

# THE SPUR

Vol. II

No. 3



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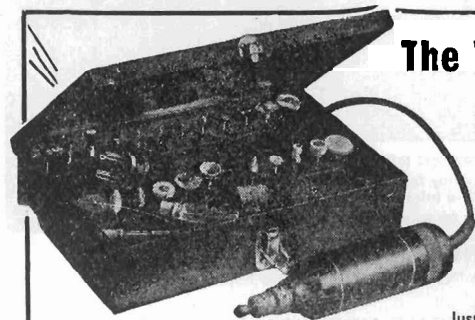
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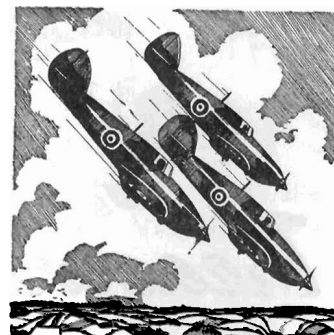
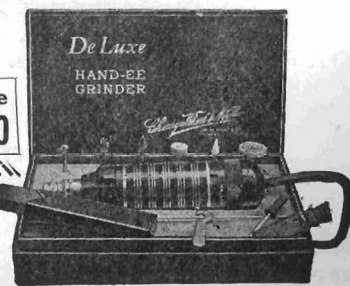
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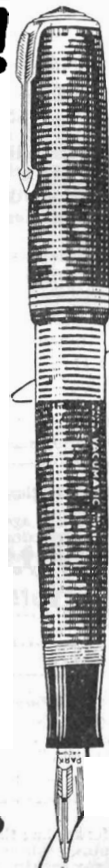
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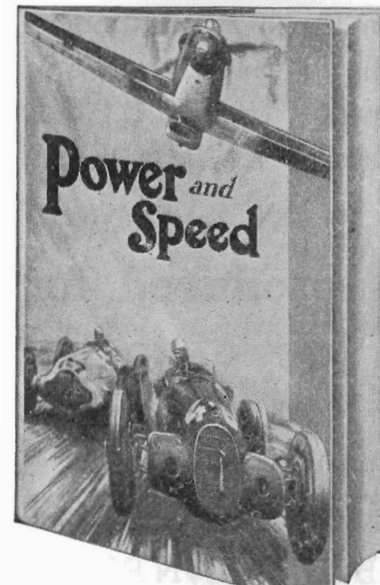
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## THE SPUR

*"To each his need, from each his power"*

Vol II. No. 3.

DECEMBER, 1938.

### HEADMASTER'S NOTES

The development of the ground between the trees and the brook revealed evidence in bricks of the time when the site on which the School stands was a farm. Boys can still remember the pond, the cow-sheds and the sheep. The last use to which the ground was put before the tennis courts were laid down was to house the well built and spectacular bonfire on the night of November 5th, when all three Clubs combined and by pooling their resources for the common good, produced a fine display of fireworks.

\* \* \* \*

The dead tree stayed obstinately vertical for hours after professional opinion had said it must yield. Again and again its trunk had to be sawn, and in the end it took half the School to pull it down. It groaned and protested before it measured its proud length on the ground. It is now sawn up and continuing its life as seats for the scouts in their encampment.

\* \* \* \*

It has been most encouraging to see a number of boys carting mould and turf from one part of the ground to another for it is voluntary work more useful than amusing. Mr. Cobb's grass bank for the growing of daffodils by the boys' entrance gate should in the Spring be a reward. Splendid work has been done by two boys in constructing a floor for the greenhouse, and other boys have put in their spare time in making a serviceable path to the tennis courts.

\* \* \* \*

The School tortoise has this year luxury conditions for hibernation. The explanation of the half of a drain pipe and the straw in the quadrangle is the Gardener's forethought for the dismay the tortoise would feel when he found that the big shrub which last winter had sheltered him had been removed. Consequently he decided to make him a bed in the same spot.

Of all the nondescript birds in the quadrangle, there is **one sparrow whose zeal for culture knows no bounds.** During Mr. John Newsom's lecture he sat on the window-sill and listened. During the Armistice observation he came back and sang, as if his heart would break, throughout "O God our help in Ages past," so loudly that he could be heard from the platform above the whole School.

\* \* \* \*

Boys often wonder what the Games Committee is. It is a body composed of the Head Master, the five House Masters, and the five House Captains. To its lot fall decisions and organization of School policy about the athletic side of the School's life. Its decision for the second year in succession that facilities obtaining at present do not justify the holding of Athletic Sports next term, may be received with mixed feelings. The issue was fully debated, and can be raised again should a time come when we have the use of a Running Track. Meanwhile School games in the Easter Term will be Hockey for Seniors, and Rugby for Juniors.

\* \* \* \*

It is interesting to notice that knowing a little about Hockey has given John Smith a place in the 2nd XI at University College, London, whereas it is unlikely that the greater competition for the XV, would have given him more than a few scratch games.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Hanson's Bank is found useful by a small number of boys who regularly pay in their contributions. Over the term they have saved £11 1s. 10d. Mr. Hanson is to be congratulated on his election to the Science Committee of the British Film Institute.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Shephard exhibited a picture of the interior of the "Salisbury" in St. Martin's Lane at the Storrans Gallery this term. The idea running through all pictures was to illustrate various aspects of London life. Mr. Rogers, who was on the Staff until Easter, was also exhibiting. He is to be congratulated on the acclaim with which his work has been received. Mr. Clive Bell in the "New Statesman" writes of him as "a distinct artistic personality . . . He is sensitive and he is intelligent. An artist Rogers most certainly is."

## SCHOOL OFFICERS, CHRISTMAS TERM, 1938

*Head of the School:* E. B. Jepson.

*School Prefects:*

D. W. Taplin, A. de Potier, W. J. Stephens, A. Hinton,  
L. A. Smith, K. O. Richards.

*Captain of Rugby:* D. W. Taplin.

*Secretary of Rugby:* L. A. Smith.

## HOUSE NOTES

### Cobb's

*House Captain.*— E. B. Jepson.

*Vice-Captain.*—W. J. Stephens.

### Swimming.

Following on last cricket season came the **Swimming Gala.** At the finish of the qualifying, the House lead by 12 points and everyone had great hopes of winning the cup. Unfortunately the Juniors in the House were few and this was consequently a very great handicap. As in previous years the House managed to win one relay race, proving our ability of the combined team spirit that is so necessary for any sport. **The final position of the House was 2nd.**

Halliwell's managed just to beat us by a narrow margin! Hill, R. P., Gurney, Hill R. C., and many others deserve congratulations on putting up a very fine exhibition.

### House Play.

The House still hung on to the production of a comic play. We therefore produced the "Grand Cham's Diamond" by Monkhouse. It is important that in most cases the members of the House were unaided by House Masters, and whatever the merits the production may have had, did come from the House. Nevertheless, we were indebted to our House Master on giving us very necessary criticism and useful suggestion.

Cobb's gave a very creditable performance, and received third place with Halliwell's. The first obvious criticism was, that at the end of the play the actors either did not know their lines or were "stage struck". I'm inclined to believe in the former. The first ten minutes of the play was grand, and we certainly did give the play that "zipp" that it needed. Hill C. H., was praised for his good performance and studied interpretation of his part. The scenery was adequate and the play well cast. Ambrose portrayed Gordon Harker's

wife admirably and Wilson contributed to the play very well. As I have said if only we had known our lines as well at the end as at the beginning we might have won first place. On the other hand we did not lose our heads, and become stage struck. Some sentences were said that were not in the play but the audience were kept interested and that is something. Stephens and Gurney played their usual "tough" rôles, but ought to have been still "tougher" than they were.

I would like to thank Parslow, Hill, C. H., and Hill, R. P. for their contributions towards scenery and stage management.

#### *House Rugger Leagues.*

Our first match was against Newsom's in which we won 15—3. The first half was played with a disadvantage of the wind against us and sun in our eyes. Our failing came in the scrum, where that concerted push was non-prevalent. Time after time when the ball should have been taken on we lost it to our opponents' threequarters who were superior to our own. In the second half we played much more together and harassed our opposition. Our movements were more successful and we did play a good hard, clean game.

*Cobb's v. Milton's, lost 21—22.* A most exciting game and well played for both sides. Heath did some fine tackling Bedford played up to his man, Forrest and Hill, R. C., ran well with the result that our score at half time was 16—3. Then came a collapse on everyone's part and our spirits must have sunk very low, whereby we lost three valuable tries. Then came another shock only for the better. We suddenly realized that we were playing in a match and thought something must be done, but only five minutes to go. We recuperated and caught up with Milton's, and the whistle went with us one point down. It was on the whole a ripping game which deserves praise except for that one bad patch.

*Cobb's v. Gibb's, lost 6—16.* Our pack were playing very well and the dribbling was above the usual standard. After about quarter of an hour Cobb's were down by 6 points and seemed to be rather weak against the onslaught of the opposition. The spectators (yes, we had some supporters this time), sensing that the pack was slightly downhearted, immediately began to cheer them on with renewed zest. Half time came and still saw Cobb's the losers, but playing a fighting game. The mist now began to creep back over the ground and through it one could see, patches of green field and tired bodies charging in vain attempt to find the ball. Then Prangnell and his wing managed to get over the line, which was of great use to us at the moment.

Once more the forwards played well, and the match ended with vague forms puffing from the swirling mist—Cobb's having been defeated by ten points.

*Cobb's v. Halliwell's, lost 3—10.* The one person who deserves praise in this match is our plucky scrum half, Bedford, who got both forwards and threequarters combined for the first time. Heath also did some determined tackling. Forrest made his usual notable run through, thus giving the lead with an unconverted try. The second half proved unsatisfactory for us. The forwards rarely heeled and starved our threequarter line. This time we went down by seven points and put up a determined defence which sometimes gave way far too quickly.

#### *House Matches.*

We beat Newsom's (21—11) in a good hard game. Our score would have been 33—11 if only we possessed a sure place-kicker, we thus lost 12 points on unconverted tries.

Our second win was against Milton's (21—10) who put up a very good show. We had the larger and more compact scrum, but failed to heel successfully thus depriving our three's of any chances that may have been offered to us.

It is as well to say here that at last members of the House are realizing that they should if not playing, at least turn out to watch their House instead of slinking off home as soon as possible.

In conclusion we hope to give a good account of ourselves in the following matches.

#### VALETE.

S. G. Palk left us at the end of the Summer Term. He achieved success in classics and played for the House Rugger XV for the three years he was with us.

Geoffrey and Kenneth Marshall, the first House twins, have also left. **We wish them all success.**

R. P. Hill left in the middle of this term to take up work in Lloyd's insurance. He won distinction in the House in all games, athletics and swimming, but I think we shall remember him above all for his good-humour and his rendering of "Mrs. Hamblett." We owe him much for his enthusiasm and keenness in all House and School activities.

## LES BIENVENUS.

A. Thompson, Forrest, Hilton, Mann, Alder, Bennett, Griffiths, S. Pengilly, Axten, and Gleave joined the House this term. We lend them our name and may they be a credit to it. Forrest and Hilton are to be congratulated on playing for the House Rugger XV.

We sympathize with Paul Wilson in his long and trying illness, and our earnest hope is for his quick recovery and return to School.

### Gibb's

We feel that a good note on which to open our remarks is the **welcoming of our newcomers**. We hope that these members of the House will continue the good work that their predecessors have done and, for that matter, are still doing. It is encouraging to think that out of the fourteen boys who joined us this year, four of them have already figured in the House Rugby team. We trust that in the near future, other new members will also be required to represent their House in some activity. This does not mean that the remainder can sit back and watch those more successful than themselves. They, too, can pull their weight by their presence on the touch line or even their general enthusiasm. In Gibb's House we do not lack that spirit, and we wish to see it continued by our new members.

