

THE ABINGDONIAN

VOL. XII No. 3

SEPTEMBER, 1957

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CALENDAR, MICHAELMAS TERM, 1957

September

Thurs. 19 Term begins.

October

Wed. 2 1st XV v. D. O. Willis' XV (h).
 Tues. 8 Field Day—C.C.F. and Scouts
 Sat. 12 1st XV v. Newbury Grammar School (a).
 Wed. 16 1st XV v. Reading School (a).
 Sat. 19 1st XV v. Pembroke College (a).
 Wed. 23 1st XV v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (a).
 Sat. 26 1st XV v. Solihull School (a).
 Wed. 30 1st XV v. Radley College 2nd XV (h).

November

Fri. 1 Half term begins, 12.30 p.m.
 Tues. 5 Half term ends: School recommences, 8.55 a.m.
 Wed. 6 1st XV v. Magdalen College School (h).
 Sat. 9 1st XV v. Bloxham School (h).
 Sat. 16 1st XV v. City of Oxford School (a).
 Sat. 23 1st XV v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a).
 Wed. 27 1st XV v. Southfield School (h).
 Sat. 30 1st XV v. Old Abingdonians (h).

December

Sat. 7 1st XV v. Windsor County School (h).
 Sun. 8 Confirmation Service, 3 p.m.
 Thurs. 12 School Play, 'Twelfth Night', 7.30 p.m.
 Fri. 13 School Play, 'Twelfth Night', 7.30 p.m.
 Sat. 14 School Play, 'Twelfth Night', 7.30 p.m.
 Thurs. 19 Term ends, 10.15 a.m.

Lent Term begins Friday, 17th January, 1958

(Boarders return Thursday, 16th January)

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo

OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

Michaelmas Term, 1957

SCHOOL PREFECTS

M. R. S. Broadway (Head of School and of School House)

I. A. Oliver (Head of Crescent House)

J. M. Mobbs (Head of Dayboys)

B. D. Winkett (S)

C. M. Dunman (D)

R. K. Le Voi (S)

M. Q. King (S)

P. M. D. Gray (D)

R. B. Scott-Taggart (D)

R. M. Kennedy (C)

J. H. Thewlis (D)

C. K. D. Cobley (S)

A. J. Foden (S)

A. J. Costley (W)

P. E. J. Fitzsimons (D)

J. A. T. Saywell (C)

G. Dimond (D)

M. S. Bretscher (D)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—R. S. Green, R. H. Simpson, J. A. Sheard, P. P. Wintle,
C. T. Denniford, R. J. Trenaman.

Crescent House—S. H. Freedman, L. T. Harrington, P. M. C. Hampson.

Waste Court—D. G. Morris, A. P. Paxman.

Larkhill—D. J. Meakins.

Dayboy—C. J. Redknap, I. R. Peedell, D. H. Bragg, A. W. Thistlewood,
C. B. Maloney, N. G. C. Norman, E. R. L. Day, D. S. Lees,
J. J. Day, C. D. Loukes, A. T. Aitchison, D. J. Exon, M. J.
Blythe, B. P. Gardner.

Captain of Rugger—G. Dimond.

Secretary of Rugger—A. J. Costley.

Captain of Cross-Country—M. S. Bretscher.

Secretary of G.G.C.—M. R. S. Broadway.

Secretary of Minor Games—N. G. C. Norman.

The Abingdonian

Editor—R. S. Green.

Asst. Editors—M. R. S. Broadway, R. B. Scott-Taggart, J. A. Sheard.

O.A. Editor and Treasurer—Mr. G. F. Duxbury.

EDITORIAL

The visit of Sir Edward Boyle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education, to open the new extension to the Science Block on Founder's Day was the culmination of a year of great importance. The new classroom block, the extension to the Science block, and the visit of Her Majesty's Inspectors—all these have been significant events in the progress of the School. And it is with the full approval of the Inspectors that in the coming term we shall see the beginning of the re-organization of the middle-school curriculum.

It is hoped that the new curriculum will be educationally sound, in that every boy will receive a widely based education whilst at the same time being properly prepared for specialization in the sixth form. It is hoped too that this new curriculum will be flexible in that a boy is not to be committed to a particular course too soon, efficient in that the abler boys will not be wasting their time, and coherent in that every boy will be able to see where he is going.

By this new curriculum, no boy should go out into the modern world without some knowledge of the scientific age which surrounds him. At the same time such subjects as Divinity and Modern History will be taken by all for their cultural value. Thus it is expected that each boy will have the opportunity of gaining a wide background and at the same time of concentrating on those subjects in which he chooses to specialize.

* * * *

It is always sad to say good-bye to an old friend, and we feel that Mr. Ingham's retirement after forty-two years of service to the school should not go unmentioned here. Not only this Editor, but also his father: not only the present generation, but those of many years past, will remember with gratitude the wise and kindly influence that Mr. Ingham has had on the School.

SCHOOL NOTES

We congratulate Mr. C. G. Stow on his election as Vice-Chairman of the Governing Body in the place of Mr. Thomas. But we are happy to think that Mr. Thomas will continue to hold office as a Governor and we were glad to see him on the platform at the Prize-Giving, recovered from his recent illness.

Congratulations too to Mr. Howard Cornish, M.B.E., another of our Governors, who has just been elected to an aldermanic vacancy on the Berkshire County Council.

It is with regret that we have said goodbye this term to two senior members of the staff. The Rev. F. W. Burgess, who left just before

half-term to take over the combined livings of North and South Lopham in the Diocese of Norfolk, joined the staff in April 1947 as Senior Mathematician and was subsequently appointed Chaplain. Mr. Ingham's connection with the School was even longer for it was in 1915 that he was appointed assistant master, and shortly thereafter he took over command of the Science Side. It may not be generally known to the present generation that he was for many years resident house-tutor in School House and he has always retained a great interest in its fortunes. For the last ten years he has been the senior member of the Common Room; and in that time too he has undertaken further heavy commitments as the Careers Master.

To Mr. Ingham we offer the sincere good wishes of the whole school for many years of happy retirement. We hope that Mr. and Mrs. Burgess will find in their new sphere of work that joy which comes of a job well done. The formal presentations that were made to Mr. Burgess before his departure and to Mr. Ingham on the last day of term were but outward and visible signs of gratitude and affection.

We are grateful to Mr. R. P. Hale, B.Sc. (Adelaide)—now of Peterhouse, Cambridge—who very kindly came down to take over Mr. Burgess' Mathematics for the second half of the Term; and to Mr. Bernard Mayes, M.A., of Mirfield, who has helped us so much as 'lay chaplain' during the last month.

It is incredible to think that young Mr. Alston, with a mere thirty-six years' seniority, is now the doyen of the staff. Mr. Gray will succeed Mr. Ingham as Head of Science, and Mr. Horrex as Senior Physicist. Mr. Sewry will take over the Careers, and Mr. Willis has kindly agreed to sponsor the Holiday Club.

The departure of Mr. Ingham and Mr. Burgess, and the continued increase of the School, have led to the appointment of four new masters for September. Mr. R. H. Baker, B.A., of Bootham and Queen's (Oxford), who secured honours in the Final School of Physics in 1956, will strengthen the Science Side. The Rev. G. R. Phizackerley, M.A., formerly Exhibitioner of University College (Oxford), and at present Curate of St. Barnabas' Church, Carlisle, will become Chaplain. Mr. A. G. Taylor, B.A., of Keble College (Oxford), who has just secured honours in the Final School of Mathematics, will join the staff for one year pending the appointment of a senior mathematician. Mr. M. W. Vallance, B.A., who read English at St. John's (Cambridge), will be assistant master in English and will replace Mr. Hillary as resident house-tutor of Waste Court.

To complete the catalogue of staff changes, we may note that Mr. Milton will act as Head of Mathematics for one year pending a permanent appointment; and we congratulate Mr. Sawbridge on the award of the mystic qualification of L.G.S.M.

Mr. Hillary has again been playing cricket for Berkshire and made the highest score of his career—164—against Buckinghamshire.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip on the birth of a daughter, Jennifer Kathleen (May 8th).

We say farewell, gratefully and regretfully, to Miss Isgar and Miss Pocock, who have been respectively the lady housekeeper at School House and the Matron of Crescent House, and we welcome their successors, Miss Penston and Miss Edwards.

Our good wishes went north of the Border on August 24th, when Mr. Helliwell and Miss Anne Wood were married in Glasgow.

We are glad to see that Mr. Wiblin has made a good recovery from his illness in the Spring.

All who remember Mr. Derek Evans, one of our first resident student masters, will be interested to hear that he was ordained deacon in Wells Cathedral on Trinity Sunday.

Of more recent students, Mr. G. W. M. Kremer has been appointed to the staff of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield, and Mr. E. A. Taylor has taken up a temporary appointment at Maghull Grammar School, Lancashire.

Visitors to the School this term included Dr. Willis Jackson, F.R.S., Director of Research and Education for Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Company, who informally toured the laboratories on 21st June; and 'the American preacher', whose advent is now looked forward to as a part of our yearly cycle. This time we had the pleasure of welcoming the Rev. Dr. F. W. Schroeder, D.D., LL.D., President of the Eden Theological Seminary, Missouri, who spent the weekend of 23rd June at School House together with Mrs. Schroeder.

In July we were glad to see again Jean-Marie Lot, from Paris, who spent a further three weeks with us. He seems to have aged a lot since his last visit, for the 'Abingdonian' of a year ago records him as a fourteen-year-old and he was this year listed on the board as seventeen . . . (*the latter is correct—H.M.*). Two German boys of similar age, Bernd Lange and Peter Mohr, also joined us for the last fortnight of the term. On 12th July Mr. Hasnip and his seven boys had a tête-à-tête in the School Library with seven French boy scouts staying in the neighbourhood; and our international contacts reached a climax on 24th July when some 25 Belgian schoolteachers visited us under the auspices of the British Council.

We are assured that one Belgian teacher really did ask if other English Schools had such good buildings as ours . . .

Friends of the School have been even more generous than usual to us this term. Let us thank briefly but sincerely—Mr. Norman Holmes (O.A.), for the gift of a piano; Rev. J. V. Pixell, formerly Vicar of Radley, for the complete sets of costumes for the 'Mikado', 'The Pirates of Penzance', 'Ruddigore' and 'H.M.S. Pinafore'. (G. and S. enthusiasts have something to look forward to!); Mr. E. W. Pulsford for much electronic equipment; Mr. A. Cross, of Radley, for a silver challenge cup for the Junior Half-Mile; Major H. B. C. Elliott for a similar trophy for the Senior Swimming Champion; Mr. T. Loveday for a copy of the 1625 edition of Godwyn's History ('printed for the use of Abingdon School'); Mr. F. E. Coates for a fine collection of English books (including 'The Cambridge History of English Literature') for the School Library; Lieut. H. B. Stevens (O.A.), for a school blazer; Mr. R. F. Jackson (O.A.) for two new tennis posts (made, we believe, by himself), and Mr. K. M. Hart for a further gift of gramophone records (Beethoven's 7th Symphony).

The number of boys on the School Roll at the beginning of the Summer Term was 480 (Dayboys 293, Boarders 187).

We congratulate seven more winners of Berkshire County Major Awards—A. J. Gardner (to R.A.D.A.), D. S. Gerrard (to Wadham College, Oxford), N. K. Hammond (to the London School of Economics), C. J. Marchbanks (to Birmingham University), Jim Furby (to Sheffield University), N. K. Moseley (to the Berkshire Institute of Agriculture) and N. J. H. Grant; also G. F. Wastie on receiving an Oxfordshire County Major Award (to Birmingham University), (thus bringing our total score of such awards for the year up to 20); H. C. Bowen on being awarded a Supplementary State Scholarship; and M. R. Dawn and C. J. Marchbanks on being awarded respectively an Aeronautical Engineering Scholarship at De Havillands and one of the special scholarships given by the Brewers' Society.

School Foundation Scholarships were awarded as follows on the result of the Common Entrance Examination: Young and Summers Scholarship—K. N. Haarhoff (Abingdon School); Entrance Scholarship—J. M. Bunce (Christ Church Cathedral Choir School).

Our congratulations also go to three of our athletes, who put up a very good show in the Berkshire County Championships—Eke and Brown were fifth in the U/17 Mile and the U/19 Shot respectively, while Darroch did well to win the U/17 Shot with a put of 43ft. 10in. Darroch also represented Berkshire at the All England Schools' Championships at Southampton in July.

On 6th May Mr. G. L. Hatherley, D.F.C., of the British Overseas Mining Association, gave a talk to senior boys about a mining career.

On 9th May members of the Fifth and Sixth forms heard Lt. Col. K. M. C. Mallam, of Harrods, explaining the prospects of a career in that organisation.

The Diocesan Youth Festival in Oxford on 11th May was attended by a small party of senior boys conducted by Mr. Burgess.

On 17th May some boys went to a Friends of Abingdon lecture by Mr. J. H. Brookes entitled 'A Visitor to Abingdon'.

The Pressed Steel Works were visited by a party of 4th and 5th formers on 20th May.

On the following day Sergeant Hunt gave a talk on the 'Police Force' to some 4th Formers.

On 22nd May a small party of senior boys attended the Mayor-Making ceremony in the Guildhall, by kind invitation of the Mayor Elect, Alderman Barber.

On 23rd May we received another visit from our old friend Mr. Newby-Robson of the Public Schools' Appointments Bureau.

On the evening of the same day a 'Parents' Evening' was held for the parents of all boys in the third forms.

The naval and military contingents of the C.C.F. made a brave turnout for the parade on Commonwealth Youth Sunday (2nd June).

On 4th June, S/Ldr. D. H. Tew, A.F.C., of Air Ministry, came down to talk to senior boys who were interested in a career in the R.A.F.

A small party of boys attended the Unicorn Theatre's production of 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' on 14th June.

It seemed a remarkable coincidence that it was on the longest day of the year—21st June—that we were deprived of the use of any electrical apparatus in the main school buildings. We certainly learned to appreciate plain daylight more. But we really must raise our hats to the engineers of the Southern Electricity Board who worked literally for twenty-four hours without a break—complete with mine-detectors and all manner of equipment—to trace the fault, which was eventually discovered at the Bath Street end of Roysse's Lane.

On 30th June we offered the hospitality of the War Memorial Field to the Abingdon Cricket Club for their match against the President's XI. Later, in August, the customary 'Festival Week' was held on Upper Field.

The Calendar records a match between a Staff XI and King's College Theological Cricket Club, on 8th July. Unfair advantage?!

It is surely high time that spelling tests were held again. At the Boat Club Evening on 15th July a large crowd of senior boarders was distinctly heard to cry 'B-O-R-D-E-R-S, Boarders'!

On Thursday, 18th July, Mr. Howard Buckley, the Principal of the Oxford College of Technology, Art and Commerce, gave a very helpful lecture to the Sixth form on the new opportunities for training in engineering.

In the evening of the same day the première of the new School film—'Yours is the Earth'—was held. This was noteworthy as being the first show to be given in the new Science Lecture Room.

On 24th July Mr. Duxbury took a small party of Fifth and Sixth formers to the production of Euripides' 'Medea' at Radley College.

During the term the Play Reading Society read three plays—'Murder at the Vicarage' by Agatha Christie, 'Julius Caesar', and 'The Love of Four Colonels' by Peter Ustinov. A one act play competition was also held.

Congratulations to all those who passed their music examinations, especially J. J. Day (Grade VII, Piano).

During the Easter Holidays, three trebles attended a course at Taunton run by the R.S.C.M. As a result, C. J. Dean was chosen to sing in the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir for a fortnight in August, while A. M. Q. King and A. R. Redgrave have been chosen to sing in the Cathedral at a Festival to be held in October. This is the more admirable since very few boys on each course are chosen for the St. Paul's Choir.

In August, three of our boys, G. S. Howlett, T. A. Sewry and D. Wiggins attended the Robert Masters Chamber Music Summer School at Easthampstead Park, the Secretary of which was our own Mrs. Kitching.

J. H. Thewlis is now a reserve flautist for the National Youth Orchestra, and, all being well at an audition in the Autumn, should become a full member at Christmas.

