 1. Philips (S.), 2. Pickford, 3. Furby (S.). 18ft. 9in.
 Discus: 1. Rockall, 2 Cope, 3 Fenn (S.). 114ft. 3in.
 Mile: 1. Griffith, 2. Wright (S.), 3. Scott-Taggart M. J. 5min. 9.6 secs.
 Relay (4 x 110 yds.): 1. Abingdon, 2. Southfield. 50 secs.
 Result: Abingdon 65 pts. Southfield 32 pts.

JUNIOR MATCHES

v. City of Oxford School (a), Sat., 13th March

- Shot (8 lbs.): 1. Iredale, 2. Woodward (C.O.S.), 3. Smith (C.O.S.).
 35ft. 10½in.
 100 Yards 'A': 1. Tuffrey (C.O.S.), 2. Woodward (C.O.S.), 3. Antrobus. 11.8 secs.
 100 Yards 'B': 1. Mayo (C.O.S.), 2. Dally (C.O.S.), 3. Norman.
 12 secs.
 Long Jump: 1. Tuffrey (C.O.S.), 2. Paige, 3. Davies (C.O.S.).
 16ft. 2ins.
 High Jump: 1. Spinks, 2. Thomas (C.O.S.), 3. Doig and Woodward
 (C.O.S.). 4ft. 7ins.
 440 Yards: 1. Burnett (C.O.S.), 2. Budden, 3. Bowen. 60.4 secs.
 Discus: 1. Paige, 2. Burnett (C.O.S.), 3. Needle (C.O.S.). 82ft.
 880 Yards: 1. Tate (C.O.S.), 2. Jones, 3. Davies (C.O.S.).
 2 min. 30.4 secs.
 Relay (4 x 110 yds.): 1. City of Oxford, 2. Abingdon. 53.9 secs.
 Result: City of Oxford 59 pts., Abingdon 36 pts.

v. Southfield School (a), Wed., 23rd March

- Long Jump: 1. Youngman (S.), 2. Paige, 3. Kirk (S.). 16ft. 7½ins.
 100 Yards: 1. Antrobus N.A., 2. Budden, 3. Youngman (S.). 11.4 secs.
 880 Yards: 1. Jones, 2 Nichol M.G., 3. Dally (S.). 2 min. 22.9 secs.
 Discus: 1. Paige, 2. Freeman (S.), 3. Dally (S.). 93ft. 3ins.
 220 Yards: 1. Budden, 2. Bowen, 3. Flook (S.). 26.3 secs.
 High Jump: 1. Tombs (S.), 2. Spinks, 3. Luker (S.). 4ft. 7ins.
 Shot (8 lbs.): 1. Iredale, 2. Flook (S.), 3. Paige. 28ft. 11in.
 Relay (4 x 110 yds.): 1. Abingdon, 2. Southfield. 55.1 secs.
 Result: Abingdon 46 pts., Southfield 32 pts.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS

Sports Day was held on the War Memorial Field on 27th March. It was a wonderful day of spring sunshine and the occasion was a great success from the point of view of athletes and spectators alike. Four records were broken. Cross beat the 100 yards (Under 12) record by .3 secs., Paige threw the junior discus very well to achieve a new record of 114ft. 5in. whilst Paxman R. N., putting to good use expert Achilles advice, gained a new javelin record with 145ft. 5ins. But perhaps the most exciting record was that obtained in the senior relay when a very close finish between Bennett House and Reeves House resulted in a long standing record being beaten by .8 secs.

Blacknall House who had previously won the Standards competition by 130 points as against 128 to Reeves, 107 to Tesdale and 104 to Bennett, proved the ultimate winners of the Ladies of Abingdon Cup. The final placings were: Blacknall 224 pts., Reeves 204½ pts., Tesdale 180½ pts., and Bennett 139 pts.

Results

Heber Clarke Challenge Cup for Seniors—R. D. Gammack (18 pts.)

Shallard Challenge Cup for Juniors—W. W. Budden (11 pts.)

Ladies of Abingdon Challenge Cup—Blacknall House (224 pts.)

100 Yards:

(Under 12): 1. Cross, 2. Neilan, 3. Cunningham. 13.6 secs. (record)

(Under 13): 1. Longworth, 2. Davis P. R., 3. Tuck. 13.2 secs.

(Under 14): 1. Maloney, 2. Scott-Taggart R.B., 3. Peedell. 13.2 secs.

(Under 15): 1. Budden, 2. Mobbs, 3. Bowen. 11.7 secs.

(Open): 1. Gammack, 2. Pickford, 3. Griffith. 11.1 secs.

Long Jump:

(Under 15): 1. Paige, 2. Thistlewood and Iredale (tie). 15ft. 6in.

