

THE ABINGDONIAN

VOL. XII No. 4

JANUARY, 1962

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OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL

Lent Term, 1962

SCHOOL PREFECTS

J. M. Talbot (Head of School)

I. A. D. Martin (S)	P. A. Merriman (L)
R. C. Luker (D)	M. J. Nelson (D)
B. R. Rosevear (S)	J. A. R. Willis (S)
J. M. Bunce (S)	A. J. Varney (D)
A. A. Venn (D)	D. Weir (D)
M. R. Mole (D)	N. P. Loukes (D)
C. M. Davis (S)	R. F. W. Budden (C)

HOUSE PREFECTS

School House—R. S. Haynes; T. A. Marsh; J. B. Goodman; B. A. F. Burn; C. J. Dean; A. M. Q. King; C. H. Bellinger; R. H. Meakins; P. E. Cable; C. R. Winfield; A. C. L. Fraser; R. H. M. Burridge.

Prescent House—D. J. Hoddinott; S. P. Bowen; G. C. Alabaster; D. J. French.

arkhill—J. M. Beere; D. J. Aplin; R. C. H. Moorshead.

Vaste Court—R. S. Ogg; R. G. Parks; J. R. Veysey.

ayboys—A. S. Lloyd; D. C. Pollard; P. Rainey; P. P. Hutchinson; E. G. Jones; T. H. Day; R. W. Ellaway; G. F. Keays; C. D. Turnbull; A. R. F. Redgrave; R. G. Lockton; G. C. H. Phillips; C. G. Purnell; T. J. Pegram; A. J. Oxley; J. B. Friend; R. B. Hicks; D. Leather.

Captain of Hockey—D. Weir; Secretary—I. A. D. Martin.

Captain of Athletics—J. M. Talbot; Secretary—M. J. Nelson.

Captain of Boats—P. A. Merriman; Secretary—J. A. R. Willis.

Secretary of Cross Country—D. J. Aplin.

Secretary of G.G.C.—J. M. Bunce.

EDITORIAL

Last year at Delhi in India there was a meeting of the World Council of Churches. For the first time representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church were present, and the Roman Catholic Church sent a party of observers. There was but one subject of discussion for all the branches of the church assembled there — The Light of the World.

Very soon after the conclusion of the conference there was political strife in India, when President Nehru annexed Goa from the Portuguese. This was far from being the only storm centre of the world. The four-power enclave of Berlin is still an ever present problem and tension between East and West does not lessen. The troubles of the Congo are far from over yet, and there seems to be little hope of a settlement in the near future.

It is high time the major powers of the world took example from the leaders of the churches and tried to come to some peaceful agreement. A start — a very small start — has been made in the economic field with the founding of the European Common Market, but even here the response is, in many cases, very grudging.

It is difficult to see what we at school can do to help — in fact it is almost impossible. At school one tends to live in one's own little world, scarcely bothered by the affairs of the world at large. Occasionally the events of the outside world do break through our insulation, as in the case of the Hungarian rising against Communist domination. At that time an appeal was made to the school which was wholeheartedly supported by staff and boys alike. More recently encouraging support was given to the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief in their appeal for help in Kenya.

We must be aware, at school and at home, of the troubles that are so common, of the suffering imposed by the few upon the many, because only then can we be brought up to behave and act in the right way. The school does what it can to guide us, with the help of the Christian faith, but only if we understand and are prepared to act on our own can we become proper citizens of the world.

If we can understand the problems of the world, and learn, and act on, the principles which we know in our heart of hearts to be right, then we can, in our own small way, better the condition of other people. If we make the effort then India will be remembered, not for the annexation of Goa, but for the World Council of Churches. It will be remembered not for what is evil in this earth, but for the right and the light of the world.

* * * *

"The Abingdonian"

Editor: D. Weir.

Asst. Editors: N. P. Loukes; J. M. Talbot.

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

J.Y.I.

1892-1961

The death of J.Y.I. on 12th October, although perhaps not entirely unexpected to those of us who had witnessed his rapid ailing over the last twelve months, must have been a shock to many Old Boys who doubtless imagined he would be around to enjoy many years of retirement. He died in the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to which he had been admitted following a slight accident a few days before. A Memorial Service was held in the School Chapel on 14th October and it was attended by Old Boys, members of the Staff and representatives of the Governors, the School and various organizations with which J.Y. had been associated.

John Young Ingham was born on 30th April, 1892 and educated at Wakefield Grammar School from where he won an Exhibition in Mathematics at Balliol College, Oxford. He was appointed to Abingdon in 1915, becoming Senior Master in Science the following year, and thereafter served the School for over 40 years. From 1947 until 1954 he was Second Master and from 1947 until his retirement in 1957 he was Careers-Master. It was perhaps typical of his great interest in the welfare of those he taught that he should have retained this last responsibility until the end of his teaching days.

J.Y. was a man of wide culture and interests. He was for many years a member of the Abingdon Musical Society. His loyalty to his old College and University was well known to the Staff, some of whom accompanied him on occasion to Balliol Musical Concerts or Oxford Society meetings. As a keen Liberal he rejoiced at the prospect of a revival of Liberal politics whilst his devotion to his own Methodist Church was only equalled by his faithful service to the School.

But it will be as a schoolmaster that J.Y. will be longest and most happily remembered. No games player, he nevertheless made up for lack of athletic prowess by his enthusiasm for music, astronomy, chess, Rag Concerts and many other interests equally appealing to the school-boy. Long after that somewhat pedantic precision and those amusing idiosyncrasies which he developed in later life have been forgotten, many an Old Boy will remember the helping hand so often given. Ex-boarders will recall the years when J.Y. was resident house tutor at School House but memories of his kindness will be keenest amongst certain dayboys who coming from financially poorer backgrounds benefited by his generosity on innumerable occasions. More recent dayboys, however, will always associate his name with the Holiday Club. Founded by J.Y. to enable local boys to enjoy their holidays in the lean years of the last War, it has become a permanent feature of School life.

Typical of the man was his last gesture, that of leaving his body to medical research.

SCHOOL NOTES

The Lorna Cobban Memorial, a fund for which was opened in October, has met with a most enthusiastic response. It is abundantly clear that very many have appreciated this opportunity of expressing their affection and esteem of someone greatly loved. Along with the donations, many touching letters have been received. Although £500 (the approximate cost of a silver cross and candlesticks for the School Chapel) was the sum suggested, by the end of term over £1,200 had been subscribed; the surplus will be given to the Quatercentenary Appeal. The Fund closed, officially, on 31st December, but Mr Mortimer will be happy to receive any further donations.

It was with deep regret that we heard of the sudden death, on 30th November, of the Recorder of Abingdon, Mr. Stephen Riou Benson. Mr. Benson had been *ex officio* a Governor of the School since his appointment to office in 1929. Although his duties made it difficult for him to attend the terminal meetings of the Governors with regularity, he very much treasured his connection with the School. In his time he presented the prizes at Founder's Day, and he spoke to the Toast of 'The Visitors' at the annual Old Boys' Dinner. One of the high spots of the celebrations which marked his silver jubilee as Recorder in 1954 was his official visit to the School in the company of the then Mayor, Dr. O'Connor, both of them in full regalia. All who knew him — and this, we are assured, will include many who stood in the dock before him — will treasure the memory of a Dickensian figure, wise, witty, and intensely human. The School joins with the town in mourning his loss.

The Headmaster and the Head of the School attended the funeral service which was held in the little village church of Addington on Monday, 4th December; and subsequently had the opportunity of conveying to Mrs. Benson the deep sympathy of the School. A donation in memory of Mr. Benson was sent by request to an East End Children's Party.

We congratulate Alderman Stephen Freeman, one of the senior Governors of the School, on the award of the O.B.E. announced in the New Year's Honours. It is indeed pleasant to find that the Establishment does sometimes hit the right target. Everyone in North Berkshire — not least those of us at the School — will rejoice that years of honest, unselfish public service have in this instance received public recognition.

The death of Mr. J. Y. Ingham, which occurred in the Radcliffe Infirmary on 12th October, severed a connexion of almost fifty years with the School. An obituary item by Mr. Willis appears on another page. Here we would add our own tribute to one who devoted the whole of his working life to this foundation.

After our recent run of staff daughters it was pleasant to find both our First Form masters presented with sons and heirs within a few days of each other. Congratulations and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Montague (James Edward Charles, 22nd October) and Mr. and Mrs. Murray (Keith Innes, 9th November).

During the Lent Term we look forward to welcoming three full-time student masters: from Cambridge, Mr. P. G. Scott (University of Leeds and St. Catherine's College: Mathematics); and from Oxford, Mr. G. Powell (Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge, and Univ.: Latin and Mathematics) and Mr. R. M. Reece (Univ. College, London, and Wadham: General Science). It is no reflection on our other two guests to say that we shall offer an especially warm welcome to Mr. Powell, whose prowess as a hockey blue has preceded him.

In addition, we are co-operating with the Oxford Department of Education by entertaining for the week beginning 5th February two of the schoolmasters attending a special short course on Mathematics for Arts Graduates.

Those who remember Mr. W. A. Beaumont as a student-master will join in congratulating him on the award of the O.B.E. for his services to the R. Aux. Air Force.

We have recently seen a most interesting letter from another former student-master, Mr. Richard Woollett, written from Illinois just before he left to spend Christmas in San Francisco.

We are grateful to Mr. Hugh Fowler for the gift of a valuable series of three gramophone records and scores; and to the Women's Group of the Victoria Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society for a couple of illustrated books on Australia.

The Headmaster represented the School at the funeral on 20th October of Martin Lay, a young O.A. who lost his life in a road accident. Subsequently the Congregational Youth Club presented the School Chapel with two hymn books to be inscribed in his memory.

The number of boys on the School roll in September reached the record figure of 552, of whom 192 were boarders.

We congratulate A. C. Bowker on the award of a Major Open Scholarship (of a titular value of £100) in Natural Science at Trinity College, Cambridge. We had hoped he would complete our hat-trick of Trevelyan's for us, but he unfortunately fell at the final hurdle, in spite of a project on 'The Carrion Crow' which informed local opinion thought to be no less award-worthy than previous winning entries.

It was pleasant to learn this year that three of our candidates for the Abingdon Scholarship at Pembroke College, Oxford, were rated worthy of the award, which was eventually granted to J. M. Talbot (in Medicine). To him, congratulations: modified congratulations to the runners-up, M. R. Mole and P. L. Hedges, who, with R. J. C. Bampton, are at any rate assured of commoners' vacancies. In addition, places

for 1962 have already been secured for R. W. J. Bampton (Pembroke Oxford), G. A. Brown (Balliol), E. G. Jones (Trinity Hall), R. S. Og (Corpus Christi, Cambridge), and G. C. H. Phillips (Keble), with other candidates still in play, so our depleted ranks of O.A.s *in statu put* at the Older Provincial Universities will receive welcome reinforcements.

Congratulations also to T. A. Marsh on the award of the Sixth Form Scholarship (known *pro hac vice* as the Lady Wantage); and to P. A. F. Dawson on securing admission to R.M.A., Sandhurst.

We congratulate J. B. Goodman on drawing second place in the Oxfordshire Junior Chess Championship during the holidays.

A Parents' Evening, for the parents of all new boys, was held on Thursday, 26th October. Once again the proceedings ended with the showing of that fine old period-piece 'No Tumbled House' which stands the test of years uncommonly well. Connoisseurs who have been privileged to see the film at intervals down the years know exactly where to look out for the big moments such as the first appearance of the Housemaster or the awakening of the Indigent Usher.

This term has brought with it its usual crop of lectures, entertainments and functions. On 2nd October our old friend Mr. Calkin talked to two of the Third Forms on 'Pompeii' (with slides), and later the same day Mr. Attree spoke to Sixth Form Scientists on 'Electronics and Measurement'. On the Saturday of half-term, 4th November, a party of ardent Sixth Form historians attended a one-day conference organised by the Oxford Historical Association. Parties supported the Abingdon Drama Club's production of 'Ring Round the Moon' on 17th November (in which our own Mrs. Schofield played one of the leading parts and Mr. Horrex two!); and the Christmas Concert of the Abingdon Music Society on 5th December (in which R. S. Haynes and P. P. Hutchinson played in the orchestra). Some of the Sixth Form German Set went to the Oxford Playhouse on 8th December to see 'Der zerbrochne Krug' while the previous day Certain Privileged Persons visited the University Match at Twickenham. There had been a more general exodus on the afternoon of Thursday, 16th November, to support Major Stanley's XV at Oxford.

Many other entertainments will be found recorded under the Society Notes. Here we may express our regret that false hopes were raised by an entry in the School Calendar for 24th November. The 'Selection of early Chaplain films' shown by the Film Society was not quite what we expected.

On 28th October new boys went on pilgrimage to the Guildhall where they were shown round the Roysse Room and the Council Chamber.

On Sunday, 12th November, strong contingents of the C.C.F. and of the Scouts took part in the Remembrance Day Parade at the War

Memorial and later attended the service in St. Helen's Church. It is pleasant to record that once again the list of volunteers for the Corps contingent was over-subscribed; less pleasant to add that the proportion of dayboys was much smaller than in previous years. As usual, we had the privilege of providing the Guard of Honour and the Buglers — on this occasion T. H. Day and A. R. F. Redgrave.

On Friday, 8th December, an unusually large number of our Sixth Form were happy to accept the kind invitation of the ladies of St. Helen's to their annual dance; the following evening a more select band broke fresh ground by attending a similar function at Headington School. To all our hostesses — warm thanks.

Official visitors this term included Mr. Scrivener of the Headmasters' Employment Committee (16th October); S/Ldr. Francis of the Air Ministry (24th October); and Mr. Newby-Robson of the Public Schools' Appointments Bureau (22nd November).

Not quite so official was the series of mock interviews kindly carried out for us by Mr. Kenneth Boyd in order to give practice to some of our more callow university candidates.

On Saturday, 25th October, the Headmaster and two senior boys attended the dedication by the Bishop of Oxford of Christ Church, the new Church at Northcourt which has been so imaginatively constructed out of the old tithe barn. It will be remembered that the School has presented the communion rails to the new Church.

We are grateful to the parents whose co-operation enabled us to send a record amount of clothing to the Oxfam Appeal; and to all who contributed to the special collection, amounting in all to over £30, which was sent for the relief of famine in Kenya.

There has been a wealth of Sunday evening music this term, as recorded elsewhere. It was unfortunate that for the second year in succession there was no heating in Court Room for the School Orchestral Concert on 17th December. This time, however, the deficiency was due not to the management but to the well-known malignity of inanimate objects — to wit, a complicated oil-fired stove which chose this of all nights to let us down for the first time.

A clement Autumn enabled us to keep the swimming bath open for use until the beginning of October. As these words are written our aim is rather to keep it from being completely frozen over. Meanwhile it brings back warmer memories to recall the grant of awards by the Royal Life-Saving Society to R. F. W. Budden (Instructor's Certificate); R. N. Carter, G. T. Milford-Scott and B. R. Rosevear (Award of Merit); and J. M. Beere, R. H. M. Burrige, D. Clare, C. M. Davis, A. W. Foster, G. F. Keeys, and R. C. H. Moorshead (Bronze Medallion).

On 1st November a large proportion of the School — staff and boys alike — were inoculated *en masse* against influenza. *Post hoc* is not

always *propter hoc*: but in the light of our excellent health record this term there seems to be something in it.

The House P.T. Competition was held on the morning of 18th December, and as a result the Viney Cup was awarded to Bennett House, with Reeves a close second. We are grateful to Mr. Bainbridge, of John Mason School, who kindly adjudicated the competition.

Saturday evening lectures this term were as follows:

23rd September: Captain Murray Smith — 'Wild Life in Africa' (with slides).

14th October: Commander Victor Clark, D.S.O., R.N.(ret'd) — '48,000 Miles under Sail' (with slides).

28th October: Hon. Ewen Montagu, C.B.E., Q.C. — 'The Man Who Never Was'.