In the Summer Holidays C. M. Dunman is attending the 6th World Festival of Youth and Students being held in Moscow from 28th July to 11th August. We hope he had a return ticket.

Those scheduled to attend Short Works Courses during the Summer Holidays are as follows—E. F. Lier to H. J. Heinz Co., Ltd.; B. G. Phillips to Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co., Ltd.; R. Powell to Harrods Ltd. and G. D. Wright to Ford Motor Co., Ltd.

In addition five more of our boys are attending Outward Bound Courses—D. P. Paley-Battersea and R. J. Trenaman at Eskdale, D. T. L. Eke and T. E. R. Evans at Moray Firth, and J. A. Longworth at Aberdovey. This makes a total of ten in two holidays, which is a pretty good record.

At the beginning of the term a fond blackbird nested at the top of a drainpipe just by Tower Steps. We were never able to discover whether her efforts were successful: certainly she seemed quite undisturbed by the irruption of boys and trunks.

A pleasant innovation has been the introduction of a house-prefects' tie, with alternate stripes of cerise and white on a black background—belated but welcome recognition of a hard-working order of society.

The Editors (and even Higher Authority) derived vast amusement from a new contemporary, the self-styled 'official magazine' of Roysse's School for Girls—presumably inspired by a note in our last issue—which reached them at the beginning of term from an unknown source. Parody, when well done (as this was), can be salutary as well as amusing.

A more serious contemporary which calls for salute is the Literary Magazine, produced for sale on Founder's Day. Now that the activities of the School are so multifarious that the *Abingdonian* has to confine its function to that of a chronicle, it is particularly important that there should be some outlet for the literary activities of the School. This year's number of the Magazine is well up to the standard of its predecessors; some of the items from junior forms are particularly pleasing. One poem, 'The Whale', has earned for its author, J. T. Utin, the honour of being the first recipient of the cup awarded by the Editors of that memorable journal 'The Fourth Science Times' for the best written work produced during the year in Middle School.

Abingdon has been chosen as the first objective of the new Civic Trust which has been set up to encourage interest in the amenities of our own towns. As its part in the programme the School has undertaken to produce a short film, in colour, of the architectural beauties of Abingdon. Work is now in progress.

This magazine does not usually record misdemeanours. But some record must be made of the misplaced ingenuity of the middle-school boys who constructed a vast Colditz-style underground chamber and tunnel in a quiet corner of Lacies Court. This was discovered and opened up on the evening of 21st July. We should not have minded so much had they revetted it properly.

Dr. J. A. V. Willis sent us a nice problem from Washington. "It has apparently been estimated that of all the people who have ever lived, one-twentieth are alive today. Is this correct?" The best attempt at an answer that was produced by the Scholarship Sixth winged its way across the Atlantic to Dr. Willis who responded with a handsome cheque which provided prizes not only for this but also for the initiative test. Thank you, Dr. Willis! Perhaps some Old Boys might like to try their hands at this problem.

As we go to press, we hear from Colonel Van Wagenen that he recently entertained the whole of the Willis family on the eve of the departure of the three boys for England. Incidentally, the precise description of his new appointment is 'Dean of the Graduate School of the American University and Professor of International Relations'. It is pleasant to find a professor who will put his theories into practice so admirably.

The usual Boarders' Suppers were held on the last evening of the term. Afterwards the juniors dispersed to their own houses while School and Crescent joined forces on the Waste Court Field for some informal and pleasantly entertaining sports, which provided a restful epilogue to an uncommonly busy term. Not particularly restful for the organisers, though, or for the competitors in such an event as the three-legged football match.

The photographs in this issue are printed by kind courtesy of Mr. Milligan; the *Oxford Mail*; and John Becker.

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following Schools (to 30th July): Chigwell; City of Oxford; Henley; Magdalen College, Oxford; Pocklington; Radley College; Reading; R.G.S., High Wycombe; St. Bartholomew's, Newbury; St. Edward's, Oxford; Southfield, Oxford; Stoneham School, Reading; and Windsor. Also from Culham College; R.N.E.C. Manadon; R.A.F. Cranwell; and R.N.C. Dartmouth.

OF PROPERTY—AND PEOPLE

(A note by the Headmaster)

The visit of Sir Edward Boyle on Founder's Day to unveil the commemorative tablet was a further landmark in the history of the school. The enlarged Science Block will be in full use from September and as far as the teaching of Science goes we should now have all the accommodation we shall need for the foreseeable future.

But we have other and urgent needs. No school can double its numbers in ten years without 'growing out at the elbows'; and the primary purpose of our next building project—which has already been approved in principle by the Ministry—will be to improve existing accommodation rather than provide additional rooms. The draft proposals provide for the building of new school lavatories, the reconstruction of the changing rooms in School House, and the addition of a small new dormitory which will enable the present Hall Dormitory to be turned into a much needed quiet room for School House. At the same time opportunity will be taken to build two new classrooms and (we hope) a prefects' room situated in a strategic position between

School and School House. These things take time, and if we may judge by past experience we can hope to enter into occupation, as they say, in about two years' time. By then we shall hope too to have our plans made for the worthy commemoration of our quatercentenary in 1963. The Governors have already set up a small representative committee which will be meeting in the autumn to consider ways and means.

Meanwhile I should like to thank very warmly Mr. Talbot and his team of volunteers who worked so industriously (with the aid of a little last-minute conscript labour) to complete the Jekyll Garden project in time for Founder's Day. Their reward must be found in the many appreciative remarks I have already received about the transformation that they have effected. I think too that Miss Jekyll would have been glad to see that the basic features of her garden—the circular arch, the Italianate arcade—have been retained and indeed show up even more effectively now that the garden has been re-orientated.

As these words are being written the School is again full of activity. In School, the Gymnasium is being completely refloored in maple, the Art Room and the Blacknall Room are being redecorated, and doors on the ground floor are being refurbished (not before time, for the cracked varnish has become more and more depressing). Further decoration is taking place at Waste Court; and Housemaster of School House has the pleasant task of planning how to spend to the best advantage a considerable sum which the Governors have voted to improve the furniture throughout the house.

Mention may be made, too, of the fact that the Governors are negotiating to buy two further houses in the neighbourhood as staff residences—a development of real, though indirect, importance to the school as the question of accommodation so often affects the appointment of staff. And very grateful we are to the Corporation for agreeing to sell us that strip of land to the west of the War Memorial Field which we have hitherto enjoyed only as tenants.

* * * *

The printed report of Her Majesty's Inspectors arrived, opportunely, on the morning of the Governors' Meeting. All in all a very gratifying document, and the criticism it contained was helpful and constructive. We are very grateful to Mr. Pritchard and to Dr. Tricker for coming down again just after half term to discuss with us the large-scale re-organization of the middle-school curriculum which is being introduced in two stages. From September of this year the fourth forms will no longer be divided into sides but will be graded by ability. There will be a common curriculum except for one 'option' block, from which a boy must choose to do Greek, German, Geography or Biology. For French and Mathematics, the principle of 'setting' will be introduced.

In 1958 even more radical changes will be introduced into the fifth forms. Here the forms will be mainly administrative units. For thirty out of thirty-three teaching periods a boy will be taught in sets. Five periods will be devoted to each of six subjects. Most boys will immediately start reading some of these subjects to 'advanced' level and the remainder to 'ordinary' level. Boys leaving at the end of the fifth year will take a broad range of subjects to 'ordinary' level. The main benefit of this scheme is that it is inherently flexible and that it will enable the intelligent boy to start sixth form work a year earlier. This necessarily brief summary can indicate only the main features of the new scheme. A memorandum explaining it more fully is available on request.

* * * *

This term we have said farewell to two members of the staff, Mr. Ingham and Mr. Burgess. It is always a wrench to say goodbye to colleagues of many years' standing. I do not want to repeat what has been said about them elsewhere, but I should like to take this opportunity of paying them both a brief personal tribute. A new headmaster owes so much to his second-in-command, and no-one could have had a more loyal lieutenant than J.Y.I. Nor could any school have had a more sincere and devoted chaplain than F.W.B. To both of them—thank you and good fortune!

* * * *

We always say we are a family school. I am interested to note that of our eighty-odd new boys in September, fourteen are younger brothers—including four who are the third in line: and at least another four boys have or have had first cousins of the same name here. It's a good sign.

* * * *

Lastly, three things in a very busy and exciting term have pleased me much. The Jekyll Gardeners added to the debt we owe them by spontaneously clubbing together to buy the four cypresses which stand on the terrace. Twice during the term, on Inspection Day and on Founder's Day, my wife had some lovely flowers sent to her, quite anonymously (and this is the only way in which to say thank you). And best of all, now that both the boys concerned have left the School, I can reveal that one Sunday afternoon two senior prefects dived into the Thames, hauled out a young man in difficulties, revived him by artificial respiration, and then came home without a word to anybody. Indeed it was only by chance that I found out about it.

J.M.C.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Although 'doubtful it stood' on Saturday, 27th July, once again we were able to hold Founder's Day without bringing 'Operation Torrents' into action. The celebrations began with the customary service in St. Helen's Church where the Rt. Rev. D. G. Loveday, D.D., Bishop Suffragan of Dorchester, gave the address. Taking as his pattern a book by two ladies who had set out to restore an old house in keeping with its surroundings and its history, he stressed four points—the importance of having a vision of the form our life was going to take, the invaluable help to be gained from the example of the Expert Builder, the virtues of patience, and the happiness to be gained from leading a harmonious life. The two senior prefects laid the wreath (for which we are again indebted to Mrs. Bevir) on the tomb of John Roysse; and soon after the Choir gave an excellent rendering of Cecil Cope's 'Praise to the Lord'.

After the Prize Giving—the *pièce de résistance* of the day—the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban were 'At Home' to a large number of parents and visitors on Upper Field, while the Brass Band, pavilioned in splendour, provided suitable accompaniment. There was the usual diversity of talent displayed at the exhibitions and shows afterwards. The former included Art, Photography, C.C.F. and a fine model railway layout; while there were also showings of the new school films, and lectures on the Spring expedition to Skye.

At 5.0 p.m. there was a short and simple ceremony when Sir Edward Boyle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the opening of the new block of buildings to the East of the Chapel. The Bursar officially presented to Sir Edward Mr. D. B. West of Messrs. West and Pritchard, School Architects, and Mr. J. D. Wood, the consultant architect, together with Mr. H. J. Cane of Messrs. Hinkins & Frewin, the builders, and Mr. Bryant, the foreman. Sir Edward, himself, was introduced by the Chairman of the Governors, Admiral Clifton-Brown and performed the unveiling by some magical process of remote control from the dais. In his speech he emphasised the importance of a scientific education in an age when top-line scientists were needed if this country were to maintain her position in the universal commercial competition of the present day. The Headmaster concluded the ceremony with a vote of thanks.

Apart from the governors, those present included Sir John Cockcroft from A.E.R.E., Mrs. Sheasby (Chairman of the Berkshire Education Committee) and Brigadier Stileman, C.B.E., of the Industrial Fund for the Advancement of Scientific Education in Schools.

Perhaps the next most memorable incident of the afternoon was when a middle school boy solemnly explained in detail the working of a Geiger Counter to none other than Sir John Cockcroft himself!

The finale of the day was a hilarious performance of 'H.M.S. Pinafore', of which a full-length review appears elsewhere in this magazine.

On the Sunday evening, in accordance with the Cheyney bequest, the Headmaster preached at the traditional service in St. Nicholas' Church. As usual his remarks were particularly addressed to the leavers, though his sermon held something for everyone. He made the point that though most people would never rise to great heights, Christ had always been interested in the ordinary man, and indeed it was the age of the ordinary man. What mattered was not doing anything wildly exciting, but doing something worthwhile; and in the struggle to do something useful, the Christian had an advantage so overwhelming as to be almost unfair—Christianity instigated purpose, he said, and though the word 'purpose' might sound pompous there was nothing solemn or priggish about Christianity.

PRIZE GIVING

This year we were very pleased to welcome an old friend of the School, R. B. McCallum, Esq., M.A., Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, to distribute the prizes.

The proceedings began with a short introductory speech from the Chairman of the Governors, Admiral Clifton Brown, in which he emphasized the dependance of the School on the good work of the Headmaster, Mrs. Cobban and the Staff. Their success, he said, was reflected in the report of H.M. Inspectors, whose visit was only surpassed in importance by that of Her Majesty the Queen. After welcoming Mr. McCallum, he asked the Headmaster to give his report.

In his report the Headmaster reviewed the advances made by the School in both the sporting and cultural fields. He mentioned the improvements and additions made to the School's buildings and grounds, but stressed that success ultimately depended on the School's members rather than its amenities. He then outlined some of his own more vivid memories of the past year—the impromptu Boarders' "Sports" at the end of the Summer Term, the collection for Hungarian relief, the O.A. Dinners, the visit of the Queen, and many others. He mentioned especially the stimulating, and unexpectedly enjoyable, visit of the Inspectors and stated that they had been much impressed by the School, especially by the bearing and behaviour of the individual boys. Their suggestions had been most helpful, though some of them might take a considerable time to be implemented. He emphasized in conclusion the importance of "decision" during one's school career, of fixing on a goal, and working hard to attain it.

After presenting the prizes, Mr. McCallum gave an address in which he stressed the close link that has always existed between the School

and Pembroke College. He said that prizes are the recognition of real worth, and that although the Sixth Form cynic will disparage "mere knowledge", it is just this "mere knowledge" that provides the basis for constructive thought. He congratulated the School on its record number of Scholarship awards, but he said that the importance of a University Career should not be overestimated: there are many other ways of reaching the top. He went on to criticize that favourite old Prize-giving adage, "Schooldays are the happiest days of one's life". This is once again the dictum of the Sixth Form cynic: it is true only to a limited extent. Nothing, for instance, can exceed the joy of happy marriage. Mr. McCallum continued by observing the high degree of contemporary social freedom. The desuetude of snobbery and class distinctions, he said, was largely the result of National Service, which has encouraged social unity. He ended by saying that he was much impressed with the School's progress, which he hoped would be continued.

The Headmaster then proposed an informal vote of thanks to Mr. McCallum, and with the customary cheers, and the National Anthem, the assembly dispersed.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Willis and the other ladies who helped her to decorate the Corn Exchange.

THE PRIZES

THE ENDOWED PRIZES. The Morland Prize (presented by Messrs. Morland in memory of W. T. Morland, O.A., and awarded for all-round merit)—G. F. Wastie; The Thomas Layng Reading Prize—R. S. Green (prox. acc. S. C. Woodley); The Smith Chemistry Prizes—P. M. D. Gray, H. C. Bowen, M. S. Bretscher, E. F. Lier, A. F. Pritchard; The Ball Science Prize—P. M. D. Gray; The Bevan Essay Prize—S. C. Woodley; The Bevan Scripture Prizes—M. Q. King, B. D. Winkett, K. N. Haarhoff, G. L. Griffiss, I. A. D. Martin, R. S. Haynes, R. J. Hutcheon, J. R. Jennings.

THE SCHOOL PRIZES. The Headmaster's Prizes—B. L. Smith, J. C. Spinks; The Mayor's Prize for History Essay (presented by Ald. C. G. Barber, J.P.)—W. W. Budden; The Van Wagenen Essay Prize (presented by Colonel R. W. Van Wagenen, of the American University, Washington, U.S.A.)—S. C. Woodley; The Prize for Character (presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Ellis)—J. B. Robins; The Prize for Service to the School (presented by Ald. A. E. Tombs, O.B.E., J.P.)—J. T. Buckland; The Prizes for General Achievement in the Sixth Form (presented by Ald. H. Cornish, M.B.E., J.P.)—N. A. J. Antrobus, C. J. Marchbanks; CCF Prizes—CSM Robins, J. B., PO Cobleby C. K. D.; Seamanship Prize (presented by Lt.Cdr. K. W. Cobleby, D.S.C., R.N.)—LS Aitchison, A. T.; The Junior Reading Prize (presented by C. C. Woodley, Esq., O.A.)—E. C. R. Evans; The Music

Prizes: Senior (presented by Mrs. Rayson)—J. H. Thewlis; Junior (presented by Miss Sheldon Peach)—N. P. Loukes; Choral (presented by the Director of Music)—C. K. D. Cobley, C. J. Dean; Instrumental (presented by H. H. Fowler, Esq., A.R.C.O.)—J. J. Day, N. H. Moss; Brass—I. A. Oliver; The Art Prizes—I. J. Glenney, G. R. B. Farrington; The Handicraft Prizes—R. C. Watts, G. C. Alabaster.

