

THE

SPUR

Vol. VIII

No. 2



THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL.

"To each his need, from each his power"

Vol. VIII, No. 2.

Winter, 1947.

OBITUARY

We announce with deep regret that GERALD MICHAEL CATTELL, aged 22, died on August 17th, 1947, after a long and unhappy illness developed during his Naval Service in the Far East. He was a member of the School from 1936 to 1943 and was in Newsom's House; he is inextricably threaded with the School memories of many people. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his parents and friends.

His was a delightful character, modest in manner, but capable of vigorous assertion against foolishness or affectation, and never tired of expanding his knowledge of his own major interests, particularly farming and poetry. He had that sort of liberal outlook, both sympathetic and sensitive, which is the sure token of education. The thought of all that he might have done is deeply grievous; but the memory of his splendid personality is a source of happiness which will endure.

EDITORIAL

Once again ravenous time has swallowed up a Christmas Term. It seems so very much less than fourteen weeks since we began. In spite of the rush, however, all the established events have found their places, lectures, film-shows, debates, the activities of innumerable clubs, a fine Rugger season, the Verse-Speaking competition, Prize-giving, and the mounting crisis of the Christmas production of the "Comedy of Errors"; there has even been time for innovations like the Chess Club and School examinations at the end of November. In these pages some account of the term's activities will be found. We regret very much that we have been forced to omit several valuable contributions—because of rising costs and growing pressure on our limited space. We offer our apologies to those contributors whose work we have, much against our will, been forced to exclude.

We heartily congratulate Mr. L. A. Webb, M.A., on his appointment as Headmaster of the Licensed Victuallers' School at Slough, though we are deeply sorry that he is leaving us. Mr. Webb has given unstintingly his great gifts to the School. He has been a brilliant teacher of French, an able and inspiring Rugger coach to whose command of the game so much of our Rugger success in recent years is due. Above all he has been a generous and ready friend and the deep affection in which we hold him is a measure of his worth.

SCHOOL OFFICERS CHRISTMAS TERM, 1947

Head of the School : D. Thompson.

Prefects : D. Thompson, N. Godwin, B. A. Newman, G. Osmint, D. W. Tanner, G. W. Thomas, D. M. Cheate, D. G. Lines, P. A. Blight.

Prefect of the Hall : N. Godwin.

Captain of Rugger : B. A. Newman.

Secretary of the Games Committee : D. Thompson

Prefect of the Library : D. G. Lines.

Sub-Prefects : Ashley, J. ; Cunningham, B. D. ; White, D. P. ; Colvin, N. G. ; Priestman, S. ; Gardiner, N. S. ; Kirby, F. ; Grant, K. ; Hodges, F. ; Evans, J. R. ; Rippengal, D. J.

COBB'S

Captain : D. Thompson.

Vice-Captain : D. W. Tanner.

School Prefects : D. Thompson, D. W. Tanner, D. G. Lines.

Sub-Prefects : D. P. White, F. Kirby, F. Hodges.

The success of the House on the rugger field this term has been only partial, for the Seniors have played two matches, against Gibb's and Newsoms, and have suffered defeats in both. The team lacks cohesion, and has not once yet shown itself capable either of attack or penetration. Nevertheless, the picture is much brighter in the middle part of the House, and its team is to be heartily congratulated upon its excellent victories against the same two Houses, the first match being won by a very considerable margin, 39 points to 5. A Streeter and D. Jonas are to be especially congratulated for their brilliant play, but we must at the same time remember that their success was due, in part, to the support that the rest of the team afforded them.

While writing of the middle part of the House, I take great pleasure in recording that last term they won the Junior Cricket Competition, beating Halliwell's in the final by 97 runs to 54.

The Swimming Cup, owing to unavoidable cancellation of the actual Sports, was awarded for a lead of qualifying points, so that we gained second place. The latter success, indeed, helped towards our final position as second in the Cock House Competition, proving that the year, as a whole, was a good one. Nevertheless, we must not always be content with second place, and must strive for that supremacy which I am confident will be ours in the very near future.

D.T.

Valete.—We have taken leave of not less than fourteen House members since the end of last term. Amey, Bide, Pooley, Norton, Gravett, Rolison, Mayo, Patston, Smith, Douglas, Foster, Williams, Robinson, Brittain and Adams. We thank them all for their many and varied contributions to the House and the School, and wish them absorption and happiness in their several callings. It is gratifying to note that among the above are those who earned distinction in Library, Workshop, Laboratory, Art Room and playing fields alike.

D. Thompson is to be congratulated on becoming Head of the School, D. G. Lines on becoming a School Prefect, and F. Hodges on being appointed a Sub-Prefect.

All our 19 prizewinners deserve high commendation, especially Kenneth Gravett and David Tanner upon winning County Major Scholarships, and Harris, Beardwell and Absolon for the best performances in the School Certificate.

May these good records in all fields of activity be an inspiration to those already quickened, and a reminder to those as yet untouched by the spur.

GIBB'S

Captain : N. Godwin.

Sub-Prefects : S. Priestman, B. D. Cunningham.

We extend a hearty welcome to all those new boys who have joined us this term: Clayton, Davis J. M., Godwin A., Gordon, Hulatt, Lynch T. E., Owen, Pratt D. M., Shepherd R. J., Shopland and Tyler. We trust they will be happy with us and share fully in all House activities.

Last term we had to say goodbye to Warham, Bennett and Lough, who are now serving in the R.A.F., and Spencer, who has emigrated to South Africa. Paul Pimple left us just before half term to pursue his academic career at King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne. To these we offer our best wishes and God speed.

Congratulations are due to both Bennett and Pringle who were granted State Scholarships on the results of the Higher Certificate.

Rugby Captain : Cameron, M.

The Senior House team must be congratulated upon its magnificent efforts this term. We gained a decisive victory over Cobb's in our first House match, beating them by 23—3. The outcome of our excellent match against Halliwell's, in which they were fortunate enough to win by two penalty goals to nil, cannot but be regarded with certain satisfaction. These results reflect the co-ordinated play of the team under the unfaltering leadership of Cameron.

We have not been so successful in our Colt matches. We lost to Cobb's, 39—5, and Halliwell's, 24—0, but beat Milton's 12—3. There are one or two boys doing all the work, but in future, after some practice, we hope to see each man doing his full share.

Cross-Country Running.

Captain : Charman, J.

When Paul Pringle, whose indefatigable energy and zeal in coaxing people to cross-country run is beyond praise, left us at the beginning of October, Charman was elected to the captaincy of this sport. A few stalwarts have been attending practice runs regularly each week, and we sincerely trust their efforts will not go unrewarded in the inter-House Cross-Country Run next term.

N.G.

HALLIWELL'S

Captain : D. M. Cheate.

Vice-Captain : G. W. Thomas.

Prefects : D. M. Cheate, B. A. Newman, G. W. Thomas.

Sub-Prefects : J. Ashley, J. A. Evans, N. Gardiner.

So far the House has had a successful term. The rugger team, under B. A. Newman, has beaten Gibb's (6—0), Milton's (29—3) and Cobb's (17—4). The Colts also have gained victories over Gibb's and Milton's by 26—0 and 25—8 respectively. The traditions of the House have been maintained by the Junior team, who beat Milton's (23—0). The preparations for the cross-country run continue under the captaincy of G. W. Thomas, and with such enthusiasm that stand a good chance of retaining the cup.

The importance of qualifying points in inter-House competitions was emphasized by the award—solely on qualifying points—of the Swimming Cup (1946-47).

We are very sorry to have lost our Captain, C. R. E. Parker, and Vice-Captain, J. C. Taylor. D. M. Cheate and G. W. Thomas have taken over those offices with every sign of being worthy successors. A further loss which the House will sustain at the end of this term is the help of B. A. Newman, who for years has been one of the great stalwarts of the House. We wish him every success in his future career. On the other hand, we are very pleased to welcome back J. A. Evans, whom we thought we had lost to the Royal Air Force, and to extend to those who have joined the House this year a hearty welcome.

MILTON'S HOUSE

House Captain : G. Osmint.

Vice-Captain : K. Grant.

At the time of writing we have played only two rugger matches, both against Halliwell's House. Our Senior team lost by 29 points to 3, and our Colt team lost by 24 points to 8. Although these results dispersed any hopes we may have had of winning the Cup this year, we may hope to finish, once again, second in the competition. I should like to pay tribute to Pegrum, who has put in a great deal of work in an attempt to improve our three teams.

Cross-country running is under the direction of Ayling and Langton, and we shall look forward to producing a comparatively strong team this year.

We extend our congratulations to Keith Grant on his appointment as a **Sub-Prefect**. We also congratulate those who were successful in the Mid-summer Public Examinations, and commiserate with those who were less fortunate.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome all those new boys who joined us at the beginning of this term. We hope they will prove to be useful and keen members of this House. It was, however, with deep regret that we had to say good-bye to several senior members of the House, at the same time. Alder is now a member of the R.A.F. and Carolin is farming, while awaiting his 'call-up'. Wetherall has entered industry and McBride is working at County Hall. Salter has gone up to Cambridge, where he is studying medicine, and R. A. Birch, who we congratulate on being appointed a Prefect before he left, is now serving with the Army. We sincerely thank these Miltonians for all they have done, each in his own particular way, for the House. We wish them the very best of Good Health and Good Fortune.

NEWSOM'S

Captain : P. A. Blight.

Vice-Captain : D. J. Rippengal.

Sub-Prefect : M. J. Colvin.

Last season's cricket team, captained by Rippengal, deserves to be heartily congratulated on its very convincing victories in the Inter-House knock-out competition. Milton's were beaten (50—19), and Cobb's (114 for 4—42) on the replay of the match previously drawn. Some of the more successful players were Rippengal, Colvin, Pike, Gunn and P. Phillips, but the whole team contributed to the success of the season.

The winning of the Cricket Cup provided a good excuse for a House Supper to be held. It took place on October 23rd in the School Hall. We thank very much the members of the Kitchen Staff, Mr. Phillips, who gave the ice-cream, and the many other contributors. The ample meal was followed by games, and the rest of what seemed a very short evening soon fled in the Physics Lab., the film screen animated by Pluto and Mickey Mouse. This was preceded by one of Ronnie Waldman's puzzle films. The Juniors in particular seemed to enjoy themselves, and new members should have felt at home. We give them a warm welcome, and hope that they will play a real part in House activities in the future. As a result of Mr. Phillip's kind act, the money left over from the subscriptions for the House Supper has been set aside, and with it a House Fund has been started.

The rugger season has started well with a win against Cobb's by 14—3. The Senior XV, under the captaincy of Welby, has developed a good team sense, and, though its members are rather young, we hope that other games this season will be equally successful. Practices, supervised by Mr. Atkin, have been helpful for both Seniors and Colts. The Juniors have not yet played a match. In practices they have

shown every sign of developing into a useful team. Like the Colts, they are stronger, in the scrum, though the three-quarters can be effective if they remember to run hard. Willingness and a keen desire to improve are very noticeable in all three teams.

At the end of this term Rippengal will be leaving to do his National Service in the R.A.F. We shall miss him very much, especially in the cricket field and in his position as House Vice-Captain. May he have the best of luck.

P.A.B.

PRIZE-GIVING

The 1947 Prizegiving took place in the Town Hall, Wimbledon, on the 12th November. Mr. Billingham, Chairman of the School Governors, presided, and after welcoming the guests, who included the New Mayor of Wimbledon, introduced Mr. A. G. Scrivens, who was to present the prizes. He then called on the Headmaster to give the report of the School's activities during the year.

The report was admirably lucid and to the point. He gave a comprehensive survey of the School's extensive activities. The Rugby XV had had a overwhelmingly successful season in 1946, and the Winter term had closed with a triumphant presentation of *Twelfth Night*. The Easter term had been overshadowed by the disastrous weather, which had hampered activity indoors and completely prevented outdoor sport. Indeed, the Hockey XI were able to play only one match during the whole term. At this point, the Headmaster paid tribute to the Masters who had left us during the year, and welcomed those who had joined us. The Summer term was happier. The Annual Garden Party because, for the first time a School instead of a Scout function, but it was its customary success, both socially and financially. In reference to the London University examinations, which closed the term, the Headmaster mentioned the impending changes in the examination system. He expressed the hope that the examiners would give an opportunity for constructive thought in essay-type answer instead of upon merely tabulated factual information.

