

THE ABINGDONIAN

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CALENDAR. LENT TERM 1956

January

Thur. 19	Term begins.
Wed. 25	1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h).
Sat. 28	1st XI v. Reading School (a).

February

Sat. 4	1st XI v. Abingdon H.C. (h).
Wed. 8	1st XI v. Radley College 2nd XI (a).
Sat. 11	1st XI v. Solihull School (h).
Sat. 18	1st XI v. Old Abingdonians (h).
Sat. 25	1st XI v. Windsor C.S. (a).
Wed. 29	1st XI v. R.A.F. Halton (a).

March

Sat. 3	1st XI v. Wallingford G.S. (h).
Sat. 10	1st XI v. Old College, Sandhurst (a).
Sat. 17	Athletic fixture v. City of Oxford School (h).
Thur. 22	Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts.
Sat. 24	Athletic fixture v. Old Abingdonians (h).

April

Mon. 2	School Sports—2 p.m.
Wed. 4	Term ends—10.15 a.m.

Summer Term begins 9 a.m., Tuesday, 1st May, 1956.
(Boarders return 30th April, 1956)

EDITORIAL

A little while ago the great French composer, Honegger, died. He left us this message: "I believe that soon there will no longer be any music, painting or sculpture. Art is the creation of an independent individual. In our civilization, or rather end of a civilization, the individual is completely eliminated. The stupidity of our times is so monstrous that they can no longer be regarded as civilization". Now you may say, "So what? I don't care, the only art I like is the 'tele'." That attitude may be good enough for the majority of people. But it is not good enough for people from a school such as this, where, if anywhere, one should learn to play a useful part in the world. For Honegger is not only lamenting the decay of art, he is lamenting the decay of civilization, and he sees this decay as bound up with the limitations imposed on independent action.

It is true, of course, as John Stuart Mill said, that "The liberty of the individual must thus far be limited: he must not make himself a nuisance to other people." But today it is the community, the 'state', which encroaches on individual liberty; we are beset by petty bureaucracy and red tape. We must remember that the community was created for the benefit of the individual, not the individual for the state. If society continues to gain control over the individual, well—we're less than thirty years from 1984!

Indeed, Mill himself saw that a state which dwarfs its men, even for beneficial purpose, will find that with small men no great thing can be accomplished. And today we have a dire need of men capable of great things.

Therefore we welcome all signs of individual initiative that are displayed among ourselves, from the winning of an open scholarship to the founding of a new school society. We must resolve not merely to drift along, but to be prepared to take independent action, for individualism is the heart of the state, not the enemy of it. This can be our only hope for the future. Civilization, western democracy, call it what you will, can survive only if the ordered discipline of the community is flexible enough to allow men to develop within it their own individuality and their own initiative.

JOHN MICHAEL TOPLIS

(1925—1955)

John Toplis was educated at Christ's Hospital, where he was Captain of his House and played in the 1st XV. He joined the army on leaving school in 1944 and in 1946 he was commissioned into 8th K.G.V.O. Light Cavalry (I.A.). He was demobilised the following year with the rank of Captain. At Wadham he read Maths. Mods and the Honours School of P.P.E. Coming down in 1951, he deliberately chose to broaden his experience by spending a year in the jungle of Sarawak, under the Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation. Then came a temporary post for one term at Chipping Norton Grammar School before he took up appointment at Abingdon, as assistant master in Mathematics, in September, 1953. He met his death with tragic suddenness on the evening of Wednesday, November 2nd, as the result of a quite unpredictable domestic accident. A verdict of 'Death by Misadventure' was returned at the inquest, and the first part of the funeral service was held in the School Chapel at noon on Saturday, November 5th. He left behind him a widow and three young children under four years of age.

Such is the bare record of John Toplis' life. But it gives no indication of the character of the man himself or of the sense of numbing loss that we felt when we heard the news. In the two short years that he was with us he made himself dear to all who knew him. We who worked with him remember him not only as a loyal and hardworking colleague but also as a personal friend. He was a man of simple and unassuming modesty, with a willing and unselfish devotion to the service of others. He had a high sense of duty (though he would have been the last man to prate of it), a genuine love of his fellows and a quiet but firm faith. Himself a loyal Old Boy of a famous school he repaid his debt to it by passing on in turn to others the traditions that he had learned at Christ's Hospital. He made his influence felt as a shrewd but sympathetic form-master of 2.Y, whose kindly brusqueness encouraged even the weaker members of the form to think that they could do arithmetic, as an energetic rigger coach, as the main-spring behind the Film Society, as the man who was always willing to undertake any odd job that needed doing, from organising an excursion to conducting a mental arithmetic test.

He was happy in his work, he was supremely happy, too, in his family life. The sympathy of the whole School went out to his wife and to his parents in their bereavement. Some measure of the respect and affection with which he was regarded was provided by the expressions of condolence — so many of them of a practical kind — which reached us not only from his personal friends but also from parents, old boys, and others who knew how much John Toplis had done for the School during the past two years.

J.M.C.

SCHOOL NOTES

We wish good fortune to our Chairman and to Mrs. Clifton-Brown as they move into their new home at Pusey. We were particularly pleased to see — and hear — the Admiral at the Service of Lessons and Carols. Many of us found his reading of the story of the Magi the most moving part of the whole service.

We are grateful too to Mr. Woodley, the President of the Old Abingdonian Club who not only read one of the Lessons for us (*qua* parent) but subsequently (*qua* English specialist) wrote the appreciation of Hamlet that is contained in this issue.

The *Oxford Times* of October 28th carried a very sympathetic portrait of the Master of Pembroke College, in which due mention was made of his association with the School.

We were very pleased to read in the Birthday Honours List of the award of the M.B.E. to our good friend Mr. Howard Cornish, Chairman of the Abingdon R.D.C.

We congratulate the School Solicitor, Mr. Norman Challenor, on his engagement to Miss C. R. Stiles.

Congratulations and good wishes too to Mr. and Mrs. Royd Barker on the birth of their first-born, Ann Corinna (September 14th).

We were very grateful to two ladies from the Fitzharry's Estate, Mrs. Bowker and Mrs. Hanna — both of them Mathematicians from Cambridge — who joined in a combined operation to fill the gap on the mathematical side left by Mr. Toplis. Later we were glad to welcome Mr. J. H. Goldsmith, a former headmaster, who agreed to come back into the fray and take over Mr. Toplis' time-table for the remainder of the term.

And now we greet Mr. C. D. B. Milton, B.Sc. (London), formerly of Langley School, Norwich, who is holding the fort for the next two terms.

Thanks too to Mr. Kenneth Boyd, late of Radley, who kindly helped us during the temporary absence of Mr. Holloway.

Our sympathy goes to the Vicar of Abingdon who is recovering from a collapse. May his convalescence be smooth and sure.

A reminder of the recent visit to us of Sayyid Zulfigar Ali Shah, Principal of Aitchison College, Lahore, came with the receipt of the 'Aitchisonian' — a courtesy which we much appreciated.

We record our thanks to the Headmaster of the City of Oxford School for accommodating our handful of candidates for the December certificate examination.

We bid a grateful farewell to Miss Laing, who has been house-keeper in School House for the past term. Congratulations and good wishes to Miss Isgar, who is being promoted to take her place; and a warm welcome to our new lady cook, Miss Smith.

We welcome also Mrs. Roberts who has joined Miss Hurst at Waste Court, and Miss Pocock, who is next term relieving Mrs. Talbot of some of her burdens in Crescent House.

We were glad to have with us for the first month of the term an eighteen-year-old German boy, Erhard Busch, from Hanover. We think he took back with him pleasant memories both of the School and of the Corner House, where he stayed; and we hope that some day he will visit us again.

On October 15th we welcomed, more briefly, Herr Karl Wahls, a visiting schoolmaster from Eckernsforde, in the British Zone of Germany.

It is of interest to record that the collection of historical notes and MSS concerning school and town collected by Mr. Arthur Preston and for many years cared for by the late Miss Agnes Baker has been deposited for safe keeping in the Berkshire Record Office at Reading.

It was heartening to find that the appeal for a memorial to Miss Baker was 'over-subscribed' within a few weeks. The Memorial Committee is devoting the greater part of its funds to the reconstruction of the roof of the Checker Hall — a work that was very dear to Miss Baker's heart.

After much irksome and frustrating delay the rebuilding of S. Nicolas' Church now proceeds apace, and it is hoped that the new chancel will be ready for use in the early summer. It is probable that a special appeal will be launched to bridge the gap — estimated at £1000 — between the amount of insurance paid and the total cost of the work.

Meanwhile those who may have mused on the discrepancy between the flowery obituary of Dr. Thomas Woods and his nickname of 'Flogging Tom' will be relieved to know that the mural tablet to him — one of the most attractive things in the Church — suffered only superficial damage.

The rebuilding of the Church has involved some research into the correct arms of Dr. Peter Heylyn, the eponymous patron of the Heylyn Room. Windsor Herald very kindly went into the matter in considerable detail and in the course of his researches discovered much new information about the Heylyn family. He concluded that the correct arms of Dr. Heylyn were 'sable three horses' heads erased argent'. We are grateful to Colonel Ledger, the Churchwarden of S. Nicolas, who has passed Windsor Herald's letter to our librarian for safe-keeping.

It was with great regret that we heard of the impending departure of the Rev. Robert Leaney, Vice-Principal of Ripon Hall, who has taken the Sunday services at S. Nicolas' in recent years, and who has now accepted an appointment in the Theological Faculty of Nottingham University. Several times this term we have offered the hospitality of the Chapel to the congregation of S. Nicolas while work was proceeding in the nave (a kind of Box-and-Cox arrangement which called for pretty fine timing). It was after the last of these occasions, on December 18th, that an informal presentation was made to Mr. Leaney in the Pembroke Room, when the Headmaster offered to him and to Mrs. Leaney the good wishes of the large congregation which he had built up at S. Nicolas'.

We thank two of our parents, Mr. K. M. Hart, who has presented to the Gramophone Library a record of the Ballet Music from Gounod's 'Faust', and Mr. W. B. Goodman, who has sent to School House library a copy of 'Tramp Royal', the autobiography of Sir Michael Bruce (OA); and also Mr. G. E. Summers, son of the nineteenth-century headmaster, who has put us further in his debt by giving us a copy of the portrait of John Roysse.

We congratulate Mr. Derek Evans on his engagement. Mr. Evans, who was at one time a resident student-master here, is now studying for ordination at St. Aidan's Theological College.

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Michaelmas Term was 468 (Dayboys 290, School House 85, Crescent House 40, Waste Court 34, Larkhill 19).

Congratulations to M. J. Scott-Taggart on the award of an Open Exhibition in Natural Science at King's College, Cambridge; to his younger brother R. B. Scott-Taggart on the award of the Sixth Form Scholarship (known *pro hac vice* as the Blacknall Scholarship); to M. B. Enser on the award of the Abingdon Exhibition at Pembroke College, Oxford; to P. J. Simmonds on surmounting the last hurdle, the interview, that stood between him and Dartmouth; to R. D. Gammack on passing into Cranwell; and to C. K. D. Cobley on being awarded a Royal Naval Scholarship.