25th November: Mr. Fenton Bresler — 'Strictly Legal'.

Feature films were — 'North West Frontier', 'The Bridge on the River Kwai', 'Oliver Twist', 'The Battle of the Sexes'.

On the last evening of the term, 20th December, the usual Boarders' Christmas Parties took place. Once again the Houses sorted themselves out after a supper of turkey and plum pudding (we can't speak for Crescent, but School House kitchens certainly surpassed themselves this time); and School House had the pleasure of entertaining their old friends and rivals of Crescent in the Gymnasium, where the Headmaster laid on his usual programme of 'quiet' games.

Honour where honour is due. Let us list here those who rang the bells of St. Helen's before the School Service on the first day of term: C. Carter, C. J. Dean, L. A. Edwards, R. W. Ellaway, M. D. Fortescue, C. G. Parnell, A. G. Rowson, C. I. Rowson, and M. H. Tarran-Jones.

A number of past and present members of the School took part in the activities of the Holiday Orchestra so ably organised by Mrs. Kitching.

We were amused to note that when a new Cambridge magazine 'Image' wished recently to illustrate what it called the 'upper middle classes' at play, it chose to turn its camera on a group of our 1st VIII, standing on the bank at Henley in lordly unconcern. Little can those who devised our full colours blazer (when, Mr. Duxbury?) have thought that it would one day become a status symbol.

* * * *

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of magazines from the following Schools (to 21st December): Aldenham, City of Oxford, Magdalen College, Pocklington, Radley, Reading, R.G.S. (High Wycombe), St. Edward's, Southfield, Windsor; and also from the Nautical College, Pangbourne, and R.M.A. Sandhurst.

For the photographs in this issue we are indebted to Mr. Milligan, Photographer; Mr. Blagden; Mr. G. M. Keating; M. C. Johnston and M. C. Johnson.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

I — and my daughters too — can never cease to be grateful for the wave of sympathy which has sustained us during the past term. I hope I have now acknowledged all the moving letters of condolence — nearly one thousand of them. They really did help. The plan to organise an appeal in memory of my wife came as a complete surprise to me. I am humbled by the response, deeply touched that the first objective should be something which we ourselves had had in mind to give to the Chapel in some years' time to mark our silver wedding.

* * * *

We can look back on a term that ran very smoothly. My own most lasting memories of it will be of the new boys' service in the Chapel on 20th September (why have we never thought of this before?), and of the Service of Lessons and Carols at the other end of the term. Surely the singing of the choral items has never been more poignant, never have the boy readers risen more triumphantly to the occasion.

* * * *

For once, not much is being done this holiday in the way of repair and decoration. It is as well that we had no major projects on hand, for the spell of arctic weather has not only made building operations impossible but has also imposed a very heavy burden on our skeleton maintenance staff. Our primary aim has been to hold our defences, and now that the thaw has come we seem to have got away with comparatively light casualties. Two burst supply pipes, two heating pipes, seven radiators, one Ascot heater, make up the present score in the main buildings, though there may be others yet undetected. I can't make up my mind whether it would have been easier to cope in term-time (with all the heating on) or not; anyway, we were very glad indeed when the milder weather returned.

But one 'outside job' will have very obvious results. After very long discussion of all the factors involved, the Governors decided to cut down the two most westerly of the three pollarded elms in front of the School. The governing factor of course was safety. For ten years and more the experts have been telling us they are dangerous. They have differed only in the degree of urgency they attached to their estimate. Of course we shall fill the resulting gap as quickly as possible, but we have to face the fact that for a little time at any rate the front of the School will look pretty bare. At the same time the chestnuts along the drive are being thinned, in accordance with long-term policy. We are taking out the white, and leaving the pink which for local use we shall refer to as cerise (the School colour).

* * * *

Looking forward, I welcome the establishment of an Air Section as an integral part of the C.C.F. There are many reasons why in spite of our strong R.A.F. connection we have not hitherto provided such an activity. Most of these reasons have ceased to apply, and it is with the

utmost confidence in the future of the section that I wish good fortune to him whom in this connection we must soon call Flying Officer Emms.

* * * *

Once again I should like to say how grateful I am for the hundred of cards which have brought me good wishes at Christmas from parents Old Boys and friends. It is physically impossible for me to acknowledge them all personally, but I appreciated them immensely. The cards from Old Boys will be displayed at the beginning of the term so that the whole School can share in them. This evening, before writing these words, I have been through them all again, and each of them has brought back vivid memories of the sender, even if I have not seen him for many years.

* * * *

Lastly, I do not want to duplicate anything that has been said elsewhere about J.Y.L., but I should like to place on record how much I appreciated the loyal support he gave me as senior master. This loyalty was never shown more conspicuously than when the time came for him to shed some of his responsibilities. I have more personal memories of him too — of his wide culture, of his insistence on precision and accuracy of thought and word, of his erudite and often unexpected knowledge of the classics, of the pleasure he took in singing 'The Village Pump' at House Concerts — but I think I shall treasure most my memories of the kindness he showed to my children. He never failed to remember their birthdays with some little gift, and I am glad that he spent his last Christmas Day with our family. I think that must have been the last time I saw him happy, mellow, relaxed. *Requiescat in pace.*

J.M.C

VALETE ET SALVETE

Valete — left 1st August, 1961

Upper Sixth Form Arts: T. A. Libby; J. S. Kelly; A. G. D. Matson
D. W. G. Riddick; R. A. Bickers; R. S. Capstick; D. M. Goodwin
C. B. Gosling; J. R. Hurd; C. R. Llewellyn; D. R. Pepler; D. A.
Robey; A. P. H. Wood; K. M. A. Wood (left 2nd June); E. C. R.
Evans; J. H. Kitto; R. E. Moore; M. D. Nurton; G. W. Oxley
P. G. D. Whitton.

Upper Sixth Form Science: J. P. G. Butt; P. A. Bretscher; R. G. M.
Johnston; G. D. Louth; C. T. Pollard; A. H. Smith; C. H. Woodham
M. J. Bett; D. J. Brice; P. W. P. Briten; R. J. K. Button; J. V. Comfort
D. R. Gerring; G. G. Ganf; M. P. M. Hart; R. A. Lucas; S. R. Long
A. J. Mackenzie; G. M. McPherson; R. S. Pitt; C. A. B. Spackman
R. P. Thompson; R. I. S. Walker.

Lower Sixth Form Arts: C. R. Webb.

Lower Sixth Form Science (t): J. C. Charlet.

Lower Sixth Form Science (x): R. H. Wiggins.

Form Sixth General: R. Allison; A. J. Cook; R. T. Hook; J. R. Morse;
I. W. Moss; M. D. T. Nash; T. A. Sewry; J. C. M. Watts.

Form 5A: J. D. Sabel.

Form 5B: J. H. Cook; B. Hounslow; R. Knight; J. Skwierczynski (left
9th May).

Form 5C: J. R. Bomford; C. T. Gresswell; D. S. James; J. H. Maund;
S. A. J. Richardson; M. H. Stevens; R. A. Warburton.

Form 3A: P. G. Evans.

Form 3Y: M. N. Hyman.

Form 2X: N. J. Gifford; S. A. Hall (left 7th June).

Form 1X: R. C. Perlow.

Salvete — came 20th September

Lower Sixth Form Science (M): P. W. Liversidge; P. J. Mann.

Form 4A: T. S. Addison; A. R. Coffee; T. R. Giddings.

Form 4B: T. Grevatt; M. J. H. Liversidge; L. R. Llewellyn.

Form 4C: J. R. Owen.

Form 3A: R. J. N. Bennett; C. N. Cook; D. G. Halstead; D. W. Tanner.

Form 3X: R. A. Chaplin; R. A. Forsythe; J. T. W. Kenney; I. S. Sykes;
N. R. Taylor.

Form 2X: D. J. B. Baker.

Form 2Y: C. J. Pattison.

Form 1X: P. K. Ablewhite; N. J. Attwood; A. E. Banes; M. F. K.
Baumann; L. J. Berry; J. C. Beyer; F. W. Bidgood; N. J. Booker;
A. P. Bretscher; J. R. Burton; A. R. Cantwell; I. L. M. Carr; P. C.
Cooper; A. T. Cowlin; D. E. Cox; J. H. T. Davies; F. J. Dobbs; A. C.
Douglas; N. Dudman; G. R. Evans; B. J. Fellows; H. J. Flint; B. H.
Ford; I. Gibbons; J. F. Goldsworthy; E. J. Hadley; I. M. Hallett; P. B.
Harrison; C. N. Hedley; P. J. Hill; C. M. Howlett; D. N. Hunt;
R. Janz; J. J. A. King; D. R. Langmead.

Form 1Y: M. G. Lewis; D. B. Loach; A. W. Luff; W. N. McGowan-
Docherty; G. J. Mackereth; J. Y. McLaughlan; A. F. Martin; R. L.
Matthews; R. M. F. Merritt; W. K. Minter; D. C. L. Murphy; R. F.
Newbold; P. M. Osborne; M. W. Parry; T. R. Paxton; R. J. Pick-
avance; A. K. P. Poole; V. A. Ramsey; P. G. Randall; K. C. Richard-
son; A. Rose; A. F. Rothwell; G. C. Ruck; F. N. Sandall; G. R.
Shatford; M. C. Sheather; R. J. Smallbone; N. R. Snodgrass; T. G.
Spencer; R. C. Stevens; H. A. Sutton; M. J. Tajfel; D. I. Tinson;
N. A. R. Wood.

CHAPEL NOTES

Tribute is paid elsewhere to Mr. Ingham's services to the School. Here we think of him as a devoted Christian, who combined a deep understanding of, and affection for, the Anglican Liturgy with loyal membership of his own church. It was fitting that the Methodist Minister, Rev. Maurice Jelbert, should join with the Chaplain in the memorial service which was held for him in the School Chapel on 14th October (there could be no funeral as such, for he had with typical unselfishness arranged for his body to be given for medical research). The Headmaster gave a short address; and the large number of the congregation showed the respect and affection that was felt for J.Y.I. The Old Boys have already commissioned a plaque which will be placed in his memory above the stall in the Chapel where he worshipped so regularly both as an assistant master and in his retirement.

After much discussion it has been agreed that the best place for the tablets commemorating Mr. Layng and Mr. Grundy — the two headmasters who were the first "Vicars of Chapel" — will be on the stone lintel above the double doors; and the School Architect is preparing appropriate designs.

On the Second Sunday in Advent, 10th December, the Lord Bishop of Oxford held a Service of Confirmation in the School Chapel. Those confirmed were: R. S. Armsden, B. S. Avery, C. A. P. Charlett, D. G. Clubley, P. G. Dowling, R. J. M. Evans, A. P. Fawcett, C. C. Ford, M. J. Giddings, P. B. Godfrey, A. S. Harrison, T. J. Havelock, J. S. Hutchins, C. M. N. Jamieson, I. C. Lamberton, C. D. Le Voi, M. S. Livingstone, A. J. Longstaff, A. E. Medland, S. M. Nicholl, T. D. Paige, J. D. Pickavance, C. H. Portman, R. D. R. Ray, P. A. C. Roblin, A. G. Rowson, C. I. Rowson, S. D. Sewry, P. N. Shellard, W. I. M. Webb, T. J. Wood.

After the Service the Confirmati, with parents, godparents, staff and representatives of the School, were invited to meet the Bishop over tea in the School House Dining Hall. Most of them made their first Communion in the Chapel on 17th December — the last Sunday of the term. It was heartening to find that in spite of the strain of successive late nights on so many who were connected with the play the total congregation was practically the same as last year. A figure of well over 100 communicants on such an occasion is some indication at any rate of spiritual life.

The term began, for the Chapel, with an innovation in the form of a special service at 3.30 p.m. on 20th September — the day the boarders returned — for all new boys, boarding and day, and their parents. We had hoped for good support: we had not dared to think that the Chapel might be completely filled. Obviously an experiment which from now on will establish itself as a permanent part of our routine.

On the following morning the Headmaster preached at the School Service in St. Helen's Church.

The generous and varied contributions in kind to our Harvest Festival Services on 7th and 8th October were once again taken to our good friends at Oakley House.

The School was represented at the Annual Service of Holy Communion in St. Nicolas' Church to commemorate the birth of John Blacknall (15th October): at the dedication of the new Church of St. Mary and St. Bevin at Berinsfield, where T. I. Hall presented on behalf of the School a cheque for £10 to cover the cost of a crucifix for the East wall (21st October): and (as reported elsewhere) at the dedication of Christ Church, Northcourt (25th November) and at the first Service of Communion the following morning.

On 26th November, in lieu of ordinary morning service, the boarders attended Mattins at St. Helen's Church where the Bishop of Oxford rededicated the bells after their restoration and preached the sermon.

Weekly collections were allotted this term to outside charities as follows:

St. Anne's Church, Limehouse	...	£11	6	3
Berinsfield Church		£10	0	0
Hostel of God		£10	5	0
S.P.G.		£9	6	9
New Guinea Mission		£9	3	7

In addition, a special appeal was made for the relief of famine in Kenya, which realised £35 12s. 0d. Chapel Funds benefited by the collection at the New Boys' Service (£12 10s. 0d.) and the contents of the alms box (14s. 4d.). The collection at the School Service (£8 7s. 6d.) was given to St. Helen's Church, which also shared with the C. of E. Children's Society the retiring collection (£30 14s. 6d.) taken at the Service of Lessons and Carols. The parties of carol-singers, brass-blowers, and handbell-ringers who toured the town on the evening of 18th December collected a further £7 10s. 9d. for the C. of E. Children's Society. The sale of poppies and the collection on Remembrance Day raised a considerable sum for the British Legion's Appeal. The retiring collection at the Confirmation Service (£11) was divided between the Bishop's List and the Chapel Furnishing Fund.

The claims of the New Guinea Mission have become much more real to us now that we have been enabled to 'adopt' a boy — young Alban Ambo, second son of Bishop George Ambo, who is now at school in Dogura. We look forward to receiving photographs of him and more details.

We shall welcome the following visiting preachers in the Lent Term:

4th February: R. J. Knight, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Oundle School.

11th February: R. St. J. Pitts-Tucker, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Pocklington School.

18th February: Rev. Ian Thomson, M.A., Chaplain of Maidstone Grammar School.

11th March: H. J. C. Bashford, Esq., M.A., Headmaster of Wellingborough School.

The highly successful expedition that was organised to an East End parish at the beginning of the term is fully reported elsewhere. We hope it will be the precursor of further attempts to break down the ivory tower mentality which is one of the besetting dangers of the public school.

At last — and not before time — the Chapel Committee has reached agreement on the vexed question of the carpet for the apse, and it should be in position very shortly. It is hoped that the mottled blue pattern selected will not clash with any of the liturgical colours; it should have the further advantage of not showing minor stains. The new casements in the side-windows of the apse, now completed, will be appreciated the more in the height of summer when they should do much to improve the ventilation.

The School has taken an active part in the establishment recently of the Abingdon Council of Churches. As a constituent member it sent representatives to the inaugural meeting, and the Headmaster was subsequently elected as one of the lay members of the committee. One of the first major activities of the Council will be a united service in the School Chapel on the evening of Thursday, 25th January, to close the week of prayer for unity, which will be followed by an open meeting in Court Room addressed by Prof. Coulson, for the Free Churches and a Roman Catholic priest. We may also note that among the other activities of the week will be a presentation of the Orthodox Liturgy in St. Helen's Church on the morning of Saturday, 20th January, to which we shall hope to send representatives.

We should like to thank the various families, groups and societies who have done the Chapel flowers this term with much loving care. They will have a break during the second half of the coming term, for in accordance with ancient custom we shall leave the apse bare of flowers during Lent.

During the term the Choir sang the introit "O come, ye servants of the Lord" (Tye).

Holy Baptism

On Sunday, 3rd December, by the School Chaplain, Alexander Glanvil Rowson and Christopher Ivo Rowson.