After the Headmaster's report Mr. A. G. Scrivens distributed the Prizes. The absence of several of the prize-winners was explained by their being either at the Universities or serving in His Majesty's Forces. The distribution finished, Mr. Scrivens gave the address.

He began by saying that in his opinion the apparent inconvenience of holding the Prizegiving in the Town Hall instead of at the School was really an advantage, for it gave the boys an opportunity to "spy out the land." The Town Hall, with its many municipal activities was a symbol of the life which each of us as a citizen would be expected to lead. After mentioning the importance of the Master as the guide and protector of his pupils, he went on to enumerate the three aspects of life—the intellectual, the emotional and the practical—which must be developed equally in each boy to give him a well-balanced character. To attach undue importance to either the academic or the practical side was dangerous.

When the address was concluded, Mr. Louwndes proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Scrivens, during which he mentioned the exclusive and valuable work done by Shoreditch Training College in the "teaching" of Arts and Crafts.

The proposal was seconded by the Head Boy, Donald Thompson, who expressed the School's appreciation and enjoyment of Mr. Scriven's address.

The evening was concluded by the singing of the School song and the National Anthem.

PRIZE LIST, 1946 - 1947

FORM PRIZES.

IA Bevan, D. J., Loveday, R.	IIIB Bullock, I. B.
IB Burgess, D. A., Salter, D. N.	IIIA Crichton, J. W., King, A. J.
IIIB Kimber, K. J.	IV 2 Cook, B. J., Florentine, J. B.
IIA Brown, C. I.	IV 1 Murant, A. F.

PRIZES FOR THE BEST PERFORMANCES IN SCHOOL CERTIFICATES :—
Mills, D. K. Harris, D. J. Beardwell, D. T.
Law, I. B. S. (for V.2) Absolon, M. G. (for V.3)

PRIZES FOR THE MOST PROMISING WORK IN FIRST YEAR SIXTH :—
Hopkins, J. R. (Arts) Wilkinson, J. H. (Sci.) Welby, M. J. (Econ.)

PRIZES FOR BEST WORK IN HIGHER CERTIFICATE :—
History—Cheatle, D. M. *Physics and Mathematics*—Bennett, D. B.
Geography—Gardiner, N. S. *Chemistry*—Tanner, D. W.
English—Pringle, P. A. R. *Chemistry and Biology*—Carolyn, R. C.
Classics—Parker, C. R. E. *Economics and Economic History*—
Osmint, G.
French—Birch, R. A. *Statistics*—Smith, S.

GENERAL PRIZES.

General Knowledge Prizes—Patrick, D. V., Wolkenberg, T. G.,
Pringle, P. A. R.
Art Prizes—Hopkins, A. J., Williams, Gwyn
Handicraft Prizes—Ponsonby, F. N., Pooley, J. B.
Music Prize—Cromwell, T. F.
Acting Prizes—Goodwin, A. C., Parker, H. D. E., Lines, D. G.
Verse-Speaking Prizes—Strangroom, R. B., Mason, J. F., Davis, M. J.,
Tanner, D. W.
Norman Science Prize—Gravett, K. W. E.
Whitman Prize for Medical Studies—Salter, C. E.
Beaverbrook-Bennett Essay Prize—Bennett, D. H.
John Robbins Essay Prizes—Birch, R. A., Hopkins, J. R., Tanner, D. W.,
Clayton, G. H.
Headmaster's Essay Prizes—Evans, J. A. A., Pringle, P. A. R.
Leaving Prize to Head of the School, 1946-1947—Parker, C. R. E.

HIGHER CERTIFICATES.

VI. ARTS.	VI. SCIENCE	VI. ECONOMICS.
Bide, P. E.	Bacon, D. H.	f Alder, B. G.
Birch, R. A.	b c Bennett, B. D.	Cunningham, B. D.
Cheatle, D. M.	Blight, P. A.	e Gardiner, N. S.
Cromwell, T. F.	Bonnard, P. J.	Needham, M. W.
a e Pringle, P. A. R.	Carolyn, R. C.	Osmint, G.
Taylor, J. C.	Doling, D. A.	f Smith, S.
	b c Gravett, K. W. E.	
VI. CLASSICS.	Hope, D. A.	
	Jahn, M. H.	
Parker, C. R. E.	Lough, D. G.	
Thompson, D.	Norton, H. J.	
White, D. P.	Packham, R. F.	
	Pead, J. L.	
	d Tanner, D. W.	
	Warham, T. J.	
a. Distinction in History.	d. Distinction in Chemistry.	
b. Distinction in Physics.	e. Distinction in Geography.	
c. Distinction in Applied Mathematics.	f. Distinction in Statistics.	

OPEN NIGHT

One of the necessities of a Good Open Night is that it should be well-balanced; it should be neither over-ambitious nor too deeply bound to tradition and precedent. Last term's Open Night fulfilled this specification to a very high degree, and was certainly one of the most successful since the School was founded.

The Hall, as usual, was thronged with crowds right from the beginning. Despite the encroachment of puppets and pottery, and the innovation of a refreshment service, the Bookstall still remains firmly entrenched here. It is no small credit to the enthusiasm and persuasive ability of the Library staff that before the end of the evening some 150 books had been purchased for the Library by parents and friends. Much interest was also aroused by the Puppet Theatre, and the sets for *Twelfth Night* which added a touch of colour to the stage.

The Scientists, always ready to initiate the uninformed into the mysteries of Science, produced two elaborate exhibitions which made many a member of the Arts Sixth blush for shame. Even the most ardent scientist, however, must admit that Science has a distinct advantage on Open Night. All of us enjoy gazing, with a supposedly professional air, at scientific experiments, but what would we think of watching a class of boys writing English essays or painfully construing obscure Greek and Latin texts?

Of the remaining exhibitions it is unnecessary to say that they were all good—they were all the result of much hard work and preparation. The Workshop, however, must come in for special mention; the articles there were some of the loveliest ever produced at the School, and every one, from the smallest to the largest exhibited that very high standard which is synonymous with the Workshop.

One of the principal functions of Open Night is to show the School as it really is, and to this end two typical classes, French and Greek, were organised during the evening. In the Greek class Mr. Cattley clearly demonstrated that Greek, although a "dead" language, was still the equal of many modern languages in forcefulness of expression and in adaptability. Many parents left this class with a feeling that after all there was something in Greek. Both these classes deserved much larger audiences for they do give an idea, slightly coloured perhaps, of the nominal school life.

Two of last year's innovations again attracted the largest crowds. The Model Parliament in the Art Room was its usual gay self, and the standard of debate was as high as ever. In the Library the Poetry Society held the undivided attention of its audience for nearly a hour.

Two criticisms alone (to my knowledge) were made of this year's Open Night. The first is that, despite the very clement weather, there was even less display of the School's outdoor activities than last year, and the second that very little of the poetry read at the poetry reading was written by boys still at school. The general impression, however, was that Open Night was as varied and interesting as in previous years, and that an even higher standard of workmanship and finish had been obtained. If it achieved nothing else Open Night would still be counted a success because it engenders between all concerned, parents, friends, boys and staff alike, that sense of good-fellowship and satisfaction that is so essential to the healthy life of a school.

D.P.W.

SIXTH FORM SOCIETY

The Autumn term is, from the point of view of the Society, perhaps the most suitable term of the School year for social meetings. With an influx of boys into the Sixth Form the membership number of the Society has risen considerably to the total of 70, including 31 new

members. This influx has also had encouraging results in the attendance numbers at the meetings held so far. In accordance with the views of the Committee, the programme for this term was made deliberately small, the meetings being separated by a considerable period of time. In this way it was hoped both to increase the attendance at the meetings and to leave opportunities open for meetings with other schools. So far both of these hopes have been fulfilled. The meetings arranged for the term were as follows:—

Personal Choice Evening	Wednesday, October 1st.
Model Parliament	Wednesday, October 15th.
A Debate	Friday, November 7th.
A Films Evening	Friday, November 21st.
Model Parliament	Wednesday, November 26th.

In addition to these an invitation was received from Tiffins to participate in a debate on Tuesday, November 18th. Two members of the Society are proposing the motion, "That a planned society is incompatible with individual freedom," and numerous other members are attending. An invitation has also been received to participate in a debate with the West Wimbledon Society in the near future.

The Personal Choice evening was attended very well, there being 43 members of the Society present and 30 visitors from Wimbledon County School, to whom an invitation had been sent. The usual theme of classics versus jazz ran as an undercurrent through the meeting, and the readings ranged from serious extracts from G. K. Chesterton to contributions in a lighter vein from Beachcomber. The visitors gave a very enjoyable extract from T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral," and on the whole everybody's taste was "catered for" though some interesting "tastes" evinced themselves, there being a Chinese record played.

The Model Parliament had, regrettably, to be cancelled. The Debate, however, proved a success, being run on a new basis. Invitations were sent to the Parents of all Sixth Formers, as many as possible being induced to participate. An invitation was also sent to Wimbledon County School. The motion before the House was, "That modern civilisation is retrogressive."

For the motion were—

J. A. Evans,

D. W. Tanner,

while opposing the motion were—

R. B. Tanner, Esq.,

D. M. Cheatle.

The motion was carried by 18 votes to 16. Numerous members of the staff were present, and Mr. Horne also attended. Though speakers from the floor were not numerous the debate was successful and enjoyable.

As previously mentioned, a party attended Tiffins on Tuesday, the 18th November. Films selected for the Film evening, were "The Blue Angel" and a Chaplin cartoon. For the arrangement of this and also for much useful work in previous meetings, thanks are due to the members of the Committee, and also to J. A. Evans. Through them and by them the past meetings have been successful and will continue to be so while we have their support.

D.W.T.

THE GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

This term, the first of a new School year, necessitated the election of new officers to the various posts left vacant, with the departure of last year's Senior geographers. The new Committee's first action was to prepare topics and lectures for the term's meetings. It was decided that the dark nights gave admirable opportunity for a series of lectures by members. The first of these was given by Jago, on a "Holiday in

Holland," a lecture which was admirably illustrated and of much factual interest. The next meetings were devoted to members talks: D. G. Lines and F. L. Hodges giving an illustrated talk on the Lucerne area of Switzerland, and J. Ashley and D. Tutchell giving an amusing and highly original talk on the Lake District, and J. Harrington recounting his travels and impressions in that progressive country, Denmark.

After much persuasion by juniors, a junior branch of the Society was formed, and their own committee elected. This advent is proof of the increasing interest in Geography, which is being shown throughout the School, and realising this, we have deemed it wise to open membership of the Society to all but first formers. With the increase in the number of members, the Society can afford to be more ambitious, and as a result we have planned for the future to visit the Ordinance Office, at Chessington, and the Meteorological Station at Kew, and to introduce a regular film show once a month. Besides these additional fixtures, we shall continue with our policy of hearing members, lectures; of surveying the district; of increasing the Geography Library, and of encouraging the geographers in the School to employ their geographical interests in the fullest possible manner.

D.G.L.

THE POETRY SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster.

Secretary: J. R. Hopkins.

Members: Mr. W. Walsh, J. A. A. Evans, D. Lines, D. Tanner, D. M. Cheatle, G. Wenham, G. Osmint, D. Thompson, W. Godwin, D. Beardwell, J. Powell, B. Jackson.

Fired by the success of the Open Night reading of original poems, the Poetry Society, under the leadership of Mr. Walsh, has thrived. As the number of members has grown, so, also, has the number of original contributions submitted. Of late the Society has had to depend upon other more experienced writers, now Old Boys, and even, as a last resort, upon other poets. Thus, again, at the beginning of term the Society was resigned to a study of the metaphysical poets. But, in this dire emergency, new poets have arisen. The last four meetings have been devoted to "the strong meat of original contributions." The Society which seems to be thought exclusively for the Arts Sixth has had great pleasure in welcoming members from the Science, Economics and Classic Sixths. Poetry is of the man and not of his learning.

