

THE SPUR

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SCHOOL OFFICERS, SUMMER TERM, 1949

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Prefects : S. Priestman, N. G. Colvin, J. R. Hopkins, G. D. Pegrum,
M. J. Welby, J. R. Wells, M. D. Holgate, B. M. Jones.

Sub-Prefects : F. Bagley, A. F. Conchie, P. Fiander, I. B. S. Law,
P. Phillips, A. G. Simpson, A. S. Warren, J. Wilkinson, J. B.
Florentine, N. J. McDonald, D. A. W. Marles, R. C. Simpson.

Prefect of Hall : N. G. Colvin.

Captain of Cricket : M. D. Holgate.

Secretary of Cricket : P. Phillips.

Secretary of the Games Committee : S. Priestman.

Librarian : A. S. Warren.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Editors acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following magazines, and apologise for any inadvertent omissions :—Aldenharnian, Radleian, Kingstonian, Ashtedian, Wellingtonian, Fettesian, Bryanston Saga, Bristol Grammar School Chronicle, Wimbledon High School Magazine, Caterhamian.

Editors : William Walsh, Esq., J. R. Hopkins.

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J. R. Wells, C. M. White.

THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL.

"To each his need, from each his power"

Vol. VIII, No. 7.

Summer, 1949.

OUR BUDGET

The account given here a year ago of the working of General School Fund up to the audit of April, 1948, showed an addition to reserves of some £150 : the year just ended has seen the reverse process, for we spent £140 more than we received.

Large items, which will not recur for some years, account for nearly half the expenditure. Such major expenses were £90 for the part share of the new cine-projector, £80 for the new printing press, £30 for the boxing-ring cover and fittings, £17 for the extra Hall chairs, £8 for two new pictures, £5 for repairs to the School camera, totalling over £230.

Regular expenditure, however, is heavy too. The magazines and diaries cost £122 more than was received for them, games expenses and running School teams cost £74, of the Library expenses (£52) after parents' gifts at Open Night we had £7 to find, and subscriptions, to the Rugby Union and other such organisations, came to £15, and other smaller expenses brought the total on this head to over £233.

Result : a grand total of expenditure of £463 15s. 4½d.

Our total income, towards this, came to £322 3s. 4d.

Of this, the collections early each term brought in £208 3s. 4d. Some boys regularly bring more than 3s. 6d., but those who give nothing bring the average down to about that figure. From the 1948 Garden Party the School received £114. And that is all. The School Plays, successful though they were (though receipts were a little less than last year), were also expensive ; and as some permanent additions also were made to our equipment—extra lighting, twin gramophone turntables, new costumes, etc.—the stage cost £9 more than it took over the year, and had no surplus to pass to G.S.F. We had also a special gift of £30 to buy a picture for the School ; but this, though still unspent, is not income for ordinary purposes. So in the year we used up £141 12s. 0½d. from previous savings.

Obviously we cannot go on so. Expenses should be less this year, but ahead lie some large items, for example, curtains for the front of the stage, to replace our collection of black-out material. Income will improve as a result of this year's Garden Party, of which the School's share will be about £175. Even with that help, we are living above our income, and must either increase it or cut down expenses—and activities. Hence the appeal for larger subscriptions which accompanies this term's reports.

HENRY PORTER.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BODY

J. Hood Phillips, Esq., M.A., was elected to the Chair by the School Governors at their last meeting. Mr. Hood Phillips took his degree at Oxford, and had some experience as a schoolmaster before

he entered the administrative side of education, and became successively Deputy Education Officer for Surrey and Secretary to the Senate of London University. While with Surrey, he had much to do with the development of this School from its early days, and has served, the Governing Body for many years formerly as Clerk and latterly as the representative of the University of London. His many ties with the School include a particularly strong one with the Scout Group: he is Commissioner for Education at Scout Headquarters. In many ways, small and great, recently as in former days, he has rendered indispensable service to Raynes Park. The School could not have a better friend nor a more appropriate choice as its Chairman; all associated with it will welcome the accession of Mr. Hood Phillips to that office and hope he may long retain it.

HAIL AND FAREWELL

We welcome this term as Senior Classics Master Mr. B. W. Vincent, a graduate of London University. He comes to us from the Friends' Education Council; there, as a former head and assistant master, and as governor, he has experience of a wide variety of schools. We hope long to enjoy the pleasure of his company and the fruits of his scholarship and experience. The Governors have also confirmed the appointment of Mr. W. B. Courtney, B.Sc., of London, who has been doing Mr. Robinson's work in Mathematics since last January. Both as boy and master he was formerly a member of our neighbour, Rutlish, whose loss is our gain.

Mr. Hazell, who was only sent to us as a temporary loan, left us in June after two term's yeoman work at a critical time for the French teaching, and for that, and for the full part he played in the School's life, we are very grateful. In his stead next term will come Mr. L. U. R. King, who went from Wandsworth Grammar School as an aircrew member of the R.A.F., and on his release took a Cambridge degree in Modern Languages in 1948. We wish him happiness and success at Raynes Park.

T. H. P.

HOUSE NOTES

Cobb's

House Captain: J. Hopkins.

Sub-Prefects: A. G. Simpson, F. C. Bagley, A. S. Warren.

This term, more than any other that the House has known for many years, has been and, at the moment, still is, a battle royal. With the coveted first prize of the School year, the Cock House Cup, within possible reach, in all events and in parts of the House, the team spirit is stronger than ever before.

From last term mention must be made of the House Supper, to celebrate the winning of the Hockey and Rugger Cups and a gallant second in the House Play competition. Thanks are due to our House Master, who led the House parents in making this a very enjoyable affair.

House Play Competition—Although placed second, the House should feel by no means dissatisfied with the standard of this House Play. The difficult play depended upon complete understanding by the cast and upon a very high standard of acting. As a result of unstinting work and a never-tiring spirit, they achieved both and all congratulations are due to them. Especial mention must be made of all those who doubled parts, a very hazardous enterprise whose only justification was the brilliance with which it was carried out.

THE DARK TOWER.

Cast:

Michael Coss ...	...	Young Roland
John Hopkins ...	...	Roland
Ronald Ayres...	...	Mother, Waera, Priest
David Beardwell ...	...	Tutor, Steward
David Harris ...	...	Soak, Raven
John Hoare ...	...	Blind Peter, Officer, Clark
Ian Bell ...	...	Sergeant, Trumpeter
Roger Nuttall ...	...	Barman, Parrot
Ian Hayter ...	...	Sylvie
Alan Simpson ...	...	Father
Ian Bell, Norman Blackwell, David Bowman, John Bullinaria, Gordon Cook, Alan Melmoth, John Shepherd, Hugh Streeter.		
<i>Stage Staff</i> : Malcolm Mackenzie, Alan Melmoth, Alan Simpson, Alan Warren, Michael Aboslon.		
<i>Production</i> : John Hopkins.		

Most events of this term are, as yet, unfinished. In those that are completed:—

Athletics.—Although not placed, our athletes made a strong showing. Simpson, A. G., led his team with true captain's spirit. But he above all would agree that it was the qualifying points gained by the whole House before Sports Day began that kept our head above water until the last moment.

Boxing.—Again we were unplaced, but not through any lack of energy on the part of Bagley, our Boxing Captain. Throughout the term he collected a team together for a sport that does not tempt many followers. He himself was put in the unenviable position of fighting one of the School's champions, and fully justified his captaincy by a brave show.

Cricket, Swimming and Tennis.—All these sports are still in progress at the moment. In all, however, our hopes and spirits are high. There can be no doubt that if we win it will have been the team spirit that has brought us to the top.

Both in the name of D. P. White, the Captain of the House at the start of the year, and in my own, I say to our successor, maintain the spirit of the House and the cups will follow, inevitably.

J. R. H.

We have been unfortunate in losing two House Captains in one year. The wholehearted enthusiasm of White may have gone unnoticed by some who did not realise how much time and care he devoted to furthering House interests. He made a point of attending all practices, and did much by his personal example to maintain a constant level of effort in the House. We wish him the greatest success in his career, both in the Army, where he now is, and in later life.

Of John Hopkins' success much has been said already. We expect great things of him at Cambridge. In his own description of the House Play he has been modest in speaking of his own achievements. His production was indeed a remarkable effort for one still at school, and he deserves our warmest congratulation for his imaginative treatment of the play and intelligent handling of his cast. He also has shown the greatest keenness in his handling of House affairs and has set an example of enthusiasm which many have followed. We shall miss him and shall follow his career with affectionate interest.

G. J. A.

Gibb's

House Captain: S. Priestman.

Vice-Captain: N. J. McDonald.

Prefects: M. D. Holgate, B. M. Jones.

Sub-Prefect: I. B. S. Law.

The House is at last beginning to climb to its former position at the head of the School. This year we may boast already three second places and one third in the various House Competitions, and we have a good chance of doing well in the cricket and swimming. But what is even more gratifying is the enthusiasm that the House as a whole has shown in all the activities, particularly in the House Play and swimming; we may at last, I think, be optimistic in our hopes for next year. *House Play.*

In the House Play competition we came third with G. B. Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion." I am quite convinced that everyone in the cast enjoyed the rehearsals from first to last, and, if only for that reason, it proved a most worthwhile activity. Outstanding in the cast were B. H. Jones as Ferrovius, C. I. Brown as Androcles, L. W. Bunch as Centurion; but the play was only the success it was through the unselfish co-operation and willingness of the stage hands and of every member of the cast.

Athletics.

Although we were second to Halliwell's in qualifying points, we failed pitifully in the actual competition. Several members of the House won places in the field events, but we seemed to have an unaccountable lack of talent in the track events.

Boxing.

We were beaten by a narrow margin in the Boxing Competition and had a good lead over the House that came third. There were a notable number of wins among the juniors which should give us confidence for next year.

Tennis.

We were drawn to meet Halliwell's in the first round of the Tennis Cup, and suffered a very severe defeat at their hands. With more practice the team would certainly have done better.

Cricket.

The senior Cricket team, against all prophecies, beat Cobb's in the first round, and so meet Halliwell's in the final. The colts whose competition is arranged on a league basis, lost their first match and drew the second. As has been said above, we have high hopes of doing well in this competition.

Swimming.

At the moment we are just in the lead on qualifying points: if the Colts and Juniors do all that is expected of them in the actual competition we have a good chance of winning the cup.

S. P.

Halliwell's

Captain: J. R. Wells.

Sub-Prefects: P. Fiander, A. Conchie, D. Marles.

Our successes since the last edition of THE SPUR have put us, once again, in the running for Cock House Cup. We shall need all the effort, and all the luck, we can muster in order to hold this trophy for the fifth successive year. Still, by the time this is in print we will know whether we still hold our position in the lap of the Gods.