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The annual Service of Lessons and Carols was held in St. Helen's Church at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 19th December. Never has the Church been so full for the Service. Indeed we have to face the fact (which we gladly do) that it has become far more than a domestic occasion, and it has already been agreed to advertise it more widely next year so that as many people as possible may have the pleasure of joining with us in what we regard as our Christmas offering of praise and thanksgiving.

We are most grateful to a parent, Dr. J. A. V. Willis, for the following appreciation:

"The annual service of lessons and carols gives special pleasure to very many parents who live near enough to come and join in. Perhaps it is for this reason that an ordinary parent, not a musician, has been chosen to write the appreciation this year. The occasion adds up to more than fine singing and reading: it is a good expression of that simple sincerity which seems to me to be a particular feature of the School.

"Half past six on a Tuesday evening is the time, and this year it was on 19th December, a bitterly cold evening. As we hurried down East St. Helen's Street, we were welcomed with a fine peal of the bells by boys of the School. St. Helen's Church was beautifully lit and adequately warm in spite of the weather. Senior boys found us all places pleasantly and without officiousness, and we watched the many aisles filling up, while Mr. Pratt began the musical part of the evening with a beautiful quiet chorale. As is traditional, the carols began with 'Once in royal David's city', the first verse being sung by a solo treble (A. W. Willis), and the second by the choir alone. This is very moving, and I would like to see the effect carried further, and the congregation encouraged to continue the crescendo. In general, I thought that we in the congregation were less spirited than in past years. Perhaps I was badly placed. We also rustled our hymn sheets at two quiet moments, but we were quite remarkably free from coughs. I should like more descant singing by the choir in the congregational carols. Even the lovely descant in 'While shepherds watched their flocks by night' was kept for the last verse, when we almost drowned it.

"The carols sung by the choir were nearly all unaccompanied. Quiet, clear harmony was the main impression. In 'Adam lay ybounden' and 'Past three o'clock' the singing sounded particularly clear and bright, with the four parts contrasting in character as well as pitch. To the lay ear, there was perhaps some lack of vivid contrast and variety, but the two next carols provided something in this direction: 'The Infant King' included a treble solo (sung by C. W. Denny) and a moderately strong climax, while 'As Joseph was a-walking' was pleasantly rythmical. Finally the choir sang delightfully a familiar carol 'I saw a maiden'

and then 'The kings', the latter being sung by the lower voices only with organ accompaniment.

"The lessons and prayers have in this service an equal part with the singing, and they were beautifully spoken from first to last. After the ringing words of the bidding prayer, a new boy (J. J. A. King) read the first lesson with clarity and spirit. A chorister (R. B. Davis), a day-boy (P. A. H. Dawson), and the Head of School read the next three lessons, all well spoken and each in his own way rightly giving the fullest importance to the words. These boys' voices set the tone of the Service. A master (Mr. Talbot), the Chaplain, the Vicar and a Governor of the School (Professor Cormack) read the next four lessons at a lower pitch of intensity, but with delightfully varied and flexible voices and styles. Finally, the Headmaster read the traditional ninth lesson from the first chapter of St. John's gospel, and with two last rousing carols and the Blessing, we went out into the cold again, having shared in one of the most genuine expressions of the Christmas spirit."

J.A.V.W.

QUATERCENTENARY APPEAL

Now that the total amount raised or covered by the Appeal has reached some £32,000 — or two-thirds of the sum of £50,000 which we set as our target figure — the Committee has taken stock of the situation. While we have no reason to be complacent, we can at any rate feel that the progress that has been made so far justifies us in hoping that we shall reach the £50,000 before the end of 1963. We shall be desperately disappointed if we don't, for while the present total of £32,000 will just (about) cover the three primary objectives of the Appeal — shop, bath, library — it leaves nothing over for the further amenities which the School needs so much.

As a matter of tactics, however, we have decided to wait until the beginning of 1963 before we start our final campaign. Continued importunity has an anaesthetic effect. By 1963 too we shall see rather more clearly the extent of our commitments to date and the comparative urgency of further possible projects.

For the next twelve months then, while we shall continue to welcome all new, or increased, subscriptions, we propose to give parents and Old Boys a break and not bully them. There are two exceptions however to this 'pay pause in reverse'. We shall continue the ploy with the bills which enables the Bursar to play the part of an arm-chair bandit. And we shall harry any new parents of 1961 who have not yet responded to the Appeal. After all, they are fair game.

It may be of general interest to record that Mr. Hooke has been elected to succeed Mr. Stow as Chairman of the Appeal Committee.

It was Mr. Stow himself who suggested that the Chairman should be somebody more easily accessible. Of course as Chairman of the Governors he will still be very much in the picture: meanwhile we are extremely grateful for the flying start which his dynamic energy gave to the Appeal.

Incidentally, now that Fund Raising Campaigns for Schools and Churches and other charitable institutions are so much in the news, we had better make it clear that although the Committee has considered the matter very carefully it is not employing professional assistance. So far, indeed, 'all our own work'. But we have recently had the benefit of personal advice from Dr. Hooker, the senior officer of Messrs. John Rich, and we should like to thank him for the most helpful suggestions he has passed on to us. It was nice to hear that he thought very highly of our Appeal Literature. Indeed, he threatened that he would lift ideas from it for other schools!

J.M.C.

APPEAL FUND

Seventh List of Subscribers: 22nd August, 1961 to 31st December, 1961

* Covenanted Annual Subscription

† Further Subscription

K. Ablewhite*
E. H. Aldworth*
G. J. Attwood*
H. A. Ballinger*
A. F. Bastin
F. E. Baumann*
Miss S. Blair and Miss J. Willis
B. Bosley
G. A. H. Bosley†
Mrs. M. L. Bowker*
R. N. Cowlin*
V. A. Cox*
W. Davies*
F/Lt. O. C. Douglas*
C. M. Dunman†
J. Fairlie, Senr.†
Mrs. Fellows*
Mrs. Gerring
A. T. Grevatt*

R. M. Kennedy
Brig. W. A. Kenney*†
W. A. Langmead*
S. J. Lansdown*
E. G. Lockton†
W. B. Mann
D. F. W. Newman†
Mrs. D. Oliver*
Dr. H. Owen*
Prof. I. T. Ramsey*†
Capt. A. Richardson
Mrs. S. F. Sandall*
School House Trunk Working
Party†
A. Semmence*
J. Smallbone*
W/Cdr. W. Sykes*
A. D. Tanner*
J. Westall*

* * * *

The photographs of the elms facing page 217, taken during an unusually heavy white frost in early December, have a melancholy (and valedictory) interest in view of the decision to fell two of them. These, the two most westerly trees, were in fact felled on 12th January, after the bulk of this magazine had gone to press.

OTHELLO

(December 14th, 15th and 16th)

Once again the Dramatic Society presented a Shakespearian play with the help of three of the ladies of St. Helen's School. For the record, our production of "Othello" received a lukewarm review in the *Oxford Mail* and was not noticed by the *North Berks Herald* — an omission for which the blame falls somewhere between School and Press (but in our opinion, much nearer the latter). This was the more regrettable in that whatever the quality of the play, it was certainly the most ambitious production that has been staged in Abingdon this year.

The *Abingdonian*, however, is rather more accommodating than the N.B.H., and is glad to print the following review by Mr. G. J. Padmanabha, former Editor of the *Colombo Times*, to whom we offer our sincere thanks.

"Possibly the greatest work in the world" — Macaulay's assessment of *Othello* survives the test of innumerable re-readings and revivals. As cleanly and economically constructed as *Coriolanus*, the play is far richer in poetry and human interest; and if, as some orthodox critics seem to think, it has less to offer in the way of moral philosophical profundity than *Hamlet* or *Lear*, there can be no question that as pure theatre it is unsurpassed in the Shakespearian canon and unchallenged outside it by the best of Sophocles, Racine or Ibsen.

"So mighty a work might seem a rash undertaking for a school dramatic society; the two principal parts at least demand a maturity and insight beyond the range of any schoolboys. Nevertheless it is a drama of such naked power that no intelligent production can fail to convey some of its distinctive quality or to emphasise some new aspect of its many-sided appeal. And certainly there is no lack of odd angles from which to approach the play: witness the antics in a Turkish bath in Mr Orson Welles's film or Mr. W. H. Auden's whimsical analysis of Iago as a practical joker hoist with his own petard.

"The production under review presented no such eccentricities for our delectation. It was a straightforward portrayal of the tragedy involved, as a programme note put it, in 'the fall of a noble nature wrought by the insidious cunning of a man whom everybody trust and likes.' And in the main it admirably succeeded. In the first place it was, for an amateur production, uncommonly well dressed and mounted. Those responsible for the set and costumes deserve unqualified praise. So does the producer for his skill in the mechanics of production and for the grouping and movement of the cast on the stage. The smooth stage management, lighting and storm effects are equally to be commended, and a special tribute is due to the expert who supervised some unusually lifelike and satisfying displays of swordsmanship.

"Of the two leading players it requires to be said that their chief defect was an insufficient reverence for the letter of the text: a short-coming which, in Shakspeare above all, implies an imperfect ear for the verse and entails an incomplete absorption in the rôle. Peter Dawson had a very good voice and presence as Othello, and that is half the battle; but there were times when he was not 'with it', and some unevenness and uncertainty in a performance otherwise praiseworthy evidently resulted from his not being word-perfect. This fault was in evidence even in some of the great purple passages of the part; for example, he made a right hollyhock, as they say in *Bootsie and Snudge*, of the great speech in 4.2. beginning:

'Had it pleas'd Heaven to try me with affliction.'

One missed too in this character the development from the composed and imposing personality of the early scenes, who 'commands like a full soldier', to the passionate and unpredictable man of agony at the end. We ought to be able to see the gradual process described by Iago: 'The Moor already changes with my poison'; and from this point of view it is a mistake to depict Othello as violently angry when in 4.2. he deprives Cassio of his rank. At this stage he is still 'the nature Whom passion could not shake', and should be stern and unyielding, but in full control. An actor who displays too much passion at this point has nothing left in reserve for the 'steep-down gulfs of liquid fire' of the final scenes. With these reservations, however, Peter Dawson did very well indeed as Othello, and will do still better in future if he makes more trouble with his lines. He has obviously got what it takes to be an actor.

"So has Peter Loukes. The rôle of Iago is longer and more exacting, but more challenging and more rewarding, than that of the Moor; and of this young actor did not do it justice — well, what actor ever does? He too garbled his lines occasionally, even his very last speech, delivered with admirable dignity and effect, being marred by a verbal inaccuracy detrimental to the verse ('from henceforth' instead of 'from this time forth'). Moreover, his general demeanour, while certainly affable enough to explain the regard in which he is held by the rest of the dramatis personae, offered no real hint of the malignity motivating his conduct or of the subtlety required to devise his diabolical schemes and carry them out in the sheep's clothing of a reputation for 'honesty'. Still, Iago is one of the most difficult villains in English tragedy and one can have nothing but a wholesome respect for a very young actor who can play the part at all without appearing ridiculous. In such a tremendous rôle, it is triumph enough not to have been altogether inadequate.

"Desdemona's is not a difficult part. Her half-witted innocence ('I do not think there is any such woman') makes her a conspicuous type of the dumb heroine so distressingly recurrent in Shakespeare. If we met her counterpart in real life we should be justified in saying that if

she had been a bit brighter the tragedy could not have happened. Elizabeth Johns, possessed of a speaking voice of great natural beauty, played her with a delicacy and pathos wholly admirable, and brought to the part that angelic quality indicated in Othello's 'This look of thine will hurl my soul from Heaven'. The cast is fortunate in having at its disposal the talent of St. Helen's School, which provided, in addition to this enchanting Desdemona, a pert and pretty performance by Angela Cridge as Bianca and a vigorous and effective Emilia by Margaret Rose.

"It was noticeable that some of the minor characters found it difficult to simulate the advanced years which their rôles required. Derek Dunn as Brabantio might well have appeared more querulous and decrepit, and Martin Evans as the Duke of Venice looked inappropriately cherubic as the President of a chamber addressed by Othello as 'Most potent, grave and reverend Signiors'. But both these parts were well performed; while Christopher Dean as Roderigo and Andrew Foster as Cassio were the leading members of a competent supporting cast, distinguished by good directing and effective teamwork.

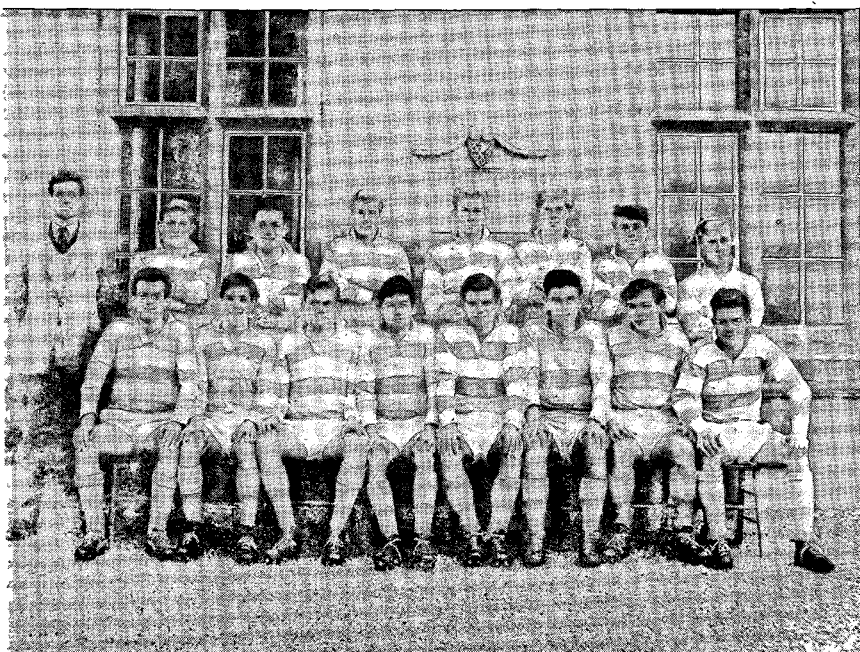
'Indeed the production as a whole impressed more as a whole than by virtue of individually outstanding performances; and perhaps that is as it should be in a school play, and in Shakespeare in general. The play's the thing — and an honest attempt to concentrate on the total effect it should produce makes a welcome change from the current commercial theatre, vitiated as it is by the 'star' system.

"One point about the staging of the last scene. Desdemona's bed, though altogether admirable considered as part of the décor, was much larger than the modest nuptial couch sanctified by tradition and required by the text. Shakespeare clearly meant her to be murdered in the confined space which, in the Elizabethan theatre, would have been the inner stage, where her body could subsequently be concealed. Othello's

'Soft, by and by, let me the curtains draw'
and Lodovico's later

'This object poisons sight, let it be hid'
are dramatically fitting and psychologically necessary. These lines had to be sacrificed to justify a large bed placed in the centre of the stage. As a result Othello had to circumambulate his sleeping wife to find an appropriate point of attack, and one would have thought that Emilia, when she entered after the event, could very well have seen at once that Desdemona was dead. More important, 'the tragic loading of this bed' could not be hidden from view for the last half-dozen lines of the play, to suggest, in keeping with the fixed tradition of Shakespearean tragedy, a sense of normality returning, of order re-established, of practical matters to be attended to: disposal of hero's forfeited property, arrangements for bringing villain to justice, preparation of reports to the Senate."

G.J.P.



THE O.A. MATCH

O.A.s	School
S. M. Womar	R. W. J. Bampton
—	—
A. W. Thistlewood	J. M. Talbot
E. Jouault	R. J. C. Bampton
A. J. Foden	C. M. Davis
I. J. Parsons	M. J. Nelson
—	—
P. J. Ford	J. M. Bunce
D. Free	M. S. Ford
—	—
P. G. Whitton	B. R. Rosevear
G. Dimond	R. F. W. Budden
P. Wintle	A. J. Oxley
K. N. Haarhoff	P. A. Merriman
J. Grosvenor	M. J. Evans
I. W. Moss	P. J. F. Blair
R. M. Campbell	C. R. Winfield
G. M. Morse	T. A. Marsh





OTHELLO 1961



(See page 215)

RUGBY FOOTBALL

FIRST FIFTEEN

The team promised to be a good one, and in some games it realised its potential, either in bursts of exciting play or, more rarely, from beginning to end of a match. Unfortunately, those who were only able to watch the home games were cheated of much of the good rugby and occasionally entertained to some disappointing games in which it was clear that the side had the ability and the will to score but apparently lacked the cohesion necessary to turn a hopeful break into a certain try.