Also, the Society has welcomed as visitors late members of the Society. At the first meeting of the New Year Mr. James Joyce was present, and offered two new compositions for the Society's approval. Other Old Boys frequently send their new poems to the Society and, through Mr. Walsh, the Society has had a constant supply of such poems, which, though their authors may be absent—serving the King—are nevertheless greatly appreciated.

The Society has also published a Second Notice of Verse, thus further establishing a publication, which we hope will in time become as much a tradition as THE SPUR.

NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP

The School National Savings Group was started in 1940, and since then members of the School have contributed some £4,500. Outstanding in the history of the Group were the special savings weeks, when in 1942 we took £549 during "Warships Week" and in 1943, during "Wings for Victory Week," £590. During recent terms both the number of savers and the sums saved have fallen sadly. From a

weekly average of £20 we have dropped to below £5 a week. The number of active members of the Group is below 50 in a School of over 400. In days of increased cost of living some fall in savings is an obvious result, yet the need for personal saving is always there. Since the opening of the Group it has been in the charge of Mr. Hanson. Now Mr. Cholmondeley has taken over. The Group functions on Monday mornings, and it is to be hoped that its activities will rapidly increase.

565 SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS

Training has continued this term with increased enthusiasm, although the Squadron strength should be better. A new syllabus of training was received during the summer holidays, giving greater emphasis to ground trades and less to air-crew activities—an inevitable development in time of peace. At evening parades on Wednesday and Friday, morse, arms drill, aircraft recognition, ground combatant training and navigation have been the main activities. Shooting on Bradbury Wilkinson's .22 range has been held at week-ends. A film programme was planned for an evening later in the term.

On 9th June, 1947, the Squadron was inspected by Air Vice-Marshal Sir Alan Lees, A.O.C. Reserve Command, who commended the cadets on their smart turn-out and airmanlike bearing.

A brief but enjoyable week-end camp was held at R.A.F. Station, Kenley, during the half-term holiday. The weather was suitable for flying, and trips were made on three days; visits to other aerodromes on Sunday, a map-reading flight covering south-east England on Monday and a trip to Brighton on Tuesday. A total of 44 hours was flown, each Cadet being airborne for about 3 hours. All who attended the camp remarked on the adequacy and quality of the food and on the good facilities for recreation.

During the term several cadets attended the Gliding School at Kenley, and F/Sgt. Payne gained his A Certificate. Cadets will attend this school regularly as a number of places are allotted to our Squadron.

We welcome two new instructors to the Squadron. Mr. Lyle, who was a navigator in Bomber Command, is helping us with navigation and administration; Mr. Manning, an ex-cadet of the Squadron who saw commissioned service in the Royal Marines, is assisting with ground combatant training and map-reading.

Next term we look forward to an extension of our training and to welcoming many new cadets. Any boy over 14½ years old who wants to join should see Mr. Lyle. With the obligation to do a year's National Service at the age of 18, a period of service with the A.T.C. is a valuable introduction to the R.A.F. to which it also guarantees entry. In addition, the training is interesting, and every effort is made to give each cadet as much flying as possible. This takes place mainly at the Annual Camp at an R.A.F. Station during the Easter holidays.

G.M.W.

THE PARTISANS

President : The Headmaster.

Secretary : D. M. Cheatle.

Members now at School : Mr. W. Walsh, Mr. E. A. C. Balshawe, D. M. Cheatle, J. A. Evans, N. Godwin, D. W. Tanner.

The first meeting of The Partisans this term was held in the Headmaster's study on Friday, October 10th, when D. M. Cheatle read a paper on "Miracles."

A miracle, in Cheatle's opinion, is an event inconsistent with the normal constitution of nature, but not necessarily a violation of it caused by an external agency in accordance with the extreme plan of

Divine government. In all religions asceticism is necessary to the performance of a miracle. Can God interfere with the normal course of nature? We have examples of such interference in man's conscience and in his power of reasoning. A miracle can be performed for one of two reasons, either as a means of revelation of God or of resolving a complex between the moral and physical orders, that is to say, a miracle may take the form of adjusting material inequalities. A man may be known for his moral rectitude yet not blessed with many of this world's goods; that inequality may be rectified by a miracle.

It is possible briefly to deal with and dismiss some of the criticisms regarding the historic accuracy of the miracles of Christ. It is asserted, for instance, that no miracle is sufficiently attested by men of education, learning and numbers. Apart from the fact that the four Gospels were not written in collusion—and their apparent lack of unanimity in regard to detail proves this—it may be stated that some of Christ's miracles were in point of fact examined in a hostile court of law, as recorded in the New Testament, and seen by many hundreds of people.

The second meeting of the team was held at the Secretary's home on Friday, November 14th, when J. A. Evans read a paper on "War."

Evans divided his paper into "The Nature of War," "Causes" and "Remedies." He emphasised that fundamentally men and women do not desire war *for war's sake*, but rather to obtain some real or imagined, usually the latter, advantage. He cited as examples of communities who have appreciated the moral iniquity of war, the Chinese, followers of Confucius and Lao Tsu and the Buddhists, and suggested the failure of these who preach Christianity to have the same effect as the teachings of priests of the East, that war is wrong is due to a fault not in the individual but in the Church itself. Evans levelled a general criticism at the inadequacy of the Church to guide its members bewildered as they must be by the trend of modern events.

Evans quoted, and agreed with, Mr. Emery Reves' idea that wars cease when the small or group of small social units are politically, economically and culturally integrated forming a higher; more universal authority, and he implied his belief in Federation as the only sure means of finally outlawing war.

The probable causes of war were outlined as a feeling of bored frustration in individuals, the prevalence of nationalism, the need for territory to house excess population, desire for coveted raw materials and the furtherance of political or religious ideals. Evans suggested the cure was the creation of a moral philosophy of life nearer to reality than nationalism and communism, which seems to be the dominant forces in the world to-day. He advocated an expansion of the principles of self-government and welcomed the fact that U.N.O., unlike the League, does not exist on the assumption that all nations are potentially the causes of war.

At the next meeting of the term, Mr. Balshawe is to read a paper on "Plato."

D.M.C.

CRAFT NOTES

Of all the crafts, woodwork perhaps needs most basic training. Much useful work has been done this term with the unexpected, although meagre, supply of wood to our empty store; and several groups of woodworkers now have some slight knowledge of the first principles of construction. They have had the opportunity to learn about and make a number of the more common frame-joints. Normally speaking, this will occupy our attention in the second year, and it is time well spent. Next term some groups will be able to commence a modest series of small useful articles, but until better times many of our ideas will have to remain on paper. Fortunately even paper has

its possibilities, and we shall spend some time in studying a few simple problems of design on the drawing board.

The pottery groups have worked well, and I look forward to a fine show by the end of the School year. Particular mention should be made of the age-old method of making pots by the "coil" system **which the first year forms have been practising.** It would be difficult to name a craft with more possible pit-falls, disappointments and mis-haps, but equally difficult to name a craft which can give greater pleasure to both the craftsman and the onlooker. The amazing variety of form, texture and colour, which are the potters delight, have no parallel in any other craft.

Within a few months we hope to be using an electric wheel, which is to be designed and made in the workshop. This will make the otherwise laborious task of throwing an easy one, but remember that some of the finest pottery in the world has been produced by the most primitive means.

Our new electric polisher and grinder, which has been in constant use since its installation, has made the finishing of plastic articles a much easier matter, reducing hours of laborious work to a matter of minutes. Working with sheet plastics has many limitations, and we seem to have exhausted the range of articles which can legitimately be made from this material. In its limited way, however, plastic sheeting has given some groups the chance of experimenting in a new medium, and discovering to their delight (and occasional regret) just what the various kinds of plastic materials we use can be expected to do.

The Printer's Guild has had a new lease of life with the additions of new apprentices. They have worked daily on various work, including the latest library review, and despite a very limited selection of type and small press that needs much coaxing, the results have been quite good. The printing plant is sadly in need of replacement, and as soon as suitable equipment can be obtained, the printers will be able to show their capabilities to the full.

The Guild meetings have been particularly useful, and a range of topics from the life of Eric Gill to a study of modern type-faces have been presented weekly.

The Puppet Club has also held its weekly meetings regularly and worked hard out of School hours designing and assembling puppets for a new production. Puppetry is a fascinating pastime, giving great opportunities for every kind of talent, and there are a few vacancies in the Club for boys of any age who would like to join.

All the School has watched the stage set for "The Comedy of Errors" growing daily, and many hands have played their part with saw, hammer, nails and glue. The majority of the work has been done, however, by the small group of enthusiastic stage builders hard at work each evening. It shows great credit to them that they have produced such a fine set from odd pieces of wood and hessian, not to mention a great deal of hard work, much of which is never seen by the audience.

The Workshop continues to be open at lunch times. Walk in and take an interest in these many activities—they are there for your enjoyment.

D.R.S.

VERSE

"DO I DARE."

Do I dare to sit and stare
From this happy stately hovel
Through that vile framed crystal
Upon that cold industrial scene.
The tattered grass and Autumn's broken green,
The ragged skies and winsome winds,
The lethargic trees and bark of man's creations.

The twirling mass of cabbage, wood and coal
Of meat and bricks and sand, for man
To wrought and wrench to satisfy his plan.
Like an intermittent nightmare they shout
And whine and bleat their thundrous cries
So we mortals may hear their hateful taunt
"We are masters of your nations,
You are slaves of your own creations."
I do not dare to sit and stare.

G.O.

STERILITY.

For the moment the fighting is over.
Swept out of sight like an evil wind
The victims die by the wayside
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

One more train of humanity
Drifting along the dusty yellow road,
Met the killer's knives amongst the crops
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

Like diabolic seeds they sprang up
From the thick yellow fields
To fall on the straggling multitude,
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

Their killing was careless
And left more dying than dead,
Haphazard, sharp and painful,
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

Murder moved on the way
And left it to the vultures
To find a motive,
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

The fields are deserted
No man returns to the soil claimed by Death
The last face slumps back to the black mud
And the corn lies crushed in the stagnant water.

P. P.
Oct. 4, 1947.

"LAS PALMAS."

Trod are the roads that burn and drag
Brown, cursing Spaniards to a skyward waste;
A sweating cargoe,
Seeking comfort in the warren hills,
The Sun of God their God.

There, on a lower ground, I drank
With a man in a black hat, a Spanish man,
Tasting another century, piled with time,
While the white walls stabbed my eyes
And I dreamed of a coming hour.

From the jealous dark of the cellars
To the raw wine on the slopes
I came, in the maniac sun,
Wrapping my feet in the dust
Of a sweet and blistered earth,
And then to the sea.

You remember the playing ;
But they can see a white, white skull
Alone on a burning hill

R.H.R.
(Accra, 12th Sept., 1947.)

THE ANCLERE

An anglere was ther, wyth a rodde and lyn,
A bagge, yclept a creel, a flaske of wyn ;
And perched hy up-on his heed ther satte
Gernisht al wyth barbes, a fersome hatte.
Ay wolde he speke of carpe and troute and hake,
Wyth many a salmon hadde his rodde bene shake.
But whan theye wolde nat byte, and atte hym jeerd
Of his visagē children wer afeerd ;
Loude wolde he curs, and swere as he wer wood,
And crye : " Beni 'cite, it is nat good
That I use bred-paste ; wormēs wol I trye."
And whan theye fayld, than wolde he caste a flye,
A Bloudie Butchere, or a Hardie Dunne ;
To bayt an hooke a bettrē was ther none.
And, sothe to seye, he was a good felawe,
Ful many a daynty fishe he y-drawe
From fishe preserves, whyl that the kepere slepe,
Of nycē conscience tooke he no kepe.
For tellyng trouthe, eschewing lies, pardee !
Ne was ther swich another man as he ;
Men cald hym Ananias, hym to plees,
By-cause thatte he was holy, doultelees,
But whan that he wel drunken hadde the ale,
By Goddēs bones ! than wolde he telle the tale
Of fishēs grene and redde and blue and greye
That he hadde caughte : but ever wolde he seye
" Ye sholde hav sene the one that gotte awaye ! "

R.H.R.

CHRISTMAS POEM.