(Open): 1. Pickford, 2. Tinney, 3. Nichols. 16ft. 10½ins.

Javelin: 1. Paxman R.N., 2. Parsons, 3. Ralfe. 145ft. 5in. (record)

220 Yards: 1. Gammack, 2. Pickford, 3. Viney. 25.2 secs.

440 Yards:

(Under 15): 1. Budden, 2. Bowen, 3. Thistlewood. 61.1 secs.

(Open): 1. Gammack, 2. Brackley, 3. Pinniger. 56.5 secs.

High Jump:

(Under 15): 1. Cooper, 2. Doig, 3. Page. 4ft. 3in.

(Open): 1. Cope, 2. Lay P. J., 3. Scott-Taggart M. J. 5ft. 2ins.

Discus:

(Under 15): 1. Paige, 2. Iredale, 3. Worth. 114ft. 5in. (record)

(Open): 1. Rockall, 2. Lay P. J., 3. Cope. 119ft. 10ins.

880 Yards:

(Under 13): 1. Tuck, 2. Haynes D. W., 3. Morgan. 2 min. 41.8 secs.

(Under 15): 1. Saywell, 2. Budden, 3. Mobbs. 2 mins. 25 secs.

(Open): 1. Griffith, 2. Gammack, 3. Pinniger. 2 min. 13.2 secs.

Shot:

(Under 16, 8 lbs.): 1. Haines R. J., 2. Carter N. A., 3. Iredale.
34ft. 7ins.

(Open, 12 lbs.): 1. Stroud-Viney, 2. Lay P. J., 3. Rockall. 35ft 8ins.

Mile:

(Under 15): 1. Saywell, 2. Mobbs, 3. Bretscher M. S.
5 min. 53.6 secs.

(Open): 1. Griffith, 2. Jones, 3. Scott-Taggart M. J. 5. min. 11 secs.

Relays (8 x 220 yds.):

Junior: 1. Tesdale House, 2. Blacknall House, 3. Reeves House
3 min. 57.4 secs.

Senior: 1. Reeves House, 2. Bennett House, 3. Blacknall House.
3 min. 28.2 secs. (record).

D.O.W./A.J.P.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Junior rugger went well in spite of the cold spell which made it necessary to cancel several School matches. The use of an additional pitch on the new War Memorial Field gave greater scope to experiment and it was possible to keep a special eye upon the first year boys among whom are many players of distinct promise. Results of School and House matches were as follows:—

'Under 15' XV

v. Thame Grammar School (h), Sat., 23rd January. Won 32—0

v. Henley Grammar School (h), Sat., 20th February. Won 13—5

v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 27th February. Lost 0—20

'Under 14' XV

v. Henley Grammar School (h), Sat., 20th February. Won 9—5

v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 27th February. Lost 0—11

Dunman again led the 'Under 14' side whilst Rallings skippered the Colts.

'Under 14' House Matches

Reeves defeated Tesdale 9—3 and Bennett defeated Blacknall 11—8 in the preliminary round. The final between Reeves and Bennett, played on 1st March, was a very close game and Reeves won the Bayley Cup only after an exciting finish. The score was 6—3.

'Under 13' House League

This League, so successful last year, was again both popular and invaluable as training. Furthermore, an incentive to victory was provided by the new 'Candy Cup', presented by Mr. J. S. Candy for the winning House in this competition. The Cup was handsomely won by Tesdale House who gained 12 points as against the 7 points of Blacknall and the 5 points of Bennett. Reeves House, as if to balance their victory in the 'Under 14' knock-out competition, had to be content with no points and bottom place.

During the Christmas holidays, Millard and Brackley played for the Berkshire Schools' XV. In the match against Oxfordshire, they were responsible for scoring the total Berkshire points—6 (Millard a try and Brackley a penalty goal) although this was not sufficient to overcome Oxford's 8 points. Subsequently, Millard captained Berkshire against a combined Dorset and Wiltshire XV. The match was lost 11—14 but Brackley converted one of the Berkshire tries.

Paxman R. N., Taylor K., and Griffith also played in the Berkshire Trial game.

Late in the Michaelmas term K. W. Viney was elected Secretary of RUGGER for next season.

D.O.W

ROWING

The Boat Club has begun the new season in a flourishing condition and has spent the term engaged in the usual winter programme of training. Several crews have been afloat regularly and a large number of promising aspirants have been initiated into the mysteries of boat propulsion. During the period when the Thames was frozen over, time

was not wasted, and the faithful Kingston was scraped, repaired and revarnished. Several would-be members of the Club passed a swimming test in Oxford so that they were able to start actively when the thaw came. It may be as well to state again that the ability to swim and to pass the necessary test is an essential qualification for all members of the club. Even rowing coaches have been glad of this as they battled with the current!