Matches began well. A good win over a fairly strong D. O. Willis' side was followed by a really polished victory over a weak Reading School team. In the latter game, we showed that we could play satisfactorily the conventional attacking game based on quick heels and mostly orthodox threequarter play; but it was clear that our defences had yet to be tested. Against Newbury we met an excellent, hard going, quick pack and were in no way dispirited by a narrow defeat. It was, therefore, unfortunate that so early in the season the School played the strongest Solihull School side for many years and lost heavily.

Nonetheless, a week later, after a somewhat uninspired mid-week win over Leighton Park, a truly great game was played against Pembroke College. Those watching were surprised at the spectacle of a school side employing successfully heavyweight tactics against older players. Our wing forward play was never more effective than in this match, Marsh and Blair catching the unhappy Pembroke outside half with almost monotonous regularity.

There then followed several dull matches, including an unexpected though narrow defeat at the hands of a fairly weak M.C.S. team. By contrast, the away game with R.G.S., High Wycombe was one of the highlights of the season. Although eventually losing by 11 points to 12, the School completely dominated play for most of the match; the forwards especially hunted together and backed up attacking movements with great enthusiasm. In this and other games towards the end of term, the influence of Oxford University's play which our players saw on two occasions was apparent particularly amongst the forwards.

We were defeated in a good game by Southfield School whose excellent stand-off half dominated the play and with the cancellation of our fixtures against Bloxham, the O.A. match proved a thoroughly satisfactory conclusion to the season: it was a hard fought, open game full of excitement and fittingly ended in a 3—3 draw.

The Fifteen has been most fortunate this season in its Captain, Rosevear, a fine player and good leader. Under his tutelage, the pack have played extremely well together, especially in the line-outs; and his example in the open play, where he has carried through movements

begun in the threequarter line on numerous occasions, has taught less experienced players a great deal. Added to this, his sportsmanlike approach to the game has helped to keep morale high and in consequence the number of points scored against us (105) was relatively small.

During the season, Full Colours were awarded to Talbot, who scored a number of spectacular tries on the wing; Merriman, who had more than his fair share of the ball in the line-outs; Bampton, RWJ, a wing-threequarter turned full-back; and Bunce who gave unselfish service to his backs throughout the season. Half Colours were gained by Blair; Evans, MJ; Flint, IR; Nelson; Marsh, TA; Oxley and Winfield.

The final arrangement of the team was: R. W. J. Bampton; J. M. Talbot, R. J. C. Bampton, C. M. Davis, M. J. Nelson; J. M. Bunce (Sec.), M. S. Ford; B. R. Rosevear (Capt.), R. F. W. Budden, A. J. Oxley, P. A. Merriman, M. J. Evans, P. J. F. Blair, C. R. Winfield, T. A. Marsh.

The following have also played: I. R. Flint (8 times); D. Weir (7 times); D. C. Pollard (4 times) and A. T. Barrett, A. C. Bowker, R. N. Carter and M. E. F. Willey (once).

Results

v. D. O. Willis' XV (h). Wed., 27th Sept.	Won 12—8
v. Reading School (h). Wed., 4th Oct.	Won 30—0
v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 7th Oct.	Lost 6—11
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 21st Oct.	Lost 3—36
v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 25th Oct.	Won 6—5
v. Pembroke College (a). Sat., 28th Oct.	Won 13—0
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 1st Nov.	Lost 3—6
v. St. Edward's School 2nd XV (h). Sat., 4th Nov.	Won 16—3
v. Radley College 2nd XV (a). Sat., 11th Nov.	Won 5—3
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 15th Nov.	Drawn 3—3
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 18th Nov.	Lost 11—12
v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 22nd Nov.	Lost 3—15
v. Bloxham School (h). Sat., 25th Nov.	Cancelled
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 2nd Dec.	Drawn 3—3
	G.M.K.

* * * *

The season has seen one major change in rugby organization. The training of the Fifteen, hitherto largely the responsibility of Mr. Talbot, became the special concern of Mr. Keating, who last year ran the second team. At the same time, Mr. Willis, although remaining in general charge of School rugby, took over the running of the 2nd Fifteen. The special thanks of the Rugby Club and the School go to Mr. Talbot for much sterling work done over the past years. He is of course, continuing to assist with rugby lower down the school. (Edd.).

SECOND FIFTEEN

The team possessed commendable spirit and, except in the occasional game, showed plenty of zest on the field; and for this the enthusiasm of Foster, the Captain, was largely responsible. Our strength undoubtedly lay in the pack which always played with competence and sometimes, as in the matches against Oxford Colts and the O.A.s, extremely well. Flint and Pollard were two forwards of near 1st Fifteen standard; Fraser proved a most reliable hooker and the remainder of the scrum hardworking and forceful: often in practice games with the 1st Fifteen they gave as good as they got. Behind the scrum, things were not so fortunate. Bailey was a very plucky and useful scrum half but was out of action for part of the season owing to injury. The outside half position was never satisfactorily filled, although all those who were tried did their best. The full back, Weir, inherited from the senior team was a skilful if somewhat fragile player. The threequarters, individually good on many occasions, never combined well, passed too slowly and were not over strong in defence. Nonetheless, all in all a good season and several memorable matches.

The final composition of the team was: D. Weir; G. A. Hall, R. J. Crumly, A. R. F. Redgrave, D. J. Hoddinott; A. C. Bowker, G. F. Bailey; I. R. Flint, A. C. L. Fraser, M. E. F. Willey, A. W. Foster (Capt.), R. M. Kirby, C. H. Bellinger, D. C. Pollard, S. R. Wilson.

Also played: T. J. Pegram (4 times); P. J. F. Blair, R. H. M. BurrIDGE, P. L. Hedges, C. F. Winfield (3 times); R. J. M. Evans, P. W. Liversidge, J. A. Simms (twice); S. J. Baker, R. J. C. Bampton, R. W. J. Bampton, A. T. Barrett, C. M. Davis, J. M. Talbot (once).

Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 4th Oct.	Won 5—3
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 7th Oct.	Lost 0—6
v. Oxford R.F.C. Colts (h). Sat., 14th Oct.	Won 5—3
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 21st Oct.	Lost 0—14
v. Leighton Park School (a). Wed., 25th Oct.	Won 11—0
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 1st Nov.	Lost 3—18
v. Wallingford Grammar School 1st XV (h). Sat., 11th Nov.	Drawn 3—3
v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 18th Nov.	Lost 8—22
v. Southfield School (h). Wed., 22nd Nov.	Won 26—0
v. Old Abingdonians (h). Sat., 2nd Dec.	Won 12—9

D.O.W.

THIRD FIFTEEN

This year the fixture list was extended to eight matches and the standard of our opponents was generally higher than in previous years. This explains the fact that although only three matches were won the team was as strong if not stronger than those of recent years. There

was a fine spirit and the side was exceptionally well led by Dawson so that not only was there plenty of good football but the games were all thoroughly enjoyable. Play was frequently stylish and features of the team were the brilliant kicking of Evans and the handling and speed in the loose on the one occasion — against Stoneham — when conditions were bad. If there was a general fault it was slowness of thought and matches were lost because of this or, on occasion, from unnecessary defensive errors.

The final team arrangement was: K. W. R. Dixon; R. H. M. Burrige, J. Fairlie, P. Rainey, J. A. Simms; R. J. M. Evans, J. R. Veysey; P. A. H. Dawson (Capt.), P. J. Leather, A. E. W. Willey, J. A. R. Willis, P. E. Cable, E. G. B. Joseph, P. W. Liversidge, P. L. Hedges.

Also played: D. J. Hoddinott, R. N. Carter (4 times); C. H. Bellinger, I. J. Newbold, T. J. Pegram (3 times); A. S. Harrison (twice); G. C. Alabaster, R. J. Crumly, P. E. Dixon, L. A. Edwards and P. P. Hutchinson (once).

Results

v. Newbury Grammar School (a). Sat., 7th Oct.	Lost 5—18
v. Abingdon Harlequins (h). Wed., 11th Oct.	Lost 3—21
v. Magdalen College School (a). Wed., 18th Oct.	Won 25—3
v. Leighton Park School (h). Wed., 25th Oct.	Won 18—0
v. Stowe School 4th XV (h). Sat., 28th Oct.	Lost 8—11
v. Radley College 4th XV (a). Sat., 11th Nov.	Lost 3—6
v. Cokethorpe School 1st XV (h). Wed., 29th Nov.	Lost 12—14
v. Stoneham School 2nd XV (a). Sat., 2nd Dec.	Won 19—5

B.C.W.

COLTS FIFTEEN

The team deserves a special word of praise for its unbeaten record. There were indeed some anxious moments in the last match at Berkhamsted when we were bogged down in unaccustomed mud, but all was well and we settled for an honourable draw. The best match of the season was undoubtedly that against Pangbourne. Both teams took the field with undefeated records and both were determined to deprive the other of the distinction. It was a hard, close fought match with no quarter asked nor given.

The good weather for most of the term enabled the team to display its strength outside the scrum. This was particularly so in our victory over Stowe which was watched by a large appreciative crowd. But the backs could not have played so well had they not been given the ball by the pack and credit must be given to the forwards for this.

Weaknesses in the team were luckily not exploited by our opponents and the most obvious one — shoddy tackling in the centre — was countered time and again by the covering of wing forwards, Bowthorpe and Baker, and by the sound play of Bent or Henderson as full-back.

On the wings, both Akinbiyi and Johnson were very good in attack but Mackenzie in the centre was something of an enigma — indeed his best game was when he was tried as No. 8 forward and he might well concentrate on that position in the future. The halfback combination of Barrett and Kandiah cannot be praised enough. Each is a complete player in his own right and together they were very efficient: Kandiah's covering and Barrett's superb passing were both models for others to copy.

The pack played best in tight scrums and in individual efforts. As we lacked anyone of height, the line-outs generally disappointed but in the loose Cox and Mackay as well as the two wing-forwards played many useful games whilst Morris developed well as hooker. Marsh led the scrum vociferously but was too conservative in his ideas. Hall and Hunter gave of their best but were a little slow to make real use of their physique.

Altogether, this was a successful and enjoyable season with some notes of reservation. A final word — an honest tackle is worth twenty attempts at scragging by the neck.

The team as it finally played was: D. A. M. Bent; A. E. Johnson, J. R. Jennings, J. J. Mackenzie, A. O. B. Akinbiyi; A. T. Barrett (Capt.), J. Kandiah; C. W. F. M. Cox, T. R. Morris, E. D. J. Hunter, R. A. Hall, V. A. Marsh, J. Bowthorpe, B. G. Mackay, S. J. Baker.

Also played: T. B. Moore (3 times); M. A. Bisby, N. A. H. Bosley, C. C. Ford, P. G. Henderson (twice); R. D. Booker, A. J. Cheary and H. Foster (once).

Results

v. Reading School (a). Wed., 4th Oct.	Won 27—3
v. Radley College (a). Sat., 14th Oct.	Drawn 6—6
v. Cokethorpe School (h). Wed., 18th Oct.	Won 63—3
v. Stowe School (h). Sat., 28th Oct.	Won 14—3
v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 15th Nov.	Won 27—3
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (a). Sat., 18th Nov.	Drawn 0—0
v. Berkhamsted School (a). Sat., 16th Dec.	Drawn 3—3

B.J.M.

JUNIOR COLTS FIFTEEN

The main impression is that of a side with an initially low opinion of itself pulling itself together and doing better than expected. The pack has worked hard but rather lacks attacking power when Bosley is not playing and is slow to take advantage of opponents' mistakes. The backs, individually dangerous — especially Godfrey who nevertheless has yet to master the break-through — are not combining effectively and the half backs have not really reached an understanding. Tackling as in recent years is weak, though Bell brings them all down hard. The best play was against a good Radley side — if only we always played like that — and the side has been a responsive one to coach.

The team was: N. P. J. Bell; C. J. Corps, S. A. Marsh (Capt.), B. S. Avery, R. D. R. Ray; P. B. Godfrey, M. R. Louth; S. P. Sewry, D. H. Willis, C. E. I. Day, P. J. Evans, S. J. Denny, P. V. Bosley, P. A. Bartlett, M. C. G. Holloway.

Also played: P. N. Shellard (4 times); C. W. F. M. Cox (3 times); D. M. Caradoc-Evans, I. R. Hewes (twice); D. S. Partridge, D. W. Penney (once).

Results

v. Southfield School (h). Sat., 30th Sept.	Lost	0—3
v. Newbury Grammar School (h). Sat., 7th Oct.	Won	9—8
v. Cokethorpe School (a). Wed., 11th Oct.	Lost	6—8
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 18th Oct.	Won	9—8
v. Solihull School (a). Sat., 21st Oct.	Lost	0—9
v. Leighton Park School (a). Wed., 25th Oct.	Won	6—0
v. Oratory School (h). Wed., 15th Nov.	Lost	6—18
v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 18th Nov.	Won	30—0
v. Radley College (h). Sat., 25th Nov.	Won	11—5
v. Wallingford Grammar School (a). Sat., 9th Dec.	Lost	0—17

K.M.D.H.

JUNIOR FIFTEEN

After one or two uneven matches, the season became notable for the number of close games. The rugby played has been attractive and the standard generally high. Goldsworthy at scrum half led the side extremely well and due primarily to his promptings the forwards developed into a sound pack. The threequarters also had their moments and their defence was well above average although they must learn to watch the ball and not the man.

The final arrangement of the team was: J. B. Morgan; J. W. Hassett, P. H. Painton, R. E. N. Bradfield, M. J. Heading; J. J. F. Burn, B. E. Goldsworthy (Capt.); J. R. Poole, T. J. Wood, P. H. Blackburn, R. W. Schnellmann, A. J. Longstaff, N. D. Brice, M. Spencer, G. Walkinshaw.

Also played: A. M. Jell (4 times); M. H. Hampton, A. M. Wood (3 times); J. T. W. Kenny (twice); D. G. Halstead and T. D. Paige (once).

Results

v. Southfield School (h). Sat., 30th Sept.	Lost	0—22
v. Magdalen College School (h). Wed., 18th Oct.	Won	31—11
v. Solihull School (h). Sat., 21st Oct.	Lost	0—17
v. Radley College (h). Wed., 1st Nov.	Lost	8—11
v. Wallingford Grammar School (h). Sat., 11th Nov.	Lost	3—8
v. Oratory School (a). Wed., 15th Nov.	Won	13—6
v. Stoneham School (h). Sat., 18th Nov.	Won	13—0
v. Cokethorpe School (h). Wed., 29th Nov.	Won	25—3
v. Berkhamsted School (a). Sat., 16th Dec.	Lost	5—6

M.N.W.

HOUSE MATCHES

Good weather enabled both Senior and Junior Houses to play off all their matches to time. Once again great interest centred on the Senior Knock-out Competition, the three games of which provided good entertainment and much open play. This was particularly so on Wednesday, 8th November in the match between Blacknall and Tesdale which the latter won by 9 points to nil. It was an exciting game forward with the honours slightly to Blacknall, but behind the scrum Tesdale had most of the ideas. In the first half, tries were scored by Burridge and Rainey, the latter after a fine run through the centre, and Johnson, AE scored a further try near the end of the game. The other game, played on the same afternoon, between Bennett and Reeves was not so open and resulted in a 11—6 victory for Bennett. Bunce, Rosevear and Cable scored for Bennett, the last try being converted by Bampton, RJC whilst Hoddinott scored for Reeves who also gained a penalty goal.

