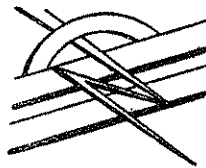


RAYNES PARK COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

THE

SPUR

AUTUMN TERM 1962



VOLUME XVIII

NUMBER 1



# SCHOOL OUTFITTING

As the officially appointed school outfitters to the Raynes Park County Grammar School for Boys Elys are particularly happy to be able to offer to parents the wide experience we have attained in school outfitting.

Buying the children's school clothing need not be the problem that it is sometimes thought to be and parents are assured of expert and helpful advice from a willing and friendly staff at Elys.

Moreover, shopping for school outfits is made easier for an ever-increasing number of parents who are wisely taking advantage of our Budget Account system of payment. Not only does this method spread the payment of the larger beginning-of-term purchases, but it is immensely convenient to be able to charge other mid-term items to your account.

Our Budget Account explanatory leaflet will gladly be sent to you on request.

**ELYS of WIMBLEDON**

Telephone WIMbledon 9191

Easily reached by frequent trains from all parts of Surrey,  
By buses 93, 131, 155, 200 or 286, or by car

# THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL

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

Vol. XVIII

Autumn Term

No. 1

## CONTENTS

	page
School Officers	2
Editorial	2
Headmaster's Notes	3
Prizegiving, 1962	4
The Taming of the Shrew	6
An Alpha	9
"Charming Shrew"	9
The Carol Concert	10
House Notes —	
Cobbs	11
Gibbs	12
Halliwells	13
Miltons	14
Newsoms	15
Variations on a Esoteric Theme	16
As the Orange Dawn	17
Abendzeit in Der Stadt	18
Landlady	19
The Boss and the Strike	20
False Friends	20
Wind of Death	21
The Inspiration	23
No Honour Among Thieves	24
De La Mort D'un Guerrier	25
The Da Vinci Society	26
Music Notes	27
The Debating Society	28
Classical Society	29
Calling All Christians	30
Chess Club	30
Printers' Guild	32
Stage Craft Guild	32
Astronomical Society	33
The Spur Model Railway Club	34
Stamp Club	34
Jazz Listening Group	34
19th Wimbledon Scout Group	35
No. 565 Squadron, Air Training Corps	35
The Persians	37
Form 4F go on a Field Journey	37
Form 2C Visits the British Museum	38
The Devils	39
The Witch of Edmonton	41
Phaedra	42
Rugby	42
Cross-country	47
Basketball	49
Letter to the Editors	50
Acknowledgements	50
Editors	50

## SCHOOL OFFICERS

AUTUMN TERM, 1962

*Head Boy* : P. F. White.

*Deputy Head Boy* : R. J. Crittenden.

*Prefects* : A. J. C. Brazier, R. A. Burgess, M. Chandler, J. M. Crocker, J. Evans, D. L. Gent, R. F. Gill, A. S. Gorman, R. E. Gravestock, I. P. Jackman, N. Johns, R. W. Jones, A. V. Knapp, S. J. Mawer, J. R. McGaw, J. Nisbet, R. G. Osborne, A. D. Robinson, J. Sinfield, R. Smalley, B. J. Spanos, I. Taylor, R. C. Uden, D. Williams, F. J. Wilton, G. H. Windsor.

*Captain of Rugby* : G. A. Featherstone.

*Captain of 2nd XV* : J. F. Ventham.

*Secretary of Rugby* : P. L. Cox.

*Captain and Secretary of Cross-Country* : K. E. Jackson.

*Prefect of Library* : J. M. Crocker.

*Prefect of Hall* : S. J. Mawer.

*Secretary of the Games Committee* : I. Taylor.

## EDITORIAL

Once again the progressive critics of *The Spur* are making their vehement demands—it may surprise you to know that they are as militant, if not as literate, as our more reactionary critics, who are capable of writing letters to us. They do not, on this occasion, expect us to become an official organ of the C.N.D., but require, with equal fanaticism, that we should join the flourishing satire industry. They tend to speak with an admirable epigrammatic terseness, for example :

" *The Spur* must keep up with the times, not with *The Times* : remember this is 1963, and A.D. at that."

We would not like it to be thought that we have not given their proposals serious consideration before rejecting them. It is a tempting suggestion that we should change our name to *privat eyen*, *that was the wit*, *that was*, or *beyond the pale*, or, at the very least, dispose of the capitals in our title (that is, *the spur*) as have our contemporaries, *the bryanston saga* and *the aldenhamian*. (This is to indicate progressive views : the terms "Capital" and "Upper Cases" are nasty, regressive, and quite undemocratic). These elementary changes once made, the magazine could concentrate on the true purpose of any magazine, film or broadcast—to destroy. We could expose the Facts to satire.

What victims would we select? We would mirror within our community the targets of the professional satirists, and whereas they ape Mac's Mannerisms, attack the incompetence of all Governments, the self-seeking of their Ministers, as well as the economic interest behind all mass media and all those who take advantage of public gullibility, we could deride the incompetence and depravity of the School Establishment, including the sensationalism found in *The Spur* : in short, the Facts.

You may object that we are in no position to expose these facts, since we have no evidence of them. But here too we are in the same situation as *privee yen*. And they have never been deterred!

We must remember that satire is not concerned with exposing minor facts: its true purpose is to give concrete form to selected public prejudices, and to popularise them, so that they can become Facts capable of further satire. As Voltaire said: "Si les Faits n'existent pas, il faut les inventer."

And it is always possible to say that the Establishment is wickedly concealing the Facts of its own wickedness, content to laugh at pathetic topical or political humour as opposed to biting satire (for example the pretence that Mac is as great a fool as he appears from his gestures). This is an infallible method of inducing credulous public indignation.

This, then, is the case for satire in *The Spur*. But there is a weightier case against. *privy gen's* profits are in direct proportion to the virulence of its assaults. *The Spur* is not a profit-making concern, and has a fixed circulation. What purpose would be served by attacks on the incompetence of the staff, by diatribes against the corruption of the prefects, the financial instability of the tuck shop or the poor quality of the Printers' Guild's work? Nothing would be achieved by these revelations—especially as they are so blatantly untrue—beyond the antagonism of the parties concerned. And what use is satire if it is not profitable?

So we hope that you will be satisfied with Peter Burrow's gossip column and Jon Evelyn-Home's Advice Column, as always.

P.F.W.