It is with regret that we have to record that our new boat the *Admiral* was involved in an accident one afternoon and badly damaged. Fortunately the crew and its (very senior!) cox escaped with, at worst, a ducking, and suffered no ill effects. The boat however has been out of commission for some time. It is hoped that the necessary repairs will have been carried out in time for next term.

Looking ahead again, we eagerly await the new four from Banham's which is due to arrive at the beginning of May.

Last, but not least significant, our long-cherished hope of moving the Boat House to a more convenient site and at the same time enlarging it to be able to house Eights when occasion arises, seems near to fulfilment. The Corporation has signified its approval of a sub-lease of an eminently suitable piece of land near the Pumping Station, and we are indeed grateful for the help and consideration we have received from the Corporation's Officers. We have now to wrestle with the task of moving the Boat House, laying a river frontage—and solving the financial problems involved.

G.F.D./R.G.M.

C.C.F. NOTES

The Lent Term, normally one of quiet consolidation for Certificate candidates and for junior N.C.O.s, has again followed this tradition faithfully, despite some trouble with the weather.

We had looked forward to a visit from the Deputy Comd., Salisbury Plain District; unfortunately, owing to pressure of other duties, Brigadier Cole has been obliged to postpone his tour until the Summer. The A.A. Section, however, was more fortunate, for they were visited on parade by Brigadier H. T. Billson, D.S.O., O.B.E., R.A., representing the B.R.A. Southern Command. Brigadier Billson was good enough to arrange that a 4.5 gun be brought over from Newbury to give these details a change from their own 25 pdr.

Shooting, like other forms of training, has been going on steadily throughout the term. In the 'Country Life' Competition we put up a better score than last year, while in the Abingdon and District 22 League we managed to carry off the Cup, defeating B Coy. 4/6th Bn. Berks R. by 33 pts. Congratulations to the IV and particularly to the

Capt., Sgt. Rockall, whose unfailing energy and keenness lie behind these successes.

Work has proceeded also in the matter of assembling stores for the embryonic Signals Platoon, which should be able to start life early in the Summer Term. We have also had a dozen recruits during the past term and the strength of the Corps has now reached the "new high" of 8 officers and 255 O.R.s.

Field Day was held on Thursday, 18th March in an area new to us, not far from Benson. The discovery of this extensive piece of ground and the arrangements for the day's exercises were made by C.S.M. Brackley, to whom we offer publicly a hearty vote of thanks and much congratulations. The exercises were all carried out with enthusiasm and a measure of tactical skill (despite the rainy weather). Sappers and Gunners had, as normally, their own "shows"—visits to 32 Assault Regt. R.E., and the School of Artillery at Larkhill. Although the programme for this latter visit was somewhat spoilt by the weather the R.E. Section were more fortunate and had an excellent day.

Once again we have owed much in our routine training to the assistance so generously provided by O.C. P.C.A.U., Abingdon, by O.C. 299 Fd. Regt. R.A., and especially by Major Sackett, R.E., who travels over personally from Bicester to train and 'run' the R.E. Section. To these kind friends we renew our grateful thanks.

As we go to press—shortly after some of us have returned from another successful course at S.A.S., Royal Marines, Browdown—we hear that we have now been officially 'adopted' by S.A.S., along with Brighton, Wellington, and Winchester. So we hope that in future our relations with Browdown will be even more close: they could not be more friendly.

During the past term, the following promotions were made:—

To be C.S.M.—C.Q.M.S. Jones D. A.

To be C.Q.M.S.—Sgt. Pratt J. R.

To be Sgt.—L/Sgts. Rockall, Cope, Marchbanks and Lloyd.

S.C.P

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

A quiet term, with work mostly off the syllabus. We are grateful to the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. President for entertaining us on Field Day. Radar and Boat-pulling provided the high lights of a day which was enjoyable and instructive.

L.C.J.G

SCOUT TROOP

During the Lent Term the Troop has made distinct progress. Much of the second class training has been practised, and in the Summer it is hoped that the tests will be passed. Field Day at Youlbury was a little damp, but several of the patrol logs taken on the journey showed keen enterprise. Preparations are now being made for "Bob-a-job" week (staff bicycles are to be given their annual overhaul), and it is hoped that last year's record total will be passed. New scouts will be very welcome, and they should contact me early in the Summer Term.

M.N.W.