Without giving more than a cursory glance to the Hockey competition, last term ended triumphantly for us. Our House play, "Hamlet," was placed first for the Dramatics Cup. It must be said, however, that Cobb's ran us very close indeed. Everyone associated with the production, including the stage staff, worked very well throughout the term, the cast surviving last minute alterations and cuts, as well as the usual "nerves," to give a winning performance. Special mention must be made of our Producer, John Powell, whose brilliant imagination conceived his second success in House dramatics. The cast was as follows:—

Claudius, King of Denmark Colin White

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark	...	John Wells
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark	...	Frazer Menzies
Polonius, Lord Chamberlain	...	John Baldwin
Laertes, his son	...	John Mason
Ophelia, his daughter	...	Peter Vogado
Horatio, friend to Hamlet	...	Derek Marles
Osric, a fantastical courtier	...	David Powell
Characters in the Murder of Gonzago:		
King...	...	David Powell
Queen	...	John Sanders
Poisoner	...	David Bennett

Courtiers, Pages, Attendants and the Jester:

James Allen, Derek Charles, John Child, Peter Cork, David Bennett, Peter Casselton, John Dunn, Brian Fewster, Alan Hopkins, Robert Knight, Graham Mitchell, Michael Phillips, John Taylor, John Sanders, Gwyn Williams, George Tralls, Michael Dick.

The Ghost of Hamlet's Father ... Peter Street

Production Lit. by ... Maurice Trimmer

Music ... Alan Harding

Prompter } also *Technical Production* ... { David Breach

Effects } { Malcom C. Cumberlidge

Stage Staff: Maurice Trimmer, Trevor Harris, Alan Inglis, John Rowe.

David Lawes.

The whole House must be congratulated on its fine show on coming first in the Athletics. It is the qualifying points that count in this competition, as they do in Swimming, and it was here that we first established a healthy lead. From then on the cup was never really in doubt.

The Boxing cup, too, has been fought for this term. Our boxers, under the leadership of Len Palmer did very well to come third, gaining a few more precious points towards Cock House.

The rest of the term, and year, brings Cricket, Tennis and Swimming to be accounted for. Our Senior team, under Jock Mason, having beaten Milton's, has passed into the final. The Colts, captained by Lakeman, have beaten Newsom's and lost to Milton's, and the Junior, under Taylor, has beaten Newsom's and lost to Cobb's. The Tennis team, under Michael Davis, has started on the road to victory by knocking out first Gibb's and then Milton's. Finally, in Swimming, captain Derek Marles, we are gradually creeping into the lead on those vital qualifying points.

We will do it yet !

J. R. W.

Milton's

Captain: G. D. Pegrum.

Vice-Captain: J. C. Wilkinson.

The Summer term arrives and one feels that there will never be time to compete in all the sporting events which occur and, lurking in the mind, are the thoughts of Public Examinations.

In the hurry of this term we hope to forget the mishaps in the Hockey and House Play Competitions. We were badly beaten at Hockey. In the House Play Competition we were placed last; in spite of this, everyone who helped to build scenery and paint and those who acted enjoyed themselves immensely. From this point of view it was a great success.

This term the prospect is very much brighter; the House is determined to forget last term's disappointments and concentrate on re-winning the Cricket trophy. The first match against Newsom's was a great start; brilliant bowling by Tutt the Captain, and good general fielding by the side enabled us to take wickets quickly and they were out for 57 runs. When Milton's went in the Captain again showed

his worth with a glorious 32 runs. Our second match against Halliwell's was a disaster; some very accurate bowling dismissed the side for 14 runs—perhaps I should say no more. The Colts, however, under the leadership of Wade, have won their first match convincingly, and we wish them the best of luck in their remaining matches.

In the Athletics we started with a great burst in the qualifying, and after the final qualifying points had been awarded we were third. On the day of the competition we did quite well, and the tug-of-war team must be congratulated in coming third after some strenuous pulls. **Our final position was third.**

The Swimming finals have yet to come, but qualifying points are still needed, and everyone who can swim is being persuaded to qualify. Our position at the moment is good; we are third with several more chances to qualify.

Boxing is a young sport in the School, and boys enter with uneasiness into that mysterious thing, "a ring" which, however, always appears to be square. Still, many of the House, assisted by the few School boxers we have, entered the ring and we were agreeably surprised in coming third.

In Tennis we have played no matches. The team is under the leadership of Richardson, and we wish it every success.

G. D. P.

Newsom's

Captain : M. J. Welby.

Vice-Captain : N. G. Colvin.

Sub-Prefects : P. Phillips, R. C. Simpson, J. B. Florentine.

The House has unfortunately been without its leader this term. M. J. Welby, our House Captain, has been in hospital, and, although he was at one time very ill, he is now on the road to recovery. We all hope that he will soon be in full possession of his health and strength once more. Our thanks are due to Welby for giving such a whole-hearted performance in the House Play, when he was obviously not feeling his best. We have missed him in all the activities of the House, and we hope he will soon be back with us.

In the House Play Competition, which took place at the end of last term, we were placed fourth, but even so, the play was a definite success. The House Plays this term were all of a very high standard, and Newsom's can feel satisfied, if not elated, that its position in the competition was fourth. Jackson is to be congratulated on his production of the play, and the cast thanked for its co-operation and support.

This term is the fullest of the year; at the beginning of the term one wonders how all the events can be fitted in. However, we seem to have struggled through and we can look back with content and a will to do even better next year.

Athletics. *Captain* : J. B. Florentine.

We were again second this year to Halliwell's, and we feel that if a little more effort had been put into the qualifying at the beginning of term, we might have beaten them. Before the competition, we were bottom of the qualifying points, but on the day of the sports, we pulled up into second place. Many people did well for the House in the competition, but Florentine, Phillips, Matravers, Michez and the tug-of-war team deserve special mention.

Boxing. *Captain* : P. Phillips.

The Boxing Cup provided our second outright win this year. This is the first time that Newsom's has won the Boxing Cup; let us see if we cannot keep it for many years to come. Boxing may be considered to be rather an individualistic sport, but it was entirely due to a good team spirit that Newsom's was able to win the Cup. There was a large number of entries for the competition (let it be whispered that

they were not all *quite* voluntary) and under the capable leadership and guidance of Phillips the House was successful.

Cricket. *Captain* : P. Phillips.

On paper, the House Senior Team is a very good one, and might have been expected to do its fair share in winning the Cup. However, the team seems to have been demoralised by losing to Milton's in its first game. The team also lost against Cobb's after a hard struggle for supremacy, and the Senior team is now placed last. Our final position now depends, as always, on the younger members of the House.

Swimming. *Captain* : N. G. Colvin.

Swimming does not seem to be one of Newsom's strong points. We are last in the qualifying at the moment, and we shall, it seems, have to be content with last place in the Competition. It is to be urged on the younger members of the House that they should try to learn to swim while on their holidays this year, and come back next year ready to put Newsom's in the running for the Cup next Summer.

Tennis. *Captain* : R. C. Simpson.

The Tennis Six had their first match against Cobb's, and they lost by a good margin. However, all is not yet lost, and they may do better in the future.

To celebrate the winning of the Cross Country and Boxing Cups, a House Supper was held on the 24th June. Although fish and chips, trifle, ice cream and strawberries do not look well together on paper, they went down very successfully at the Supper, and to ensure good mixing a game of rounders was played afterwards. To allow a little digestion, however, a film show followed which rounded off a very pleasant evening.

N. G. C.

HOUSE PLAY SUPPLEMENT, 1937-1949

1937.

Halliwell's "Roccoco" (Granville Barker).

Gibb's ... "Bishop's Candlesticks" (McKinnel).

Cobb's ... "Mrs. Hamblett Records Her Vote" (Sargent).

No Competition.

1937-38.

(1) Newsom's "Noah" (Anon. from Chester Cycle).

(2) Cobb's ... "Man in the Bowler Hat" (Milne).

(3) Halliwell's "The Little Man" (Galsworthy).

(4) Gibb's ... "Thread of Scarlet" (Bell).

(5) Milton's ... "Ghost of Jerry Bundler" (Jacobs).

Judges : Headmaster, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Danks, Mr. Beecroft, Mr. Raynham.

1938-39.

(1) Milton's ... "The Dear Departed" (Houghton).

(2) Gibb's ... (?)

(3) Cobb's ... "The Grand Cham's Diamond" (Monkhouse).

{ Halliwell's "Allison's Lad."

(5) Newsom's "The Rehearsal" (Baring).

Judges : The Headmaster, Mr. Beecroft, Mr. Eric Ward.

1939-40.

(1) Milton's ... "The Insect Play" (Capek).

(2) Halliwell's "The Man Who Wouldn't Go to Heaven (Sladen Smith).

(3) Gibb's ... "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets (G. B. S.).

(4) Newsom's Scenes from "Midsummer Night's Dream" (Shakespeare).

(5) Cobb's ... "Campbell of Kilmhor" (Fergusson).

Judge : Mr. Eric Ward.

1940-41.

- (1) Milton's ... "St. Joan" (G. B. S.).
- (2) Gibb's ... "The Seventh Symphony" (Dunsany).
- (3) Halliwell's ... "The Beauty Spot" (Ivor Brown).
- (4) Cobb's ... "Catherine Parr" (Baring).
- (5) Newsom's ... "Passion, Poison and Putrefaction" (G. B. S.).
Judge: Mr. Eric Ward.

1941-42.

- (1) Milton's ... "Murder in the Cathedral" (Elliott).
- (2) Newsom's ... "Thirty Minutes in a Street" (Mayerl).
- (3) Cobb's ... "The Critic" (Sheridan).
- (4) Gibb's ... "The Anniversary" (Tchekov).
- (5) Halliwell's ... "The Amazing Dr. Clitterhouse."
Judge: Mr. Neville Coghill.

1942-43.

- (1) Gibb's ... "The Ascent of F. 6" (Auden).
- (2) Halliwell's ... "Two Gentlemen of Soho" (Herbert).
- (3) Milton's ... "Julius Caesar" (Shakespeare).
- (4) Cobb's ... "The Dog Beneath the Skin" (Auden).
- (5) Newsom's ... "Judgment Day" (Elmer Rice).
Judge: Mr. Basil Wright.

1943-44.

- (1) Cobb's ... "Thunder Rock" (Audrey).
- (2) Milton's ... Scenes from "The Man Born to be King" (Sayers).
- (3) Halliwell's ... "The Man Who Was Thursday" (Chesterton).
- (4) Newsom's ... "Faust" (Goethe, trans. by N. Poulter).
- (5) Gibb's ... "Murder in the Cathedral" (Elliott).
Judge: Mr. A. K. Boyd.

1944-45.

- (1) Halliwell's ... "Christopher Columbus" (Adapted from Louis MacNiece).
- (2) Cobb's ... "The Devil's Disciple" (G. B. S.).
- (3) Milton's ... "Androcles and the Lion" (G. B. S.).
- (4) Newsom's ... "1066 and All That" (Sellers and Yeatman).
- (5) Gibb's ... "The House of the Twenty Windows" (Pakington).
Judge: Mrs. Jackson.

1945-46.

- (1) Halliwell's ... "Across the Board on To-morrow Morning" (Saroyan).
- (2) Gibb's ... Scenes from "Hamlet" (Shakespeare).
- (3) Cobb's ... "Outward Bound" (Vane).
- (4) Newsom's ... "Savanarola Brown" (Adapted from Beerbohm).
- (5) Milton's ... "The Applecart" (G. B. S.).
Judges: Miss Judith Furse and Miss Cicely Paget-Bowman.

1946-47.

- (1) Cobb's ... "The Seventh Man" (Quiller-Couch and Redgrave).
- (2) Halliwell's ... "Tobias and the Angel" (Bridie).
- (3) Newsom's ... "The Village Conjuror" (Housman).
- (4) Milton's ... "Escape" (Galsworthy).
- (5) Gibb's ... "Hay Fever" (Coward).
Judge: Mr. Esmé Percy.

1947-48.