The following are the new boys:—Barton, Billingham, G., Bond, Brookes, Collins, Heron, Holmes, Holroyd, Holwill, Petit, Smith, W., Sparks, Thompson, Wright, K.

### Swimming.

Our Swimming Sports seem a thing of the dim and distant past, but we feel with a pang of regret that they must be mentioned.

In the first Swimming Sports, Gibb's were successful, but in the last ones our prestige dropped with a big bang. We must admit that we were beaten by a better side, and we bow our heads to our victors—but only for the present! When the time comes again we shall no doubt improve on our performance of last term. We can only sit back and wait patiently for that time to come.

### Rugby.

As members of the House may be well aware, we are on our way to retaining that most coveted trophy, the Rugger Cup. Providing we keep that dominating spirit throughout

the remainder of our matches, we may find that we still have the Cup on our hands. This, we feel, is not altogether undesirable.

### Gibb's v. Halliwell's

House matches are usually played on a basis of "Little skill, but lots of spirit", and this one was no exception.

The match was a hard fought game from beginning to end, and it must certainly have been an exciting one to watch. We began by scoring a try in the first ten minutes by a forward rush. Shortly after this, a penalty was awarded against a person who shall be unnamed, practically in front of our goal posts. The ball was promptly kicked between the posts making the score 3—3. The game continued with Gibb's pressing all the time, but we could not score because of the good defence of our opponents. This continued right up to a few minutes before the end, when Rodrigues, considering that one scrum-half was not enough, broke away with the ball, and running like a battering-ram through about three of his opponents, scored a try which was excellently converted by Saunders. The whistle went for no side and Gibb's had won by 8 points to 3.

### Gibb's v. Newsom's.

From the very beginning of this match, Gibb's had the upper hand. We were stronger in the pack and probably in our outsides as well. We certainly had two very formidable enemies in Richards and Austin, but Richards was marked well, and although Austin was responsible for the ball not reaching our threequarters from the pack on several occasions, we managed to score fairly consistently throughout the game. Very often the ball was nearly taken over our line, but we managed to hold them back, and the game finished with 20 points to 0 in our favour.

It was a hard fought game throughout, and not once did either side show any lack of spirit. It started with a bang and finished with a bang.

We look forward to our matches against Cobb's and Milton's, and only hope that we may be as successful with these as we have been with the others.

### Gibb's House Play.

Our first rehearsal took place a fortnight before the night of the play and our partial success is entirely due to the enthusiastic way in which the cast settled down to their task. The dress problem of the play was difficult and it increased a hundredfold when we were told that we could not



use any clothing from the property cupboard. Each person, however, managed to beg, borrow or steal a blanket, and with a little manipulation the costumes were shaped. The cast even amazed themselves in learning their parts in time and really did deserve the success which came to them. To Launder should go special praise for his hard and successful work as producer. Milton's was the only House which gave a better performance, and to them we extend our congratulations.

And now to conclude, a word to our members on the House table. The attendance of Gibb's House is probably higher than that of any other House in the School. We welcome this, and feel that it all helps towards making the House a live community.

We extend our appreciation of their presence, and trust that, big or small, they may continue to grace the House table.

#### Halliwell's

*Captain.*—L. A. Smith.

*Vice-Captain.*—J. P. R. Jordan.

What with one thing and what with another, we won the Cock House Trophy for a second year in succession.

Rugger, 2nd; Hockey, 1st; Dramatics, 3rd; Cricket, 2nd; Swimming, 1st.

So many different people were concerned in these activities that only very few members of the House did not contribute something. On the other hand quite a number were concerned in all or nearly all activities and to these particularly our thanks and congratulations are due. In this connection we are very glad to be able to announce that the House Captain has been awarded his Rugger colours.

This term a number of new members have come to us. Some play games, some do not; some are good at this and some at that. Whatever they do we hope they can give a good account of themselves in the near future.

#### *Cricket.*

*Captain.*—J. F. Smith. *Secretary.*—L. A. Smith.

In these murky, foggy days, Cricket seems so far away, and the Summer Term so long ago, that one feels almost apologetic about bringing up details of the last two matches of the season, but one or two incidents come to mind: H. T. Gibbs hit Clayden's bowling for 41 not out. This included

a four hit (from a fast delivery, that jumped up even more than usual) backwards over his head and the wicket-keeper's! The game was very exciting, but eventually we lost.

The match against Newsom's was memorable for J. H. Grubb's success as opening batsman, H. T. Gibb's 8 wickets for 18 runs, and an incredibly long delay, because of rain before the match could be finished.

*v.* Milton's, lost by one wicket.

*v.* Newsom's, won by four wickets.

#### *Swimming.*

*Captain.*—D. T. Parker.

We won the swimming Sports in July 1938, for the first time, by a small margin from Cobb's, R. J. Smith and Franks being worthy of special notice. The general qualifying was encouraging, but even more encouraging was the number of boys who braved the water for the first time, and have since learnt to swim. It is a good sign that some ten or so are continuing swimming throughout the year, and they will not regret it. It would be a good idea for others to join them, and to start thinking of their summer holidays.

#### *Dramatic Competition.*

The House presented "Allison's Lad" by Beulah Marie Dix. For the first time, the House Play was run entirely by boys. A Committee of seven, L. A. Smith, P. R. Jordan, J. Christian, J. H. Grubb, K. Daniels, R. A. Barsham, and E. A. Wells, were responsible. These deserve special praise for their efforts and the spirit in which they worked. The Play was produced by the House Captain, who also had to take a part owing to alterations in the original cast. He did this difficult job with his characteristic thoroughness and we enjoyed the fruits of his work.

J. H. Grubb, an old stager in House plays, gave the best performance as Colonel Strickland, portraying very creditably the feeling of this old soldier, wounded in body and distressed in mind. The rest of the cast were good, and audibility was excellent.

Although we were placed third, we made a very good attempt which was achieved purely through hard work, constant rehearsals, and the good spirit of those concerned. Unfortunately the play chosen did not allow us to include the Juniors of the House, but their chance will come later.

## Rugby.

*Captain.*—A. de Potier.

*Secretary.*—K. Daniels.

The House League matches afforded a chance for the **Juniors to play for the House.** This season, three new members, Hitchon, J. W., Sleigh and Baker, played in the House Leagues. K. Daniels captained the team well, holding them together, and making many useful openings for the three-quarters.

### Results :—

v. Gibb's	W.	26—8
v. Milton's	L.	6—19
v. Newsom's	W.	17—3
v. Cobb's	W.	17—3

At the moment, we have played only two House matches. The House team is playing keenly and hard, but it has shown two faults which must be remedied. First, the forwards are not playing together nor listening to orders, although in the game against Milton's, this was greatly improved. Secondly, the ball is not getting out to the wings quickly enough and is getting lost en route.

We won our second match, against Milton's. This time, the forwards played a much better game together. The threequarters, however, did not get a chance to show what they could do for the ball was too wet and slippery for them to hold.

### Results :—

v. Milton's	Won	19—0
v. Gibb's	Lost	3—8

In both matches the team tended to use brute force to get through their opponents, instead of playing rugby. This leads to an undesirable type of play, and must be remedied.

## Old Boys.

Now that the Old Boys' Society has been formed and members will receive a copy of the "Spur", we have a means of keeping in more regular touch with those who are Old Boys of Halliwell's, and with this first copy of the "Spur", we send our good wishes. G. N. Roberts and J. F. Smith played in the Old Boys' match, and several others were present on the touch line.

P.S. Our congratulations are extended to B. L. Christian, who has been awarded his 1st XV colours.

## Milton's

This term has been the most successful in the short but eventful history of our House. We have won the House Dramatic Cup and the House Leagues outright. In House Rugger Matches, if we have not won any match we have given our opponents good games and have thoroughly enjoyed them ourselves. We are looking forward to our first House Supper at which several members of the House are presenting a one act play for the entertainment of the rest.

### House Dramatics.

Our play was "The Dear Departing" a comedy which gave full scope to the acting ability of the House. Almost everyone in the House helped in the production, either acting or working behind the scenes. Our ability was spotted by Mr. Beecroft, with the result that of the seven principal parts in "Twelfth Night" we have secured four. We are confident of repeating our success next October when we again compete for the cup.

### House Leagues.

v. Halliwell's, won 19—6.

Despite adverse weather conditions, we were only six down at half time. In the second half we had everything our own way and won finally by 19—6.

v. Newsom's, won 43—3.

Our team had the game in their hands and touched down time after time. Our opponents, though small, struggled valiantly, but in vain.

v. Cobb's, won 22—21.

**The most exciting game of the series.** Cobb's were leading at half time but we crept up slowly and Wright with a very determined effort scored the winning try a few minutes before the end.

v. Gibb's, won 11—5.

Another very exciting game. At half time the score was 5—3, with Gibb's leading. However, two tries in the second half gave us the lead necessary to win the match, and thus the House Leagues.

### House Matches.

v. Newsom's, lost 18—8.

In the first half, Newsom's scored continually, and at half time they were leading 18—0.

In the second half our team showed its spirit by immediately rushing up to our opponents' goal line and scoring. Following this we continued to make Newsom's extremely uncomfortable being in their twenty-five most of the time. But their defence was very good and we were prevented from scoring. We got one try, however, which we converted making the score 18—8 at which it stood.

*v. Halliwell's, lost 19—0.*

Halliwell's scored right at the very beginning and continued to, leading by 13—0 at half time. We were unfortunate in our attempts to break through but the forwards played well especially Saxby who was incredible in his repeated rushes.

In the second half several valiant efforts by our three-quarters just failed and Halliwell's scored again. Despite a great struggle on our goal line Halliwell's broke through a last time making the score 19—0.

*v. Cobb's.*

Despite the fact that Cobb's have the two largest forwards in the school pack, our scrum played extremely well, and pushed them off the ball. With Mason unfortunately absent, our threequarter line was considerably weakened, and the burden of the game well on the scrum's shoulders. A forward rush from our scrum resulted in one try for us before half time. The score was 10—6.

In the second half we played even better than in the first, and scored a second try, but Cobb's again scored twice. When the final whistle went, the score was 18—6.

Our match against Gibb's at time of printing is not yet played, but there is no doubt that we will play as determinedly as before.

*House Captain.*—A. Hinton.

*House Rugger Captain.*—A. Saxby.

### Newsom's

The result of the final House match of last term did not matter much, as we had already won the Cup, but this did not excuse a spiritless performance against Halliwell's, whom we allowed to beat us almost by an innings. The batting was lifeless and the fielding sloppy, and we were well and truly beaten by a team which was better than us all round.

This term saw a desperate three weeks' quest for the Dramatic Cup. All the other House Plays were produced by

boys; ours was produced by our House Master, and we were bottom. Apart from the obvious reason, there were others that accounted for this descent from heaven. The play was chosen largely with a view to finding a part that suited Grills's peculiar gifts, but he left just before the first rehearsal; the rehearsals themselves were difficult to fit in; and—an important point—we had no actors who had had any previous training in a School play. "The Rehearsal" by Maurice Baring was, however, vigorously tackled, and there is no doubt that it amused the audience. Robbins as the sarcastic but embarrassed producer and Revill in an interpolated mime got plenty of laughs. The actual point of the play hardly got across at all, but it was a difficult one to perform. The cast and the stage staff enjoyed themselves and perhaps learned something from Mr. Beecroft's analysis. Doubt has been heard expressed as to whether any criticism will ever teach the producer anything. The cast was as following :—

### "THE REHEARSAL"

<i>Producer</i> .....	Robbins
<i>Shakespeare</i> .....	Gray, A.
<i>Macbeth</i> .....	Hambrook
<i>Lady Macbeth</i> .....	Austin
<i>Banquo</i> .....	Churcher
<i>Doctor</i> .....	Crouch
<i>Witches</i> .....	Tullberg, Poulter, Gray, E.
<i>Stage Hands</i> .....	Richards, Revill, Stanford

Our XII for the Rugger League Matches was poor, light and inefficient. All four games were lost, on the whole handsomely. The tackling was unreliable; the forwards declined resolutely to push, the backs to stay in positions that were even approximately correct; the team lack leadership and dash. One or two individual players put in some good work, but they could not shoulder the task of a whole side.