### HEADMASTER'S NOTES

The School is cordial in its congratulations to its Head Boy, P. F. White, on his election to an Open Exhibition in English Literature at Clare College, Cambridge. It is a thoroughly well-deserved success, and a satisfaction to us to know that in competition which seems annually to get keener our best is as good as anyone's. As Head Boy, on the Games Committee, in dramatics, and in many other ways White has served the School well, and is not a scholar only.

Besides P. F. White, both C. J. Rose and A. V. Knapp were awarded State Scholarships last August, the last time these awards are to be made, and all three are to be congratulated. Most of the Upper VIth have still to hear of their fate in the competition for University places, but Knapp has the deserved good fortune to have secured admission to Selwyn College, Cambridge, to read Music.

We wish happiness in his new post to Mr. V. M. Nicholls, who left us at Christmas after a year's work here, and by the time these notes are printed we shall have welcomed Miss P. M. Hurst to fill, at least temporarily, his place. Since taking her degree at Southampton, she has done some teaching and also completed a research and thesis in French. We are fortunate to begin the year with no gaps in the staff.

C. F. W. Higham retained his place in the Cambridge XV and played at Twickenham, so that we have the unusual boast of having had a Rugby Blue for four years running, and feel some reflection upon ourselves of his glory. He combined it with a First in the Tripos, another uncommon combination, which we all applaud.

T.H.P.

*"Hopes Unfulfilled and Fulfilled" from Headmaster's Notes  
twenty-five years ago.*

"The School had the honour of listening to Mr. George Lansbury, P.C., M.P. Fresh from his interviews with President Roosevelt, Signor Mussolini, and Herr Hitler, he spoke with intimate knowledge of the possibilities of European conciliation, in which he ardently believes.

"His enthusiasm for the atmosphere of the School was inspiring. In reply to the remark, "Yes, we can do something here," he said, "You can do anything here, my boy."

### PRIZEGIVING 1962

The proceedings of the Annual Prizegiving held on Tuesday, October 9th at Wimbledon Town Hall, began with E. F. Dakin, Esq., Chairman of the Governing Body, introducing the guests.

The Headmaster then made his report for the last school year in which he stated that it really was a good year. He commented that the percentage of passes at "A" level and "O" level (82% and 65% respectively) were well above average, and that congratulations were due to twenty-eight boys who had obtained University places. Unfortunately there was a 60% failure of boys in the second year 5th, showing that it had not, in fact, been "all right" on the day. As for the 6th form, he said it was necessary to have less specialisation and more general studies. Turning to out of school activities, the Headmaster said that all continued to flourish.

Prizes were presented by William Walsh Esq., formerly Senior English Master at Raynes Park, now Professor of Education at Leeds University, who then spoke, first of all to the younger boys, advising them, with the aid of some humorous anecdotes, not to give way to impulse. Addressing the senior school, Professor Walsh spoke about the purpose of Universities. He said that Universities, which are dedicated to the practice of truth in research and in teaching, were not meant for everyone, but only for those capable of developing when given the initiative.

After Mr. Hood-Phillips (former Chairman of the Governing Body) had proposed a vote of thanks, which was seconded by the Head Boy, the National Anthem brought the Prizegiving for 1962 to a close. R.J.C.

Form Prizes :

#### PRIZES

- 1X D. J. Ventham, G. B. Brookes.
- 1Y R. E. Pengilley, J. R. Buckler.
- 1Z G. J. Elliott, S. R. Hall.
- 2B R. J. Hendry, C. Q. Colombo, K. S. Harmes.
- 2H W. Munro, D. C. Wilson.
- 2D M. J. Stimpson, A. Tickner.
- 3A M. A. Coppen, A. J. Pollak.
- 3C A. J. Ring, G. J. Miller.
- 3E M. J. Eburne, J. Lovegrove.
- 4I N. D. Catton, C. A. Fulbrook.
- 4K M. H. English, J. F. Evans.

For performance in "O" level G.C.E. :

- 4F R. H. Terry, P. V. Mallett, R. P. L. Ribolla, K. Phillips, P. K. King.

- 5J E. A. Goulding, D. K. Tickner, P. G. Williams.  
5G M. P. Dudley, C. R. Blackwell, J. F. Ventham.

Lower Sixth :

- Arts : I. Thomas, I. P. Jackman, N. C. Boreham.  
Science : S. J. Mawer, R. C. Uden, G. R. Myers.  
Economics : D. L. Gent, J. R. White.

Upper Sixth :

- Arts : P. F. White, A. V. Knapp, C. J. Rose, M. A. G. Evans,  
M. Chandler, J. M. Crocker, B. W. Spencer, I. Stephenson.  
Science : Norman Prize, F. J. Wilton ; Whitman Prize, J. R. McGaw ;  
D. B. Webber, A. J. Phillips, B. T. Elsdon, D. L. Forster.  
Economics : S. L. Cotterell, A. L. Smith.

General Prizes :

- Effort Outside Class : R. C. Oakes, P. J. Hopkins, B. G. Butcher;  
B. W. Spencer, M. J. Lawrenson, M. P. Ness, J. J. Brown, P. E.  
Nicholls.  
Music : J. H. G. Wilbraham, B. J. Spanos, H. L. Tan.  
Hobbies : M. Emery, D. R. Manning, S. J. Mawer.  
Art : M. Munro, D. E. Lemon, G. C. Gosling.  
Craft : Woodwork, P. G. Williams ; Pottery, K. D. R. Hanson.  
General Knowledge : P. F. White, M. P. Ness, C. M. Borland, R. J.  
Hendry.  
Beaverbrook Bennett : C. Marshall, I. C. F. Culpin, N. J. High.  
Old Boys : C. J. S. Waugh.  
L. A. G. Strong : P. F. White, A. S. Gorman, R. J. York.  
John Robbins Essay : P. F. White.  
Leaving Prize to Head of School : A. J. Phillips.