Since September we have heard of a very satisfying crop of County Major Awards. We congratulate all the successful candidates—

- P. B. H. Amey—London (to Pembroke College, Oxford).
- G. W. Crockford—Berkshire (to Queen Mary College, London).
- T. C. Glücklich—Oxford City (to St. Catherine's Society, Oxford).
- J. D. Hall—Berkshire (to Southampton University).
- D. M. P Jones—Berkshire (to St. Peter's Hall, Oxford).
- P. J. Lay—Berkshire (to King's College, Newcastle).
- R. E. J. Packer—Berkshire (to Pembroke College, Cambridge).
- J. J. Swainston—Oxfordshire (to Royal Veterinary College, London).
- J. Westall—Berkshire (to St. Peter's Hall, Oxford).

We note with pleasure (albeit belated) that three of our number enjoyed short works courses during the Summer holidays under the auspices of the Public Schools Appointments Bureau:

H. C. Bowen—at the Stanton Ironworks.

A. E. Bush—at the English Electric Company, Stafford.

B. E. Stacey—at Boots Pure Drug Company, Nottingham.

We congratulate the successful candidates in the December examinations of the Associated Board, and especially D. Wiggins who passed with merit in Grade V ('cello).

The Play-Reading Society held two open meetings in Lacies Court this term, reading Agatha Christie's 'Ten Little Nigger Boys' on 9th October and 'The Taming of the Shrew' on 27th November. A rather smaller party of boys combined with members of the staff to read Dylan Thomas' 'Under Milk Wood', as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, on October 23rd.

The Parents' Evening for parents of new boys was held on October 13th. A showing of the latest school film 'No Tumbled House' provided them with graphic illustration of what their sons were letting themselves in for.

Work on the new class-room block has aroused much interest. On October 17th Mr. Duncan West (OA), one of the School Architects, spoke to senior forms on the problems presented by the construction of such a block and the methods used to solve them.

On October 20th Mr. J. L. Taylor, of Oxford, kindly showed to members of Upper School a film about electrical engineering entitled 'The Enquiring Mind'. In the evening a party attended a performance of Benjamin Britten's 'Let's Make an Opera' at the Playhouse in Oxford.

On Remembrance Sunday, November 6th, we fielded a strong contingent of CCF, Naval Section and Scouts for the parade in the town and we again had the privilege of providing both guard of honour and buglers at the Cenotaph. It was a great pity that the rain should descend just at the wrong time, to soak our contingent so thoroughly that it was unable to go on to the service at St. Helen's afterwards. Later in the day our buglers, Mobbs and Oliver, played again at a similar service in Sutton Courtenay.

November 9th saw a visit from Captain Jefferies, Schools Liaison Officer of Southern Command, who spoke to sixth and fifth formers so persuasively as almost to persuade even the most sceptical of us of the pleasure of army life.

On the same afternoon many boys took advantage of the kind offer of the management of the Regal Cinema to admit them at reduced prices to a matinée performance of 'The Dam Busters'.

Medical Inspection for dayboys was held on November 14th and November 18th.

On November 17th we sent a large party to watch Oxford University play Major Stanley's XV. Many of those who remained behind heard a lecture by Mr. Revell on 'The History of the Wool-Trade'.

On the following day we had a visit from Mr. Newby-Robson, of the Public Schools Appointments Bureau; and in the evening a party visited the Abingdon Drama Club's production of 'The Rose without a Thorn', by Clifford Bax.

The Ruri-decanal Conference was held in Lacies Court on November 23rd, what time (and of course there is no causal connection) a party of Sixth Form chemists visited Esso House.

We are grateful to Mr. E. J. S. Parsons, at whose kind invitation the whole of Fifth Arts visited the Bodleian on December 5th. The scientists' turn came four days later, when a strong party of them visited Morlands' Brewery — a visit which has now become a highly popular institution.

The Prefects' Dance was held on December 12th in the Church Hall, a room which lacks the associations of the Roysse Room but is incomparably more suitable for the purpose. The decorations were simple but effective. Mr. Eric Potter's band was excellent. Warm thanks to all who made the evening so enjoyable.

Our musicians were busy during the last week of term. On Wednesday, 14th December, the night after the Carol Service, two large parties, led respectively by the Choir and by the Brass Band, toured the town singing carols. The following evening the Choir visited the Corn Exchange at the invitation of the Mayor to help to entertain the Old Folks' Party.

Later on the Thursday evening came the Boarders' Christmas Suppers and the House Parties. If noise is any criterion then a good time was had by all members of School House who were in the Gymnasium.

'Saturday lectures' during the past term were as follows:

September 24th—recital by Mrs. Regina Klemperer, 'Songs from Different Lands'.

October 1st—Mr. G. Barry on 'Then and Now in Antarctica'.

October 15th—Mr. Bernard Newman on 'Behind the Iron Curtain'.

November 19th—Mr. H. Evetts, FZS, 'Weasels, Stoats and Otters'.

Feature films shown were 'The Cruel Sea' (October 8th), 'The Titfield Thunderbolt' (October 22nd) and 'Genevieve' (12th November).

We should like to thank Mr. Milligan for the photograph of the 1st Fifteen which appears in this issue; and David Peters of Witney for the photographs of the play.

Founder's Day will be celebrated this year on Saturday, July 28th, when we hope that Earl Winterton, P.C., who was prevented by illness from visiting us last year, will be able to distribute the prizes. The Bishop of Reading has kindly agreed to preach at the Founder's Day Service.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following schools (to December 16th)—Chigwell: City of Oxford: Henley: Magdalen College: Nautical College, Pangbourne: Oratory: Reading: R.G.S., High Wycombe: St. Bartholomew's, Newbury: St. Edward's, Oxford: Solihull: Stratford: Windsor: and also from R.N.C. Dartmouth: R.M.A. Sandhurst: R.A.F. Cranwell and R.N.E.C, Keyham:

SCHOOL AND GROUNDS

(A note by the Headmaster)

Work on the new Class-room Block began as planned in September. The privilege of turning the first sod on 29th September was entrusted to Kerry Wood of form 2.Y, son of the consultant architect, and we look forward to seeing the documentary film which recorded the ceremony for posterity. Since then the work has made heartening progress and the brickwork has already reached first-floor level. We are now feeling rather more confident that we shall be able to have the new building formally opened on Founder's Day and in beneficial occupation, as they say, in September, 1956.

The enlarged Crescent House opened in September with its full complement of forty boarders. Glyndwr itself provides sleeping accommodation not only for twenty-two boys, a house-tutor (Mr. Horrex) and a matron, but also for two other ladies of the School domestic staff. In addition two rooms which will ultimately be day-rooms are being used temporarily for teaching purposes until the new class-room block is available. All forty boys feed together in Crescent House. The expedient of having one house divided between two buildings is working uncommonly well, thanks largely to the untiring efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Talbot—efforts which were perforce rather more Herculean than they should have been owing to the absence of a matron for the greater part of the term. *Hiatus valde deflendus*—and one that will be filled in January. Meanwhile plans for the new senior boarding house of the future are on the architects' drawing-board: though we must face the fact that the difficulty of financing such a venture may well mean some delay before we are able to build it. If any wealthy benefactor would like to immortalise his name . . .

Mention is made on a later page of the very encouraging initial response to the appeal to Old Boys to increase the income of the O.A. Trust Fund. As a result, the Trustees will have sufficient resources to enable them to go ahead and build a first-class Pavilion on the War Memorial Field. The Committee of the O.A. Club has appointed a small but representative sub-committee which has already taken the first steps towards selecting the best design, and we hope that before very long subscribers to the appeal will see visible evidence of their generosity. Once again, a very warm thank-you to all who are giving either of their money or their time to provide the School with this urgently needed amenity. We are assured too that the simple pavilion on the Upper Field—the 'R.B. Memorial'—will be erected and in use for the forthcoming cricket season. As the question of a new pavilion on this site was first mooted nearly three years ago we shall all be very glad to have this particular project completed.

The amount of repair and decoration that can be carried out during the Christmas holidays is limited: but as I write these words the School buildings seem to be full of workmen. In School House, the Reading Room is being completely redecorated, with the kind of contrasting colours on the walls that justify the epithet 'contemporary'; and proper shelves are being built in for the School House Library. Up above, one of the cubicles of Big Dormitory is being converted into a surgery and emergency sick room. The construction of a new (and smaller) garage in our own garden has left the old garage available as a maintenance work-room. Part of the area, too, has been used, by ingenious adaptation, to increase the size of the masters' cloakroom and to provide a ladies' cloakroom in addition.

* * * *

I should like once again, if I may, to use this means of thanking the many parents, friends and boys (past and present) who sent us in all some 600 cards to cheer our Christmas. It would be nice if we could acknowledge them all personally but that would be quite beyond us. I do want you to know, however, how much my wife and I appreciated being remembered in this way. At the beginning of the term we shall display all our cards from old boys in the main entrance hall so that everybody in the School may share in their good wishes. These cards included greetings from Canada, U.S.A., New Zealand, Australia, Papua, Singapore, Malaya, India, Aden, Rhodesia, W. Africa, Cyprus, Malta, Portugal, Germany and France. They reminded us that we have old boys working in the Bow District of the Metropolitan Police, in the Water Transport Companies of the RASC (it was one of these that once got me lost in the fog off the Island of Arran, but that is another story!), and in the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Altogether, they provided fascinating evidence not only of the 'spread' of our Old Boys but also of the way in which they remember their old school. Thank you one and all.

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

On the Sunday before Advent, November 20th, the Bishop of Oxford conducted a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel. Those confirmed were R. L. Antrobus, R. R. Bailey, R. J. Baldwin, D. de B. Bennett, R. B. Blackmore, M. J. Blythe, R. A. N. Bolton, D. H. Bragg, G. Bromley, R. G. Cain, R. M. Campbell, P. S. Candy; J. C. Carr, R. M. Carter, S. M. Cuddy, P. G. Davies, K. R. Duly, D. T. L. Eke, C. Elderkin, P. J. Ford, D. J. Griffiths, P. M. C. Hampson, E. R. Jouault, P. Kandiah, J. Kingston, R. Leach, B. M. J. Lewis, T. A. Libby, C. D. Loukes, N. G. Mackenzie, R. T. Moll, T. I. Morgan, D. G. Morris, J. N. R. Ogle, R. W. J. Parsons, P. E. Perry, W. J. Phipps, C. J. Pickup, C. T. Pollard, N. W. Pridham, O. M. L. Rhys, R. G. Simmonds, M. H. Stanley, A. G. Stevens, S. R. Turner, A. M. Wallen, P. G. Watts, C. H. Woodham, R. G. Wooldridge, C. P. Wyatt and M. J. A. Young.

After the Service the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban entertained the 51 candidates and their parents to tea in the Gymnasium.

Our own festival of harvest thanksgiving was held rather earlier this year, on September 24th. Once again the Chapel presented a brave sight with all the flowers and produce, which was subsequently sent to our friends at Dr. Barnardo's Home at Oakley House.