THE CRICKET PRIZES. The Lake Bat (presented by H. W. Lake, Esq., M.C.)—R. J. Trenaman; The Fletcher Cup—R. J. Trenaman; The Henderson Prizes—S. C. Woodley, P. E. J. Fitzsimons, M. D. Nurton.

THE TENNIS CHALLENGE CUP (presented by Major V. C. J. Buckley)—S. C. Woodley.

THE FORM PRIZES. Sixth Form (Upper): Classics and Composition—B. D. Winkett; Mathematics—M. R. S. Broadway; Physics—B. P. Kibble; Biology—C. M. Dunman; Sixth Form (Lower): Classics—A. P. Haynes; English—J. A. Sheard; History—M. J. Blythe; Modern Languages—J. J. Day; Sixth Form (General)—J. Barnett; Form 5 Arts—G. S. Howlett, B. J. Trinder; Form 5 Science—R. C. Watts, G. W. Jones; Form 5E—T. I. Silvey; Form 4 Arts—T. A. Libby, A. F. Selwood; Form 4 Science—K. N. Haarhoff, G. Sheppard; Form 4E—D. W. Haynes; Form 3A—C. G. Purnell, R. C. Luker; Form 3X—D. Weir, C. B. Gosling; Form 3Y—P. J. L. Webb, R. P. Thompson; Form 2X—R. J. Hutcheon, L. A. Edwards; Form 2Y—R. A. Lucas, D. C. Pollard; Form 1X—F. A. Bisby, A. S. Harrison; Form 1Y—A. E. Willey, J. R. Jennings.

H.M.S. PINAFORE

(July 26th and 27th)

We are indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Craston for the following critique:

"To a devotee it seems that a Gilbert and Sullivan opera must be one of the most rewarding, and at the same time one of the most difficult, things for schoolboys to put on.

There is so much that predisposes an audience to enjoy it—the well-loved, familiar tunes, the humour and comic business which familiarity has served only to make more amusing, the absurd, delightful plots.

Yet how difficult it is for the amateur to achieve that pitch of perfection which the professional players have gained after years of performing in the same tradition: how difficult to achieve that sense of style, that polish which makes the whole thing flow along and look so easy, and so convincing. How infinitely more difficult it is to satisfy an audience, many of whom probably know every word, every note,

every joke, and every bit of business in the piece by heart. It is inevitable that an audience will to some extent be influenced in its judgement of something so familiar, by professional standards.

How well, then, did this production succeed in satisfying such exacting demands? On the whole it succeeded remarkably well.

After a slow start, the whole thing moved along at a very good pace. One had the impression that the cast was enjoying it all tremendously, and this came across to the audience very clearly.

There was a good balance between chorus and orchestra, though a little more attention to the conductor from the orchestra would have improved the attack, particularly in the overture.

The chorus is so important in a Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and so much in evidence, that one is bound to be very critical of its performance. In the earlier stages one could have wished for more attack, and better articulation. As Gilbert insisted, the words are every bit as important as Sullivan's music. However in the course of the evening, the chorus seemed to play themselves in, until, by the time the finale was reached, one was entirely satisfied—indeed quite carried away—and the encore was very well deserved.

The set was very well designed and executed, and had a truly nautical air.

The lighting was, on the whole, very good. It should be borne in mind, however, that in a production where so much action takes place downstage, beyond the front batten, this area needs to be adequately lit by either front-of-house spots or floats.

The Gilbert and Sullivan operas require a great degree of stylization in their playing, and a sense of style is not a quality commonly found in schoolboy acting. So, it was a joy to watch, and hear, John Saywell play Sir Joseph Porter so admirably. He was completely in character, and as far as these critics are concerned, never put a foot wrong. Of course one might have expected such stylish, well-timed acting after seeing his delightful Mrs. Malaprop. Nevertheless, his witty, straight-faced playing of this absurd, self-made man left one lost in admiration. James Willis made a charming Hebe—much more so surely than Gilbert ever intended the character to be! He attacked really well, and made the most of the part.

G. H. Cooper's Rackstraw began a little uncertainly, but as he got into his stride the performance improved tremendously. He showed a delightful, and perhaps unsuspected, vein of comedy.

It is always a great pleasure to hear J. J. Horrex sing—seriously or otherwise—and this occasion was no exception. Was this, perhaps, a rather refined, modest kind of Buttercup? Maybe so; but all the same an excellent performance.

Christopher Cobley as Captain Corcoran and Jonathan Foster as Dick Deadeye sang well, particularly in their duet in Act II. Captain Corcoran needed more lessons on the mandolin to make his playing convincing. It is important that properties be used convincingly if they are not to be an encumbrance to the actor and a distraction to the audience. Beware the teapot that pours invisible tea—the audience will hold it against you!

Deadeye maintained his odd, twisted character throughout, but one needs to be careful of over-acting lest it distract attention from other players.

In any schoolboy company, the playing of straight female parts is bound to present a difficulty. Christopher Dean as Josephine was good on the whole. He needs to move with more assurance, and to let the audience see his face—not always an easy thing when there is a bonnet to be coped with! This is not an easy part to sing, but here again the words are so important that great attention must be paid to their delivery.

It is a great tribute to the stage direction of L. C. J. Griffin and the musical direction of E. H. F. Sawbridge that this production reached such a high standard. With a little more tightening up here and there, and a little more polish, this would have been a truly remarkable school production. It was indeed excellent entertainment—fresh, enthusiastic, and quite beguiling.

One cannot help but think that given the good fortune to have the right boys for the more important parts—and provided it does not become the sole stock-in-trade—Gilbert and Sullivan opera is the perfect school entertainment”.

J. L. and I. B. B. CRASTON.

THE CAST

(*principals only*)

THE RT. HON SIR JOSEPH PORTER, K.C.B.	JOHN SAYWELL
CAPTAIN CORCORAN	CHRISTOPHER COBLEY
RALPH RACKSTRAW, Able Seaman	G. H. COOPER
DICK DEADEYE, Able Seaman	JONATHAN FOSTER
BILL BOBSTAY, Boatswain's Mate	ROBERT SIMPSON
BOB BECKET, Carpenter's Mate	ALAN COSTLEY
TOM TUCKER, Midshipmite	CHRISTOPHER PICKUP
SERGEANT OF MARINES	MARTIN KING
MARINE	DAVID SOUTHERN
JOSEPHINE, the Captain's daughter	CHRISTOPHER DEAN
HEBE, Sir Joseph's first cousin	JAMES WILLIS
LITTLE BUTTERCUP (Mrs. Cripps)	J. J. HORREX

VALETE ET SALVETE*Valete—left 2nd April, 1957*

Form 6 General—C. Young.

Form 1 X—R. A. Lawson (left 9th March).

Salvete—came 1st May, 1957

Form 5 Science—G. L. Griffiss.

Form 1 Y—J. D. Sabel.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Results at the 'Advanced' Level of the recent General Certificate of Education are appended. The total number of subject-passes at this level (97) again shows a marked advance on the previous year, and includes 18 distinctions (marked with an asterisk). Congratulations to M. S. Bretscher and B. D. Winkett, who were awarded State Scholarships. H. C. Bowen received a similar award in error, as he had already been awarded a Supplementary State Scholarship and had written to withdraw his entry. We won't cheat by adding this to our score!

This year our fifth forms were a little 'lean' and this was reflected in the results at Ordinary level which were not quite up to the standard of the past two years. We have good reason to hope for better things in the future.

Four Subjects: H. C. Bowen (Pure M, App M, Ph*, Ch*).

Three Subjects: N. A. J. Antrobus (Pure M, App M, Ph); M. S. Bretscher (Pure-and-App M*, Ph*, Ch*); M. R. S. Broadway (Pure M, App M, Ph); W. W. Budden (E, L, H); M. R. Dawn (Pure M, App M, Ph); E. R. L. Day (Pure-and-App M, Ph, Ch); C. M. Dunman (Ch, Bot, Zoo*); P. D. Exon (Ch, Bot, Zoo); S. H. Freedman (Ch, Bot, Zoo); R. S. Green (G, L, AH); R. M. Kennedy (E, H, Geog); B. P. Kibble (Pure M*, App M*, Higher M); M. Q. King (G, L, AH*); R. K. Le Voi (Ch, Bot, Zoo); M. G. Nichol (G, L, AH); I. A. Oliver (Pure-and-App M, Ph, Ch); I. R. Peedell (E, L, H); B. E. Price (Pure M, App M, Ph); D. I. Southern (Ch, Bot, Zoo); B. D. Winkett (G*, L*, AH*).

Two Subjects: A. T. Aitchison (Pure M, Ph); D. H. Bragg (E, H); C. K. D. Cobley (E, F); D. S. Gerrard (E, H); N. J. H. Grant (E*, H); P. M. D. Gray (Ph*, Ch*); N. K. Hammond (H, Geog*); M. R. H. Hill (Ph, Ch*); J. B. Robins (E, H); R. B. Scott-Taggart (L, AH); A. E. Woodward (E, H); R. A. Worth (E, L).

One Subject: J. Barnett (Geog); M. J. Blythe (Geog); I. J. Glenny (H); C. J. Marchbanks (Ph); J. M. Mobbs (H); B. L. Smith (Ph); J. C. Spinks (H); S. C. Woodley (H*); G. D. Wright (E).

J.M.C.

CHAPEL NOTES

Here we would bid farewell to Mr. Burgess not as mathematician or musician but as Chaplain. Throughout his ten years here he devoted himself faithfully and humbly to the service of his Master; and scores—hundreds—of boys will remember gratefully the help he gave them in preparing them for Confirmation.

We should also like to thank Mr. Bernard Mayes for the part he has played in keeping the work of the Chapel going during the last month of the term. Even in so short a time his vigour and his sincerity made a deep impression.

We are most grateful also to the neighbouring priests who came over, at what must in some cases have been considerable inconvenience, to Celebrate for us each Sunday morning after the departure of Mr. Burgess; and especially to the Rev. L. P. Smith, of Culham College, who acted as School Chaplain for the Founder's Day Service.

The Lord Bishop of Oxford will conduct a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel at 3 p.m. on the second Sunday in Advent (8th December). Preliminary classes have already started.

Mr. Burgess once again took a party to represent the School at the Diocesan Youth Festival in Oxford on 18th May.

During the term the Choir sang two anthems in Chapel, Mozart's 'Ave Verum' and Farrant's 'Hide Not Thou Thy Face', in addition to Cecil Cope's 'Praise Thou The Lord' at the Founder's Day Service.

We gratefully acknowledge two unexpected gifts to the Chapel—six psalters from Jim Furby (O.A.) and a cheque from P. L. Howard (O.A.).

The collection taken at the terminal service on the first day of the term, some four guineas, was given to the funds of St. Helen's Church. To the same destination went one-half of the record collection of £31 17s. 9d. taken at the Founder's Day Service, the other half of which was sent to Dr. Barnardo's Children's Home at Oakley House. St. Nicolas' Church received the collection of £3 9s. 2d. taken at the traditional School Service on the last July evening of the term. Other collections devoted to outside charities were as follows:

S.P.C.K.	...	...	...	£4 4 9
C. of E. Children's Society	...	...	...	£5 11 0
British Council of Churches	...	...	...	£3 13 10
Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service	...	...	...	£4 18 6
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	...	...	...	£4 1 0

Visiting preachers during the coming term will include the following:

October 6th—P. W. Martin, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Chipping Norton Grammar School.

October 13th—A. W. Woolley, Esq., M.A., of the Oxford University Appointments Board.

October 27th—P. C. Sands, Esq., M.A., J.P., formerly Headmaster of Pocklington School.

November 17th—Rev. G. Palmer, M.A., Vicar of Benson, Oxon.

November 24th—Rev. C. H. G. Davey, M.A., Vicar of Faringdon.

The Chapel Council held a lively meeting on 3rd June, when the subjects discussed ranged from kneelers (a perennial problem!) to the plan for the new pews at the East end of the Chapel. One interesting suggestion, referred to the Chapel Committee for consideration, was that in future each boy should have his own hymn book and psalter. It was with some reluctance that the Committee subsequently found that this suggestion was impracticable.

The final action of the Council was to elect M. R. S. Broadway as its representative on the Chapel Committee in succession to B. D. Winkett.

The further increase in our numbers to 500 will make it difficult if not impossible to accommodate the whole School in two sessions for Morning Chapel and it is probable that special arrangements will have to be made for the first forms to have their own service (or services) elsewhere than the Chapel. Obviously something will be lost: but there are compensating advantages in that the young eleven-year-old from the smaller school will not find the transition quite so alarming if his morning prayers, which are of such importance, are at first conducted on a more intimate basis.

Lastly, let us assure our new Chaplain that a very warm welcome—and plenty of hard work!—awaits him at Abingdon. May his stay with us be happy and fruitful.

CRICKET

This has been a strange and most interesting season, though on paper not a very successful one. With potentially one of the strongest sides the School has fielded for years we finished the season with a record of 2 won; 5 lost; 5 drawn; and a tie against the Berkshire Gentlemen, to remind us of the glory that might have been.

The chief weakness of the side has been lack of aggression in the batting. Technically of a higher order than for a long while, too many long partnerships produced too few runs, because very few players were

able to attack the bowling. On four occasions the School side was dismissed for very low scores, against St. Edward's, Solihull, the Staff and Bolton, when paralysis seemed to strike the side. In two cases, disaster was partially retrieved, by a fine innings by Phipps against Solihull and by a determined fight back by Kennedy and Anderson against Bolton. The Magdalen match provided an exciting tussle, and at 100 for 3 the School appeared to be coasting towards victory. However, time began to press, the inevitable spate of wickets came, and the lack of Trenaman at No. 4 was sorely felt. The highlight of the season was the match against the Berkshire Gentlemen, who fielded a very strong side. A fine innings by Trenaman, well backed up Thistlewood, pulled the School round from 87 for 7 to a fine total of 162. Excitement on and around the field was intense as the scores slowly drew level, and it was a remarkably fine throw-in which ran out Thistlewood when trying to snatch the winning run. Against an even stronger Abingdon Cricket Club side, what might have been a great finish was spoilt by rain. With an hour left in which to score 80 runs, seven wickets in hand, and Woodley in full cry, the game was beautifully poised.

Of the batsmen, Woodley has been the most consistent, while Phipps at the beginning and Trenaman at end of the season have been his chief supporters. In fact Trenaman scored 304 runs to Woodley's 269 and Phipps' 201, and emerged with an average of 25, which won him the Fletcher Cup. Fielding has been good on the whole, and Trenaman has taken one or two amazing catches close to the wicket. A general criticism, however, would be that too many of the side were slow at picking up and returning from the deep field. Of the bowlers, Fitzsimons and Woodley have been the most successful, and received untiring support from Hill, until he was laid up for the latter part of the season. Thistlewood, and until quite late in the season Trenaman, did not find their best form often enough, though when they did they proved very effective. Anderson's wicket-keeping has been sound, and by his steadiness and enthusiasm he has proved an excellent focus for the team.

This then has been, for some, a disappointing season, but one of infinite promise. With a batting side which by the end of the season contained established batsmen at nos. 10 and 11, and rarely less than seven good bowlers, we have suffered too often from the lack of that aggression which makes all the difference between an exciting and a dull finish. Some of our older players were not always at their best, and again we finished the season with three Colts in the side. Invaluable experience for the future was thereby gained at the expense of very senior players, who, to their credit took bad fortune in their stride and wished 'God speed' to their young successors. If the performances of Browning and Perry are anything to judge by late experiments were well worth while. The chief memory of the season will be the number

of exciting finishes, and we hope that they will prove the forerunners of many more to come.