LIBRARY NOTES

We acknowledge most gratefully two handsome 'Leaving Books', from Miss St. John, *A Handbook of British Birds*, ed. Hollom—a very beautifully produced volume—and from Patrick Sale and Peter Downer jointly, *The Life of Vertebrates*, which will be a valuable addition to the Biology Library. Once again we thank Mr. Stevens for *United Empire*, Mr. Rudd for the *Geographical Journal* and Unilever Ltd. for *Progress*. We are also very grateful to Mrs. Hamer, who on leaving the neighbourhood is marking her connection with the School by presenting to us three volumes on *Wilson of the Antarctic*, and to John Tuck who has sent us a series of beautifully illustrated travel books.

This past term has seen considerable additions made to the sections of English Literature and Criticism, and we are now at last about to embark on a rebinding programme long deferred.

G.F.D.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROY SSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the Lent term and welcomed two new members, M. J. Ralfe and J. D. Hall; we regret that the name of M. J. Brackley was omitted from the list of new members which appeared in the last issue.

At the first meeting on 10th February, D. S. Lloyd read a paper entitled, "The makings of a National Theatre". He gave an account of the growth of the Theatre as an organized body and then dealt in more detail with the concept of a National Theatre and the possibility of the establishment of one in the near future. Discussion was vigorous. The Society was doubtful whether the inauguration of a National Theatre would result in higher standards of acting and production, or whether it would merely attract an already converted public to see the accepted classics of the theatre.

At the second meeting on 3rd March, D. A. Jones read a paper entitled "Secondary Education". He dealt with the history of Secondary Education and then discussed the current problems it presented. As might be expected, this paper led to a lively discussion. It was considered that the system for the selection of boys for places at the Grammar schools was not wholly satisfactory but the Society could not offer a practical alternative.

At the last meeting on 24th March, J. Blinman read a paper entitled, "A Background to Modern Art". He spoke briefly about the trends in art since the Egyptian era and showed how the forerunners of each trend were ridiculed; from this he argued that we should cease being hypercritical about Modern Art merely because we do not appreciate it. The discussion afterwards touched upon such controversial creations as "The Political Prisoner". Not all members of the Society could see it as a complete synthesis of symbolism and art.

Once again we are indebted to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their kind hospitality throughout the term.

R.M.M

TURNOR SOCIETY

The Lent Term favoured the Society with an outstandingly distinguished array of Speakers.

Mr. Airey Neave, M.P., Governor of the School, entertained us at our first meeting on 29th January. In his talk, on "Escaping", he described in some detail his efforts and final triumph in getting free from the "escape-proof" fortress of Colditz. We shall long remember what he told us of the humour as well as of the hardships of life in P.O.W. camp.

On the following Friday we were delighted to welcome once again that most eloquent of speakers, Mr. Graham Hutton. As an economist and broadcaster, Mr. Hutton is well known for his admirable presentation of the intricacies of world economics in a form intelligible to the 'man in the street'—and in this respect he did not disappoint us since he gave us a most clear picture of the conflict of the Giants—Russia and America.

On 5th March, Mr. H. Lunghi (O.A.) delivered a fascinating talk entitled, "Impressions of Moscow and the Russian People", which proved both illuminating and interesting. Mr. Lunghi, who has had first-hand experience as a Military Attaché in Moscow, cleverly portrayed the existing "classes" in Soviet Russia, with their different attitudes to the Communist régime, and their various outlooks on life and the world in general. We accepted most gratefully some books for the School Library, dealing with the growth and structure of Communism,

The last meeting, on 19th March, consisted of a talk by Mr. C. H. Roberts, M.A., F.B.A., on "Greek Papyri". In his talk, illustrated with slides, Mr. Roberts described how such documents have been preserved, how they are treated and the significance of their contents.

Thus a full and vigorous term was concluded. In the Summer Term we look forward to an equally attractive bill of fare.

J.B.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Although the Lent Term attendances dropped slightly, a high standard of speaking was maintained. Three debates only were held.

At the first the motion before the house was: "In the opinion of this house capital punishment is no deterrent to would-be murderers". The motion was proposed by B. P. Kibble, ably supported by C. M. unman, while N. K. Hammond and N. J. H. Grant opposed it. The opinions of most were against the motion and consequently it was defeated by a large majority.

A most controversial subject was discussed at the second meeting, when R. M. Marchbanks and M. J. Brackley proposed that Speeches and Music do not provide a fitting climax to Founder's Day. J. C. Atts and D. A. Jones opposed the motion. The debate took the form of a balanced and lively discussion upon all aspects of Founder's Day. However, when put to the vote the motion was passed conclusively. Any suggestions were put forward for an alternative to Speeches and Music, including a suggestion for a boxing tournament!

The motion at the last meeting was: "This house considers that the best way to secure peace is to prepare for war". This motion, proposed by B. P. Kibble and R. P. Warren, and opposed by J. D. Hall and B. M. Roberts, stimulated much discussion and was passed by a very small majority.