After the passion and the flame of day
Quietness came, and the intimate stars, and they
Contrived their miracles and mysteries
In the deliberate trees.

And cadences of music undefined
By instruments on lips, faint tunes in the mind,
Hinted at happiness, imminent and profound,
In mere symbols of sound.

And when the unfaltering moonlight found each leaf
And lent cold stones a brilliance and a brief
Beatitude, no human tears or care
Endured in the bright air,

For the intolerable ferocity of God's love
Too pure, too burning, but diffident then as the dove,
Glowed on the world from the pity-prompting, mild
Eyes of Christ, a child.

W.W.

TWO POEMS.

I.

The hesitant leaf falls slowly
Reluctant to meet the sodden ground
And petulantly struggles to climb the air.
It drifts and slides smoothly
Without care
Hid from the sun and the rain and the wind
Nestles to the earth, and
Is still.
Here there is no intruding rape of silence
The wind, frightened by its own violence to come, holds its breath.
The squirrel is gone to bed and man
Is established by the fire—he has no warmth within.
The white brittle light cuts lines on the ground
Through the clean boughs.
The dead sun looks down on the dying world.

D.M.C.

II.

Children are playing there in the sun
Building castles on the sand.
They point to a ship which goes
In the mist—like an acid dissolving its prey
And they cannot see, with eyes closed in life, the gravestone
Of a bloated sailor, drunk with the sea,
And cracked on the wheel of the shore.
The sea shuffles uncertainly in, and the children go
As the sea recedes
And alone, and alone,
The grey stone grins on the flat sand.

D.M.C.

THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

THE THEATRE.

Salzburg to Edinburgh is not so far a cry as it may seem at a glance, since they have several things in common—background, tradition and romance. The International Festival, which opened on August 24th with a service in St. Giles' Cathedral, in Scotland's capital city, was intended to be the first of an Annual Festival of the Arts to be held in Edinburgh. Plans are already under way to repeat the event in 1948, so this year's festival was not merely an experiment.

Two outstanding elements in the festival programme were the first visit to Great Britain of Louis Jouvett's Company from the Théâtre de L'Athénée, in Paris, and the first performance in Scotland of Verdi's opera, *Macbeth*.

M. Jouvett is a master. His "Arnolphe" in Molière's *L'École des Femmes* was a miracle of gesture and grimace. In the words of Lionel Hale, "This superb company open their mouths and the melodies of France come out alexandrine by alexandrine." Besides M. Jouvett, this production boasts a delicious setting by M. Christian Berard, whose magnificent work can be seen in the new French film *La Belle et la Bête*. A white colonnaded square, a wall that parts to reveal a charming garden complete with trees and flower beds and hanging candelabra, together suggest admirably a seventeenth century playhouse.

Ordine, the second play in the repertory also boasts a fine second-act setting, one of the finest I have seen in any theatre. By cunningly set ramps the small stage of the Royal Lyceum Theatre was made to extend some hundreds of yards away. (It took just under half-an-hour

to set!) In the words of a stage hand, who worked 14 hours rehearsing the play, "It's the finest — second act set I've ever seen. It really is a — miracle."

M. Pavel Tchelitchev, the designer is not so excellent on costumes as he is on sets. "He is fortunate sometimes, but fussy," very, very fussy! For English ears the subtlety, wit and point of dialogue were difficult, but the acting of M. Jouvet, Mlle. Bianchar, Wanda, and Yolande Laffon and M. Etch Every remained. These two plays showed admirably M. Jouvet's supremacy as an actor, and his invention and tact as a director. We note that we shall be honoured by another visit from this great man and his company.

Macbeth, at the King's Theatre, proved to be a personal triumph for Madame Margherita Grandi. Her singing was "magnificent in its range, power and accuracy," superb settings aided Carl Ebert's admirable production. The Clydebournne principals and chorus were excellent. Owen Brannigan and Walter Midgely being particularly noticeable, as combining quality of singing with their dramatic abilities. Nothing could be more musically impressive than the finale of Act I, or more macabre than Lady Macbeth's sleep-walking scene. The Scottish Orchestra struggled with Verdi's score as only the Scottish Orchestra knows how!

The Sleeping Beauty, danced by the Sadler's Wells Ballet, proved to be rather disappointing. A small stage with an unusually steep ramp hampered the large company, and Oliver Messel's exquisite setting might just as well not have been there for all that was seen of it. Why, incidentally, was the Page's dance in Act I, cut? Margot Fonteyn's "Aurora" on the last night was the finest I have seen, unmatched in grace and charm she led the supporting cast with beautifully controlled abandon. Gillian Lynne was adequate as the Lilac Fairy, and Frederick Ashton as Carabosse delightfully grotesque. Avril Navaerre, Harold Turner and Michael Soles superb as the Blue-birds and Prince Florimund respectively. Violetta Elvins' debut as Aurora was quite breathtaking. She revealed qualities hitherto not apparent. We hope we shall see her repeat her success at Covent Garden during the coming season. Rosemary Lindsay, as the Lilac Fairy was enchanting and John Field and Leslie Edwards excellent as Prince Florimund and Carabosse. Once again a "Symphony Orchestra" struggled with Tchaikovsky's score, this time quite successfully, thanks to Geoffrey Corbett's admirable handling.

Preceding Louis Jouvet's company at the Lyceum was the London "Old Vic Theatre Company" with *Richard II*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Never has such fun been had with the *Shrew*. Mr. Bunnell's production was "a daisy." Sly (Bernard Miles) remained on the stage throughout the proceedings to watch the play on his behalf. Katherine (Patricia Burke) proved to be a "Comedy Carmen" and Petruchio (Trevor Howard) was bold without being brutal, and Peter Copley as Tranio displayed a brilliant piece of overplayed bravura. It has been said that this production may turn out to be "a major performance of a minor work."

Richard II has vastly matured and progressed since its London premier six months ago. The production, although fast was full of petty details and the décor does not help the play, rather it may be said to be a hindrance. Richard is, in effect, a solo performance—that of the King himself. Alec Guinness now takes firm hold of the part in both hands. His voice has improved vastly, and above all, he has authority. The supporting cast, although good, are not outstanding. I couldn't hear Richard's Queen, incidentally. Bolingbroke (Harry

Andrews) proved once again what he can do. Well-spoken and good-looking his performance provided the second highlight of the play. Mark Dignam's John of Gaunt was too tepid and restrained a portrait. More fire and fervour were needed. A good production, though, on the whole. Still, a pity the Old Vic brought only one new production to an International Festival.

MUSIC AND BALLET.

As this was the first Edinburgh Festival, the programmes were rightly not of a very enterprising nature. I say rightly, for Mr. Rudolf Bing and his colleagues showed great perspicacity in feeling their way carefully, and doing their best to please everybody. Nevertheless, the programmes were well planned, and presented amongst familiar symphonies and overtures, works like Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde," Holst's "The Planets," Britten's "Peter Grimes," Interludes, and Faure's "Pelléas and Mélisande."

Artists and Orchestras came from all over the world:—Elizabeth Schumann, Kathleen Ferrier, Peter Pears, Arthur Schnabel, Josef Szigeti, William Primrose, Pierre Fournier, Michaelangelo, Cyril Smith, Bernard Michel, Robert Casadesus, Todd Duncan, Maria Korchinska and the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Walter Susskind and the Scottish Orchestra, Ian Whyte and the B.B.C. Scottish Orchestra, and Bruno Walter and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra made up the full roster.

Some performances were memorable, Paul Paray's of Schumann's Fourth Symphony, John Barbirolli's of Berlioz "Fantastique," and Bruno Walter's of Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde." Fresh and wonderful in the memory too, is the Schubert Recital by the incomparable Elisabeth Schumann with Bruno Walter at the piano. This great artist is a model of perfection in the singing of Schubert Lieder, an art rapidly and sadly declining. On this occasion Madame Schumann sang such especial delights as "Nacht und Traume," "Die Post," "Serenade," and "Die Forelle." Kathleen Ferrier, probably the greatest contralto of our time, sang the solo in "Das Lied von der Erde," in perfect rendering which brought forth all the simple, unaffected beauty of Mahler's music.

The Jacques Orchestra, opened the series of chamber concerts at the Freemason's Hall with ten concerts in which they played all six of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos. Less known, however, which received fine performances were the Five Variants of "Dives and Lazarus," by Vaughan-Williams. Sibelius' "Rakastava" and Bartok's Divertimento for Strings. The Czech Ninet followed the Jacques Orchestra, and gave performances of Beethoven and Prokofiev and the music of leading Czech composers. They proved to be worthy of the praise that went before them, playing with a style and polish not heard for some years.

L'Orchestre des Concerts Colonne was chosen to open the series of Orchestral Concerts at the Usher Hall. They gave three concerts played in that inimitable classic style of all French Orchestras. Notable among the familiar works which they played were the aforementioned Schumann Fourth Symphony and an overwhelming performance of the Second Suite from Ravel's "Daphnis and Chloé." They are a wonderful instrument, this tradition-steeped orchestra, I hope they will come again.

The Halle Orchestra displayed their usual clean, unruffled style of playing in Weber's "Lurianthe" Overture and Delius' "Song of Summer." Elgar's masterpiece for String Orchestra, the Introduction and Allegro, received an indifferent performance, which was surprising

The cinema year has been dominated, as usual, in number by the American film, and in quality by the Continental new films and revivals. Yet now a new factor is manifest—the British film. Approaching in quantity the peak of quality already achieved in treatment and subject, the English film shows itself to be fully capable of resting the lead from both sources of the world's films.

The first British film to come to the screen in 1947 was the all-conquering "Great Expectations." This, the first of a new Dickens revival, took the story and transferred it, tale, spirit and Dickensian finish, to a film scenario, with several added effects of sudden surprise absent in the loquacious novel. Frankenstein's monster, Dracula, and all other members of Hollywood's brood of horrors must have felt some fear at the sudden appearance of the convict in the graveyard. It moved from climax to climax, and ended with the happy of the two made an auspicious return in this film, supported by many other admirable portraits, or rather, transcriptions of Dickens' characters. Since this film Mr. Mills has contributed two other fine performances: the leading role in "So Well Remembered," a film saved from mediocrity by this and Trevor Howard's performance; also the title in the Ambler thriller, "The October Man." Rarely has a more convincing portrait of mental conflict been pointed without the use of trick photography and sound.

Mr. James Mason has also made two appearances this year. In the first he was dominated by a fine cast of supporting actors, and in the second he dominated. The former, "Odd Man Out," was concerned with adventures that betail a wounded Irish party leader as he wanders about the slums of a city. In short, penetrating, character-sketches, the director shows the attitude of a people towards those who rebel against oppression. And among them all, the purely selfish man, whose only thought is for himself, bemused by a great deal of talk but nevertheless unsweating in his purpose, portrayed by the late F. J. Macerwick. His second film, far less noteworthy, was over-powered by the brooding presence of Mason. It moved slowly, but methodically along the traditional path of insanity, and misguided revenge, raised a doctor, who appears for a few minutes at the end.

Attempts have been made to introduce tragedy into the middle-class. The English adaptation of the Simenon novel entitled "Temptation Harboured," succeeded in an Ibsen-like style. The identification of the temptation to steal the money he finds with the show-girl that he meets at the same time is portrayed brilliantly by Mr. Robert Newton as the signalman. Honest and unflinching the film moves towards its inevitable end, with no thought of any future restorative happiness. The fundamentally honest signalman, realising the wrongs that the introduction of the police. The introduction of murder money has led him to, goes to the police. The picture on holiday, presented in Hogarthian manner in "Holiday Camp," almost destroyed the illusion of goodwill that seemed universal in the camp.

There is, of course, the other less aesthetically brilliant side of the British film—at one extreme, the successful "Jassy," after box-office returns alone, and at the other, "Black Narcissus," a cruelly cut version of the original which dwelt upon the beauty of its scene to the detriment of the story; "Master of Bankdam," a very dull, slow cavalcade of the years, with only the performance of Stephen Murray to merit its production; "Erieda," failed to tackle fully the problem that it sets out to resolve, allowing the moral question to disappear in order that love shall find its happy ending via an attempted suicide; "Take My

since that composer's Second Symphony in E flat was given such a mastery interpretation. The Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra is not the wonderful orchestra it was many years ago. War and the general lowering of standards have left it weak in tone and ensemble, and they could not be expected to give an outstanding performance of "The Planets." Venus' cool, classic beauty was well rendered, and Neptune's vagaries have rarely been more potent, nevertheless. Their performance of Brahms' Second Symphony was extremely bad, the orchestra and conductor, entirely missed the feeling of this beautiful work, which is essentially one of happy, warm-hearted sincerity. This particular performance was frigid, and in places, uncouth.