During the course of the season, Full Colours were awarded to W. J. Phipps, and Half Colours to Fitzsimons, Hill and Anderson. Next year's Captain of Cricket is W. J. Phipps, and the Secretary R. M. Kennedy.

The Second XI have again had quite a good season. Very ably captained by Wastie, until his promotion to the 1st XI for the last two matches of the season, they lost only to Magdalen and Bloxham. Wastie has batted and bowled with great determination and success, and has been well backed up by Candy, R. B. Smith, Rhys and Peedell, all of whom have shown fighting spirit in various crises. Morris has made some useful scores, and Woodward has bowled very fast and well, though he is too prone to have "off-days". As a wicket-keeper, Rhys, while unpolished as yet, has shown determination.

The Under 16 XI enjoyed a fairly successful season—it was unfortunate that the first two matches were cancelled through bad weather, and another by our opponents, but of the five matches played, three were won, one drawn and one lost, while an Under 15 team only just failed to get their opponents out, in the one match they played. P. J. Ford proved an able and enthusiastic Captain who handled his team well, and set a high example himself in the field. M. D. Nurton kept wicket generally well, and occasionally very well, though his taking of fast bowling on the leg side could be improved, and he must be faster in coming up to the wicket to take a quick return. The batting of the team as a whole was commendably and refreshingly confident, and the facts that the side was only once all out (for 134) and that its lowest score was 116 (for 7 wickets) speak for themselves. The bowling was not quite so good, and although all the recognized bowlers bowled well on their day, there was too much loose bowling. The fielding was never less than adequate, and occasionally brilliant.

The Under 14 XI showed itself to be fairly strong in batting, but a big weakness was lack of accurate and offensive opening bowling. In a most varied and interesting season, Bingham, Rosevear, Veysey, Taylor and Parker have all played good innings, and others promise well. The victories against Radley and Reading were, however, mainly due to some tight and intelligent slow bowling by Parker, Veysey and Rosevear, while Davies and Kceys have also bowled well at times. The side's best performance was in the field against Radley, where the tense atmosphere was met by cool decisions by Parker, the captain, and equally cool and careful fielding from the whole side.

The Senior House Match Competition was won by Blacknall for the sixth time in seven years. Chief honours, however, must go to Bennett, who won the Junior House knock-out competition, and finished at the top of both Senior and Junior Leagues. A.A.H.

This year we have been able to use the magnificent new pavilion on the War Memorial Field, and we can only inadequately express here our gratitude to the Old Abingdonians for presenting the School with so splendid a pavilion. Also we must again express our thanks to Mr. Hillary and Mr. Milton for the great amount of hard work they have put in during this, as other, years for the Cricket Club. And, finally, add a special word of thanks to P. J. Walker, who, besides being an excellent scorer, has run the House Leagues with great efficiency.

FIRST ELEVEN CHARACTERS

S. C. WOODLEY (Captain; Colours 1956). A sound captain, whose example in the field has inspired the whole team. He has played some very good innings, but has failed as a rule to attack from the word go. The main criticisms of his captaincy are a failure to bowl himself enough, and a tendency to change the bowling at both ends simultaneously. Generally, he has devoted himself wholeheartedly to the duties of his office, and has done a very good job in the last two seasons. (A.A.H.).

SPINKS, J. C. (Secretary; Half-Colours 1955). An attacking, though slightly erratic, bowler and fielder, who unfortunately has had a bad season with the bat. He has yet to conquer his fatal tendency to play forward before the ball is bowled, though he drives the well-pitched ball firmly.

R. J. TRENAMAN (Colours 1956). A fine all-rounder. As a bowler his control of length and flight has improved greatly, and he handles his chinaman with greater moderation. His batting towards the end of the season has taken on a new air of confidence, and he has been the one player really to put bat firmly to ball. A first-rate fielder in any position, with a hard and accurate throw.

I. J. GLENNY (Colours 1956). One must say of him again that he would be an outstanding batsman if only he would give free rein to the strokes he undoubtedly possesses. His "defeatist" attitude is his biggest handicap, and he will only make runs when he sets out to attack and master the bowling.

W. J. PHIPPS (Colours 1957). A young batsman of the highest promise. Sound in every department and of great determination, he was the mainstay of the batting in the first part of the season, and is developing the vital aggressive spirit. A very fine fielder, though he is sometimes wild in throwing-in. His running between the wickets is still suspect—he must get off his heels!

THISTLEWOOD, A. W. (Half-Colours 1956). A capable all-rounder who has not enjoyed the best of fortune this season. As a batsman, he possesses all the shots and should score plenty of runs next season, while his slow-off-break bowling will be dangerous when he finds again a consistent length.

FITZSIMONS, P. E. J. (Half-Colours 1957). A valuable outswing opening bowler, who can also bowl very useful off-breaks at a slower pace. As a batsman he is potentially a considerable hitter as well as a solid defensive bat, though he must learn to use his reach more effectively.

HILL, M. R. H. (Half-Colours 1957). A tremendous cricket enthusiast: we were unlucky to be without his untiring efforts as a fast-medium bowler for the latter half of the season, at a time when his batting and fielding, as well as his bowling, were showing a marked improvement.

ANDERSON, P. J. D. (Half-Colours 1957). A much-improved young wicket-keeper, though inclined to be slow at times. A very useful left-hand bat, with great determination, but too amiably disposed towards opposition bowlers.

KENNEDY, R. M. A determined all-rounder, whose batting has given greater firmness to the middle of the order. He has the right air of aggression, but must learn to deal with the loose ball on the leg side.

BALDWIN, R. J. A promising all-rounder, who gradually found his feet in the side. Another left-arm bowler of promise, who is also a useful bat and a good fielder.

BROWNING, I. A. Promoted from the Colts side for the last four matches, he shows every sign of developing into a very good left-hand opening bat. Is at present apt to restrict himself to pushing and deflecting, but by next year should be able to give power to his technically correct drives.

Also played: Wastie, Westbrook, Ford (P. J.) and Perry (twice each); Morris (once).

S.C.W.

FIRST XI MATCHES

v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 11th May.

Cancelled because of rain.

v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h). Wed., 15th May. Drawn.

Abingdon: 148 for 7 dec. (Glenny 31, Phipps 26).

Wantage: 72 for 6 (Hobbs 31, Woodley 3 for 13).

v. St. Edward's 2nd XI (a). Sat., 18th May. Lost.

Abingdon: 55 (White 3 for 9, Downing 3 for 11).

St. Edward's 2nd XI: 57 for 4 (Birch 38 n.o., Trenaman 3 for 26).

v. Parents' XI (h). Sat., 26th May. Won.

Parents: 102 (Mr. Flint 47, Spinks 4 for 13, Fitzsimons 4 for 49).

Abingdon: 105 for 1 (Glenny 49 n.o., Phipps 29 n.o.).

v. Solihull School (a). Wed., 29th May. Lost.

Solihull: 229 for 6 dec. (Lea 62, Stratford 46, Woodley 3 for 40).
 Abingdon: 85 (Phipps 47, Thomas 5 for 19).

v. Magdalen College School (h). Sat., 1st June. Lost.

Magdalen: 165 (Archer 33, Fitzsimons 5 for 49).
 Abingdon: 139 (Woodley 47, Phipps 34, Warnock 5 for 36).

v. Berkshire Gentlemen (h). Wed., 12th June. A Tie.

Berkshire Gentlemen: 162 (Trenaman 4 for 47).
 Abingdon: 162 (Trenaman 64, G. Johnson 4 for 47).

v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 15th June. Won.

A thrilling finish produced a narrow win for the School. On a spiteful wicket, the School did well to reach 135, partly thanks to a good 9th wicket stand by Kennedy and Baldwin.

Some determined hitting by Budden put the School's total in danger, but Fitzsimons took the last wicket in what footballers call "injury time"!

Abingdon: 135 for 9 dec. (Kennedy 31 n.o., Whiteford 4 for 23).
 Old Abingdonians: 125 (B. G. Budden 59, Woodley 4 for 28).

v. The Staff (h). Wed., 19th June. Lost.

The Staff: 74 (Fitzsimons 6 for 24).
 Abingdon: 59 (Mr. Hillary 7 for 21).

v. City of Oxford School (h). Sat., 22nd June. Drawn.

Abingdon: 162 for 5 dec. (Woodley 56, Trenaman 46).
 City of Oxford: 149 for 7 (Farr 69, Buckley 41).

v. Abingdon Cricket Club (h). Sat., 6th July. Drawn.

Sound batting by Woodley and Trenaman left the School in a good position when torrential rain brought the match to an abrupt end, with an hour still left for play.

Abingdon Cricket Club: 198 for 3 dec. (Blake 74, Ambrose 63, Whiteford 44).

Abingdon School: 117 for 3 (Woodley 55 n.o., Trenaman 33, S. Hurd 3 for 18).

v. Bolton School (h). Wed., 10th July. Lost.

This was a new fixture, Bolton being down on tour from Lancashire. Bolton batted well, but the School began badly and six wickets fell for ten runs. Then Anderson and Kennedy played a brave defensive innings, and the game was eventually lost only in the last over.

Bolton: 159 for 5 dec. (Worsley 54, Ogden 48).
 Abingdon: 55 (Bate 6 for 10, Guthrie 3 for 12).

v. Oratory School (a). Sat., 13th July. Drawn.

Oratory: 130 (Hudson 54, R. J. Trenaman 6 for 49).

Abingdon: 105 for 8 (Trenaman 37).

v. R.G.S. High Wycombe (h). Wed., 17th July. Drawn.

The School batted well, but heavy rain started when the Wycombe opening pair looked well set and the game had to be abandoned.

Abingdon: 134 for 5 dec. (Trenaman 51, Woodley 26, Kennedy 26 n.o.).

R.G.S. High Wycombe: 37 for 0 wkt.

SECOND XI

Team: Wastie (Capt.), Westbrook, B., Morris, Peedell, Woodward, Rhys, Simpson, Smith, R. B., Candy, Paxman and Broad.

Also played: Spinks, J. C., Glenney, I. J., Kennedy, Browning, Yarkoff, Dimond.

Match Results (our scores first)

- v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (h). Won. 101; 67.*
- v. Radley College 3rd XI (h). Won. 134 for 5 dec.; 110.*
- v. Solihull School (a). Won. 75 for 7; 72.*
- v. Magdalen College School (a). Lost. 80; 93.*
- v. City of Oxford School (h). Drawn. 80 for 8; 179 for 8 dec.*
- v. R.G.S. High Wycombe (h). Drawn. 121 for 4 dec.; 51 for 7.*
- v. Bloxham School (h). Lost. 59; 61 for 7.*

UNDER 16 XI

Final team: Ford (Capt.), Browning, Perry, Longworth, Utin, Nurton, M. D., Hamilton, Evans, D. R. M., Long, Goodwin and Whitton.

Also played: Anderson, Brice, Morgan, T. L., Tuck.

For Under 15 XI: Robey, Hurd, Graham, Riddick, Cross.

Match Results

- v. Magdalen Coll. Sch. (h). Drawn. 132 for 3 dec.; 88 for 6.*
- v. Leighton Park Sch. (a). Won. 186 for 5 dec.; 74.*
- v. Oxford Schools' Cricket Assoc. (a). Lost. 134; 136 for 7.*
- v. Reading School (h). Won. 144 for 7 dec.; 46.*
- v. Bloxham School (a). Won. 116 for 7; 115.*

UNDER 15 XI

- v. Oratory School (h). Drawn. 145 for 7; 84 for 8.*

UNDER 14 XI

Final team: Parker (Capt.), Bingham, Rosevear, Weir, Veysey, Davis, C. M., Keeys, Taylor, D. W., Martin, Wood, A. P. H. and Gosling.

Also played: Nelson, Watts, J. C. M.

For Under 14 'A' XI: Hoddinott, Dixon, K. W. R., King, Redgrave, Ford, M. S., Thorpe, Bailey, G. J., Scott, D. J. and Harrison.

Match Results

- v. St. Edward's School (a). Drawn. 56 for 9; 144 for 2 dec.
- v. Magdalen College School (a). Lost. 53; 56 for 6.
- v. City of Oxford School (a). Drawn. 97 for 6; 150 for 2 dec.
- v. Reading School (h). Won. 96 for 6; 95.
- v. Radley College (h). Won. 40; 38.
- v. Bloxham School (a). Lost. 60; 103.
- "A" XI v. Colonel Bryceson's School (h). Won. 85 for 3 dec; 24.

S.C.W.

ROWING

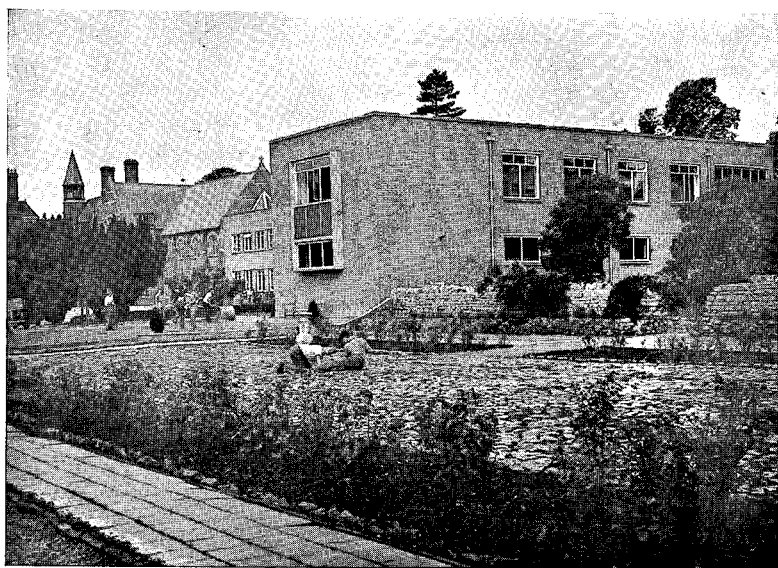
This has been an historic year for the Boat Club. As readers of the *Abingdonian* will remember we have often looked forward to the day when the School would be represented by an Eight at Regattas, and this has at last come to pass. We are indeed grateful to the many Old Boys and friends of the School whose assistance and encouragement have made this possible. Results have not been startling, but we managed to hold our own against the opposition encountered, and having learned many useful lessons hope to work our way up the ladder.

The racing season has been largely one of experiment. We began racing in Fours as usual, and had much difficulty in the selection of crews. Weight and skill were not as closely allied as we could have desired. Briefly we banked on skill, and then tried the alternative, and did not do very well with either! So we put both together in the eight and the result was most promising. In future we intend to base all the training on the production of the 1st VIII, and possibly a 2nd VIII, and to think about the IV's afterwards. For the rest the results which follow will speak for themselves.