- (1) Halliwell's ... "Marco Millions" (O'Neill).
- (2) Cobb's ... "Journey's End" (Sheriff).
- (3) Gibb's ... "In the Zone" (O'Neill).
- (4) Newsom's ... "Thirty Minutes in a Street" (Mayerl).
- (5) Milton's ... "The Poetasters of Ispaham" (Bax).
Judge: Miss Judith Furse.

1948-49.

- (1) Halliwell's ... "Hamlet" (Shakespeare).
- (2) Cobb's ... "The Dark Tower" (Adapted from MacNiece).

- (3) Gibb's ... "Androcles and the Lion" (G. B. S.).
- (4) Newsom's ... Scenes from "Man Born to be King" (Sayers).
- (5) Milton's ... "One Night in November" (Waite).
Judge: Mr. Ivan Samson.

N.B.—An extended article on the significance of this list by Mr. Peter Smith will appear in the next number of THE SPUR.

CORRESPONDENCE

BORDIGHERA,
ITALY.
June, 1949.

To the Editor of THE SPUR.

Dear Sir,

It has occurred to me that it would be rather a pity if this year's House Play Competition were to pass unremarked in your pages, because I feel that all who saw the productions last term couldn't help but notice what a vastly higher all-round standard there was compared with, for example, last year's competition or that of 1947.

This may be due to the fortunate coincidence that the leadership in the various Houses, in the realm of drama, has changed very little during the past three years. Or it may be because House Plays are now regarded as playing a full part—in their own right—in the competition for the Cock House Cup. Whatever the reason, the new situation developing is very gratifying.

I have no desire even to attempt to assess the relative merits of this year's plays—that has already been done by an expert and, though he may disagree with Mr. Sampson, we must accept his judgment. Rather I would like, if I may, to make a few random comments and (I would make it clear) I shall refer mostly to the highlights rather than the weaknesses.

Two of the plays were, I think, mainly distinguished by the presence of a single excellent performance. In the case of Milton's, their producer's portrayal of the Gaoler—so grim and servile and sinister—amply compensated for a complete misinterpretation of the part of Salisbury. In Newsom's, although the trio of Kings were shown with some success—marred mainly by frequent instances of incoherence—the figure of Herod, weak, sick and almost senile, loomed massive and frightening. I felt, personally, that this was quite the best individual study and interpretation of character in the whole competition.

I am sure the freshest and gayest production was Gibb's of "Androcles and the Lion." It was full of fun and humour and one felt the cast had really tried to capture some of the show's rich dryness—if one may use the term. Gibb's were fortunate in having a really convincing Androcles and a Lavinia, the clarity of whose delivery of a large number of very difficult lines compensated for an excusable lack of volume. The real fun, the cynicism and the moments of very tricky pathos were all successfully realised.

I remain now as convinced as I was months ago that a House should not and should never attempt anything as gigantic as "Hamlet." Shakespeare, the Poet; Shakespeare, the dramatist; Shakespeare, the philosopher is completely lost. Something, admittedly, is created in his place. The question is whether that something is entirely desirable. Having started off on the wrong foot, Halliwell's displayed a lot of faltering in a brave attempt to get in step, and it is to their credit that the final result was so palatable. The large cast was of inadequate quality on the whole, though a pleasant if rather insubstantial and one-sided Prince showed moments of intuitive power and dignity. The King was good but, one felt, rather at sea in this welter of colour and fussyness. There were times when the stage made me, at least, think rather unkindly of a Victorian drawing-room.

The great feature of the production was, of course, the Mine which on account of the, may I say unexpected, talent displayed by the Poisoner.

The music in "Hamlet" was well chosen and became an integral part of the production though, there were times when one reflected that Shakespeare had achieved a certain international pre-eminence without *quite* as much music as that with which Halliwell's producer felt he should be served.

Undoubtedly the most polished production was Cobb's of "The Dark Tower." This, captivated me entirely. The cast was, with only a few exceptions, excellent. The staging, grouping and lighting were, I felt, flawless. The whole thing was smooth and well knit. I felt, though, that it was a pity the producer should have chosen a play which preaches a philosophy so vague and generalised, not to say, at times, incoherent; so out of sympathy with the needs of the modern world. I am not casting doubt on the producer's own erudition and even less on his artistic sincerity. It is his good taste in inflicting so obviously a "third programme" play on his young cast—and indeed on his audience—and his sense of theatrical values that I call in question.

What conclusions can one draw from the 1949 House Play Competition? First and foremost, I think, that Houses are becoming more ambitious—this applies particularly to those who seem as a rule to occupy third place downwards and is, I think, heartily to be applauded. Second, the artistic and cultural standard is improving. Third—and in my view the most important—there seems to be less of a "point-getting" attitude. True there is a cup to be won, but I feel Houses should strive to present something of which they might justly be proud whether they win the Cup or not. Certainly this year every House achieved that.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ANTONY EVANS.

L'ENSEIGNEMENT EN FRANCE

Part I

Le système français d'éducation, tel qu'il a été fixé il ya cent cinquante ans se divise en trois grands cycles: le primaire, le secondaire et le supérieur. A ces trois divisions correspondent, grosso modo, trois genres d'écoles différents.

De deux à six ans, on envoie l'enfant à l' "école maternelle" (école régée par l'état) ou au "jardin d'enfants" (dépendant d'une organisation privée). Là, on lui apprend un peu tout, surtout à travailler de ses doigts. A la maternelle—je parle surtout des maternelles de l'état—on lui enseignera à dessiner, quelquesfois, à peindre, à se familiariser avec toutes sortes de travaux manuels, ce qui demande de la part des instituteurs (ce sont en général des institutrices) une forte dose de psychologie enfantine. On lui apprendra quelquesfois à lire, mais le programme officiel nouveau, qui est entré en vigueur il ya une quinzaine d'années, prône l'enseignement par la méthode globale. Selon la méthode globale, il est formellement interdit aux maîtresses d'enseigner à lire, par exemple, par l'assemblage méthodique des lettres en syllabes, puis des syllabes en mots, et enfin des mots en phrases. On prend la chose à rebours, et on commence par faire enregistrer aux enfants une série de mots: plusieurs phrases sont écrites au tableau dans chacune desquelles le même mot apparaît une fois; par comparaison, l'élève apprendra à reconnaître la forme générale, le tout "global" du mot dans chacune de ces phrases et l'on répètera l'expérience jusqu'à ce que l'on soit sûr que le mot ait été dîment retenu par l'esprit enfantin. On passera alors à un autre mot, et

ainsi de suite; au bout d'un certain temps, l'enfant arrive à reconnaître un assez grand nombre de mots seulement d'après leur forme générale. En dernière année on poussera un peu plus loin l'expérience, et, de la même manière qu'on lui apprenait à découvrir le même mot à l'intérieur de phrases différentes, on lui fera discerner les syllabes qui se ressemblent à l'intérieur de mots qu'il connaît déjà. Mais on s'en tiendra là, et c'est même à regret qu'a été admise cette entorse à la méthode globale. Bien entendu on ne s'aventurera jamais dans le domaine des lettres que l'on réserve à l'école primaire. L'enfant comme je par percevoir des "touts", dit-on, par conséquent pour qu'il ne fasse perdre son temps à le faire entrer d'abord dans les détails? Comme il est aisé de le deviner, une telle méthode présente ses avantages et ses inconvénients: l'inconvénient majeur est la perte de temps qui s'ensuit la plupart du temps et le surcroît inutile de travail et de patience imposé aux maîtresses pour aboutir le plus souvent à un résultat bien médiocre. Les autres sujets enseignés à la maternelle sont souvent très utiles et permettent de donner un sens aux aptitudes de l'enfant.

A l'âge de six ans, on plus tôt s'il est dans une école privée—l'enfant commence ses études primaires. Là deux voies s'ouvrent à lui. Il pourra, s'il le veut,—et c'est ce qui se fait le plus souvent—entrer à l' "école primaire" ou il passe six années environ (un peu plus longtemps maintenant: jusqu'à l'âge de quatorze ans pour ceux qui n'ont pas l'intention de se lancer dans le secondaire) au bout desquelles il se présente au Certificat d'Etudes Primaires. Si, d'autre part, l'enfant se destine plus tard au secondaire, il vaudra mieux pour lui qu'il entre directement en "onzième" dans un lycée. De la onzième à la sixième (exclusivement) il fera à peu près le même genre d'études que ses congénères de la primaire, quoique davantage orienté, dans l'enseignement des matières et par l'angle sous lequel on les envisage, vers la mentalité du cycle secondaire.

A la fin de ses études primaires, l'enfant peut choisir entre le lycée ou autres écoles secondaires de la même espèce, (qui le prépareront au baccalauréat), et le "collège moderne" ou "collège technique" (le premier étant la continuation poussée à un degré supérieur des études primaires: le second prépare à différents certificats d'aptitude dans des branches techniques).

J'aimerais m'étendre un peu plus longuement que je ne vais le faire sur les caractères d'un lycée français. Je tiens d'abord à différencier le mot "lycée" du mot "collège". Pour le moment nous ne parlons bien entendu que des écoles purement "secondaires" et les collèges "modernes" ou "techniques" ne nous intéressent donc pas. Un "collège" est un établissement secondaire quel'on trouve dans de très petites villes ou la municipalité n'est pas assez riche, et le nombre des étudiants pas assez élevé, pour que l'on puisse se permettre la construction d'un lycée. L'enseignement secondaire officiel y est donné par des professeurs "licenciés" (équivalant du B.A. ou M.A. anglais), et le directeur s'y nomme le "principal". Le collège, du point de vue administratif, dépend du conseil municipal de la ville, et les professeurs sont nommés par le principal et le conseil municipal. Le collège se rapprocherait donc davantage en cela de la "Grammar School" anglaise. Il en va autrement du lycée, établi sans aucun intermédiaire de quelque sorte. A sa tête est un "proviseur", un mailloin de la chaîne administrative qui relie les élèves au ministre de l'Education Nationale. Les professeurs doivent avoir l' "agrégation" (concours extrêmement difficile, pour le recrutement des cadres) et sont toujours de valeur exceptionnelle. L'enseignement secondaire libre ("institutions" religieuses) tient également une place importante. G. M. A. B.

FICTION SURVEY

This term it was decided to make an estimate of the Fiction read throughout the School. Five average boys were taken from each form and were asked to name their preference in fiction reading (Masters were also included). They were to name three choices of reading matter, in order of preference and to name their favourite author in each case. The table of our findings is shown below. The most popular class of reading throughout the School was detective fiction, closely followed by humorous works. Surprisingly enough, classical action and short stories were next favourite.

Fiction Chart

Form	Preference		
	First	Second	Third
1b	Adventure	Mystery	School
1a	Adventure	Air/Sea	Mystery
2b	Adventure	School	Mystery
2a	Mystery	Adventure	Air/Sea
3b	Adventure	Air/Sea	School
3a	School	Historical	Mystery
4b	Mystery	Humorous	School
4a	Mystery	Humorous	Short
5b	Classical	Humorous	Adventure
5a	Humorous	Short	Classical
6th Arts, 1st year	Modern	Humorous	Short
6th Arts, 2nd year	Modern	Classical	Short
6th Science, 1st year	Humorous	Scientific	Classical
6th Science, 2nd year	Classical	Mystery	Short
6th Economics, 1st year	Mystery	Humorous	Short
6th Economics, 2nd year	Humorous	Classical	Short
Masters ...	...	...	...