Thus ended a most enjoyable term of debating in which it was particularly pleasant to see many younger members of the society speak confidently.

J.C.I.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

During the Lent Term the Society held three meetings which were well-attended.

At the first meeting P. O. Older gave a talk on "The Economics of Parasite Life", which he illustrated by well-drawn pictures and des with which he demonstrated the life cycle of the parasites that cause such diseases as malaria or elephantiasis.

R. W. Westcott gave a talk at the second meeting on "Brewing". He illustrated his talk by a diagram of the process and also explained

how beer was obtained from barley, hops and sugar. At the next meeting J. M. Thistlewood gave an interesting talk on "Curiosities in Nature". He described, with the help of the epidiascope, a kind of carnivorous plant, whose trap could close on its prey in half a second. Also he described a fish which "shot" at its prey, and many other interesting animals.

Unfortunately, owing to illness, J. M. Pulsford was unable to give his Physics lecture. In the Summer Term it is hoped to arrange more lectures by members of the School, and to visit one of the nearer factories.

R.W.W.

CAMERA CLUB

Although we were very busy during the Lent Term with the production of our new comedy, "Thanks A Million", we were still able to maintain our normal programme, of which two meetings were outstanding. At the first we welcomed Mr. Herbert, the then Director of Education in Berkshire, who gave a lecture illustrated with slides, on "With Camera and Colour in Europe". We hope to welcome Mr. Herbert once more in the near future.

The second outstanding meeting consisted of a Polish film, "Broad Highway", which was awarded second prize at Cannes in 1951. This film described the reconstruction of the East-West Highway, and treated an otherwise dull subject in an artistic and enjoyable way.

Subsequent meetings consisted of some excellent slides lent by a well-known photographic firm, and also an American film, "Fingals Cave", which gave a photographer's interpretation of this piece of music.

Despite a late start on our comedy and despite a retake of the first sequence, at the end of the term we were up to schedule. In the production itself we have discovered much talent in the leading roles, especially in I. W. Trenaman, and consequently we can look forward to an extensive programme in the photographic world during the Summer Term.

M.K.C.G.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

The first of the five meetings which the society held during the Lent Term consisted of Symphony No. 1 in E minor by Sibelius and was introduced by D. S. Lloyd. At the second meeting each member present chose and played any available record of reasonable length. This programme, the second of its kind, again proved to be a success.

This was followed at the next meeting by Symphony No. 2 in D by Sibelius, presented by M. B. Culley.

At the fourth meeting M. Q. King introduced César Franck's Symphony in D minor and yet another successful series of meetings concluded with Symphony No. 5 in E minor by Dvorak, which was presented at the last meeting by the Secretary.

R.E.J.P.

CHESS CLUB

During the Lent Term our hopes of arranging fixtures with other schools were fulfilled, and we had two very enjoyable matches against Newbury Grammar School. Although we lost on each occasion, both contests were close enough to be very interesting and to encourage us to make greater efforts to succeed against our opponents.

In the Summer we shall be arranging fixtures with two Oxford schools.

P.S.V.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

During the Lent Term only three meetings were held, all of which were mainly concerned with the "swapping" of stamps. We were very sorry that our Chairman, Mr. Griffin, could not be with us during the latter half of the Term, owing to illness, but we hope that he will be back with us again for the Summer Term, when we hope not only to display a large number of stamps on Founder's Day, but also to welcome two or three outside lecturers, who always prove to be of great benefit and enjoyment to the Society.

R.J.B.

MODELLING CLUB

The club held five meetings in the Lent Term, at which members, who have slightly increased in number, either worked at their own models or helped in the construction of the scale model of the Corn Exchange stage.

In the Summer it is hoped to exhibit some models on Founder's Day; consequently we look forward to another interesting term for the club.

H.G.W.

JOINT CLUB

During the past term the club held three successful meetings—all connected with music.

At the first, the club attended a recital given by Miss Elsie Suddaby in the gymnasium, after which dancing took place in Ladies Court. The

second meeting consisted of a visit to the theatre to see Delibes' ballet "Coppélia", which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

At the last meeting, the club attended a programme of English Church Music, in St. Helen's Church, given by the School Choir, and afterwards, in Lacies Court, suggestions were put forward concerning the meetings in the Summer, and if fate is kind we can look forward to another enjoyable term.

M.J.B.

HOLIDAY CLUB

Our activities in the Christmas holidays were as enjoyable as any in the memory of even the oldest members. In fact, one soccer and three table-tennis fixtures were arranged.