Finally, we must express our heartfelt gratitude to the 'anonymous' O.A.—who 'stroked' the 1st IV some fifty years ago, and who has already bought us a new boat and given us other generous financial help—for his latest gift of a hundred guineas to our funds; also to three other O.A.'s for generous gifts this term; to the President of the O.A. Club for his never-failing help and sympathy and for entertaining

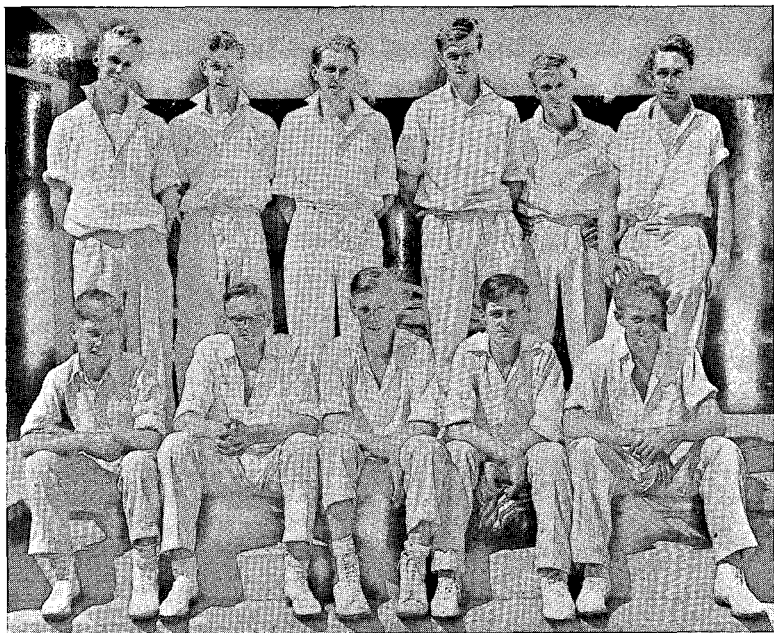


THE INSPECTION

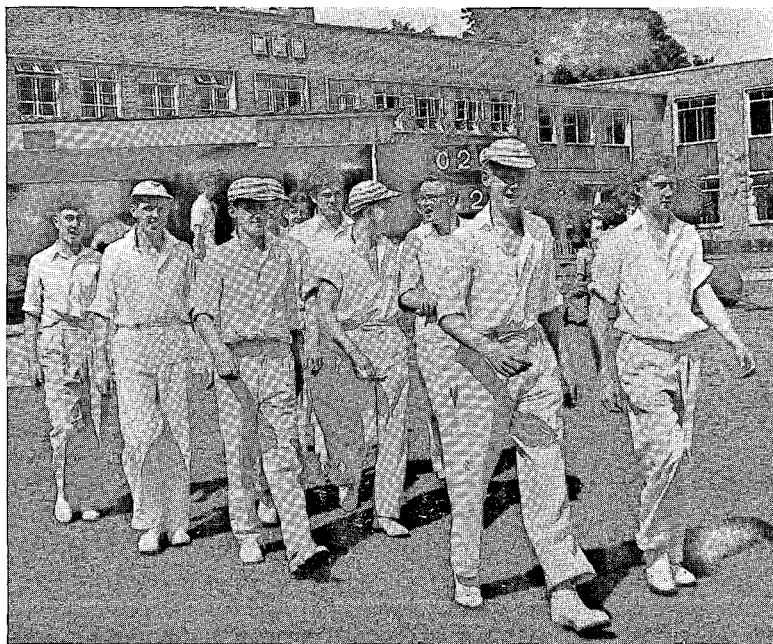


PREPARING FOR FOUNDER'S DAY

THE FIRST ELEVEN



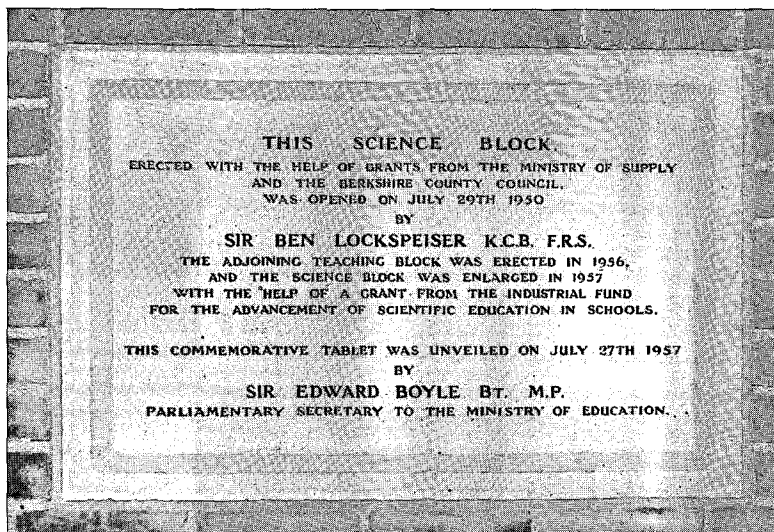
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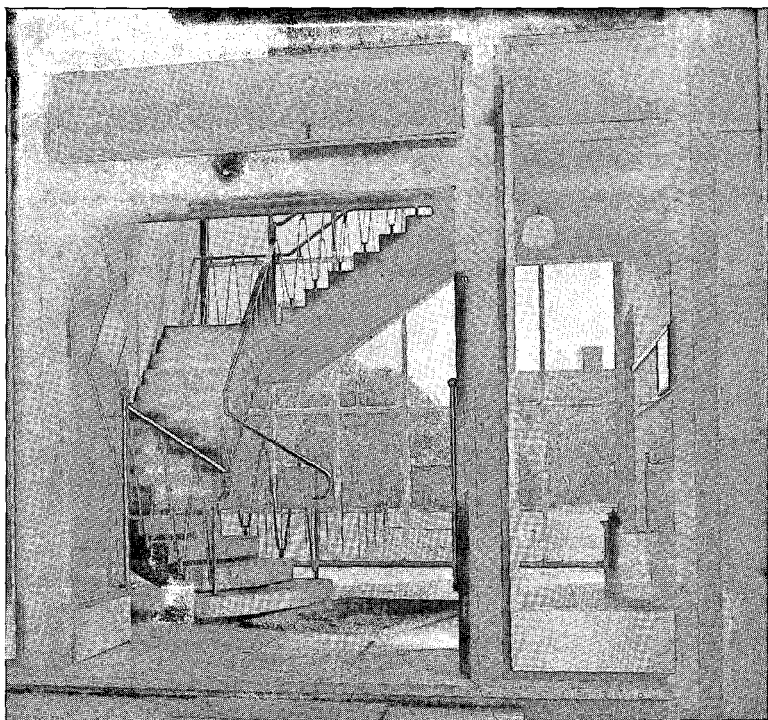
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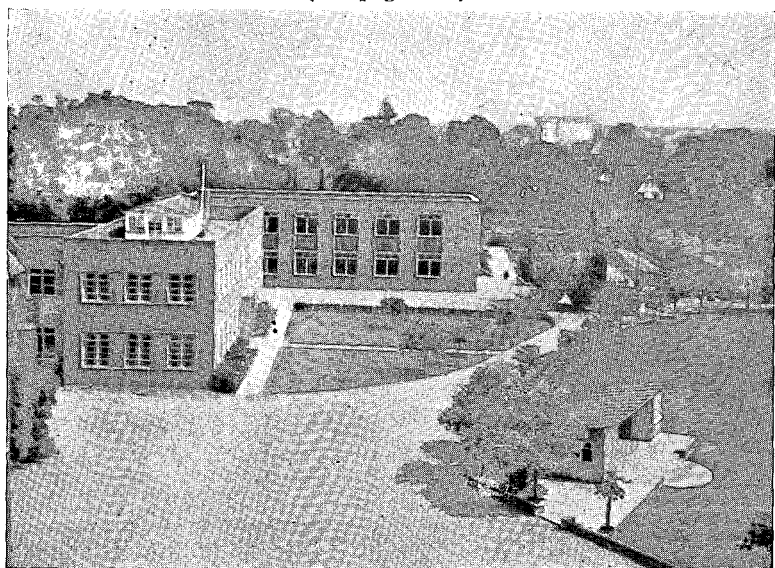
SIR EDWARD BOYLE AND THE ADMIRAL



THE COMMEMORATIVE TABLET



ENTRANCE TO THE TEACHING BLOCK
(See page 119)



THE NEW EXTENSION

the crews at Regattas; to Lord Glyn of Farnborough for his gift of Enclosure tickets for Henley Royal Regatta; and to Mr. John Hooke, O.A., for entertaining two fortunate members of the crew at a memorable Henley Finals day.

R.G.M.

RACES

FIRST VIII

Crew: Bow—M. R. S. Broadway; 2—R. J. Paige; 3—J. A. Thewlis; 4—D. J. Meakins; 5—R. K. Le Voi; 6—R. B. Scott-Taggart; 7—B. L. Smith; Stroke—I. A. Oliver; Cox—N. W. Pridham.

25th May at the Royal Air Force Regatta, Marlow,

Invitation Junior Eights

This was the School's first appearance in public in an VIII and the crew, which had been composed at very short notice, lost easily to Sir William Borlase's School.

8th June. Wallingford Regatta. Junior Eights.

Lost to B.N.C. II in the first heat by $\frac{1}{2}$ length in 5 mins. 4 secs. This was a very good row, though the rate of striking was too high.

10th June. Reading Clinker Regatta. Maiden Eights.

Heat 1: Beat Emanuel School by $\frac{2}{3}$ length in 3 min. 41 secs. A good row, though the stroke was too short and the rating too high.

Heat 2: Lost to Parkside R.C. by about $\frac{1}{2}$ length in 3 min. 39 secs. Parkside eventually won the event.

22nd June. Marlow Regatta. Junior Eights.

In our first heat we beat R.M.A. Sandhurst II by 1 length but we were defeated by Maidenhead R.C. by $\frac{2}{3}$ length. Maidenhead went on to win the event. The School, rowing a longer stroke at a slower rating, were slow in settling down and Maidenhead at the half distance had a lead of 2 lengths. Over the second half the School challenged strongly and cut down the deficit.

FIRST IV

For the first two fixtures the crew was: Bow—Le Voi; 2—Paige; 3—Smith; Stroke—Broadway; Cox—Pridham.

18th May v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).

Lost by $\frac{2}{3}$ length in heavy rain.

22nd May v. Prince Henry's Grammar School, Evesham (h).

Lost by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths in 3 min. 24 secs.

For the next two races the crew was: Bow—Le Voi; 2—Scott-Taggart; 3—Smith; Stroke—Oliver; Cox—Pridham.

29th May v. Reading School (a).

Lost by $\frac{1}{2}$ length. A good race.

1st June v. King's School, Worcester (h).

Lost by $\frac{1}{2}$ length in 3 min. 18 secs.

SECOND IV

For the first two races the crew was: Bow—Foden; 2—Scott-Taggart; 3—Costley; Stroke—Meakins; Cox—Havelock.

18th May v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a).

Lost by 4 feet. A most exciting race.

22nd May v. Prince Henry's Grammar School, Evesham (h).

Won by 2 lengths.

For the next two races the crew was: Bow—Broadway; 2—Paige; 3—Thewlis; Stroke—Meakins; Cox—Havelock.

29th May v. Reading School (a).

Lost by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

1st June v. King's School, Worcester (h).

Lost by 3 feet.

THIRD IV

18th May v. Culham College 1st IV (h).

Won by a length. 3 min. 34.6 secs.

Crew: Bow—Mackenzie; 2—Oliver; 3—North; Stroke—Thewlis; Cox—Stuart-Lyon.

22nd May v. Prince Henry's School, Evesham (h).

Won by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Crew: Bow—Mackenzie; 2—Thewlis; 3—Cobley; Stroke—Oliver; Cox—Stuart-Lyon.

For the remaining fixtures, the crew was: Bow—Mackenzie; 2—Foden; 3—Cobley; Stroke—Costley; Cox—Stuart-Lyon.

29th May v. Reading School (a).

Won by a canvas.

1st June v. King's School, Worcester (h).

Lost by a canvas.

8th June. Wallingford Regatta. Maiden Fours.

Heat 1—Beat the Queen's College easily in 3 min. 34 secs.

Heat 2—Beat R.A.F. Rudloe by $\frac{1}{2}$ length in 3 min. 32 secs.

Final—Lost by 2 lengths to the School 4th IV.

10th June. Reading Clinker Regatta. Maiden Fours.

Heat 1—Beat Reading Tradesmen 'A' IV easily in 4 min. 16 secs.

Heat 2—Lost to Reading School 'B' by a canvas after a dead heat.

FOURTH IV

Crew: Bow—Wintle; 2—Antrobus, R. L.; 3—Antrobus, N. A. J.;
Stroke—Dawn; Cox—Crow.

18th May v. Culham College II (h).

Won by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths in 3 min. 33 secs. (A 4th IV record).

22nd May v. Prince Henry's Grammar School Evesham (h).

Won by 1 length.

29th May v. Reading School (a).

Won easily.

1st June v. King's School, Worcester (h).

Won by $\frac{1}{2}$ length.

8th June. Wallingford Regatta. Maiden Fours (as Abingdon 'B')

Heat 1—Beat J.A.R.I.C. 'B' easily. 3 min. 37 secs.

Heat 2—Beat Wallingford G.S. 'B' easily. 3 min. 37 secs.

Heat 3—Beat Reading Tradesmen R.C. 2 lengths. 3 min. 23 secs.

Final—Beat Abingdon School 'A' (3rd IV) 2 lengths. 3 min. 20 secs.

Thus winning the Coronation Challenge Cup.

This crew was chosen to represent the School in the Public Schools' Challenge Cup at Marlow Regatta but were unfortunately prevented from completing the course in their first heat owing to a defective swivel.

FIFTH IV

Crew: Bow—Rowles; 2—Ogle; 3—North; Stroke—Gibbs; Cox—Havelock.

This was a crew of volunteers who entered for the Schoolboy Fours event at Wallingford Regatta, a new event with a cup presented by Lord Glyn of Farnborough.

Heat 1—Beat Wallingford R.C. easily. 3 min. 37 secs.

Final—Lost to R.G.S., High Wycombe by $\frac{1}{2}$ length. 3 min. 36 secs.

BOAT CLUB REGATTA

The Regatta was held on Wilsham Reach on the evening of Monday, 15th July.

Results

Bennett Cup for House Fours—Blacknall beat Bennett.

Morrell Cup for Junior Pairs—Blacknall 'A' beat Reeves 'A'.

The Pierpoint Cup—Boarders beat Dayboys.

The Mayor's Trophy for Sculling—B. L. Smith beat M. G. Chambers.

Coxes' Race—Pridham, Crow, Broadway beat Stuart-Lyon, Havelock, Oliver.

Visitors' Trophy—won by Grant, Robins and Nichol.

The prizes were presented by Miss Isgar.

M.R.S.B.

TENNIS

The season has not been a successful one, although many of the games were long drawn out and less one sided than the score suggests. Only two players remained from last year's VI and team building proved more difficult than was anticipated. The Captain, N. G. C. Norman, had won the Oxfordshire Junior Singles Tournament in April and the Secretary, J. T. Buckland, was also showing good form at that time; yet both these players struck a bad patch when the grass court season opened, and though several combinations were tried the team lacked a stable foundation and failed to get going. There was a noticeable improvement towards the end of the term and it was unfortunate that the last two matches were rained off.

All the grass courts have been in play; the South one, having been re-sown, played exceptionally well. The hard court, which has been renovated, has also been used for play during wet weather and for coaching on Thursday afternoons by Mr. R. J. Lay, for whose services we are again extremely grateful. An added and most welcome amenity has been our own small pavilion, formerly on the Memorial Field and moved in one piece with considerable skill by Mr. Thatcher last autumn.

There were thirty entries for the Buckley Cup together with eight seeds who were held over until the third round. The first four seeds eventually reached the semi-final and in the final Woodley beat Norman 10—8, 6—3 in a very good match.

Two very enjoyable visits were made to the Championships at Wimbledon; those going on the second visit were particularly fortunate in seeing play in the men's quarter-finals on both the centre and no. 1 court, whilst the first party had the advantage of seeing many of the stars in play on the outer courts.

TENNIS CHARACTERS

N. G. C. NORMAN (Captain; Colours 1956). A powerful player with many winning strokes, both on the backhand and the forehand. His volleying can be very good, but he still needs to take more care with the overhead smash—that extra bit of concentration—and on occasions in going forward to take the ball before it has dropped too far.

He has yet to find the answer to slow defensive play and also needs to be more steady and sure of himself, when supporting a weaker partner.

(H.M.G.)

J. T. BUCKLAND (Secretary; Colours 1957). A player who has improved considerably during the last year. He has mastered the smash well but still is not approaching his ground strokes in the proper manner. His service is fast and accurate.

P. M. D. GRAY. His forehand is good and most of his winning shots are made with it. However his backhand and volleys tend to let him down mainly because he is not able to position himself quickly enough. His service could be a strong point, but unfortunately, at the moment, he is double-faulting too often.

I. J. KIRBY. He possesses powerful strokes especially in his forehand and service, but to get better results he must keep the racquet head up and face sideways to the net. These faults are particularly noticeable in his backhand, which at present is weak.

D. H. BRAGG. Steady on the forehand, but uncertain on the backhand; also his volleying needs to be more crisp and decisive. He must learn to press home an advantage and not flag at the finish.