Invigorated by the arrival of Richards, Austin, Crouch, Barnes and Robbins, we started House Matches well with a satisfactory 18—6 win against Milton's. The work of the backs in attack and defence was excellent, but the forwards were too small and inexperienced to give them a chance for combined movements. The side's efforts fell off towards the end, and Barnes' enforced absence for the last ten minutes helped our opponents in a good rally.

Casualties and curious afflictions weakened the team for the matches with Cobb's and Gibb's both of whom defeated

us soundly. But we can console ourselves with the thought that we fought magnificently to the bitter end against Cobb's, and with the knowledge that our team is continually growing in Rugger knowledge and experience. Halliwell's remain to be coped with. The crowds on the touch line have been good, and their support is a great help.

County Hall is largely staffed by old members of the House. Grills and Crouch have both gone there this term, respectively into the Finance and Surveying Departments. We wish them luck and success, and hope that these "Fathers of the House" will let us see their patriarchal faces here constantly. Their labours during the first year were invaluable. Sayer works in the City, and, at the end of the term we shall lose the brothers Maltus who are leaving the district, taking our regrets with them.

Our numbers have increased by an influx of juniors. They seem to be settling down, and will surely do us credit when their period of insignificance is past. One of them further increased our intellectual pretensions by scoring plus 13 at half term.

#### INTER-HOUSE DRAMATIC COMPETITION, 1938

1. Milton's.
2. Gibb's.
3. Cobb's and Halliwell's.
5. Newsom's.

#### COCK HOUSE TROPHY, 1937-38

1, Halliwell's; 2, Newsom's; 3, Gibb's; 4, Cobb's; 5, Milton's.

#### HOUSE LEAGUE TABLE, 1938

			Cobb's	Gibb's	Halliwell's	Milton's	Newsom's	Total Points
Cobb's	...	...	—	G	H	M	C	4
Gibb's	...	...	G	—	H	M	G	8
Halliwell's	...	...	H	H	—	M	H	12
Milton's	...	...	M	M	M	—	M	16
Newsom's	...	...	C	G	H	M	—	0

#### THE R.C.A. BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY

(Built 1932-3)

Steel-fortified, austere  
 Logic of engineer,  
 Whose Titan arts ignore  
 Greek mode or Gothic lore,  
 These ruthless forms upflung,  
 Beauty new-born, unsung,  
 Skyward eight hundred feet,  
 Proportioned and complete.  
 Portal and plaza show  
 Symbols above, below;  
 WISDOM, his beard outblown  
 In starkly cubized stone,  
 Applies wide compasses  
 To cosmic mysteries:  
 PROMETHEUS, zodiac-ringed,  
 Staying his flight unwinged,  
 Offers to men the flame  
 Whence steel, their mistress, came.  
 When I this portent view  
 Dwarfing Fifth Avenue,  
 I sense that rising thrill  
 Of man's new corporate will  
 To leave old worlds behind,  
 To climb, know, seek, and find,  
 Wherein abides our hope  
 For life of starrier scope.

These are Mr. Barton's own lines which he read at the end of his lecture "Art in the Machine Age."

#### THE STAFF CONCERT

To one whose pen is never facile, these Staff Concerts are becoming a burden. Ernest Newman may complain that he hears the same music too often, but he at least hears different performers the whole time. And we are further handicapped by the fact that it is impossible to find anything to criticize. We must remain honest and repeat that, once again, the musical members of the Staff gave us a grand evening. To the galaxy was added Mr. Bannister, a welcome parent.

An account such as this—of a concert where the standard of execution was uniformly high—must inevitably resolve itself into a catalogue of preferences. Our preference, and

that, we think of the audience, was for Mr. Beecroft's playing of the "Fledermaus" arrangement and the "Fire Dance," His energy and technique were impressive, his feat of memory remarkable. He was rewarded with deafening applause, every clap of which was deserved. More calmly, his playing of the Debussy was charming, and his accompaniment of the songs, his violin in the Quartet, and his part in the Sonata, were all but further evidence of his versatility.

Mr. Sexty's voice has been praised before in the *Spur*. He was once again at the top of his form, thrilling us with the "Erl-King" and delighting us with a group by Roger Quilter.

Mr. Milton, in the Haydn Serenade and the Beethoven Sonata, again convinced us that the pedantic rules for violin playing are superfluous. He does everything wrong according to the rules, and everything right according to the evidence of the ear.

Though the Quartet had moments of inconsequence, the players were quick to recover themselves and show us what such music can gain at the hands of an *ensemble* who are in perfect sympathy with the music and with each other.

The programme is appended :—

#### PART I

1 Quartet in C Minor Op. 18 No. 4 Beethoven (1710-1827)  
Allegro-Scherzo

MR. BEECROFT, MR. MILTON, MR. BANNISTER, MR. OATES

2 Songs  
To Music  
Who is Sylvia? Schubert (1797-1828)  
The Erl-King  
MR. SEXTY

3 Pianoforte Solo The Waltz from "Fledermaus" Strauss-  
Grunefeld (1804-1849)

MR. BEECROFT

#### PART II

4 Serenade from Quartet in C. Haydn (1732-1809)  
MR. MILTON, MR. BEECROFT, MR. BANNISTER, MR. OATES

5 Songs  
Go, lovely rose  
O, the month of May Quilter (1877- )  
Over the mountains  
MR. SEXTY

6 Sonata in A Minor Beethoven (1770-1827)  
Presto-Andante scherzoso-Allegro molto  
MR. BEECROFT, MR. MILTON

7 Pianoforte Solos Two Arabesques Debussy (1852-1918)  
MR. BEECROFT

## " THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST " and " SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER "

We very much regret that considerations of space make it impossible for us to give full notices to these two excellent readings. They were presented by the newly formed "Spur Dramatic Society" in the Library, and produced by Mrs. Chapman and Mr. Grubb. On each occasion good audiences enjoyed themselves greatly, as, we suspect, did the performers; and we look forward keenly to the Society's next show.

### LUNCH TIME FILM SHOWS

This term we have continued our lunch time film shows which take place on Mondays after lunch in the Geography Room. The shows seem to have lost little of the appeal of previous terms (although the novelty of seeing films in school must have worn off by now) and each Monday brings a full house of juniors and seniors alike, who brave the lack of seating accommodation and the inevitable warmth and stuffiness. The two sittings for lunch have made it impossible to continue the shows for juniors and seniors together and for the remainder of this term we shall only be able to run one show for either juniors or seniors in turn. Next term we are to try the experiment of having our films either after school on Friday or on Saturday morning when a longer show can be given. This term we have had the following films from the G.P.O. film library: "So this is London," "Weather Forecast"—an excellent account of the way in which the daily weather maps are made—"Dinner Hour," "Cable Ship"—how the cables between England and the Continent are kept in repair—"Message from Geneva"—the story of London's international telephone exchange—and "So this is Lancashire." Next term's shows, of which there will be three, will be taken from films telling the stories of some of our important industries—car manufacture, oil production and the like.

### DEBATE

A team of six went to the Wimbledon County Girls' School to propose the motion that "Education for Women is a contradiction in Terms." We were heavily defeated by a vote of about 120 against 10, which was perhaps only to be expected. A certain shortcoming bred of inexperience and embarrassment among our speakers was also to be expected under the circumstances. But the complete paralysis that actually swept over our team came as a surprise. A first

principle of debate is assurance whether one has a convincing argument. In their fright, our protagonists forgot what they were going to say and either muttered inaudibly or remained tongue-tied; except Townson who gave a short, but clear statement of the case we were intending to put forward, and Hinton, who abandoned preconceived thoughts on the subject and extemporized well and amusingly. One member of the team could find nothing to say at all and never left his chair; and the longest speech of the day (on either side) was contributed by another who gave an unfortunate exhibition of precious posturing. He may have had something to say; certain it is that he was seen reading from a book at one point. But as his remarks were delivered mostly with his back to the audience, and, the rest of the time, he confided his gems of wit in an undertone to himself, it is hard to say.

Our opponents' speeches were lucid and mostly short and to the point. Their arguments were few but convincingly stated; they showed an ability for quick counter-attack which is a most valuable weapon in Debate. For the lessons they taught us, and for their kind hospitality, we are doubly grateful.

### THE STAGE

The presentation of "Twelfth Night" is, we hope and expect, going to be a great theatrical triumph for the School. Why? The reasons are two-fold. We are starting early this time, the play being produced in February instead of December, thus giving us the Christmas holidays as an extra period for rehearsals, making of costumes and equipping of stage. The other reason is that the stage, fitted with a balcony, now appears like a miniature Old Vic, although the orchestra pit and stage storeroom are ambitions that are not to be realized as yet.

When the balcony is not in actual stage scenery it will be suspended in the air by four slim steel cables, thus screening the roof from the audience, a problem which has faced the stage manager for a long time. Although the scenery in "Twelfth Night" will be more varied than that in "Hamlet", most of the equipment used in the last play will be employed again. Thus the balcony with its towers, curtains and winch, the rostrum at the back of the stage, together with four "flats", have been the chief pieces of construction (if we exclude the apron stage) so far.

The lighting has been the most complicated matter, for the addition of footlights, a batten under the balcony, and several 100 watt floodlights to the existing equipment, neces-

sitates a sub switchboard which is to be moved further up-stage for "technical reasons." And so in our struggle to make a better and bigger stage, "Twelfth Night" will be a big step towards the realization of the stage manager's dream—a stage perfect in every detail, both large and small.

### THE VISIT TO THE OMEGA LAMP FACTORY

The manager came along, and, taking us to his office, he showed us the components and assembly of a bulb. After this we were split into two parties. The first party was immediately led into the laboratory in which was a mass of electric light bulbs, ammeters and machinery. Having accustomed ourselves to the atmosphere we plunged amidst the intricate machines, each one attended by a worker who "fed" it and kept an expert eye on it. After seeing the complete building of a bulb we approached the section of the Works containing a mass of gauges and high pressure cylinders. These were being used for the purpose of evacuating the bulbs and filling them with gas. We then witnessed the capping and testing of the finished products.

And so we thanked the Omega Lamp Company for an extremely interesting afternoon.

### LECTURES

*Nevill Coghill, July 11th.*

Himself a Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, there is no one better fitted to talk about life in universities. Neither were we disappointed. Civilization was a palace with many rooms. The more you were educated the more rooms you could enter. Education was the key. The universities preserved a man against spiritual famine at forty, because if he was educated he would discover new rooms open to him, and moreover be able to contribute himself to their decoration. Oxford hoped to turn out millionaires of the spirit, who had mastered the art of human relations. Examinations revealed not so much the quantity of information, as what had been made of it. It was a test of quality and of personality. A university career developed sensibility and whatever was unique in your own personality. Oxford educated by means of reading, and of talking—officially through the tutorial system, unofficially in the endless conversation which was the undergraduates' richest heritage.

*R. D. Russell, July 18th.*

An architect's plea against chaos of building. Responsibility lies finally in the people who do not demand good houses

with plenty of space and maximum of sun in which to live. The raising of a standard of taste in the new generation was the one possible solution. Many interesting slides were shown and discussed.