The following day, when the Rt. Rev. A. G. Parham, D.D., former Bishop of Reading, preached at morning service, the choir sang the anthem, "Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake" by Richard Farrant.

The annual service of Holy Communion, to commemorate the birth of John Blacknall, held in S. Nicolas' Church at 7.15 a.m. on October 15th, was well supported by the School.

We are grateful to all those who came to preach to us during the term. Outside preachers during the Lent Term will be as follows:—

January 29th—Rev. Colin Morris, MA, Chaplain of Pembroke College, Oxford.

February 12th—Rev. Leon Janes, MA, RNVR.

March 4th—Mr. Norman B. Challenor.

March 25th—Mr. Frank Fisher, MC, MA, Warden of St. Edward's School, Oxford.

The collections for the British Legion over the weekend of Remembrance Sunday amounted to £9.14.8. In addition the proceeds of the alms box during the first half of the term went far to meet the cost of the two poppy wreaths for the Memorial Tablets. The collection at the Service of Lessons and Carols, amounting to £9.15.0, was divided between St. Helen's Church Funds and the Church of England Child-

ren's Society. The latter charity benefitted also from the collections made by the Brass Band and the Choir during their separate forays round the town on the evening of December 14th, amounting to £5.10.0 in all. Especial thanks to the Abingdon Rotary Club for their generous cheque.

The contents of the alms box during the second half of the term were also sent to the C. of E. Children's Society.

Other collections allotted to outside charities were as follows:—St. Paul's Restoration Fund £5.2.0: S.P.G. £4.2.0: British Council of Churches (Refugee Appeal) £10.10.0 The remaining collections were divided between Chapel Funds, the Organ Fund, and the Chapel Furnishing Fund — which has now grown almost big enough to justify us in going ahead with our next venture, the building of new staging at the east end of the Chapel.

Warm thanks to those many parents who have presented new hymn-books or psalters to the Chapel to commemorate the Confirmation of their sons.

The two new altar service books are now in use, duly labelled, and very comely they look. We have also received six 'state' prayer-books from the publishers. There will be a little further delay as we are having a new die of the arms made with which to stamp them: but we hope it will not be long now before they too are in use. Five of them will be labelled with the names of individual donors, and the other one, for the Headmaster's stall, will bear the names of the four parents who contributed so generously towards the cost of the new altar cloths.

Christenings

On Saturday, November 19th, by the Rev. F. W. Burgess, Peter Kandiah and Anthony Michael Wallen.

Funeral Service

The first part of the funeral service of the late Mr. John Toplis was held in the School Chapel at noon on Saturday, November 5th. Among those present, in addition to members of the family, were Admiral Clifton-Brown (Chairman) and Mr. J. L. West (representing the Governing Body), Mr. C. C. Woodley (President of the Old Abingdonian Club), Mr. P. W. Martin (Headmaster of Chipping Norton Grammar School), Mr. A. Buck (Housemaster of Christ's Hospital), past and present members of the staff, and a representative cross-section of the boys.

The service was conducted by the Chaplain. Mr. L. C. J. Griffin read the lesson (Phillipians iv. 4-9) and the Headmaster gave a short address. The Choir sang S. S. Wesley's anthem 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee'.

Subsequently the committal took place, very quietly, in Abingdon Cemetery.

On Monday, November 7th, Senior and Junior Chapel took the form of short memorial services, to allow every boy in the School to pay his own tribute to a much-loved master.

Service of Lessons and Carols

The annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in St. Helen's Church at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13th. We append an appreciation by Mr. Fowler.

"A most enjoyable service was sung by the choir under the conductorship of their Director of Music, Mr. E. H. F. Sawbridge.

The balance of the parts was excellent, and there was much spirit put into the carols that needed them; the soft carols were also well sung, and the contrast good. The whole service gave great pleasure, I am sure, to the large congregation present, and they took their part very heartily.

I must add how beautifully Mr. Burgess accompanied the anthem, and some very fine effects from St. Helen's organ were given. The treble voices were much stronger this year, and sang with excellent tone. Congratulations!"

Order of Service

Introit	Once in Royal David's City	Congregation
	Bidding Prayer	
Lesson 1	Jacob's dream (Genesis 28 vv 10-15)	A new boy (R. A. Lucas)
Carol	Ding, dong! merrily on high	Choir
Lesson 2	The Promise of the Messiah (Isaiah 11 vv 1-9)	A Chorister (C. K. D. Cobley)
Carol	Patapan	Choir
Lesson 3	God's love to man (Psalm 8)	Head of Dayboys (P. O. Older)
Carol	The Infant King	Choir
Lesson 4	The office of Christ (Isaiah 42 vv 1-7)	Head of School (R. D. Gammack)
Carol	Unto us a Boy is born	Congregation
Lesson 5	The Annunciation (Luke I vv 26-33, 38)	An Assistant Master (Mr. S. C. Parker)
Carol	Bethlehem	Choir

Lesson 6	The birth of Jesus (Matthew I vv 18-23)	A Parent (Mr. C. C. Woodley)
Carol	Christ was born on Christmas Day	Choir
Lesson 7	The Angels appear to the Shepherds (Luke 2 vv 8-16)	The Senior Master (Mr. J. Y. Ingham)
Carol	While shepherds watched	Congregation
Lesson 8	The adoration of the Magi (Matthew 2 vv 1-12)	The Chairman of the Governors (Adm. Clifton-Brown)
Anthems	Say, where is He born? and There shall a star	Choir
Carol	The First Nowell	Congregation
Lesson 9	The Word Eternal (John I vv 1-14)	The Headmaster
Hymn	O come, all ye faithful	Congregation
	Prayers	
	The Blessing	

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete—left 26th July, 1955.

Upper Sixth Form Arts: T. C. Glucklich, M. K. C. Grigsby, J. D. Hall, B. J. Hiscock, D. A. Jones, D. M. P. Jones, J. A. Nichols, R. E. J. Packer, J. T. Page, B. M. Roberts, P. J. Simmonds, C. P. C. Stroud-Viney, K. W. Viney, R. P. Warren.

Upper Sixth Form Science: R. M. Marchbanks, J. R. Pratt, J. M. Pulsford, G. R. H. Slack, A. M. Smith, J. J. Swainston, T. A. W. Walker.

Form Sixth General: N. A. Carter, D. Fry, R. D. P. Griffith, A. Maxwell, K. P. Painter, B. J. Rogers, M. Ryan, P. C. Sarsfield-Hall.

Form 5 Arts: C. J. Dicker, S. J. Eustace, J. P. Pridham, D. P. Rawlins, M. F. L. Rhys, W. R. Tinney, E. G. Westbrook.

Form 5 Science: M. P. Murphy, J. R. Packer, M. J. Pearce, P. O. D. Song, J. F. Warren.

Form 5 General: I. T. S. Ashworth, O. M. Jones (left 8th July), D. H. Roberts, T. W. L. Staniland.

Form 4 Science: J. P. Lord.

Form 4 General: H. W. Beachey, A. R. Binning.

Form 3A: C. F. M. Kitching.

Form 2X: J. N. C. Haines.

Form 2Y: R. I. Roberts.

Form IX: R. E. Crawley.

Salvete—came 16th September, 1955.

Lower Sixth Form: A. T. Aitchison.

Form Sixth General: P. G. Davies.

Form 4 Arts: D. J. Griffiths.

Form 4 Science: B. M. Lifson, P. E. Perry, P. J. Plunkett-Cole.

Form 4 General: J. W. Pritchard.

Form 3A: R. G. M. Johnston, I. A. D. Martin, C. A. T. Purrett,
C. R. Wright.

Form 3X: M. R. Corps, A. G. Dillabough, R. J. L. Hewison, J. T. Utin.

Form 3Y: G. J. Emerton, D. R. M. Evans, C. F. Johnson, R. S.
B. Shepard.

Form 2X: R. A. Bickers (came 7th November), C. M. Davis.

Form 1X: D. J. Aplin, J. M. Beere, J. R. Bomford, S. P. Bowen, R. F.
W. Budden, B. A. F. Burn, R. H. M. Burrige, R. N. Carter,
P. A. H. Dawson, T. H. Day, C. J. Dean, P. Dier, K. W. R.
Dixon, D. C. Dunn, L. A. Edwards, R. W. Ellaway, L. J. W.
Ewing, A. G. Fisher, A. C. L. Fraser, J. R. Gardner, M. R. Gifford,
A. Grant, J. V. Grimes, G. A. Hall, P. J. Hall, T. I. Hall, L.
Hatcher, M. A. Hedges, D. J. Hoddinott, P. A. Holmes, R. T.
Hook, G. F. Keeys, I. A. L. Kilbey.

Form IY: R. Knight, P. J. Leather, N. P. Loukes, R. A. Lucas, T.
A. Marsh, P. R. Mildenhall, R. C. H. Moorshead, M. R. Morris, I.
W. Moss, N. W. Moss, P. R. Munson, R. G. Parks, R. E. Parsons,
T. J. Pegram, D. C. Pollard, R. D. Pratt, A. R. F. Redgrave, J.
A. Roberts, M. J. Smith, N. Spackman, A. F. Stewart, G. G. Stone,
T. G. Trinder, J. D. Urwick, J. R. Veysey, K. A. R. Vines, M.
A. Wade, J. C. M. Watts, C. R. Webb, M. P. Westwood, R.
L. White, R. H. Wiggins, A. J. Williams, D. H. Williams, C. R.
Winfield.

HAMLET

(December 8th, 9th, 10th, 1955)

The Dramatic Society embarked on their most ambitious venture when Mr. L. C. J. Griffin decided to produce "Hamlet". Opinions differed on the success of the production (*vide*, in fact, the local press). We will merely put on record that three full houses obviously enjoyed

the performances; and express our thanks to a parent and OA, Mr. C. C. Woodley, for the following critique.

"A school production of so gigantic a play as *Hamlet* must be approached by any critic with humility. A production that faces the difficulties this one faced, with no access to the stage until the dress rehearsal, one hardly dares criticize at all. The first thing to do is to pay a warm tribute to the producer, and the stage manager, and everyone who helped in the production, down to the smallest and greenest stage-hand. Especially one must admire Mr. Cooper's set.