M. G. NICHOL. An awkward player in that he does not get down to his shots. His service is fairly strong but his other shots need practice.

T. GREADER. Has played in four matches, but has not fulfilled early promise as he has a tendency to slice the ball.

N.G.C.N.

Match Results

May 18th	v.	Magdalen College School (a).	Lost	0—9
June 1st	v.	Berkhamsted School (a).	Lost	1—8½
June 5th	v.	Pangbourne N. College (a).	Lost	1—5
June 12th	v.	Leighton Park School (a).	Lost	0—8
June 15th	v.	Old Abingdonians (h).	Lost	3½—5½
June 17th	v.	Staff (h).	Drawn	4½—4½
July 6th	v.	Reading School (h).	Lost	3—5
July 10th	v.	Culham College (a).	Lost	2½—5½

Matches arranged against Radley College, R.G.S., High Wycombe, and Abingdon L.T.C. were cancelled owing to rain.

On 22nd June, a Second VI lost to Magdalen College School 1½—7½. This was more closely contested than the score suggests and our very promising junior pair, R. K. Paige and R. W. J. Bampton, despite being over a year younger than any of their opponents, won 21 games and had two very long sets of 7—9, 6—8. The first pair were Greader and Womar, the second pair Dickenson and Wiggins.

YOULL CUP: PUBLIC SCHOOLS' WIMBLEDON WEEK

Our 1st pair played well, defeating the 1st pairs of Wrekin 4—6, 6—1, 6—2; and Eton 6—2, 7—5. In the 2nd set against Eton they were 2—5 down but pulled up very well to take the set (and match) at 7—5. Unfortunately the 2nd pair never found their touch and failed against their opposite numbers. This meant that Woodley had to play a single each time to decide. He achieved notable victories over the Captains of Wrekin 6—2, 6—1; and Eton 6—2, 6—3.

By this time Woodley had been on the courts most of the day, while Norman was by no means fresh; yet by the luck of the draw, we had to go straight on to play the 3rd round against Bryanston that evening. This proved to be the limit of our capabilities and our 1st pair lost 3—6, 3—6.

So ended a very full and interesting day, which also included an unexpected and memorable close-up view of the Wightman Cup team hard at practice.

Youll Cup 1st pair—N. G. C. Norman, S. C. Woodley; 2nd pair—J. T. Buckland, I. J. Kirkby.

H.M.G.

SWIMMING

Swimming instruction has continued without interruption throughout the term. Although no-one has actually taken the R.L.S. Society's examinations this year, a considerable number of boys have gained a working knowledge of the various techniques of life saving. The general standard of swimming, moreover, has improved and this is in part borne out by the fact that three records were broken in the Sports. The Swimming Sports were held in the Municipal Pool on the afternoon of 24th July, when the Green Cup was won by Tesdale House with a total of 40 points over Reeves (32) and Bennett (25). At a simple ceremony at the close of the Sports, Mrs. Hillary gave away the awards and for this we thank her. Too late for inclusion in these awards, we learned that a new cup—the Elliott Cup—had been presented for the swimmer gaining the most points on Sports Day. This year it has gone to P. A. Smith.

As we go to press we learn with pleasure and gratitude of the presentation of a further trophy, for free-style swimming, for which we offer our very warm thanks to Group-Captain B. H. Becker. This will be competed for for the first time next year.

The results were:—

Open Free-Style, 10 lengths (Record: Kibble, 1956—3 mins. 51 secs).
1—Foden; 2—Foster; 3—Dalton. 4 min. 53.4 secs.

Open Free-Style, 4 lengths (Record: Kibble, 1956—1 min. 17 secs.).
1—Price; 2—Harrington; 3—Elliott. 1 min. 32.8 secs.

Open Breast Stroke, 10 lengths (Record: Smith, P. A., 1955—4 mins. 22.9 secs.).

1—Smith; 2—Foden; 3—Morris. 4 min. 10.9 secs. (new record).

Open Breast Stroke, 4 lengths (Record: Scott-Taggart, 1954—1 min. 32.6 secs.).

1—Smith, P. A.; 2—Clark; 3—Foden. 1 min. 33.4 secs.

Open Back Stroke, 4 lengths (Record: Smith, B. L. 1956—1 min. 43.6 secs.).

1—Kingston; 2—Smith, B. L.; 3—Lier. 1 min 39.6 secs. (new record).

Open Diving: 1—Scragg; 2—Kingston; 3—Dillabough.

Obstacle Race: all competitors completed the course, Westbrook being home first.

Under 16 Free-Style, 4 lengths (Record: Kibble, 1955—1 min. 24.2 secs.).

1—Kandiah; 2—Griffiths; 3—Dalton. 1 min. 24.4 secs.

Under 16 Breast Stroke, 4 lengths (Record: Clark, 1955—1 min. 37.9 secs.).

1—Dillabough; 2—Bailey, R. R.; 3—Wyatt. 1 min. 40.2 secs.

Under 16 Back Stroke, 2 lengths (Record: Smith, B. L., 1953—47 secs.).

1—Griffiths; 2—Dillabough; 3—Wyatt. 46 secs. (new record).

Under 14 Free-Style, 2 lengths (Record: Kingston, 1954—38.3 secs.).

1—Rosevear; 2—Davies, C. M.; 3—Kear. 39.3 secs.

Under 14 Breast Stroke, 2 lengths (Record: Smith, P. A., 1953—51.6 secs.).

1—Moss; 2—Weir; 3—Burridge. 52 secs.

Beginners' Race, 1 length: 1—Smith, A. H.; 2—Hutcheon; 3—Evans, E. C. R.

Junior Relay: 1—Tesdale; 2—Reeves; 3—Blacknall. 1 min. 13.3 secs.

Senior Relay: 1—Bennett; 2—Tesdale; 3—Reeves. 1 min. 8.5 secs.

P.A.S.

NOTE ON PHOTOGRAPHS

On the last page of the photographs, the upper one shows the entrance hall of the Teaching Block, as seen from the Colonnade, with the old tennis court of Lacies Court beyond the large window. The lower one shows how the new science extension projects from the Science Block. It may be compared with photographs taken from the same vantage point in previous issues.

EXCURSION DAY

Monday, 22nd July saw some 420 members of the School depart for Southampton docks. A special train took us from Abingdon right through to the dockside. Here we were conducted in parties through the New Docks to inspect the King George V graving dock. A paddle steamer took us down Southampton Water, past the oil refinery at Fawley and out into the Solent and the approaches to Cowes. At Calshot, high and dry, lay two Princess Flying-boats, awaiting engines that have yet to be designed for them.

Back in Southampton tea awaited us, and then to the veranda of the Ocean Terminal to feast our eyes upon the Queen Elizabeth. This formed the grand finale and a fitting climax to the day. It only remains to record our sincere thanks to British Railways and in particular to Mr. Spindlow for a day of interest and variety.

M.N.W.

The Initiative Test

This year the 'initiative test' was less spectacular, more limited in range, than in 1956, but it provided just as much scope for ingenuity and common sense.

The general theme was that boys taking part should learn something of their own region, which for the purpose of this exercise was defined as the counties of Berkshire and Oxfordshire—a self-contained area of which Abingdon is roughly the centre. The objectives were curious, varied and in some cases cryptic: to select them involved much research in local guide books, to track them down involved even more.

Once again the selected boys (all of whom were volunteers) 'hunted in couples'. Each couple was given its objective at a briefing conference at 5.15 p.m. on Friday, 19th July—just after the General Inspection. The evening was spent in planning and the parties could set off any time after dawn on Saturday. They had to report back to the Duty Master not later than 5 p.m. on the same day, and logs were handed in by 9.30 p.m. One big change in the rules this year was that there was to be no hitch-hiking; the expedition had to be carried out on foot, on cycles or by means of public transport.

The general standard was extremely high and every couple took a great deal of trouble to do the job properly. Several of the logs were illustrated with photographs (developed and printed within the time limits), sketch maps, and rubbings. One of them was accompanied by some very solid exhibits of Cotswold Stone. In at least one case personal research was able to refute the standard guide books in an important particular. It should be added that every single boy reported on time—though one, whose bicycle had broken down, had to do so by telephone.

Awards were as follows:

First prize (book token, and the Older Cup for Initiative, to be held for six months in turn)—N. K. Hammond and P. A. Smith.

Second prize (book tokens)—J. M. H. Becker and B. E. Price.

Consolation prizes (book tokens)—A. T. Aitchison and A. J. Foden; D. J. Privett and J. H. Thewlis.

J.M.C.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

The first event of term was Field Day, held on 14th May, in the form—for Cert. 'A' candidates—of a training "circus". That this last-minute brush-up (following the Easter break) has its value was again shown by the results: of 46 candidates for Part 2, 39 passed, including 2 with credit; while in Part I, conducted for the first time by a wholly "domestic" Board, 65 passed out of 76. On this same day, 17th May, the R.A. Section held their annual Classification tests; and here too pleasing results were achieved as all 6 candidates passed both parts of the exam.

Empire Youth Sunday came later on in the term than is usual. This year it was the turn of our Band to lead the parade to Church and for the March Past afterwards. It performed most creditably; so, too, did the quite sizeable contingent over 80 strong, representing the R.N. and all Army Sections. We were glad that we made a favourable impression on the G.O.C. Scottish Command, who had come down to take the Salute.

Inspection, on Friday, 19th July, was somewhat interfered with (both on the day and during preparation-time) by G.C.E. examinations, which this year ran late. The parade, taken by Capt. J. D. Farrow, O.B.E., R.N., of H.M.S. Sultan, Gosport, had in fact to take place while 4 Cadets were in the examination room. In other ways, however, we were fortunate—in the weather particularly. After a short downpour just before the time of parade, the afternoon was fine and hot. The Inspecting Officer, well satisfied with the training that he saw and with the standard of the Ceremonial Parade, was particularly impressed by the turn-out and performance of the Band.

Last—and, alas, least, in terms of achievement—shooting. Early in the term, we failed to carry off the final of the .22 District League, this for the first time in 5 years, through our own poor shooting rather than the skill of our opponents, Harwell Coy, H.G. At the end of term, we could not improve, at Bisley, in the Ashburton, on our "regular" score 470, and finished 83rd out of 94 competitors. The Cadet pair having at one time entertained wild notions of bringing back a trophy, in fact achieved a decent anonymity in the centre of the table. Two bright spots: L/Cpl. Ford, with a score of 65, again qualified for the

Schools' Hundred, in which he was placed 66th (as against 45th in 1956 when he had a score of 66). He has thus made shooting history already by being the only cadet of this unit to be placed twice in the Hundred! Secondly—seven of this year's VIII will be available again in '58, when we really *must* do something better than "evens".

Towards the end of term, C.S.M. Robins was promoted to be Under Officer—a distinction which he had well earned during his year of "Command".

CAMP, 1957

A contingent of 4 officers and 80 O.R.'s attended Camp at the Depot, Devon & Wessex Brigade, Exeter, from 30th July to 7th August. These numbers represented a considerable drop from the total originally signed on—no fewer than 31. The deflections seem not to have been due to any one cause, but were none the less regrettable, and inconvenient from the admin. point of view. It is hoped that withdrawals on this scale may be avoided in future.

The Camp was our first experience of an attachment to a Regular Army establishment, and we all hope, I fancy, that it will not be our last. Roomy, well-lighted huts to live in, good food served in a pleasant Dining Hall, issue sheets to snore between, a "hotel" suite for the C.O.—these things do not sound very camp-like. Still, we were entitled to make the most of them for once, in the knowledge that, for the next year or two, we shall be living in more normal conditions.

To some extent, we missed the large-scale demonstrations normally associated with Camp, but we did have practical demonstrations of infantry weapons. These, if they were done on a small scale, had the advantage that quite a number of cadets were able to handle and fire the weapons. A demonstration of the F.N. rifle was followed (at the request of the visiting G(I) South West District) by a "repeat" demo. given by L/Cpl. Ford. He outdid the expert in firing at the figure targets: 10 shots, ten men. Or so it seemed to the applauding mass, until some officious N.C.O. in the butts rang through to report that, because of an error there, only 7 targets had in fact been hit. Ignorance here at any rate had been bliss!

There were two unusual features of the training: firstly, we had two whole days on the ranges (because it was Devon, we were always shooting uphill!). This is much more than the normal Camp "ration", and was a real boon to people who, otherwise get no opportunity of firing the "real thing". Secondly, we were able to try out a number of map-reading hikes, one at least involving a real foot-slogger's view of Devon. Even, or rather especially, in this mechanical age, there is no way of seeing it that is half as good. To press this point home, we must, the next time that an attachment comes round, billet ourselves

on a Highland regiment! In all these manly exercises involving brain with brawn, Capt. Holloway was the moving spirit and a leading performer.

A disadvantage of this type of luxury Camp is that the Junior N.C.O. does not get the opportunities for command which develop naturally where cadets are accommodated in tents; even so, many of them by their personal keenness and readiness to make much of limited opportunities, made a favourable impression on their officers. At the other end of the cadet hierarchy, Under-Officer Robins exercised throughout a benevolent unquestioned authority which, with his personal bearing and stick drill, impressed the Depot Staff—and incidentally relieved Contingent officers of much routine administration! C.Q.M.S. Stacey, too, as the guardian of our weapons, rounded off with admirable efficiency a year of office in which he has had no superior (and, we think, no equal) in the post-war annals. To both—our thanks and good wishes. Our thanks also to Lt. Ackford, the Regular Officer to whom we looked for everything, for his unfailing willingness and efficiency. He was, incidentally, Senior Under Officer of Normandy Coy. at Sandhurst at the time when our own Hugh (now Lt. H. R.) Leach, was serving in that Company.

A happy Camp, a Camp quite free from difficulty, at which “a good time was had by all”—a Camp to remember.

* * * *

The R.A. Section again attended their own special camp at Larkhill. Some 10 cadets under Sgt. Worth enjoyed the luxury of a hutted camp—they even had a wireless in each hut and television was available!—in spite of breakfast at 0630 hours. The training was this time devoted largely to gun drill and O.P. work and culminated in two days on the Ranges. Most interesting perhaps was the visit paid to the new Guided Weapons Wing where “Corporal” was seen being prepared for firing. A gun drill competition was also held and in this the School contingent received commendation, whilst later Gnr. Jones and Watts were members of a gun crew which just lost in the final to a crew containing cadets from M.C.S. Again a very good camp!

S.C.P.

R.N. SECTION

The main events in an otherwise uneventful Summer term were our visit on Field Day to H.M.S. Sultan, where we enjoyed an interesting time looking round the training establishment itself, and once again seeing Portsmouth Harbour from an M.F.V., and the Inspection of the Corps by Captain J. D. Farrow, O.B.E., R.N., the Commanding Officer of H.M.S. Sultan. The Section as a whole acquitted itself well on this occasion, but special mention must be made of the work of Petty Officer

Cobley in organising the rigging of a jackstay in the dell, which was exceptionally well carried out. It was refreshing to see orders carried out to the pipe, and not by word of mouth.

The numbers of the Section have risen to the record and somewhat unwieldy total of fifty-seven, but the fact that some twelve are leaving will reduce it to more manageable proportions. To all those who are leaving we give our best wishes, together with the hope that they will have gained something of value from their time in the Section. With those who are not leaving, we should like to leave the thought that what one gets out of something depends to a very considerable extent on how much one puts into it.

SUMMER CAMP

On August Monday eleven cadets and one officer converged on Plymouth to spend a week in a naval shore establishment—H.M.S. Raleigh at Torpoint. Some of us went with pleasant memories of last year, for others it was the first visit.

We spent a most interesting and instructive week, visiting a number of ships and establishments in the neighbourhood, and doing a certain amount of practical work in Raleigh itself. Among the visits, most of which were very well worth while, two which stand out are the walk round the dockyard during which we were shown over one of the latest frigates, and the visit to H.M.S. Defiance—a Torpedo, Diving and Anti-submarine school—where our guide explained some very complicated things very well and clearly, and without the wealth of technical detail which tends to leave the layman gasping. Most of the visits, however, were good and we all learnt a good deal about many different things.