At soccer we drew 6—6 with Abingdon Minors 'B' and we are not ashamed to say that we found the round ball rather difficult to control. Enthusiasm, however, made up for our lack of skill. At table-tennis we beat the 2nd North Berks Scouts; lost to Caldecott House Y.C., and drew with the Church Y.C.

Once again, we thank the Headmaster and Mr. Coleman for the use of the Gymnasium where much table-tennis and basket-ball was played in the earlier part of the holiday.

P.G.C.

VISIT OF MISS ELSIE SUDDABY

On Saturday, 23rd January, we were extremely fortunate to listen to a recital of music given by Miss Elsie Suddaby (Soprano) and Mrs. Jeanne Fry (Cello), accompanied by Mr. J. F. H. Barker. This recital, which was held in the gymnasium, was much appreciated and much enjoyed by everyone present—a fact so ably shown by the fine ovations which the soloists received. We are indeed very grateful to Miss Suddaby and Mrs. Fry for providing such a magnificent entertainment for a Saturday evening.

Details are as follows:

SONGS

| | |
|---|---------|
| "O Sleep, why dost thou leave me?" (from "Semele") | Handel |
| "O had I Jubal's lyre" (from "Joshua") | Handel |
| There is nought on earth so fair (from "Peasant Cantata") | Bach |
| Nymphs and Shepherds (from "The Libertine") | Purcell |

THEME AND VARIATIONS FOR CELLO AND PIANO Haydn

SONATA FOR CELLO AND PIANO Boccherini

SONGS

Sweet was the song the Virgin sang *John Attley*

Whither runneth my sweetheart? (from "A
Book of Ayres") *John Bartlet*

Tell me, lovely Shepherd (from "Solomon") *Boyce*

The jolly, jolly breeze (from "Rinaldo and Arminda") *John Eccles*

"A FROG HE WENT A-COURTING"

Variation on an old English nursery song *Hindemith*

THE GREEN BUSHES

(Irish Folk-song arranged for cello and piano) *Howard Ferguson*

ALLEGRO APPASSIONATE (Op. 43) *Saint-Saens*

SONGS

Bushes and briars (Essex Folk-song) *arr. Vaughan Williams*

To people who have gardens (Hebridean Air) *arr. Kennedy-Fraser*

Roving in the dew (Somerset Folk-song) *arr. George Butterworth*

OUTWARD BOUND MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

At last we were there. It was 2100hrs. on a cold, dark night at the end of December. After leaving the station at Ravenglass by coach we began a twisting and plunging journey along the narrow, walled, Cumberland roads. I think we had all completely lost our sense of direction long before we drew up outside the school. We were met by Mr. Drummond the Duty Instructor and divided into Patrols—John Pratt, afterwards appointed Q.M., to Kirkus, Trevor Walker to Drake, and Kenneth Painter to Shackleton. The number of school boys was very few. The majority of the sixty-two boys were apprentices from the arge industrial towns.

The course was to last for a month and at the very beginning it was made perfectly clear it was to be no holiday. Yet in the sunshine of the first week it seemed very much like one, if you exclude the 0700 hr. sun and cold shower. However at the end of the first week the weather broke and it began to rain, hail and snow. In fact the weather was to remain our chief obstacle for the remainder of the course, especially during the last week.

The first half of the course was spent in absorbing facts about First Aid, Mountain Rescue, Map Reading and about the most important section of all, keeping alive on the Fells under any conditions. These instructions were carried out by Patrol Instructors, men whose minds seemed to be obsessed by Mountains and whose primary object seemed

to be to have you climbing anything under any conditions. After all these instructions we were told that during the schemes of the second two weeks we would be alone. These schemes were arranged on a treasure hunt basis. Upon leaving the school at 0730 hrs. we were given a map reference such as the location of the top of Bow Fell. The cairn on the summit was a tin containing the M.R. of the second point and a code word which would prove that you had visited the spot.

The climax of the course was the three-day scheme during the last week—Tuesday morning till Friday night—again on the treasure hunt basis. The weather during these three days was described by the famous Everest climber, Mr. Eric Shipton, as "vile". Then suddenly the course was finished and we were packing our kit-bags ready for 0500hrs. rise on 23rd January. At 0700hrs. we left the Outward Bound Mountain School on the twelve-hour journey home.

T.A.W.

(What T.A.W. does not add is that all our three representatives came away from the School looking enviably fit and tough—and with very good reports.—Ed.)

THE BOARDERS' CONCERT

The Boarders' Concerts over the last few years have been of a high standard, but it seems only fair to say that on this occasion the standard was surpassed.

The Brass Band gave us a rousing start to the evening with a spirited performance of some popular airs and it was followed by the first of four short plays.

