

THE ABINGDONIAN

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JANUARY 1955

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CALENDAR, LENT TERM, 1955

January

- Tues. 18 Term begins.
 Wed. 26 1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (a).
 Sat. 29 1st XI v. Reading School (h).

February

- Wed. 2 1st XI v. Staff XI (h).
 Sat. 5 1st XI v. Wallingford Grammar School (a).
 Wed. 9 1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (a).
 Wed. 16 1st XI v. Solihull School (a).
 Sat. 19 1st XI v. Old Abingdonians (h).
 Wed. 23 1st XI v. R.A.F., Halton (a).
 Sat. 26 1st XI v. Abingdon H.C. (h).

March

- Wed. 2 1st XI v. Windsor County School (h).
 Wed. 9 1st XI v. Old College, Sandhurst (h).
 Wed. 16 Athletic meeting v. City of Oxford School (h).
 Thur. 17 Field Day.
 Sat. 19 Athletic meeting v. Old Abingdonians (h).
 Wed. 23 Athletic meeting v. Southfield School (h).
 Sat. 26 School Sports, 2 p.m.

April

- Fri. 1 Term ends, 10.15 a.m.

Summer Term begins Friday, 29th April.

(Boarders return Thursday, 28th April).

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

(Lent Term, 1955)

School Prefects

D. A. Jones (Head of the School)

R. M. Marchbanks (Head of School House)

J. R. Pratt (Head of Day Boys)

B. J. Hiscock (S)

P. J. Simmonds (S)

J. M. Pulsford (D)

J. D. Hall (S)

R. E. J. Packer (W)

M. K. C. Grigsby (L)

C. P. C. Stroud-Viney (D)

E. C. Glucklich (D).

K. W. Viney (D)

D. M. P. Jones (D)

J. J. Swainston (C)

P. O. Older (D)

J. A. Nichols (S)

J. A. Howard (S)

R. D. P. Griffith (S)

House Prefects

School House—R. D. Gammack, P. C. Sarsfield-Hall, T. M. J. Kempinski, M. C. Rallings, G. E. G. Campbell-Dykes, G. R. H. Slack, N. A. Carter.

Crescent House—R. W. Westcott.

Larkhill—A. E. Bush.

Waste Court—A. Maxwell, I. W. Trenaman.

Dayboys—B. M. Roberts, J. T. Page, G. E. C. Brown, T. A. W. Walker, M. B. Enser, D. G. Dunkley, M. J. Scott-Taggart, I. L. McLoughlin, R. D. Broad, I. J. Parsons, F. Jeal, C. Hiles, N. K. Hammond.

Captain of Hockey—B. J. Hiscock

Secretary of Hockey—G. E. G. Campbell-Dykes

Captain of Athletics—R. D. Gammack

Secretary of Athletics—R. D. P. Griffith

Secretary of Rugger—K. W.

Secretary of G.G.C.—D. A.

Secretary of Minor Games—

J. A. P.

EDITORIAL

We were reminded on a number of occasions during the Michaelmas Term that isolation, splendid or otherwise, is not and cannot be a feature of this School. Quite apart from the healthy mixture of day-boy and boarder elements, which keeps those of us who live within the School in touch as it were with the outside world, a succession of events served to remind us of the world beyond Abingdon.

One morning, for example, we were told at breakfast that supplies of best margarine had temporarily stopped because stocks could not be replenished in view of the strike at the London Docks. On another occasion several senior boys paid a flying visit to Oxford to attend a Brains Trust on "Germany".

Then, on a much higher plane, there was the visit of the delegation from British Honduras (details of which may be found elsewhere in this issue). We were delighted to play our part, though a comparatively small one, in showing the English way of life to these representatives from what is a small but increasingly important country. The visit, if one may judge from the report in the *Daily Telegraph*, was a very great success, and we certainly learned a lot from it ourselves.

The visit of the Recorder, too, was a milestone in the relations of School and Town, and the cheers which were raised by the boys on that occasion surely and sincerely expressed the goodwill of the School. It was good to be reminded not only of our own historical past but also of the unusual and interesting constitutional traditions of the Borough of Abingdon.

It is nice to realise that we play a part, however small, in the day to day happenings of local and national life. It serves, at any rate, to prevent us becoming complacently 'confined' in the narrow world of another successful term.

SCHOOL AND GROUNDS

(A note by the Headmaster)

The Pavilion Committee has now approved the design for a simple—very simple—pavilion which will be erected in Upper Field on the site formerly occupied by the 'temporary' green hut. We have learned by experience not to be too confident in forecasting the future but there really does not seem to be any reason why the new pavilion should not be up, and in use, by the beginning of this year's cricket season. As the pavilion itself will not provide any storage room, a hut is being discreetly erected at the western end of the boarders' cycle-racks in order to house the cricket boxes.

An even more important project, the new Classroom Block, is also drawing nearer fruition, though the target date for its completion must

remain somewhere round September, 1956. At all events, the revised plans for it have now been approved by the Governors and will shortly be submitted for the endorsement of the Ministry of Education. Once this has been received, then we shall be able to push ahead. We hope that in our next issue we shall be able to print a description of the building together with an architect's line drawing which will give some idea what it is going to look like.

One thing that has been holding us up so far has been the very real problem of finance. Unfortunately it has not after all proved possible for us to arrange a loan through the agency of the County, and the new building will therefore be financed by a long-term loan from the bank. We remain however extremely grateful to the County for the warm good-will they have shown in the matter and for the great trouble they have taken in trying to overcome statutory obstacles which eventually proved insurmountable.

Once the new building is well on the stocks we shall begin to plan for our next major extension, which will take the form of a permanent expansion of the boarding accommodation. It is vitally important, not least from the point of view of the day-boys themselves, that the School should retain its healthy and almost unique balance of boarders and dayboys. To bridge the gap until new buildings can be erected the Governors have under consideration the provision of temporary accommodation of which we hope to say more in our next issue.

Meanwhile there has been one important internal change on the boarding side. For some years Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have looked after eleven junior members of School House down at the Lodge. Now that the time has come for the Colemans to move into the house that they have (quite literally) built for themselves at Kennington we of School House say good-bye to them with very real gratitude and very real regret. As some change at the Lodge was inevitable we have taken the opportunity of turning it into a central sick-bay for all the boarding-houses. It has a number of small rooms where spots of different colours can be isolated; and there are obvious advantages in having all the sick corraled under one roof—particularly when that roof overshadows the School Doctor's own garden. Mrs. Lockhart-Smith will go into residence at the Lodge and will double the roles of Senior Matron of School House and of Sick Bay Sister. The boys dispossessed from the Lodge will be housed in the former sick-bay accommodation of School House, where they will be warmly welcomed.

This change-round has necessitated a certain amount of reconstruction and decoration at the Lodge which has kept us busy during the Christmas holidays. All other major redecoration has therefore been held over until Easter.

May I once again take this opportunity of thanking those many parents, friends and boys (past and present) who sent us their good wishes at Christmas-time? It is quite impossible to acknowledge personally every one of over 500 cards (over ninety of them by a single post!): but my wife and I do want you all to know how much we appreciate your kind remembrances. At the beginning of the term we shall display our cards from old boys in the main entrance hall so that the whole School may share in their greetings. These cards include greetings from Canada, Trinidad, Germany, Portugal, Rhodesia, Egypt, the Gold Coast, India, Malaya, Singapore and Australia, and they come from such diverse institutions as ships at sea, the Metropolitan Police Training School and a West Australian Agricultural College. To one and all we say a very warm 'thank-you'.

J.M.C.

SCHOOL NOTES

We were grieved to hear that our beloved Chairman (and we use the adjective deliberately) had to undergo a major operation; we rejoiced in his rapid recovery; and we were delighted to see him looking so fit on his recent visits to the School.

It was with regret that we learned that Sir Reader Bullard's other commitments had led him to tender his resignation from the Governing Body, though we know that he will continue to be a staunch friend of the School in an unofficial capacity.

The Governors have co-opted Lord Glyn of Farnborough to fill the vacancy thus created. As member for the Division, the then Sir Ralph Glyn was for many years an ex-officio member of the Governing Body. It was indeed largely due to him that our new Science Block was ever translated from pipe-dream to bricks-and-mortar; and in welcoming him back as a Governor we are sure that we shall find in him, as before, a tower of strength.

Post hoc was not in this case *propter hoc*; but it was a happy coincidence that Lord Glyn's election as Governor should come two days after members on both sides of the Upper House had joined in congratulating him on his work as chief architect of the report of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee on technological education.

We are grateful to Mr. Hooke for making time, at such a busy season, to read the Governor's Lesson at our Service of Lessons and Carols; as also to Mr. Pickford, the representative of the Parents.

The Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban attended a Garden Party at Pembroke College on 30th September to celebrate the opening of the new Besse Building; and a Dinner at Radley College on 20th December to commemorate the sixtieth birthday of the Abingdon Rural District

Council—that very friendly power with which we share a common frontier behind the apple-trees of Lacies Court.

Congratulations and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Toplis on the birth of their little daughter, Fiona Jane (20th October); and also to Dr. and Mrs. Cherry on the birth of their second daughter, Jill Rosamond (7th December).

Those of us who remember Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Tudor will have heard with deep regret of the death of their little daughter Patricia at the age of three months.

It is with far more than the conventional expressions of goodwill that we say good-bye to Mr. Percival, our 'student in residence' of the past term, for he has identified himself with the School to an unusual extent. We are particularly grateful to him for his help with the organ and in the production of the informal plays which enlivened the end of term for some of the junior forms.

In January we shall welcome no less than four students, three of them 'dayboys' from Oxford—Messrs. Oluyemi (Mathematics), Shaw (Biology), and Swinton (History)—and another resident from Cambridge, Mr. Hope-Simpson (Classics); there will be quite a Commonwealth flavour about this particular team as Mr. Oluyemi is from West Africa and Mr. Swinton from Australia.

We congratulate one of our former students, Mr. Paul Dumbrill, on his appointment to the staff of Dulwich College.

It was good to see Mr. Baynes again—with Mrs. Baynes and their little daughter—when he came over to preach for us in mid-term.

Although Mrs. Brown has made a good recovery from her serious illness, her doctors have advised her to seek a less onerous employment and she has therefore resigned the position of Matron of Waste Court. We say goodbye with regret; we are grateful to her for many years of quite selfless service; and we wish her all good fortune in her new life.

We are sorry too to lose Miss Birch, lady cook at School House, who is leaving us to broaden her experience.

Congratulations and good wishes to Miss Hurst, who after standing in for Mrs. Brown throughout the term has been up-graded to fill the vacancy caused by her resignation.

The School joins with the town in offering good wishes for a happy retirement to Superintendent Day, throughout whose term of office relations between School and police have been unusually friendly.