The final between Bennett and Tesdale was played on 6th December and proved to be an excellent contest. The result, a 11—9 win for Tesdale, was a triumph for the 'little man' since Bennett carried the bigger guns in the shape of the Captain of Rugger and six of his team. Most of the excitement came in the second half which began with Tesdale somewhat against the run of play leading by a goal (Talbot — try and conversion) to a try (Akinbiyi). Soon after the recommencement of play, Bennett scored a good try by Mackenzie. Tesdale replied by some determined forward play which led to Talbot scoring his second try. Thereafter the ding-dong nature of the game was reflected in a penalty scored by Bennett (Bampton, RWJ) and a deciding penalty a few minutes from the end by Tesdale (Talbot). A grand game with Tesdale worthy winners of the Lin Cup.

An innovation this season was a Senior League Competition in which teams were drawn from those members of the Senior Houses not in School teams. Apart from providing representative games for the not-so-expert players, this new competition resulted in some very exciting matches and by general agreement was well worthwhile. A new cup to be called the Toplis Cup, in memory of Mr. J. M. Toplis, a member of the Staff who died tragically in 1955, has been given for this league. It was won this first season by Blacknall who gained six points by defeating Bennett (20—13), Tesdale (24—0) and Reeves (11—3). Bennett came second with four points, the result of beating Reeves (23—0) and Tesdale (11—10). Reeves by defeating Tesdale (16—15) gained two points.

Blacknall also proved the winners of the Robinson Cup in the Junior House League. The match results in this competition were as follows: Bennett defeated Reeves (36—0) and Tesdale (30—6) but lost to Blacknall (15—19); Blacknall in addition to their win over Bennett

took 23 points off Reeves and beat Tesdale (26—3); Tesdale scored a solitary victory over Reeves (13—6), who failed to win a match.

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The Annual match between Dayboys and Boarders was won this season by the Boarders who scored 11 points to the Dayboys 6.

D.O.W.

GROSS COUNTRY

With few members of last season's team remaining we knew we would not find things too easy, but by a queer twist of fate several opposing teams were stronger than for several years.

Against Westminster College we were outclassed over a long and gruelling course, while at High Wycombe it was even more of a procession — our opponents having the first six men home. A four-point victory over Newbury on our own course boosted our morale, but a fortnight later Culham College inflicted another heavy defeat on us. Unfortunately Grimes injured himself when well up with the leaders and had to retire but this did not affect the result. Against Reading we had not got the speed necessary for a very short course, two-thirds of which was on metalled roads, and should do better in the return fixture over our own course next term.

In a very exciting finish we gained the narrowest of victories over The Queen's College, after several members of our team had misguidedly followed a runner from another College up a private drive instead of up the alley-way beside it! In our last fixture, a triangular one, it was unfortunate that Exeter College had been beset by injuries and had had to field almost a "B" team. However it was pleasing that all eight of our runners recorded personal best times over this Oxford course, though R.G.S. High Wycombe again proved their superiority in convincing fashion.

Half Colours for Athletics were awarded to R. K. Gregson, J. V. Grimes and M. R. Mole.

The following have represented the Club this term: F. A. Bisby (7 times); D. J. Aplin, R. K. Gregson, G. F. Keeys, I. W. D. Matson, M. R. Mole (6 times); C. J. Dean, J. V. Grimes (5 times); E. C. C. Crouch (4 times); D. Edelsten, R. M. Kirby (twice); J. F. Hann (once).

The Old Boys Match has been arranged for Saturday, 24th February, 1962. Will those wishing to run please let their intention be known to to either R. W. Harvey (address: St. Edmund Hall, Oxford) or to myself.

R.H.B.

RESULTS

v. Westminster College (a). Sat., 7th October.

1st—Westminster 25 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 55 pts.

(Scorers: Grimes 5, Aplin 7, Gregson 8, Mole 10, Bisby 12, Matson 13).

v. R.G.S., High Wycombe (a). Sat., 21st October.

1st—High Wycombe 21 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 67 pts.

(Scorers: Aplin 7, Mole 10, Gregson 11, Keeys 12, Dean 13, Matson 14).

v. Newbury G.S. (h). Sat., 28th October.

1st Teams: 1st—Abingdon 37 pts.; 2nd—Newbury 41 pts.

(Scorers: Gregson 2, Mole 4, Grimes 5, Dean 7, Kirby 8, Matson 11).

2nd Teams: 1st—Abingdon 27 pts.; 2nd—Newbury 53 pts.

(Scorers: Hann 1, Phillips 3, Edelsten 4, White, R 5, Day, MJ 6, Varney 8).

v. Culham College (h). Sat., 11th November.

1st—Culham 25 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 57 pts.

(Scorers: Gregson 5, Aplin 6, Mole 9, Keeys 10, Bisby 13, Matson 14).

v. Reading School (a). Sat., 18th November.

1st—Reading 31 pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 49 pts.

(Scorers: Gregson 4, Mole 5, Aplin 6, Keeys 9, Bisby 12, Dean 13).

v. The Queen's College (a). Wed., 22nd November.

1st—Abingdon 40 pts.; 2nd—Queen's 40 pts. Abingdon won because they were the first team to close.

(Scorers: Grimes 3, Aplin 4, Bisby 6, Matson 8, Dean 9, Keeys 10).

v. Exeter College & R.G.S., High Wycombe (at Oxford).

Wed., 29th November.

1st—High Wycombe 22pts.; 2nd—Abingdon 58 pts.; 3rd—Exeter 104 pts.

(Scorers: Grimes 6, Gregson 8, Mole 9, Dean 10, Aplin 11, Bisby 14).

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Many Old Boys will no doubt remember the traditional Drayton Courses with a mixture of nostalgia and thankfulness that the path of duty no longer leads them past the Sewage Farm and that outpost of civilisation, the Round House. This year, thanks to the kindness of an Old Boy, Peter Wilsden, we held the races on a circuit round Rye Farm and Abingdon Lock. The main advantages of the new courses are that they are much nearer the School; they start and finish in the same place; and there are no bottlenecks. The fact that the courses

are also slightly shorter undoubtedly contributed to the general approval of the move. Certainly the spectators have never had it so good, with both Seniors and Intermediates doing two laps and the embankment of Abingdon Bridge providing a grandstand.

The Junior Race was very exciting with Bradfield proving slightly stronger than his rivals in the last hundred yards and leading Tesdale to a handsome victory. In the Intermediate Race it was a pity that last year's winner, Bowthorpe, had only just recovered from illness, but all credit to him and the five Bennett runners who all beat 20 minutes. A. T. Barrett is a most worthy winner of the new Intermediate Cross Country Cup, kindly presented by I. M. Cunningham, O.A. It was unfortunate that the Secretary of Cross Country, D. J. Aplin, was injured and unable to complete in the Senior Race. After the early running had been made by Bisby and Gregson, Grimes moved to the front and gradually built up a lead which increased to about 150 yards at the finish. Bennett again packed very well, and thus made sure of the House Cup for the fifth successive year.

The first form race — 2 laps of Albert Park — was held on the last Tuesday of term. Although it was a cold and frosty day, the enthusiasm of the runners was such that after being briefed in Big School and told to "go down to the start", they interpreted the last instruction as "go down and start". Consequently when the officials arrived at the start shortly afterwards only one runner, who had got left behind in the rush down Tower Steps, was in sight. About six minutes later, however, their lengthy warming-up done, 58 runners got off to a much fairer start. The first three home were Janz, Booker, and Rose; Reeves won the team event.

DETAILS OF THE HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Junior: Tesdale (124); Blacknall (231); Reeves (244); Bennett (257).

Intermediate: Bennett (157); Reeves (187); Tesdale (222); Blacknall (275).

Senior: Bennett (295); Reeves (357); Tesdale (617); Blacknall (662).

Over-all Championship: Bennett (709); Reeves (788); Tesdale (963); Blacknall (1168).

The first ten home in the Junior Race were: Bradfield (10 min. 18 sec.); Hassett; Carlbeck; Goldsworthy; Heading; Morgan, JB; Gibbs; Hayward, RA; Tanner; Caton.

The first ten home in the Intermediate Race were: Barrett (19 min. 3.2 sec.); Avery; Crouch; Bowthorpe; Hunter and Ford, CC; Booker, RD; Pullen; Moore, TB; Bisby, MA.

The first ten home in the Senior Race were: Grimes (17 min. 41.6 sec.); Mole; Gregson; Kirby; Matson, IWD; Bisby, FA; Bampton, RWJ; Hann; Wilson; Liversidge, PW.

R.H.B.

FIVES

This has not been a term of great activity. Very few have played regularly and it was with only two full practices behind them that the First Four went to play St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Wednesday, 29th November. The opposition was very much better than last year and the School was well beaten. However the Four put up a much better show when beaten in a close, hard match at Radley. The courts were slippery owing to the damp weather and the first pair in particular took time to get accustomed to them. The last of the three matches was a fairly comfortable victory for the School over the Old Brightonians. We were sorry to find that Mr. Vallance was unable to play for his team but we were glad that he was there as a spectator.

The House Matches on the whole followed the expected pattern with Bennett beating Blacknall, and Tesdale narrowly beating Reeves in the first round. In the final Bennett beat Tesdale 51—37.

The First Four was: R. S. Ogg (Captain) and G. J. Bailey — 1st Pair; J. R. Veysey and C. C. Ford — 2nd Pair. T. A. Marsh deputised for Veysey against St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Results

- v. St. Bartholomew's Hospital (a). Lost: 55—120
- v. Radley (a). Lost: 85—100.
- v. Old Brightonians (h). Won: 97—69.

R.S.O.

During the Christmas holidays, four players from the School once again entered for the West of England Public Schools Fives Tournament. This was held at Bristol and began on 1st January. In spite of the absence of Veysey, more points were scored than in our attempt last year: nonetheless we must improve both our hitting power and positional play if we intend to go all out for success in this competition. It is encouraging in this respect to know that both Ford and Bailey may be available for the event for two or perhaps three more years.

Results

- Singles: 1st Round — Bailey beat Keenan (Canford) 11—1, 11—7; Ford lost to Taylor (Marlborough) 6—11, 11—12; Marsh lost to Williams (Bristol) 0—11, 4—11. Ogg won easily against a Colston's opponent.
- 2nd Round — Ogg beat Bailey 11—6, 9—11, 11—8.
- 3rd Round — Ogg lost to Clarke (Bristol) 3—11, 7—11.
- Doubles: Ogg and Bailey lost to Marlborough II, 5—11, 5—11. Ford and Marsh lost to Blundell's II, 2—11, 7—11.

T.A.M.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Following upon the transitional year, when numbers dropped heavily as the result of a policy change in age of recruitment, this Corps year has, with a very satisfactory intake of 76 boys from Forms 4, seen our numbers rise again to 268. It is thought that we shall stabilise at about this figure some 30 less than our former ceiling. The formation of an R.A.F. Section as from January 1962 will, it is hoped, provide a new incentive to recruiting in the future.

Field Day was held in fine weather on 31st October. Again this was carried out on a sectional basis: the R.A. had a day's training with the O.U.O.T.C., as did the Signal Section, while C.D. personnel attended the C.D. Staff College demonstration at Sunningdale. 'B' Coy. enjoyed a Map Reading march — and a healthy crop of blisters — while Recruit Coy., following a tradition of one year's standing, visited the Parachute School at R.A.F. Abingdon and later went for a 'flip' in Beverley aircraft.

The Remembrance Day parade passed off well, despite the fact that our band — in a lean year for military music — consisted of drums only. The Guard of Honour (L/Cpls. Edwards, Fairlie, Jessett and Ormerod) and the buglers (Cpl. Day and L/Cpl. Redgrave) performed very well indeed and the March Past by the main body was well up to standard.

We have been fortunate this term in having two new instructors, Drill Sergeants of the Parachute Regt., who have been concentrating their efforts on 'B' Coy. Over the years, most of our failures in the Army Proficiency exam. have been in Drill. It is hoped that the expert instruction 'B' Coy. will have had by the time of the examination will lay this particular bogey.

We congratulate Cpl. Dawson on passing into R.M.A., Sandhurst at the first attempt, and C.Q.M.S. Bampton, RJC, Bampton, RWJ, and Venn, AA on their promotions to C.S.M.

S.C.P.

ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Michaelmas term was an uneventful one as far as the Naval Section was concerned. Most of the time was devoted to routine work for examinations and some seven cadets passed the Proficiency Test. Certain repairs were carried out on the Headquarters, and the office has been redecorated.

A most enjoyable and instructive field day was spent in H.M.S. Wakeful which took the Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth from Portsmouth to Portland. We are once again very grateful to Lieutenant-Commander J. L. Lees, R.N., for arranging it for us, and to H.M.S. Sultan for acting as our hosts for the previous night.

L.C.J.G.

SCOUTS

34th North Berks

This term has seen the Troop become a Founder Member of Baden Powell House and it is to be hoped that members of the Troop will be able to visit the House on trips to London.

Four members qualified as first class scouts — R. P. Welch, P. S. McK. Ramsey, M. A. Bisby and T. J. Rawlins — and most of the new recruits were invested before the end of term. The first Field Day of the year was as usual spent on home ground carrying out basic training. There was a good turn out for the Remembrance Day parade, when Ramsey laid the wreath on behalf of the Local Association. One innovation has been the holding of several Camp Fires on Lower Field on a Saturday evening. Already the standard of singing and sketches has risen.

Next term the programme will be geared to the training for patrol competitions, and it is hoped as a consequence that the Troop will put up a better show in the District Competition later in the year.

M.N.W.

SCHOOL MUSIC

This term's musical activities began with the first of the Subscription Concert Society's performances, given by the Linden Singers. They provided a superb programme which drew a large audience and proved that their finesse and precision are not confined to their television appearances. The second concert was given by a group of wind players from the Royal College of Music to whom we are particularly grateful as their coming for no fee has helped the Society to make up some of last year's deficit. Their playing was characterised by tremendous fire and enthusiasm, qualities which are so often missing in performances by more experienced recitalists.

The staff recital this term was given by Mr. Vernon Jones. Only at occasions such as this do we find just how fortunate we are in our visiting music staff. Mr. Jones showed that his talent is not confined to teaching — his superb technique, coupled with a varied and interesting programme, made this one of the best recitals we have heard at School.

In the last issue of *The Abingdonian* we reported that the Music Club had been made a performing society rather than another period of musical appreciation each week. This has paid dividends both to the individual boys concerned, who at last have a set and regular time to play chamber music, and to the School as a whole, some of whom heard a concert given by the club towards the end of term. A report of this appears elsewhere in the magazine. Three members of the

club played a Haydn Trio at the John Mason School in a concert given by all the schools in the district.

Once again arctic conditions marred the orchestral concert at the end of term, this time through no fault of our own — for the first time ever the heating system developed an air-lock, and the Court Room was misty with paraffin fumes. Perhaps the fiery playing broke the ice, for the audience responded warmly. Both the Senior and Junior orchestras were without any professional help, yet they acquitted themselves well and showed that good orchestral music can be played by boys alone.

The House Music Competition was judged by E. H. F. Sawbridge, Esq. He has very kindly agreed to come again for the remaining competitions this year so that he can give us an overall judgement of school music. The competition was won by Reeves, with Bennett and Blacknall in second and third place.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Kitching and the Abingdon Holiday Orchestra for the gift of a music stand in token of their gratitude for the use of School equipment — an unexpected but very welcome gift.

The following boys have passed Associated Board examinations this term (numbers refer to the grade): M. Bisby (II piano); J. Rozier (IV violin); M. Johnston (IV oboe); R. Lyons (I piano—with credit); N. Coe (VI violin—with credit); D. Dickson (III violin—with credit); D. Allen (IV oboe—with distinction); K. Dixon (V clarinet—with distinction).

G.M.P.