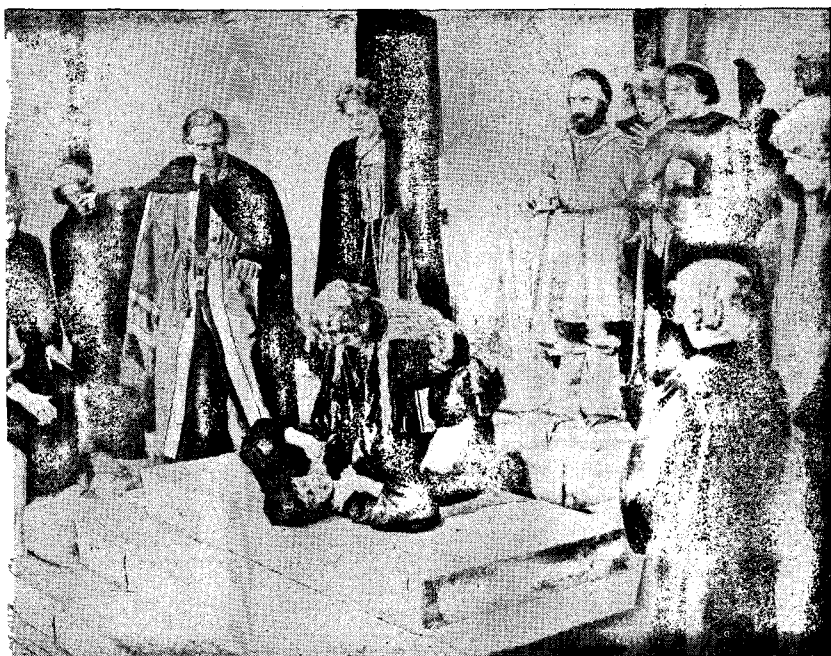
The question arises whether any school — especially any single-sex school — should attempt *Hamlet* at all. Charles Lamb thought *Hamlet* moreactable than *King Lear*, but with schoolboy players in mind I should be inclined to reverse Lamb's judgement. If a school can find a *Lear* it can set about that play: storm, horrors, and all. But the theme of *Hamlet* makes it, after *Antony and Cleopatra*, the most difficult of Shakespeare's plays for a schoolboy cast.

Hamlet procrastinates. Why? Because one part of him hesitates to do what his father's spirit has commanded him ("Kill Claudius"). Yet there are good reasons for revenge:

"How stand I then
That have a father kill'd, a mother stain'd
Excitements of my reason and my blood,
And let all sleep?"

We note the double motive. *Hamlet* dutifully confesses his obligation to his father, but it is his mother's duplicity to which again and again, in anger and in tears, he harps back. His uncle is an "adulterous beast", their love is "damned incest". "Look you", he tells Ophelia, "how cheerfully my mother looks". And again, "It hath made me mad". So much depends on Gertrude; her importance in the play is second only to that of *Hamlet* himself. The scene in her closet is a key scene. And Gertrude must be in love — physically, grossly — with Claudius. She has chosen to leave her "fair mountain", to "batten on this moor". This is why, while Gertrude may be, should be, queenly, she must not be gentlewomanly. For this reason, of different Gertrudes I have seen, that of Miss Eileen Herlie, in the film, comes nearest to my conception of the part, and that of Miss Diana Wynyard, in the current London production, a long way after.

How shall a schoolboy Gertrude give us all this? Of course boy actors played the female parts in Elizabethan times, but I doubt whether the Gertrude of Willie Hughes ranks with the greatest performances of all time. One thing may be said for John Foden's performance: he spoke the lines beautifully. The music of "There is a willow" made us, as is right, forget the intrusiveness of it.



One feels that the school's decision to attempt *Hamlet* this year had something to do with Tony Gardner's presence in the Sixth Form. If this was so, I say the school was right. One could not reasonably hope for a much better schoolboy performance. Gardner acts not only with his voice, and face, but with his hands, and even with his back. He can forget (and yet remember) that he is on the stage, as he sinks himself in his part. So he took us with him from the Corn Exchange to the halls and battlements of Elsinore. One thing that we may ask of a school production is a reasonably good speaking of the lines. Here, while some of the other actors were competent, Gardner's delivery of the blank verse had a speed, flexibility and rhythm that put it in a class of its own. His performance perhaps lacked one thing — a certain princeliness. We did not quite feel the rightness of Horatio's line:

"Why, what a king is this!"

Thomas Kempinski as Claudius had the right physique and a rich speaking voice. (Incidentally, he did great credit to the make-up department). He also had the right smoothness. He gave Hamlet good cause to set it down,

"That one may smile and smile, and be a villain."

When he opened a letter we felt that its message was urgent.

Neville Grant's Polonius was well conceived and well sustained, but rather monotonously so. Polonius is a colossal bore who must yet amuse the audience. I found him a little too tedious.

Ophelia is an easier assignment than Gertrude. A young boy may well get her innocence, her tenderness, and Robert Carter made us feel these things, particularly in the scene where she returns Hamlet's gifts. Here Gardner got the lift that other characters in other scenes sometimes failed to give him. Carter promises well.

Horatio (Martin Iredale) and Laertus (Roger Scott-Taggart) were competent, but neither character came wholly to life. Horatio was handicapped by having one arm in a sling; for one facetious moment I wondered if the producer was giving us the wrong Horatio. Laertes had anger and indignation in eye and voice, but lacked the necessary dash, was not cap-a-pied the very man. He seemed to have forgotten something of his father's advice; his wig would have done him little credit in Paris.

So often one finds in a school production that everything depends on a few leading actors; people in minor parts just walk on and say their lines. (I seem to remember this as a weakness in the school's *Richard II*). But this *Hamlet* gave us some outstanding minor performances. Osric (John Saywell) had a quite unexpected flourish; the gravediggers (Christopher Wray and Jonathan Foster) were excellent — the second

was a delicious sawney; and Ian Trenaman as First Player enjoyed himself so much that we enjoyed him too.

If a critic must find something to dislike, let me instance two small things. I know that Hamlet's soliloques must be broken up by movement, but I found the movement overdone, irritating and distracting. And while the Ghost was a very ingenious Ghost, he was perhaps too ingenious; certainly too immobile. I like my ghosts to walk.

C. C. WOODLEY.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

Results this season have not been as good as we had expected although we can at least say that the Fifteen has shown an improvement upon last year's side. Team building again proved difficult. Six of last year's Fifteen were available at the beginning of the term but of these Bush and Gammack were unable to retain their places:

The team was therefore built up around Buckland, Wastie and Older in the pack, whilst Parsons, a wing forward last season, was successfully played as wing threequarter. The half-backs naturally picked themselves, Spinks at stand-off and Scott-Taggart at scrum-half. This combination was quite good but the problem of finding two centres forced us to put Spinks there, Scott-Taggart at stand-off and to bring in Paige as scrum-half. Paige was a great success. Unfortunately we were considerably longer in finding a partner for Spinks in the centre — Thistlewood, Campbell-Dykes, Langton and Woodruff all played. Langton, potentially the better player, handled badly and so Woodruff ultimately got the place. Langton then displaced Howard at full back.

Of the forwards, Buckland skippered and played well throughout the season and Wastie was also consistently good; Rallings, though variable, proved a fine opportunist and Broad W. C., Dimond and Candy were promising youngsters. Enser played well until injured.

So far as matches went, the Fifteen played several very good games, notably against Bloxham, Magdalen and the Old Boys but lost rather badly to R.G.S. High Wycombe. In general the pack did well, but the outsiders, potentially and individually promising, never really "clicked", particularly because of bad handling and defence.

During the season the following colours were awarded:—

Full Colours—Paige, Scott-Taggart M. J., Spinks and Wastie.

Half Colours—Broad R. D., Broad W. C., Campbell-Dykes, Candy, Dimond, Enser, Howard J. A., Langton, Rallings, Woodruff and Young C.

The final arrangement of the XV was as follows:—Langton; Parsons, Spinks, Woodruff, Young; Scott-Taggart, Paige; Older, Candy, Broad R. D., Buckland, Wastie, Broad W. C., Dimond, Rallings.

The following have also played:—Howard (9 times); Grosvenor (7 times); Enser (6 times); Campbell-Dykes (5 times); Kempinski (4 times); Spring and Thistlewood (3 times) and Westcott (once).

D.O.W.

FIRST XV CHARACTERS

J. T. BUCKLAND (Captain, Colours 1954). Second row forward. A versatile and hardworking forward, whose play has been consistently good throughout the season. As skipper he has done well, but as scrum leader has not perhaps used vocal encouragement sufficiently. (D.O.W.)

G. F. WASTIE (Secretary, Colours 1955). Second row forward. A much improved player who has played extremely well this season, setting a fine example in defence and backing up.

M. J. SCOTT-TAGGART (Colours 1955). Stand-off half. He has been moved about considerably this season. A natural scrum half, he has nonetheless given yoeman service at stand-off and occasionally in the centre. He is prone to an "off-day" now and then, but in general his tackling and attacking play has been excellent.

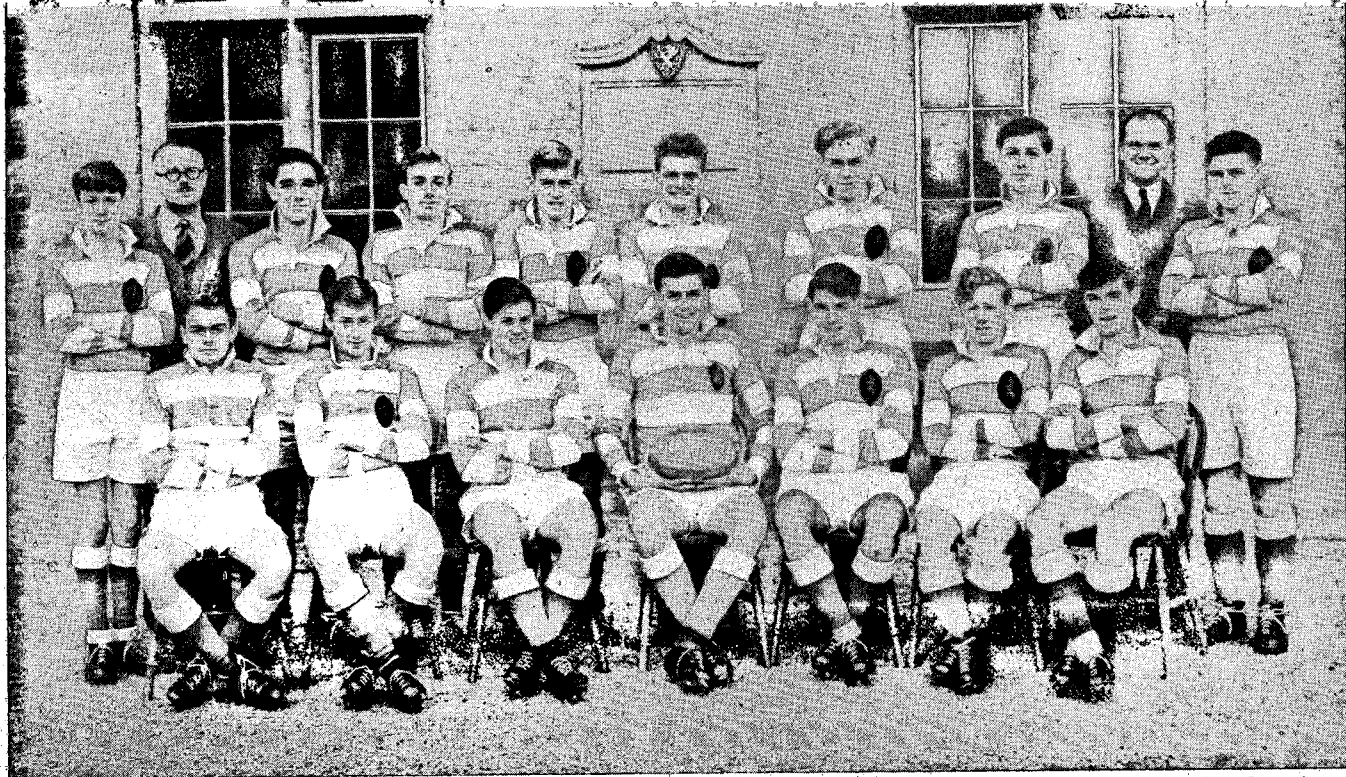
J. C. SPINKS (Colours 1955). Right Centre. Potentially a very good threequarter. He has an eye for an opening, is a determined runner and a fearless tackler. At present he lacks experience and tends to hang on to the ball overlong.