On Sunday, 24th October, we had the interesting experience of welcoming four representatives from one of the younger countries of

the British Commonwealth, British Honduras, who were visiting the United Kingdom under the auspices of the British Council, the Hon. I. A. Richardson, the Hon. P. W. Goldson, the Hon. H. H. Jex and the Hon. J. S. Espat, all of them members both of the Legislative Assembly and of the Executive Council. After looking round the School they were entertained to tea by the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban and later were the guests at a reception given in their honour by the Mayor of Abingdon.

We hope that they carried back with them across the Caribbean memories not only of fruitful political discussion in Whitehall but also of an afternoon spent in what we like to regard as a very English school. It was pleasant to be informed recently that on its return to British Honduras the delegation had formally put on record in the Legislative Assembly its thanks to all those who had helped to make its stay in the United Kingdom so interesting and profitable.

We were also pleased to welcome two German educationalists, Dr. Reinlich of Vechta in Nieder-Sachsen and Herr Helmut Grothe of Berlin-Regnitz, who visited the School on 20th November.

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term reached the new high level of 435 (Dayboys 277, School House 87, Crescent House 18, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19). Demographers will be interested to note that the curve of increase is flattening; and we very much hope that we shall soon reach stability.

We congratulate T. A. Walker on successfully surmounting the written paper of the Sandhurst Examination; and B. P. Kibble on the award of the Sixth Form Scholarship, known, *pro hac vice*, as the Bennett Scholarship.

We are grateful to an anonymous parent for the very welcome gift of £5 to provide music for the orchestra, which has enabled us to obtain the parts of Haydn's Toy Symphony; also to Mr. A. S. Prentice for kindly presenting us with a copy of the film of the Bannister 'four-minute mile'—a most unusual and welcome 'leaving gift' for his son.

Thanks too to another parent for the very practical gift of four loads of earth; and to yet others who have presented us with the 'Countryman' and with the Journal of the Royal Empire Society.

We wish that we knew whom to thank for the quite munificent presentation of a copy of that magnificent volume 'The Royal Philatelic Collection', which reached us recently from the publishers. It will remain in the safe keeping of Mr. Griffin and will be available for discriminating reference.

It would be ungracious too if we did not record how grateful we are to the Headmaster of the City of Oxford School for once again offering hospitality to our handful of candidates for the December G.C.E. It is a great help to us not to have to organise a centre of our own.

On 27th September, a number of senior boys heard a talk by Colonel Lane, of Rolls-Royce, on the opportunities offered to them by his firm.

We are grateful to Rev. W. B. Harris for the talk on 'The Challenge of Christianity in Twentieth Century India' which he gave to the fourth forms on 8th October.

All members of the first and second forms attended an exhibition to illustrate life in Bible lands held in the Church Hall on 12th October.

On 14th October, a small number of seniors went to Oxford to hear Mr. Alan Bullock speak on 'Germany Today', under the auspices of C.E.W.C.

On the same date was held the usual Parents' Evening for the parents of all new boys.

A small party from the School attended the Toc H Festival, held in St. Helen's Church, and subsequently in the Corn Exchange, on 16th October.

On 22nd October, Gp-Capt. E. J. Bradbury of the Brush Engineering Group gave a talk on 'Engineering as a Career' to members of middle school science forms.

Sunday, 7th November, was Remembrance Sunday and once again the School had the great privilege of providing the Guard of Honour and the buglers for the Service at the Abingdon War Memorial. In addition, a large contingent of both naval and military sections of the C.C.F. was on parade, and our Band played for the subsequent march past. We also provided buglers for Remembrance Day Services at Brightwell and at Sutton Courtenay.

Mr. J. B. Calkin, M.A., F.S.A., gave an illustrated talk on 11th November to middle school on "Britain under Roman Rule".

On 16th November the School Choir took part in a Festival of Praise in the Church Hall, Abingdon, organised by the British and Foreign Bible Society. The Choir sang anthems by Purcell, Handel, S. S. Wesley, Haydn and Quilter and for some part of the programme joined forces with the choir of St. Helen's School—an historic innovation. The Headmaster was in the chair and the guest speaker was Miss Sarah Paul, of India.

A large party of boys and staff attended Major Stanley's Match, played on 18th November.

The following day Mr. Hardman, of the R.S.P.C.A., visited the School to talk on the work of that admirable organisation.

On 22nd November a small number of senior boys attended the film "Martin Luther".

Once again on 24th November the Ruri-Decanal Conference was held at the School.

A highly successful Prefects' Dance was held in the Roysse Rooms on 29th November. We are most grateful to the Ladies of the School for help with the refreshments, as too to the Prefects' Rhythm Orchestra (if that is anything like the right name for them) which provided the bulk of the music.

On Thursday, 2nd December, a party of Sixth Form Scientists under Mr. Talbot visited St. Mary's Hospital; and on the same evening some members of the School attended a concert performance of Verdi's 'Macbeth' in Oxford Town Hall.

We are most grateful to Mr. Sawbridge for organising an informal concert of Chamber Music in the Heylyn Room on the evening of 5th December; and to his friends—who included the Presidents of the Oxford and Cambridge Musical Societies—who came over to play.

A school party attended the Christmas concert of the Abingdon Musical Society on 7th December.

Many members of the School Orchestra took part in an inter-schools concert held at the Convent on the afternoon of 11th December.

The usual party of carol-singers, supported by the Brass Band, toured Abingdon on 15th December; and on the following afternoon the Choir provided half-an-hour's entertainment at the tea-party which the Mayor was giving for the old people of Abingdon in the Corn Exchange.

The programme for the boarders on the last evening of term, 17th December, followed the usual lines. After a thoroughly satisfying Christmas supper (thank you, Miss Wood!) and noisy games in the Gymnasium which would have made any self-respecting welkin ring, School House was well ready for bed; and we gather the other houses enjoyed themselves equally well.

'Saturday lectures' during the term were as follows:

October 16th: Mr. Sebastian Snow on 'A Journey down the Amazon'.

October 23rd: Mr. J. Kearton on 'Wild Nature's Ways'.

November 13th: Mr. A. W. Hodgkinson on 'Comedy in the Film'.

Feature films were:

October 9th: 'Whisky Galore' and 'Welcome the Queen'.

November 6th: 'The Sound Barrier'.

November 22nd: 'Kind Hearts and Coronets'.

We wish good fortune, retrospectively, to all those members of the Corps who are attending various courses during the Christmas holidays.

It is worthy of note that at the Sunday roll-call on 26th September both our identical Bampton twins appeared with left hands in identical slings. A genuine coincidence of sprained relations and not a case of sympathetic attraction.

On one Sunday towards the end of the term the curious might have seen the Headmaster and the School House Prefects having a second lunch in Hall at three o'clock in the afternoon. A sequence, of course, for the new documentary film which the Photographic Society is producing.

Our thanks to the volunteers from middle school who helped to distribute envelopes throughout Abingdon in connection with the Appeal for the United Nations' Children's Relief Fund: and our congratulations to the junior forms which produced such entertaining plays in the Heylyn Room in the last week of the term.

Founder's Day will be celebrated on Saturday, 23rd July. We are happy to announce that the prizes will be distributed by the Rt. Hon. Earl Winterton, P.C., a former Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Lord Winterton has an hereditary association with the School in that he is the direct descendant, and the present representative of the family, of Sir Christopher Turnor, one of our most distinguished Old Boys, who was Speaker of the House of Commons from 1661 to 1671.

All the photographs in this issue are printed by very kind permission of Mr. Milligan.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools: Aldenham; Chigwell; City of Oxford; Henley-on-Thames; Newbury; Pocklington; Reading; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Edward's; Southfields; Stratford; Windsor.

"Abingdon—the third oldest public school in England". Not our words—we should not put it so categorically. A quotation from a travel article in the 'Motor' of 18th August.

VALETE ET SALVETE

VALETE—left 27th July, 1954.

Upper Sixth Form A: R. J. Banwell (Arts); J. Blinman (Classics); M. J. Brackley (Arts); R. J. Hines (Classics); J. C. Ivatts (Classics); P. W. Kemp (Arts); T. R. Lay (Arts); C. J. Lockhart-Smith (Arts); A. R. Pezaro (Arts); R. H. Redknap (Arts).

Upper Sixth Form B: P. G. Cope (Science); P. J. Lay (Science); J. A. Nichol (Science); R. N. Paxman (Science); K. H. Smith (Science); J. M. Thistlewood (Science).

Form Sixth General: K. J. Beckett; M. C. Burdge; S. A. Crawley; J. F. Heavens; P. B. Light; H. E. Midwinter; E. G. Rockall; M. J. Sale; D. C. Shaw; B. L. O. Walker; H. G. Williams.

Form 5 Arts: R. J. Payne.

Form 5 Science: D. C. Adams; M. C. B. Dicker; B. K. Hill; S. Linnegar; R. G. Marshall; D. R. Pearce.

Form 5 General: D. E. Aldworth; W. H. Ashworth; D. B. Austwick; J. Budgen; J. E. Cowles; R. J. H. Davis; R. J. Haines; B. J. Hedges; D. C. W. Lewis; J. R. May; A. M. Messenger; L. B. Miell-Ingram; P. H. Mott; A. Pearman (left 3rd July); R. Pinniger.

Form 4 Arts: C. T. Owen.

Form 4 Science: P. Lagden.

Form 3A: P. D. Sheppard.

Form 3B: A. J. Jones.

SALVETE—came 17th September, 1954

Form 5 Science: E. R. L. Day, D.

Form 4 Arts: C. T. Denniford, S; J. R. N. Ogle, D; N. W. Pridham, S; J. I. Stuart-Lyon, D.

Form 4 Science: P. S. Horrey, S.

Form 3X: S. M. Cuddy, S; G. W. Jones, D; E. H. A. Norman, D (came 2nd November).

Form IX: G. C. Alabaster, W; R. Allison, D; L. M. Beadle, D; R. Bingham, D; E. A. Blainey, D; D. J. Brice, W; P. W. P. Briten, D; G. A. Brown, D; R. J. K. Button, D; P. E. Cable, L; M. E. Carpenter, L; J. V. Comfort, W; R. E. Crawley, D; J. d'Helin, D; E. C. R. Evans, D; J. B. Friend, D; N. V. Gagen, D; G. G. Ganf, W; D. R. Gerrig, D; J. B. Goodman, D; D. M. Goodwin, W; M. P. H. Hart, D; R. S. Haynes, D; P. L. Hedges, W; A. Henbest, L; M. K.

Henson, D; P. D. Hossett, D; J. R. Hurd, D; P. P. Hutchinson, D; E. G. Jones, D; J. H. Kitto, D; A. J. Mackenzie, W; R. H. Meakins, L.