The rainy weather prevented the sailing picnic to Pier Cellars which had been arranged for the weekend, but we managed to get in one quite good sail on a very wet and squally Sunday afternoon. An assault course, in which only one member of the contingent got wet, and a fast and furious game of deck hockey completed the more strenuous activities of the week.

The arrangements which had been made for us by the Schools' Liaison Officer worked out remarkably well, and we are very grateful both to him and to the Captain for the warm welcome they extended to us, and for the way in which they looked after us.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

This year has seen the climax to fifty years of Scouting, and scouts from eighty nations have come to this country to take part in the Jubilee Jamboree in Sutton Park. Abingdon entertained a number of French scouts and we were pleased to show them around the School.

Camp was held at Cranham in the Cotswolds. Fourteen members of the troop attended, and this year we were blessed with fine weather. Camping close by was a troop from Port Talbot and we were able to join forces with them for a camp fire and for chartering a bus to visit the Jubilee Jamboree. Here was a sight not to be forgotten—a city of tents in a sea of dust. Another visit made from camp was to the Benedictine Abbey of Prinknash and to its pottery, from which we returned laden with souvenirs. Altogether, it was a most memorable camp.

M.N.W.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSE SOCIETY

This term's activities opened on the 8th of May with a lively and forceful paper by B. E. Stacey on "Trade Unions—Past, Present and Future". After a survey of the history of Trade Unions, the author considered their present position and their future rôle in industrial affairs. In the subsequent discussion it was agreed that the Trade Unions have a definite and vital part to play, but along with their great power, they also have their responsibilities to all sections of the community.

For the Second Meeting of the term, on 20th July, the Headmaster kindly invited the Society to a performance of "Rigoletto" at the New Theatre, Oxford which all enjoyed very much indeed. On return to Abingdon, the resident members of the Society prepared a cooked supper for the rest.

On the 10th of July, the Society heard a stimulating paper by D. S. Gerrard. Under the title of "New Determinism", the reader presented a bizarre and highly individual philosophy of his own concoction. After a brief examination of modern determinist thought, he deplored its "ultra-materialism" and advanced his own "minimum working hypothesis" upon which he based his ideas. In the altercation which followed, the New-Determinist philosophy came under heavy and effective fire, and emerged badly shaken!

The Society wishes to express its thanks to the Headmaster and Mrs. Cobban for their hospitality during the past year, and for the very enjoyable visit to the Theatre, and to Mrs. Cobban especially for the unfailing and plentiful supply of excellent refreshments.

B.D.W.

TURNOR SOCIETY

Three meetings were held this term. The first was a joint meeting with the Scientific Society when two films were shown. The second film was the 1956 Expedition to Iceland of the British Schools' Exploration Society. The film showed shots of the base camp, scientific work and

numerous expeditions to all parts of Iceland. It ended with the climax of the expedition, a fifteen day hike to the highest mountain in Iceland.

At the second meeting, Dr. Siegmund Betz spoke on "The American College Campus". He said that there were more Universities than in Britain and that most of these were more closely attached to the civic community. He made it clear that although it was easier to enter an American University it was less easy to stay there and that many students did in fact leave after their first term.

At the final meeting Sir Reader Bullard spoke on "The Middle East". He outlined the history which led to the recent events, culminating in the Suez landing, and he showed us that the Middle East problem was more complex than would seem at first sight, everything depending upon the tremendously difficult problem of resolving the Arab-Jew question.

All three meetings were well attended and next term it is hoped to fit in four meetings.

C.M.D.

LITERARY SOCIETY

The first meeting was on 16th May, when Green, Gerrard and Grant played the leading roles in a successful play-reading of George Bernard Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra".

On 13th June the Secretary presented a programme of poetry read on gramophone records, ranging from Keats and Shakespeare to "The Three Wise Men of Gotham". And at the next meeting, the Secretary read a paper entitled "The Performing Dog", in which he put forward several theories on the nature of poetry and the novel, and in particular discussed the relation of poetry to science and the other arts.

Excursion Day offered the opportunity of a visit to London, and, after spending the day touring various picture galleries, the Society, with additions, went to the Stoll Theatre to see the production of "Titus Andronicus" which had recently been so successful in its tour of Europe.

At a business meeting on 25th July, R. S. Green was elected Chairman and R. B. Scott-Taggart Secretary for the coming year.

S.C.W.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Term took the form of a Mock Trial in which J. M. Mobbs, S. H. Freedman and A. P. Paxman were accused of "Perfidious Pacifism". The Prosecution was led by J. A. T. Saywell, while the Defence was in the hands of D. S. Gerrard. Both counsel examined and cross-examined with incisive if sometimes irrelevant questions, while their summing-up speeches revealed considerable powers

of oratory. The Headmaster, kindly acting as Judge, assessed the evidence in a witty and unbiased manner. The defendants were found guilty and sentenced to the very appropriate sentence of six "extra parades".

The motion of the next meeting was that "This House considers South Africa should be ejected from the Commonwealth". The proposer was N. J. H. Grant while R. A. Worth opposed. The absence of second speakers enabled more members to speak from the floor of the House. Argument became very heated, and the Chairman, N. K. Hammond, did well to keep the House in order. After much fine oration the motion was defeated by a large majority.

The third meeting took the form of an informal "Any Questions", for which N. J. H. Grant took the Chair. The team, comprising D. S. Gerrard, J. M. Mobbs, J. B. Robins and B. Westbrook, dealt competently with questions on subjects ranging from Inflation to Army Reform, and Sport. The meeting was most enjoyable, and provided a fine end to the term's activities.

B.W.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The Society held three meetings during the term, two of which were film shows whilst the third was a lecture. On 24th May, a film, "Controlled Heat", dealing with thermostatic control was seen, and on 12th July, the last meeting of the term, two films, "The Rival World" and "An Introduction to the Heat Engine" were shown. The lecture occurred on 31st May, when C. M. Dunman and P. D. Exon gave a talk on the School expedition to the island of Skye in the Easter vacation. The talk was illustrated by colour slides.

It is regretted that, owing to a power failure on 21st June, a lecture on "Waves" by P. M. D. Gray and B. P. Kibble had to be cancelled.

This term the Society loses its sponsor and founder, Mr. J. Y. Ingham. He has seen Science grow in the School from very small beginnings and we would thank him for all that he has done for the Society and wish him good fortune in his retirement.

I.A.O.

(The Society's future is assured as Mr. Gray has kindly agreed to sponsor—J.Y.I.).

MUSIC SOCIETY

The now annual Abingdon Schools' Music Festival met with unprecedented success this year, with Constant Lambert's 'Rio Grande' as the main feature. This exciting and strenuous work was vigorously performed four times that evening, and the other items included Elgar's 'Songs of the Bavarian Highlands' and various other pieces.

The orchestra amalgamated for one enjoyable afternoon with that of the City of Oxford High School for Girls to play Schubert's 'Unfinished' (first movement) and Beethoven's First (first three movements). Many thanks to Mrs. Fry and Mr. Sawbridge for arranging it. These concerts, as well as the performances of 'H.M.S. Pinafore', thus gave the orchestra a busy term.

The highlight of the term was the visit of a small contingent to the Royal School of Church Music at Addington Palace on June 4th and 5th. An account written by N. P. Loukes of 2Y is appended:

"The party which arrived at Addington Palace included Mr. Sawbridge, Mr. Horrex, Dean, Hossett, King, A. M. Q., Lucas, Redgrave and myself. We arrived there in the afternoon and were welcomed by Captain Rivers, the Appeals Secretary. We were shown our rooms and saw the biggest cedar tree in England in the grounds nearby.

"Captain River's secretary showed us round the Palace while he himself showed the masters round. After seeing over the R.S.C.M. Headquarters, we went into a practice room to hear the Probationers' Choir Practice. After listening for a while we went into the Chapel for Evensong. The choir consisted of men and women students, from both Britain and overseas, who go to Addington Palace to train for a musical career.

"We then went into supper, made the more enjoyable by our being with the students and tutors. Afterwards we met Sir William Harris, who conducted us in singing Haydn's 'The Creation'—an unforgettable experience, and the part of the visit I enjoyed most.

"After breakfast where we sat next to Mr. Gerald Knight, the director, we said goodbye to our many kind hosts, and were touched by Sir William himself coming down to see us off. He asked us all to come and visit him at Windsor sometime. Fortified by a large quantity of sweets—the gift of Captain Rivers—we left for School again, having had a most happy and worthwhile visit".

Gramophone programmes included symphonies and concerti by Mozart, Mendelssohn and César Frank. Parties of boys went to Fauré's Requiem and Ame's 'Thomas and Sally'; and the choir attended two of the D'Oyley Carte productions in Oxford.

Finally, at the various concerts which Mr. Sawbridge so kindly arranged we were once again much pleased by Dr. John Varley's piano playing, and by the Oxford University Music Society's wind chamber ensemble. But perhaps the music of Edward German had the most universal appeal, when the Oxford University Opera Club gave a very polished and spirited concert performance of 'Merrie England'—a rousing success.

M.Q.K.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This year has been a very successful one for the Society as far as the production of cine-film is concerned. We have 'shot' well over 3,000 feet of negative and produced over 2,000 feet of printed film this year, and have managed to produce three films simultaneously!

The darkroom facilities have been improved considerably this year and we are very grateful to Mr. Griffin for the time he has spent helping in the darkroom. We now have enlargers instead of half of one, thanks to the kindness of Messrs. Ross Barker and Hyde Parker. A considerable proportion of any profits we make this year from the screenings of our cine-films will be spent on buying more equipment for the dark room. In the excitement of producing motion pictures we must not neglect this side of our work, as there is room for still greater improvement in the equipment we have with which the boys can produce their own enlargements and prints.

The premiere of this year's feature film, "Yours is the Earth" was held on 18th July in the new Lecture Room and many members of staff and their ladies attended.

We have also completed the shooting of the Newsreel. As yet, not all the negative we have shot has been printed and in its present state the Newsreel covers from the Naval Section Field Day in October of last year to Marlow Regatta in June of this year. We are hoping soon to add shots of several other Summer Term activities, including Founder's Day, which exist in the negative.

Arriving just in time to be shown on Founder's Day was the film of the construction of the new Teaching Block, which at the moment lacks a sound-track. This will be added next term, together with shots of the official Opening Ceremony which took place on Founder's Day.

During the term a still photography competition was held. It was won by B. L. Smith.

On Founder's Day, A.S.P.S. presented its three films and organised two exhibitions—one of its cine-film work and one of still photography.

This term we are losing J. M. H. Becker, who, as our most experienced cameraman, has been engaged for the term in making a colour film about the architecture of the town for the Borough Council. Becker has been with the Society for a long time and we are very grateful for all that he has done and wish him well in his future career—in the film industry.

We are also losing C. J. Marchbanks from the sound recording department where he has been very active.

Next year's programme should include another feature film not set in the School, and planning for this will begin next term.

We are thinking of adopting as our trade-mark a pair of small Egyptian snakes—not a very subtle disguise, but cryptic enough.

J.J.H.

JOINT CLUB

We started the term's meetings in true summer spirit (but not, alas, its weather) with a tennis party on the School's courts. Although the evening was cold, skilled and unskilled alike enjoyed several games before adjoining to Lacies Court for refreshments—and dancing for those with the energy.

At the next meeting we all went off by cycle or car to Cumnor Hurst, where, after frying our sausages over wood-fires, we made a picnic of rolls, cherries, lemonade and other delicacies. Odd as such a combination may now seem, it disagreed with no-one, and we finished the evening happily before returning home.

The final meeting was one of valediction for many of us. A coach was chartered to the New Theatre, Oxford, to see Robert Beatty and Eunice Gayson in "Born Yesterday", an American comedy by Garson Kanin. This was enjoyed by all, and provided a fitting end to the School year's meetings.

B.L.S.

CHESS CLUB

As usual the Summer Term has passed rather uneventfully for us, owing to the wealth of outdoor activities. Mr. Grundy has been continuing his visits with unerring faithfulness, and has equally unerringly been winning all his matches—one draw against the Secretary excepted. At the time of writing an end of term tournament is in progress.

I will express no hopes for the future this time, as they always seem to offer overmuch temptation to Providence, and I see that for generations secretaries have been adding the same appendages with the same futile results.

R.S.G.

THE FORUM

During the term a new society came into being mainly to cater for Middle School boys who wished to have a rather more informal discussion club. A number of seniors joined in and the initiative of one or two launched the Forum on its career. B. E. Stacey was appointed Secretary and B. Westbrook, N. K. Hammond, R. Dickenson, J. Kingston and J. S. Kelly formed the Committee. Several meetings were held, the subjects discussed being in the main political.

B.E.S.

HOLIDAY CLUB

The Club won its return Soccer fixture with Abingdon Minors during the Easter holidays by four goals to one: the scorers were Fitzsimons (twice), Peedell and Spinks. In the Summer holidays, a game of cricket and a tennis match have been arranged against Boars Hill and Wootton respectively.

A barbecue is also being held to mark the retirement of our Chairman, Mr. Ingham, to whom we are very grateful for his fifteen years of hard work for the Club. In appreciation the Club has made him Honorary Life Vice-President. His former position is being filled by Mr. Willis, to whom, along with the new Secretary and Treasurer, I. R. Peedell and P. E. J. Fitzsimons, we wish all good fortune.

B.W.

LIBRARY

We hope that the new reading room adjoining the Library will be in order shortly and provide much needed and comfortable elbow-room. The problem of shelf space to cope with the considerable additions in the near future will also be solved, and we hope that with more space a better sense of tidiness will be shown by those who use the Library. We offer warm thanks to our latest benefactors:—to H. B. Healy, O.A., (*Volume II Churchill's History of the English-Speaking Nations*), Mr. F. E. Coates (*Complete Cambridge History of English Literature* and other books), Mr. Thomas Loveday for an early copy of *Res Romanae*, Mrs. David Green for *The Countryman* and W. H. Stevens, O.A., for *United Empire*; last, but not least, to the following 'leavers' for books presented: J. T. Buckland, D. S. Gerrard, R. J. Paige, B. L. Smith, B. E. Stacey, G. F. Wastie, S. C. Woodley, A. E. Woodward and R. A. Worth.

G.F.D.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

GOOD. On 22nd May, 1957, to Joyce, wife of Geoffrey J. Good (1946), a daughter, Rosemary Elizabeth.

HOLT. On 2nd June, 1957, at Farnborough, Kent, to Jean, wife of Martin G. H. Holt (1943), a son, Nigel Christopher.

LEACH. On 11th April, 1957, to Joyce, wife of David J. Leach (1948), a son, Mark Timothy.

LEWINGTON. On 25th April, 1957, to Joan, wife of John Lewington (1945), a daughter, Diana Joan.

MARRIAGES

- GRANT-HALL. On 7th September, 1957, at Shrewsbury, Robyn Grant (1950), to Joanna, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Douglas Hall, of Cressage, Salop.
- HAYTER-CAINE. On 23rd March, 1957, at St. Mary's Church, Newick, Donald Hayter (1942), to Janet Caine, of Newick, Sussex.
- HELLIWELL-WOOD. On 24th August, 1957, at Wellington Church, Glasgow, Geoffrey M. Helliwell, M.A., to Anne Harvie Wood of 40 Queensborough Gardens, Glasgow.
- LEWIS-RUSSELL. On 1st June, 1957, at St. Mark's Crescent Methodist Church, Maidenhead, David C. W. Lewis (1954), to Kathleen Russell.
- LIGHT-DAVIES. On 20th July, 1957, at St. Peter's Church, Little Aston, John Henry Light (1950), to Sylvia May Davies of Clarence Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.
- LUCAS-ALDRED. On 3rd September, 1955, at Wraybury, Bucks, Frederick C. Lucas (1949), to Patricia Aldred.
- MILLS-THOMAS. On 21st March, 1957, at St. Ebbe's Church, Oxford, S. Robin Mills (1953) to Shirley Thomas of Kennington, Oxford.
- PEZARO-JACOBS. On 2nd July, 1957, at the New West End Synagogue, London, Robert Pezaro (1947) to Jane, daughter of Mr. Lawrence Jacobs of Lowndes Square, S.W.1.
- THOMAS-MAYELL. On 1st June, 1957, at Cookham Dean, Bucks, Trevor D. Thomas (1947) to Stella Mayell of Maidenhead.