At each of the Hallé and Liverpool Concerts, one of the four soloists of the new chamber group, played a concerto; Schnabel played Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto, Szigeti Mozart's Fourth Violin Concerto, Primrose, Walton's Viola Concerto and Fournier, Haydn's Cello Concerto in D major. They each displayed their supreme musicianship; Schnabel, the grand, old silver-haired master of the keyboard, the formal almost impersonal Szigeti, Primrose, the world's greatest viola player and Fournier, the brilliant young Frenchman.

Thursday, the 28th August, at the Usher Hall, marked the debut of this chamber-music combination. Not since the days of Cortot, Thibaud and Casals, had the world seen such great instrumentalists co-operate in the performance of chamber music. Their programmes were devoted to the music of Brahms, Schubert and Mendelssohn to commemorate their centenaries. The Brahms received the greatest performance, particularly the A major and C minor quartets. Every player's ability, into an even, flowing whole.

The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra gave three programmes which they repeated once each. The Tallis Fantasia of Vaughan-Williams, the Sixth and Seventh Symphonies of Beethoven, Schubert's "Un-finished" and Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde," in company with popular waltzes and overtures by Johann Strauss and Schubert, made up these programmes. The glorious, sensuously rich tone and bowing dash of the violins, and the wonderful volume of sound from the French Horns are only two qualities of this orchestra which is the finest in Europe. Bruno Walter, who conducted all six concerts worked with and under-studied Gustav Mahler, and the performances of his "Lied von der Erde" were probably the highlight of the Festival's music-making. With Kathleen Ferrier and Peter Pears as the soloists, the performances were of highest standard possible. Nevertheless, the "Gypsy Baron" and "Overtures and Emperor" and "Blue Danube" "Blue Danube" "Waltzes were a revelation. Here was Strauss, Viennese music played in the grand Viennese manner.

Now that the Festival is a wonderful dream, it is possible to study it generally. There were mistakes. The Scottish Orchestra, little more than an amateur body of players, ought not to be allowed at such a Festival, much less attempt to play Britten's "Peter Grimes." Interludes, the whole concert was a sad error, except for Michaelangelo's delicately beautiful playing of the Ravel Piano Concerto. However, the Festival was a great success. In years to come we hope that it will become even more worthy of being successor to the Salzburg Festivals. To do this the City will need new and larger theatres for the production of opera and ballet. When this is possible then Edinburgh will really be a second Salzburg, being all it should and could be. The Athens of the North is a great and supremely beautiful city, its people are kindly and hospitable, and because of these two factors, there is every possibility of even greater Festivals in the years to come.

Life," whose fine camera angles and settings detracted from the work of Marius Coring and Francis L. Sullivan in their attempts to instil some reality into a hackneyed story.

To end this brief review on a more promising note, two good films of the year have marked the advent of two new stars. In "The Man Within" Richard Attenborough finally reached stardom with an impressive portrait of cowardice, eventually redeemed. To do this he had to combat the always overpowering presence of Michael Redgrave. In the other, "Man About The House," Kieron Moore, the Irish stage actor, made a remarkable debut with a portrait of the Italian, Salvatore. The other Italians in the film seemed quite English in their lack of fire, compared with the passionate speech of Moore's at the end of the film. Thus, with the promise of Olivier's "Hamlet," Lean's "Oliver Twist," Duvivier's "Anna Karenina," the coming year promises even further advances along the hard path back to the position held by Britain in the film world prior to the first World War.

J.R.H.

STATISTICS

THE POPULARITY OF RADIO PROGRAMMES

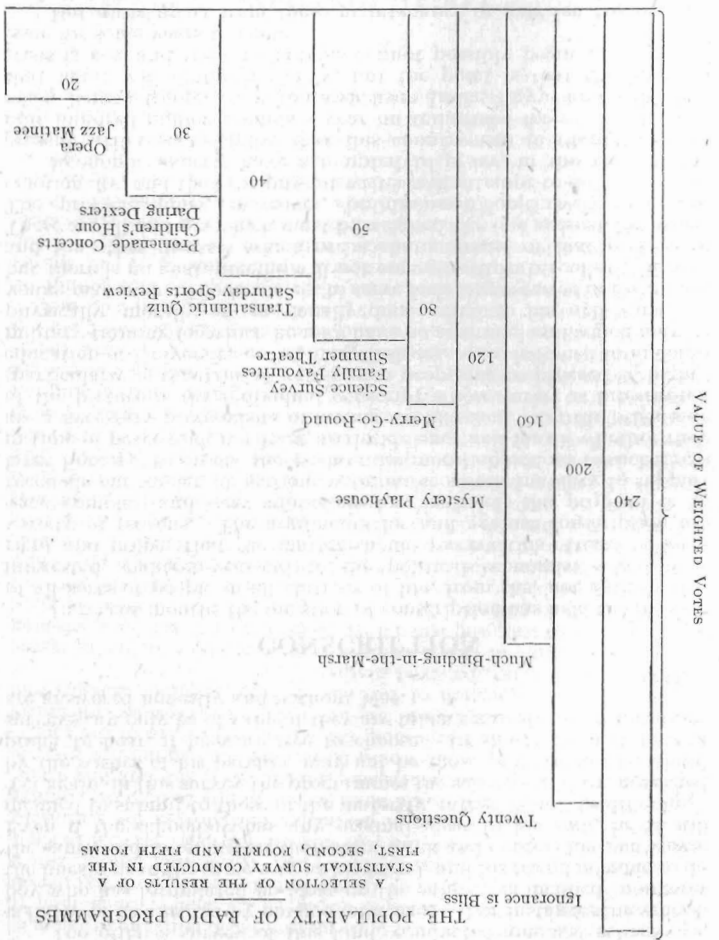
At the end of last term a Gallup Poll was taken in the first, second, fourth and fifth forms of the School, amongst boys whose ages ranged from 11 to just under 16 years. Each boy, who answered the question-naire, was asked to denote which of 36 representative B.B.C. programmes covering the Home and Light Services, he considered to be the best, giving three preferences. The results were interesting and revealing.

"Ignorance is Bliss" was considered the most popular programme, polling 240 votes. The schoolboy evidently derives some emotional satisfaction from the apparently amusingly ignorant antics of the performers in this "low" programme. "Twenty Questions" was the second most popular programme, polling 200 votes. This result is, perhaps, not so remarkable as it is a skilful radio adaptation of an interesting and intelligent parlour game. "Much-Binding-in-the-Marsh" was placed third. It was followed by "Mystery Playhouse," which naturally makes an appeal to the schoolboy, whose lusts for robbery, violence and the macabre seem infinitely unsatisfied. The programme polled 120 votes.

"Science Survey" polled only 50 votes. I commiserate with the scientists who, no doubt, will now question the validity of this survey. "Family Favourites" was sandwiched between the latter programme and "Summer Theatre" (Saturday Night Theatre). "Transatlantic Quiz" and "Saturday Sports Review" were equally popular, polling 40 votes each. Closely following these programmes were "The Promenade Concerts," "Children's Hour" and "The Darling Dexters," all apparently equally popular with 30 votes each. It is surprising that three programmes—one relatively "high-brow," one making a light educative appeal, and the other so revolutionarily childish—should make such an equal appeal to the schoolboy. Had the survey been extended to cover the sixth form I feel sure that the "Promenade Concerts" would have been placed higher in the list, and "The Darling Dexters" lower. "Children's Hour" remaining where it is now placed. This would have been indicative of the effect of a six-form education upon the aesthetic, and perhaps ethical, faculties of the mind!

The unfortunate trend amongst young film-fans to go to the cinema irrespective of what is being shown, and with complete disregard of the views of the critics, is reflected in one result of the survey. "The Week's Films" polled only 10 votes. The radio adaption of W. M. Thackeray's "Vanity Fair" was the most unpopular programme.

THE POPULARITY OF RADIO PROGRAMMES
A SELECTION OF THE RESULTS OF A
STATISTICAL SURVEY CONDUCTED IN THE
FIRST, SECOND, FOURTH AND FIFTH FORMS



The results of this statistical survey have not only revealed, rather surprisingly, the tastes of the average schoolboy listener, but also the time at which the same schoolboy listens to the radio.

For instance, two of the most popular programmes, "Twenty Questions" and "Merry-Go-Round," are broadcast at 7.15 p.m. and 7.45 p.m. respectively, on Friday night, when most boys can afford to listen to the wireless leaving their homework till later in the week-end. Other popular programmes tend to occur late in the evening, at times which suggest boys have finished their homework and are free to listen to the radio. "Ignorance is Bliss" was on Mondays at 9.30 p.m. and "Mystery Playhouse on Tuesdays at 9.30 p.m. Thus this survey also reveals that the radio is perhaps, despite what ancient pedagogues may say, not a constant rival of homework. Of course, the unpopularity of programmes which occur on Saturday and Sunday evenings may be due to the fact that the schoolboy may be out at the cinema on the one night and at Church on the other, and unable to listen.

Too often a survey of this kind, conducted amongst schoolboys, is liable to be affected by outside influences. For instance, the school-boy who has formulated no ideas on the subject, is inclined to answer the questions in the same way as his friend, and his friend is liable to do the same, and so on, rather than stop, think and express his own views. Even if the schoolboy has any original ideas of his own, he is still inclined to submit to those of the majority, rather than "be different." Yet again, in this survey the programmes the schoolboy hears, governed by the wishes of his parents, may not be those programmes he would prefer to hear, if he were free to choose. In short, these statistical surveys can only be of value if they are taken seriously and if questions are answered honestly and without bias.

CONSCRIPTION

In recent months the question of conscription has held the interest of all sorts of people in all stations of life, from the, not entirely disinterested, eighteen-year-old to the political economist. And it is right and proper that the matter should receive this attention, for a variety of reasons. The arguments for and against conscription are very complex and very numerous for, in brief, the problem is to reconcile our foreign obligations with our economic inability to support large Forces; to satisfy those who raise moral objections to such forces in time of peace and, not least, to decide once and for all whether they are a necessary prerequisite of lasting world peace. On the other side of the picture is the individual conscript whose career is interrupted (particularly in this time of young men proposing to proceed to higher education of University or Training College), who is forced to undergo military training for which he may have no aptitude, and which may be physically, morally or emotionally detrimental to his well-being. A young man may, of course, elect to serve for a longer period in the mines, but there is no guarantee he will not emerge with tuberculosis, syphilis and other diseases which are a characteristic of that profession. These are all matters which must be weighed the one against the other. The problem must, moreover, be discussed objectively and unemotionally, and that the present writer will attempt to do. Economic experts have attempted to prove, in the view of the present writer successfully, that this country can ill-afford to spend nine hundred million pounds a year on the armed forces. Of course, when British troops are withdrawn from India, Egypt and Palestine, that figure will diminish visibly, but the point is that the financial crisis is now and these reductions cannot possibly begin to affect the issue for some years to come.

But quite apart from these maintenance or garrison troops (and excluding the armies of occupation, they are a separate problem) it appears that the British Government believes large forces will be necessary purely, in the form of a *Standing Army*, to help maintain peace or "to back up the United Nations" seems to be the cry. What nonsense this is, for surely the continued training of men in the arts of WAR. The powers that be seem to have assumed the inevitability of the very evil we are trying to abolish can have one and only one result—another war, and are merely preparing for the grand climax—the end of civilization with, even if we are fortunate, merely an Apocalyptic follow. Clearly, rather than submit to such a pessimistic attitude the Government should initiate a policy designed to maintain peace by peaceful methods. They should accept, as the truth, the view of Mr. Aldous Huxley that, "War is not a law of nature nor yet a law of human nature," and act accordingly. Power politics, outmoded by events must go for ever. International rivalry in a purely political sense must give place to competition in trade and culture, the sanctity and inviolability of U.N.O. must be established.