Form IY: A. M. Q. King, W; A. J. Lloyd, D; R. G. Lockton, D; R. C. Luker, D; P. A. Merriman, L; P. A. Mitchell, L; M. R. Mole, D; H. W. Moorshead, L; R. J. Morgan, D; J. R. Morse, L; M. J. Nelson, D; M. D. Nurton, D; N. M. Parker, D; G. C. H. Phillips, D; R. S. Pitt, D; C. G. Purnell, D; D. G. Saffin, D; M. J. Schroder, D; R. L. D. Smith, W; C. A. B. Spackman, D; A. G. Stuart-Lyon, D; J. M. Talbot, D; D. W. Taylor, D; R. P. Thompson, D; M. C. Tompkins, D; C. D. Turnbull, D; P. J. L. Webb, W; D. Weir, D; A. R. White, D; J. A. Whiteford, D; P. G. D. Whitton, D; K. M. Wood, W.; A. D. Young, D.

CHAPEL NOTES

On Advent Sunday, 28th November, the Rt. Rev. A. G. Parham, former Bishop of Reading, conducted a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel at 3 p.m. After the service the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban entertained the 48 candidates and their parents to tea in the Gymnasium.

Those confirmed were: J. Barnett, P. Benson, N. T. Brogden, K. A. Clark, C. K. D. Copley, D. Cook, A. M. Crockford, G. M. Crow, D. G. Darroch, T. Davies, M. R. Dawn, R. L. Elliott, T. E. R. Evans, B. P. Gardner, N. D. Gray, T. M. N. Greder, M. D. Hardy, R. W. Harvey, A. K. Hatherall, P. S. Horrey, D. W. Howard, A. L. Howell, J. E. Knight, D. S. Lees, E. F. Lier, P. J. Liles, R. H. Morse, N. K. Moseley, P. N. North, D. H. Paley Battersea, C. Parry, A. P. Paxman, P. J. Penney, R. Powell, A. F. Pritchard, C. J. Redknap, M. F. L. Rhys, A. Rowles, R. B. Scott-Taggart, J. A. Sheard, R. H. Simpson, R. B. Smith, M. D. Tuck, P. P. Wintle, R. A. Worth, C. J. D. Wray, G. D. Wright, M. G. Yarkoff.

At the beginning of the term we welcomed Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge as our new organist and choirmaster. We hope that his stay with us will be long and happy.

On Friday, 15th October, the Headmaster and a small party of senior boys attended the annual service of Holy Communion held at St. Nicolas' Church to commemorate one of the School's benefactors, John Blacknall.

On the following day, a short service of Thanksgiving for Harvest was held in the School Chapel, for which occasion it was decorated with flowers and produce in abundance. Warm thanks are due to all those, especially dayboys, who brought contributions and who made this, our first Harvest Festival, such a success. The flowers and produce were given subsequently to Dr. Barnardo's Home at Oakley House.

We are grateful to all those who came to preach to us during the term and we look forward to hearing the following during the Lent Term:—

Feb. 6th: Rev. C. A. Abraham, of the Orthodox Church of Malabar

Feb. 20th: E. R. Tucker, Esq., M.A., J.P., Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe

March 13th: H. B. Hitchens, Esq., O.B.E., T.D., M.A., D.Phil., Headmaster of Solihull School

The collections and the sale of poppies over the weekend of Remembrance Sunday met the cost of two wreaths for the Memorial Tablets and in addition enabled us to send £9.7.4 to the British Legion. The collection at the Service of Lessons and Carols, amounting to £9.13.6, was divided between St. Helen's Church Funds and the Church of England Children's Society. The latter charity benefitted also from the Collections made by the street carol party (£2.12.0).

Other collections allotted to outside charities were as follows:—United Nations Children's Fund £5.18.6; S.P.G. £5.6.3; Antigua Grammar School Chapel Funds £9.19.0. The remaining collections were divided between Chapel Funds, the Organ Fund, and the Chapel Furnishing Fund. The immediate purpose of the Organ Fund is to pay off our share of the cost of restoring the organ. Now that the whole chapel has been equipped with kneelers, the Furnishing Fund is looking towards its next major objective, the improvement of the seating at the east end of the chapel.

Towards the end of the term all the old and, in many cases, dilapidated hymn books were removed from the Chapel and replaced by new ones. We are indeed grateful to those parents whose generosity enabled us to buy a full complement. Meanwhile the old books are being rebound, by instalments, so that they will be available to replace the existing books when they in turn have to be withdrawn for repair.

For the present, then, we are not needing any more new hymn books: but donations towards the cost of re-binding will be gratefully received and carefully recorded.

During the course of the term the Choir sang the following anthems at Morning Service on Sundays.

"Rejoice in the Lord alway"—Purcell

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace"—S. S. Wesley

"Blessed be the God and Father"—S. S. Wesley

"The heavens are telling"—Haydn

"Non Nobis, Domine"—Quilter

"And the glory of the Lord"—Handel.

Christenings

On Sunday, 21st November, by Rev. F. W. Burgess: Peter Shearling Horrey, Nicholas Kimbell Moseley, John Andrew Sheard and Robert Henry Simpson.

R.E.J.P.

CAROL SERVICE

The Service of Lessons and Carols was again held in St. Helen's Church, at 6.30 p.m. on 14th December, before a large congregation. The Choir, under the direction of Mr. Sawbridge with Mr. Percival at the organ, on the whole sang well and was very well balanced especially in the items which they sang alone. The tone of the trebles was very good, if not, however, very strong. Congratulations to all concerned!

H.H.F.

Order of Service

Introit	Once in Royal David's City	Congregation
Prayers		
Lesson 1.	God's promise to Abraham (Genesis 22 vv 15-18)	A New Boy (M. R. Mole)
Carol	See amid the winter's snow	Congregation
Lesson 2.	Christ's Kingdom described (Isaiah 2 vv 1-5)	A Chorister (A. E. Bush)
Carols	Ding, dong, merrily on high In the bleak mid-winter	Choir Congregation
Lesson 3.	The Office of Christ (Isaiah 42 vv 1, 5-8)	Head of Dayboys (D. S. Lloyd)
Carols	Shepherds in the field abiding In dulci jubilo	Congregation Choir
Lesson 4.	The Messiah foretold (Micah 5 vv 2-4)	Head of School (D. A. Jones)
Carol	Unto us a Boy is born	Congregation
Lesson 5.	The Annunciation (Luke 1 vv 26-33, 38)	A Housemaster (Mr. J. B. E. Alston)
Carol	Love came down at Christmas	Choir
Lesson 6.	The birth of Jesus (Matthew 1 vv 18-23)	A Parent (Mr. N. J. Pickford)
Carol	Rocking	Choir
Lesson 7.	The Angels appear to the Shepherds (Luke 2 vv 8-16)	The Sutor Master (Mr. J. Y. Ingham)
Carols	While Shepherds watched Past three o'clock	Congregation Choir

Lesson 8. The Adoration of the Magi *A Governor (Mr. John Hooke)*
(Matthew 2 vv 1-12)

Carol Christmas Day (Gustav Holst) *Choir*

Lesson 9. The Word Eternal *The Headmaster*
(John 1 vv 1-14)

Carol Adeste Fideles *Congregation*

Prayers - Blessing

Recessional Hark! The herald angels sing *Congregation*

THE RECORDER'S VISIT

It was right that the School should play its part in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the appointment of Mr. Stephen Benson as Recorder of Abingdon for he is, by virtue of his ancient office, a member of our own Governing Body.

The celebrations took place on Saturday, 6th November, when the whole School was drawn up on the gravel to receive Mr. and Mrs. Benson, who were accompanied by the Mayor and Mayoress of Abingdon (complete with mace-bearer), the Chairman of the Governors and Mrs. Clifton-Brown, and the Clerk of the Peace and Mrs. Nicholson. The simple ceremony began with a short speech of welcome by the Headmaster who expressed his pleasure that Abingdon had retained its own Quarter Sessions and its own Recorder and congratulated Mr. Benson on the way in which he had adorned his office. The Head of the School then presented the Recorder with a copy of Thomas Godwyn's sixteenth century "*Romanae Historiae Anthologia*" (printed 'for the use of Abingdon School'), and the Head of Dayboys made a presentation to Mrs. Benson. In thanking the School the Recorder asked that a half-holiday might be given to mark his visit (a request which was fulfilled on 18th November). Members of the staff were then presented to the Recorder and the Mayor, who subsequently took lunch with the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban. In the afternoon, despite wretched weather, the Recorder and Mrs. Benson toured the school and the grounds. Later in the day they were the guests of honour at a formal banquet given in the Guildhall by the Mayor and Mayoress.

It should be added that the occasion was especially noteworthy in that this was the first time within memory that a Mayor of Abingdon had visited the School in full state. One of the many photographs taken of the visit is reproduced at the end of the magazine (by kind permission of Mr. Milligan).

"TOBIAS AND THE ANGEL"*(December 9th, 10th, 11th, 1954)*

This year the Dramatic Society turned from Shakespeare to Bridie. There are those who say that 'Tobias and the Angel' was their best production since the war; but comparisons have been odorous ever since the day of Mrs. Malaprop, and those of us who can remember 'Journey's End' are well content to think that this year's play was at any rate up to the high standard the Society has now set for itself.

We append an appreciation, kindly written for us by a parent. Perhaps we can add a special word of thanks and congratulation to the Stage Director, Mr. Helliwell, and to his many assistants. 'Tobias' calls for five different scenes, ranging from Nineveh to Ecbatana; to solve the problem thus created, within the narrow bounds of the Corn Exchange, was no easy task, and in a very special sense the success of this year's production was largely due to the hard work of those behind the scenes.

"It is a good thing that no one has ever taken seriously John Locke's views on the evils of enthusiasm. For where should we be without its magic? To start with I know I would have had no very great interest in making an effort to go and see 'Tobias and the Angel'. I would have feared being tempted into enthusiastic praise, enjoyment and admiration of the Dramatic Society's enthusiasm which made the play go with such a swing. It is possible that the Society might never have existed but for someone's primal spark of enthusiasm to begin it, and going further back, James Bridie might never have wanted to write this utterly charming play. All this lack would have made for a dull world. So I say long live wholesome enthusiasm.

I was not a little put out when I found I had promised to write a critique of the play. I felt that much of my enthusiasm for enjoying myself was going to be damped by a feeling that I should have to be on the "qui vive" for watching technical points and making comparisons, in fact generally behaving as though I had mental pins and needles. But when the rose pink curtains changed their hue before they parted to reveal the first scene I was a dead loss to dramatic criticism and, O forgive me John Locke, enthusiasm straightway had me in its grip. I put this down to the choice of music made by Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge—it prepared the way so well.

Looking back over the evening's entertainment three successes stand out in the general excellence of the production: Kenneth Prentice as Tobit, Tony Gardner as Tobias and Peter Simmonds as Azarias.

It is by no means easy to portray an old man without overdoing it. But here was Tobit not only old but also blind and Kenneth Prentice

kept up the illusion very well indeed. He also gave us to feel the pain of his returning sight and the joy at beholding his "ugly old darling" Anna again. This done with his back to the audience was most effective and moving. There was another quality which the old often have, namely the childlike quality; this Tobit gave us nicely through his long monologues in unflagging falsetto and Welsh rhythm of speech.