R. J. PAIGE (Colours 1955). Scrum-half. A most courageous player whose zest for the game is a pleasure to observe. Defensive play is first class but attack and pass out are at present lacking in polish.

PARSONS I. J. (Half Colours 1953). Left wing. An excellent attacking wing, who runs with great determination and is most difficult to stop. Defensive play is not up to the same standard unfortunately. A useful place kicker.

OLDER P. O. (Half Colours 1954). Front row forward. Very keen but erratic in his play, he has disappointed this season. He must learn to be less wild in the loose and not to knock the ball back from the line-out.

YOUNG C. (Half Colours 1955). Right wing. A very consistent player, somewhat lacking in pace but elusive and determined. A first-class defensive player, he can play well at full back although his kicking needs more length.



Back Row—P. S. Candy, Mr. D. O. Willis, W. C. Broad, C. S. Woodruff, D. J. Langton, P. O. Older, R. D. Broad,
M. C. Rallings, Mr. J. Talbot, G. Dimond.

Front Row—C. Young, J. C. Spinks, M. J. Scott-Taggart, J. T. Buckland, G. F. Wastie, R. J. Paige, I. J. Parsons:
(Capt.) (Sec.)

BROAD R. D. (Half Colours 1955). Front row forward. A strong, keen forward, especially useful in the tight and the line-out where he plays most intelligently.

RALLINGS M. C. (Half Colours 1955). Wing forward. An opportunist, he plays with intelligence but not always as energetically as he might. His place kicking towards the end of term was excellent.

BROAD W. C. (Half Colours 1955). Wing forward. Active and versatile, he is a most promising footballer and his dribbling is most effective.

LANGTON D. J. (Half Colours 1955). Full back. He played at centre for most of the season and was not a success being inclined to watch the man instead of the ball and as a result to handle badly. But as full back he played very well, tackling well and fielding and kicking most accurately.

CANDY P. S. (Half Colours 1955). Hooker. In spite of his small size, he has been an asset to the side, not only for his excellent hooking but also for his active loose play and his keen tackling.

DIMOND G. (Half Colours 1955). Lock forward. His very good loose play and tackling secured him his place in the side. He promises well.

WOODRUFF C. S. (Half Colours 1955). Left Centre. A late-comer to the team, he played well in attack although occasionally inclined to handle badly. He should improve with more experience.

HOWARD J. A. (Half Colours 1955). Full back. He played in the early part of the season and proved a fearless tackler and a good kick. His sense of positioning, however, left a lot to be desired.

J.T.B.

MATCH REPORTS

v. D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 28th September. Won 14—10.

Against a strong team of greater experience, the School opened the season well. Appropriately, the skipper, Buckland, scored first for the School but other tries came later from Spinks, Rallings and Parsons. The first try was converted by Grosvenor. Success in this game was largely due to the hardworking pack and the superior fitness of the School.

v. Reading School (a). Sat., 1st October. Lost 3—8.

Reading were the faster and more agile side in a very scrappy game in which there was far too much whistle. Whilst the forwards were

fairly evenly matched, Reading's hooker had a good day and their backs, given plenty of the ball, outshone the School. Nonetheless Reading only managed to win by a goal and a penalty goal to a penalty goal. Howard played a fine defensive game. The School penalty goal was kicked by Parsons.

v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 8th October. Lost 6—19.

The School played without much spirit throughout most of this game and were deservedly beaten. The School scored first through a penalty goal by Grosvenor, but thereafter, in spite of some spirited play by Howard and Scott-Taggart, they failed to hold the Newbury backs and dissipated the opportunities that came their way.

v. Pembroke College (h). Wed., 12th October. Lost 6—15.

The School played well and justified a reshuffle of its back division. Beaten in the tight, loose play yet enabled them to hold their own for most of the game and put Parsons over for two unconverted tries. In the second half, the greater experience of Pembroke enabled them to draw ahead by three goals.

v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a). Sat. 15th October. Won 21—17.

The School play in the first half of this somewhat slow game was decidedly mediocre, and St. Edwards had secured a commanding lead of 17—8 by half time. Play improved considerably in the second half and Scott-Taggart made some fine openings to put the School ahead. Tries were scored for the School by Scott-Taggart (2), Rallings, Dimond and Spring, and of these Grosvenor converted two.

v. Solihull School (a). Sat. 22nd October. Lost 3—15.

This was not a good game and had Solihull made more use of their opportunities the score might well have been much higher because the School defensive play was poor. Both forwards and backs were sluggish and the only score for the School came from an opportunist try by Rallings following a forward rush.

v. Radley College 2nd XV (h). Wed. 26th October. Drawn 9—9.

After a slow start in which Radley scored two quick tries, the School settled down to quite good football. Nevertheless, Radley had a half-time lead of 9 points to nil. In the second half, although often beaten in the tight, the School gradually dominated the play and tries were scored by Broad W. C., Spinks and Scott-Taggart,

v. *Magdalen College School (h)*. *Wed., 2nd November. Lost 5—6.*

This was an exciting game and good ruggèr was played. The School play was very much better than in previous matches and M.C.S. only succeeded in snatching victory in the closing minutes of the game. The first score from Spinks, who ran through the Magdalen defence to touch down near the posts, took our opponents by surprise and the conversion by Campbell-Dykes gave the School a lead which they held on to for most of the game. Just before half-time, Magdalen scored a try from a scrum near the School line and there the score stayed until shortly before no-side when a further try gave them a hard earned victory.

v. *Southfield School (h)*. *Sat., 5th November. Won 19—3.*

Good, loose forward play with some fine bouts of passing enabled the School to counteract the domination of the line-outs by the Southfield pack. The School backs in general handled badly and so missed several chances of scoring. Tries were scored by Buckland (2), Parsons, and Wastie, Howard kicked a penalty goal and there were two conversions.

v. *Bloxham School (h)*. *Sat., 12th November. Won 9—3.*

Undoubtedly, this was one of the better games and for once the School played as a team. The forwards gave the backs plenty of the ball and few mistakes were made. Spinks opened the scoring with a try resulting from a fine interception, and Parsons and Scott-Taggart added the additional points. A rally by Bloxham towards the end of the game came too late.

v. *City of Oxford School (a)*. *Wed., 16th November. Lost 0—10.*

The School were slow in settling down and allowed C.O.S. to score two goals within the first quarter of an hour. Thereafter neither side could make much impression upon its opponents but inasmuch as the School lost the majority of the tight scrums, the School backs had a poor day. There was perhaps better backing up by the C.O.S. XV and the result was a fair one.

v. *R.G.S., High Wycombe (a)*. *Sat., 19th November. Lost 5—24.*

The School played badly in this game lacking the proper fighting spirit to combat the more agile and determined play of their opponents. Paige at scrum half played a most courageous game, but apart from this and a good try by Rallings, who also converted, the School were mediocre in performance and inclined to lose heart in the concluding stages of the game.

v. *Windsor County School (h)*. *Sat., 26th November. Won 15—14.*

The School showed a return to better form in this game, played on an ideal afternoon, and were perhaps unlucky not to score more heavily. Indeed they might well have done so but for the fine defensive

kicking of Windsor's captain. It was pleasant to see the two wings, Parsons (2) and Young, score tries as a result of good movements, whilst Rallings' three conversions proved most gratifying.

v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 3rd December. Lost 8—12.

This was an excellent game against one of the youngest and strongest of recent Old Boys' teams. Despite lack of weight in the scrum, the School had its share of the ball from the tight, although Millard and Emerton tended to dominate the line-outs on behalf of the O.A.s. Tackling was consistently good in both teams and it was only persistent attack in the second half that gave the O.A.s victory by 3 tries and a penalty goal to a goal and a penalty goal. O.A. tries were scored by Free, Marshall and Millard, whilst Dimond scored for the School.

G.F.W.

SECOND FIFTEEN

The Second XV has once again been a chopping block for First XV experiments and this is in part reflected in its match results. There have been some notable victories and some equally notable defeats, but in general the team has shown improved form during the season. Perhaps the most pleasing games were those against Henley and Thame, both first fifteens, whilst several other matches produced moments of excitement as well as rigger of some promise. The team was well captained by Bush, who, of course, hooked for last year's First XV, and fielded on occasion a number of other Half Colours. Several members — Paige, Woodruff, Enser — earned promotion to the First XV and quite a few showed distinct promise for next season. Peedell at stand-off, though not very robust, kicks well and has an eye for an opening, Trenaman is a good scrum half, Davies with more experience will make a useful centre, whilst forwards Hiles, Kibble, and Westcott have plenty of rigger in them.

The final arrangement of the team was:—Howard J. A.; Gammack, Davies P. G., Le Voi, Kempinski; Peedell, Trenaman R. J.; Grosvenor, Bush, Hiles, Kibble B. P., Enser, Fysh; Westcott and Campbell-Dykes.

Also played:—Iredale (7 times); Woodruff (6 times); Antrobus N. A. J. (5 times); Beckett, Spring, Emmett (4 times); Dimond, Thistlewood (3 times); Broad R. D. (twice); Knight L. A., Older, Paige, Saywell and Young C. (once each).

Match Results

v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 8th October.	Lost 6—8
v. Henley G.S. 1st XV (h). Sat., 15th October.	Drawn 14—14
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 22nd October.	Won 13—6
v. Radley College 3rd XV (h). Wed., 26th October.	Lost 6—27

v. Magdalen College S. (h). Wed., 2nd November.	Lost 3—27
v. Southfield School (h). Sat., 5th November.	Won 25—11
v. Thame G.S. 1st XV (h). Sat., 12th November.	Lost 3—14
v. City of Oxford School (h). Wed., 16th November.	Won 21— 0
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 19th November.	Lost 5—14
v. Windsor County School (h). Sat., 26th November.	Won 11— 0.

THIRD FIFTEEN

The season was not very successful and some heavy defeats were suffered in the first half of the term. But the infusion of a little new blood in the two final matches led to good results and in the final game against C.O.S. the team tried to play good rugger, which promises well for next year. The team has been captained by Dunkley and several of its members played on occasion for the 2nd Fifteen.

The final arrangement of the team was:—Beckett; Saywell, Bragg, Thistlewood, Maloney; Fitzsimons, Penney; Stacey, Caswell, Dunkley, Dunman, Barnett, Blake, Emmett, Glenny.

Also played:—Le Voi (3 times); Antrobus N. A. J., Gardner A. J., Taggart R. B. (twice); Fysh, Knight L. A., Bretscher M. S., Iredale, Robins, Westbrook B., Woodley S. C., Woodward and Scragg (once each).