"Goodnight, Santa is on His Way" was the cryptic title of a play written and produced by Richard Paxman and performed by the boys of Waste Court. It is always encouraging to see entirely home-grown productions; but this particular growth, though vigorous enough, would have benefitted from judicious use of the pruning knife.

Next Mr. Burgess and Roger Packer delighted us with their impeccable playing of Debussy's "Ballet from the Petite Suite". Their performances have now become an established part of these concerts. They were followed by another home-grown sketch, "A Night with Sponsored T.V.", devised and produced by Peter Simmonds. "Royce and His Rhythm" came next; this was an extremely competently performed and well thought out item, of its own genre. Some gentlemen from the Deep South by way of Larkhill then sang, and sang extremely well, some familiar negro songs (one of the best items of the evening, this). Michael Sale and Michael Grigsby, accompanied and inspired by Thomas Kempinski, gave us a second showing of the excellent imitation of the Western Brothers, and the trailer of the

Camera Club's new film, which seems to be of a professional quality, ended the first half of the Concert.

The second half began with a competent and extremely amusing version of Noel Coward's "The Stately Homes of England" by four members of the prefectorial body. They were followed by an ingenious item performed by Crescent House, under the direction of Mr. Horrex, its onlie begetter. The audience was carried back to the early days of the Cinema. A harassed projectionist, after preliminary struggles, was able to show an extremely realistic silent film, "The Return of Jack", complete with hero, heroine, villain and full supporting cast. There were those who think that this is the cleverest and funniest item that has been seen in the Gymnasium since the war. The versatile Mr. Horrex followed this up by joining with Mr. Barker in a maudlin rendering of the old song "Bring back my bonny to me."

Next came "The Dear Departed"—a well rehearsed version of a well known playlet, given by junior members of School House under the direction of Mr. Helliwell, which succeeded because of the crisp production and good, straightforward acting.

We were delighted to hear again some old friends from "The Sorcerer" before the final item, A. A. Milne's short play, "The Man in the Bowler Hat" which was produced by C. J. Lockhart-Smith. If laughter is any criterion, then this must be accounted successful, although a more straightforward adaptation might have ensured that speed of production which this particular play demands.

It only remained for Miss St. John to present the prizes for the various games competitions which had been run during the term in School House. Then the Head of the School in turn presented a silver propelling pencil to Miss St. John, with appropriate words of thanks and good wishes, and we all sang "Auld Lang Syne."

To conclude, let us thank all those who were concerned behind the scenes in the production of such an enjoyable entertainment: and more particularly the organiser of the whole show, Michael Brackley.

THE READING LETTER

Sir,

For several terms now your correspondent has promised a Reading letter to the Editor of "The Abingdonian", and now he is happy to fulfil his promises and write what he hopes will be the first of many Reading letters.

There are now five O.A.'s in residence, which is, as far as we know, a record figure. Of those in their second year, both Richard Taylor and Michael Wareham are reading Agriculture, having successfully surmounted their first-year exams last summer. Richard, who is in St. Patrick's Hall, has been playing regularly in the University Hokey

XI and has recently been elected Secretary. Michael, in Wantage Hall, played rugger when he first came up, but has now abandoned this in favour of squash. In other off moments he also indulges in play-reading and dramatics. David Free, also in his second year, is in St. Patrick's Hall. He spares a little time from playing rugger and attending concerts to study Classics. In his first year he played Soccer and surprised no one more than himself by getting several games in the University XI. He spent most of last summer term riding to distant parts of England to represent Reading in inter-University cycling events. We are happy to report that he has now seen sense and returned to the rugger field. He has played on several occasions for the University XV, of which he has been elected Vice-Captain for next season. Of those in their first year, Peter Downer is in St. Patrick's Hall and Pat Sale lives at home. Peter is reading Natural Sciences, which seem to occupy most of his time. He has now given up rugger, but finds time to dance and play squash. Pat is reading Horticulture, and when not engaged in this, he participates in cross-country running, at which he represents the University.

I remain, Sir, your

READING CORRESPONDENT.

O.A. NOTES

Birth

TAYLOR. On 12th January, 1954, at Ealing, to Valerie, wife of Laurie Taylor (1943) a daughter, Gillian, sister for Patricia.

Marriages

COTTRELL—LEWIS. On 16th January, 1954, at Abingdon, Ronald R. Cottrell (1940) to Joyce Lewis.

JAMIESON—WHEELER. On 25th January, 1954, at St. Michael's Church, New Marston, Peter W. Jamieson (1948) to Miss K. E. M. Wheeler.

McMAHON—WILKS. On 27th March, 1954, at St. Aldate's Church, Oxford, John McMahon (1942) of 97 Oxford Road, Abingdon, to Yvonne Wilks of Oxford.