Tony Gardner made Tobias grow from nervous to emboldened youth and mature manhood with engaging skill. I particularly liked the scene where he was plucking up enough courage to kill the fish. The one of his conversation while he was off stage carried across so well the whole process of his growing confidence in his strength. It must have been no easy task to turn into a noble aggressor convincingly in a plain cloth on a cold night. He was unaffected and altogether right in the charming scenes with Sara (of whom more later).

Peter Simmonds as Azarias was remarkably good. He has a beautiful strong voice and his diction is clear. I found it pleasing to watch in him an actor who could strike dignified and graceful attitudes relieved by simple and unaffected gestures. He endured the dismaying invasion of laughs from the audience (induced by the author's West End ambitions) with angelic fortitude, no, I mean of course, archangelic.

John Longworth's Sara was perhaps not quite mysterious enough at first. But I do not think this mattered greatly. "Her" simple seriousness was well conveyed and although "she" at times had considerable discomfort and bother from an unmanageable draped headscarf "she" never let it spoil "her" carrying the part out very nicely.

Alan Caswell made a good Anna, admirable contrast to Tobit; and when at last her matter of factness broke down over the continued absence of her son "she" made me picture Tobias's many deaths in all earnest in spite of the absurdity.

I was very amused at the rather self-conscious braggadoccio, bombast or what you will, of the Kurdish brigand; Patrick Stroud-Viney certainly gave him a sort of local traditional flavour of a character out of an old Mummers' Play; he reminded me of the Turkish or French Knight in "King George".

The rest of the cast gave excellent support, the songs sung by Peter Gibble lent an eastern mood, and I must add that Asmoday's (Ian Trenaman) acrobatics along the wall top were most effective against the night sky.

Mr. Griffin, the producer is to be much praised for inspiring his young actors to give of their best—another evidence of enthusiasm. I am sure everyone must have learned a great deal from rehearsals under him besides enjoying their work very much,

I admired Mr. G. H. Cooper's settings and particularly the different lighting effects of the sky beyond the courtyard. At one point a extraordinary luminous edge to the actors' faces was brought about which added enormously to the fantasy. Then when the fish liver was burning happily and sending its smoke curling out through the window into the green night sky I was positively apprehensive of what the smell might be like by the time it reached the auditorium. I was considerably relieved to find that it proved no worse than a sort of Potter's Asthma Cure.

With all this talent abounding in Abingdon School I should like to suggest that some of the young actors who live in or near Abingdon might make themselves known to the Unicorn Theatre Production Committee, the very place for welcoming enthusiasm of this kind."

Josephine Phillips

Characters

(in order of appearance)

Tobit, a poor Jew of Nineveh	Kenneth Prentice
Tobias, his son	Tony Gardner
Azarias	Peter Simmonds
Anna, Tobit's wife	Alan Caswell
Mirza Khan, a Kurdish bandit	Patrick Stroud-Viney
Sara	John Longworth
Sherah	Peter Kibble
Azorah	Nigel Pridham
Slave Girls	Tony Howell
	Robert Elliott
Raguel, a wealthy Jew, father of Sara	Thomas Kempinski
Sam, his Ethiopian slave	Forbes Wastie
Asmoday, a foul fiend	Ian Trenaman

RUGBY FOOTBALL

This has not been a good season. With only four of last year's successful Fifteen to form a nucleus, team building proved difficult from the start. Lack of experience was apparent in our early game and it was half term before the team showed signs of settling down. A good sign was the considerable improvement in form shown at the end of the term in the matches against High Wycombe and the Old Abingdonians.

Pickford captained the side well. Unfortunately he did not show up to the best advantage at stand-off, a position he was forced to take over for want of any really competent alternative. For a number of

games, we tried Scott-Taggart at scrum-half whilst Viney added "thrust" in the centre, but this experiment was not wholly successful: Viney was too good a scrum-half to play permanently away from the scrum. Many changes took place in the scrum itself and, to begin with, there were new faces at almost every game. In the end, however, Stroud. Viney proved too slow and too heavy for a light pack and so left to add weight and prestige to the 2nd Fifteen, whilst Bush displaced Hall J. D. as hooker. Buckland, in spite of a dislocated collar bone early in the season, returned after half-term to become our most promising forward. Of the backs, Griffith improved steadily throughout the season and Ashworth made a consistently reliable wing.

So far as matches went, only Reading and M.C.S., Oxford, defeated us really heavily, and in both games it was a sluggish pack that led to our downfall. By general agreement our best games were against our new opponents, Bloxham, and our old rivals, R.G.S., High Wycombe.

During the season the following Colours were awarded:

Full Colours—Buckland and Griffith.

Half Colours—Ashworth, Bush, Carter N. A., Gammack, Nichols J. A., Older, Pratt, Roberts B. M., and Wastie.

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows—Carter; Ashworth, Nichols, Griffith, Gammack; Pickford, Viney; Jones D. A., Bush, Buckland, Older, Wastie, Pratt, Roberts, and Parsons.

The following have also played:—Broad R.D. and Stroud-Viney (8 times); Hall J. D. (6 times); Scott-Taggart M. J. (5 times); Page J. T. and Rallings (3 times); Broad W. C. (twice); Clewley, Fysh, Grigsby, Hiscock, Spinks, Swainston and Young C. (once each).

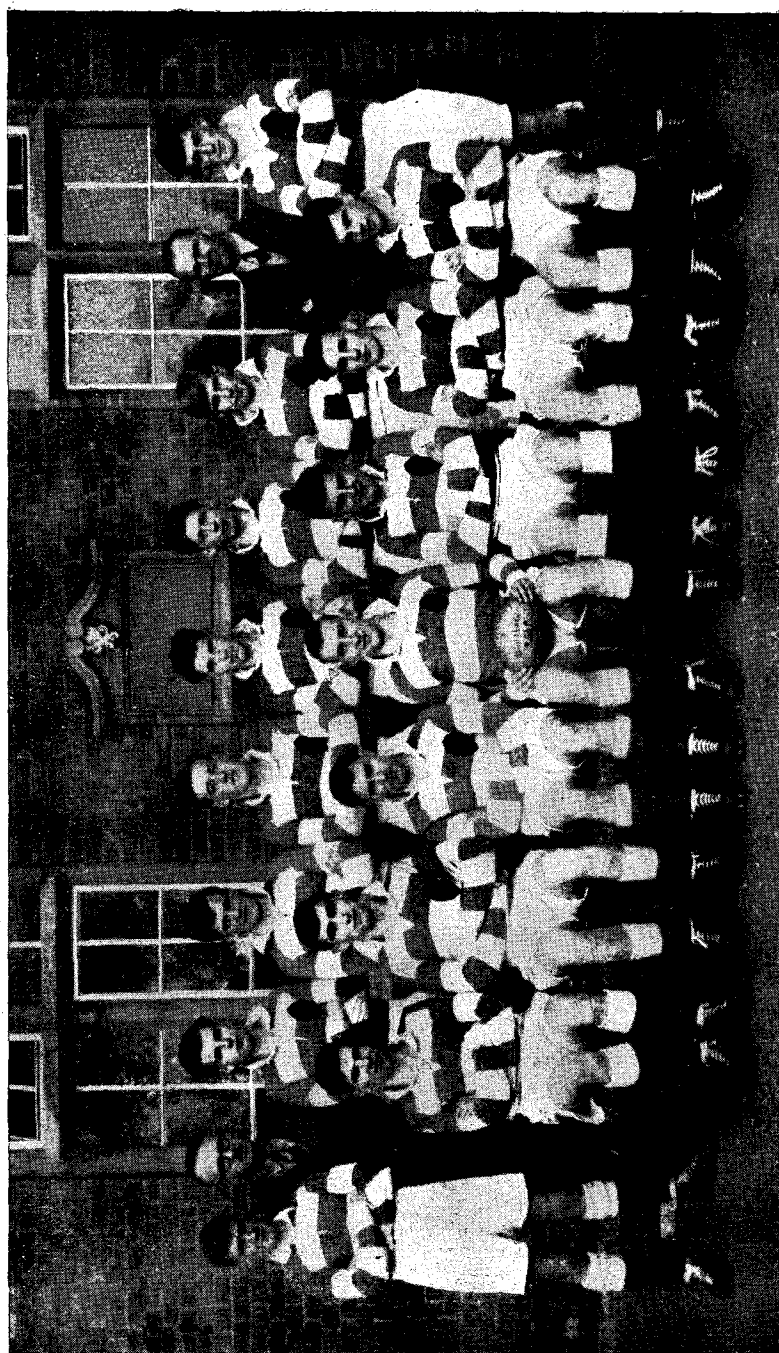
D.O.W.

First XV Characters

A. J. PICKFORD (Captain, Colours 1953). Stand-off half. A very good captain, who has had a difficult task in building up his team. He had to give up his own position in the centre to play stand-off and, although not a natural half-back, filled the bill competently. His defensive tackling and kicking have been excellent. (D.O.W.)

K. W. VINEY (Secretary, Colours 1953). Scrum-half. He has played consistently well throughout the season both at his natural position and in the centre. His passing and kicking have greatly improved since last season but he is still inclined to tackle high.

J. T. BUCKLAND (Colours 1954). Front row forward. An excellent hardworking forward both in tight and loose, who has played consistently well despite an unfortunate shoulder injury which kept him out of several matches.



FIRST EIGHTY 1924

R. D. P. GRIFFITH (Colours 1954). Left Centre. After a somewhat shaky start, he has greatly improved and, with his determined running and eye for an opening, he is a danger to any opposition. He has tackled well on occasion.

PARSONS, I. J. (Half-Colours 1953). Wing forward. A very fast forward about the field, who combines well with the backs. Over-eagerness, however, is inclined to make his tackling ineffective and he must learn to get his man.

JONES, D. A. (Half-Colours 1953). Second row forward. A keen, useful player who was a member of last year's XV. Since last season his line out work has improved considerably, but he is still slow in the loose.

CARTER, N. A. (Half-Colours 1954). Full back. Bad positioning and slowness about the field were largely compensated for by his fearless tackling. If he is to continue in this position, however, he must learn to move quickly and to anticipate the play.

ROBERTS, B. M. (Half-Colours 1954). Lock forward. Promoted from the 2nd XV, he played with commendable ferocity, being particularly effective in attack where his dribbling was good. He led the scrum well.

PRATT, J. R. (Half-Colours 1954). Wing forward. A vigorous forward, whose aggressive play was not blunted when he sustained a bad injury in mid-season. His kicking is weak.

NICHOLS, J. A. (Half-Colours 1954). Right centre. A neat, constructive player who may well become a first class three quarter providing he forgets to watch his opponent instead of the ball. He was inclined to hold on to the ball over much.

ASHWORTH, I. T. S. (Half-Colours 1954). Right wing. A determined and very fast wing, who has played with consistent enthusiasm in attack and defence. He needs to improve his kicking however.