Match Results

v. Reading School (h). Sat., 1st October.	Lost 3—24
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 8th October.	Lost 0—17
v. Radley College 4th XV (a). Wed., 26th October.	Lost 6—20
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 2nd November.	Drawn 3— 3
v. City of Oxford School (a). Wed., 7th December.	Won 22— 0

'UNDER 15' FIFTEEN

This has been a somewhat curious season. Of the eight matches played, the Fifteen has won five, two of them by comfortable margins. But two of the defeats were pretty crushing ones, especially the opening game against Reading. The main reason behind this erratic performance was the disappointing back play, principally defensively, and the fact that the opponent who was able to dominate the School pack was bound to win. However many good lessons were learned and several players were outstanding. The captain, Smith R. B., is to be commended especially upon his place kicking.

The final team arrangement was:—Baldwin; Womar, Longworth, Gardner B. P., Doig; Smith R. B., Phipps; Dickenson, Jouault, Darroch, Lees, Redknapp, Morris D. G., Cork, Lifson.

Also played:—Wallen (6 times); Elliott, Ford (3 times); Ganf (twice); Davis P. R., Denniford, Kingston, Rhys and Tuck (once each).

Match Results

v. Reading School (a). Sat., 1st October.	Lost 3—54
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 8th October.	Won 8—6
v. Henley Grammar School (h). Sat., 15th October.	Won 30—10
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 22nd October.	Won 9—6
v. Southfield School (a). Sat., 5th November.	Won 6—3
v. Thame Grammar School (a). Sat., 12th November.	Lost 3—15
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 23rd November.	Won 27—3
v. City of Oxford School (a). Wed., 30th November.	Lost 0—30

'UNDER 14' FIFTEEN

The team, well led by Ford, has enjoyed a successful season. The backs, particularly strong in the centre, developed into a grand scoring machine crossing their opponents' line nineteen times, but the forwards, though a useful pack, did not show sufficient zest and were slow backing up. It was largely this fact which led to the defeat by M.C.S.

The team was arranged as follows:—Milne; Carter R. M., Ganf, Ford, Parker; Utin, Nurton M. D.; Wyatt, Kent, Lewis, Hamilton, Campbell, Cross, Farrington, Kandiah.

Also played:—Perry (3 times); Neilan (twice); Beisley, Johnson C. T., Kingston and Morgan T. I. (once each).

Match Results

v. Reading School (h). Sat., 1st October.	Won 33—0
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 22nd October.	Won 9—3
v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 12th November.	Won 22—0
v. Magdalen College School (h). Sat., 23rd November.	Lost 0—6
v. City of Oxford School (a). Wed., 30th November.	Won 22—8

HOUSE MATCHES

The 'Under 14' Rigger League, started last Michaelmas Term, was again played on Wednesday afternoons and proved an exciting series of games. Tesdale were a somewhat weak side this year, failing to gain any points and losing their matches by large margins, but the three remaining Houses were fairly evenly matched. The competition was won by Blacknall (6 points) with Bennett and Reeves equal at 3 points each.

In the Senior inter-House Knock-out Competition, Bennett gained the Lin Cup by defeating Tesdale by two goals to a goal and a penalty goal (10—8). The Bennett score came from a try by Langton after an interception and a scrum try, both being converted by Campbell.

Dykes. Tesdale scored through a try from Parsons converted by Howard and by a good penalty goal also kicked by Howard. Tesdale had previously defeated Blacknall 9—3 whilst Bennett had beaten Reeves by a similar score.

The Junior competition was not so exciting, Bennett House team being too good for its opponents. Reeves managed to defeat Blacknall by 19—8, but were overwhelmed 42—0 in the final by Bennett who had earlier beaten Tesdale 11—3. Thus Bennett also gained the Robinson Cup.

The annual end of term match between Boarders and Dayboys was unfortunately cancelled owing to commitments connected with the School play.

Vacation Rugger

During the Christmas holidays, several members of the First Fifteen—Broad W. C., Buckland, Dimond, and Young—played in the County Schoolboys' Trial at Reading on Dec. 23rd. Subsequently, Buckland was selected to play for Berkshire in three matches against Worcestershire and Herefordshire, against Oxfordshire and against Dorset and Wiltshire. He had the distinction of scoring a try in the first of these games.

D.O.W.

CROSS COUNTRY

After the cancellation of last year's races, it was planned this year to pioneer an alternative course in the Boar's Hill area so that, should the normal course be again flooded, a race of sorts might still take place. In point of fact this pioneering was not carried out as the weather conditions throughout the term were good and it became obvious that the old course would be practicable. House runs had been carried out during the second half of term and when the actual races took place on the afternoon of Wednesday, 14th December there was a goodly entry for both senior and junior events. Both races were shortened by about 150 yards as a new finishing post near the Boat-house was decided upon and therefore times are not comparable with those of previous years.

The senior course was won by R. D. Gammack, who also won in 1953, in the fairly fast time of 19 min. 50.4 secs. He was followed closely and strongly challenged in the last thirty yards by Parsons. Of the large number of runners in the senior event, Tesdale House fielded most and somewhat naturally proved the winning team, a feat which they also accomplished in the junior race. This race was won by Proudman in 11 mins. 41.6 secs.

Points in the House Competition were as follows:—

Senior: Tesdale 518½; Blacknall 456; Reeves 450½; Bennett 415.

Junior: Tesdale 189; Bennett 120; Reeves 80; Blacknall 76.

The Reeves Bowl for the House securing most points in the two races combined was won, of course, by Tesdale with 707½ points against Bennett's 535 points.

The first 20 placings in the Senior race were:—Gammack (Bl), Parsons I. J. (T), Exon P. D. (R), Scott-Taggart M. J. (T), Nichol (Bl), Broad R. D. (T), Bretscher M. S. (Bl), Kempinski (B), Stevens (R), Hiles (R), Campbell-Dykes (B), Davies P. G. (B), Spinks (Bl), Becker (T), Culley (Bl), Older (R), Bush (B), Cooper (R), Oliver (T), Randell (T).

The first 20 placings in the Junior race were:—Proudman (R), Smith R. B. (T), Harvey R. W. (T), Ford (B), Evans D. R. (R), Davis P. R. (T), Baldwin (T), Wyatt (Bl), Milne (B), Dawson W. R. (T), Anderson (T), Rowles (T), Watts R. C. (Bl), Gresswell (B), Lay (R), Auchinvole (Bl), Bampton R. W. (B), Tuck (T), Bampton R. J. (B), Slater (B).

Our thanks are due to Miss Cullen who once again allowed us to run over her land. At the end of term meeting of the G.G.C., Bowen H. C. was elected Cross-Country Captain for next season.

R.D.G.

MINOR GAMES

During the Michaelmas Term five senior boys played Fives as a full-time sport. It was pleasing to see, too, that many juniors were playing the game in their spare time.

We are particularly grateful to Mr. Helliwell who arranged a Junior Fives tournament. This attracted a large entry, and the final, between Neilan and Ganf, will be played off in the Lent Term. There was also a tournament for first formers, in the final of which Veysey beat Rose-year.

In the Lent Term we are hoping to hold an under fifteen inter-house fives competition, the winning house to receive a cup.

A.J.G.

THE COMBINED CADET FORCE

The new year in the Corps began—as we all like it to do — with a bang, in the sense that our numbers, thanks largely to a record 'intake' of 71 recruits, rose to a new high of 290. The recruits were a goodly batch and one of them, P. J. Ford, outstanding for his age in

smartness and ability, graduated in his first term from Recruit to C. Coy. This is noteworthy in itself; but we mention it particularly to stress the point that the chance of 'accelerated promotion' is a very real chance in our 'army'. Seniority does indeed carry great weight, but it is not the beginning and the end.

Our record number of 290 fell, in the course of the term, to 287, one of the defections being to the ATC. Here again an individual case is singled out to point a moral. It is realised that a RAF Section in the Corps would satisfy the interests of a number of post-Cert. 'A' cadets. That we do not "lay it on" is due primarily to the fact that we have no general duties RAF officer of our own to take on the work of such a section. This is an essential as the experiences of the Sapper and Signal Sections have proved. In any case, we make no apology for this lack: the purpose here is to stress the fact that, for the boy who is thinking of a regular flying commission in the Air Force, the prime requirement is 'leadership training'. This the Army Section, with the opportunities it affords for command, can and does provide better than a specialised technical training. At our level, the earthy labours of the infantry soldier are as good a training as is available to the Cheshires of the future.

The overall increase in our numbers this term was linked with an exceptionally high outgoing of senior NCO's. Two Under-officers and two CSM's left us at the end of the Summer Term so that a considerable burden of responsibility fell this term on the shoulders of our newly promoted and only CSM. It is greatly to his credit that standards of smartness and turn-out on parade have been well maintained. (And incidentally, we are very pleased to know that D. A. Jones, S.U.O. last year, having missed the bus for Sandhurst in the ordinary way, has already been accepted from the ranks for a Regular Commission). What has been said of the CSM applies generally to the NCO's. With the largest contingent ever we have been thin on top in that Corporals, not long released from the NCO's Cadre, have had to take over command of platoons; and almost without exception, they have proved their worth.

The Signal Section has always, from its birth over a year ago, been an ailing child because of difficulties over equipment and training assistance. This term it has sustained a grievous blow through the sudden, tragic death of its officer, Lieut. Toplis, just when it seemed to be finding its feet. It has been necessary, temporarily, to close down, but we hope to be in operation again at the latest in a year's time from now, on a sound training basis.

Field Day was held early on 27th October — so early that it was not possible to make special arrangements for any specialist section. The R.A. ran their own training exercise, with the Signals providing communications by telephone and wireless — a noteworthy event, this, but

otherwise, RE and PI Sections had on this occasion to stomach their pride and join the Infantry in some "real" soldiering. This took the form — the exercises being confined to Shotover Hill and its approaches — of contact battles at platoon level, in separate areas. Much useful work was done, of a kind that we get all too little opportunity to practise. Even so we saw again the basic principle of Fire and Movement "honoured more in the breach than in the observance!"

The parade for Remembrance Day should have followed the familiar pattern: Guard of Honour, Buglers, Band, and a representative Contingent, all taking part in the March Past with Service contingents after the ceremony at the Cenotaph. Things fell out otherwise, in two respects: the C.O., for the first time, missed the parade through injury, and the March Past, following a heavy downpour during the Cenotaph service, was cancelled. The Guard, however, and the Buglers, had the opportunity to "do their stuff", and they fully maintained, in trying conditions, the high standard which is now expected of us. The buglers performed again in the afternoon, at Sutton Courtenay, and again their work was highly praised.

We acknowledge gratefully the training assistance we have received so generously from our friends and helpers — from the Chief Instructor and Staff of the Joint School of Photographic Interpretation; from Captain Burrows and Sgt. North of the School of Military Survey, who have taken the RE Section under their wing and trained them so effectively that all passed the Classification test at the end of term; and from BSM Wheeler of the OUSTC, whose work with the RA Section is invaluable and greatly appreciated. To all these and 'all other our benefactors', humble and hearty thanks.