Notes

We were considerably surprised to discover that H. G. Wells was the most popular author in the School. Other favourites were W. E. Johns (36 pts.), D. L. Sayers (29 pts.), Dickens (22 pts.), Graham Greene (22 pts.), Agatha Christie (20 pts.), Dostoevsky (18 pts.), 1st choice authors were given 5 points, 2nd choice, 3 points, 3rd choice, 1 point. We found that modern novels were mainly read by the Sixth Arts and Economics, Classics by the Fifth and Sixth (but not exclusively), and that Adventure stories were overwhelmingly popular in the Junior School. The Science Sixth were amazingly prone to favour Dostoevsky, Mr. Walsh produced a characteristic bombshell in the form of L. H. Myers, an author of whom no other mention was made and of whom the inspectors had never heard. One Junior nominated Enid Blyton as his favourite author of school stories, and various other surprises were recorded. Short stories produced the greatest variety of authors, scientific stories the least (Wells had practically a monopoly). This survey was a survey of what boys LIKE to read, not what they were obliged to.

VERSE

J. M. H. and C. M. W.

Saturday Night

The lights breathe wetly on the glistening road,
The buses are toiling, sweating, swinging,
There is noise and movement,
Laughter swirls the throng.

If ever optimism was justified, it most certainly was on the 28th May, the occasion of the joint Scout Group and School Garden Party. The weather forecast was at its gloomiest, the past few days had been

THE SUMMER GARDEN PARTY, 1949

W. W.

In this creative hour
The eagle soars with the dove,
The lion runs with the lamb,
The hare with the hound, and power
Comes to terms with love
As God lies down with man,
As the dry tree greens and grows
And thorns caress the rose.

Good on the world is shaken
Like aromatic scents,
Surprising with delight
And the candid air has taken
The infection of innocence
At the birth of this child, and the birth
Of the pure and dazzled earth.

At the birth of this boy.
All glimmer, all peal with joy
Dark or brilliantly fair,
Their children come to play
The women round the well
The leaping birds in the air
Chattering across the day,
The voice of the cockerel

On the Birth of the Son

J. M. H.

A dipping skyline of shooting stars,
Circling rhythmic flashing light,
Light from buildings light from teeth,
Intermittent flashes of delighted laughter.
Drops of water move unsteadily
Through the furrows of policeman's cape,
And feet shuffle, slide and run
On slippery pavement's oily sheen.
Buy life piper, kaxxon shrieking,
Extreme, extreme, wave on wave
Smashing over, wave on wave
Of human language
Heard one second swept away
And crushed amidst the raw blank posters.

Velvet carpet calico voices
Dim blue smoke and flickering screen,
Sleek new Tudor Pub in side street
Warmth and liquid melting time
Chilly dankness creeping, creeping,
All are moving none are stopping.
Cars and couples, people, people,
Hurrying to their destination;
No-one halts for all intent
Pleasure, pleasure,
The trumpet screams
Pleasure, pleasure,
Saturday Night.

£456 19s. 7d., which, with expenses deducted, will leave clear proceeds for division of £362 13s. 10d.
 Less than sixteen hours after the closing scenes of such big business, there was not a sign of the chaos and activity at all: unless it was that the buildings and the grounds were much cleaner than we found them and the birds were singing merrily in the Quadrangle!

E. G. R.

TO OUR SUPPORTERS AT THE GARDEN PARTY

The School owes a debt to all who united to make this year's event both a record success financially and a lively, enjoyable affair: as well to those who appeared in front of stalls and side-shows and spent cheerfully, as to those who gave time, energy, thought—and money—to their organisation. In the collective name of the School, I thank them all. Figures of the profits made by each undertaking have been issued through Scout and House organisation. I would like to add this: that the mere figure is no fair or adequate measure of the contribution made by your own and others' efforts to either the gaiety or the takings of the afternoon. Several of you may be disappointed by relatively modest profits after much effort; the effort did not go for nothing, for if raffles were more lucrative their sale of tickets depended on other things to attract the numbers. Even if your obvious profit was only a pound or two, or your job was one of the essential ones that nevertheless do not appear in the balance sheet, I invite you to feel a full, equal share of the responsibility for having made so much for our funds in a way so pleasant to the victims.

— AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS —

Several times the School has had to appeal for help, particularly to the mothers of boys, and never in vain. To those who promptly offered and gave their help, in the cleaning of our stage wardrobe, in the present preparation of costumes for "Alice," in the re-fitting of the Hall curtains, we are all sincerely obliged. I cannot think how we should manage without their practical aid, and their ready goodwill is itself a real support. The School renders thanks to them all.

HENRY PORTER.

CRAFT NOTES

The workshop has been as much a centre of activity as ever this term.

We were very pleased to see our new electric potter's wheel arrive during the Easter holidays, and it has been in use every day since we returned. Most of our older potters have now experienced, for the first time, the delight of using a beautifully accurate and smooth-running wheel. It has an almost infinitely variable speed control—a pleasant relief from the many uncertainties of the old hand-wheel. The potter sits at his work and has an excellent adjustable light—a very important accessory in the dark winter afternoons. We have to thank the John Carratt Trust Fund for this latest acquisition, which has already begun to improve the standard of our thrown work.

The printers have been improving their knowledge of the new press and apart from a creditable *Library Review* have produced, amongst other things, a fine programme for Chelmsford Cathedral and some seven thousand sheets of printed notepaper in aid of the Garden Party. The Printer's Guild is to be congratulated on its record during the past term. It is an excellent example of team work, and constant enthusiasm giving rich rewards.

Woodwork, one of the less spectacular crafts, but offering a great deal of pleasure, has produced some notable pieces. Amongst these should be mentioned the firecreens in Spanish and Sapele mahoganies,

Then some birds were heard singing and a parent, no doubt mind-ful of the story of the Flood, said that when that happens in England the weather would . . . and it did. Within a matter of minutes, the clouds broke, the rain ceased, the sun shone through, the temperature rose and even the ragged pitch dried. No one dared say, "I told you so," but many longed for the wisdom of the birds.

From most corners of the field, in the classroom annexe, in the gymnasium, and in any likely corner some sideshow, stall, or pure money maker appeared. Even the Library lost its dignity and quiet to the demands of loudspeaker technicians. With Wellingtons below and a battered tribby of so very many years above, a tall figure emerged from the herbaceous border carrying lupins, iris, laburnum and leaves from the gardens to make a floral tribute in Hall where here too, many mothers and girl guides turned solemnly into a cheerful appetising tea-room. The Art Room bowed its head to modern films, and the gardener winked an eye as the orchard became a putting course, and the chemists turned colourless hydrogen into a thousand gay balloons, *just* them. Memories of Robin Hood were stirred as archery was found to be skilled delight and no child's play. And across the field, the Sutton Express, the delight of men of all ages, steamed its effortless way and merely hissed steam scornfully at the limited accommodation of its rival sedan chair. In the evening concert, Mr. Loveday and his merry music makers entertained, and Mr. Macintosh conjured up his skill in deceiving all. To a very crowded hall, the final act was as it should be, one of giving in reward. One small boy was offered the choice of chocolate or whisky, and his father chose the latter. A little puppy was offered, but nobody bit. A box of groceries, a silver watch, a tennis racquet, an iced cake and a £20 voucher found themselves being handed to those whose luck was as great as their surprise.

The Scouts and the School Houses co-operated once again this year in designing and working for this annual event. The Houses are now realising what the Scout Group did years ago, that whatever the financial gain or loss of such a fête may be, there is another less tangible but no less important side to the programme of light hearted fun and full hearted co-operative effort. It lies just within that. Side by side with the School academic work, its athletic and cultural activities, there must be a place when parents, boys and staff can work together, can plan and play together, and for the boys' ultimate good, to pierce the screen of cap and gown and the unknown home life. Immediately, of course, funds have to be found and for the moment, this has been the method. Some of the activities provided little profit or even a loss, but on this they must not be judged alone. Teas were provided at cost price, and other attractions were run purely because of their entertainment value to either the very young or the mature. Raffles were very productive and after all, each ticket was intended to be a receipt for a donation. An analysis of income and expenditure has been made available, and shows that the Scouts and their Parents maintained a very high productive effort while being joined by the five Houses which in the main, made a great step forward in co-operative effort and result. To all we have to offer congratulations for a very creditable result of another year's Garden Party—a total income of

the needlework boxes, tea trolleys, table lamps and trays in similar woods, and the bookcases in English oak. The work has been decorated in simple and original ways, and particular attention has been paid to the finish. So much modern woodwork is coated with a thick layer of "trench polish," or sprayed with cellulose varnish, that we are in danger of forgetting the appearance of the actual wood. A carefully applied polish of beeswax gives a lasting finish which mellows with age and, most important of all, leaves the wood to reveal its inherent beauty.

Lastly, we must mention the pleasant news that we have been asked to broadcast a short feature programme about our Puppet Theatre Club for the B.B.C. on July 8th. Three boys take part, and the programme will be illustrated with some excerpts from the *Puss in Boots* recordings which we recently made. It is a great privilege to be given this opportunity of telling a large number of people about our Puppet Theatre, and we hope it will be the means of inspiring others with the desire to try this pleasant pastime.

Much more could be told of the term's activities, but you will be able to see a reasonably complete record of the crafts of our School on Open Night. Apart from the customary exhibits in Hall, we hope to give demonstrations of the throwing, moulding and decorating of pottery; and to show our new press in action, in the workshop. It has been a busy, yet happy, term and we hope that all our young craftsmen, encouraged by this annual show, will return from the holidays with new inspiration and renewed vigour.

A WEEK IN PARIS

D. R. S.

During the last Easter holidays a party of masters and boys spent a hectic but enjoyable week in Paris. We experienced an extremely calm crossing, to the relief or disappointment of divers members of the party. At the beginning of the week most of the party were diffident in trying out their primitive French, but the discovery of Nicole in the house opposite soon managed to break this barrier down for some of us. Throughout the week there was not a single day allowed to pass without at least one interesting or exciting visit or discovery. At first under the guidance of the masters until these problems were solved, the Metro had many problems for us, and the party travelled together with the aid of small plans of the Metro network, which could be procured at almost any station.

The orders for most of us on the first evening in Paris were "early to bed," but one or two of the harder spirits ventured as far as the Eiffel Tower—that gigantic framework which was built for the Paris Exhibition of 1889, and is now one of the centres of French television and radio broadcasts. The whirl and rush of our Parisian week really began the next day, and we all plunged out in a vain attempt to view and appreciate the wonderful selection which Paris offered us. It is impossible to remember and state in detail what we all saw, and our emotions or feelings when seeing them, but there were one or two occasions which merit an especial note.

I think the Sacré Coeur, that wonderful white church built in the form of a Byzantine basilica, impressed me more than any other building in Paris. This church, which can be seen from almost any part of the city, is situated in the quaint artists' quarter of Montmartre, and the contrast between its bright scintillating exterior and the dim seclusion and majesty of its interior is so great that I fail to see how one can fail to be impressed by this most beautiful edifice.

The other building which impressed me was the Palace of Versailles. It is said that Louis XIV destroyed the accounts of money spent on the Palace, which is surely one of the most magnificent in the world, so that his subjects should not realise the full extent of his lavish

Unfortunately the rooms are now mere shells of former glory, and I found the terraces, woods, ornamental gardens and park have an air of latent splendour about them to this day, though it is difficult to imagine the original splendour which existed when "Le Roi Soleil" held his court there.