OLDER, P. O. (Half-Colours 1954). Front row forward. His keenness and hard work in the tight scrum secured his position in the team. He tackled well but must learn to jump more in the line-out and to be less wild in the loose.

WASTIE, G. F. (Half-Colours 1954). Second row forward. A hardworking forward, who has improved steadily. At present he is slow about the field, but his strength and keenness were invaluable in some of our "tougher" games.

GAMMACK, R. D. (Half-Colours 1954). Left wing. Promoted from the 3rd XV, his speed proved a great asset and brought us several

good tries. His tackling was fair, but he must learn to kick and tighten up on his handling.

BUSH, A. E. (Half Colours 1954). Hooker. A late comer to the team, he proved a most effective hooker and in spite of his lack of weight played well until a broken nose kept him out of the game.

A.J.P.

MATCH REPORTS

v. D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 29th September. Lost 3—12.

Against a heavier and more experienced side which consisted of many Old Boys, the School did well to hold D.O. Willis' XV to 6—3 at half-time, the School's three points coming from a penalty kicked by Stroud-Viney. In the second half the weight of the opposing scrum began to tell and the School pack were continually pushed off the ball. Even so, the result seemed to be in doubt right up to the last quarter-of-an-hour, when their opponents pressed vigorously and scored two more tries both of which were unconverted.

v. Reading School (h). Sat., 2nd October. Lost 3—20.

Reading quickly took command of the play, thanks to the speed of their forwards, and before half-time had scored two unconverted tries. In this half both teams were awarded penalties which proved successful, the School's being kicked by Stroud Viney. After half-time the School improved for a time, but Reading soon retook command and scored three more tries, one of which they converted.

v. Newbury G.S. (h). Sat., 9th October. Lost 5—17.

At half-time the School were leading by 5 points to 3, the School's try, converted by Stroud-Viney, having been scored by Pickford after a fine dribble. In the second half the School went to pieces, allowing Newbury to score four more tries, one of which was converted.

v. Pembroke College (a). Wed., 13th October. Lost 3—24.

The School played fairly well against a heavier side, holding them in the set scrums, but letting themselves down in the loose by failing to heel the ball. The School failed to cross Pembroke's line, their three points coming in the second half from a penalty kick by Stroud-Viney. In the first half Pembroke scored from two goals and two tries; in the second half from another goal and a penalty kick. For this game the School team included Mr. Willis.

v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (h). Wed., 20th October. Won 8—6.

An evenly contested game with no half-time score. In the second half the School's scrum played with great spirit. This led to a try through Pickford, which was converted by Stroud-Viney. St. Edward's fought back and scored an unconverted try. A penalty was then awarded almost in front of St. Edward's posts, which Wastie kicked successfully. St. Edward's thereafter scored an unconverted try.

v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 23rd October. Lost 9—12.

Solihull opening the scoring with an unconverted try. The School fought back strongly, and a try was scored by Ashworth. Solihull then took the lead with another try, which the School quickly equalled with a good penalty kick from Stroud-Viney. In the second half Solihull quickly took command of the play and scored another try. Five minutes from the end they scored a further three points from a penalty in front of the School's posts. The game ended with another fine penalty kick by Stroud-Viney.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (a). Wed., 27th October. Lost 19—22.

The scoring was opened by the School, Viney dribbling through to touch down for a try, which Stroud-Viney converted, and at half-time the score was 14 pts. to 5 pts. in the School's favour, further tries having come from Scott-Taggart, Viney, and Stroud-Viney. In the second half the School gained another try by Griffith which Stroud-Viney converted. They then went completely to pieces and allowed Radley to score a goal, and four tries in fairly quick succession.

v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 3rd November. Lost 0—21.

In the first half the School held Magdalen well, and at half-time the score was only 6 pts. to nil in Magdalen's favour, their six points coming from two unconverted tries. In the second half the School, whose pack consistently failed to get the ball, were outplayed and allowed Magdalen to score a further five tries.

v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 6th November. Won 3—0.

The muddy state of the pitch ruled out good rugby. The first half was rather uneventful, and at half-time neither side had scored. In the second half the School spent much of the time in Southfield's '25', but only managed to score one try through Gammack. The School pack, which had been remodelled after the Magdalen game, showed considerable improvement.

v. Bloxham School (a). Sat., 13th November. Lost 0—6.

Here again the muddy state of the pitch ruled out good rugby. In the first half, the School played rather sluggishly and allowed Bloxham to score from an unconverted try and a penalty kick. In the second half, however, the School played with great spirit, having Bloxham in constant trouble, and were very unlucky not to score.

v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 17th November. Won 9—8.

C.O.S., taking the School on the wrong foot, quickly scored a goal, a lead which they retained till half-time. After half-time the School scored from a penalty, kicked by Rallings. This was quickly followed by a try from Gammack, after a fine run, Ashworth then took the

School further ahead with another try. Just before the final whistle, after a scrummage on the School's line, C.O.S. scored, but failed to convert.

v. R4G.S., High Wycombe (h). Sat., 20th November. Lost 0—5.

The only score in this match came in the first half, when Wycombe's scrum-half ran through to touch down near the posts, a try which was easily converted. In the second half the School fought hard. Perhaps a fairer result would have been a draw, for the sides were evenly matched and both enjoyed their share of the ball.

v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 4th December. Lost 0—11.

It looked as though the O.A.'s heavier pack would give them a distinct advantage, but the School held them well, their superiority being prevalent only in the line-outs. At half-time the O.A.s were leading by 5 pts. to nil, the five points coming from a try by Sims, which was converted by Leach. In the second half Sims again scored. Just before "no-side" the O.A.s went further ahead from a penalty kick.

v. Windsor County School (a). Mon., 13th December. Lost 5-11.

This match was played under very wet conditions, the pitch being water-logged in places. Windsor adapting themselves more quickly to these conditions soon got on top, and at half-time were leading by a goal, a penalty goal, and a try. The School played with more spirit in the second half, and managed to score a try through Gammack, Pickford converting a fine kick.

K.W.V.

SECOND FIFTEEN

The poor record this season may in part be explained by the drain of players to the 1st XV so that it was difficult to train as a team. Nonetheless, the faults of the 1st XV—inexperience, poor heeling and high tackling—were all evident in the 2nd XV too, and in no way can the team expect much praise. Several matches were above average, however, and the narrow defeat at the hands of Henley 1st XV and the comfortable victory over the City of Oxford School are pleasant to look back upon. Individually, there are many players of promise and we hope for better things next year. Spinks, Scott-Taggart, Langton and Grigsby all showed promise amongst the backs, whilst Rallings, Swainston, the two Broads and Enser played well in the pack. Paige promises to become a good scrum-half.

The final arrangement of the team was:—Young C.; Clewley, Page J. T., Scott-Taggart, Langton; Spinks, Paige R. J.; Marchbanks R. M., Hall J. D., Broad R. D., Enser, Stroud-Viney, Rallings, Swainston, Broad W. C.

Also played:—Hiscock (7 times); Fysh (6 times); Packer J. R. (5 times); Grigsby and Ralfe (4 times); Campbell-Dykes (3 times); Bush

and Song (twice); Caswell, Buckland, Gammack, Kempinski, Hiles and Westbrook E. G. (once each).

Results

v. Newbury G.S. (h), Sat., 9th Oct.	Lost	8—14
v. Henley G.S. 1st XV (a), Sat., 16th Oct.	Lost	6—8
v. Solihull School (a), Sat., 23rd Oct.	Lost	3—17
v. Radley College 3rd XV (a), Wed., 27th Oct.	Lost	6—14
v. Southfield School (a), Sat., 6th Nov.	Won	6—3
v. Magdalen College School (a), Wed., 10th Nov.	Lost	3—17
v. Thame G.S. 1st XV (a), Sat., 13th Nov.	Lost	0—23
v. City of Oxford School (a), Wed., 17th Nov.	Won	26—6
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (h), Sat., 20th Nov.	Lost	0—9

The game against Windsor County School was cancelled.

THIRD FIFTEEN

The 3rd XV has on the whole had a really successful season. The team has shown a fine spirit of keenness and has been much encouraged by the coaching of Mr. Toplis and the energetic captaincy of Campbell-Dykes. Several members earned promotion, Gammack to the 1st XV and several others on a more temporary basis to the 2nd XV. Of the regulars, Taylor proved to be a fine wing forward, Howard a useful full back, Kempinski a dangerous wing and Iredale a sound forward. The final arrangement of the team was:—Howard J. A.; Kempinski, Song, Campbell-Dykes, Antrobus; Westbrook E. G., Gardner A. J.; Hiles, Caswell, Packer J. R., Iredale, Glenny, Taylor R. D., Blake, Fysh.

Also played:—Rawlins (3 times); Gammack, Knight L. A., Stacey (twice); Maxwell, Prentice, Ralfe, Roberts B. M., Spring, Venwell and Warren J. F. (once each).

Results

v. Reading School (a), Sat., 2nd Oct.	Lost	0—11
v. Newbury G.S. (a), Sat., 9th Oct.	Won	17—0
v. Radley College 4th XV (h), Wed., 27th Oct.	Lost	0—16
v. Magdalen College School (h), Wed., 3rd Nov.	Won	9—5
v. Thame G.S. 2nd XV (h), Sat., 13th Nov.	Won	14—5

'UNDER 15' FIFTEEN

The season has not been exactly successful if we judge by victories won. Nonetheless, the team has played good rugby, and had it not been for a number of injuries, results might well have been better. The pack, well balanced and, towards the end of the season, fast, gave the backs plenty of the ball, so that it was unfortunate that the two big, fast wings—Peedell and Saywell—were out of the game for most of the term. The centres, though lively and safe-handling, were too small for most occasions. The team was well led by Dunman, and the final arrangement was as follows:—Beckett; Saywell, Paxman, Penney, Peedell; Trenaman, Wond; Scott-Taggart R. B., Dimond, Bretscher M. S., Dunman, Grosvenor, Candy, Barnett and Maloney.

Also played:—Bragg (3 times); Young R. H. (4 times); Foden and Denniford (once each).

v. Reading (h), Sat., 2nd Oct.	Lost 12—16
v. Newbury G.S. (a), Sat., 9th Oct.	Lost 0—6
v. Henley G.S. (a), Sat., 16th Oct.	Drawn 9—9
v. Solihull School (h), Sat., 23rd Oct.	Won 6—0
v. Southfield School (h), Wed., 3rd Nov.	Lost 0—3
v. Thame G.S. (h), Sat., 13th Nov.	Won 8—6
v. Magdalen College School (h), Sat., 27th Nov.	Won 6—0
v. City of Oxford School (h), Wed., 1st Dec.	Lost 3—6

'UNDER 14' FIFTEEN

After a slow start to the season, the junior team found form suddenly and crossed the opposing line nine times in the last two games. Much keenness was shown and what they lacked in physique they made up for with determination. The pack gave their backs plenty of the ball and there is no doubt the team was beginning to show great promise when the term ended. The captain was Longworth and the team was arranged as follows:—Baldwin; Young M. J. A., Ford, Smith R. B., Ganf; Longworth, Phipps; Gardner B. P., Kingston, Darroch, Rhys O. M. L., Davis P. R., Jouault, Lees, Elliott.