Advanced Level Certificates :

- 6 Arts : P. J. Andrews, J. J. Brown, M. Chandler, R. J. Crittenden,  
J. M. Crocker, M. A. G. Evans (Distinction in English Literature),  
A. S. Gorman, J. M. Harvey, J. M. E. Hunt, A. V. Krapp  
(Distinction in Music), M. Munro, P. E. Nicholls, C. J. Rose  
(Distinction in English Literature and History), B. W. Spencer,  
I. Stephenson, P. F. White (Distinction in Latin), J. H. G.  
Wilbraham, F. J. Wilton, G. H. Windsor, R. J. York.  
6 Science : J. P. Callanan, G. R. Capper, C. J. P. Chambers, R. M.  
Clark, J. C. Cossins, C. J. M. Cottrell, C. L. Courtenay, H. Dalton,  
P. C. Dishart (Distinction in Chemistry) B. T. Elsdon (Distinction  
in Pure Mathematics), D. E. Esau, D. L. Forster, P. J. Gibson,  
M. J. Lawrenson, C. Lightowler, J. R. McGaw, D. R. Manning,  
R. G. Miles, P. V. Milton, C. I. Moffat (Distinction in Pure  
Mathematics), M. P. Ness, A. J. Phillips (Distinctions in Pure  
Mathematics and Applied Mathematics), E. H. Prince, D. I. Shaw,  
D. L. Sherwin, R. J. Smalley, R. H. Thompson, D. B. Webber  
(Distinctions in Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics),  
F. J. Wilton (Distinctions in Pure Mathematics and Physics),  
M. K. Wood, R. R. Wood.

- 6 Economics : M. E. Ball, R. A. Barnes, I. Corbett, S. L. Cotterell,  
 P. J. Hopkins, R. W. Jones, D. J. Morley, R. C. Oakes I. C. A.  
 Parkin, N. A. Preece, A. L. Smith, P. J. Towey.

### TROPHIES

From Open Competition

- Open Choral Society Class — Wimbledon Music Festival  
 Secondary Schools (Boys) Class — Wimbledon Music Festival  
 Intermediate Trophy — Wimbledon and District Sports

### FROM SCHOOL COMPETITION

Eric Parker Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M. A. G. Evans
Michael Welby Debating Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
Chess Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miltons
Parents' Rugby Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
Governors' Cricket Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cobbs
Spur Society's Hockey Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cobbs, Gibbs, Halliwells	
Gray Swimming Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
S. H. Marshall Cross Country Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cobbs
John Garrett Athletics Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
T. W. Powys Cobb Tennis Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Newsoms
B. C. Michez Cup for Gymnastics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
Junior Shield	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs
P. W. Garrett House Play Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miltons
John Timpson Music Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Newsoms
B. T. King Cock House Cup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gibbs

*From the Prizegiving twenty-five years ago—*

"The Summer General Schools result of two exemptions from Matriculation and four certificates out of eight candidates was not unsatisfactory."

### THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

"A man must discipline his wife to dumb, unthinking obedience: this is the only basis of a happy marriage."

Not a doctrine that would appeal to the National Marriage Guidance Council. More important, not a doctrine that in any way represents educated public opinion in Elizabethan times. It is a theme of folk-lore. You are not surprised to find it in Germanic folk-tales—in Grimm and Jacobs. I have come across it often myself, in naafis and the cartoon page of the Daily Sketch: and notably in the lurid conversation of a bus-crew waiting to start from a village in Oxfordshire...

But this folk-motif could not in itself make anything but a farce. In Shakespeare's hands, a cultured, intelligent, very funny farce, but still—a farce. You set it in the framework of another folk-motif—"the drunk persuaded that he is a lord" (itself found in the Italian *novelle*, but of much more ancient ancestry)—and you treat it with a witty buffoonery that emphasises its artificiality, and there you have a romp: a romp that can be enjoyed even today with only a little archaizing of the mind.



This is what the "old play" did — I mean the chap-book that Shakespeare had in front of him when he wrote. Oddly enough, it is *not* what Shakespeare did. Within a scene, his framework disappears: the drunk is silent, the playful lord is lost. The play fills the stage, and as it goes on, other, non-farcical elements come into it. First, a sense of cruelty, and then, slowly, a sense of something else — sympathy perhaps, perhaps love — but certainly something quite out of place in a farce.

This production did not attempt to reach the higher level. It used a conflation of the Shakespearean and the chap-book texts, with occasional suggestions, one would guess, of some neo-Elizabethan poet. Sly and Bartholomew were on stage all the time; Katharina was all too obviously *en travesti*; Petruchio's servitors were borrowed from Walt Disney; everything was played for laughs, and there was no hint of the tenderness that informs the end of the play.

Within these limits, this had considerable success, and more than a little style. The set was attractive and ambitious, even if it enforced some slow scene changes that seemed to cry out for music, especially when the musicians who had already appeared were so apt and competent. Diction was clear — the supreme virtue that we have learned to expect from these productions — and the movements of the actors were entirely more confident than they were twelve months ago. They were not helped by two awkward entrances. One was far too narrow, and the other badly needed sixpenn'orth of elastic to save the audience from unappetising views of a distant corridor.

The strength of the production was in Petruchio. It is not an intellectually taxing part, but it needs considerable force and clarity. Both these qualities were there, and though there were good performances around him (Lucentio, Tranio, and Grumio should be mentioned) Petruchio was clearly, perhaps too clearly, in a different class. I doubt if there is the depth here for tragedy as yet, but I should be interested in seeing his Macbeth in a year or two's time.

We come to Katharina, and see the design, and the pity, of this interpretation. As a figure of farce, she was excellent — an Ugly Sister of a Kate, chin high and voice low, tossing her wig in a spinster's coquetry: as anything more, she would have brought grotesque, utter, and immediate ruin to any play she appeared in. And I cannot think of anyone available to us who would not have been as bad.

If we are to make any attempt at a serious production of plays with more than trivial women's parts, it is time for us to give up this ineptitude of boys in travesty. Please do not shout out that these parts were written for boy-actors. Lady Macbeth a boy? Rubbish. Cleopatra a boy? Worse than rubbish. Shakespeare had to use boys in his plays, but he did not write for them. Mozart had to use a spinet for his music, but he wrote for the piano.

Social conventions permit us to put girls on the stage, and we must use them if we aim at any real excellence in plays of this sort. It would require some organisation, some negotiation: but there is no real reason why we should not combine for our annual play with some girls' school or society. We might reach an entirely new standard of dramatic achievement.