Now for the individual who finds himself faced with the problem of National Service. The reluctance displayed by many young men to enter the Forces is interpreted by the untinking as a lack of that degree of responsibility that is necessary in a good citizen and, indeed, this is often the case. But more often it is not the National Service as such, but rather the Armed Forces in particular that proves the stumbling block. Many young men would be eager and happy to help the country particularly in the present emergency, in industry, the building trade, or on the land. Many, also, would be serving the community by continuing their studies and providing the nation with more of the sorely needed teachers, doctors, technicians and research workers we constantly hear about. The question of National Service requires thought and vision. It has, so far, received neither.

On the subject of the training a recruit receives, it has no value except in time of war, and when a war comes most of the basic training will have been forgotten. That training has no aim of creating good citizens and probably, in point of fact, the result is just the reverse. Some of the training experts agree that the present system is physically harmful to recruits (this is particularly true of the R.A.F.). It is not, however, with this but rather with the psychological harm done that we should be particularly concerned. The mental and emotional torment of Service life and conditions to those whose nervous system was not built to stand the strain, is such that few will believe. The only credit due to the authorities in this matter is the importance they place upon the work of psychiatrists and neurologists (again, this is especially true of the R.A.F.). The contemplated and attempted suicide rate in the Service among conscripts, while not high, is alarmingly higher than it should be, and nearly all the cases have worked themselves into a state of nervous tension over military Service, not National Service in general. And this is not melodrama but plain, cold fact. It becomes apparent, then, that while National Service cannot be objected to, in principle, the particular application of it we know, should be considered, paying special attention to the welfare of the individuals involved. And, at least, there should be a more reasonable alternative than the Mines for those ill-suited and those who have moral objections to the Armed Forces. Above all, we must agree that there can be no possible justification, moral or economic, or political, for the existence, in time of peace, of huge mobilized forces—potential causes of war. The definition of a "nation" is not a community prepared for war! The League of Nations failed because it made that assumption.

J.A.E.

LOCAL HISTORY

The area surrounding our School can hardly be stated to be steeped in antiquity, although it still possesses many old buildings and places of interest. It is hard to visualise North-East Surrey, before the advent of suburbia, as an area of small villages separated by green fields. Parts of Ewell and Malden still possess a rural air, but in most parts this has vanished for ever.

Our district has been inhabited since the Stone Age, as flints from Wimbledon Common and Coombe testify. The Wandie gravels have yielded many implements. Also from Wimbledon come fragments of Neolithic Pottery, relics of the age when men first became farmers. It is remarkable that so little remains of the Bronze Age in North-East Surrey. A group of very dubious burrows on Putney Heath, near Tibbits Corner, alone remain, although pottery has been found on Kingston Hill. Agasson on the Common we have remains of one of the great Iron Age Fortresses. Many of the ramparts were levelled, but in its day it was probably one of the most important in Surrey. Known

a hundred years ago as Bensbury, it now rejoices in the name of Caesar's Camp, although Caesar never came this way, and the camp was probably in existence five hundred years before the Romans came.

The Romans have left us more than their predecessors, for, although a villa was found by Wolsey at Coombe, and although an extensive system of ditches were found at Ewell, and tiles dug up at Kingston, the most important thing the Romans left us was Stane Street. Although not completed until the end of Roman Times, this military road linked London with Chichester and West Sussex. It was five days march from one end to the other, each night being spent in a "mansio," or barracks, on the route. These mansios were situated at Merton, Dorking, Hardham, and Alfold. Merton was the first stopping place from London and from the number of coins found it is supposed that the "till" of a canteen had been discovered. It is interesting to note that even as late as the eighteenth century the main London-Arundel Road followed almost the same route.

What happened in this area between the Roman embarkation and the Saxon Invasion we do not know, but we do know that many of our villages were founded by the latter people. Malden, Kingston, Merton, Wimbledon, Mitcham and Morden are all Saxon names. At Mitcham and Ewell were found Pagan Saxon Cemeteries. Glass tumblers and enamelled jewellery were discovered among the graves. Kingston's associations with the Saxon Kings are well known. They were crowned in a Saxon chapel adjoining the South Wall of the Church. This, panelled with paintings of the Kings remained until 1750.

After being ravaged in the aftermath of the Norman Conquest, Merton leaped into history when the Priory of the Austin Canons was founded in 1117. Thomas Becket was educated here. St. Edmund and William Wykeham resided there for a while. Parliament sat there in 1236. Gilbert de Merton, later Bishop of Rochester, was also educated here and founded a college of priests, and left land for eight men to be maintained at University. Later this was moved to Oxford, where it became Merton College. Little remains of the great priory, many of the stones having been used in the building of Nonsuch Palace, although some are in an arch in Merton Churchyard.

Merton Church possesses a fine Norman north door, a fifteenth century porch and interesting arcading in the Chancel. The Chancel and Roof is an exceptionally fine piece of fifteenth century woodwork. On the south wall of the Chancel is a sixteenth century monument to Gregory Lovell, "cofferer to her majesties household." The Chancel of Wimbledon Church is mediaeval, as is the North Chapel in Putney Church. At Kingston, Lovekyn's Chapel is a fine example of decorated work, as is Kingston Parish Church, even though its tower was partly rebuilt in 1708. Kingston was once a centre for the Surrey Wool Trade and this accounts for the portrait of St. Blaise, saint of the wool merchants, in the church. The Lumley Chapel at Cheam is most interesting, for its Elizabethan monuments of the Lumley family and the smallest brass in England are well worth seeing.

Contemporary with, and earlier than, these monuments are the many interesting timbered buildings, which may be seen not far away. These include the "Plough" at Old Malden, the old cottages now damaged by bombing in Church Path, Merton; Fitznell's in High Street, Ewell; Wratthall's at Kingston and the old barn at Morden. Elizabethan style buildings are fewer, the most important probably being Eagle House, Wimbledon built by Robert Bell of the East India Company in 1613. Perhaps the finest were Henry VIII's Palace at Nonsuch and Wimbledon House, home of Lord Burleigh, Chancellor to Queen Elizabeth. Of the former, only a foundation and, of the latter, nothing remains. It is interesting to note that Hampton Court obtained its water supply, by pipe from three conduit houses at Coombe.

The pipe was made of lead and silver and was of heart-shaped section, because, when half-full, such pipe offers less resistance to water than ordinary piping.

Two buildings containing much seventeenth brickwork are the churches at Old Malden and Morden. The former was rebuilt by John Gooden before 1627, in that small brick with wide mortar joints, now no longer used. In 1636 Richard Garth rebuilt Morden Church, also in brick, and, like Old Malden, in an essentially Gothic style. How different from the Church of St. Katherine Cre, London, built four years later when the Classic Style was beginning to dominate England.

Eagle House, Mitcham and Vine House, Kingston, remain of the houses of the Wren Period, while Petersham, Richmond and Ham abound with beautiful examples. At Croydon, St. Anselm, unfortunately destroyed by bombing, was built by Wren himself and was an example of that wonderful sense of proportion which characterises the hand of the master, who trained, not as an architect, but as a mathematician, built with mathematical precision and accuracy. No. 35 High Street and "Southside," Wimbledon and several houses at Roehampton are good examples of later, Georgian, work.

Mention must also be made of the first public railway in England, which ran from Wandsworth through Mitcham to Mersham and was originally intended to extend to Portsmouth. Horse Traffic was used throughout this line, which was commenced in 1801 to prevent stoppage of supplies if Napoleon, blockaded the channel. Nelson, who lived at Merton Place and whose hatchment hangs in the church, removed this threat at Trafalgar, but the idea of Railways remained, although steam replaced horses.

Perhaps it was the Railway that brought town to country so that trout no longer frequented the Wandie and Ruskin could no longer say that there was no lovelier piece of lowland scenery in South England than that immediately bordering on the sources of the Wandie.

K. W. G.

FRENCH VISIT

In theory, the Sixth Form boy on his way to France should be thinking doubtless of the alleged pleasures to be derived from a second visit to the land of Rousseau, Jean Paul Satre, and of Le Roi Soleil. In practice, struggling against the discomforts of sea sickness, his one sustaining thought is that he knows France to be a land if not exactly flowing with milk and honey, at least with wine and perfume. On arrival one finds that anything wished for can be obtained—in the black market, for in France one gets the impression that the black market is the most widely spread occupation of the country; it is officially recognized as in no other way is it possible to secure even the bare necessities.

Another indication of the moral degeneration of France is to be seen in the issue of invalid cards giving, for example, priority in bus queues. It was suggested to me that there was a political bias in their distribution; it is certainly true that some "cripples" were seen running for a bus in a manner which would have done credit to a wing three-quarter.

Apparently it is permissible in France for a man to wear a navy blue suit, brown shoes and white socks;—"almost a gentleman." Again, it was pointed out to me, more in sorrow than in anger, that only *zazous*—French "spivs"—would wear an unattached collar with his shirt. French women and children, however, were smartly dressed, though I disliked slacks worn by them with the bottoms rolled up to just below the knee.

During my stay at Arcahon I watched a game of Pelote Basque a national game of France. This is played by two teams armed with a kind of basketwork scoop shaped like a pelican's beak with which the player catches the ball and volleys it against a high wall at one end of the court. The French take their sports more seriously than in this country; I was often ashamed by their knowledge of English players of various sports: it sounded unnatural to hear a French family discussing the prospects of Arsenal or Chelsea. The main interest in the north of France is in Association football; in the south Rugby. Cricket does not interest them.

For the wealthy France can offer many things: delicious gateau, but at 15s. each; clothes unrationed but much more expensive than in this country; English cigarettes at 5d. each—and oysters at 1s. a dozen. All things are not expensive in France, and—as the Headmaster mentioned in his report—it is difficult not to come back loaded with presents.

There were, of course, minor irritations as, for instance the stubborn refusal of the French to understand their own language—and it was my best French—and their failure to realize the supremacy of the English. It was a wonderful holiday, but how refreshing to hear at Dover, in unbasie English, "Does anyone want a—porter?"

D. M. C.

FANCIES

"Ever let the fancy roam
Pleasure never is at home,
At a touch sweet Pleasure melteth
Like to bubbles when rain petteth."
John Keats.

Straight articles are never appealing unless the writer is blessed with a sense of the subject and touched by an emotion for it. When this happens, what comes from his pen is not merely a description but an invention, a product of genius about genius. Such is not my case, and therefore I propose under this heading, to write about those things and people which come into my head: their importance and relevance to the modern world I leave it for the reader to decide.

To-day I bought a volume of Keats. It's made a hole in my pocket, but I shall never attempt to resell it. Poetry is not a commodity in the sense that our food and clothes can be, and though it is bought and sold in a shop, it remains above all commercial transactions. What a genius Keats had for expression. Turning the pages over in an idle moment after dinner I came upon the lines of Endymion.

"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever." It seems that this line was amended several times. To a student friend who lived with him, he read the poem in its rough draft, and began "A thing of beauty is a constant joy." Mr. Stephens, in the words of the Editor, "pronounced this fine line but wanting something." Later and after much thought apparently, Keats amended the line to its present reading. I know it's a common line now—and takes company with "Once more into the breach" and the other catch-phrases from the poets. but in spite of this it is interesting to realise what attention Keats paid to it.

Attention and care for the details of workmanship is always one of the characteristics of genius, and it speaks much for anyone in these times who can make the time to pay attention to the minor details of what he is doing. The other day, returning to camp from leave, I had a copy of the "Strand" magazine with me in the train; among its topicalities, there was an article by Edmund Burden on the art of handwriting. I only wish I could set down here some of the beautiful specimens of handwriting which were illustrating his article.

FILM AND THE NOVEL

L. A. G. STRONG.

They were not the products of a past age, but products of to-day, and written by men for whom typewriters and short-hand must be part of the lock, stock and barrel of existence. Yet they could afford time to make certain that even their most trivial thoughts were not only neatly expressed but beautifully set down on paper. If only we could all pay attention to the minor details of our common or garden lives, how much more interesting and beautiful they might be (From this it is quite permissible for the reader to deduce that there is a touch of genius even in affixing the two-penny half-penny stamp which should accompany every letter he writes.)