In the evening after dinner one had a variety of entertainment to choose from, the picture, the circus at Pigealle and the Comédie Française all offering their attractions. At first it appeared impossible to visit all the attractions that one might wish, and therefore there was not a single slack evening throughout our sojourn. The circus at Pigealle provided a most thrilling evening's entertainment which was complete in every detail, the features ranging from a breath-taking high wire act to the traditional clown. Nearly everyone agreed that it was really a waste of time to see English and American films whilst in Paris, and therefore the glittering picture palaces were not patronised to any extent. One of the more learned of our party spent several enjoyable hours at the Comédie Française, where he was fortunate enough to see two of the set plays for this year's Higher School Certificate. Other members of the party found it more enjoyable to spend an evening in the local café, attempting to fathom the intricacies of French billiards.

One whole afternoon was devoted to sport. The majority of the party visited Colombes Stadium where they saw two successive games of football between French sides and teams from Belgium and Bulgaria. It was obvious to the experts that one game was far more skilful than the other, but this game provided far more thrills for the uninitiated. It must be recorded that both the French teams were beaten by their foreign guests. The other section of the party had an equally thrilling time at a motor race meeting for the Grand Prix de Paris. Stories and yarns about both these sporting events were exchanged over the dinner table that evening.

At first the arrangement of the French meal times and menus was perplexing. Funniest remark heard after the first breakfast in Paris was, "When is the rest coming?" "The answer to which, after many minutes of patient waiting, being, of course, "It isn't." This was only a minor difficulty, and we were soon able to conserve our gargantuan appetites until lunch time. The next striking characteristic of French menus and food in general was the abundance of meat and the lack of fresh green vegetables. In spite of these differences there was certainly no cause for complaint, and I am sure that the banquet which was enjoyed at "Le Rallye" upon the last day will be remembered for many years to come by all members of the party.

Unfortunately there has only been room for a brief outline of our adventures in Paris, and events such as the visit to the Louvre, the Bois de Boulogne and the Arc de Triomphe and our many narrow escapes from the Parisian traffic must be excluded.

I am sure, however, that every member of the party had a thoroughly good time, and they will join with me in moving a hearty vote of thanks to the masters, Mr. Atkin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Herdman and Mr. Hazell for all the time and energy which was spent by them in order to make successful our trip to Paris.

SOCIETIES

THE 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

D. K. M.
P. P.

A parent has said that when the 19th ceases to do something new, it will cease to maintain its old tradition. And that very cleverly sums up the spirit in which we ended last term, spent the holidays, lived through this term of planned disorganisation and look forward to our

Summer camp of yet another kind. We have to congratulate most heartily P. L. Casselton, who quite quietly qualified for the King's Scout Badge under the new scheme for senior Scouts. And such an achievement is new to the 19th, too!

The Field Day in March took the troop by means of a series of clues cunningly contrived and possible of solution only en route, into the lovely woodlands of Sussex, the Balcombe and Ashdown Forest area. It was later revealed that the troop had been guinea pigs the while—the place where they rested and fed was a possible camp site, and the scouts were watching for reactions. The fact that at the following week-end the senior scouts went there to camp and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, speaks for itself. In the holidays Mr. Thomas led a cycling party (or did he follow?) to visit the caves at Chislehurst. With his happy smile he watched the boys listening to the long historic account of life in the caves given by the guide, and later, when that guide was safely out of reach, he read an extract from a Journal of the Royal Anthropological Society. Guinea pigs again? On another occasion, an energetic party walked the square. It left Dorking in the early morning and proceeded South for five miles, then due West and over Leith Hill, North to Wotton and Rammore, and due East and back to Dorking Station by evening. It was a good day's hiking, and involved very little road work. A party of seniors became detached and were lost: possibly they were tired or did they find something very attractive about the top of Leith Hill?

The County Week-end Rally at Whitsum has been the peak event for most of us this term. Nearly thirty went into camp on the Saturday morning to find themselves but a part of the two hundred and fifty strong Wimbleton sub-camp, and merely a peck in the County number of five thousand and five hundred campers. This isn't ideal camping as we know it, but it is a grand thing once in three years to see scouts from all parts of Surrey living together as brothers and singing around one camp fire. Lord Rowallan, the Chief Scout, was in camp and made a point of visiting each sub-camp and chatting to as many boys as possible. It was an amazing scene to watch nearly six thousand keep perfect silence (even the birds were quiet) as the Chief walked the width of the camp fire arena and solemnly declare the camp fire open. And when they sang, how they sang!

During the term, some old timers have finished off their second-class badge tests, and for two very young scouts, Fash and Davis, have produced excellent logs of their first-class test journeys. Langton and Napier (how sorry we were to lose our Logs to St. Paul's) have both earned their Green All Round Cards. Langton, in particular, Log up to be commended for the excellent way he has kept the Group Log up to date: both as a scribe and as a cartoonist, he has talents. We like the way the Woodpeckers have run patrol activities and the patrol log which has appeared in the Kingfishers. Mac still throws his weight about, and has broken the high jump record. The Group as a whole has been the backbone (or is it muscles?) of the Wimbledon District Athletic Team. Parents have met in committee, some in patrol groups, at an afternoon tea party and round the camp fire circle. They are, as ever, a grand gathering of willing co-operative helpers on whom the Scouts can depend, and of whom the Scouters are justly proud. The highly successful results of this year's joint Garden Party is itself an unquestioned tribute to their determination and goodwill.

A twelve-year-old idea has now become a very real and happy thing—a home of our own in the country. The original scheme was to buy a plot of land and develop it. But the war came and with it, changing values and then the Town and Country Planning Act. We have been able, through the kindly interest and generosity of Mrs. Ursula Ridley, to take out a fourteen years lease at a nominal rent on a site at West Hoathly, in Sussex. There is a small orchard which will

become the camp site itself, and nearby, under the shaded woody hill-side is a small open barn, a farm shed really, which we propose to rebuild into and equip as a headquarters cabin. Mr. MacDonald has given his professional services in designing the cabin in charming Sussex style and in planning the sanitary and other equipment. Some of the work is necessarily that for a local builder—this must be no amateur effort—but much labour and literally, spade work is to come from the Group so that, over a period, each member of the Group will have made some contribution to its eventual and full growth. The Court of Honour has already made one decision. Each year from now onwards, there must be at least two patrol training week-ends under the control of the patrol leader: one on the reservation at home as a preliminary, and the other at the new site. With six patrols functioning properly, a time when week-ends will have to be reserved in advance. But a word of warning—the site is not intended as a static camp site only—it must be an advance camp from which the real activity can begin. And what scope there will be within easy reach, the Ashdown Forest, Balcombe Forest, the Weald of Sussex, the South Downs and the not too distant coast.

The mountains of North Wales will provide something quite different this year for our Summer camp. We have held these in Sussex, Dorset, Devon, Kent, Cambridgeshire, Cornwall and the Wye Valley, and the change of scenery yet again will give us some mountain climbing as well as coastal walks and sea bathing. The site is at Arthog, south of Barmouth and within two hours of the top of Cader Idrys. We shall travel overnight on 28th July and return on the 10th August.

ARTS SOCIETY

At the end of last term we held a "Homes and Fashions" Exhibition. Examination preoccupations have ruled out any real activity so far this term. A visit to the Monte Carlo Ballet at Covent Garden, on July 11th, has been arranged. The lecture on Ballet with which we had hoped to preface this has had to be abandoned, at least temporarily, though we are grateful to David Vaughan and are sorry his engagements made it impossible to find a suitable date. With examinations behind us we hope to compensate for earlier inactivity by an intensive programme to include visits to the Vienna and Munich Exhibitions.

THE GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. H. Hallam and P. O'Driscoll.
Chairman: A. J. Forward.
Secretary: D. Powell.

Before the School and public examinations commenced the Society held regular meetings. The majority of these were devoted to the continuation of work on the Society's survey which was outlined in the last issue of THE SPUR.

One afternoon was devoted to an excursion in the vicinity of the Hogsmill River. One of the Society's members, J. B. Tarrant, having made an investigation into the many ancient mills that had existed on the river, the Society thought a visit to the area would be worthwhile. With the advent of more modern sources of power these mills fell into disuse, with the exception of one at Ewell, and only the ruins are now visible. The reasons for the situation of these mills are, however, still obvious. They are positioned on the various "nick" points of the river, which were caused by the sinking of the Thames Basin and the subsequent rejuvenation of the river. Such investigations make the study of geography more interesting and real for all concerned. Tarrant's investigations and researches are but one part of a wider survey which the Society has undertaken.

After the examinations work will be resumed, and other activities will be arranged. A visit to the Colonial Exhibition in London and a ramble over the Chalk Downs have been suggested. A report of these activities will have to be deferred until next term.

A. J. F.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

It is unfortunate that so many of the major activities of the Christian Union occur towards the end of term, and therefore miss events which were outside our normal weekly meeting. The first of these was the visit on Thursday, June 2nd, to Nonsuch County School for Girls Christian Union where, after a tea that was very much appreciated by all, the Rev. A. J. Matthews, of Cheam Baptist Church, spoke on "Guidance." The meeting was a great success, and we hope that the return visit of Nonsuch, on July 8th, will be remembered with equally pleasant memories. The other outside event was a mid-term rally of the Croydon Area Christian Unions. It was held in Whitgift Middle School Hall, on June 3rd, and the Rev. Richard Rees, of Hove, gave one of his sparkling, but nevertheless profound, talks to the four hundred persons gathered there.

The events which are before us at the present time number three. We hope to have two visiting speakers on consecutive weeks: on July 1st Mr. Donald Baker, and on July 8th Mr. J. W. Johnson come to speak. On July 15th, the Wimbledon Rally takes place, organised, like the others, by the local Christian Unions. This will, for want of a School Hall, be held in Trinity Hall, Wimbledon, and we hope to be well represented there.

A Society cannot be run entirely upon outside or extraordinary activities, of course. We have, therefore, kept up as far as possible the regular Friday meetings. We commenced the term with Bible study, and then started to discuss passages from C. S. Lewis's books, "Beyond Personality" and "Christian Behaviour." If any person earnestly wishes to learn about Christianity, its belief and its modern application, then let him read a book by C. S. Lewis. His sane and logical reasoning is both interesting and enlightening, and he has a particular gift for finding apt parables and similes.

There remains but to give the usual invitation to any person who feels interested in Christianity, or who attends a Bible class, to come to our meetings on a Friday afternoon.

D. P.

FRENCH CLUB NOTES

We began this term with two further recitals of gramophone records made by French cabaret singers and music-hall artistes. We enjoyed both the records and Mr. Hazell's racy and informative commentary, and we are most grateful to him for his continued interest and co-operation. The visit of a party to Paris at Easter has given us the opportunity for interesting discussion at our weekly meetings. On one evening early in the term four members of the Paris party, Brown, Napier, Burgess, and Lawrence, combined to give us an interesting summary of their trip, complete with epidiascope illustrations. The high-lights of the talk were, I think, Brown's gastronomic recollections and the illustration of a member of the Staff apparently engaged in friendly conversation with an undraped statue at Versailles!