## CAST

### Characters in the Induction

THE LORD	B. J. Spanos
CHRISTOPHER SLY <i>a tinker</i>	G. R. Capper
A PAGE <i>disguised as Sly's wife</i>	P. H. Chapman
HOSTESS	M. P. Lawrence
1st HUNTSMAN	E. J. Banks
2nd HUNTSMAN	M. J. Woodhall
1st SERVANT	B. R. Manger
2nd SERVANT	B. Early
3rd SERVANT	G. R. Lake

### Characters in the Play

BAPTISTA, <i>a rich gentleman of Padua</i>	C. R. Shoebridge
VINCENTIO, <i>an old Merchant of Pisa</i>	R. G. Osborne
LUCENTIO, <i>son to Vincentio</i>	J. Sinfield
PETRUCHIO, <i>a gentleman of Verona, son to Antonio</i>	A. D. Robinson
GREMIO, <i>an old gentleman</i>	N. C. Boreham
HORTENSIO ( <i>disguised as Licio, a Music Master</i> )	I. Taylor
THE PEDANT ( <i>disguised as Vincentio</i> )	A. D. Crowe
TRANIO, <i>a servant disguised as Lucentio</i>	G. R. Rhodes
BIONDELLO, <i>a servant to Lucentio</i>	M. P. Dudley
GRUMIO, <i>servant to Petruchio</i>	J. G. McCubbin
SERVANTS, <i>at Petruchio's country house</i>	
CURTIS	P. L. Cox
NATHANIEL	J. Salisbury
PHILLIP	S. V. Hall
JOSEPH	K. Robinson
NICHOLAS	R. P. Myers
PETER	J. L. Newman
A TAILOR	R. J. Smith
A HABERDASHER	C. Russell
KATHARINA, <i>the 'Shrew,' daughter to Baptista</i>	R. F. Gill
BIANCA, <i>daughter to Baptista</i>	L. F. Humphrey
A WIDOW ( <i>afterwards married to Hortensio</i> )	T. E. Lovering
SERVANT, <i>attending on Baptista</i>	A. R. Marsh
OFFICER	R. A. Charlton

### CREDITS

*Music* by A. D. Crowe and D. W. Crick.  
*The Set* constructed by the Stage Guild under Max Greenwood, Esq.  
*Costumes* by Nathanwigs Ltd., and the School Wardrobe.  
*Stage Manager* : B. J. Spanos, assisted by J. R. Watts.  
*Stage Hands* : P. Williams, D. Catton, S. G. Lewis.  
*Lighting* : D. Williams.  
*Tickets and Programmes* by Printers' Guild.  
*Programme* designed by Cecil Riley, Esq.  
*Front of House* : Ken Kilburn, Esq.  
*Producers* : Messrs. Peter Smith and Norman Poulter.

## AN ALPHA

*We are grateful to the Editor of the Times Educational Supplement for his permission to reprint the following review.*

The professional theatre cossets the critic to the extent of giving him a moderately soft seat. At the school play, however, he is unavoidably perched on a small wooden chair.

The hardened critic (the cliché is used advisedly) therefore employs a crude yardstick. *Alpha*—he notices no discomfort; *beta*—the pain does not really worry him; *gamma*—he whimpers softly but continuously; *delta*—he totters out.

Using this brutal but serviceable method was happily able to award an alpha to Raynes Park County Grammar School after the first of three performances of *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The play was rightly treated as a farce: the convolutions of the sub-plot and its permuted disguises are such that even the author can have had only a general idea of what went on. The details, in any case, do not matter. What does matter is that the performance should move *tempo giusto* and make the most of the high comedy scenes.

This depends inevitably on the ability of the chief actors as well as on the producers, and here we were fortunate. Petruchio was large, loud and virile and, even at his most violent, never really nasty. Baptista's *gravitas* could not have been wholly assumed. Gromio did well, playing the part of a kind of junior *Falstaff*, while Bianca, Lucentio, and Hortensio performed their little *pas de trois* competently. Chief honours, however, to Kate, who looked remarkably like a caricature of Miss Rosalie Crutchley. "She" flounced and pranced, nagged and wrangled, lashed and belaboured with splendid *brío* and displayed a distinct talent for slapstick timing.

(c) *The Times Publishing Company Limited, 1962. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission from The Times Educational Supplement of December 28th, 1962.*

*Thanks to Mr. Alasdair Aston we are able to provide a triangular review of what he prefers to call the*

### "CHARMING SHREW"

Although in "The Taming of the Shrew" the characters of Katharina and Petruchio are reminiscent of Steele's comparison of the scold among women with the bully among men, so much nonsense has been written in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries about "this disgusting spectacle of marital brutality" that no small part of the success of the production of "The Taming of The Shrew" must be the sense of proportion achieved in a most entertaining evening that permitted us to agree again with Samuel Johnson that "The whole play is very popular and diverting."

The producers are to be commended for inserting the excerpts from the older play, "The Taming of a Shrew," as these interpolations and some good character acting by Capper, who played Sly, both maintained a light atmosphere and made some telling comments on dramatic involvement and the suspension of disbelief. The colourful and attractive static setting was effectively exploited at all levels, even for dulcet musicians in the gallery and for Petruchio's lordly ascents to his chamber. There was a smoothness about the production and a general adequacy of lighting and timing that enabled one to enjoy the dramatic experience to the full, and this relief is rare enough in school drama.

However, it is to the actors that one turns for a final analysis of an evening at the play and here were some very good performances indeed. Robinson's Petruchio was large, fair, good-humoured and firm; even if he had a slightly husky voice, one could have wished him his trouble for something more attractive than Gill's Katharina, but then Katharina is a shrew and Gill in a well modulated performance certainly lived up (or should one say down?) to that description. Both performances showed great promise. The minor romantic lead, Lucentio, almost stole the show, as Sinfield had nearly the same degree of stage presence and amiability as Petruchio. Humphrey's Bianca was quite charming and more than adequate in those mock lessons so reminiscent of French comedy: in fact, one of the best scenes was between Bianca, Lucentio, and Taylor, as Hortensio, gymnastically eavesdropping on the stairs. Mention must also be made of Osborne, who gave a good performance as Vincentio, but unfortunately space forbids recognition of every promising performance. All the actors seemed to fit easily into the comedy, even the page with his sign-boards, and everyone contributed to the main business of the evening, which was, one is grateful to remember, the unfolding of a story and the entertainment of an audience. The school is to be heartily congratulated.

## THE CAROL CONCERT

This year we were privileged to have among the audience the Mayor and Mayoress of Malden and Coombe and the County Music Adviser.