LIMEHOUSE

On 29th September, the Chaplain took a party of senior boys to spend the weekend in the Parish of St. Anne, Limehouse. The party consisted of: J. M. Beere, B. A. F. Burn, C. J. Dean, A. J. C. Leatham, R. H. Meakins, R. G. Parks. There follows an account written by one of them —

"To most people the word 'Limehouse' conjures up a picture of dock-side slums, brawling sailors and Chinamen. So when a visiting lecturer at the St. Edmund Society invited a party of senior boys to spend a weekend in his parish at Limehouse, our reactions were easy to imagine.

Nevertheless, on the afternoon of Friday, 29th September, a party of six senior boys set off from Oxford, with the Chaplain, for the East End of London.

When we arrived we were warmly greeted by the Rector, the Revd. C. Watts, and his son Paul, who took us to the Rectory for tea. The Rectory stood in a small garden, which seemed like a green oasis in

the middle of the smoke and grime. Unfortunately, running by the side of the garden was a canal, noisome with chemicals and gases.

Early in the evening we joined with some of the parishioners in Michaelmas Communion at the Parish Church, St. Anne's. The Rector told us that a Service of Holy Communion at 7.30 in the evening was more convenient for his parishioners, many of whom were working at 7.00 in the morning.

Back at the Rectory there was a great bustle of activity, as we were going to be the guests of honour at a barbecue party held in the Rectory garden. The cooking was done by the local scouts, and (purely out of politeness, of course) some members of our party worked their way through about a dozen hot dogs. We were introduced to our hosts for the weekend at the barbecue, who immediately made us feel very welcome. After an evening of jiving, country dancing and singing we finally retired to bed thoroughly exhausted.

Saturday was the busiest day on our programme, for we were due to tour most of the Limehouse and Stepney docks. Perhaps the most interesting part of our morning tramp was our visit to the St. Katharine Royal Foundation and its Master, Father Groser. Founded by Queen Matilda, this is one of the few religious foundations to have escaped the activities of Henry VIII. More fascinating than the foundation itself was Father Groser. Despite his advancing age he still manages to get around all the local people and is recognised and greeted by many of the dockers who might never have been to Church in their lives.

In the afternoon, we walked along Whitechapel Road. It is in the Jewish tailors' shops here that most of the suits made in Saville Row are stitched together. The rector was very keen that we should see the Gun Inn, where Nelson is reputed to have met Lady Hamilton, so we stayed there for about an hour savouring the delightful view of the Thames by night. But we had not finished yet, for we moved off to the Tower of London where we were privileged to see the well known ceremony of the 'Keys'.

The next morning we again joined with the local people at Holy Communion and after a quick lunch made our good-byes. Any doubts or anxieties about the visit had long been dispelled and all of us were genuinely sorry to leave."

* * * *

It is unnecessary to explain how the photograph facing page 201 came into our hands. It will be vaguely familiar to all Old Boys who remember the Staff photographs of the early 1900's which grace the Dining Hall. Unfortunately we are unable either to date the photograph or to identify the members of the Staff concerned. Indeed, some doubt has been expressed as to its authenticity. We feel it our duty, however, to publish it as an historical record.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

W. J. Crudgington, O.A. (1904), who owns the George Gregory Book Store in Bath has very kindly given us a nicely coloured old print of Abingdon Bridge 1809-11. We have also received two books on Australian life from the Women's Group, Royal Commonwealth Society of Melbourne; and from the Dunlop Rubber Co. a record of their manifold workings entitled *Dunlopera*. Jeremy Hurd has presented a handsome History Leaving Book, and we hope to acknowledge others later. Finally our renewed thanks to Dr. Howlett for the *Scientific American* which is of tremendous value and interest.

Plans for the new Library are beginning to take shape and the future is full of exciting possibilities — and hard work. As a post-script we must say how pleased we were to receive back into the library a book borrowed in 1947. Perhaps last term's appeal will stir some more consciences.

G.F.D.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

ROYSSÉ SOCIETY

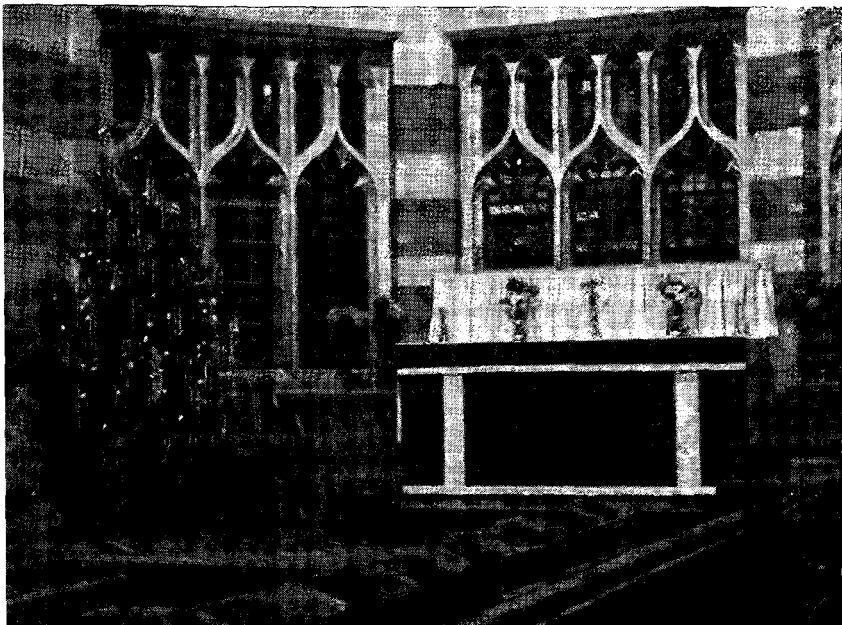
At the first meeting of the year the Secretary read a paper entitled "The Mystic Element of Religion." In this essay — an essay which made considerable demands on the Society — the author surveyed the development of modern philosophy, dealing with logical positivism, reductionist philosophy, and later certain points of religious philosophy. The title proved more comprehensible than the paper itself; discussion centred on the phenomenon of mystical experience, particularly in its historical aspect.

The subject of the second paper was rather less abstruse: "Co-education." I. A. D. Martin opened his paper by outlining the history of coeducation, pointing out that the primary reason for amalgamating single sex schools in the eighteenth century were economic. Later the author dealt fully with the arguments for and against coeducation. His conclusion seemed to be that the ideal school is more likely to be coeducational than of a segregated type. In the ensuing discussion several important conclusions emerged: firstly that coeducation is of far greater value to the girl than to the boy; secondly that coeducational schools are more difficult to run effectively than single sex schools, and thirdly that it is impossible, human beings as they are, to test scientifically the relative efficacy of different methods of education. On this point evidence was proposed ranging far and wide with varying relevance: American prisoners of war, rock climbers, divorce statistics for different nations and so on.

At the final meeting G. A. Brown read a paper entitled "History from an economist's point of view." After an entertaining and dogmatic introduction the paper consisted of a series of examples purporting to show that economic considerations dominated the events of history. There are few topics which could not have been touched on during the subsequent discussion.

This term the Society has been pleased to welcome several new members, namely, R. J. C. Bampton, R. W. J. Bampton, A. C. Bowker, G. A. Brown, J. M. Bunce, E. G. Jones, N. P. Loukes, M. R. Mole, J. M. Talbot, A. J. Varney. The success of this term has been due in no small measure to the hospitality shown by the Headmaster and his household.

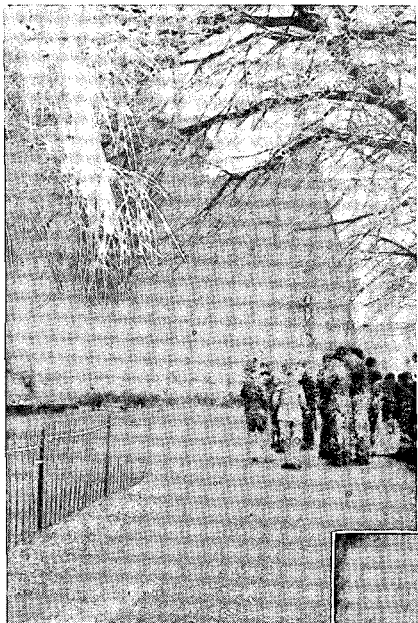
A.M.Q.K.



DECEMBER 1961

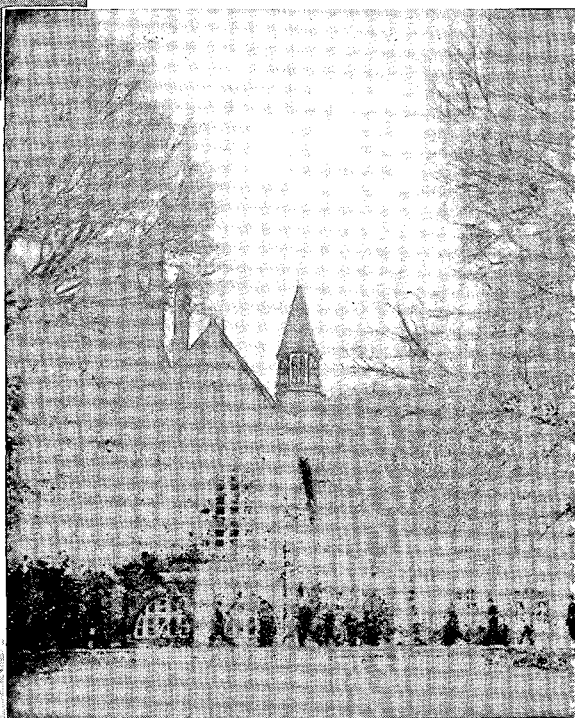


10.45 a.m.



"This is a most majestic vision and,
Harmonious charmingly".

The Tempest
(see page 197)



ST. EDMUND SOCIETY

Three very different meetings covering a wide range of subjects have been held this term.

At the first, on 5th October, we were fortunate in having with us the Minister of Abingdon Congregational Church, the Rev. A. F. Rock, to continue the series "Branches of the Church". He commenced by giving his reasons for entering the Congregational Ministry and passed on to the organisation, beliefs, order of service and finally the layout of the building in Abingdon, of the Congregational Church. He concluded by answering the searching questions put to him by the audience.

On 2nd November the Society attended the A.G.M. of the local branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Abingdon Church Hall. After the formal business, Dr. R. L. Child, who served on the Joint Committee for the translation and production of the New English Bible, spoke on "Bible Translation — 1611 and 1961". The speaker outlined the need for a new translation of the Bible and described the coming together of the various denominations to produce this new translation. He went on to give details about the actual work which had to be done before the New English Bible was published. This meeting aroused much interest on a very topical question and an opportunity for questions would have been appreciated.

The final meeting was held on 7th December, when there was a showing of two films: "Voice of the Deep" and "Mystery of Three Clocks." The first was about sounds under the sea and the second, man's accurate judgement of time compared with the cicada and with chemical tests. Both films, which were well presented, ended by drawing religious parallels with what had gone before.

A.J.O.

LITERARY SOCIETY

This term the Society welcomed as its sponsor Mr. Stratford, who has taken over from Mr. Vallance. There were few surviving members from last year so the first meeting was devoted to electing new members.

At the second meeting last year's Secretary, R. J. C. Bampton, was elected Chairman, and J. M. Bunce became Secretary. With elections over, the Society turned to its main business — reading "Journey's End" by R. C. Sherriff. Casting for this play, set in the British front line during the first world war, was, of necessity, erratic. There were, however, some animated interpretations of the personnel of the British Army, though it is doubtful whether Sherriff intended his play to reach the heights of comedy that it sometimes did attain.

In the second half of the term the Society was invited to P. A. H. Dawson's home, when P. J. L. Webb read a paper on "Shakespeare's Sonnets." He dealt manfully with the interpretation and content of the sonnets, but the discussion afterwards hardly did him justice. The Society wishes to express its thanks to P. A. H. Dawson for so kindly entertaining it, and to the Headmaster for the transport he provided.

This term we say goodbye to R. J. C. Bampton who has been a member of the Society for over three years. We are very sorry to be losing him.

J.M.B.

TURNOR SOCIETY

At the Annual General Meeting on 29th February, the following were elected to office: Chairman — I. A. D. Martin; Secretary — B. R. Rosevear.

Two further meetings were held during the term. At the first, we welcomed an outside speaker, Dr. Georgi Katkov, Lecturer in Russian

in the University of Oxford, whose lecture "Legend and Fact in the Russian Revolution" was of interest to all, especially Modern Historians. He gave us a clear insight into the actual events of 1917, dispelling many of the fables whose origin he attributed to a decline in moral standards and the consequent exaggeration of people's hopes and wishes. A discussion ensued, after which the Chairman thanked Dr. Katkov and the meeting closed.

In view of the surge of Arab Nationalism in the Middle East, it seemed right that the Society should have some insight into the internal structure of one of the states concerned. At the next meeting, therefore, after Mr. Willis had briefly outlined the geographical position and strategic importance of the country, the film "Close-up on Kuwait" was shown. This film, made available through a Petroleum Agency, gave us an idea of the problems with which Kuwait is faced, and the great social and educational progress she has made.

I.A.D.M.

DEBATING SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the term, the Society elected officers for the coming year. R. J. C. Bampton was elected Chairman, C. R. Winfield Secretary, and N. P. Loukes and P. H. Dawson to the Committee. At the next and first full meeting, the Secretary, seconded by P. J. L. Webb, proposed that "In the opinion of this House, it is weak-minded to believe in anything." J. A. R. Willis, supported by A. J. C. Leathem, decisively defeated the motion.

Artists were matched against Scientists in the next meeting when G. A. Brown seconded by B. R. Rosevear proposed that the Scientist is more broadminded than the artist. The motion was opposed by I. A. D. Martin and J. M. Bunce and was defeated. At the fourth meeting, K. W. R. Dixon proposed that "This House would rather be Red than Dead": he was seconded by P. H. Dawson. The opposition was led by T. A. Marsh and A. J. Oxley but as the House was equally divided the Chairman cast his deciding vote and declared the motion defeated.

The motion at the last meeting of the term was that "This House believes alcohol to be the gift of the gods!" P. J. Webb, seconded by R. S. Haynes, proposed and T. J. Pegram, seconded by M. P. Westwood, opposed. This debate provoked some witty speeches both from the platform and from the floor. The motion was defeated.

Meetings have not been well attended so far this season and we hope for an improvement next term: speeches, however, have been good.

C.R.W.

THE CRITICS

The first meeting of the Society was held purely for business purposes, on Friday, 6th October. Ten new members were elected to the Society, and C. J. Dean was invited to be Secretary by the sponsor, Mr. Holloway.

As one of the three founder members, the Secretary read the first paper, on 1st November, entitled "Some Aspects of Greek Drama." In it he traced the development of Greek Tragedy and the change of emphasis which took place as the Greek outlook on life changed. Although it was a subject unfamiliar to most of the audience, much lively discussion arose.

At the next meeting on 16th November, J. D. Urwick read a very interesting paper on "The character of the novels of Ernest Hemmingway." This was a subject on which everyone was able to contribute something useful and the speaker defended his theories, backed up with appropriate quotations, very ably.

C.J.D.

THE MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

With three of last year's Upper Sixth Form staying on to take "S" Level French, and the new blood from the Lower Sixth, the Modern Languages Society this term has been nothing if not entertaining. On the evening of Friday, 20th October, the Society met at Mr. Hasnip's house to read a Molière comedy with a view to acting it next term. "Le Médecin Malgré Lui" was chosen and duly read. In spite of the peasant "patois" and some unusual grammar and vocabulary, with Mr. Hasnip's help we all managed to understand and enjoy it. However, as for acting it, the general opinion was that this was a far too ambitious choice.

The second meeting of the term was held at the Secretary's house, where by way of an innovation we spent the whole evening reading poetry. Each member selected a poem and introducing it with a few well-chosen words about the author read it aloud. Goethe was a popular choice with the German scholars, whereas Hugo was the favourite of the more Romantic French sector. Baudelaire and several other less renowned poets made welcome appearances. Before this meeting closed we decided that as the poetry reading session had been such a success we must repeat it in future terms.