We are too much apologists for ourselves. Because we live in an age of speed and of Communism, we spurn and even scorn the upper classes of yesterday, who, while they did not create the art of past ages, at least gave it the opportunity of flowering and maturing. Last Tuesday, I saw a film—*Flame is the Spur*—portraying the life of a Labour politician and his eventual defeat by the pleasures and pride of ministerial and national office. For the director of this film, his succumbing to the grander instinct, was a tragedy, but this is surely questionable. Are we to imagine that all of what has gone from our who laugh at the Lord Mayor's Show had better beware that they never find people laughing at them for their boorishness and lack of taste. I set out to write about the odds and ends of thoughts which have crossed my mind. On re-reading, I am amazed to find they follow a pattern. It is not one to be proud of; I have attempted Elysian heights in commentary and naturally have been defeated. Can anyone else do better?

It was made clear at the outset by Mr. Strong that his talk was in no sense a lecture on the science of turning a novel into a film; it was rather a discussion of the problems met with from time to time.

Dealing at some length with "The Brothers," he pointed out that there were 18 attempts to make the film from the novel, and it was four years after the publication of the book that David MacDonald worked out a treatment to enable the story to be retold on the screen. Such special treatment was always necessary for the production of a satisfactory film reproduction of a story. The novel enjoyed greater licence. It could include, as in "The Brothers," reference to a drunken priest whose "hell fire sermon" inspires the committing of a murder; whereas such derogatory treatment of a Clerk in Holy Orders on the screen is forbidden by law. When a novel of, say, 80,000 words is to be presented on the screen in only 15,000 words compression in the film version is necessary. This extended even to the sacrificing of characters—as in the case of "Sussex Gorse," in which a family of ten in the book was reduced to five in the film. In a screen version emphasis was laid on those scenes most suitable for production in a film.

Personal stipulations of a film star, whereby stories in the original had to be altered out of recognition to suit the principal actor's whims, were referred to by Mr. Strong as "*ad hoc* studio jiggery-pokery stuff." The "star" system sometimes worked, and sometimes displayed in the application of alleged local colour. Frequently an expert would be appointed only to be overruled for the sake of "a good picture." Among instances quoted by Mr. Strong were the attempts to insist on one occasion of the attendance of women at a funeral in the Highlands—something which never took place in real life. "This,"

said the producer, "would be dramatic and effective." The reply was definite. "Dramatic, yes; effective, and . . ." The last word was left to the imagination.

Incidentally, in the case of the Rank organization there should be a direct link between producer and the public in view of the combined control of both production and the cinema.

Fashions in tastes changed with time. In 1936 there had to be a happy ending; to-day the hero or heroine on the screen could die. Audiences generally Mr. Strong placed in the following categories; French, emotionally adult; English, pre-adolescent; Americans, hardly yet born. English immaturity consisted of a desire for a star always attractive and untoubled; the French star had to be a real person. On the subject of taste, Mr. Strong's London hearers were surprised to learn that in the provinces Henry V. was "a total flop."

CANNING AND THE CHEMIST

R. SANDERS, Esq.

On two consecutive days Mr. Sanders dealt with two aspects of the canning industry. In the first lecture he revealed to us the vast amount of work for technical perfection which goes into the construction of tin cans. In simple outlines he gave the essentials of the processes involved in the canning industry. Starting with the production of thin iron sheet he compared British methods with American methods, revealing in the latter, as might be expected, a process far in advance of British practices, both in quality and in efficiency. Whereas the British industries roll bars twenty feet long the Americans deal with it in lengths of three hundred yards. The American methods of tinning the plate are also more up to date. From this point he described the complexities of problems which had to be solved in sealing the can and sterilising the food.

In the second lecture Mr. Sanders devoted his attention to the theoretical problems confronting scientists of all types. There are problems concerned with the production of 'tin cans' which lie in the sphere of all scientists except perhaps the geologists. Chemists are concerned with the prevention of corrosion, the soldering and the tin plating, physicists with the strength, efficiency and the sealing of the cans, biologists are concerned with the preparation of the food before canning, bacteriologists with the eradication of harmful bacteria, biochemists and organic chemists with the internal lacquering of the can, and many of the scientists with other problems. Mr. Sanders completed his very interesting lecture with a number of exhibits.

D. W. T.

BRAZIL

by D. REDSHAW Esq.

In his interesting and instructive lecture, Mr. Redshaw achieved a balanced blend of purely geographical, political, economic and sociological information. He emphasised the vast distances; belts of forest of incredible density almost beyond the power of our insular minds to comprehend. Most of the hinterland of Brazil is included in this humid unknown. The areas of civilization in Brazil, and Mr. Redshaw felt the word was probably rather too strong to apply to a country with institutions so corrupt and an economy so undeveloped, but such civilization as there is, is concentrated in the coastal strip. The lecturer spoke particularly of San Paulo, but one felt it was probably typical of those towns to be found in southern Brazil. We learned that San Paulo is the centre of the Brazilian coffee industry which has, over the years, taken the place of Gold and Sugar as the principal pre-occupation of the natives and is now the major

export of the country. Mr. Redshaw described the nation as having a sort of Gilbert and Sullivan picturesqueness but that appearance is very superficial, for, as we would expect from an agricultural community, the standard of living is very low. This, it would appear was assisted, hardly at all, by the wartime growth and development of 'mushroom' industries, yielding enormous profits (sometimes as much as 800 per cent.) for the private capitalist. Mr. Redshaw stressed the prevalence of corruption in high places and said that what he described as 'personalism' was a necessary prerequisite for office in the Civil Service or the Government.

According to the speaker, politics in Brazil are 'taking a new orientation' but the influence of Nazi sympathisers is dangerously strong and complete. Nevertheless, Mr. Redshaw was convinced that, despite the illiteracy of 83 per cent. of the population, and despite diseases with which most of the community are riddled and despite the consequently diminished powers of resistance and perseverance of the people, the potentialities of the untapped mineral resources and the vast unused tracts of land are enormous. But, he insisted, Education and Transport are two vital necessities.

Mr. Redshaw said in the course of his lecture that Brazil is not a country of the future but a country of the past. We felt, though, afterwards that true though his remark may have been it is equally true that Brazil is a country with a future.

J. A. E.

RUGBY NOTES

I am pleased to be able to say that the standard of performance in Rugby is still high. The 1st XV can no longer boast of an unbeaten record but the decisive win against Wimbledon College and the narrow margin of the defeats by Wallington (a strong side) and by the R.C.S. "A" XV, are evidence that as a School we are still on the up-grade. Congratulations to Newman who always gives a splendid exhibition of clever rugby, and who has been an inspiring captain. Cameron and Ashley are developing into first class players and I expect them to carry the name of Raynes Park into first-class club Rugby. We congratulate the new colours—all hard working players. Lines and Thomas continue to use their energy and skill to obtain good results. Thompson has proved a very efficient Secretary and has learnt to tackle hard. Many schools would be proud to have the 2nd XV as a school 1st XV. The results show that they are too good for most 2nd XV teams.

I hope that Street and Langton will next year be regular members of the 1st XV. Godwin and Cheate must both be congratulated. They deserve some sympathy, also. In normal years they could both have expected to play for the 1st XV. Priestman, also, whilst being overshadowed by Newman, is a reliable, intelligent player to whom the side is responsible for much of its success in scoring. A successful season. I hope there will be many more to follow.

1st XV.—B. A. Newman, D. Thompson, D. G. Lines, G. W. Thomas, J. Ashley, J. Wells, G. Pegrum, M. A. Cameron, J. Hopkins, R. Kohlbeck, M. Welby, R. Simpson, T. Champney, P. Phillips, R. Herbert.

The following members of this years 1st XV have School Rugby colours:

1945.—B. A. Newman.
1946.—D. Thompson, G. Thomas, J. Ashley, D. Lines, G. Pegrum, M. Cameron.
1947.—Simpson, Champney, Kohlbeck, Hopkins.

RESULTS OF 1ST XV MATCHES.			
v. Old Boys	...	...	Cancelled
v. Wimbledon College	Won 25—3	...	...
v. Whitgift Middle	Won 8—5	...	...
v. Harrow	...	...	Cancelled
v. St. George's College	...	...	Cancelled
v. K.C.S. "A" XV	Lost 11—12	...	...
v. Beckenham	Won 8—3	...	...
v. Wallington	Lost 8—11	...	...
v. City Freemans	...	...	...
v. Bec School	Won 22—3	...	...
RESULTS OF "A" XV MATCHES.			
v. Sutton C. G. 1st XV	Won 34—3	...	...
v. K. C. S. 2nd XV	Won 17—6	...	...
2nd XV.—N. Godwin, G. Osmin, D. Cheate, Langton, Street.	...	...	...
Results of 2nd XV Matches.	...	...	...
v. Wimbledon College	Won 6—4	...	...
v. Whitgift Middle	Won 11—10	...	...
v. Beckenham	Won 35—0	...	...
v. Wallington	Lost 6—8	...	...
v. Bec School	Won 17—8	...	...

CRICKET

When last term's "Spur" went to press, several matches still remained to be played. Below are recorded the complete results of the 1st XI and the analysis compiled by our scorer, R. W. Phillips:—

1st XI. BATTING AVERAGES, 1947

	Innings	Times	Runs	Highest	Average
C. R. E. Parker	...	13	321	72	27.00
J. C. Taylor	...	12	163	45*	16.30
D. Thompson	...	13	117	56*	9.75
H. D. E. Parker	...	7	54	42*	9.00
W. J. F. Pike	...	9	54	16	7.71
B. A. Newman	...	13	91	23*	7.58
P. G. Fry	...	7	22	11	7.33
M. Holgate	...	7	38	17	6.33
K. O. Gunn	...	7	1	1	6.33
D. McBride	...	10	52	20*	5.77
R. Kohlbeck	...	8	14	4	2.80
R. Herbert	...	3	4	3*	2.00
D. J. Rippengal	...	4	8	6	2.00
P. Phillips	...	2	0	2	1.00
J. Mason	...	2	0	0	0

* Signifies not out.

Rippengal, Herbert Phillips and Mason also played for the First Eleven.

RESULTS.

10th May, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 12 v. Raynes Park C. G. S. Old Boys XI, 62, lost by 50 runs.
17th May, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 37, v. St. Georges College, 85 for 8, lost by 6 wickets.

21st May, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 40 v. City Freemans School 80, lost by 40 runs.
24th May, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 82 v. Epsom College 2nd XI 90, lost by 8 runs.
28th May, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 63 for 8 v. Wallington C. G. S. 61, won by 2 wickets.
4th June, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 149 for 4 v. K. C. S. 2nd XI, 101, won by 48 runs.
21st June, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 72 v. Kingston Grammar School, 73, lost by 1 run.
28th June, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 88 for 6 v. Bec School, 33, won by 55 runs.
5th July, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 84 v. Surbiton C. G. S., 61, won by 23 runs.
12th July, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 84 for 5 v. Epsom C. G. S., 67, won by 5 wickets.
16th July, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 107 for 3 v. Tiffin School, 99, won by 7 wickets.
19th July, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 71 v. Raynes Park C. G. S. Old Boys XI, 58, won by 13 runs.
22nd July, Raynes Park C. G. S. 1st XI, 167 for 3 v. Gentlemen of the Staff XI, 62, won by 105 runs.
Raynes Park scored 1,056 runs for 99 wickets an average of 10.66 runs per wicket.
OPPONENTS scored 932 runs for 128 wickets an average of 7.24 runs per wicket.
The average Raynes Park score for an innings was 81.23 runs.
The average OPPONENTS score for an innings was 71.69 runs.
Played 13, Won 8 and Lost 5.

1st XI. BOWLING AVERAGES, 1947

Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Kohlbeck	...	114.4	32	42
McBride	...	130.5	30	41
Fry	...	98.5	17	31
Rippengal	...	16	3	55
Phillips, P.	...	20	3	53
Taylor	...	1	0	4
Bacon	...	2	1	5
CATHERS.—Pike 8, Thompson 6, Taylor 4, Newman 4, Fry 4, Holgate 3, Kohlbeck 2, Parker, C. 2, Herbert 1, Gunn 1, McBride 1, Rippengal 1, Phillips 1, Bacon 1.
Played 10.
Won 6.
Lost 2.
Drawn 2

COLT XI.