Derek Wise, of 4b, also went to France last term, under a special arrangement. He very kindly allowed himself to be cross-examined by us and supplied us with much useful information concerning his life in France during the five weeks he spent there. Most people in the School will by now have met Raymond Privat, the French boy who

has come back to Raynes Park with Wise, as part of the same exchange arrangement. He has settled down quickly into English School life, speaks English readily and well, and is usually to be seen happily engaged in pulling someone else's hair! At another meeting of the French Club, Raymond also consented to be the victim of one of our "interrogations" (in mixed French and English) as a result of which we learned much about French home life and the impressions of England a young French boy can obtain.

Elsewhere in The Spur will be found a report of the School visit to Paris. Another description of the same trip, no less sincere, but more controversial and less suitable for publication, was read to the French Club, who found much enjoyment in its well-meant but searching criticism of the French way of life. There is no doubt that the visit to Paris did much to stimulate ideas!

We shall do our best to continue the French Club next year. Though it is not always easy to meet, owing to the many activities going on in the School, it has, I think, proved its usefulness by providing an extra interest in the subject for boys in the Third and Fourth forms.

G. J. A.

CHESS CLUB

There is no close season for Chess. It may be played before a winter fire, in an over-heated café, or aboard ship in Arctic waters, or in an air-raid shelter during a raid. Why then should we not play it in a biology lab. on a hot Summer afternoon?

Though there have seldom been more than four boards going, the Chess Club has maintained its sessions and its standards, and many a *fianchetto* has reduced a stubborn middle-game resistance to an end-game débâcle.

It is hoped to arrange House matches next term.

B. V.

NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP

Most boys of the School would repudiate the suggestion that they had left their parents unaware of any facility offered by the School in which they might consider their son's participation desirable. But from the sudden increase in the total sum handled by the School Savings Group which followed a letter to parents reminding them of the Group's existence, it is apparent that here, at least, is an activity which had passed almost unnoticed. The detailed figures appended here show that in the Spring term, which was shorter by one week than the Autumn term, the savings total was almost doubled.

But if the total figures for each term show that parental encouragement can increase savings, it is reasonable to infer from the weekly totals for individual forms that when practical financial support intended specifically for savings ceases, boys quickly forget the habit of thrift. The cost of living survey for the fifth forms published in last term's *The Spur* shows that an average of 28.71 per cent. of a fifth former's pocket money is "unspent" or "saved." Yet one fifth form has not availed itself at all of the School National Savings Group. The suggestion implied in the cost of living article that "Savings" and "Unspent money" are by no means synonymous gives food for thought for our fifth forms. The School Group can be the means of directing "Unspent money" into a true "Savings" column, rather than letting it go away unaccounted for.

As for the sixth forms, the Economists alone save. But their small total does not convince us that an understanding of economic security is the reason for it. Do our sixth formers need to be convinced of the value of the National Savings Movement, or are they the genuine victims of impecuniosity?

For the last two years, the bulk of the routine work of the Group has been carried out by A. S. Warren, who leaves at the end of this term, and the columns of The Spur provide the opportunity to express our appreciation of his willing efforts.

Form.	Totals for	
	Autumn Term (1948)	Spring Term.
1A ...	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1B ...	4 17 6	10 9 6
2A ...	6 7 0	5 11 0
2B ...	3 13 6	8 1 6
3A ...	8 1 6	10 14 6
3B ...	4 3 6	5 4 0
4A ...	6 14 0	15 8 0
4B ...	3 2 6	4 8 0
5A ...	—	12 6
5B ...	3 16 6	8 13 0
5C ...	—	—
VI Arts ...	—	—
VI Science ...	—	—
VI Economics ...	—	14 0
School Total ...	£45 3 6	£82 13 0

These totals represent the sale of saving stamps only. In addition, certificates were sold to the value of £9 in the Autumn term, and £15 10s. 0d. in the Spring term.

GRAMOPHONE CLUB

It was agreed that recitals this term should be devoted each to the works of a particular composer. We have ranged from Mozart to Elgar in programmes, selected and introduced by members, designed to be introductory rather than comprehensive. One experiment, an *all'poco* recital in the orchard of what should have been the ideally suited "Daphnis and Chloe" suite of Ravel was not an unqualified success. Outdoor acoustics proved fickle. Ravel's rich score became tenuous, but the clatter of noises, animal, vegetable and mineral, from the classroom achieved an unforeseen and formidable density of orchestration. Nor was our first use of the new radiogram other than a failure: the machine defied all the arts of the Science Sixth to correct its whimsical reproduction of the classics.

Attendances have been rather smaller owing, no doubt, to seasonal circumstances. We hope that next term, when we shall have lost some of those chief stalwarts to whom the Club owes so much, our numbers will be recruited from the music lovers of the new Upper School.

565 SQUADRON A.T.C.

During the Easter holidays nine cadets and one officer spent a week at R.A.F. Tangmere, a war-scarred fighter station near Chichester. The R.A.F. had arranged a varied programme including flying, a map-reading exercise lasting all day and visits to Chichester Cathedral and H.M.S. Victory, at Portsmouth. It was interesting to see something of life in the R.A.F., to meet members of other A.T.C. Squadrons, and to be driven about West Sussex in lorries.

Regular weekly training has gone steadily if unobtrusively ahead this term, the only outstanding event being the Surrey Rally at Kenley, on Sunday, June 12th. Apart from the usual flying in Ansons, a party

from the Squadron took part in an impressive parade, the prelude to a display of aerobatics and formation flying by all manner of aircraft, just after half-term we were glad to welcome back our Secretary, Miss Taylor, who had been undergoing a serious operation. Her cheerful help is invaluable in keeping at bay the formidable flood of paper that threatens at times to engulf the unit.

L. D. L.

FILMS

Having treated insanity and other afflictions as a source of amusement for many years, the film has at last made some attempt to recompense by tackling films, two in particular, on such subjects, seriously and movingly. America made "The Lost Weekend," a study of drunkenness far removed from the comic soak tradition of American films. They have since tackled more difficult subjects, and the result is two films completely sincere and very fine cinema.

"Johnny Belinda" is a sordid tale offering many opportunities to gush with sickly sentiment. It was made a rigidly controlled and austere film. The ugliness and the sordidness found a kind of beauty in the never failing sincerity with which they were portrayed. Particular events are superfluous in a film which had an atmosphere of "reality" like that of "Farrebuque," or even a documentary film. The dead and dumb girl, Belinda, came to life on the screen. The film overcame the celluloid convention and made its figure live. The third dimension of depth and the fourth dimension of life were willingly supplied by all who watched and felt in sympathy with the characters.

In the second film deserving especial mention, "The Snake Pit," the "sensational" aspects of insanity are never present because such sensationalism cannot exist where everything is sincere and all emotions are organic with the portrayal. Nothing is grafted on to this picture, nothing is false, everything springs naturally from a desire to make a film about madness and asylums that will make an audience think and not laugh. The film needs no halfway approach by the audience. All who see it will feel compelled to watch from the first scenes of the patient hunched on a bench revolving over and over again in her mind the muddled impressions of insanity. More even than Belinda is this a film about one person, all the other inmates, graphic portrayals that have a life of their own, are also projections of the states of insanity through which the leading character has passed. For the story is taken up when Virginia Cunningham is on the way to recovery and the conditions of insanity are the more frightening to her because she has lucid moments when she finds herself a sane person among insanity, and then the film takes on the sombre, frightening aspect, which has resulted in the "terrifying" notices about this film.

Both these films have faults, and the most glaring is perhaps the bow to convention that allows films of startling emotional honesty to be chosen by the Mecca of fairyland film-makers. These are just a few of

the stories that have moved the Americans to make a number of films

better than any during the last years.

A small number it may be, but we can but hope that, even if the number does not increase, the sincerity of the few will not degenerate. In any case the immediate reaction to such solid picturing is to seek out some quiet place where what has been seen may be digested. With the compactness of a documentary, the crashing impact of the American account of a commentator and the honesty of real people, these films give those who watch a few minutes of another life that they must live—a life as real as their own; a life that they can watch in comfort only because they know that it isn't theirs and yet with a sneaking feeling that it is so real that it might be. This slight discomfort will make people who go to the pictures—really watch and not sleep. J. R. H.

RELIGIOUS FILMS

In the last two terms we have seen two American films made by a religious organisation. These two, "God and the Atom" and "God of Creation," were for many of us the first films of this nature that we had seen, and naturally a certain amount of criticism has been levelled at them from various angles. Much of this criticism was valid, some was prejudice.

The technique of these films left much to be desired. The audience was assumed to be of very low intelligence, and the commentator consistently talked down to them. The climax in "God and the Atom" was badly timed, and the well-known scenes of the atomic bomb explosions made the Bible-quoting pathetic. The films were in essence rather novel and elaborate sermons, and I believe that there is no future in this particular approach to religious propaganda.

Both films were pseudoscientific. I use this prefix quite deliberately and with complete conviction. Neither was the subject matter scientific, nor was the manner of its presentation. Science is the study of the relationships of natural phenomena. These films presented isolated, and to a large extent unexplained, facts in an untidy and disorderly manner.

I attempted to ascertain why this pseudoscience had been compounded with an otherwise passably mediocre production. My examination led me to assume that the producer laboured under mistaken ideas on both science and psychology.

This bastard science gave an authenticity to the films in the eyes of an ever increasing majority who accept as true everything which rejoices in the name of science. The inference which the public was presumably expected to draw was that the film was harmonious with the principles of science throughout.

The films were designed to impress without informing. For example, in "God and the Atom," we were presented with the extremely important formula $E=Mc^2$. The formula filled the entire screen yet no attempt was made to explain it apart from a passing remark that E stood for Energy. Every boy in the first year of Science Sixth would be able to object that such a formula with no explanation or units is useless. Again, the photographs of the acceleration of the Cavendish laboratories must have been chosen because the angle made them look particularly Wellisian and rather reminiscent of the front covers of cheap American fiction magazines. As was the case with Einstein's formula very little explanation was forthcoming.

Interest was aroused by tricks which had little or no bearing upon the subject. We may meet similar tricks in the lectures of English Universities, but they are always graphic illustrations of points in the argument, and they are always fully explained. These tricks were the sugar with which to coat the rather bitter pill of religion. It may be said that the speeded-up pictures in the film, "God of Creation," to

The following films have been shown in the School this term:—

- Transfer of Power.
- Oil from the Earth.
- First Principles of Lubrication.
- First Principles of the Petrol Engine.
- Hydraulics.
- Ammonia.
- Catalysis in the Manufacture of Sulphuric Acid.
- Colour.
- The Story of Penicillin.
- History of the Discovery of Oxygen.
- Limestone in Nature.
- Uses of Limestone.
- This is Britain.
- Bushland Revels.
- Among the Hardwoods.
- God of Creation.
- Far Horizons.

Members of the Science Sixth visited the Institute of Education where they saw a number of H.S.C. Biology films including Hydra, The Liverfluke and the Development of the Rabbit.

CRICKET First XI

Of the six matches already played, three have been won and three lost, a disappointing result in view of the promising start made against St. George's College, whom we defeated for the first time for many years.

Good bowling, and reasonably good fielding, have been negatived by lack of stability in batting. Pike's solid defence as opening batsman has been sorely missed, and Holgate's loss of form could not have come at a worse time. Apart from some lusty hitting by Turt, and occasional sound displays by Jonas, the batting has been thoroughly weak. The old distinction to play forward against fast bowling has been disastrous; never more so than in the match against the Old Boys, when playing back against pace bowling, which, for the greater part of the time kept low, brought its inevitable results. It should be remembered too, that break bowling should be played with the spin, not against it.