The annual Carol Concert is one of those valuable occasions when both present and past members of the school can join together to provide entertainment with their talents. Its degree of success should not be judged solely on the actual standard of performance but rather on its ability to create a communal atmosphere so much in keeping with the Christmas season. In including the Chairman of the Board of Governors, the Headmaster, and the Head Boy to assist in conveying the Christmas story, thus breaking the barrier between performers and audience in the communal singing of carols, this concert was well set to realise its purpose. A larger attendance by boys of the school could have made it a really successful school occasion.

There was a pleasing variety to the programme. The first part retraced the events of Christmas with the aid of Biblical readings, carols, and excerpts from Handel's "Messiah," where solo parts were competently performed

by C. Stevens (Treble), two former pupils, whom we were pleased to welcome back, Richard Oakes (Alto) and Christopher Shute (Bass), and Mr. Gibson (Tenor). A. V. Knapp and J. Crocker of the Sixth Form are to be congratulated on the singing of the boys under their direction.

After an interval proceedings took a rather less serious turn with Mr. Peter Smith's lively and highly entertaining presentation of "The Mummer's Play." The third part of the concert included carols, a reading by Mr. Smith of George Wither's "So now is come our joyfull'st feast," somewhat disreputably pursued by some Second Form vagrants plus one other who, it was strongly rumour'd, was a member of the School Staff, presenting an interlude entitled "Merry Gentlemen."

The programme was concluded with carols and a fine orchestral arrangement by Mr. Ayton of "God rest ye merry, gentlemen," to which, however, the orchestra was not able to do full justice owing to its large proportion of relatively inexperienced players. The orchestra is greatly indebted to the efforts of such people as Mr. Piper and Mr. Hall who keep alive the art of instrumental music in a number of schools in the area. Here again it was a pleasure to welcome back two former pupils, J. Wilbraham (trumpet) and M. Munro (oboe). We hope that they will find it possible to give their services for a long time to come.

In conclusion we must offer our congratulations and thanks to Mr. Aldersea and Mr. Ayton on their truly exhaustive efforts with choir and orchestra to produce this fitting finalé to the Autumn Term.

## HOUSE NOTES

### COBBS

*Captain:* P. F. White.

*Prefects:*

A. J. C. Brazier, J. M. Crocker, D. L. Gent, R. F. Gill, A. S. Gorman,  
R. W. Jones.

The Autumn Term has, as usual, left most of its competitions unfinished, but it is gratifying to be able to report that the Chess Cup is already ours, while we are in a dominating position in rugby and basketball.

The colts provided the backbone of our rugby effort: their wins against Newsoms (51-5), Halliwells (56-6), Gibbs (50-0), and Miltons (14-0), must make them one of the most consistently high-scoring House teams ever: Anderson, Culpin, Jones, McCubbin, Morris, and Zeffahs have been outstanding. The seniors have played with spirit under Banks, though Quilliam, Ventham, and Parks have fought particularly well. After a hectic quarter of an hour against Halliwells, the scrum rallied and we worried their pack for the rest of the game, without success. Miltons were defeated comfortably. Coming upon a pitch resembling the side of a mountain at the Hood, we were unable to finish off our movements against Gibbs. The scrum then proved unable to hold off the Gibbs rushes in the second half. If the seniors beat Newsoms next term, as they should, we will be sure of the cup.

The chess team started badly, but after the initial defeat only lost one game. Blunden, Raison, and Whittaker must be congratulated on their individual performances.

The Basketball competition does not count yet towards Cock House, but is nevertheless enthusiastically contended, and, having beaten a strong Gibbs side 26-20, and Halliwells 20-2, the team looks set for victory: Banks, Quilliam, and Francis have played exceptionally well

Gymnastics is at a critical stage, but nobody knows the true situation. One thing is certain: you have not done as much qualifying as you should!

This will probably be my last House Notes, and I would like to wish you the best of luck. With traditional Cobbism and a modicum of ability you should win Cock House.

P.F.W.

White has omitted all mention of himself in these notes. The debt we owe him cannot be expressed in a few words and we are sorry we shall not be fortunate enough to have him with us next term, though we are pleased it is because of his University award for which we congratulate him.

G.J.A.

## GIBBS

*House Captain*: I. P. Jackman.

*Vice-Captain*: P. L. Cox.

*Prefects*:

R. A. Burgess, J. Evans, R. E. Gravestock, A. V. Knapp, R. C. Uden,  
D. Williams, F. J. Wilton.

Having said goodbye to P. E. Nicholls and all the stalwarts of last year's activities, we began this term with a set of completely inexperienced captains. Bearing this in mind, we feel the term has been even more satisfactory than we could have anticipated.

The rugby competition is as yet not completed, but at present it seems likely that we should take second place, although it is not impossible for us to win the cup. The colts, led conscientiously by Chapman, suffered heavy, though not unexpected defeats at the hands of Cobbs and Miltons. The latter, however, was partly due to having to play with eleven men only; those who were on the field played valiantly. Handsome victories were gained over Newsoms and Halliwells, P. Cox, with his exceptional ability, led the seniors to victory against Cobbs and Newsoms, and to an unexpected, but pleasing, draw with Halliwells. The match against Miltons has yet to be played. The juniors have not yet started their House matches, but have had several encouraging practices and have shown their potential by overcoming Miltons in a friendly game. We are hoping for great things from them in the Spring Term.

The chess team, led by A. V. Knapp, seemed about to win the cup, when they had beaten Newsoms, Cobbs and Halliwells. Unfortunately, however, possibly due to over-confidence, they succumbed to Miltons, and thus finally took second place. Nevertheless Knapp, Burgess, Mallett, and Brooks must be congratulated on their play.

The result of the Gymnastics Cup is also at present unknown. We hope the juniors and colts have done their best during gymnastic periods. The seniors have turned out to qualify on successive Mondays in greater numbers than those of any other House. All honour to those who did. Even so, it is sad to see that many of the seniors have not bothered to qualify, when they could easily have done so. More effort at qualifying will be needed from the whole of the House for the competitions to be held later in the year.

A. V. Knapp has led the House choir enthusiastically and we must thank all its members for singing in House assemblies. It is good to see that the Gibbs House choir is performing at the Carol Concert. If they continue in this manner, they should do well in the Music Cup as well as providing many people with pleasure, which is even more important.

Thus, although the results of two competitions are still uncertain, we have put up a good all-round performance, and have made an encouraging start to the year. Let us go on as we have begun.

I.P.J.