DEATH

- BRUCE. On 2nd June, 1957, at Vancouver, B.C., Michael William Selby Bruce (1907-10), 11th Baronet, aged 63.

Michael Bruce and his younger brother Nigel, the actor, were at the School together just 50 years ago. Unlike his brother he did not distinguish himself on the playing fields, but he was a boy of considerable charm and originality. On the death of his father in 1912 he succeeded to the Baronetcy and almost immediately embarked on a life of travel and adventure vividly described in his last book 'Tramp Royal', published in 1954. In 1913 he was a trooper in the B.S.A. Police, returning to England to serve as a Gunner officer in Gallipoli and France in World War I. Between the wars he was to be found in U.S.A., South America and other parts of the world pursuing a variety of callings and enterprises. In World War II he joined the R.A.F. ending up as Flt/Lt. in the R.A.F. Regt. Since then he had devoted

himself to broadcasting work, both in this country and North America. In addition to 'Tramp Royal' he had published 'Sails and Saddles' in 1929.

He was married in 1933 to Miss Elizabeth Constance Plummer, of Toronto, and after her death during the war, married again in 1945.

We are indebted to Mr. Rudd for the following brief memories of the Bruces:

"Michael Bruce, at School was a small boy, shy and rather weak, but animated by any amount of pluck. He was often involved in fights with other boys, and in one such scrap he dislocated a finger. I set it for him on the spot and he and his brother were eternally grateful. He once hired a 'penny-farthing' bicycle and for one or two nights after prep it provided great sport on Upper Field until frequent falls and upheavals caused the Headmaster to order its immediate return.

His brother, Nigel, was quite a different type of boy, a natural cricketer, good bat and fielder, and a clever off-spin bowler. He was also a clever mimic and could draw good caricatures of all and sundry. I saw him last in 1948 when I was in America. He had then achieved a certain celebrity in films, and he showed my wife and myself all over the Metro Goldwyn Studios where he seemed very popular".

Old Boys of 40 years ago will be interested to hear that Mr. M. T. Perks, who was Classics Master at the School 1915-20 and left to become headmaster of Gillingham School, Dorset, has recently retired and gone to live at Crosby. We wish him and Mrs. Perks a long and happy period of retirement.

A recent visitor to Abingdon, after many years absence, was Robert Leach (1909) and his wife. He lives in Cheshire and is engaged in the manufacture of cotton fabrics. His younger brother, Richard, who came to the School with him in 1905 and left in 1911, won the M.C. in World War I as Captain in the West Yorks, transferred to the Indian Army in 1917 and died in Nairobi in the late 20's.

On 9th July was announced the discovery of a new element 102—the first to be discovered since 1955—at the Nobel Institute, Stockholm by an international research team. In reporting the discovery at some length *The Times* named the 8 members of the team drawn from Sweden, Britain and the United States and we congratulate Alan Beadle (1947) who partnered Mr. John Milstead from Harwell.

John Rich (1947) another member of A.E.R.E., has returned from the wilds of Cumberland to Harwell and is living at Didcot. To restore the balance Ernest Aldworth (1942) is leaving shortly for some remote posting in the Western Isles.

Peter Richardson (1950) was one of the three London Hospital Medical Students who spent some months early in the year visiting medical schools in the United States. Their report of the tour recently published in 'The Lancet' makes some interesting comparisons, and includes the following impressions: "The American student everywhere works harder than his British counterpart. One of the main incentives to work is enthusiasm for, and a sense of participation in, one's subject. The worse type of incentive, fear of examinations, has been largely removed".

We have had news lately of the Hedger brothers, all schoolmasters, Rupert (1942) is moving to another Primary School in Harlow, and Peter (1932) has migrated from Birmingham to a new school at Watford. They both help to run summer camps for children each year, and would be glad to contact any Abingdonians interested in such activities. They run them on a ratio of 10 adults to 50 children. Mark (1942) married with two children is at the Preparatory School of King's College, Taunton.

Richard Millard (1952) has gone down from St. Peter's Hall after obtaining a 3rd Class in History Finals. He has accepted a post at St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, Junior School.

Peter Lovegrove (1948) is studying Electrical Engineering at King's College, Newcastle, and Christopher Hiles (1956) is starting on a similar course at Southampton University.

Robin Mills (1953) who was married early this year has been with Bristol Aircraft Co. at Filton for over a year and is well satisfied with the work.

R. A. N. Saunders (1956) is in the Customs and Excise Branch at London Airport and M. A. L. Randall (1956) is in Air Traffic Control at Birmingham Airport under the Ministry of Transport.

Michael Creevy (1953) is working in Shipping Insurance Dept. of Mond Nickel and Kevin Taylor (1953) has obtained a post with Bison Floors Ltd.

John Pridham (1955) has been with the Canadian Highways and Survey Service for some months and when the assignment is ended he may move south—possibly to California.

Patrick Stroud-Viney (1955) is with Silcox Ltd. the cattle food firm at Canterbury.

Tony Gardner (1956) is now in his second term at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

We congratulate Douglas Woolf (1934) on his promotion to Captain R.N. He is at present at Supreme H.Q. Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia.

Lt. Col. Guy Livingston (1935) is back in this country and hopes to be posted to the Royal College of Military Science at Shrivenham.

Captains A. H. Cherrill (1948) and D. M. Aldworth (1949) of R.A.P.C. are moving shortly from Devizes to do a Course at Manchester.

F/O. Norman Parker (1948) is Navigator in a Canberra Squadron.

Lt. Beville Stevens (1951), R.A.S.C., has moved to Celle in B.A.O.R.

2nd Lt. Barry Hiscock (1956), S. Lancs. Regt. att. R.W.A.F.F. has now returned from Sierra Leone prior to demobilisation.

2nd Lt. George Brown (1956), R. Berks, left for Cyprus in July in charge of a draft and was shortly followed by David Dunkley.

Robert Westcott (1956), R.E.M.E., is doing an Artisan Sgts. Course in Radar at Arborfield.

Frank Jeal (1956), in H.M.S. Maidstone, had an enjoyable cruise in Scandinavian waters.

John Pratt (1955) was seen at close quarters at Marlow Regatta in R.M.A. 2nd VIII.

David Emmett (1956), R. Berks, is at Eaton Hall.

Rex Coxeter (1955), R.A.F. (Radar), after a spell in Malta is now in Cyprus. He is thoroughly enjoying his experiences.

We hope to publish in our next issue both a list of all O.A.'s at present in residence at universities and teaching hospitals and also as much information as we can of the fortunes—both civil and military—of those who have left the School this July. Will all those concerned please help us to make the information accurate and comprehensive? If you think we may not know what you are doing, please don't be too modest to send a postcard to Mr. Duxbury at the School.

O.A. CLUB NOTES

Old Boys' Day, held on Saturday, 15th June, was favoured with delightful weather in pleasant contrast to last year. The Cricket Match provided a tense struggle and in an exciting finish the School won by 10 runs. The Old Boys restored the balance by winning the Tennis Match by $5\frac{1}{2}$ games to $3\frac{1}{2}$. No O.A. Crew could be raised for the occasion as all oarsmen were engaged elsewhere, and in future the O.A. races will be rowed in the Lent term, as used to be the custom.

The main topic of discussion at the Annual General Meeting, recorded below, was the siting of the Cricket Match. There was strong support for both the War Memorial Field and Upper Field, and the final decision was deferred until next year.

At the Annual Dinner in the Council Chamber, organised by Duncan West with the efficiency to which we are now accustomed, there was a

good attendance of over 90 members and guests. The President, G. S. Sturrock, was supported by the Mayor of Abingdon, Ald. C. G. Barber, Admiral F. Clifton Brown and other members of the Governing Body, the Headmaster and Mr. Grundy, B. L. Smith (Head of the School) and J. C. Spinks (Head of School House) were among the guests.

After the Loyal Toast and the toast of John Roysse had been honoured, the President proposed the health of the School and congratulated the Headmaster on another year of solid achievement and progress. He concluded by handing to Mr. Ingham, who would be retiring at the end of the term after 42 years' service to the School, a cheque to mark the appreciation and affection of the Club. The Headmaster spoke of his wide interests and loyal and helpful support, and Mr. Grundy, who appointed him in 1915 as a young man from Balliol, paid tribute to his kindly understanding and encouragement of boys who found their early days at school difficult.

Replying to the toast of the School, the Headmaster mentioned the highlights of the year—the General Inspection, the scholastic successes and athletic achievements—and thanked the Club for its unfailing support. J. O. Bury, President-elect, replied in his inimitable manner and in turn proposed the toast of the guests. Mr. T. D. W. Whitfield, M.A., LL.B., Director of Education for Berkshire, responding in a graceful speech, stressed the good relations existing between School and County and the valuable work the School was doing, in the educational scheme. B. L. Smith added a few well-chosen words and the official part of the evening ended with the investing of the new President with his chain of office.

There was a very good attendance of Old Boys at Morning Chapel on Sunday, when the lessons were read by the new President and Peter Millard, and they were afterward entertained to coffee by Mrs. Cobban in School House.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1957

The Annual General Meeting of the Club was held in the Pembroke Room at 5.45 p.m. on the 15th June, 1957. The President Mr. G. S. Sturrock was in the chair and fifty-three members were present.

The Secretary and the Sports Secretary reported a successful year. Membership had increased by forty-seven which brought the total membership of the Club near the nine hundred mark.

The Treasurer's report gave balances on the 15th June, 1957, as follows:

Consolidated Fund ...	...	£175	0s.	0d.
At Trustee Savings Bank ...	...	£2	13s.	2d.
At Westminster Bank ...	...	£133	17s.	3d.
In hands of the Treasurer ...	...	£2	12s.	7d.

Mr. Duxbury reporting on the position of the O.A.T.F. informed the Club that the yearly net income had increased from £89 in 1952 to £304 in 1957.

The following officers were elected for 1957/58:

President—J. O. Bury.

President-Elect—S. D. Plummer.

Vice-President—J. M. Cobban.

Honorary Treasurer—W. Bevir.

Honorary Secretary—N. J. Holmes.

Assistant Secretaries—J. H. Hooke and D. B. West.

Sports Secretaries—J. T. Cullen and J. Westall.

London Secretary—S. A. Paige.

The retiring committee members were J. W. Rayson, R. F. Jackson, and D. J. Heavens. Of these, J. W. Rayson and R. F. Jackson were re-elected, and E. H. Aldworth (late Sports Secretary) was elected in place of D. J. Heavens, absent on service, all to retire in 1961. R. D. Gibaud was elected to fill the casual vacancy caused by the 'promotion' of J. Westall, to retire in 1958.

There was considerable discussion as to the siting of the Old Boys' cricket match and it was felt that the whole Club should have more notice before deciding where the O.A. Match should be played. It was therefore agreed that the question should be put on the Agenda for next year's Annual General Meeting.

Old Abingdonian Trust Fund

Below will be found the Accounts for the past year, which show that the Fund is in a very healthy state and we are glad to say that the annual income continues to rise. The outstanding liability on the War Memorial Pavilion is some £670 which should be disposed of in the next three years. We are most grateful to G. A. H. Bosley and S. D. Plummer for increasing their Covenants; to R. C. Clarke, J. A. Garner, R. Hedger, L. Lacey Johnson and J. N. Paige for renewing, and to A. H. Cherrill and G. W. Dodge for signing new ones. Our thanks also to R. W. Snell for arranging the audit of the accounts.

*Statement of Accounts for Year ending 31st March, 1957.**Receipts*

	£	s.	d.
Balances in hand, 1st April, 1956 ...	937	15	5
Donations and Subscriptions ...	244	6	6
Inland Rev. Refund of I.T. on Covenants	96	18	7
Trustee Savings Bank Int. ...	15	15	11
	<u>£1294</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>5</u>

Payments

	£	s.	d.
Magazine Expenses ...	33	8	8
Ross Barker Pavilion ...	250	0	0
" " " Plaque ...	16	0	0
War Mem. Pavilion payments ...	900	0	0
Covenant Stamps, Stationery, Postages, etc.	2	15	7
Balances in hand, 31st March, 1957:			
Cash at Bank ...	12	17	5
" " Trustee S.B. ...	74	3	3
" in hand ...	5	11	6
		<u>92</u>	<u>12 2</u>
	<u>£1294</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>5</u>

G. F. Duxbury,
Hon. Treasurer.

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 6/- 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.

EPILOGUE

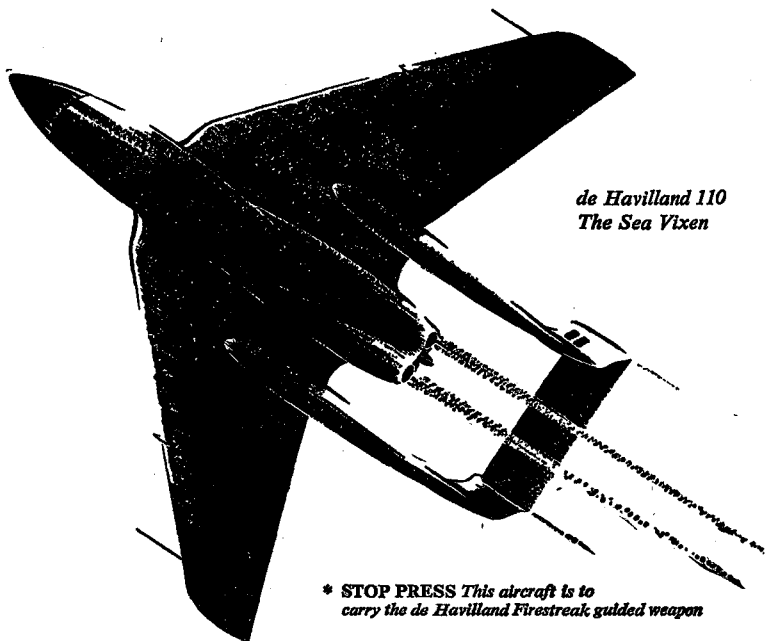
Of recent months, so much has taken place in the way of development that the Editors thought it would be interesting to pause and look back fifty years.

In July 1907, the School was a very much smaller place—108 boys—yet in many ways it is not difficult to recognise the same institution and the same spirit of progress. Turning the pages of the *Abingdonian* which records the events of that summer we find the Editor noting with satisfaction the arrival of new oak seats in the Chapel and dreaming "dreams of oak seats throughout . . . of stained glass windows and above all of an organ in place of the present harmonium". He records, too, the "magnificent new desks in the (then) Pembroke Room", and he looks forward to the report of the full dress inspection by the Board of Education, which had just taken place.

How familiar all this seems and yet how good to know that the Chapel today is indeed the dream Chapel envisaged fifty years ago, that we are still from time to time getting new furniture although very different in shape and size from that of 1907 (can it be that some of our old desks in Big School go back so far?), and that we have recently survived a longer, though probably no more searching, general inspection!

It is pleasant to see how often familiar names like Morland, Challenor, and Donkin, appear in the pages of the old magazines. Soccer we note was the game in 1907 as well as the strange pastime of Diabolo which apparently was so popular that the Editor feared its rivalry with the more orthodox games.

Change there has been, but it is good to remember that there are a great many things the same.



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'In modern conditions the role of the aircraft carrier, which is in effect a mobile air station, becomes increasingly significant.'

DEFENCE WHITE PAPER APRIL, 1957.

There is now no question about the importance of the Fleet Air Arm or of the continuing need for Pilots and Observers.

The new Carrier Group is the most exciting, hard hitting and mobile formation that we have ever had.

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You join on a 12 year engagement, and can apply later for your commission to be made permanent. The pay? A married Pilot or Observer of 25, for example, can earn up to £1,500 a year. There is a tax free gratuity of £4,000 after 12 years service.

Age limits :—Pilots 17-23, Observers 17-26.

Full details of life in the Fleet Air Arm are explained in an illustrated booklet "Aircrew Commissions in the Royal Navy".



For a copy of this booklet write to :

**The Admiralty, D.N.R. (Officers)
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