Back play has its advantage over forward play inasmuch as the ball can be watched right on to the bat, whereas in forward play there is always that moment when the ball is lost from sight. Nevertheless, it is well known that playing back to fast bowling needs exceptionally quick and accurate footwork. The back leg still has to be brought into line with the flight of the ball, and a slight retreat towards square leg simply will not do. There is much more certainty in forward play, provided the front foot is moved towards the ball, and the bat follows it. The head should be kept down, and the left elbow well forward. On several occasions, School batsmen have been bowled because the

front foot has been moved away from, instead of into, the line of the ball. Psychologically, too, there is nothing more demoralizing for a fast bowler than having a good solid bat moved imperceptibly forward to meet his bowling.

The brunt of the attack has been borne by Wade, who has done remarkably well, maintaining fine pace and accuracy in spite of his youth, and lack of physical development. He should prove a distinct menace in the future, provided he is used as wisely as Holgate has used him hitherto. Tut has had his devastating spells, although he still lacks accuracy; while Phillips and Harris have been steady if not particularly destructive.

The fielding has been like the Parson's egg. Holgate, Mason and Colvin are very mobile, and the latter throws exceptionally well, but there are still several of the run-saving fieldsmen who forget to move in with the bowler, in spite of their Captain's example. The slips, too, are not always as alert as they might be. They should always adopt a deep-crouching, well-poised attitude, when the bowler is about to deliver the ball. More concentration, too, would remove untidiness in returning the ball to the bowler. He should not be compelled to bend down, but should have the ball thrown directly into his hands. Jonas has improved as a wicket-keeper, particularly on the leg side, and is to be commended on a smart stumping effort in the Old Boys' match. He must beware of a tendency towards snatching, and remember that the hands should move with the ball, not against it. The position of the feet, too, is most important—left foot opposite the middle stump and right foot outside the off stump.

Much of the batting failure can be attributed to lack of practice, with its corollary of lack of confidence. I feel sure that once we begin playing on our new ground, and cease to be homeless wanderers we shall do well with the potential talent so apparent in the Colt's team this year.

Second XI

W. H. H.

To ground difficulties, from which we suffered last season, has been added the lack of nets this year. Many of the weaknesses and faults exposed in matches would have been the object of attention in net practice. Batsmen with a good defensive armoury (Cook, Palmer) could have developed the capacity to choose the right ball and develop the right aggressiveness to increase their scoring shots. The hitters (Bell and others) would have had opportunities to drill themselves in the elements of sound defence and avoid giving away their wickets to the first ball they received of reasonable direction and (often quite unreasonable) length. Bowlers could have pegged away at that first essential—a good length. Templeton has shown himself the most stylish, though not always the luckiest, of our bowlers. We have felt the want of a good keeper and fielding has been mixed. Runs given away by slowness off the mark, lack of anticipation, poor returns and failure to back-up in the field, count heavily in totals of two-figure dimensions. Much can be learned by attending a first-class—or good club—match, and instead of concentrating on the batsman and the runs, giving attention to such points as the setting of the field, how—and which—fieldsmen move in with the bowler, the way the ball gets back to the bowler, covering-up in the field and all the other details which make the difference between eleven men and a team. As Captain, Reynolds has performed a difficult job with some credit. Considering these handicaps we did well to win our first fixture, but since then our disadvantages have told heavily.

H. E. R.

Colt XI

There is much promising material in this year's Colt XI. All members of the team have cricketing ability, most are capable of getting runs from correct batsmanship, and at least eight can bowl reasonably well. Under the wise and thoughtful leadership of Wright, the fielding has reached a fairly high standard, and there is a pleasing air of confidence and keenness about the team.

Of three matches played so far, two have been won, and in the other we were beaten by a team whose batting ability had been reinforced by constant practice. Lack of practice, in our own case, might indeed have proved a considerable handicap this year; yet some at least of our batsmen have found the way to get runs fast, and to get them consistently. The improvement may possibly be due to a greater willingness to come forward to the pitch of the ball. Burgess and Good have both made progress in this respect, and each of them has made good scores. This ability of the earlier batsmen to make runs has made a big difference to the confidence of the rest, and there are several others who have shown the tendency to make a score when luck should be more favourable.

Ferebee has fluency of style and the strokes of a batsman, but needs the condence a good score can bring. Wright is stylish and correct, but scores few runs. He will make a good opening bat when he times his attacking shots better. Biggs, at No. 5, has a quick eye and is always looking for runs. There is power and run-getting ability in Tillinghast and Bunyan, but neither of them has yet had much luck in School matches. Budgen, Smith, and Grove all play their shots well, and will be worth a higher place in the batting order in later years. Aldham, though less of a batsman than the rest, would improve rapidly with greater opportunity for coaching. As twelfth man, Jeapes shows signs of developing into a useful bat.

The brunt of the bowling has been borne by Aldham and Grove. The former, once he has settled down, bowls well to a length and can be really dangerous on a wearing wicket. Grove bowls steadily and tirelessly, and is not afraid of pitching the ball well up to the batsman. Wright, Tillinghast, and Ferebee provide varied and accurate change-bowling when occasion demands. As in former years, it is in bowling that the team has shown most steadiness.

The fielding, though sound enough as a rule and occasionally brilliant individually, lacks just that "edge" or aggressiveness which would make it really good. The slips stand too nonchalantly to be sure of taking everything that comes their way, and outfielders do not move in, as they should, when the batsman is preparing to strike. Biggs, Budgen and Ferebee have set a good example in ground fielding, whilst good catches have been made by Tillinghast, in addition to these three. Smith is improving as a wicket-keeper, and will do even better when he snatches less at the ball and moves across more on the leg side. Since these notes were written, the batting has been less confident, has also shown improved form.

Useful players in the middle school who are constantly competing for inclusion in the Colt XI.

G. J. A.

Junior Cricket

The two School matches this term were arranged on an age basis, and therefore drew partly on the thirds. Both occasions were away at St. George's College in one of the loveliest settings in the country. The presence of extensive playing fields was impressive, and they had obviously taken full advantage of them even at Junior level. Their

ATHLETICS

T. W. B.

stroke play was correct if not always effective, and our teams did well to draw on both occasions. Bunyan batted with his usual concentration, and Parsons, on the second visit, hailed the ball with a sure eye in a welcome, if unorthodox manner. Our bowling was unlucky. Eight members of the team can bowl really well on occasions. Altogether, they were both pleasurable experiences with enterprising captaincy by Grove and a spirited backing by the rest.

Among the rest of the juniors there is enthusiasm and much promise. Of the new entrants the performances of Taylor, Harper, Jordan, Burns, Wilson, King, Vennard and others show that much talent is to come. One House team is even led by a boy in Form I. One team indeed stayed its allotted span for a and determination. There has been a Test Match atmosphere on a small scale. In one way this is very laudable, but there is also a feeling that at this junior stage, when the coming cricketer is aiming at a style that the game is more important than the result. However, they have shown that with improved facilities, there is every reason to be optimistic about the future.

Putting the Weights.		First		Second		Third	
Senior ...	Pegrum (M)	Philpotts (N)	Simpson, A. G. (N)	Senior ...	Blackwell (C)	Senior ...	Blackwell (C)
Colt ...	Law (M)	Spies (C)	40 ft. 0.5 ins.	Colt ...	40 ft. 0.5 ins.	Junior ...	Smith, M. L. (N)
Senior ...	Florentine (N)	Pegrum (M)	17 ft. 0 ins.	Senior ...	Deacon (C)	Senior ...	Deacon (C)
Colt ...	Law (M)	Law (M)	16 ft. 8 ins.	Colt ...	Law (M)	Major ...	13 ft. 11 ins.
Senior ...	Lawender (M) and Bunellick (N) (Tie)	Taylor (C)	13 ft. 11 ins.	Major ...	Stracey (C)	Major ...	13 ft. 5 ins.
Minor ...	Miches (C)	Talbot (C)	13 ft. 5 ins.	Minor ...	Calver (M)	Minor ...	13 ft. 5 ins.
High Jump.	Deacon (C)	Pegrum (M)	5 ft. 2.25 ins. (R)	Senior ...	McDonald (C)	Senior ...	5 ft. 2.25 ins. (R)
Colt ...	Traills (H)	Brooke (C)	4 ft. 10 ins.	Colt ...	Birkett (C)	Colt ...	4 ft. 10 ins.
Major ...	Taylor (H)	Rates (C) and Stracey (C) (Tie)	4 ft. 1 in. (E)	Major ...	Fewster (H)	Major ...	4 ft. 1 in. (E)
Minor ...	Miches (N)	Crieie (M)		Minor ...		Minor ...	
100 yards.	Pegrum (M)	Law (C)	10.8 sec. (R)	Senior ...	Wolkenberg (H)	Senior ...	10.8 sec. (R)
Colt ...	Law (M)	Traills (H)	11.0 sec.	Colt ...	Spies (C)	Colt ...	11.0 sec.
Major ...	Rates (C)	Taylor (H)	11.6 sec. (R)	Major ...	Smith (N)	Major ...	11.6 sec. (R)
Minor ...	Miches (N)	Marriott (H)	13.0 sec. (R)	Minor ...	Swinscoe (H)	Minor ...	13.0 sec. (R)
Mill—Senior	Matravers (N)	Street (H)	4 min. 48 sec.	Mill—Senior	Philpotts (N)	Mill—Senior	4 min. 48 sec.
440 —	Reeves (N)	Baugh (N)	2 min. 21 sec.	440 —	Wise (C)	440 —	2 min. 21 sec.
440 —	Miches (N)	Marriott (H)	1 min. 8 sec. (R)	440 —	Talbot (C)	440 —	1 min. 8 sec. (R)
Relay.	Halliwells ...	Newson's ...	4 min. 5 sec.	Relay.	Gibb's ...	Relay.	4 min. 5 sec.
Colt ...	Millon's ...	Halliwells ...	1 min. 52.8 sec.	Colt ...	Cobb's ...	Colt ...	1 min. 52.8 sec.
Major ...	Newson's ...	Halliwells ...	1 min. 19.6 sec.	Major ...	Cobb's ...	Major ...	1 min. 19.6 sec.
Minor ...	Halliwells ...	Millon's ...	1 min. 22.6 sec.	Minor ...	Newson's ...	Minor ...	1 min. 22.6 sec.
Type-of-War	Newson's	Halliwells	Millon's	Type-of-War	Newson's	Halliwells	Millon's

The school athletics is, without doubt, now entering upon a second phase of its existence. Seven years ago most boys were ignorant of the rules governing many events. They did not know if they could actually run a mile, if they were allowed to put their foot on the board in the Long Jump or if they could do 4 ft. 2 ins. in the High Jump. We now

LAWN TENNIS

their performances in the Open Events. At the Wimbledon District Sports we regained the Senior Cup, but lost the Junior Shield by a narrow margin. The standard was higher this year and our boys responded well. The best performers were those of Bales (220 yards) and Brooke (High jump) of the juniors, Wolkemberg (220 yards) Cassillon (440 yards), Blackwell (High jump), Simpson (Long jump) of the Seniors. The above, together with Birkett (Junior High jump) and Tralls (Senior 440 yards) represented Wimbledon District at the County Sports at Motspur Park. All our boys finished in the first six of their respective events. Wolkemberg and Tralls gaining places on the Surrey team to compete at the All England Sports at Carshalton. They are the first boys of the School to win this honour, and we expect them to perform with credit. The result of the competition for the John Garrett Cup was: Halliwell's, 467 points; Newsom's, 434½ points; Milton's, 403½ points; Cobb's, 387 points; and Gibb's, 367 points.

and them discussing not only the possibilities of their doing the mile in under 5 minutes, but also the time they intend to take over the first quarter, and where they intend to begin their final sprint. In the Long Jump this year, one competitor had practised so carefully that he knew his "run-up" had to be precisely 69 ft. 8½ in. if he were to hit the board each time. In the High Jump, N. J. MacDonald has perfected the Western Roll and become Surrey Junior Champion with his jump of 5 ft. 4 ins., while many other boys are practising "rolls," "straddles," and "cut-offs" with varying degrees of success. Also, a high degree of skill has been reached by some boys in the start of the sprints, and this year, for the first time, real art was shown in the coach- ing of the Tag-O-War. Hurdling, Pole Vaulting and Throwing the javelin and Discus have now been introduced and these events, next year, will form part of the Inter-House Competition.