Also played:—Carter R. M. (4 times); Denniford (3 times); and Doig (once).

Results

v. Reading School (a), Sat., 2nd Oct.	Lost 6—14
v. Solihull School (a), Sat 23rd Oct.	Lost 3—8
v. Bloxham School (a), Sat., 13th Nov.	Lost 3—9
v. Magdalen College School (h), Sat., 27th Nov.	Won 27—0
v. City of Oxford School (h), Wed., 1st Dec.	Lost 9—11

HOUSE MATCHES

The War Memorial Field was brought fully into use for rugger training this term and the re-organization of rugger games which this involved has meant that for the first time we have had eight games of football going on simultaneously. This is bound to have beneficial results in a few years time. Immediately it has enabled us to expand the scheme of League games already established in the Lent Term. An 'Under 14' Rugger League was played off on Wednesday afternoons this term. It was keenly contested and resulted in a tie between Blacknall and Tesdale with 5 pts., Bennett being second with 2 pts. and Reeves last with nil.

The Inter-House Knock-out Competition was again the occasion for much excitement. In the Senior contest, Blacknall, after defeating Tesdale 14—3, met Reeves, the formidable victors over Bennett (33—3), in the final on 24th November. The result was a surprise but nevertheless a well deserved victory for Blacknall by a goal to a try.

The Junior competition resulted in a fairly easy win for Bennett who defeated Tesdale 14—0. Thus the Robinson Cup was won by Bennett and the Lin Cup was at last wrested from Reeves, the holders for two previous seasons, by Blacknall.

On Saturday, 11th December, the Dayboys led by Pickford defeated the Boarders under Jones D. A. by 8—0 in their annual encounter.

During the Christmas holidays, Roberts and K. W. Viney played in the senior Berkshire Schoolboys' Trial at Reading, whilst Dunman, Dimond and Grosvenor played in the Junior Trial. Subsequently, Grosvenor represented the County in the Under 15 game against Oxfordshire on 30th December. He helped Berkshire to a 19—11 victory by converting two tries. Later, Grosvenor was selected to play for the combined Berks-Oxfordshire XV against London Counties, a game which London won 24—3.

D.O.W.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

Unfortunately the river flooded the course towards the end of term, and both Inter-House races had to be cancelled. However cross-country running started much earlier this year, the first run taking place in the first fortnight of term. Because of this it was hoped to run the races on a different system this year, to make them more a test of house spirit than of individual athletic prowess. Each house was to enter as many boys as possible in each race, and thus it would have been possible for a keen house, having no individually good runners, to win the inter-house competition.

Thanks are due to Miss Cullen who so generously put her land at our disposal, and I should like to thank the many prefects and house prefects who undertook to take the parties round.

R.M.M.

THE BOAT CLUB

All old members of the Club will be interested to know that the projected removal of the Boat House to a new site by the Corporation Farm has taken place. It has been extended and new racks have been installed, so that we are now in the happy position of being able to accommodate an eight—in fact several eights!—one day.

The work has not yet been completed, chiefly owing to the weather, but is far enough ahead for the Boat House to be in use this season. The exceptional floods of this term, if repeated, will raise a problem with which we have not had to deal before, but we are glad to report that waters did not approach nearer than ten yards from the Boat House.

Lest those of the old guard, who helped to build the Boat House in the first place, should have misgivings upon hearing that builders have been employed this time, it must be recorded that a very great amount of hard work has again been done by the boys! They, like their predecessors, can look back with satisfaction on a good job well done.

R.G.M.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Michaelmas, strangely enough, is in the Corps a season of growth, and once again the new School year has seen an increase in our strength from 253 to 273, one over establishment. This "new high" covers a record intake of 69 recruits. With them we welcome, as their officer in charge, Lt. E. H. F. Sawbridge, Durham Light Infantry, who was mentioned in despatches for his services in Korea. Lt. Sawbridge is also our Director of Military Music—an acquisition indeed.

We got under way almost at once with a Field Day on 28th September, in the area of Shotover, in perfect weather. Platoon battles were fought out with spirit and some profit in separate areas, the hitch in the arrangements being a misunderstanding over the final RV, which caused delay and perhaps irritation to a couple of platoons. But all is well that ends well; and the C.O. had a happy time roaring round the countryside in two large buses, searching for the missing bodies! The R.A. Section operated independently and without mishap in the same area, while the Sappers had an excellent day with 32 Assault Regt. R.E.

A change which is likely to loom large in our lives in the near future is the new syllabus for Cert. 'A'. It is a change only in the sense that the examination is now much more standardised, and that candidates cannot hope to pass on only a vague knowledge of any subject in the syllabus; and since it remains compulsory to pass in all of them, only the foolish will rest satisfied with half-knowledge. So far we have been "blooded" only to the extent that 5 cadets, who failed our own exam in the Summer, were entered again in November, thanks to the kindness of Major Lester of Radley College. Of these, 4 passed. This is a matter for satisfaction, when it is realised that results up and down the country, in recent months, have been startling indeed—approximately 10 per cent. of passes in a number of schools. With our first, limited experience of the new exam we may be well satisfied—but certainly not complacent. Determination and hard work will be needed if we are to maintain this percentage of passes next May.

Remembrance Day is always a big day in the Corps. This year it was perhaps an even bigger one than has become traditional, as we provided not only the Guard of Honour and Buglers at the Cenotaph but also the only band for the March Past, as well as a representative contingent some 80 strong. To all those who took part—and to those especially who bore the cold and burden of the day—a vote of thanks and praise. Competent judges have since expressed the view that they have not heard the Last Post better played.

Early in the term we welcomed Brigadier J. Hills, D.S.O., BRA Southern Command, on a visit to the R.A. Section, whose work he commended. The Brigadier has now made arrangements for a special R.A. Camp to be run in the Summer, at the same time as the main one, for all Schools with an R.A. Section. This will provide a splendid opportunity—not otherwise available—for unlimited live firing. It is hoped that all cadets in the Section will support this venture. The main body of the Corps will be breaking new ground by attending Camp at Castlemartin, in Pembrokeshire, within a mile or two of both the sea—and civilisation. So—make up your mind now that you are not going to miss it.

Shooting—in the Miniature Range—has gone on steadily throughout the term; several postal matches have been shot—and some won! In the Abingdon and District .22 League we stand at present comfortable leaders, not having dropped a point in 4 rounds; and we hope to repeat, during the coming term, our success of last year in bringing home the cups—a miniature to each member of the team, Sgt. Bush, Bdr. Howard, A.B. Packer, A.B. Dady. There is talk locally of accepting our entry for next year only under handicap!

Enthusiasm has been marked, especially among juniors, so much so that one marksman, spotting zealously for another, was once heard to report: "That's a 9, at twenty to eight!"

As always we have owed much in our training to trusty and tried friends; to Major Richie, OC, PCAU; to OC OUTC; and to Major Sackett without whose regular personal direction the RE Section could not now function. We are happy to acknowledge again our debt to all of them. So far we have not been able to make equally satisfactory arrangements for the training of the Signal Section, who feel keenly the need of a Signal Sgt.; but there is now a reasonable hope that this assistance will be available in the Lent term.

During term, the following appointments and promotions were made:

To be C.S.M. in Command: C.S.M. Jones D. A.

To be B.S.M.: S/Sgt. Roberts B. M.

To be C.Q.M.S.: Sgt. Jones D. M. P.; Sgt. Marchbanks, R. M.;
Sgt. McLouglin, I. L.

A strong contingent—38 cadets—was to have attended, in the Christmas holidays, the traditional Platoon Weapons Course at the Small Arms School, Royal Marines. Unhappily because of unexpected Service commitments, the School had to cut our numbers to 10—and it was possible in the event only for potential Bisley Shots to attend. It is hoped, however, to run the general course at Easter-time instead, and that there will be room for all comers. Three cadets also attended a course at 70 HAA Regt., I. of W., and one an N.C.O.'s instructional course in Drill and Weapon Training at Bulford. The Abingdon tradition of being a course-going lot has been well maintained, at least in intention.

S.C.P.

Naval Section

A term of considerable hard work towards exams. with fair success. All except three of those who took the Able Seaman's examination passed, and those three had only been in the Section a very short time. Five boys passed the Leading Seaman's Exam. in all its parts, and of the candidates for Petty Officer, L/S. J. D. Hall passed and L/S. P. J. Simmonds failed only by a narrow margin. Congratulations to all those successful.

For Field Day we went to Bristol where we once again spent an instructive day with the seamanship models in H.M.S. *Flying Fox*, and in whalers on the river.

We were very glad to welcome S/Lt. Cooper to the Section and we hope he will be with us for many years to come.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

We welcome Mr. Hasnip to the Troop. With his past experience of scouting, he should be able to keep us on the right trail.

Founder's Day was a success judging by the number of parents who came to watch our cooking experiments, and, thanks to a couple of stalwarts, the camp was struck and away before the torrential down-pour of the Saturday night.

Field day at Cothill saw the Troop in a constructive mood, and some of the patrol dens were first class. We also sent a representative patrol to the Remembrance Day Parade.

Next term we hope to see many of the recruits invested, and the award of several second class badges. This is a most necessary preliminary to summer camping.

M.N.W.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

We offer our thanks to Mrs. D. Green for the regular receipt of *The Countryman*: to Miss Birch for her 'leaving book' *Other Men's Flowers*: to J. M. Thistlewood for '*Evolution as a Process*'; and R. J. Hines for *Days Without Sunset*—also leaving books; and to W. A. Rudd, Esq., and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for the *Geographical Journal* and *United Empire*.

The hard work of the Library staff is beginning to bear fruit, but still more co-operation and care is looked for in the borrowers.

T.C.G.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the Michaelmas term and welcomed the following new members: P. J. Simmonds, J. M. Pulsford, M. K. C. Grigsby, D. M. P. Jones, J. A. Howard and T. M. J. Kempinski.

At the first meeting R. E. J. Packer read an interesting paper entitled "Rural England". In it the author showed how village life has grown up in England as a fusion of many factors. Subsequent discussion considered the causes of agricultural depression and means of combating it.

John Hall read the next paper entitled "Gastronomy". The paper was delightfully written; it described many national dishes, and dealt more broadly with principles of the gourmet's art. Discussion afterwards was vigorous and quickly became controversial over the relative merits of French cookery and the traditional English steam pudding.

For the last meeting of the term B. J. Hiscock read a paper on Martin Luther that was both comprehensive and erudite; if at times those members of the Society who were not historians found themselves in deep water it was certainly a stimulating experience for them. Having given an account of Luther's life, the author then outlined (against the contemporary background) the growth of his reforming movement. Subsequent discussion ranged around Luther's motives and considered the effects of his movement on European history.