*L. A. G. Strong, October 3rd.*

Talking of "Writing as a Job", Mr. Strong advised potential writers to have a safe post which would ensure a roof over their heads before they risked earning their living solely by their pens. He described the pilgrimage of a young man who wanted to write, and the reception he met with from publishers or editors. He discussed the commercial short story, and showed its weakness proceeding from the demand that the reader must be able to identify himself with the principal character. This meant that all emotional reactions had to be cut to pattern, and strict orthodoxy of conduct was essential. Such stories fulfil readers' day-dreams. Practical details of publication were of great interest. Approximately forty-eight novels are published each week: about five get reviewed by each paper. Even given several good reviews, a first novel does well if it makes for its author £45—for three months' work. Mr. Strong had his fortieth MS. accepted, and was paid one guinea by the editor of "Answers", but when it appeared its original title of "The Difficult Boy" had been changed to "Tackling the Tough Nuts". Seven years later he was earning from writing less than £100 a year. In a lecture which bristled with good remarks one must be recorded: "Journalists have mastered the secret of perpetual emotion."

*Bishop Hudson, October 4th.*

A most vivid description of the life of a missionary bishop in Borneo, with all the difficulties of congregations understanding only one of five different languages, and of a diocese larger than the whole of England. Fear of evil spirits dominated the natives' entire life, and was as much a fundamental problem for them as it was for European society or for Christian individuals. Get rid of fear and rational life is possible, and the only way to do that is by Christianity and the certainty of God through Jesus Christ. "Love casteth out fear."

*J. E. Barton, October 11th.*

A superb lecture illustrated by lantern slides which ranged from early Rolls Royce cars to the old and new Chiswick Park Stations. The main contention was that there was art of high quality in our present machine age. A building had

to be true to its function. Straight lines and simple proportions needed no "excrescences, blisters and bumps." Everything that housed the dignity of man called for the same attention, whether it was the Cambridge Library or the Battersea Power Station. By contrasting slides every point was proved. The planned spaciousness of a street in Amsterdam was contrasted with that huddle of irregular shops and offices on Ludgate Hill which insults Wren's masterpiece. Similarly the ill service done to dignity by uncontrolled advertising and irregularity of printing type was shown. A series of slides illustrating the symmetry of eighteenth century houses and furniture proved eloquently what English taste lost by the Industrial Revolution. Lighting was shown as an integral part of the interior decoration of a cinema. It was emphasized that sculpture such as Epstein's Night can only be judged by its relation to the building it adorns. Slides of everyday objects of household use which combined beauty of line with cheapness of price showed that to-day there is no excuse for putting up with the ugliness with which too often we are content to surround ourselves. The lecture ended with a series of slides showing the wonder of the Rockefeller Centre in New York City.

*John Newsom, 19th October.*

Having worked in Durham, he was able to paint a factual and a vivid picture of conditions prevailing in that county. Dealing with the causes of unemployment among the mining population he passed on to the effects on community life of having a high proportion of its men who had known no work for four years. He showed the psychological results on family life where anyway housing conditions were vile. He then described the splendid independence of men who though unemployed had made for the community social centres, swimming baths, and the like. For the making and the upkeep money was needed, not as much for charity as for the enrichment of the community's life. Few of us failed to agree when he emphasized our own responsibility to do what we could to make fuller the lives of people less fortunate than ourselves. "You have a job to do."

*Colonel Nye, 21st October.*

As C.O. of the 2nd Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Colonel Nye was able to speak with authority on his subject, "The Army's function in peace time." The Army was a democratic institution, whose size was alterable each year by

Parliament, and which was responsible to the Government of the day regardless of the party in power. The Army existed mainly for the defence of the Empire, and to create and defend bases for the Navy and the Air Force. Responsibility is now accepted for sending men back to civilian life better citizens after their seven years. Opportunity is offered for training in fifty-two different trades during the last six months of service. Conditions have altered and men are now free to sleep out at night or go away for the week-end without seeking permission. The motto of the British Army was "duty, discipline, and gentleness."

*Dr. Sandison, 9th November.*

A fascinating introduction to the distinctions between mezzotints, line engravings, etchings, and woodcuts, and the light they throw on history, by an enthusiast who is also an authority. Every point was illustrated from the lecturer's own fine collection. We saw in the faces of Granvil and Cromwell sufficient reason why Cavaliers and Roundheads were unable to understand each other. Seeing Richard Cromwell and his wife was eloquent explanation of why the Commonwealth was short lived. The collection of prints of John Donne, as a young man, and throughout his life, to the tomb in St. Paul's by Holler, was a revelation of the poet's entire development.

*Gyles Isham, 11th November.*

An actor's vivid impressions of the characters in "Twelfth Night". All the characters are at the beginning static: Viola is the acid, the motivating character, who gets them interested in other people. "Shakespeare's characters are people who went to bed tired" (Masefield). Sir Toby is a retired major type of person, living on his rich relative and spending his time at the golf club. Feste is pathetic in so far as his jokes have ceased to amuse, and slightly ageing he is in danger of losing his job. Fabian with his sporting metaphors was much a man of the stables, possibly in charge of the grooms. Olivia has to be very young because then her silliness can be forgiven her. Her house worked like clockwork, and Malvolio sees that nothing ruffles her life. Sir Andrew at the play's end, goes back to Aguecheek Grange having lost even grey Capulet. To-day he would buy a large sports car, wear a check cap, and crash on the by-pass. Shakespeare is concerned with human beings and not puppets, and that is why they are so satisfactory to act.

## *Careers for Boys.*

### THE LEATHER INDUSTRY AS A CAREER FOR BOYS.

[For the information contained in this article we are indebted to Professor D. McCandlish, Director of the Leather Industries Department at Leeds University, and Mr. C. Lamb, Principal of the Leathersellers' Technical College, Bermondsey, London, and Editor of the *Journal of the Society of Leather Trades' Chemistry*.]

#### *Leather in Early Times.*

The leather industry is probably the world's oldest industry, since the conversion of animal skin into leather has been practised from time immemorial. Indeed, in all kinds of historical writings we find reference to the use of skins and leathers for clothing and other purposes of utility. In Genesis III v. 21 we read that "Unto Adam also and unto his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins and clothe them." Homer's *Iliad*, written 1,200 B.C., describes what is probably the oldest form of good tanning; the chamoising of leather by forcing oil into the pores of the hide by beating and rubbing the skins whilst stretched. The Roman tanners, as also the Egyptian and Greek tanners, were distinguished by being considered a separate class of the community; and it is said that the Romans used leather for money and that the word "pecuniary" is derived from the Latin word *pecus*, meaning hide. It is also stated that the Romans gave the world the word "tan," derived from *tanare*, a Roman word for oak bark.

#### *Leather in the Middle Ages.*

The Trade Guilds or fraternities, sometimes called "misteries" or companies founded in the Middle Ages, were the first attempts at the organization of an industry, and the importance of the leather industry in association with the trade guilds may be gauged from the fact that of some 111 different trades being practised in London in 1422, no less than 11 of these were associated with the leather industry.

It is, perhaps, somewhat curious to note that in almost every country in the civilized world leather has been used as an article of utility where strength and resistance to atmospheric conditions have been demanded.

The earliest settlers in America found that the North American Indians had already discovered the art of making



leather chiefly for the purpose of harness, clothing and tent making, and that skin dressing was regularly practised by the Indian squaw. Still further North, the esquimaux women have been responsible for the conversion of skin to leather for the purpose of making wearing apparel.

### *The Application of Modern Scientific Methods.*

It is curious that, in spite of the fact that the manufacture of leather and the many articles of utility made from it, is perhaps one of the fourth or fifth most important industries of the world, really serious work with a view to attempting definitely to ascertain the extremely complex and variable physical character of the skin and the leather made therefrom, was not attempted on a truly scientific basis until comparatively recently.

At a recent Chandler Lecture given at the Columbia University by Dr. J. A. Wilson, it was pointed out as an example of the glaring ignorance of the properties of leather that one of the causes of discomfort in the wear of certain leathers used for shoes was excessive shrinkage and expansion of the leather due to change of atmospheric conditions, and that this defect was capable of being overcome by a change in the method of tannage.

It was only towards the end of the last century that science was applied to the manufacture of leather in an organized way, with a view to obtaining an explanation of the complex chemical and physical reactions, which take place in the conversion of the raw pelt into the tanned leather.

The first serious attempt in the direction of the application of science to this old-time industry may be stated to have commenced when Mr. Henry Richardson Procter—a practical tanner who had a scientific bent—was appointed to the Chair of "Leather Industries" at Leeds University in 1891. This man, whose scientific attainments later obtained world recognition, may truly be regarded as the pioneer of the scientific advancement of the industry. Since the time of his appointment considerable progress has been made in the application of science to leather manufacture. It cannot be gainsaid that it is only during the last 30 years that the industry has emerged from one which was almost entirely empirical and dependent for its success upon the experience of the individual tanner who worked strictly according to "rule of thumb" methods.

Leather manufacture as practised to-day may be regarded as an advanced science; the quality of the production being dependent upon the exact application of scientific principles. The leather trade, because of its antiquity and the mystery with which it was enshrouded in the past, has ever been a somewhat close preserve, and its members have been almost exclusively recruited from families actively associated with it. In order to make headway in this industry, the leather manufacturer of the future must necessarily possess an intimate knowledge of the scientific principles underlying the very intricate chemical processes with which the manufacture is now associated.

### *Career Prospects in the Industry.*

The leather trade offers an extremely good career for a youth possessing the necessary attainments. The necessity for scientific knowledge in the industry is now fully recognized and there is a continual demand for students who have been trained in one or other of the educational establishments specializing in this branch of chemical science.

It is no exaggeration to state that the demand for the trained individual is very considerably in excess of the supply, and in this respect the industry probably stands unique.

The tendency hitherto has been for the Public or Secondary School boy to adopt as his future career one of the professions, to the undoubted detriment of industry and also, to a very considerable extent, except in the case of an isolated and privileged few, to the detriment of the individual's pocket.

Industry is to-day crying out for a more scientific application and more exact knowledge of the various processes associated with it, and the leather industry, which ranks as the fourth or fifth most important industry in the United Kingdom, is keenly alive to the advantages to be gained by scientific knowledge, as is evidenced by the support the industry is giving to education and research. Consequently, the boy who has an interest in science, a penchant for engineering and a liking for constructive effort, can make rapid headway in the industry.

Leather manufacture is built up on probably a greater number of the arts and sciences than any other industry. Whilst chemistry forms a very important part indeed, engineering, physics, and even art, also play an important rôle.

The modern tanner requires analytical data not only of materials which he is purchasing, but of goods in course of manufacture at well-defined stages, in order that he may keep a complete check and thus control his manufactured output. The analytical data required are very comprehensive, necessitating as they do the analysis of such divergent materials as tanning agents, water, tannery liquors, oils, fats and waxes, dyestuffs and finishing materials; this requires a knowledge of both organic and inorganic chemistry of an advanced character, and at the same time a somewhat extensive knowledge of analytical chemistry in practically all its branches.