In the course of the term, the following promotions were approved:

- To be Capt.—Lt. K. M. D. Holloway
- To be C.S.M.—C.Q.M.S. I. L. McLoughlin
- To be C.Q.M.S.—Sgts. Brown, Dunkley, Enser
- To be B.Q.M.S.—L/Sgt. Howard
- To be Sgt.—Cpl. Robins

S.C.P.

Royal Naval Section

The Michaelmas term has been another term without great excitement, but of modest achievement. A somewhat unusual Field Day was spent at Greenwich where a most enjoyable brief visit to the Royal Naval College was followed by a look round the National Maritime Museum.

The Section now numbers thirty-three members, and of these five passed for Petty Officer, four for Leading Seaman and five for Able Seaman during the term,

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

Field Day saw us following up the good work learnt at Gower, and having a mock camp in the meadows by the river. This obviously holds out great possibilities in preparing for future camps.

A smart turn-out attended the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial, only to be drenched by the ill-timed rain.

Two senior members of the Troop attended and passed a fire-fighting course at the Abingdon fire station organized by the 39th North Berks.

The intake of new recruits was higher than usual and already several have been invested. It is to be hoped that many of these will have reached camping proficiency by next summer.

M.N.W.

LIBRARY NOTES

The Library has been greatly enriched by a large number of books bequeathed by Mr. Ross Barker. They cover a wide range of subjects, with the emphasis on English literature and classics, and we are very grateful to the executors for arranging their transfer. We are also much indebted to the Royal Numismatic Society for the gift of two more books provided by the W. S. Marshall Memorial Fund — *Coin Collecting* by Milne & Sutherland and *Coinage of Roman Britain* by Askew. Our thanks, too, to Mrs. David Green for *The Countryman* and to the following for Leaving Books: M. K. C. Grigsby (*A Grammar of the Film*), J. D. Hall (*Ursule Minoret* and *Le Rouge et Le Noir*), D. A. Jones (*Homer's Daughter*) D. M. Jones (*In Spite of Dungeons*), D. M. P. Jones (*Memoirs of Hadrian*), D. J. James (*General Astronomy*), N. A. Carter (*Tramp Royal*), R. M. Marchbanks (*Peterborough Court*), D. P. Rawlins (*Short Stories III, W. S. Maugham*), E. G. Rockall (*Random Writings* and *A.G.'s Book of the Rifle*), P. J. Simmonds (*The Boat Race*), P. Stroud Viney (*Expansion of England*) and J. R. Pratt (*Caterpillars of British Moths*).

The Staff of junior librarians, working on a daily rota, have done very good work checking the books in and out and keeping the rooms tidy. Their labours are much appreciated.

G.F.D.

THE ORCHESTRA

The orchestra were very busy in the Michaelmas Term, taking part in the S. Cecilia's Day Festival in Reading, together with some fifty players from other schools. Our group of thirteen was the largest one participating.

Since the Festival, the organisation of orchestral music has changed considerably. There are now some fifty boys playing in either the

Senior or Junior Orchestra, both of which have Strings, Woodwind and Brass sections. The Senior Orchestra is practising for the North Berkshire Festival in March and also is rehearsing Boyce's Eighth Symphony. The Junior group had only two practices, but showed keenness and initiative.

We again owe very much to Mrs. Kitching, Mrs. Fry and Mrs. Woolley. It is thanks to them that we have been able to form another group of players.

Finally, a word of praise to G. E. G. Brown, whose solo trumpet playing, both at Reading and when playing in Purcell's "Te Deum" in Chapel, was outstanding.

E.H.F.S.

BRASS BAND

There were some thirty members in the Michaelmas Term, and we concentrated on the Remembrance Day Parade and the Carol Party; also we were able to buy six new instruments. By July the standard should be as high as it was last year, thanks for which will be largely due to the untiring help and encouragement of Mr. Clack.

E.H.F.S.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

THE ROYSSE SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the Michaelmas Term, at the first of which the following new members were welcomed: G. E. G. Brown, D. G. Dunkley, M. B. Enser, P. J. A. Fysh, R. D. Gammack, A. J. Gardner, D. J. Langton, P. O. Older, M. C. Rallings, M. J. Scott-Taggart, R. W. Westcott, S. C. Woodley.

At the first meeting held on 19th October, T. M. J. Kempinski read a paper entitled "Give me Doctor Jazz". The paper was well read and very interesting. The ensuing discussion was spirited, and ranged over a wide variety of subjects, including traditional jazz, "swing" music, and jiving.

On the 9th November, the Secretary (J. A. Howard) read a paper entitled "An Apology for the Civil Service". Discussion was thoughtful and contrasted the deficiencies of the service with its many fine traditions. It was generally agreed that compared with similar systems, the British Civil Service was the best of its kind.

The final meeting of the term was held on 29th November, when P. O. Older read a paper entitled "Call it Chess". The paper on the whole was stimulating but disjointed. While the theory of evolution provided a central theme, the reader ranged widely among the by-paths of philosophy and theology. As might be expected, discussion was lively but inconclusive.

We are extremely grateful to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their kind hospitality at every meeting.

J.A.H.

THE TURNOR SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting on the 23rd September, the following officers were either elected or re-elected: President—The Headmaster; Chairman—N. K. Hammond; Secretary—I. L. McLoughlin; Committee—A. J. Gardner, B. D. Winkett, S. C. Woodley.

Three meetings were held during the term, at the first of which Mr. D. W. Llewellyn, M.A., LL.B., spoke on "The Commonwealth since the War". He first explained how the Commonwealth started — the pioneers and their ships (explaining why much of the Empire was on the edge of the Indian Ocean). He then outlined the important changes that the Commonwealth has undergone in the past ten years, and surmised future changes on the road to self-government.

At the next meeting, Colonel S. M. Woolrych, O.B.E., explained the Work of the Council of Europe, saying that it aimed at European Unity in many different aspects. He made clear the United Kingdom's rôle, and shewed why only about half of Europe is represented. We thank Colonel Woolrych for the pamphlets he left the Society.

The final meeting was held on the 11th November, when four members spoke on countries they had visited: D. S. Gerrard on Germany, N. J. H. Grant on Holland, P. D. Kibble on Cyprus, and R. M. Kennedy on St. Helena. All were very interesting, and the Society hopes to have more talks of this nature in the future.

I. L. McL.

DEBATING SOCIETY

A full and successful term, rendered memorable by the first inter-school debate, was enjoyed by the large membership of the Society. The term began with the Annual General Meeting, at which the Headmaster was re-elected President; C. S. Woodruff was elected Chairman; D. S. Garrard Secretary, and A. J. Gardner, N. J. H. Grant and S. C. Woodley to the Committee.

The first debate was a spirited discussion on the motion that "This House considers the Press has too much freedom". The proposition, led by D. S. Gerrard, seconded by B. G. Phillips, carried the motion successfully. N. J. H. Grant and S. L. Norris opposing gained 15 votes against 35.

An "Any Questions" session was held at the next meeting, when an able and well-informed team, consisting of the Headmaster, K. M. D. Holloway Esq., A. A. Hillary Esq., T. M. J. Kempinski, P. J. A. Fysh and S. C. Woodley answered the diversified questions with perspicacity and confidence.

A topical motion was debated at the third meeting, when C. S. Woodruff and B. Westbrook proposed that "Guy Fawkes had the right idea". Opposed by B. D. Winkett and M. J. Blythe, the motion was closely fought. An amendment proposed by N. J. H. Grant disrupted the meeting, and the Chairman was compelled to use his casting vote to declare the motion defeated.

J. M. Mobbs and B. R. Smith proposed at the next meeting that "Britain should retain Cyprus". The debate was most one-sided, and despite competent speeches for the Opposition by C. M. Dunman and B. P. Kibble the motion was passed by 35 votes to 3.

The 300th meeting of the Society was held at St. Helen's School when the motion "That in the opinion of this House the end justifies the means" was defeated. D. S. Gerrard and S. C. Woodley proposed the motion, with Miss J. Alston and Miss C. Buckley opposing. This meeting was a very welcome innovation which, it is hoped, will become a regular occurrence.

Another agreeable feature of the session has been the number of members speaking for the first time — a preparation for the continuance of the high standard which characterised the speeches of the session.

D.S.G.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND FILM SOCIETIES

During the Michaelmas Term, the Film Society held six meetings, at which various films borrowed from industrial organisations were shown. The best of these was probably "Rig 20", a thrilling record of an oil-well family.

This has been a quiet term in filming. Last year's film "No Tumbled House" is at present undergoing minor alterations, and when these are completed, it will be entered for the competition of the Institute of Amateur Cinematographers. The only other filming activity was the shooting of a short documentary on the construction of the new classroom block. This, however, has given practice to only a few technicians, and so it is planned to make a fifteen minute fiction film in the Lent Term.

The society would like to pay its own tribute to Mr. Toplis. Only those who have actually worked with him can fully realize how huge was his share in the making of our films. In recognition of our gratitude, the film "No Tumbled House" has been dedicated to its producer.

Finally we should like to thank Mr. Horrex for taking over the sponsorship of the society. He has already shown us that he is a worthy successor to Mr. Toplis,

C.H.

MUSIC SOCIETY

In the Michaelmas Term the Society flourished. There were five gramophone programmes, at which a variety of works were presented by P. M. Watkiss, M. B. Culley, W. W. Budden, the Secretary—M. Q. King, and the Vice-President—Mr. Sawbridge.

During the term the Choir and orchestra gave an informal concert in the Chapel, consisting of Farrant's anthem, "Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake", a chorus from "Israel in Egypt" by Farrant, and Purcell's "Te Deum". They also took part in a "Festival of Praise" organized by the Abingdon Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society on November 8th and in the St. Cecilia's Day Festival (November 22nd) at Reading.

The annual choir outing, which had been postponed from July, took place on October 29th, when we visited St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and heard evensong there.

We are grateful to the Precentor, Canon E. M. Venables, to the Rev. G. R. Dunstan and to the Headmaster of Windsor School for the help they gave us in making arrangements for the excursion.

The term concluded with the annual Carol Service in St. Helen's Church on December 13th.

M.Q.K.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

During the Michaelmas Term it was only possible to hold two meetings. At the first, two films were shown: one, "Farming with a Difference", gave glimpses of a typical day at an experimental farm, and some of the methods which had been found to ensure greater efficiency and production in agriculture. The film also showed the birth of a calf and its first tremendous efforts to stand on its feet. The other film contained two features, one on the testing of new soap powders, the other telling the story of the centuries' old craft oyster farming.

At the second meeting, Dr. Taylor, Head of the Electronics Department, A.E.R.E. Harwell, gave an extremely interesting and instructive lecture illustrated by a film on "The Development of Radar". Dr. Taylor is well-qualified to speak on this absorbing subject, as he himself did much of the pioneer work on Radar.

Next term it is hoped the annual *Conversazione* will be held.

R.W.W.

HOLIDAY CLUB

There was little activity during the Summer holidays, only one cricket match being played. This was a most enjoyable game against Boars Hill Cricket Club, which we lost by 104-119. We should like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Nurton of Boars Hill, who very kindly provided the tea, and made the afternoon so enjoyable.