Again we have to thank the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their gracious hospitality throughout the term.

R.M.M.

TURNOR SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting in October, the following Officers were elected or re-elected—President: The Headmaster; Chairman: D. A. Jones; Secretary: J. M. Pulsford; Committee: I. L. McLoughlin, T. C. Glucklich and N. K. Hammond.

During the Michaelmas Term, three meetings were held. At the first of these Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge gave us an exceedingly interesting and amusing talk on Korea. He recounted some of his first hand experiences whilst serving with the Durham Light Infantry, and once the projectionist had mastered the epidiascope we saw some very good photographs taken by Mr. Sawbridge himself.

The next talk was given by Mr. B. W. Gussman of the Royal Empire Society on the present situation in Kenya. We had had only a vague idea of conditions in this colony until we looked more closely into the difficulties of administration in Mr. Gussman's comprehensive talk. We thank him most warmly for an enlightening lecture.

Our concluding meeting was given to the more senior members of the Society. Mr. Bond, himself a classical Don at Pembroke College, Oxford, talked to us about "Some 18th Century Dons". In an amusing and most interesting way we were shown how very different modern University life is from that of two centuries ago. We particularly appreciated Mr. Bond's verbal portraits of the many eccentric and virile personalities who dominated 18th Century Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin.

J.M.P.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society had a successful term. It held five meetings, all of which were well attended, and at two of which we were pleased to welcome our President.

At the Annual General Meeting the Headmaster was re-elected as President, and A. J. Gardner was elected as Chairman, C. S. Woodruff as Secretary, and N. K. Hammond and C. M. Dunman as the Committee-members.

At the first debate the motion before the house was that "This house considers that Commercial Television will be a great asset to the British way of life". This was proposed by N. K. Hammond, seconded by N. J. H. Grant, and was opposed by D. S. Gerrard and B. Westbrook. The debate was keenly contested, and the motion defeated by 35 votes to 27.

When the society next met a hat debate was held. Many new members spoke for the first time on topics ranging from "Should Civil Defence be sent to Coventry?" to the eternal problem of "Money".

The fourth meeting proved to be the most interesting. B. P. Kibble, seconded by N. K. Hammond, proposed that "This house considers that Trade Unionism as practised at present does not represent a national asset". The opposition was led by D. S. Gerrard, who was supported by C. M. Dunman. The motion was carried by 31 votes to 24.

At the final meeting the motion was that "This house considers that the observance of tradition retards progress". N. J. H. Grant, seconded by P. M. D. Gray, proposed, and A. J. Gardner and B. D. Winkett opposed the motion, which was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

It is to be hoped that the high attendance and standard of speaking will be maintained.

C.S.W.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This term was marked by a split between the Film Society and the former Camera Club—now renamed the Photographic Society.

The Film Society, whose secretary is M. F. L. Rhys, will include film appreciation and lectures of photographic interest, and will be open to the whole School. Membership of the Photographic Society however, is by invitation only, the prime purpose of members being the production of 16 mm. films. Thus the Photographic Society is an independent body, but they do train would-be technicians. Applications for membership should be made to Grigsby.

Much of the hastily constructed "Thanks A Million" has been re-taken and re-edited. Remembrance Sunday was duly filmed, as was the Recorder's visit to the school. We hope, in future, to "cover" all events of importance.

Production has now commenced on our new film: a semi-documentary in which the life of a Public School boy is presented, showing every aspect of his school-life: solemn and amusing, legal and illegal! The first half of the term was spent in working out a reasonably detailed script.

The sequences filmed so far have ranged from the first bewildering days of the new boy to lunch at High Table. The shots appeared very promising on the set and we trust that results will prove successful.

Finally, we do thank David Lloyd and Kenneth Prentice for the invaluable assistance they have given us, and we do wish them every success for the future.

M.K.C.G.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

During the Michaelmas Term four meetings of the society were held. At the first of these Mr. Talbot gave a talk on "Poisonous and Non-Poisonous Autumn Fruits", illustrated by film strips.

At the next meeting J. M. Pulsford spoke on "Lens manufacture". He traced its development from a rough piece of glass to the optically ground specimen that we have in our cameras. He emphasised that, although machines had been invented, the best lenses were still made by skilled workmen.

Two films, "The Island" and "A Drug is Born", were shown at the next meeting. "A Drug is Born" was interesting, but it was generally agreed that the poetic treatment of the former detracted from its instructional value.

At the fourth meeting, "The Story of Antrycide", which dealt with the fight against Trypanosomiasis (Sleeping Sickness), and I.C.I.'s "Panorama No. 6" were both interesting and instructive.

Next term the programme will include two outside lecturers, Dr. O'Connor of A.E.R.E., Harwell, and Mr. C. D. Bingham of Culham College. There will be two films, and it is hoped to arrange another "Conversazione".

R.W.W.

HOLIDAY CLUB

Our activities during the Summer Holidays were limited to a very great extent. A tennis match had to be called off because of three days of almost continuous rain. But one cricket match was played against Boars Hill C.C. despite rain which had thoroughly soaked the pitch. However the ground was thought fit for play just after tea, so a game limited to one and a quarter hours batting for each side was played. We lost after a very close and exciting finish.

Once again we should like to thank the Headmaster for his kind permission to use the gymnasium.

D.A.J.

JOINT CLUB

During the term the Joint Club held three meetings. The first was in Lacies Court, and took the form of a social, during which there was dancing and party games.

For the second meeting, we attended Mr. Sebastian Snow's lecture on his adventures coming down the Amazon; and later moved over to Lacies Court for refreshments.

Finally, the Club attended the Abingdon Drama Club's production of "Master of Arts" after refreshments at St. Helen's. This proved to be a most enjoyable evening, and brought this term's meetings to a successful close.

D.A.J.

BRASS BAND

The Band this term has played a large part in the general round of School life. The first engagement was at the Remembrance Day Parade, when the Band played during the March Past, and again on the route back to School. The playing was of a high standard, and possibly the most moving part of the Parade was when G. E. G. Brown and R. D. P. Griffith played the Last Post—with the competence of professional buglers. In the afternoon, P. J. Simmonds played at Sutton Courtenay, for the third year running, with equal success.

The Band fulfilled two more engagements: one at a Carol Concert at the Corn Exchange, and the other on the annual visit to the Hospital, and round the Town with the Choir at the end of term. The keyword this term has been "keenness", and it encouraging to see so many new members in the Band, all progressing favourably, and also a "waiting list" of about a dozen.

R.E.J.P.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term we welcomed Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge as our new Vice-President, and subsequently eight meetings were held. Of these, the first seven were introduced by the Vice-President, the Secretary, B. J. Hiscock, T. M. J. Kempinski, M. Q. King, M. C. Rallings, and D. S. Lloyd.

These meetings were, on the whole, keenly attended, and the programmes themselves were well chosen. We are grateful to all who presented them.

The high-light of the term was a recital of music for piano and wind quintet, which was given in the Heylin Room on the evening of Sunday, 5th December. The President of the Cambridge University

Music Club played two works for the piano: the "Capriccio upon the departure of a beloved brother" by J. S. Bach, and Schumann's "Carnival". These works were rendered with amazing clarity and delicate expression which will long be remembered by all those present.

The remaining item was the "Wind Quintet" by Carl Nielsen, which was played by the President and Members of the Oxford University Music Club. The performance of this work was lively and spirited, and the considerable technical difficulty was overcome in a firm and confident manner.

We are extremely grateful both to the recitalists and to all those who helped to make the concert such a success. It was indeed a fitting close to a most successful term, and we look forward to an equally enjoyable Lent Term.

R.E.J.P.

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club continued its meetings each Friday during the Michaelmas Term with small but keen attendances.

The main feature of a quiet term was a match against Newbury Grammar School, when our VI lost by the smallest possible margin $3\frac{1}{2}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$, in a most enjoyable and exciting game. Next term we are hoping to take our revenge when we shall be playing a return game at home.

P.S.V.

OXFORD LETTER

Dear Sir,

Our most senior Oxford O.A. is G. L. Sanders, of Balliol. He is still, to the best of our knowledge, engaged in research work in the field of nuclear physics. Next in length of tooth come I.H. MacNaughton, M. H. Jones and your correspondent. The drawn expression of the first gentleman betokens an uneasy conscience and the prospect of much toil before next June. The two latter pass their days in the leisurely study of the art of pedagogy. S. R. Mills, B. W. Boddington and C. S. Wiggins appear to scorn delights and live laborious days. The same must be assumed of C. J. Lockhart Smith. No mortal eye has seen him, but he is believed to haunt the portals of B.N.C. M. Bateman and R. S. M. Millard do not approximate so nearly to the ascetic conception of scholarship but spare time to disport themselves on hockey field and river respectively. D. R. G. Andrews is also a hockey enthusiast. A. E. Willson continues to infuse the O.U. Heretics with his particular brand of life, but W. G. Olscher, reported to have come up this year, has achieved invisibility.

Finally, joining with all the Oxford O.A.'s, to whom I have done so much less than justice, I have much pleasure in wishing the School a very Happy and Successful New Year, and in remaining, Sir,

Your Oxford Correspondent,



24th JULY, 1954



6th NOVEMBER, 1954

O.A. NOTES AND NEWS**BIRTHS**

GREEN. On 24th September, 1954, to the wife of Michael J. Green (1947) a daughter, Deirdre Jane.

HORWOOD. On 13th May, 1954, at the Warren Hospital, Abingdon, to the wife of Neville F. Horwood (1944) a son, Colin Robert.

MARRIAGES

GOOD—SMITH. On 30th October 1954, at St. Giles' Church, Oxford, Geoffrey J. Good (1946) to Joyce Smith, of Oxford.

JACKSON—JAKEMAN. On 24th July, 1954, at St. Mary's Church, Wallingford, William R. Jackson (1949) to Miss P. Jakeman.

LEWINGTON—STEVENS. On 11th August, 1954, at Nottingham, John M. Lewington (1945) to Joan A. Stevens.

VICKERS—ANSELL. In May, 1954, at St. Francis' Church, West Wickham, Michael D. A. Vickers (1946) to June Ansell.

DEATHS

AUGUR. On 13th November, 1954, the result of an accident, Denzil Benjamin Charles Augur (1941-1946) aged 24.

AUSTIN. In January, 1954, at Honiton, Devon, Rev. Wentworth Murray Austin, M.C. (1895-99) aged 74.

BLACKNELL. On 11th July, 1954, while on holiday at Charleville, France, Edward Herbert Blacknell, F.I.A., (1917-20) aged 51.

MORTLEMAN. On 25th November, 1952, at Grantham, Queensland, Dudley Felix Mortleman (1900-06) aged 63.