## HALLIWELLS

*Captain* : R. J. Crittenden.

*Prefects* : M. D. Chandier, N. Johns, A. D. Robinson.

Early on this term we held a House Supper, which was a departure from the usual Halliwells traditions. Judging from the opinions of those present, it seems that it was a success: and thanks are due to all 6th formers who assisted in organisation on the day, and to several of last year's members of the House who aided us in our entertainment. We send our best wishes to them, and to all others who left us last summer for new spheres of work.

We have had a reasonable, but not a sufficiently successful term.

As expected the Senior House rugby team (composed largely of school players) under the leadership of Featherstone, fared well, with comfortable wins over Cobbs 21-0, and Newsoms 23-0; but we were not without anxiety in our matches against Miltons, eventually scraping home 24-16, and against Gibbs, where we were lucky to draw 3-3.

The Colt XV, however, with a noticeable lack of school players, has produced four losses: it seems that though confidence seemed high, morale and skill were lacking.

The only cup completed this term is chess. After last year's atrocious record, we could not help but improve. Reliable reports say that our team was comparatively strong and that the other Houses had no easy victories. Captained by Turner, the team beat Newsoms and drew with Miltons: Myers deserves a mention for remaining undefeated.

The hectic end of term programme has caused the last of the gymnastics qualifications to be held over until next term. Let me remind you that this is the only cup which depends solely on those who qualify. The House with the most spirit usually wins it: see where we are in the list. Qualifying does not rest on the sportsmen only; it rests on each of you as individuals. Similarly, Colts and Seniors take note that a good lead in

cross-country qualifying next term makes up for lack of outstanding runners on the day.

Other activities for the Spring Term are hockey, where prospects are bright; debating, in which with a competent team we hope to do well; and the House Plays, where we have more than our fair share of talent.

But it all depends on *you*, not the chap next to you.

R.J.C.

## MILTONS

*House Captain* : J. Sinfield.

*House Prefects* : J. Nisbet, R. Osborne, R. Smalley, S. Mawer, G. Windsor.

As this is an autumn term, the first topic under discussion must be rugby. In this, one of the major competitions of the school year, the House has met with mixed success; at the time of going to press the seniors had played three matches and lost three, whilst the colts showed us the way by winning three out of their four matches, their only loss being to Cobbs by 14-0. Marsh has led the team, and our congratulations are due to Morr: for his selection for the county.

The seniors have no excuse for their failure. The first match against Cobbs is best forgotten. Against Newsoms we fared somewhat better. [This may be due to the fact that the Russells acquired rugby boots, and found that they made quite a difference!] A general sense of urgency prevailed, something lacking before. Alexander, scrum half, played well and was rewarded with a try. Barber, a lucky acquisition, has played with much fight and enthusiasm, and he has given the House possession many times from the line-out. Halliwells, possibly the most feared of the other Houses, were given a good run for their money, and, if the final whistle had been blown at half-time, we would have taken two points; as it was we were finally beaten. Only in this match did the team look dangerous and play with any real effort. The match against Gibbs will have to be played next term, and if the team takes anything like as long to get into its stride, as it has so far done this season, the chances of winning this final match seem remote.

The term also saw the chess competition, Auger and Nisbet being the mainstay of the team, and responsible for our third place.

During the latter weeks of the term the gymnastics competition has been taking place. This is a competition not relying on the efforts of a few individuals, but on the combined effort of every person in the House. Therefore it is a competition that could be won by any House. At the moment the sixth form has been conspicuous by its absence, but it is impossible to forecast the result at this stage; however it would be safe to say that unless there is a noticeable increase in enthusiasm soon, it is likely we shall retain our usual position of fourth or fifth.

Next term we can look forward to the Hockey, Debating and Dramatic competitions, in which we have done well in recent years, and which we could win with a little luck and a concerted effort. Whether we do or not depends entirely on you.

J.S.



## NEWSOMS

*House Captain: I. Taylor.*

*Prefects: B. J. Spanos, J. R. McGaw.*

At the end of the Summer Term we said goodbye to many of our seniors, including our captain, Miles, all of whom set a high standard in their particular fields. We wish them luck in the future.

We had a good start to the year with a House Supper. This was well supported, and thanks are due to the masters and seniors who worked hard to make it a successful and enjoyable evening. Cornelius must be congratulated on his professional performance on the drums.

Prospects for a fairly successful rugby season looked promising, and indeed the seniors started well, by attending regular practices and losing to a superior side by only 8-3. Enthusiasm wavered in our next match against Halliwells (lost 23-0), though against Miltons the team showed more spirit, and won a hard-fought match 21-16. Certain team members consistently played well and deserve credit: King and Lewis for their high standard of play in the forwards, Spanos and Pett for having established a valuable threequarter partnership, and Sime for his unexpected accurate place-kicking.

The Colts are unfortunately a weak side, but they did well in their last match, defeating Halliwells 9-0. The two practice matches which the Juniors have played this term have both been won decisively, and so prospects look bright for the Junior Shield Competition next term.

The Chess Cup held little reward for the House, but this was certainly not due to any lack of effort, especially on the part of the captain, Borcham, who practised continually.

This term saw the commencement of House Basketball, though at present not counting in the Cock House Competition. Practices were well supported, and this was due mainly to the efforts of the captain, Lewis, who not only had to drag team-members down to the gym, but had to teach them how to play the game as well! Our only match this term (against Miltons) resulting in a 13-8 victory, is without doubt a reflection on the captain's efforts inside and outside the court.

The Gymnastics competition was also held this term, and, although the results are as yet undivulged, we have little hope of gaining the cup, owing mainly to the poor efforts of seniors in qualifying. This cup is, in fact, won in the senior school, though few Newsom seniors seem to realize this. Turn-outs on Mondays were weakly supported, though Crowe must receive mention for his efforts.

This term then has seen mediocre efforts from Newsoms in general, and, if we are to retain any dignity in the Cock House Competition, let alone win it, then the forthcoming term must see greater efforts from 'Sams.'

*Another 1937 Flashback*

I.T.

"Newsom's. We started our adventure (as a House) under favourable auspices. One or two boys actually said they were glad of a new House-master. At the beginning of term, there was a vague feeling that it was fun to be in on something new."

## VARIATIONS ON AN ESOTERIC THEME

### Ambiguities

Fascination in a cryptogram is found  
When you do not know as much as I,  
When, with the laugh of wisdom, I can say :

    " They do not know, but I

Do, who hold inviolate the mystic bonds."