### ***Where Training is Obtainable.***

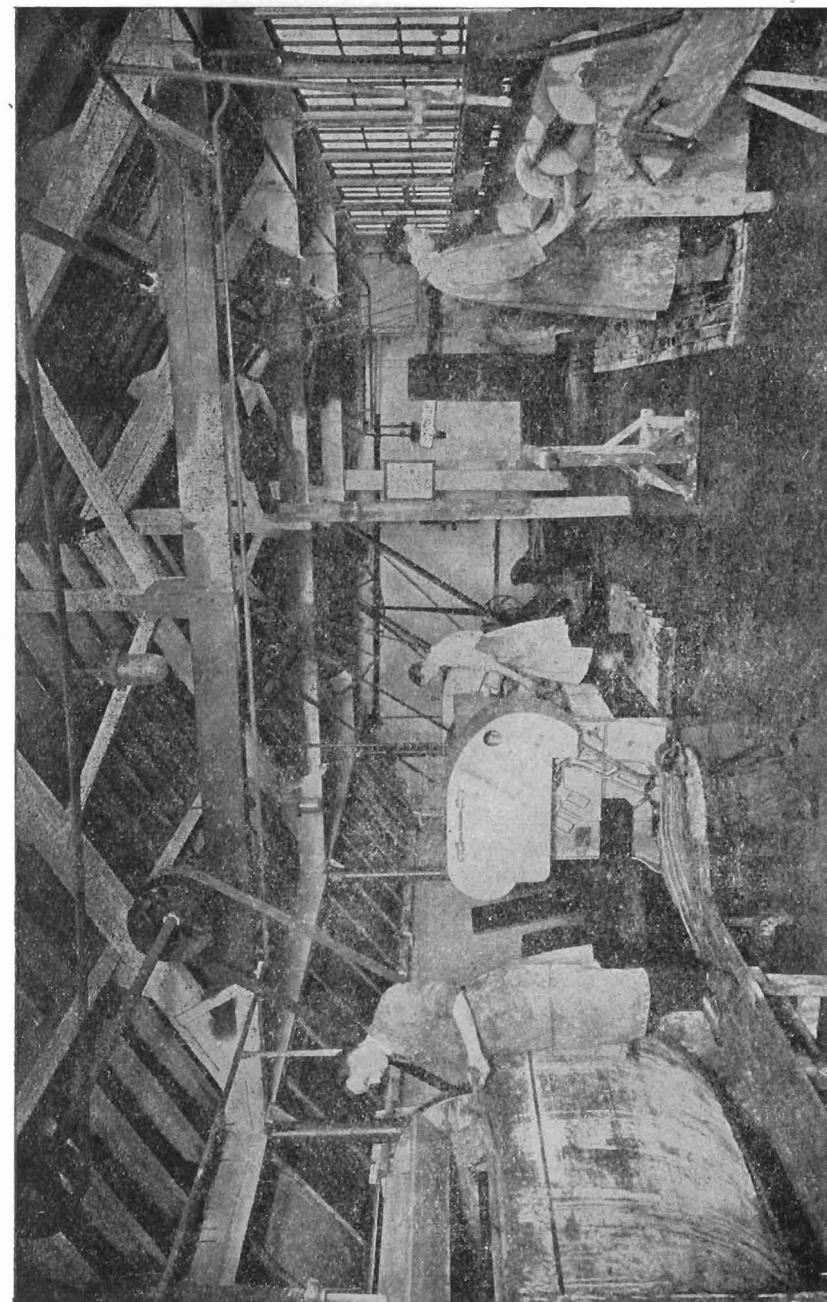
Suitable training is given in the science and technology of leather manufacture in the two leading British Institutions:—

'The Leather Industries Department of the Leeds University and the Leathersellers' Technical College, Bermondsey, London.

The Leather Industries Department of the Leeds University provides specialized instruction in the science and practice of leather manufacture. In general, a student taking a leather course devotes his times equally to the study of pure science and technology. Various courses of study are available, some of which lead to the degree of Bachelor of Science, with pure chemistry and the chemistry of leather manufacture as principal subjects. For non-matriculated students a Diploma Course may be followed, or a special course arranged to meet individual requirements. The laboratories, experimental tannery, and workshop, are equipped with all apparatus and machinery necessary for practical instruction and demonstration purposes. The new University Hostel for Men Students opens next October, and provides more adequate accommodation than the present quarters, where some one hundred and twenty students live. Facilities for all branches of athletics are provided, and the recently opened football, cricket and sports grounds rank with the best in the North of England, so that a student has ample opportunity for healthy relaxation.

### ***Training in London.***

The Leathersellers' Technical College, London, was officially opened by the Lord Mayor of London in 1909. For fifteen years prior to this date the Leathersellers' Company



LIGHT LEATHER TAN HOUSE.

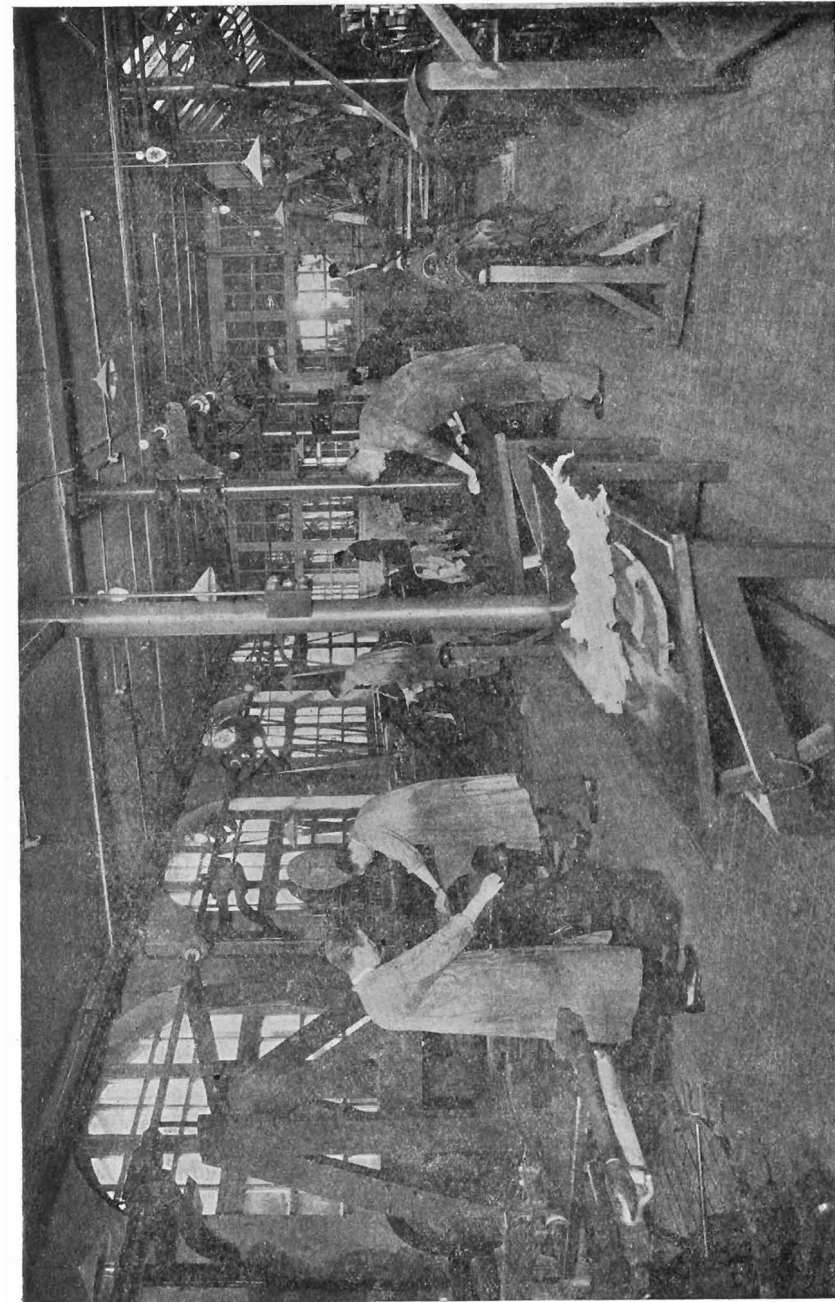
of the City of London, in conjunction with the London County Council and the Borough Polytechnic, carried on the specialized training at Herold's Institute, Bermondsey, a technical school for leather manufacture, which gave some two hundred students a technical training. Though this school was successful, in the course of time it became obvious that the Herold's Institute was not adequately equipped to give a thorough practical and technical training, and the Court of the Leathersellers' Company, wishing to maintain and strengthen their historic connection with the Leather Industry, in 1909 built the present Technical College, and equipped it with every facility for giving comprehensive instruction in leather technology.

The object of the College is to provide both practical and theoretical instruction in the manufacture of leather of all descriptions; its aim being not only to train men to become conversant with general leather manufacturing methods, but also be familiar with the materials they are employing and the scientific principles underlying the various manufacturing processes.

### *The Course of Study.*

- (1) Practical, including instruction in the manufacture of every class of leather.
- (2) Theoretical, including lectures in the science and manufacture of leather and the necessary fundamentals incidental to their application to the leather industry of the sciences of chemistry, bacteriology, microscopy, physics and engineering.

A two-year course for the Diploma of the Leathersellers' Technical College is recommended for students who eventually hope to occupy positions as Managers or Departmental Heads, or Leather Trades' Chemists. Before entering the Diploma Course a student must either have passed an examination equivalent to the Matriculation standard or have satisfied the College Authorities that he has sufficient general knowledge to enable him to benefit by the course. Before entering the second year of the course, he must have passed satisfactorily the examinations of the previous year. In order to qualify for the Diploma, the candidate must have attained a satisfactory standard in the several sessional examinations held at the end of each year, and, at the termination



STUDENTS AT WORK IN THE FINISHING ROOM IN A LEATHER INDUSTRY COLLEGE.

of the course, in special written examinations on the Science and Practice of Leather Manufacture and also in Practical Tests.

The Associateship of the Leathersellers' Technical College is the highest award granted to students. The Associateship will only be granted to students who have attended a full-time three years' course of instruction approved by the College Authorities.

Before entering for an Associateship course, students must possess sufficient knowledge of chemistry and general science to enable them to benefit by the course of instruction. The standard of knowledge required will be of a much more advanced character than that required for the Diploma. No student will be allowed to sit for the Associateship Examination unless he has reached a high standard in all the subjects included in the course in the sessional examinations and has also obtained the College Diploma. The course is intended only for those students who will endeavour to obtain a high standard of scientific knowledge, and only such will be permitted to sit for the examinations.

The College contains practical workshops fully equipped with the most up-to-date machinery which enables students to carry out most processes in the manufacture of the chief varieties of leather under what are practically factory conditions. There are, in addition, a large Chemical Laboratory, Bacteriological Laboratory, an Experimental Tannery, and an Experimental Dyehouse.

The social side of the College is catered for by the Corium Club, which was established after the war as a Students' Union, and is very successful. The Club aims at fostering a spirit of good fellowship amongst the students and organizes spare-time recreation.

### ***The Boy Who is Needed.***

Students desirous of entering these institutions should have received a sound preliminary education, either in a Public or a good Secondary School. The minimum entrance age to the London College is 16 years, and students should preferably have a knowledge of elementary chemistry; and to Leeds University 17 years. The entrance requirements of the two Institutions differ in some respects, but full particulars regarding these and the courses of study available may be obtained upon application to the respective registrars.

## **OPEN NIGHT, 1938**

This year's Open Night was the biggest and best we have yet held. The School was crowded with interested Parents well before the actual time of starting, and it was almost impossible to get into some of the exhibition rooms.

The first class-room in the Lower Main Corridor contained many examples of the good work that boys have been turning out during the course of the year. Two rooms on the Upper Corridor were used for the History and Citizenship Exhibition and the Library was open for Parents to inspect the new furniture and electric light fittings; even the Scouts' Den was ready for minute inspection.

The Laboratories "housed" many interesting examples of the School's work in Science during the year—from samples of chemicals to a demonstration explosion chamber and a number of other equally interesting experiments—so interesting, in fact, that it was difficult for one to see all of them, without neglecting the other exhibitions.

On entering the Geography Room, one was struck by the number of people and exhibits. Large numbers of maps, photographs, and timetables were arranged extremely well, even to two pinned on the ceiling. Boys armed with long rules were pointing out the situation of particular towns on large maps, all splendidly drawn in Indian ink, to interested groups of Parents. Everything went with a swing in this "Travel Bureau" and it was very well managed by a number of enthusiastic boys.