W. M. Austin was a School Prefect, rowed in the 1st IV for two years and played in the Soccer XI for three. Immediately after leaving School he joined the Berks. Imperial Yeomanry. and saw service in the South African War. He returned to Lichfield Theological College and was ordained deacon in 1903. After holding curacies at Wilmslow and Caversham he went out to S. Africa again as chaplain to the Railway Mission. On the outbreak of the War in 1914 he joined the Hants Yeomanry, was commissioned in the 1st Wilts Regt. and rose to Captain in 1918 when he was wounded and taken prisoner. He had previously been wounded in 1915 and won the M.C. in 1916. After the war he was successively Vicar of Harrismith, (Bloemfontein), Swinton and Yarcombe, Devon, which last benefice he resigned in 1939.

E. H. Blacknell was Head of the School in 1920 and gained his Colours for rowing and athletics. He took up the career of actuary and by 1950 was United Kingdom Manager of National Mutual Life Assurance of Australia. He was compelled by illness to resign that post—and though he recovered sufficiently to be able to undertake some work with a firm of stockbrokers in the City his health was far from good. Nevertheless, to those who saw him in such good spirits at the London Dinner, his untimely death came as a great shock. To his wife and son Richard (1939—42) we offer our sincere sympathy.

We congratulate R. A. Clay (1948), N. N. C. Badley (1947) and D. J. Heavens (1951) on their engagements.

Sir Michael Bruce (1910) was 'In Town Tonight' last September on his return from Canada, where he had been doing some broadcasting for the C.B.C.

Roger Clarke (1932) has been on a six months business tour in West Africa, visiting French West Africa, the Ivory Coast and Nigeria.

W. J. Lynn Robinson (1919) of Cable and Wireless Ltd., is now stationed for a few years at Gibraltar.

F. J. Rutter (1913) is Headmaster of the Secondary Modern School at Woodley, near Reading.

J. A. D. Cox (1941) has joined the teaching staff at the Oxford School of Art and Architecture.

L. L. Baumann (1927) has left Rothmans after many years with them, and joined Cigarette Components Ltd., a firm specialising in filters.

W. F. Wiseman (1929) is with the Sentinel Insurance Co., of Holborn, London. He is living at Groombridge, Sussex.

Dennis Whidborne (1940) has given up farming and is on the research staff of Vitamins Ltd., makers of Bemax. He is principally concerned with the nutritional problems of livestock feeding.

Geoffrey Rice (1936) is now Assistant in the Warwickshire County Architect's office at Leamington.

Michael Green (1947) is doing his pupillage in the chambers of Mr. R. Benson, Recorder of Abingdon and Member of the Governing Body, whose recent visit to the School is recorded elsewhere. Thus another link is forged before Michael embarks upon the Oxford Circuit.

W. S. Ogden (1948) is a House Physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital,

H. A. Wilson (1951) is pursuing his Engineering Studies in Paris.

Michael Aplin (1948) has left to join the family business of Thomas Aplin & Co. in Manilla.

Bryan Perry (1950) was home on leave from Singapore last November enjoying a well-earned respite.

Garth Round (1953) is now in his second year at Loughborough College, studying engineering.

Ian Pickford (1950) is with Pearl Insurance Co., in Abingdon.

Michael Glassbrook (1951) has joined the Chartered Bank of India.

W. R. Jackson (1949) recently married, is with the Oxford electrical firm Hill Upton Ltd.

Peter Lay (1954) has been upgraded to Electronics Apprentice with Vickers Armstrong—the highest grade that can be achieved.

A. G. B. King (1952) is an administrative trainee at Tamworth with the well-known pottery firm of Doultons.

H. D. Baecker (1949) has been appointed Research Assistant at the Social Sciences Research Centre of Edinburgh University.

Peter Betterton (1947) flew to West Africa on January 1st where he will be a Junior Civil Engineer working with the firm of Costain (West Africa) on new housing sites at Lagos in Nigeria. He expects to be there at least eighteen months.

Campbell Stott (1946) happily recovered from his climbing accident, flew to Accra in the Gold Coast on December 1st, where he is with Taylor Woodrow & Co. building a railway through the primeval forest.

P. D. Sheppard (1945) is now a cadet in H.M.S. *Worcester* with a view to entering the Merchant Navy.

THE SERVICES

O.As in Germany seem to be prominent in the hockey field. Capt. Martin Leftwich (1942), Technical Adjutant 3rd Carabineers, captains their XI, Lieut. A. W. Riggott (1950), L.A.A. Regt. at Osnabruck, runs the Regimental team, and Brian Jakeman (1945) R.A.P.C., att. Oxf. and Bucks, is a mainstay of their team. Incidentally Tony Riggott's C.O. is the brother of our quondam Miss St. John. Peter Field (1951) with a Short-Service Commission in the Lincolns is in Berlin.

Capt. P. R. Sims (1946) R.T.R. is home from Korea on a one-year Technical Training Course at Bovington.

Clyde Aylin (1952) whom we share with King Alfred's School, Plon, has gained his boxing 'blue' at Sandhurst.

E. G. Rockall (1954) who has signed on for a long term in Oxford and Bucks L.I., is at Strensall.

Bruce Guimaraens (1953) is at Eaton Hall O.C.T.U. and hopes to return to the Marines.

Richard Paxman (1954) has passed from R.A. Oswestry to Mons. His confreres at Oswestry, P. W. Kemp, R. H. Redknap, T. R. Lay and S. A. Crawley hope to follow.

J. Blinman (1954) is in R. Berks in Germany.

F/O. A. M. Mills (1939) is at 7 Reserve Flying Training School, Desford.

T. O. Inwood (1950) has secured a short-service commission in F.A.A.

J. A. Nichol (1954) who hopes to make his career in the R.A.F., is at St. Athan, and John Ivatts is at Compton Bassett, Wilts, training as Wireless Operator.

Michael Brackley (1954) sails for Canada in January to complete his training as Navigation Officer in the R.A.F.

H. G. Williams (1954) is with a water Transport Company of the R.A.S.C. in the Isle of Wight.

Lieut. P. J. Millard (1953) is now in Germany, somewhere near the Harz mountains.

Lieut. B. H. Stevens (1951) has returned to the R.A.S.C. with a regular commission.

C. W. Robbins (1953) is serving in Malaya with the 15/19 Hussars.

M. C. Burdge (1954) is in the R.A.F. at White Waltham.

P. R. J. Gregory (1953) is serving with the Parachute Regiment.

R. Acklam (1951), who visited the School during the holidays, is on H.M.S. *Illustrious*, while Midshipman D. L. Banfield (1953) is serving on a minesweeper based at Harwich.

UNIVERSITIES AND HOSPITALS

The following, to the best of our knowledge, are at present in residence:

Oxford. Balliol. G. L. Sanders.

Brasenose. J. C. Lockhart-Smith.

Keble. C. V. Davidge (Fellow). B. W. Boddington.

Lincoln. A. E. Willson.

Pembroke. M. H. Jones, M. H. Venables, M. Bateman,
D. R. G. Andrews, S. R. Mills, C. S. Wiggins.

St. Peter's Hall. R. S. M. Millard.

St. Catherine's. J. H. McNaughton, W. G. Olscher.

Reading. D. Free, P. J. Downer, P. R. Sale.

St. Andrew's. M. A. C. Heavens.

Edinburgh. H. D. Baecker (Research Assistant).

University College, Newcastle. P. J. Chamberlin.

Loughborough College. R. Klein, G. Round.

St. Bartholomew's. W. S. Ogden (House Phys.).

London Hospital. P. C. Richardson.

Guy's Hospital. M. D. A. Vickers.

Middlesex Hospital. P. G. Cope.

St. Thomas' Hospital. E. S. N. Hazel and D. B. Ker (House Phys.).

University College Hospital. J. M. Thistlewood.

Others following full time courses include—

P. Venvell (1954) at the King Edward VII Nautical College, London.

M. W. Matthews (1952) at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

J. Budgen (1954) at the Metropolitan Police Training School.

A. C. Rodrick (1953) at the Oxford School of Architecture.

A. D. Burton (1952) at Culham College.

M. J. C. Griffiths (1952) at Muresk Agricultural College, Western Australia.

O.A. CLUB DANCE

It is becoming a commonplace to describe the Annual Dance, held in the beautiful Council Chamber, as a great success, but it is now established as one of the jolliest events in the O.A. Calendar. Over 150 guests were received by the President, Mr. T. E. Gardiner and Mrs. Gardiner supported by the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban at the preliminary get-together over a glass of sherry, and from then on till midnight the tide ebbed and flowed between the dance floor and the Lysse Room. The Dance Committee must be congratulated on their excellent arrangements and Mrs. Bevir on the beautiful floral decorations. As a footnote, it was good to see so many 'very young' O.A.s in attendance whether partnered or single.

There was also a goodly gathering at the Service in the School Chapel on the following morning, and the coffee that followed was indeed a cup that cheered and revived. Thank you, Mrs. Cobban.

TWO REMINDERS

London Dinner

O.A.s and particularly London O.A.s please remember that Stanley Paige has gone to a lot of trouble to organise a Dinner for you at Simpson's, on Friday, 4th March, 1955. Please write early for tickets (price 21/-) to S. A. Paige, 77 Watling Street, London, E.C.4.

Addresses

Notification of change of address should be sent promptly either to the School or to the Secretary of the Club. Over 60 of the last notices were returned 'Gone Away'; and several of these lost souls had visited the School during the past year!

A NOTE ON THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The two photographs on page 321, for which we are indebted to the good offices of Mr. Milligan, commemorate two of the most interesting events of the past year. The first shows the President of the O.A. Club, Mr. T. E. Gardiner, opening the gate of the War Memorial Field on the evening of Founder's Day. Mr. Grundy appears to the right in a characteristic pose. The second photograph was taken on the occasion of the Recorder's visit, just before he rounded the corner of Big School to receive the greetings of boys and staff. He is preceded by the Mayor of Abingdon and followed by the Headmaster, the Clerk of the Peace, and the Chairman of the Governors (who is unfortunately out of the picture). The photograph shows also the Mayoress and Mrs. Clifton-Brown.

Terms of Subscription

The Life Membership Subscription to the Old Abingdonian Club which covers all the privileges of the Club but does not include receipt of the Magazine is Three Guineas.

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

'The Abingdonian'

Old Boys and others can obtain the Magazine in three ways:

1. By Banker's Order (minimum 7/6) payable to the Old Abingdonian Trust Fund. Forms of Covenant which will nearly double the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over, will gladly be supplied.
2. By Compounding for Life Subscription: 5 guineas maximum, 2 guineas minimum, according to age.
3. By subscription to the Magazine at current price, at present 5/- per annum.

All subscriptions to the O.A. Trust Fund and 'The Abingdonian', or questions relating to them should be sent to G. F. Duxbury, Abingdon School, Berks. He will also be glad to receive news from and concerning O.A.s for inclusion in the magazine, and particularly prompt notice of all changes of address.

'THE ABINGDONIAN'

Editor: R. E. J. Packer

Asst. Editors: D. A. Jones, S. C. Woodley, N. J. H. Grant

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