It comes not naturally to me to speak for me :  
One clicks the rooted tongues of other mouths  
And licks the wounds one does not wish revealed,  
    Although, perhaps, one does

Neurotically kneel down sometimes for comfort.

And so, quite incapable of conclusion,  
I shall deliver, in deliberate equivocation,  
A case which may or may not be mine,

    For only I can know,

At least can guess, at its significance.

### Roebuck

The white roebuck skims from the thicket  
And huddles down in a glass cage

    For the mutual examination

Of a zoologically minded public.

    What should it resent ?

Its life is naked as a king's,  
It pines for a dappled emerald darkness,  
The violet rustle of a thicket's leaves.

    Its only aim is to exclude

    Although it is in its nature

    Only to include.

    Quest

    And ye shall not find.

Merely despair : decry (quite rightly so)  
The mystery you have not sought to solve.

### Citadel

I have dropped stones in a well  
As I drop words to you  
Through an iron grating, clumsy,

Ancient, rusted, russet in the orange  
Evening light in a citadel, above a town :  
A well which I shall never see again, and you  
Will never see at all, for it will be no longer  
That well, but another, yours, not mine

Who alone was there  
To see the sun calmly spreading shadow  
Like honey across the breadwarm bricks . . .

I have dropped stones in a well  
And listened for their response  
Hoping for none, counting  
On none, listening  
To a constant increasing urgency  
(Thirty-two feet per second, per second, per second . . .)

Plop.  
Unwelcome sound which could have waited longer,  
Which could have failed to come at all—

Prosaic response.

Yet still, I dropped the stone—that was the purpose.

It was not precious, that I must keep it,  
Lock it revolving within my brain, padded

To a standstill, embalmed,  
Fossilized,  
Stalactite in a cave,  
To be admired by one alone,  
Intrepid Speleologist,  
Scientific analyst,  
Me.

“It was an unimportant stone,”

You will say, but I will know

Its true import, its true importance,

If I should gamble, should unleash it to you.

For the stone was created, destined to drop.

Paul F. White, VI Arts.

### AS THE ORANGE DAWN . . .

As the orange dawn seeps up the distant sky  
And filters light down to the dew which lies  
On shadowy fields until they glisten crystal sheen,

So knowledge, slow to come but beautiful  
In coming, may even now be flooding  
The unseen planets moving 'round the stars  
Which glimmer on a clear and cloudless night ;  
And on each planet there may be the same  
Sad tale, yet hopeful, which is human life  
Marred by its ebbs and flows but slowly moving on.  
If this be so, then as the bundle of twigs  
Which once an aged father bound, may we be unified  
That not as unconnected molecules  
But as a substance whole  
We may more surely move to greater heights.

N. C. Boreham, VI Arts 2.

### ABENDZEIT IN DER STADT

Glocken klingeln, Sirenen heulen,  
Melden das End' eines andren Tages.  
Von der Arbeit kommt der strömende Drang,  
Füllt die Strassen mit einem wallenden Strom.  
Auf dem Fussessteig trappeln Millionen Schuhe,  
Schlagen sich Arme, stossen sich Schultern ;  
In die Strassenbahnwagen drängt sich die Hitze,  
Jeder geht eilig seines Weges nach Hause.  
Langsam fällt die Dämmerung.  
Es leeren sich die Strassen,  
Der Lärm der Leute verhallt,  
Und in den Fenstern der Häuser  
Erscheinen einzelne Lampen :  
Die Welt isst zu Abend.  
Die Nacht ist dunkel,  
Und in den Strassen,  
In der Beleuchtung  
Der Strassenlaternen,  
Schlendert ruhig  
Das Liebespaar.  
Dann werden die Wege  
Ganz verlassen.  
In den Fenstern  
Nach und nach

Löschen die Punkte  
Der Lampen aus.  
Nur der Mond  
Zwischen den Wolken  
Mit sanften Strahlen  
Blickt hinaus.  
Die Welt  
Schläft.

John M. Crocker, VI Arts III.

### LANDLADY

Since December,  
When the snows covered the park  
And the house became silent,  
Silent with the absence of a soul ;  
The tenants have walked the stairs  
And worn the carpets in the corridors :  
Gas has gone up :  
We seem, my friend, to have been, one might say,  
Almost lonely  
Since you left us.  
When the smoke curls around the columns of the porches  
And the east wind shakes the panes,  
Mrs. Walker slowly mounts  
To No. 26 :  
Seven stories just to say  
Pay by tomorrow morning or else out,  
Then shuffles to the nether regions, book in hand,  
And interviews the vicar  
(Father I am beyond redemption now.  
Try next door),  
Bicycle squeaking, black cassock and magnificat.  
Do not forget  
That you were married in our church.  
Your sons baptized within our walls ;  
Before your paint began to peel  
And your brickwork needed pointing,  
You were beautiful  
Your hair was  
Silken, fingers  
Long,

Eyes attractive, temptation to those who did not know  
The bitterness  
Concealed within that frame of ecstasy ;  
You of the city ;  
City of voices,  
Whose eyes are the eyes of darkness,  
Whose gutters flow with the tears of the night time  
Because you have died for ever,  
Have severed your arm with a barber's razor,  
Have opened your doors and windows  
To the winds of wickedness :  
Entwined in the whispers of your soul,  
The words of God shall for ever remain silent :  
Condemned to an eternal December.  
You shall wander in silent seas  
To mourn what might have been,  
But fled the grasp  
Of Outstretched Hands.

G. Windsor, VI Arts II.

### THE BOSS AND THE STRIKE

The drivers and guards want more money, less hours,  
It's a wonder they don't require bunches of flowers  
To take home to their wives, to keep them sweet,  
While they sit in a chair and put up their feet.  
So on Monday you'll find, to your utter dismay,  
The Underground trains are not running that day.  
The buses are crowded and so are the roads.  
By all kinds of vehicles, carting full loads.  
To get to your office on time you will find,  
Will strain to the limit, and damage, your mind.  
So why not give up, and stay safely at home,  
You can always instruct your staff by the 'phone.

S. Gebbett, 3G.

### FALSE FRIENDS

Others who pass  
Attract me, then repel ;  
For they are not what they seem  
In the flash of a first instant :

They are false friends;  
Friends at their own convenience,  
Who reveal the teeth of beasts  
At a moment's carelessness.