Death

JONES. On 28th March, 1954, at Milton, Berks., Merle Edward Jones (1899—1902), aged 66.

We have received some more interesting letters from foreign parts:

Peter King (1945) writing from Nyeri, Kenya, where he is an Education Officer in the Colonial Service, gives yet another picture of life under the shadow of terrorism when the master has to carry a

life with him into the classroom—but not for use against the pupils. For relaxation there is tennis on an earth court, squash and on occasions trout-fishing, with an armed guard keeping watch. During the past year he has encountered three O.A.s in his area; recently he also discovered that 'mine host' at the 'White Rhino' Nyeri, was none other than Tony Wood (1928) and while waiting for the rain at Karatine Station, en route to Uganda, he met Malcolm Chase (1946) who is an Assistant Inspector in the Police there. The third was Robin Grant (1950) who dropped in for a bath while serving in the K.A.R.

Michael Green (1947) whose wife is an A.R.I.B.A. working at the Ministry of Works, is busily engaged in preparation for his Bar Finals in May. He is a member of the Inner Temple.

Bryan Perry (1950) also has tales of violence to tell from Singapore where he is working—and very hard too, apparently—with the firm of Sims Darby. He hopes to be home on leave, for the first time, this year.

John Furby (1950) recently left by air for Trinidad where he is taking up a post on a Sugar plantation, the Woodford Lodge Estate. We congratulate him on his engagement to Miss Joan Sheldrake, formerly of St. Helen's School.

Willoughby Weaving (1905) whose volumes of verse have received a warm welcome on their appearance during the last 30 years, has given up his School in Ireland and come to live with his sister in Park Road, Abingdon.

We have been glad to receive an off-print of an article by W. H. Stevens (1923) on 'Latex in Paper' published in the latest number of 'Rubber Developments'.

A. J. Betterton (1945) is working on the research side with Imperial Chemical Industries, and living at Huddersfield.

E. F. Stevens (1936) now A.R.I.B.A. formerly in partnership is now practising as an architect and surveyor on his own account. He is living at Wembley Park and has two children.

Tim Moore (1947) who is with Brit. American Tobacco in the Belgian Congo has moved from Leopoldville to an isolated place called Kikwit. He looks forward to 4 months home leave in October 1955.

David Beattie (1947) is teaching in a Secondary School at Stafford.

Beville Stevens (1951) having completed his National Service has secured a post with Lewis Berger, the paint manufacturers.

John Griffiths (1952) is a pupil at Muresk Agricultural College in Western Australia and will be taking his Diploma in Agricultural Science at year.

David Candy (1953) is an Administrative Trainee with James Finlay, Tea Merchants of Bishopsgate. After 3 years training he will probably be going abroad as a planter.

John Bosley (1945) rode the winner of the Foxhunters Handicap at the recent Aintree meeting.

John Draisey (1950) is a technical apprentice with Napiers.

A. L. Milligan (1949) is doing a teaching course at Culham College

David Allen (1950) is spending three months ashore preparatory to sitting for his Second Mate's ticket.

The Services

Peter Betterton, F/O., (1947) is at Lichfield, and will soon have completed his Short-Service Commission.

T. W. S. Downs (1953) has secured a First Appointment in the Royal Marines and starts his course in May.

B. D. Guimaraens (1953) is doing his National Service in the R. Marines.

J. B. Archer (1952) is P.T. Instructor in the R.A.F. and has signed on for 3 years.

Peter Amey and John Westall are both at Mons.

A. F. R. Crockford, J. E. Greenaway and B. A. Whiteford have all been up for W.O.S.B.

London Dinner

The second post-war London Dinner of the Old Abingdonian Club was held on Friday, 12th March, 1954, at Simpson's Restaurant. The President of the Club, Hugh Insley-Fox, presided supported by the Vice-President and a formidable array of Past-Presidents. Over fifty members and guests were present, including several past and present members of the Staff. After the Loyal Toast, the President proposed the toast of the School to which the Headmaster replied with his customary felicity. J. B. E. Alston proposed "The Club" and S. A. Paige replied.

On every account it was voted a most enjoyable and successful occasion, thanks to the strenuous efforts of Stanley Paige, to whom the Club should be deeply grateful. It is to be hoped however that in future years London O.A.s will make a more determined effort to support their own Dinner: on this occasion more than a third of the company came from Abingdon and more distant parts.

Old Abingdonian Trust Fund

We gratefully acknowledge increased Covenants from H. B. Hea and J. L. Taylor: Covenants from Comdr. R. I. Hoyle, W. R. A. Kettle, H. M. Gray and S. C. Parker: and a Banker's Order from J. C. Blackmore.