And last of all, there was the Bookshop in the Hall. Here Parents could buy books and present them to the Library, and the rate of sale was indicated by a graduated scale.

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## **THE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Last term's "Open Night" was a great success from the Library's point of view. We asked for a hundred books; we got 105—a record which must be inscribed in the annals, even at this remote date. "Open Night" indeed filled the store cupboard to overflowing. It has remained full ever since. We have catalogued over 200 books so far this term; but the cupboard is still as full as it was last July. Books seem to grow in it, to sprout overnight and spread themselves over its shelves. Mysterious things happen to books when they are in the Library; but even more mysterious things happen to them before they even get to it.

The second event of supreme importance has been the rebirth of the "Library Review". The first number will have

emerged from the new School press by the time these notes are read. It remains for the boys of the School to make its matter worthy of its manner. The Printer's Guild has set the editorial staff a high standard of craftsmanship. We must henceforward write in a style worthy of their print, with ideas as clear-cut and criticisms as bold as the type itself. We shall attain our end if as much care and thought go into the writing as is necessarily taken in the printing. Successful writing, like successful printing, is achieved by pruning and polishing until the final perfection is reached. Whether we succeed or not depends entirely on you.

Statistically we have advanced at the moment of writing by 203 books since September; 46 of these have been fiction, 157 non-fiction. No less than 45 boys saw fit to replace on the "Return Shelf" books for which they had not signed. This at its best is unintelligent. 19 others, equally unintelligent, filled in slips of the wrong colour. All these cause unpleasant and unnecessary work for the Assistant Librarians. The average borrowings during a week have increased more or less in proportion to the increased number of boys in the school—last term the number was 120, now it is 132. But it should be noted that 111 of these are fiction. Roughly, then, five fiction books are borrowed for every one non-fiction. It is interesting to mention that this same proportion was maintained by the 140 boys who flocked to the Library in search of literary fodder for their House and Club meetings. The number of senior boys who are still content to regard reading as the relaxation of a feeble mind and not as the exercise of an active brain is still disgustingly large. These prodigals are missing much that is enjoyable and wasting much of their educational opportunity.

#### *Acknowledgments :—*

To all those who presented books on "Open Night", and to R. H. Scott, Esq., and Rev. J. W. Moeran.

#### *Presentations from Old Boys :—*

- L. A. Hughes.—Jefferies : "Nature near London" (645).  
 G. Tollett.—Gibbs : "Trees and Men" (600).  
 S. G. Palk.—Herrick : *Poetical Works* (Oxford) (820).  
 K. H. Toms.—Dryden : *Poetical Works* (Oxford) (820).  
 R. Symes.—Longfellow : *Poetical Works* (Oxford) (820).  
 D. T. Parker.—Shelley : *Poetical Works* (Oxford) (820).  
 J. F. Smith.—Pound : *Selected Poems* (820).

- E. Roberts.—Byron : *Poetical Works* (820).  
 G. Marshall.—De la Mare : "Stories, Essays and Poems" (810).  
 K. Marshall.—Belloc : "Stories, Essays and Poems" (810).  
 G. Tupper.—Scholes : "Oxford Companion to Music" (460R).  
 D. R. Reed.—Harrison : "New Tales from Shakespeare" (850).  
 N. K. Lamberth.—Hagen : "Art Epochs" (440).  
 B. P. Druett.—Makin : "Smugglers of To-day" (600).  
 E. L. Corps.—Sayers : "Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club" (F).  
 C. Ley.—"Sapper" : "Female of the Species" (F.).  
 D. R. Gibbs.—Chatterton : "Across the Seven Seas" (F).

### " THE LIBRARY REVIEW "

There can be no doubt that the *Library Review* is a credit to its creators. Though it is the first product of the new Printing Press, it betrays few signs of the novice's hand. Mr. Shepherd's design for the cover is ingenious and effective; inside the layout is pleasant to the eye. A clear and simple kind of type has been chosen.

R.O. contributes a paternal preface, speeding his offspring on its way. The *Spur* has sent a message dignified and appropriate. So has the *Weekly News*.

The various reviewers show that they have grappled with the books allotted to them, and have grasped the essential points admirably. Their only fault is perhaps that they venture upon striking opinions which are too often unsupported by argument (for example, the last sentence of A. de P.'s notice of Moseley and Chapple's "Simple Guide to Television").

Perhaps there are one or two contributions which belong more properly to the *Spur* than to the *Review*, but that is a quarrel that can be fought out later. For the moment we can do nothing but congratulate everybody concerned, and wish the new venture every success.

*Note.*—The School press, on which the *Review* is printed, was bought with money subscribed by parents as a mark of gratitude to the School for the arrangements it was able to make to evacuate boys to the country, should a state of national emergency have arisen.



## THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

The first general meeting of the Junior Debating Society was held on Friday, 30th September, and it was then decided that membership should be confined to boys from Forms I, I Special, II, and II Special. Smith, F. G., was elected secretary, and Simeone, Carter, J., and Reid members of the Committee. **Three meetings have been held since:—**

Friday, 14th October.—Motion: "This House believes that it is better to live in the town than in the country."

Proposers: Downham, Smith, D. F.

Opposers: Nunns, Higgins.

The Motion was lost by 22 votes to 25.

Friday, 21st October.—Motion: "This House believes that travel is the best means of education."

Proposers: Cooper, Rignell.

Opposers: Carter, J., Stewardson.

The Motion was won by 40 votes to 10.

Friday, 11th November.—Motion: "Modern dress needs reform."

Proposers: Simeone, Kidd.

Opposers: Gilchrist, Evans.

The Motion was lost by 17 votes to 21.

A further debate will be held on Friday, 9th December.

The enthusiasm shown in these early debates gives promise of a successful future for the Society. The standard of speaking has been remarkably good in spite of the little experience which boys have had so far. The actual debating has been lively, amusing, and intelligently organized by the Committee and as members gain in experience, it is hoped that the debates of the Society will not lose the fire and enthusiasm of these early days in its formation.

## THE AUSTRIAN TOUR, 1938

We set out from Victoria at one o'clock, and (fortunately) had a good crossing from Dover to Ostend, arriving in the early evening. There was a frenzied rush through the Customs, but luckily we had time to buy some very "gassy" lemonade before leaving for Basle.

We breakfasted in Basle, and were given some three hours to look around the town, which is not very picturesque,

being in my opinion, extremely common-place. We travelled all morning through beautiful country, and arrived at a small border town early in the afternoon. There was a long walk to the Customs and then a short charabanc ride to Lochau, near Bregenz, where we were to stay. We bathed in the Boden See, and then went up to Schloss Hofen. It was then, incidentally, that our long and painful acquaintance with the flies began!

On Monday morning most of us climbed a hill behind the castle. In the afternoon we all went rowing on the Boden See, and afterwards refreshed ourselves with ice-cream. We then looked round the town, the older parts of which are very beautiful. On Tuesday morning some of us took out sailing boats, some swam, and others made the 3,000 feet ascent of a mountain nearby. In the afternoon we went to Lindau, a town across the Lake, for the first time. It is very picturesque, with a typical German Town Hall.

On the following day we started on a two day tour by coach, of the nearer Alps. We first went to the beautiful falls at Dornbirn. Here we had to walk along a narrow track on the side of the cliff, and part of the way through a passage tunnelled out of the rock. Next we went to Bludenz—where Suchard chocolate (the subject of many puns in the party) is manufactured—Langen, Stuben in the Arlberg Pass, and to Brant, where we slept. The next morning we left Brant and went into the Scesaplana Mountains, one peak of which we climbed. That evening we travelled back to the castle.

On Friday Mr. Cobb paid a surprise visit and took some of us far along the Lake for an enjoyable swim, marred only by the presence of swarms of flies. Later he took us to Bregenz, and on Saturday morning we made trips to Lindau and Bregenz. In the afternoon we crossed the Lake to Friedrichshafen in a gathering storm. We visited the Zeppelin Museum and hangars, where we saw a new dirigible in construction. The evening was spent in going to a Hitler Youth concert, which was full of slapstick comedy, and was followed by dancing. On the following day we went on another tour by motor coach to Parthenen, the highest point in the Arlberg Alps, situated at the head of the Montafon Valley and in the near vicinity of Schruns.

Monday, our last full day, was spent in various ways—bathing, sailing, sightseeing, and even going to the Abler, a local beergarden! On Tuesday we picked up our trunks, played improvised deck tennis and football in the hall, and

took last looks at Lindau and Bregenz. We left after lunch in the pouring rain, and after a generous dinner in Zurich we walked round the town for a short space before catching the eleven o'clock train. We breakfasted on the train from Brussels and caught the boat back to England at noon, arriving tired and hungry at Victoria, after nearly a full day's travelling.

## THE BELGIAN PARTY

On Monday, 5th September, we set out under the guidance of Mr. Grubb. Mr. Milton and his Austrian party had claimed the majority of would-be tourists so ours was a small party, but, if we were small, we thought ourselves select.

### DIARY

*Monday, September 5th.*—From Victoria to Dover in the morning and from Dover to Ostend in the afternoon. During the four and a half hours which it took to cover the last part of our journey more than one member of the party seemed to be very interested in the sea—in fact they never left the side of the ship until we reached Ostend!

Then to Brussels where, in the late afternoon we were met by M. Pirard, our hotel proprietor. He showed us to our hotel and all but tucked us in bed.

*Tuesday, September 6th.*—Mr. Grubb had to do the hundred and one odd jobs which are necessary when you first arrive in a foreign country, so we split up into twos and threes and went exploring.

*Wednesday, September 7th.*—In the morning we visited the Palais de Justice hoping to get a good view of the city—we got it all right—we saw all that we had counted on seeing, and a bit more, but what we hadn't counted on were the five hundred and fifty-three steps which made up only half our journey!

In the afternoon we visited the Belgian Congo Museum and saw the numerous horrible sights which this type of museum takes a pride in displaying.

*Thursday, September 8th.*—We spent the day at Antwerp. During the morning we went on a cruise. Whilst we were on this cruise our boat stopped.—Were we going to turn back? Had the engine stopped? Had the sailors gone

on strike? These were the questions which we asked ourselves. After an interval of about ten minutes one of the sailors threw a rope aboard the leading barge of a group of three; immediately after it had been made fast the engines made the usual grinding noises which always precede the departure of a boat, and we chugged slowly homeward triumphantly drawing the barges behind us.

*Friday, September 9th.*—We set off for Spa. We were very sorry to leave Brussels—partly because of the city and the people in it and partly because of the hotel. M. Pirard was extremely helpful, two of the stewards had conceived a great affection for us and we for them, and, as one of the more vulgar of the party put it, the "grub" was good.

*Saturday, September 10th.*—We climbed some of the mountains around Spa in the morning, and in the afternoon we paid a visit to a lake where we went on some "boats". When I say "boats" I use it as a courtesy title for—although we managed to spend an hour there—we were very nearly drowned in those "boats". If you can imagine seven people in two porous soap boxes trying to row with telegraph poles, you may get a picture of us.

*Sunday, September 11th.*—We were to leave Belgium the next day so we determined to go for a long walk and see all there was to see. The country we walked through was all in the hills and thickly wooded. We passed many biggish streams and it was whilst we were walking by the side of one of these that we were startled to see Mr. Grubb jump on to a rock in the middle of the stream and start to build a dam. He said that doing this was one of his favourite hobbies; we sneered a bit but he soon had us helping him!