The final meeting of the term, which was to have taken the form of a recital of continental gramophone records, was unfortunately postponed on account of end-of-term commitments.

The Society would like to thank both Mr. and Mrs. Hasnip and Mr. and Mrs. Weir for their kind hospitality.

D.W.

THE SYMPOSIUM

Since the Society met on an extra occasion this term, time was found for an informal debate on the motion "This House deplores Science." It was narrowly defeated. At the first meeting T. A. Marsh read a paper entitled "Opinions on Modern Art." A. C. L. Fraser presented an authoritative paper on "The Question of Euthanasia" at the second meeting but the subsequent exchange of ideas on this topic revealed little agreement among members on points of detail, or indeed on basic issues. The Society assembled for the last time near the end of term to hear critical surveys by D. J. Aplin and D. C. Pollard on "Co-education" and the "United Nations" respectively. Points raised in the latter were vigorously argued before the adjournment.

T.A.M.

THE FORUM CLUB

Two meetings were held this term, and at both there was a disappointingly low number of members. However this did not deter the faithful few from enjoying or benefiting from the discussions. At the first meeting, on 20th October, we talked about such vital topics as the Common Market, the race problem and the testing of H-bombs — which led us off on a side track to consider the ethics of civil disobedience. On a less serious note, we decided unanimously, suppressing our baser instincts, that teachers deserved a substantial increase in salary. The final meeting opened with a lively argument about the merits of the Channel Tunnel as opposed to a bridge. Both had their keen supporters and only the suggestion of a hovercraft silenced us all. Other topics were national service, the Immigration Bill and immorality among teenagers — no shortage of ideas here! On the whole it has been a varied and worth-while term for the Forum.

D.W.

SKYE GROUP

The first meeting of the term was concerned with the election of the following officers:— Chairman: J. M. Talbot; Secretary: M. R. Mole; Treasurer: T. A. Marsh; Quartermaster: D. C. Pollard, assisted by M. J. Nelson.

The successive meetings were concerned with the plans of the next expedition to Scotland and two main points emerged. Firstly, it was decided to ring the changes and explore fresh territory and the Ardnamurchan Peninsula was chosen as our camping site. An advance party is to explore this site during the Christmas holidays. Secondly, it was agreed that in view of past experiences we should not 'hitch-hike' to Scotland but would travel together in various hired or borrowed vehicles. M.R.M.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The Society got off to a good start this term with a lecture by Mr. M. Enser (O.A.) entitled "Some Aspects of Biochemistry". In this he dealt in some detail with the complex process of cellular respiration. The lecture was very well attended, and his clear manner, coupled with some slides he showed us, made the talk most valuable and interesting.

Our second visiting speaker — H. W. Lascelles, Esq., came down from I.C.I. to talk about "Chemistry in Industry." He dealt with various industrial processes from the point of view of obtaining raw materials, several samples of which he brought along to show us. Prompted by questions from the floor, he went on to discuss the structures of various plastics, and this ended a very enjoyable talk.

The term concluded with a series of three scientific films introduced by a useful talk from Mr. J. J. Horrex. "The Linear Accelerator" dealt with the complex task of particle acceleration under electric fields. This was followed by "Mirror in the Sky", which told the story of radar and the discovery of the Appleton Layer. The last film — "Particles Count" — described newly developed techniques for rapidly counting large numbers of tiny bodies. M.R.M.

CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY

For the past few years, it has been our custom to ring the bells of St. Helen's Church for all the School Services held there, but since these were still in the care of the bell-hangers, the bells of St. Nicolas' Church were rung before the School Service at the beginning of this term.

Practices in the Exercise have been held regularly this term at St. Nicolas' Church and courses of Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury, Pleasure Bob Doubles and Kent Treble Bob Minor have been achieved.

Sunday, 10th December, was the School Confirmation Sunday, and a Quarter Peal of 1260 Bob Doubles was attempted, but unfortunately this was lost in the last lead-end by two bells changing course.

We are more than grateful to Miss M. R. Cross of the Oxford Diocesan Guild for her never-flagging support, and to the Incumbent of St. Nicolas' Church, and the Vicar of Abingdon for the use of their bells. C.C.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the term Mr. M. Venning, Head of the Maths. Dept. at the John Mason High School, gave a lecture on "Counting and Number Systems," to which all new mathematical specialists were invited.

The second meeting was not strictly mathematical but members were interested to know how a large business concern is run and what openings for mathematicians there were from Mr. K. W. T. Edwards of the Pressed Steel Co. Ltd.

The Secretary spent a very interesting day at the Business Efficiency Exhibition while arranging the third meeting with Mr. M. E. Schoenberg, of the Olympia Business Machines Co. Ltd. Unfortunately Mr. Schoenberg was stricken with 'flu on the day selected, and was unable to come, but members spent an interesting afternoon with six baby calculators kindly lent from Harwell by Dr. J. Howlett.

G.C.H.P.

SAILING CLUB

The short cold days of Autumn appeal more to physical comfort than nautical heritage, and the wistful appeal of the lagoon at Dorchester, surrounded by empty hedges and pensive willows, has tempted few this term to make the seven mile bicycle ride. The effort of those, however, who have sailed has been well repaid by hard winds and dry weather. The boats have now been brought back and are awaiting their winter refit. Next season, when both the Graduate and the Merlin/Rocker will be in full commission, we not only hope for much sailing, but also to enter for the races at Dorchester in order to practise for fixtures against other schools.

A.J.V.

THE HOLIDAY CLUB

The Holiday Club enjoyed three fixtures with local cricket and tennis clubs during the Summer Holidays.

On 20th August Mr. Polley's XI, batting first, made a large total and a slow start made it impossible for us to win while a collapse settled the game. In the return game they again made a large score but excellent batting by Bampton, R. J. C., who was well supported, turned it into an exciting finish which, nonetheless, ended in defeat. The Tennis VI made a good showing in the annual fixture with Wootton, particularly with a cricketing second pair winning $2\frac{1}{2}$ rubbers. The fixtures were enjoyed by all and we are looking forward to the activities of the Christmas vacation.

M.S.F.

CHESS CLUB

The term has been one of considerable activity for the Club, with the 1st VI taking part in the Sunday Times National Schools' Tournament.

The first match, against Stewarby Grammar School, was won by $4\frac{1}{2}$ games to $1\frac{1}{2}$. In the second, we played Bicester Grammar School, and won again, by 4 games to 2.

In the semi-final for the zone, we shall have to play either Magdalen College School or Bedford Modern School, the two zonal finalists last year!

The Under 15 team also had their first match this term, when they took part in the Oxford and District Schools' Junior Chess Jamboree at the Dragon School, Oxford, on 25th November.

Although the result was not as good as it might have been, the School came seventh in twelve teams.

A number of matches for next term have already been arranged, and we hope to continue our present run of success then.

J.B.G.

MUSIC CLUB

Inspired by the liberal enthusiasm of Mr. Pratt and Mr. Keating the Club has succeeded admirably in its new policy of performance rather than mere appreciation. The disadvantage suffered from its inevitable decrease in popular appeal was more than offset by the enthusiasm and competence of its active supporters.

The high standard of the two open meetings and final public concert this term is a clear indication of the prosperity of musical talent in the School at present. These were for the most part concerts of seventeenth or eighteenth century music, but there were moments of adventure, and I am sure no one will begrudge the mention of one work alone — the Prelude and Fugue for five instruments by Mr. Keating, under whose direction it received its first performance at the concert on 10th December. It is the occasional original work of this kind that offers the greatest rewards for school players, and we hope for many more of the composer's works in the future. R.S.H.

PLAY READING SOCIETY

This term's programme began with Ibsen's "An Enemy of the People." Despite a reasonable attendance, doubling of parts was necessary. But the reading reached a high standard, setting the term off on a good footing.

A classical drama, now a regular feature in the Society, followed; this term's being "Prometheus Bound" by Aeschylus. Prometheus was competently read by C. J. Dean.

The third play, "Not in the Book" by Arthur Watkyn, was enjoyed by all, but as the cast was small, the attendance was poor.

Two short plays were read at the next meeting. The first, providing much amusement, was Ionesco's play "The Bald-Headed Prima Donna." The second was "Man of Destiny" by the ever-popular G. B. Shaw.

Finally we read the eagerly awaited new play "Luther" by John Osborne. Mr. Griffin read the title role with his usual dramatic intensity.

We should like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Griffin for their extremely kind hospitality, making this a very successful term. J.F.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Society's outdoor activities have been limited this term by the cold weather. However, we have been on an excursion to a quarry at Cothill, and this trip proved to be quite successful. It is pleasing to note that our ordinary meetings have attracted a few new members from lower down in the school. The collection of geological specimens is growing, and already the display cabinet provided for them has been filled. We hope this Society, which provides such ideal opportunities for adventure as well as study, will continue to flourish. M.F.K.

BUILDING CLUB

The main project of the term has been the construction of a garage at Larkhill, upon which work has continued well despite attempts by the weather to delay it.

For the first part of the term, this project was running side by side with the laying of concrete baths at the new staff houses. The completion of these at half-term enabled the whole labour force to be directed to the garage which has now risen from damp-course to roof level.

On Monday, 20th November, a film show was held, and we saw a very interesting film on the story of sand. C.C.

JAZZ CLUB

The first meeting this term was the Annual General Meeting at which the officers were elected and the year's policy made clear. It was decided that we would enlarge the membership, but keep it inside thirty, and that in this first term of the Club's year we would try to widen members' knowledge by playing some records of the classic bands.

Two meetings were held, and Firehouse Five and Brubeck recordings were played respectively. The discussion after these meetings proved very helpful and it was encouraging to see that members were getting together in their own time to hold unofficial meetings.

A.W.F.

AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

This term lectures by members were "The Aero-Engine" by T. H. Frost, "Miscellaneous Wing Clutter" by P. G. Sheard, "Britain's Aircraft Industry" by A. J. Lloyd and "The Flying Pancake" by A. R. White.

The highlight of the term was an outing to Brize Norton as the guests of the United States Air Force. We were given a short briefing and shown a B-47 bomber and a crash tender. We were then taken to the Officers' Mess where we were given tea and introduced to Captain Bennett and his B-47 crew.

Finally we welcome the Junior Aeronautical Society, bringing the total membership to 63.

A.J.L.

THE LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY

This Society held only one meeting this term, on Thursday, 23rd November, at which two films were shown. One of these films showed some of the less obvious aspects of the British Railways Modernisation Scheme, such as the electronic computing of timetables. The other film showed the testing of the new all first-class Pullman trains now running between St. Pancras, Nottingham and Manchester. Both films were kindly lent to us by the British Transport Commission.

Next term we hope to hold rather more meetings, and to arrange a visit to a locomotive shed or works.

R.D.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Summer Term was eventful and included an excursion to the International Photo-Ciné Fair at Olympia, a lecture on "Photography in Police-work" from the ex-Detective Superintendent in charge of photography at New Scotland Yard and the Founder's Day Photographic Competition and Exhibition. This latter was judged by Mr. P. G. Law, F.R.P.S., F.I.B.P.; it was considered the best for several years and fourteen prizes were awarded.

Michaelmas Term brought, on 10th November, Mr. Ivor Fields to give a demonstration talk on portraiture with the help of his model, Miss Avril Bradie. Later on in the term the Secretary, D. C. S. Venn, read two illustrated lectures from the Kodak lecture service: these were on "Pictures Everywhere" and "Photographic Composition."

D.C.S.V.

CAMPING CLUB

The Society held three well-attended meetings during the term. The first consisted of slides shown by M. S. Southern and A. T. Barrett of their trips in Europe. Afterwards S. J. Baker and C. Cox told of an

amusing journey, hitch-hiking to Geneva. At the second meeting Mr. Blagden spoke on "The Skye Group", describing its aims and achievements. He illustrated his talk with slides.

Over half-term several members hiked across the Downs, in fine but bitter weather. For the last meeting P. J. Hardwick and R. D. Booker, J. Y. Candy and D. Clark told of their hike to John 'o Groats.

M.A.B. and P.J.H.

THE JOINT CLUB

As usual this term there have been three meetings, two in the Heylyn Room and one at the Manor, the latter a Hallowe'en party. We are indebted to Miss Glass and Mr. Sewry once again for their kind supervision of these events.

However, although a certain amount of enjoyment is obviously to be derived from these meetings, it would appear that the most is not being made of what is, after all a first rate idea. Next term something must be done to extricate the more conservative elements from their rut, and break ground other than the inevitable succession of waltz, quickstep, waltz.

J.M.B./B.R.R.

MODEL BOAT CLUB

The weather has been a little disappointing for sailing on the lake at Ripon Hall this term. However, three of the six meetings we have held were at this lake. The first of these was well attended and for the last, a notice was put up so that members willing to come could sign up in advance. Indoor meetings, at school, were usually held in the Art Room at 12.45 p.m. on Fridays. This term, the club changed its secretary and some things still need sorting out, but there has been a fairly regular flow of activity for the eight or nine active members.

M.G.T.

MOTOR RACING SOCIETY

A new Society, formed late in the Michaelmas Term, we have, however, held two meetings. The first consisted of a debate on the 1½ litre limitations of the Formula One Racing Car and was found interesting by those who attended. The second was a more impressive meeting, at which three films were shown. These films were "On the Limit", which was about production car racing at Silverstone in 1958, "Highland Fling" on the subject of the 1959 R.A.C. Rally and "The 1957 Monaco Grand Prix. All were first class films in full colour and sound and were much enjoyed.

The Secretary (J. D. Charlet) wishes to thank the Headmaster, Mr. Douglas Hamlin and the Rev. M. N. Williams for their help in getting this new Society going.

J.D.C.

JUNIOR KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

Under the sponsorship of Mr. Leake, the Society has enjoyed a successful term. The first meeting was a quiz, IX and 2X v. 1Y and 2Y. 1X and 2X were the winners by one point. The second meeting was for members' talks. This was most successful. At the third meeting Mr. Blagden gave a talk on South Africa; at the fourth three films were shown.

M.G.M.

JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A number of our members accompanied the Headmaster and some senior historians to the Friends of Abingdon lecture given by Mr. I. A. Hackett who talked on "The Story of Christ's Hospital, Abingdon." This was a most interesting lecture, being both authentic and entertaining.

The Society has held three meetings in the Michaelmas Term. All took the form of a series of talks given by members on topics of the Tudor period. Architecture, trade, costume, country life and coins were some of the subjects chosen and I am glad to say our small Society has a few good speakers. A.P.F.

RECORDER CLUB

The standard this term has been moderate, with a small number of fairly good players. Two of these were new, and they seem to have caught on well. With a few more players, we hope to play in the Founder's Day Concert.

Mr. Tyson will probably bring his "learners recorder club" along to join us in the Spring Term, and there is every hope of us being a big and flourishing club in the near future.

We shall be glad to welcome any new enthusiasts at the meetings. G.B.E.

FILM SOCIETY

The Society doubled its membership this term. This presented several problems but these were overcome by changing the dates of the meetings from Friday to Sunday evenings.

There have been five meetings this term, all have been very well supported in spite of the difficulties encountered by dayboy members in getting to school on the Sunday evenings.

"Gunfight at the O.K. Corral", the termly western, was very well received at the first meeting. The name of Louis Armstrong packed out the next meeting when "High Society" was shown.

The most noteworthy meeting was the next one when "The Angry Silence" was shown. This very good British film had a marked effect on its audience. A lighter programme was in store at the next meeting when Charlie Chaplin was the star in several short films. The final meeting was something of an experiment. Two films were shown: "The Tell Tale Heart" and "Animal Farm". Both of these showed that cartoon techniques can be used in serious productions. M.J.E.

O.A. NOTES

BIRTHS

CROOK. On 26th September, 1961, at the Warren Hospital, Abingdon, to Elsie, wife of Barry M. Crook (1949), a son, Malcolm.

DADY. On 19th August, 1961, to Penelope, wife of William St. A. R. Dady (1956), a son.

GARNER. On 1st November, 1961, to Pamela, wife of Alan Garner (1948), a daughter, Caroline Mary.