The results of this development of our Athletic Technique were evident at the Surrey Grammar Schools Competition at Imber Court this year. Matravers did well to come a close second in the Open Mile, which was won in the time of 4 min. 35.4 secs. MacDonald, still not producing his best form, was second in the High Jump and Pegrum was fourth in the Shot. The Relay Team gained sixth place and the School finished fifth in the County for the Senior Cup. We were also fifth in the Competition for the Junior Cup, our points being gained by Tralls, who was second in the Colt 440 yards; Law, who was fourth in the Colt 220 yards; the Under 14 Relay Team, which was fourth, and Eales, who was first in the Under 14 220 Yards. Eales holds the distinction of being the first member of the School to win an Imber Court event. School Athletics Colours were awarded to N. MacDonald, I. B. S. Law, A. G. Simpson and I. B. Florentine for

The Tennis Club has been hard-hit, not merely by the loss of all of last season's unbeaten team, but also by the departure of Mr. Cobb and Mr. Robinson, who have played so great a part in the building up of a good standard of play. Not surprisingly that standard has suffered somewhat, but this year's younger players are showing the benefit of practice and experience.

The team has played two matches, losing the first to Beckenham C.S. and winning the second against Purley C.S. by a comfortable margin. Davis and Hoare, the first pair, have well deserved that position, though they are subject to bouts of erratic play. Grey and Mason, playing second, are both stylish and effective, while Buttery and Menzies hold their own at No. 3. The return fixture against Beckenham, should tell how much progress has been made.

The courts are not in good condition. A little has been done, but we still await new nets, and, more important, a complete overhaul of

the surface after the years of war-time neglect. Both Singles and Doubles tournaments are in progress, and have already produced some surprises, and may reveal some new material. Most promising for the future is the new Monday afternoon period for 1st and 2nd Forms.

SWIMMING

Qualifying, on games afternoons and on Saturday mornings, has been our main task this term, a satisfactory if not outstanding number of boys having passed the several tests, and thereby earned points for their Houses. We are entering a team for the Surrey Grammar Schools Sports and the Wimbledon District Sports towards the end of July, reports of which, together with the full results of our own Sports will appear next term.

BOXING CLUB

L. D. L.

Tutt and Colvin are to be congratulated on their winning the S.A.B.A. Championships (making them Schoolboy National Champions), and Biggs on improving on his position in the national competition after winning the Surrey County S.A.B.A. Championship last term. The chief event of the term was the House Boxing Competition, which was won by Newsum's after Gibb's had led the competition until the twentieth bout in the finals. The last Gibb's v. Newsum's bout was the twenty second, when a Newsum's victory gave them the Cup. The final order of Houses was: Newsum's, 92 points; Gibb's, 85 points; Halliwell's, 65 points; Milton's, 59 points; Cobb's, 49 points. Mr. Lloyd, of Sutton County Grammar School, kindly consented to judge the finals and presented medals to Tutt and Colvin before presenting the House Cup to Phillips, of Newsum's. Mr. Dudeney, of Queen's Road Secondary School judged the preliminary rounds.

Junior.

Under 5 st. Forster (N)*
Under 5½ st. Fawceter (H)
Under 6 st. Rose (H)*

Intermediate.

Under 9 st. Barrett (M)
Under 7½ st. Hobbs (G)
Under 7 st. Pratt (G)*
Under 8 st. Reeves (N)
Under 8½ st. Biggs (C)*

Senior.

Under 8 st. Palmer (H)*
Under 8½ st. Templeton (G)
Under 9 st. Colvin (N)*
Under 9½ st. Davies (C)*

A final word of commendation to all runners-up who put up a very good show and displayed considerable courage when they turned out to represent their Houses, especially those that met members of the School team.

R. W. F. F.

THE REUNION DINNER, 1949

A typewriter is a cold thing on which to compose an account of this year's Reunion Dinner, especially such an improvised account as this. Therefore, since it is now three months after that pleasant occasion, and since I, no prophet of the vagaries to which members of

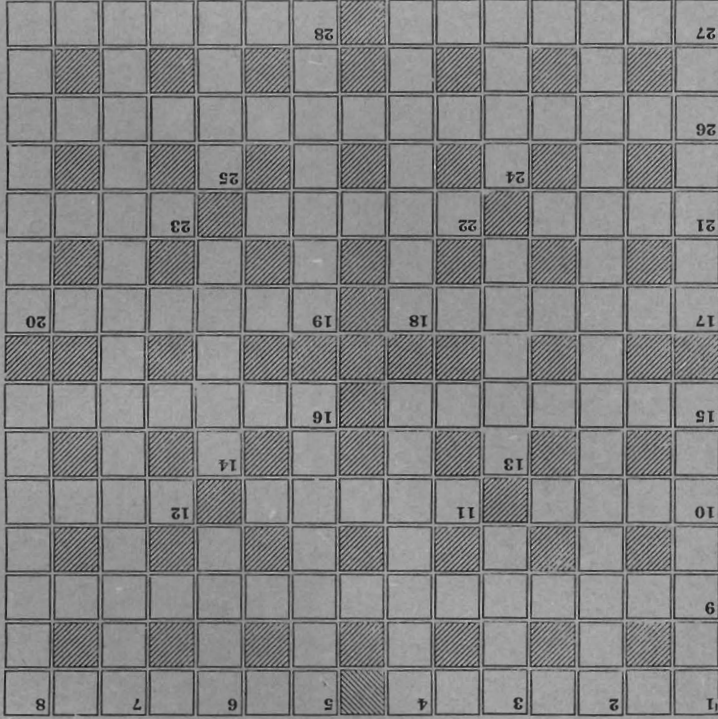
the Old Boys' Committee are prone, have no notes of the speeches or of the lively conversation which took place, I must ask indulgence for a descent to trivialities, and hope that the passing of time will cover all. Of course, everybody was there—except those who were not able to enjoy a happy combination of time and money, and the fine, if necessarily limited banquet. There were those who found it a strain to conceal their hunger at the end of the evening, just as there were those who could hardly conceal the present cigarette famine, and who were observed casting envious glances at the cigarettes provided by the Committee for the famous, the bearded, and the clean-shaven notorious on the head table. The Ex-Service members were in trim at the Bar; the Staff guests were also at the Bar, and for the most of the time, they were upstanding men all.

Peter Smith, jovially profane as usual, made an excellent toast-master. The Headmaster, was courteous and good-humoured, as indeed he is always. He seemed to be able to acknowledge easily all those whom he had seen only once before, and many whom he must have had difficulty in remembering having seen at all. Mr. Wrinch spoke affectionately and kindly to the whole company in turn, and was for the first half hour penned up in conversation near the entrance, where he had been incantations enough to greet someone on his arrival. The after-dinner speeches were all succinct. David Vaughan spoke well, if restrainedly; Arthur Thompson, acquitted himself humorously, if a little mustily; Mr. Gibb was politic and apt, L. A. C. Strong a gust of live pointed humour and wit, full of West Country reminiscence and concern at the present food situation. His short picture of a drunken farmer ill-supported by the back of a chair, telling the good laughter, especially from the far-end table, from Mr. Newsum, and, not least, from John Garrett.

This, our first Headmaster, we always remember with affection; to have him with us as a guest was to make old memories live again in all our minds. He talked interestedly to everyone, finding conversation where there appeared to be little, and showing great interest in and knowledge of the present activities of many of the Society. We cannot to enjoy it, has made it live. We were all sorry that neither Mr. Halliwell was able to come. We would like to thank them here for their kind wishes, and to say that we sincerely hope that the next time will find them less hard pressed. It remains to be said that the Dinner Committee are to be congratulated on the organisation, and the Society on being able to find some 76 members and friends who thoroughly enjoyed the evening, and whose support made it a great success. C. W. B.

CROSSWORD

By J.M.H.



Clues

- DOWN
1. Racehorse Shoe-mender ? (7)
2. Alsatian into ion (anag. 15)
3. Swiss Cake ? (4)
4. Condescendingly (7)
5. Shorter (7)
6. Lana becomes masculine (4)
7. The original watchdogs (7, 8)
8. French poet (7)
13. Musical girl, obviously (5)
14. Stone terrier (5)
17. The Orem ? (7)
18. Spread (7)
19. All fish are (7)
20. Something to do with Kings, but it sounds like the pig's supper table (7)
24. Chip off the old block (4)
25. Sicilian fire-raiser (4)
- ACROSS
1. Grand American Station (7)
5. 150 Orange ? (7)
9. How war-planes fly (6, 9)
10. Jungle join (4)
11 & 12. Two Hallan cities (5) & (4)
15. A year lit (7)
16. Hated (7)
17. Petty Party Fare (7)
19. Ships on the Goodwins (7)
21. He made a mess of his portage (4)
22. "And overcame us like a Summer's —" (5)
23. Gaelic Valley (4)
26. Where British Railways must go slow (7, 8)
27. Controlled (7)
28. Stupidly (7)

CONTENTS

School Officers	...	1
Our Budget	...	1
Chairman of the Governors	...	1
Hail and Farewell	...	2
House Notes:	...	2
Cobb's	...	2
Gibb's	...	3
Hallwell's	...	4
Milton's	...	5
Newsom's	...	6
House Plays—1.	...	7
—2.	...	9
L'Enseignement En France, Part I	...	10
Fiction Survey	...	12
Saturday Night	...	12
On the Birth of the Son	...	13
The Garden Party:	...	13
Summer Garden Party	...	13
To Our Supporters at the Garden Party	...	15
Craft Notes	...	15
A Week in Paris	...	16
Societies:	...	17
19th Wimbledon Scout Group	...	17
Arts Society	...	18
Geography Society	...	18
Christian Union	...	20
French Club Notes	...	20
Chess Club	...	21
National Savings Club	...	21
Gramophone Club	...	22
565 Squadron A.T.C.	...	22
Film:	...	23
Article	...	24
Article	...	24
List	...	25
Games:	...	25
Cricket—1st XI	...	25
—2nd XI	...	26
—Colt XI	...	27
—Junior XI	...	27
Athletics	...	28
Tennis	...	29
Swimming	...	30
Boxing	...	30
Old Boys' Notes	...	30
Crossword	...	30

Inner Cover

Inside back cover