*Monday, September 12th.*—Home journey started at Spa at 6 o'clock in the morning and finished at Victoria at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

## CONCLUSION

To those who consider going abroad with the School next year I add a word—nay, a hundred words, of encouragement, for, apart from having a jolly good time in the company of a master (who, incidentally, far from acting as a being apart, acted as one of ourselves) going abroad broadens your mind, helps your education in no little way and helps you to understand other countries' points of view.

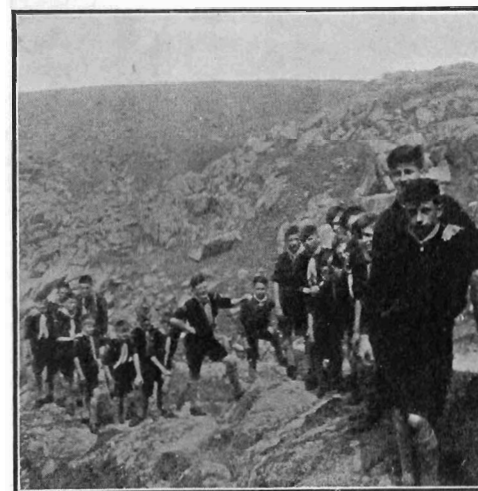
## A MONTH IN NORMANDY

To write a short account of a month's stay in Normandy, which conveys anything to anyone but the author, is impossible. I might mention the places I visited, Caen, Falaise, Trouville, St. Malo, Mont St. Michel, Honfleur, and a host of others, but it would be no more interesting than a telephone directory. To describe the grandeur of the old cathedrals and castles would be equally boring unless the reader had seen them for himself.

Indeed I would find it a difficult task to attempt to write an orderly, plain description of that month: my mind is cluttered up with memories, but memories unfortunately are seldom dated and docketed. They are a jumbled miscellany of experience, memories of a fat pleasant Scotsman met on the boat train, of lights in the Sound, of porters at St. Malo, of Norman cider, of coffee, of the ridiculously small gendarmes, of soldiers everywhere—reservists who had been suddenly called up, of church steeples as thick in number as trees in a forest, of a little train that ran through the streets and alongside the canal to the sea, of the "Normandie" seen from Trouville beach soon after she had left Havre. Memories, too, of drives along straight roads with hardly a bend in them for miles, of cider-apple orchards where the apples are so bitter that the farmers do not trouble to put up a fence to keep out scumpers, of beggars everywhere, of a big fat woman laden with parcels who got into a bus, pulling after her the largest dog I have ever seen, and struggled heroically right to the back of the bus. There are memories of the return home, memories of a boat so crowded that we had to sleep on chairs on the boat deck without any cover, memories of a cold wet wind, of the incessant hooting of sirens, of thick impenetrable fog, of the jar as the ship ran on to a sandbank, of her quivers and snorts as she tried to get off, of the boredom of waiting, anchored somewhere in the Channel, for the fog to lift, of the excitement once we had begun to move, when we missed colliding with another boat by about fifteen yards, of empty pockets and even emptier stomachs, and finally of arriving home hungry and exhausted at four in the afternoon with the thought of school next morning. It was an exciting month of which all that remains now are some photographs, some stamped marks in my passport, and innumerable memories.

## 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT TROOP

A formal parade and inspection, with a visit from the A.D.C., marked the beginning of this term's activities. For the second time, the Commissioner presented the Patrol Trophy Flag to the winning Patrol, this time to the Seagulls, for their work of the Summer Term. Other certificates and badges were presented. We have lost from our numbers P.L. Grills, K. Marshall, G. Marshall and Waight: they leave the Troop but become its guests. Six new recruits have been invested and by the end of the term we shall be up to full strength, all wearing at least the Tenderfoot Badge.



MEMBERS OF THE TROOP

The whole district whispers of the 19th Wimbledon's trenches and dug-outs, and even of its bomb-proof shelters. But the crisis was responsible for none of these things. These works constitute our own reservation in sight, and taking, spade by spade, its shape and form. The outer boundaries should be complete by Christmas. Within, we visualize a permanent camp-fire site, Patrol corners, wood and campcraft activities; and in the Summer there will be week-end training camps. Next term we hope to see a variety of trees and shrubs in our borders, primroses in the banks, and willing hand at work within.

In October, Scout Headquarters published the revised Rules and Regulations, and we feel the changes have long been overdue. The inclusion of more observation, of pioneer-



ing and axemanship in the Second Class tests is an excellent thing. In all tests now, "satisfactory service" means re-passing earlier tests before being awarded a higher badge. This term will see for the first time awards of the S.M.'s "Certificate of Merit". They will be made to Patrols and to individuals for continued good work resulting from initiative and efficiency in the Troop life and affairs—work not already covered by Proficiency Badges. Five of these certificates have been awarded for "Good Camping" in Cornwall last August.



PRAYER

#### RESULTS OF THE PATROL COMPETITION SUMMER TERM.

1. Kingfishers	...	...	433 points.
2. Eagles	...	...	413 "
3. Seagulls	...	...	344 "
4. Falcons	...	...	324 "
5. Curlews	...	...	269 "
6. Hawks	...	...	223 "

#### Awards.

Rescuer's Badge.—P.L. Barnes.

Swimmer's Badge.—P.L. Hill.

Swimmer's Badge.—P.L. Billingham.

Warner Martin Cup (Association Swimming).—P.L. Barnes.

Camping Certificates.—P.L.s Hill, Barnes, Elliott;  
Seconds Johnson, Bedford.

#### Investiture.

September 26th.—Higgins.

November 14th.—Brown, Escott, Newman, Langridge.

November 28th.—Jeffreys, Overell.

#### FROM THE SCRIBE'S LOG BOOK

**19th September.—Parade and Inspection.** The A.D.C. came to visit us again, pleading an excuse that he enjoys seeing the 19th (or playing its games?). We wonder whether he came to present certificates or receive bruises.

**26th September.—Revision of mapping work in a Patrol competition.** Played a spirited knotting game—there are more ways than one of learning knots. Not that way but knot that way.

**3rd October.—First Aid.** Three accidents, all fairly well treated and with great resource in the provision of splints. Some young fellows carry out the 8th Scout Law so well that they make poor patients on these occasions.

**10th October.—Plaster Casts.** How easily do people fall back into the activities of childhood. Even the A.S.M. played with the mud—and loved it. Kneading the clay because he needed the clay. The casts were good, approaching the standard of Whitehall 1212.

**17th October.—Designing the reservation, mapping.** No one really knew what was behind the S.M.'s mind (they never do anyway) and with only a sheet of paper to work on, each Patrol designed a lay-out for the site. The competition was fruitful in producing some original suggestions from the juniors, and some impossible ones.

**24th October.—Cycling—Signalling.** A Scout is useful—and so was this meeting in finding weak spots in boys' tyres (spots or large patches?). Signalling in the dark was very instructive, caused much fun, many difficulties and some blank words. We then saw ourselves as others see us—the camp photographs on the epidiascope.

**27th.—Parents' Social.** An invaluable occasion on which parents meet parents and the S.M.s. (*I wonder if he told my mother everything?*) It was a happy evening and afforded parents the opportunity to see the camp photographs and P.L.s the opportunity to eat up the refreshments.

**7th November.—Firelighting and water boiling race.** This time the A.S.M. made sure that the water came from the cold water tap. Fires were better but once again—all but one would burn.

14th November. A Cooking Party. At last the common sausage has disappeared and really ambitious dishes—soups, meat, liver, eggs, fish and puddings—are being attempted and eaten. One tenderfoot *had* to put his egg beneath the S.M.'s feet—but still, he cooked his bacon.

For the first time, an Investiture Ceremony was held out in the firelight.

19th November.—Tree-felling—Axemanship. Many thanks are due to Mr. Western who entertained the Troop to a practical demonstration and gave us the benefit of his long experience in the care of trees. We all enjoyed trying our hands at 5 and 9 lb. axes, and two-handle saws. The P.L. of Seagulls went up 60 feet and swayed precariously in the tree tops—did we hear "*O for the wings of a ———*"? Another young Curlew began to climb and brought back memories of the jungle and its inhabitants. We marched back with new ideas on axemanship, a load of logs, a hand full of blisters.

21st November.—A trek cart team putting the cart together blindfold was good, *blind* fun. But we forgot this when listening to Mr. Bedford talking on Signals for ships, anchors, nautical miles, wreck signs, G.M.T., 8-bells, plim-soll lines and dog-watches. Then he began splicing—*what a splice!* Crown heads, back splice, long splice, short splice, eye splice—it all seemed child's play to him—but to us? He must come again.

N.B.—The Troop's Christmas Camp Fire will be held on December 20th.

### THE SUMMER CAMP, 1938

The Annual Camp was held this year at Perrantheunoe, in Cornwall. The Troop left London at 11.0 p.m. and travelled by night train to Penzance. To most, that journey had the thrill of their first on a night train; to the few with experience, it provided an amusing exhibition of various ways of finding sleep, from luggage rack to floor. With the early morning mists still lingering around her turrets, we first sighted St. Michael's Mount at 7.0 a.m., standing proudly out of the grey waters of the bay. Beyond, a ridge of green-capped cliffs marked our destination. Three miles by coach and then a long winding track down to the sea, an empty meadow soon became the well ordered camp of thirty hungry fellows.

The first day was spent in pitching tents, erecting gear and gadgets, visiting the butcher, baker, grocer, and dairyman; we had a first bathe in what a young camper liked to

call part of the Atlantic; we climbed rocks and sang songs; we felt weary and then remembered that our last night's effort at sleep was punctuated by sleepers. On Sunday morning we joined two other troops in a Church Parade at Marazion, bathed in the afternoon and visited St. Hilary in the evening. Bathing, walking, rock climbing, and exploring occupied the two following days in which too, the more industrious improved the kitchen and made life easier for the cooks with their gadgets and loads of firewood. Cocoa, and the reading of a thriller around the camp fire, was a happy way of sending a tired family of healthy youngsters to bed.

Wednesday provided a good combination of riding, walking, climbing, high winds and excessive thirst in an all day visit to Land's End. By special arrangement, we covered miles of coast by alternately walking and riding, and from Land's End explored the rocks and cliffs in detail. That night we fed on hot Cornish pasties and went, fit but tired, to bed. Bed? At 12.30 a.m. distant thunder; at 12.40 the wind blew; at 12.45 it rained; at 12.50 lightning struck the field above and the heavens let loose the worst storm Cornwall has had for many years. Who were we to know that the lane would be blocked, that a river would be diverted into our field, that the H.Q. tent would be torn from its moorings, that the kitchen would float towards the cliff-tops? What a night: water night! Carrying juniors through two feet of water, keeping the remainder upright and awake, wearing capes over bathing costumes, slipping in mud, singing "On Ilkley Moor baht hat", and eating wet pastry were but a few items of an eventful night. Next day we sent a load of soaked blankets to Marazion (what a noble fellow was Mr. Phillips), slept in a barn, and forgot the last twenty-four hours.

We were none the worse but probably much better for the experience. We enjoyed the following days and on Friday went on board the S.S. "Scillonian" bound for the Scilly Isles. On the outward journey we tasted the difficulties of fog-bound liners; on the Island of St. Mary we rambled and explored as the weather improved; and in a beautifully clear evening, hugged the coast on our way back to Penzance. The surprise item on Saturday was a cruise round the bay in a private motor yacht, kindly placed at our disposal by Dr. Greenwood Penny. The storekeeper was violently sea sick but later had his own back by catching *one* fish.

On Monday evening the trek cart team sang its way along the coastal road from Perran to Penzance: the following morning it became a part of London's traffic from Paddington to Waterloo.

## THE RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL OLD BOYS' SOCIETY

After much burning of midnight oil and after much violent arguing (chiefly in vicious circles it must be admitted) the constitution of the Society was finally hammered into shape and unanimously passed at a General Meeting.

Thus the embryo Society was born.