Many activities have been arranged for the Christmas holidays — table-tennis, soccer matches, and a new venture, a social evening.

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

C.S.W.

CHESS CLUB

With only two members of last year's team remaining, the main activity of the Club in the Michaelmas Term was the preparation of a new team. Much practice was gained, and in the Lent Term we should be ready to face outside opposition.

It was encouraging to see the amount of chess played during the dinner hour, though attendance at the weekly meetings was rather smaller.

A lively tournament was held at the end of term, in the final of which G. E. G. Brown beat H. C. Bowen after a good game.

JOINT CLUB

The popularity of the Joint Club may be judged from the fact that only half those seeking membership at the beginning of the term could be admitted. It was with regret that so many had to be turned away.

Of the three meetings held during the term the first, a social in Lacies Court, and the last, a visit to the film Genevieve, were on home ground. A Guy Fawkes party at St. Helen's on November 5th proved a most successful away fixture.

D.J.L.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

RAYSON. On 7th June, 1955 to Pamela, wife of John W. Rayson (1942), a son, Adrian Nicholas.

ROGERS. On 5th October, 1955 to Beryl, wife of A. C. Rogers (1935), a daughter, Lyn.

MARRIAGE

WALTERS—SMITH. On 10th September, 1955, at Abingdon Baptist Church, Ronald James Walters (1949) to Iris Ann Smith.

DEATH

MONTGOMERY. On 1st June, 1955, at Cromer, Charles Phocion Barff Montgomery (1897—1903) late Rector of Blickling, Norfolk, aged 71.

C. P. B. Montgomery came to the School in 1897 with his elder brother J. E. (Pembroke Scholar 1900). He was in the 2nd XI for two years and rowed in the 1st IV in 1902 and '03. On leaving School he went up to Keble College, Oxford and after graduating in 1906 he was ordained in 1907. After holding a curacy at Prestwick, Lancs., he went to British Colombia as Chaplain to the Arrow Lakes Mission where he stayed for seven years, 1912—19. Returning to this country he was for 18 years Rector of Great Cressingham, Thetford and from 1945 till his retirement in 1954 Rector of Blickling, Norfolk. We offer our sympathy to his brother, who was for many years a master at Felsted School, and is now living in retirement at Sheringham, Norfolk.

We congratulate G. E. Sinclair (1931) on his appointment as Deputy Governor of Cyprus and more recently on his award of the CMG in the New Years' Honours List. At the moment he is naturally preoccupied with the difficult situation, but he looks forward to exploring the antiquities in the neighbourhood as well as to some winter sports in the mountains.

E. G. Langford (1928) who has for some years been Solicitor to the British American Tobacco Co. has been appointed a director of the Company.

V. J. Relle (1924) is working with Totalisators Ltd.

J. F. Sinclair (1924) is General Manager of Burmah-Shell Ltd. at Bombay, and two other oil men who are back in the Middle East are

Geoffrey Barnett (1933) at Aden with Aden Petroleum Refinery Ltd. and John Clarke (1941) at Naft Khameh in Iraq. His wife and two little children have joined him in new quarters, and at this time of the year the weather can be quite enjoyable.

Dudley Richardson (1942) whose work on seaweed research is coming to an end with the closing-down of the Institute at Dalkeith is leaving for Trinidad in February to take up a post as Lecturer at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. Our best wishes will accompany him.

John Sansom (1945) has transferred his teaching activities to West Africa and is now Education Officer at Dekina, Northern Nigeria.

Terence Charley (1933) is now Manager of Barclay's D.C. & O. at Kisii, Kenya.

Gordon Brown (1947) is Patrol Officer stationed at Bogia in New Guinea.

John Lewington (1945) is in Inland Revenue Office in Nottingham.

David Candy (1953) is going to Kenya to a tea plantation.

Robert Exon (1953) is in the Bursar's Office at Queen's College, Oxford, and busy with the appropriate exams.

Denis James (1953) is at Newland Park Training College for Teachers.

A. F. R. Crockford (1953) is at Bournville, on Sales Staff of Cadbury.

Of those who left recently Michael Grigsby is a Trainee and Camera-man with Granada T.V. Network, London, Philip Song is a trainee accountant at the Oxford University Press and Geoffrey Slack is a Student Apprentice with Vickers Armstrong.

THE SERVICES

Major W. R. A. Kettle, MC (1930) is DAQMG, Cyprus District.

Lt. A. W. H. Riggott RA (1950) has been appointed ADC to General Daunt, GOC Malta.

Lt. R. A. Clay, RA (1948) is stationed at Barnard Castle, Yorks.

2nd Lt. Michael Grant (1953) 3rd Gold Coast Regt., spends much time training Cadets, and enjoys polo and shooting.

J. A. Nichol (1954) is with RAF at Tengah, Singapore and John Ivatts (1954), also RAF Wireless Op., writes cheerfully from Aden where the weather is now tolerable.

The latest arrivals at Mons were Roger Marchbanks and Pat Sarsfield-Hall while John Nichols is an Officer-Cadet in the R.A.F.

D. A. Jones and David Free are reported on their way from Topsham to Eaton Hall, but D. M. P. Jones, Barry Hiscock and Richard Griffith are believed to be still on the strength. Michael Brackley (who we congratulate on his engagement to Miss Janet Watts) has now transferred to RAF Regt. Roger Packer is with RAOC at Blackdown. Barry Roberts is at Oswestry in RA. John Pratt is at Catterick in RTR (Scotts Greys) and Trevor Walker at Lymstone in R. Marines—both on the way towards their commissions.

Colin Stopps is at RAF Wireless School at Yatesbury. Rodney Clewley, RAOC, expected to be the last to leave Suez, with Gibraltar as a likely posting.

UNIVERSITIES AND HOSPITALS

The following are, to the best of our knowledge, *in statu pupillari* at University Colleges or Medical Schools.

Oxford: Pembroke: M. Batemen, D. R. G. Andrews, S. R. Mills,
C. S. Wiggins, P. B. H. Amey, N. J. Shurrock.

Balliol: L. G. Sanders.

BNC: C. J. Lockhart-Smith.

Keble: B. W. Boddington.

Lincoln: A. E. Willson.

St. Peter's Hall: R. S. Millard, J. Westall.

St. Catherine's: I. H. McNaughton, W. G. Olscher, T. C.
Glücklich.

Cambridge: Downing: N. Purnell.

Reading: P. J. Downer, P. R. Sale.

London: Queen Mary's College: G. W. Crockford.

Southampton: J. D. Hall.

University College, Newcastle: P. J. Lay.

Loughborough College: G. Round, D. Fry.

Medical Schools:

London: Guy's: M. D. A. Vickers.

London: P. C. Richardson.

Middlesex: P. G. Cope.

University College: J. M. Thistlewood.

Royal Veterinary College: J. J. Swainston.

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

Edinburgh: G. S. Strachan,

OLD ABINGDONIAN TRUST FUND

We are most grateful to the many Old Boys and friends of the School who have responded to the Appeal either with covenanted subscriptions or donations. We are within sight of doubling the annual income of the Fund, which is certainly gratifying, but there are many Old Boys who have expressed their willingness to subscribe but have not yet done so. For their benefit we may say that there will be no closing date for the Appeal, because the Fund is a continuing 'receiving agent', and when the pavilion has been paid for there will doubtless be some further suitable object calling for its support, bearing in mind that our Quatercentenary falls in 1963.

As to the pavilion—the present position is that two firms who produce the kind of building we need—and can afford—have been selected from a larger number, informed of our requirements and asked to visit the School with their specifications in January. It is hoped that a final decision will then be able to be made by the Pavilion Sub-Committee of the O.A. Club.

Since the last list was published in the September magazine the following have subscribed to the Fund, and to all we offer our sincere thanks.

By Covenants: B. G. Budden, T. H. J. Charley, J. E. A. Clarke, S. E. Clark, K. Cleave, J. M. Cobban (add), M. J. Cullen, C. V. Davidge, C. E. H. Dolphin, K. W. Ewing, R. L. C. Foottit, T. E. Gardiner (add), J. G. Guimaraens, R. F. Hamer, G. M. Helliwell, S. J. Lansdown, A. L. Leigh, J. McPherson, D. F. W. Newman, M. Ogle, Rev. J. V. Pixell, J. L. Platnauer, J. S. Randle, C. N. Rattee, V. J. Relle, K. T. B. Sayer, K. R. Sims, G. E. Sinclair, R. W. Snell (add), W. H. Stevens, G. S. Sturrock, A. J. Turnham, A. J. Walters, T. A. Wiggins, W. F. Wiseman.

By Donations: D. R. Barrett, H. J. Clarke, K. Cleave, P. J. Clayton, F. L. England, D. Free, P. H. Gould, E. H. Harvey, W. M. Isbister, J. McPherson, J. E. Montgomery, L. P. Mosdell, C. M. Nowill, W. D. Richardson, J. F. Robinson, R. G. Sandercock, K. G. Walker, H. W. Weaving.

G. F. Duxbury.

O.A. CLUB NOTES

Once again the Dance held in the Council Chamber and Roysse Room on the evening of the O.A. Rugger Match (Saturday, 3rd December) proved an unqualified success, both socially and financially. For this chief credit must go to the Dance Committee, N. J. Holmes, W. Bevir and J. B. E. Alston, not forgetting Mrs. Bevir, who again provided wonderful floral decorations. The President and Mrs. Woodley with the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban received the 180 guests at the preliminary gathering, while sherry was served, and thereafter the dance floor was well filled till midnight. Younger members of the Club were well in evidence.

There was a representative gathering of Old Boys at the Service in Chapel next morning, and they later enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. Cobban at morning coffee.

LONDON DINNER

The London O.A. Dinner will be held on Friday, 9th March at the City Livery Club, Thames Embankment. We appeal to Old Boys living in the London area to make a special effort to attend this year's dinner and to apply early for tickets (price 21/-) to S. A. Paige (77 Watling Street, London, E.C.4.) who is again being good enough to organise the function.

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.

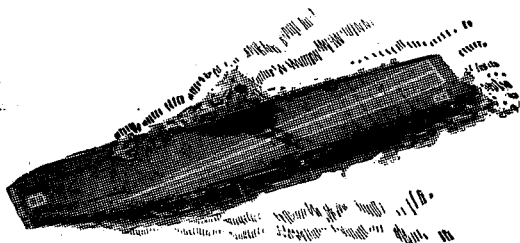
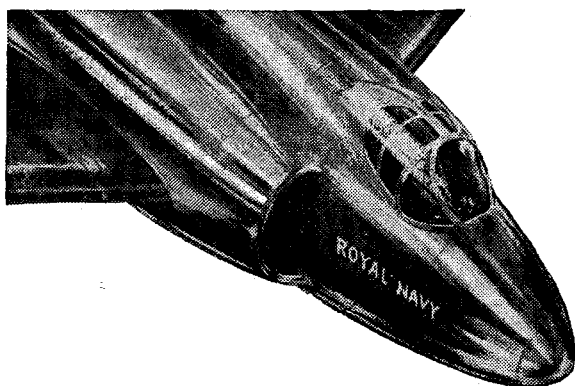
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