GRIFFITH. On 4th November, 1961, to Susan, wife of Richard Griffith (1955), a son, Dorian.

IRELAND. On 1st March, 1961, at Totnes Hospital, to Janet, wife of John W. R. Ireland (1951), a son, Robert Benjamin.

LANE. On 3rd December, 1961, to Patricia, wife of Sydney Lane (1939), a son, Mathew Sydney.

SINCLAIR. On 7th November, 1961, to Jane, wife of Sir George Sinclair (1931), a daughter.

MARRIAGES

KEARSEY-KING. On 30th September, 1961, at St. John's Church, Woodley, Berks, Neville R. Kearsy (1953) to Shirley Anne King.

PENNING-BOAL. On 5th October, 1961, at Willowdale Presbyterian Church, James Allen Penning (1949) to Eileen Boal of Willowdale, Ontario.

* * * *

Rev. J. R. Nelson (1944) is now Minister at King's Sutton Baptist Church, near Banbury.

Joseph Lay (1933) is assistant manager of Westminster Bank, Yeovil.

Michael Brook (1944) who has spent most of his time since he left Pembroke in 1947 in library work, has recently taken a post as Assistant Reference Librarian to Minnesota Historical Association.

Another expatriate Colin Wiggins (1953) is a Senior Physicist with General Telephone and Electronic Labs Inc., at Bayside, New York. From his office window he has a wonderful view of the New England coastline, and on a vacation trip up to Nova Scotia, Quebec and Montreal he covered some 3,600 miles.

Ian Crudgington (1943) continues to run his flourishing gunsmith and gunmaker's business in Bath, and is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Gunmakers.

John Dunkley (1948) has passed the Final Exam of the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants, and is at present Chief Accountancy Assistant in Rickmansworth U.D.C.

Another Local Government Officer, Colin Stopps (1951), has qualified as A.I.Mun.E. and is with Borough of High Wycombe.

James Penning (1949) has forsaken the sea — almost, and is now in Marine Survey Service of the Canadian Govt., chiefly concerned with the Great Lakes. We send him and his Canadian bride our best wishes.

Robert Westcott (1956) who graduated at Pembroke last July is with Elliott Bros., Precision Engineers at Boreham Wood.

Ian Oliver (1958) is doing a two-year post-graduate course with Vickers Armstrong at South Marston, Wilts.

Jonathan Utin (1959) is gaining experience in farming the hard way — a 12 hour day on a 500 acre dairy farm in Virginia, U.S.A. His address is c/o T. Haberland, Foxlease Farm, Upperville, Va.

Christopher Marchbanks, B.Sc. (1957) is with Ansell's Brewery, Birmingham.

N. K. Moseley (1956) is assistant at Manor Farm, Hinton Ampney, Alresford.

Peter Downer (1953) is back from McGill University and looking for a suitable job in industry.

Tony Gardner (1956) is doing a season at the Repertory Theatre, Colchester.

Tom Bloor (1951) is now a Director in the family business — his special responsibility being the bacon and pork factory; but he finds time to take his part in social work and sporting activities.

Paul Lagden (1954), now domiciled in Johannesburg, has joined the South African Air Force.

John Thewlis (1959) is a research assistant with British Iron and Steel Research Association, Normanby, Middlesbrough.

John Mobbs (1957) has moved to another estate in Malaya, Tangkali Estate, Tangkak, Johore.

N. S. C. Cox (1952) is now a Work Study Engineer with Wingard Ltd., Chichester.

P. A. Mitchell (1960) is with Midland Bank.

Roy Kennedy (1958) is half-way through his course for R. Inst. of Ch. Surveyors and is now at S.W. Essex Tech. College.

C. T. Denniford (1958) also bound for R.I.C.S. and also Land Agents Society, takes his finals in March. As usual he has been busy with the camera producing Road Safety films with a Cambridge group.

Richard Paxman (1954) is happily settled in Norfolk with Shell Chemical Co., Agricultural Division, but a cartilage operation has kept him off the rugger field.

John Buckland (1957), now playing rugger for Cheltenham, was reported in the *Sunday Times* as one of the best forwards on the field when he played for Oxfordshire against Cornwall on 13th January in the Quarter Final of the County Rugger Championships.

SERVICES NEWS

Major W. R. Kettle (1930) is doing a tour at the War Office.

Major Lionel Lacey-Johnson (1944), Intelligence Corps, has just been posted to Germany.

Capt. R. A. Clay (1948) is home from Singapore with his family to do a course at Staff College, Camberley.

Capt. Hugh Leach (1953), R.T.R., is back from the desert at the M.E. Centre for Arabic Studies, Shemlan.

2nd Lieut. David Emmett (1956) is in R. Ulster Rifles in Germany.

Our representatives at Dartmouth are C. D. Loukes, D. E. Camplin, M. P. Cross, D. J. Brice and S. A. J. Richardson. At R.M.A. Sandhurst are C. J. Pickup, D. W. G. Riddick and P. A. Dawson.

J. R. N. Ogle, at Cranwell, is Capt. of Rowing. In the race against Dartmouth he found Christopher Loukes in the opposing crew.

James Milne (1960) is with 825 Anti-Submarine Helicopter Sqdn. in H.M.S. Victorious.

ACADEMIC AND UNIVERSITY

Forbes Wastie (1957) has a post at Eastbourne College.

Nigel Hammond (1957), taking his Dip.Ed. Course at Bristol University, is doing his teaching practice this term at Kingswood School, Bath. An interesting article by him on the Berkshire Canals appeared recently in the local press.

Bryan Kibble (1957), in conjunction with Dr. G. W. Series, his supervisor at Oxford, had a paper published last year in the Proceedings of the Physical Society, entitled "Line Shapes in the Method of Intersecting Energy Levels."

William Dady (1956) secured his Art Teaching Certificate at Goldsmiths College last June and is teaching under the Leicester Education Authority.

Roger Havelock (1961) is at the Royal College of Advanced Technology, Salford.

We congratulate Richard Harvey (St. Edmund Hall) on being second Oxford man home in the University Cross Country race but regret that this could not prevent a decisive victory for Cambridge.

We have several representatives at Dominion and other Universities overseas.

J. A. D. Cox (1941) is doing a year's lecturing in Architecture at Virginia University.

Roger Marchbanks (1955) is studying Psychology at Cornell — a change from Biochemistry at Oxford.

P. A. Stewart (1959) is in his second year at Cornell.

Martin Mogeys (1960) is at Vanderbilt University, Tennessee and R. M. Johns (1960) at Acadia University, Nova Scotia.

Kenneth Pulley (1958) is in his first year at University of New South Wales.

To the best of our knowledge the following are in residence, in statu pupillari, at Universities and Medical Schools:

Oxford:

Pembroke: B. D. Winkett, I. J. Kirby, J. A. Sheard, A. P. Haynes, R. G. M. Johnston.

Magdalen: G. S. Howlett.
Merton: R. S. Green, D. G. Darroch.
New: P. J. Ford, R. Dickenson.
Jesus: B. P. Kibble.
Kemble: R. E. Moore.
St. Catherine's: F. Jeal.
St. Edmund's Hall: R. W. Harvey.
St. Peter's: R. T. Moll.
Wadham: G. Sheppard.

Cambridge:

Clare: M. S. R. Broadway, N. A. J. Antrobus (R.E.).
Gonville & Caius: M. S. Bretscher, K. N. Haarhoff, P. A. Bretscher.
Fitzwilliam House: D. G. Dunkley.

Edinburgh: P. E. Perry.

St. Andrew's: T. A. Libby.

Trinity College, Dublin: R. B. Scott-Taggart, J. J. Day, G. R. B.
Farrington, D. T. L. Wright, J. S. Kelly, A. H. Smith.

Queen's College, Belfast: R. I. S. Walker.

London:

King's: D. G. Morris, A. F. Selwood.
University: G. M. Crow, G. L. Griffiss, S. R. Turner.
Imperial: T. I. Silvey, E. Lier.
L.S.E.: P. W. Kemp.
Goldsmiths': D. J. Griffiths, D. J. Langton.

Birmingham: R. G. Simmonds, A. J. Mackenzie.

Bristol: N. J. H. Grant, D. R. Gerring, N. K. Hammond.

Durham: King's, Newcastle: A. J. Costley.

St. Cuthbert's: G. G. Ganf.

Exeter: C. T. Pollard.

Hull: A. F. Pritchard.

Leeds: D. J. Lanham.

Leicester: N. G. Mackenzie, D. H. Bragg, R. B. Blackmore, J. V.
Comfort.

Liverpool: G. W. Oxley.

Reading: G. E. G. Brown, M. G. Nichol, R. J. L. Hewison.

Sheffield: J. Furby.

Southampton: B. P. A. Cork, E. W. Firth.

University College of Wales, Aberystwyth: G. W. Jones, D. I. Southern,
T. Davies.

Bangor: G. D. Louth.

Medical Schools:

King's: R. K. Le Voi.

London: S. H. Freedman.

Middlesex: P. J. V. Willis.

St. Mary's: B. L. Smith, R. A. Lucas.

Royal Veterinary: S. M. Womar, J. P. G. Butt.

Birmingham: P. D. Exon.

M. D. Nurton is at St. Luke's Training College, Exeter and T. A. Sewry at Chester College.

Michael Rallings and Paul Older have recently qualified at Guy's and John Thistlewood at University College Hospital.

Of others who left since July 1961 we have the following information:

R. Allison is a trainee in the Information Dept., London Chamber of Commerce.

M. J. Bett is with Calico Printers Association, Manchester.

R. A. Bickers has joined R.A.F. on a long engagement.

E. C. R. Evans is training for Hotel Management at Battersea College of Technology.

D. M. Goodwin is articled to solicitors in Reading.

I. P. Graham and C. R. Llewellyn are at Chelsea College of Estate Management.

R. T. Hook is with Harvey, Bradfield & Tozer, Food Distributors at Ruislip.

J. H. Kitto follows his father to become Auctioneer and Estate Agent.

R. Knight is with Pope & Co., Insurance Brokers, Abingdon.

S. R. Long is Assistant Purser in Merchant Navy.

J. R. Morse is also in his father's firm of Estate Agents.

I. W. Moss is a trainee surveyor with James Langley & Co. before proceeding to College of Estate Management.

C. A. B. Spackman and R. P. Thompson are Student Apprentices at Pressed Steel.

R. E. Parsons is a trainee with Hunt & Broadhurst, Oxford.

M. H. Stevens has joined the Police Force.

K. A. R. Vines is in the Biochemistry Laboratory at Oxford.

J. C. M. Watts is farming as also are C. B. Gosling and J. R. Hurd.

P. G. D. Whitton is with Cadbury's at Bournville.

R. H. Wiggins is with I.C.I.

M.P.M. Hart is doing social work at an East London Settlement before proceeding to University.

Christopher Johnson has joined B.S.A. Police, Southern Rhodesia.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

The Union Society,
Cambridge.

Dear Sir,

The first term of a new year is always a hectic one, with adjustments to be made to new circumstances, often occasioned by Tripos results, and your correspondent has been no exception in this respect; in view of this, the following observations upon the Cambridge scene as it affects former members of the School are somewhat insufficient, but it is hoped that they will be worthwhile nonetheless.

Mark Bretscher has now migrated to the Medical Research Council, and seems to be held in very high regard there, judging from remarks made by Dr. Crick, who is in charge of the programme, at a recent Chemical Society lecture. He has now been joined at Caius by his brother Peter, who will find it a full-time job to live up to Mark's example. Keith Haarhoff, also a freshman at Caius, is resident at the boathouse most of the time, but did manage to help drag his College boat up three places in the Fairbairns.

Lieutenant Nick Antrobus, R.E., in his second year at Clare, finds his digs slightly too far from the Engineering Labs. to allow full-time attendance; Mark Dunman, on the other hand, doing a fourth at King's, always seems to find time to run the Marxist Bookstall on Market Hill. All attempts to elicit his part in the negotiations, initiated by Peterhouse J.C.R., to bring Josef Stalin's body to lie in state in the Senate House, have met with frustration.

Similarly frustrating is the lack of news of Martin Scott-Taggart, who, it is reported upon good authority, is still entombed within the inner recesses of King's, working on a thesis. Dave Dunkley, an equally evasive character, being only on view between ten and two in the 'Little Rose', is doing a fourth year at Fitzbilly in order to complete his Dip.Ed.

It is a little saddening to note the small number of O.A.'s resident in the varsity, and particularly the lack of participation in university and college sport. Although it is appreciated that some Tripos time-tables are very demanding, this should not prevent men from gaining entrance to colleges and faculties which are not so insistent. It is hoped, therefore, that our present small community will grow in the next few years.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your Cambridge Correspondent.

O.A. CLUB NOTES

The Annual Dance was held on Saturday, 2nd December, the evening of the Old Boys' Rugger match. Despite the cramped bar conditions which were unavoidable, an enjoyable evening was had by the 162 people present. Thanks must go to Mrs. Bevir for the lovely flower arrangements and to all who helped make another successful evening.

It is in the mind of the Dance Committee to improve the refreshments and to vary the dance, if this is possible. Obviously this is going to cost more and therefore if any member has any bright ideas or strong feelings on the matter the Secretary would be pleased to hear fairly soon.

Please note forthcoming dates of Club Activities:

Saturday, 24th February—Cross-Country Match.

Saturday, 3rd March—Hockey Match.

Friday, 9th March—London Dinner.

Saturday, 17th March—Athletics Meeting.

Saturday, 16th June—Old Boys' Day.

Saturday, 1st December—Rugger Match and Dance.

Old Abingdonian Trust Fund

All Old Boys who knew him will have heard with deep regret of the death of J. Y. Ingham. He was a loyal supporter of the Fund since its inception and in his will he named the Trust Fund, with four other bodies, as equal residuary legatees. The Trustees will in due course have to decide the disposal of this considerable bequest, but for the moment we can only express our profound, though posthumous, gratitude.

Since our last issue we have to acknowledge with many thanks a renewed Covenant from J. M. Cobban and new Covenants from W. J. Dunkley and D. C. K. Wright.

G. F. Duxbury.

In response to many requests we give a list of First Team fixtures for Lent Term 1962:

January

Sat. 27 1st XI v. Wallingford G.S. (a).

Wed. 31 1st XI v. King Alfred's School, Wantage (a).

February

Thur. 1 Athletics (Cross Country) v. Radley College and St. Edward's (a).

Sat. 3 1st XI v. St. Edward's 'A' XI (a).
Athletics (Cross Country) v. Newbury (a).

Wed. 7	Athletics (Cross Country) v. Kimbolton (a).
Sat. 10	1st XI v. Abingdon H.C. (h).
Sat. 17	1st XI v. Solihull School (h).
Wed. 21	1st XI v. Hockey Association (h).
Sat. 24	1st XI v. Bloxham (h).
	Cross Country v. O.A.'s (h).
Wed. 28	1st XI v. Old College, Sandhurst (a).
	Cross Country v. The Queen's College.

March

Sat. 3	1st XI v. O.A.'s (h).
Wed. 7	1st XI v. Pembroke College (h).
	Cross Country v. Westminster College (h).
Sat. 10	Track Athletics v. Reading School (a).
Sat. 17	Track Athletics v. O.A.'s.
	Reading University Head of River.
Wed. 28	Preliminary Sports Day.
Thur. 29	Track Athletics v. Bloxham and Radley (at Radley).
Sat. 31	SPORTS DAY.

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 D. B. West, Esq., 1 Norman Avenue, Abingdon.

"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 add over 60% to the value of all subscriptions to the Fund of 10/- and over will gladly be accepted.*
- 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 7/6 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.

OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB

London Dinner

will be held on

Friday, 9th March, 1962AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB, NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE
W.C.2.

Reception 6 p.m.

Dinner 7 p.m.

Tickets 27/6 each exclusive of wines, obtainable from
MR. S. A. PAIGE, 77 WATLING STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.*Please accept this as the only notification of the Dinner and apply
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O. A.

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