Since then we have progressed in many ways. We have the privilege of using the gym on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8.30 p.m. to which all Old Boys (who have paid their subs.) are welcome. We have had a momentous tussle with the School Rugby team (the game was notorious more for its vigour than for the skill shown). We have had several Old Boys aiding and abetting the Spur Dramatic Society by capering around the Library floor in "She Stoops to Conquer". And last but by no means least we have our intended projects.

The projected programme for the Old Boys includes a dinner, a dance, rambles and numerous other functions. BUT, before we can start on these we must have the backing of *all* Old Boys. So far we have had 12 boys who have paid their subscriptions and to continue our activities we must have everybody's support. While on this subject, we should like to point out that in view of the enormous agitation for the Society to be formed, the response is poor. So come on! Let's start the New Year with a 100 per cent membership!

Herewith follows a section which is of special interest to mothers, fathers and other connections of Old Boys. The question of Christmas presents has been solved. We hope to have on sale before Christmas Old Boys' Ties, so come all of you and wear the Old School tie; cajole, threaten or otherwise blackmail people into getting them for you.

Before leaving the am- (or be-) mused assembly, we should like to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

On behalf of the Old Boys' Society, R. V. Grills.

---

## THE SPUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

*Chairman* : The Head Master.

*Secretary* : L. C. Fielding.

*Treasurer* : Mr. Withers.

Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Nagle, Mr. Beecroft, Mr. Grubb.

The Society was formed towards the end of last Summer Term with the object of enabling all Parents, Staff, and Old

Boys to exercise their dramatic abilities if they so wished, and the above committee was elected at the play reading "Journey's End." The committee decided to limit its initial activities to play readings, and accordingly "The Importance of being Earnest" was produced in the Library on the 26th October, before a small but appreciative audience. The second reading, "She Stoops to Conquer", took place on Friday, the 25th November.

It is hoped to produce a modern, three-act play in the School Hall next Autumn Term. Membership is invited (2s. single, 2s. 6d. double) and communications should be addressed to—the Secretary,

"Spur Dramatic Society,"  
at the School.

---

## CRICKET

The season ended with the now traditional two games against the Parents and the Staff.

In the first, the School collected 96 against some very steady bowling (Clayden 24), and then Clayden (4 for 4) and Richards (4 for 21) hustled the Parents out for 61.

The Staff were more successful, scoring 180 (Mr. Cobb 41, Mr. Grubb 29, Mr. Newsom 28) but when Richards (47) and Smith (37) had taken the score to 114 for 4 wickets, it looked as though the School might do it. But the bowling of Messrs. Cobb and Milton produced a devastating collapse, and the Staff were finally left the winners by 51 runs.

---

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

Though it was valuable still to have D. W. Taplin captaining the XV, and Austin and Richards as halves, the strong fixture list for the 1938 season and the difficulty experienced in getting the right centre threequarters have made results rather disappointing. But, late in the term, centres have been found with some powers of penetration.

The forwards have borne the brunt of the work, well led by Taplin, and have done well, though their breaking and backing-up remain slow. Grubb dribbles well; Smith works hard, Barnes and Stephens are a solid second row; though the back row still have common back row faults, they have played with dash and enterprise.

Austin has been ubiquitous at scrum-half, and Richards with greater experience has been a real asset. The three-quarters generally have improved recently, and Jepson now adds a good defence to an excellent turn of speed.

High-spots in the matches themselves have been the work of the forwards against T. Seymour's XV, Harrow, and K.C.S.; a great dash by Jepson against Harrow; straight running by Christian against K.C.S.; the struggles of the whole XV at Wellington against a much faster and more experienced side; and in all matches, the good use made of few chances by Richards and his sterling work in defence.

Results of matches to date :—

XV v. T. Seymour's XV. ... ..	Lost	6—16
XV v. Whitgift Colts. ... ..	Lost	3—16
XV v. K.C.S. 4th XV ... ..	Drawn	3—3
XV v. Harrow 4th XV. ... ..	Lost	6—13
XV v. Wallington County School. ...	Lost	11—38
XV v. Old Boys ... ..	Won	22—0
XV v. Wellington College Colts ...	Lost	0—38
XV v. K.C.S. 4th XV. ... ..	Won	29—5
XV v. Kingston Grammar School "A" ...	Lost	3—9
2nd XV v. Kingston Gram. School 2nd XV	Won	20—0

(Note.—This is a truncated account of the season so far. Next term we hope to publish a much fuller review—Ed.)

### COLTS AND JUNIOR RUGGER

We are forced to hold over detailed reviews of the Season as far as Colts and Juniors are concerned until next term. Results so far have been :—

Colts v. Wandsworth. ... ..	Lost	3—13
Colts v. Surbiton. ... ..	Lost	3—8
Juniors v. Wandsworth ... ..	Lost	0—9
Juniors v. K.C.S. (under 12½)	Lost	3—11

All the games have been close and exciting.

### SWIMMING SPORTS

Winners of House Swimming Cup.—Halliwell's.

#### RESULTS

Event  
No.

1. Plunge (Junior House).—1 (8) (N) Robbins; 2 (4) (M) Smith, D. W.; 3 (2) (H) Smith, R. J.
2. High Dive (Club).—1 (8) (S) Carter; 2 (4) (A) Churcher; 3 (2) (T) Francis.
3. High Dive (Junior House).—1 (8) (H) Franks; 2 (4) (N) de Cossio; 3 (2) (C) Zolmunas.

4. Running Spring Board (Clubs).—1 (8) (T) Saxby; 2 (4) (S) Tollett; 3 (2) (T) Francis.
5. Running Spring Board (Junior House).—1 (8) (H) Franks; 2 (4) (M) Smith, D. W.; 3 (2) (N) de Cossio.
6. One Length Crawl (Clubs).—1 (8) (S) Tollett; 2 (4) (T) Francis; 3 (2) (A) Churcher.
7. One Length Crawl (Junior House).—1 (8) (H) Smith, R. J.; 2 (4) (G) Zolmunas; 3 (2) (C) Crowne.
8. Two Length Any Stroke (Club).—1 (8) (S) Brookes; 2 (4) (S) Tollett; 3 (2) (T) Carr-Jones (Maj.).
9. Two Lengths Any Stroke (Junior House).—1 (8) (M) Smith, D. W.; 2 (4) (H) Daniels; 3 (2) (N) Evans.
10. Two Lengths Breast Stroke (Club).—1 (8) (S) Carter; 2 (4) (T) Carr-Jones; 3 (2) (T) Billingham, J.
11. Two Lengths Breast Stroke (Junior House).—1 (8) (H) Franks; 2 (4) (N) Robbins; 3 (2) (M) Sanderson.
12. One Length Crawl (Senior House).—1 (8) (N) Barnes; 2 (4) (G) Hughes; 3 (2) (C) Hill, R. P.
13. Relay Race (Club).—1 (20) (S); 2 (10) (T); 3 (6) (A).
14. Two Lengths Any Stroke (Senior House).—1 (8) (N) Barnes; 2 (4) (C) Hill, R. P.; 3 (2) (G) Rodrigues.
15. Relay Race (Junior House).—1 (20) (H); 2 (10) (N); 3 (6) (C).
16. Two Lengths Breast Stroke (Senior House).—1 (8) (C) Prangnell; 2 (4) (M) Lamberth; 3 (2) (G) Goodman.
17. Three Lengths Any Stroke (Senior House).—1 (8) (N) Barnes; 2 (4) (C) Hill, R. P.; 3 (2) (H) de Potier.
- 18.—Relay Race (Senior House).—1 (20) (C); 2 (10) (G); 3 (6) (N).
19. Plunge (Senior House).—1 (8) (H) Smith, L.; 2 (4) (C) Bailey, W. A.; 3 (2) (M) Reed, D. R.
20. Running Spring Board (Senior House).—1 (8) (C) Gurney; 2 (4) (H) Smith, L.; 3 (2) (G) Simmons.
21. High Dive (Senior House).—1 (8) (M) Lamberth; 2 (4) (H) Gates; 3 (2) (G) Simmons.

### "THE SPUR"

A. Hinton, D. G. Austin, A. V. I. Cook, F. J. Treen, J. E. Hamer, N. Molchanoff.

Copies of current and back numbers (Vol. II No. 2 is out of print) are available from the office at the price of 6d.

Contributions for the next number should be sent to the Editor by March 17th. They should be written on one side of the paper only.

## CONTENTS

Head Master's Notes	1
School Officers	3
House Notes :-	
Cobb's	3
Gibb's	6
Halliwell's	8
Milton's	11
Newsom's	12
Inter-House Dramatic Competition	14
Cock House Trophy, 1937-38	14
House League Table, 1938	14
The R.C.A. Building, New York City	15
The Staff Concert	15
Readings	17
Lunch Time Film Shows	17
Debate	17
The Stage	18
The Visit to the Omega Lamp Factory	19
Lectures	19
Open Night, 1938	23
The School Library	23
"The Library Review"	25
The Junior Debating Society	26
The Austrian Tour, 1938	26
The Belgian Party	28
A Month in Normandy	30
19th Wimbledon Scout Troop	31
The Summer Camp, 1938	34
The Raynes Park County School Old Boys' Society	36
The Spur Dramatic Society	36
Crickets	37
Rugby Football	37
Colts and Junior Rugger	38
Swimming Sports	38
The Spur Editorial Committee	39

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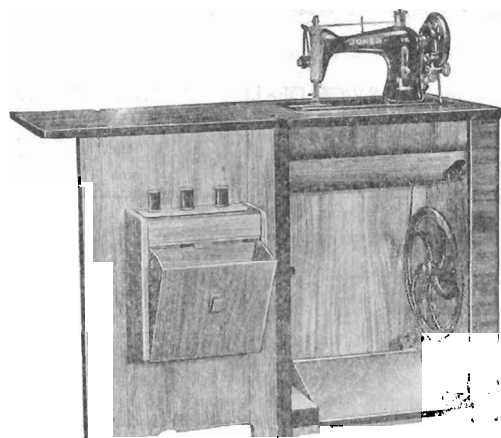


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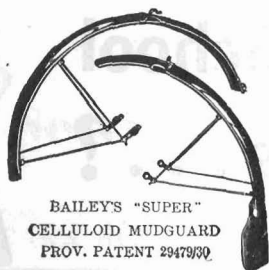
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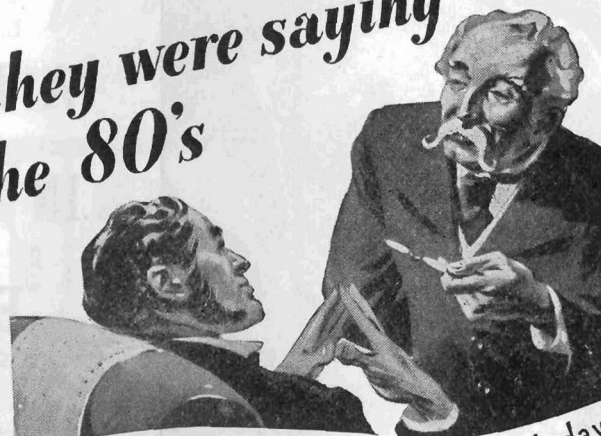
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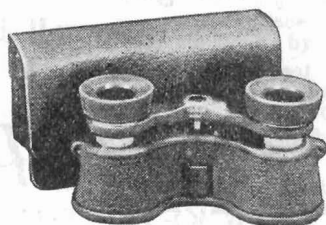
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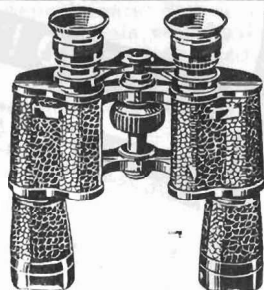
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