The Colt XI of this year had the makings of a very good team, but did not quite come up to expectations. Some good cricket was played, enough to produce a satisfactory record for the season, but form occasionally lapsed when least expected.
The obvious cause of this inconsistency was lack of confidence in batting, for which faulty practice wickets were only partly responsible. Batsmen were far too often content to allow the opposing bowler to settle down to a length, with the result that wickets were lost through hesitant and nervous back-play which rapidly became contagious. Correct and forceful innings were played on occasions by Mason and Parkhurst, though more often it was left to the lusty hitting of Langton and Tutt to pull the game out of the fire. Davis and Pooley both showed a knowledge of strokes, and, with greater aggressiveness, they should do well in later years.

The bowling was consistently good. Farmer led the attack untriflingly and seldom lost his length. He was well supported by Davis, and Mason, Tutt, Munday, Pooley, and Aldham were useful change bowlers. Bell had occasional successes, and Fry did well when called upon.

Individually fielding was good, though there were times when games were lost through blunders. Tutt, Mason, Pooley, Parkhurst, and Palmer were among the better performers. Langton and Bartram shared the wicket-keeping between them. Both did creditably and improved as the season wore on. As captain, Langton showed sound judgment and firm control, and succeeded in infecting the team with his own keenness. The hard work put in by Miles as scorer was much appreciated.

During the year a Junior XI gained valuable experience in matches against other schools, and in these younger boys there is much promising material for the building of future School XIs.

The following played for the Colts in this year's matches: Langton, D. A., Farmer, E. W., Parkhurst, B. R., Mason, J. F., Fry, P. G., Davis, M. J., Tutt, C. P., Pooley, F. G., Bartram, B. L., Munday, R. J., Bell, I., Aldham, B. C., Rippengal, C., Palmer, L. E.

TENNIS CLUB

Tennis news at Christmas seems rather out-of-date but the performance of the Tennis VI in the Surrey Junior Championships is worthy of note. Our best achievement was in the Boys Doubles, when three members of the club were involved in the semi-finals. D. Thompson, with his usual good-fortune, drew a very good player as a partner and they reached the finals after beating Winter and Gardiner in the semi-finals. Here after having two match points, they were finally beaten in a very fluctuating match, 0-6, 8-6, 6-1. N. Gardiner deserves congratulations for his performance in 'Junior Wimbledon' when he obtained sudden fame by beating the brother of the present British Junior Champion.

BOXING CLUB

The Club suffered a great loss when Mr. Harvey left us on being transferred to Devon. He was always generous with his time and help and it is to his skill and patience that the present high standard of boxing is due.

At the end of the Summer Term a "friendly" House contest was held and narrowly won by Halliwells from Miltons. If it did not reveal much hidden talent, it gave an opportunity of distinction to a number of those who have not reached the solemnity of inter-school contests.

Two inter-school fixtures have been held so far this term, against Sir Walter St. Johns and Mitcham. In both we were successful although it has been possible to arrange only a few bouts on each occasion owing to the difficulty of matching weights. Tutt, Palmer, Biggs and Todd deserve special mention for outstandingly good performances.

THE 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

That various members of the 19th visited three countries on the continent while the home camp was entertaining scouts from Holland is a very real indication of the Group's desire to be international in

outlook and in practice. It was very early in the war that the Court of Honour conceived the idea, now the motto of the senior scouts, "Look Wide," and soon afterwards, when the International Commissioner was speaking in our Hall, his last words were "Go abroad, my son." In 1945 we linked up with the 4th Damiaansgroep of the Hague and some of the troop visited Holland in 1946. This September on the occasion of the great national parade in Turkey, the Turkish Scout Contingent was led by an honorary member of the 19th, Capt. McIntyre.

Senior Scouts Grindrod, Law, Phillips and Simpson were elected to attend the World Jamboree at Moissson, near Paris. They joined the Surrey contingent in the sub-camp Auvergne, and with the other eight thousand British scouts mingled with scouts from all corners of the world. During their stay they were able to visit Paris and its surroundings, to become acquainted with French tastes and food, and to see something of a country struggling to recover from years of enemy occupation.

R. Newman of the Chough Patrol went to Holland, to be followed three weeks later by Tiger. He stayed at the Hague and hiked with Dutch Rovers to the Amsterdam and Zuider Zee area. He visited the Rover Moot and also went to camp in southern part of the country.

Troop Leader MacDonald went to Switzerland, using the Scout Chalet at Kandarsteg as headquarters and spending most of the two weeks touring and climbing. Mr. Thomas at Imperial Headquarters and Rev. McKay of Monmouth deserve our very many thanks for their help in arranging this visit for us at so short notice. Mac joined his party of scouts from Monmouth and Bradwell at Victoria, crossed France by train, and then hiked into the Alps visiting among other places Ochinsensee, Berne, Gonergrat, Hohrli and Lotschen pass.

The Troop camp was held on the banks of the River Wye, about two miles south from Symond's Yat. It was grand scouting country: the site itself was on the river bank, away from all habitations and surrounded by steep wooded hillsides with the river threading its way below. There is no doubt that this was the happiest camp we can remember. The site was ideal, the weather fine throughout; there was adventure and excitement within reach of camp, good bathing and climbing, and by running the camp on the patrol system for cooking and routine duties, everyone was happily and constructively occupied. The new patrol leaders worked very well and sensibly, ably led by Seniors Thomas and Newman and by Mr. Arnold who proved a good companion and a hard worker.

Late in July, we heard to our great disappointment that the Dutch Troop for whom we were catering could not come, but two of their number made the journey independently and were able to have some time with us in London and in Surrey as well as in camp.

During the term we have had a very large number of recruits anxious to join, while the new patrol leaders have taken over well and are qualifying for the 1st Class Badge. A. J. Hopkins, Second of the Seagulls, is the first "second" to pass the First Badge for several years. There have been the regular weekly parades, the monthly service at Christ Church, night activities on Wimbledon Common, and a fifteen mile all night hike by the Senior Scouts who chose Hertford as the new hunting ground. A parents meeting on November well attended and helped considerably to bring about closer co-operation between the parents themselves and with the scouts. It is proposed when too, we shall have to consider plans for next year's garden party.

and the raising of income. This summer the Treasurer has spent almost £150 on financing the three visits abroad, on entertaining the Dutch and some of our boys in camp in this country, and on essential equipment. In each case the money was well spent and the 19th is the richer for its experiences.

R.P.C.S. OLD BOYS' SOCIETY

NEWS LETTER.

By the time this edition of the "Spur" reaches Old Boys the Annual General Meeting will have deprived of their freshness any remarks I may now make on the present state of the Society. Nevertheless let it be recorded that although the past year has not seen Old Boys in their hundreds returning home from the wars eager to pursue sporting, cultural and social activities in company with former School friends, there has been progress in 1947. We can now see a speck of light at the end of the tunnel, no matter how slowly the train appears to be travelling towards it.

In the Summer the Cricket XI played five matches, winning three and losing two. The Hockey XI played the first of the four matches so far arranged on 26th October *v. Putney*, and won 3-2. The Rugby XV similarly have acquired four fixtures to date. These are small beginnings admittedly, but the embarrassment of having no home ground cannot be exaggerated.

John Grubb, the Social Secretary, explained in last terms News Letter that the Society cannot afford to continue running dances at which in spite of being poorly supported by Old Boys, was made a loss. A further Whist Drive, however, was held on 31st October, financial success by the number of parents who attended.

One of the most useful functions which the Society can fulfil is that of an Information Bureau, through which members can trace friends with whom they have lost touch. I appeal, therefore, to every Mr. Cobbs' book when they visit the School, and to share with the Secretary any news, that he may include it in these notes each term. I will apologize in advance for all blatant omissions from and inaccuracies in the information which follows:—

A. Fabian (Halliwell's '36-42) is demobilised from the Navy and has returned to his old job in the Film Industry. He is now married and has a young baby. We offer our belated congratulations. We also congratulate K. Daniels (Halliwell's '35-41) on his marriage to Miss Vera Lewington.

R. Dobson (Halliwell's '36-44) has also been released from the Navy and is now in the Railways publishing trade. Alec Bond (Halliwell's '37-43) has obtained a Second Class Honours degree at Oxford, where he read Chemistry, and is now working for Kenneth Prior (Halliwell's) continues his medical studies.

G. Manning (Gibbs '38-42) demobbed after serving with the Marine Commandos, is now working in County Hall, Westminster. A. C. Stapleton (Miltons '40-42) demobbed after service in the Middle East, returns to work at the London Power Co. Ltd.

R. J. Franklin (Cobbs '35-39) became a civilian again last February after six years in the R.A.F. He is now an advertisement representative for the "Advertisers Weekly."

There is news of three Old Boys about to take up posts abroad. V. Simmons (Gibbs '35-39) is going out to Kowai on the Persian Gulf for a Civil Engineering firm. Spencer (Gibbs) is going into clothing manufacturing at Capetown, South Africa, while John Carter (Cobbs '37-44) is off to take up an agricultural appointment in West Africa.

D. Townsend (Cobbs '35-39) is teaching at Cobham.

* K. Richards (Newsoms '35-40) is flying for an independent Civil Aviation company.

J. Pettit (Gibbs '36-41) has been out of the R.A.F. for nearly a year. He is employed in a London Solicitors office, waiting for the new sprint also the Secretary of the Cambridge Ward of the Malden Labour Party. Most of the younger members of the O.B.S. are still in the services. M. Carr (Cobbs '38-46), C. W. Baker (Halliwell's '38-46), and J. Warham (Halliwell's) are all in the R.A.F. at Yatesbury, Wiltshire.

S. H. Buller, also in the R.A.F., is at Melksham, Wiltshire. Both Mayo (Cobbs) and Lough have recently joined the same service. Doing (Newsoms), E. R. Warner (Cobbs '37-43) and R. Parker (Newsoms) '37-44) who has passed his finals at Cambridge, are now in the Army at Catterick, Yorkshire.

J. C. Taylor (Halliwell's '38-47) and K. Clack (Halliwell's '38-44); have been called up in the past few months, the former being in the Intelligence Corps, at Aldershot, and the latter in R.E.M.E., at Arborfield, Berkshire.

F. Potton (Newsoms '37-45) is stationed in Lübeck, while I. P. Smith (Cobbs '40-44) has just returned after a year in West Africa, where his time was spent mostly in educating Africans. B. G. Alder (Miltons '39-47) is in the R.A.F. at Bridgnorth, Shropshire, where he has met J. E. Newcombe.

P. Bide (Cobbs '40-47) is in R.E.M.E. at Strling. Alan Quartermaine is now a Sub-Lieut. in the R.N., minesweeping off the East Coast.

Raynes Park's representation at the Universities increases every term. In addition to K. S. Williams (Newsoms) and C. E. Salter (Miltons) who are at St. John's, R. G. Forward (Miltons '36-43) has gone up to Selwyn College, Cambridge, to read English. He plans later to attend a Theological College and enter the Church.

At Oxford there are now twelve Old Boys: J. Green (Halliwell's '37-45), M. Brown (Halliwell's '38-45), and A. G. Hopkins (Cobbs '38-45) are at Queens', Paul Vaughan (Gibbs '35-42), D. Cooper (Cobbs '37-44), and D. Rendall (Cobbs '37-42) are at Wadham; A. Thompson (Cobbs '36-42) at Balliol; K. Forrest (Cobbs '36-42) at Jesus; B. Bannister (Cobbs '37-43) at Oriel; S. C. Honnaker (Miltons '35-42) at Exeter; D. Nightingale (Newsoms '37-43) at New College; and Alan Overall at St. Edmund Hall.

In closing I would like to mention the Society's appreciation of the work done by Courtenay Liddle, the late Hon. Secretary, who has now gone up to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he is reading Mathematics. He has always acted with an unselfishness that is inspiring.

NORMAN POUTLER.

"THE SPUR" COMMITTEE

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