G. Windsor, VI Arts 2.

### WIND OF DEATH

I felt a draught on the back of my neck,  
But the windows were closed.  
I looked to see that the windows had gone  
As the wind came into my room.

Then my room was scattered by the wind,  
And the walls flew apart  
And bricks went one way, and I went another.

I found myself in a waste outside-  
Where the sky was blacker than the night;  
And I grew cold.

They laid a wreath upon me  
And nailed down the lid  
And I wanted to cry.

They lowered me down  
And I felt nothing,  
Alone with my thoughts,  
A wreath of withering petals  
And the twisting wire that bound them.

And later my bones came through  
To break my finger tips,  
And maggots gnawed their way through  
My once loved ruby lips.  
And beetles came,  
And beetles went,  
And my body went with them  
Until only I was left.

Me, the withered roses,  
And the rusty, twisted wire that bound them,  
All waiting for the wind to drop.

G. M. Bradshaw, VI Arts 1.



**A CAREER**  
**WITH PROSPECTS IN**  
**Westminster Bank**

means a planned progression from one interesting post to another, each step bringing greater variety, responsibility, reward and satisfaction than the one before.

A generous Merit Scale of salaries, together with special training, give every encouragement to those who show promise of early promotion. For these Branch Management, or the equivalent, in the early thirties will bring a salary of around £1,700 p.a.

Fringe benefits include a progressive scale of holiday leave, according to service and status, Sports Club and allied facilities second to none and excellent non-contributory pension arrangements.

We are looking for young men with four or more passes in the General Certificate of Education Examination at "O" Level, preferably including Mathematics and English, or, better still, for those with "A" Level subjects. Why not take the first step now and write to:-

**THE STAFF CONTROLLER**

**WESTMINSTER BANK**  
**LIMITED**

41 Lothbury, London, E.C.2



## THE INSPIRATION

The night was dark ; and as he left  
The warmth, the light, he felt bereft :  
    Alone, despite the crowd.  
The doors swung free. Still he could see  
Those people gay who smiled his way ;  
    Yet he in shadows cowed,  
Then slouched away : lone, introvert.  
(How could they know that he'd been hurt)  
    And still they laughed aloud.

Behind : the life, the laughs, the light.  
Before : the damp, dark, glistening night  
    Closing to crush his role.  
Cold rain fell fast, as if 'twould last  
Throughout that night to drown what light  
    Remained to fire his soul :  
But he walked on ignoring life,  
Groping for peace to end the strife :  
    A sphere without a pole.

Yet gradually the rain began  
To drown his sorrows, wash him clean ;  
And through night's velvet cloak there ran  
A mystic link 'twixt God and Man  
Such as he'd never seen —

Or heard, or felt. But now he knew  
His Maker's hand at work once more.  
He sensed at once what he must do :  
The light in darkness now broke through,  
The light he'd missed before.

Those lights, those sounds, that atmosphere ;  
The inspiration bringing near  
The human world, in focus clear ;  
Bringing again the real world back :  
The street lamps golden in the black,  
The road lights white along the track,  
And orange, mauve, blue, silver glowed,  
The lights to guide him on his road.  
His new found strength made light his load.

The night was dark, but now a friend.  
The cleansing rain had caused an end  
To problems on his mind.  
He'd found his plan. At peace with Man,  
At peace with God, he onward trod  
Leaving the old behind.  
The black, opposing mountains moved  
He clearly saw. At last he'd proved  
That he who seeks shall find.

C. R. Blackwell, VI Arts I.

### NO HONOUR AMONG THIEVES

The red Zephyr drove quietly into the Smiths' driveway. Mr. Smith put his brakes on just in front of the garage door. He got out of the car, opened the garage—and stopped. What was that he had heard? He listened more closely. Believing that he was hearing things, he got back into the car and drove it into the garage. After the garage door had been closed, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, while conversing about the wonderful dance they had just enjoyed, approached their front door. Suddenly they both stopped. They both heard the noise.

"I heard that noise while I was opening the garage," stated Mr. Smith.

"But what is it?" gasped Mrs. Smith. What they had heard was, in fact, voices—voices in their house.

"Oh dear!" cried Mrs. Smith when she and her husband had decided what those baffling noises were, "Oh dear! Is it burglars?" Mr. Smith made no answer. His silence worried his wife. But they listened together to hear the most frightening details of their house being robbed.

"This 'ere might be worth taking," said one voice.

"Yeah, and these knives and forks, too," said a second. At this point a petrified Mrs. Smith urged her husband to call the police. The Smiths began speaking about this, but they stopped when one of the voices called for help. They tried to listen to what one of the voices was saying, but the sound was so incoherent that they could not hear it all. All they really heard was an almost hysterical cry saying, "No! no! Don't kill me!"

"I'm going to kill you, and now's as good a time as any," replied the other voice with awful emphasis.

"But why, why?"

"You've been double-crossing me. You were the only person who knew Alf Carter was out to get me because I shopped him. He didn't know where I was, and still wouldn't but for you, you traitor."

Mr. Smith was going to stand for no more. "I'm going in," he told his wife. From inside the threatened man continued babbling, but to the

Smith's words, "Please put that gun down," were the most important. Mrs. Smith implored her husband not to go in, but he felt it was his duty. Going up to the door, he fumbled with the key. At last he managed to get it into the lock. He turned the key and pushed the door open. It creaked a little, and Smith, hoping that the burglars had not heard it, crept through the house. As he went, he could not help remembering what he had heard the threatened party say. He decided that the voices were coming from the dining room. Suddenly a pistol shot rang through the house. Smith shook in his shoes. What was he to do now?

A moment later he burst into the dining-room, to hear, to his great relief and amazement, a B.B.C. announcer saying, "You have been listening to a play by J. K. Donovan entitled 'No Honour Among Thieves.'" The wireless had been left on!

Mr. Smith explained to his wife what had happened and after they had both had a good laugh Mr. Smith chuckled, "I suppose we'll never know the beginning of that play, it might have been jolly good."

C. R. Shoebridge, 4K.

## DE LA MORT D'UN GUERRIER

Des gouttes de sueur scintillent sur son front dans la lueur du crépuscule; ses yeux grands ouverts regardent fixement de ses orbites noirs et creux les silhouettes de la terre obscurcie du soir. Il sent l'acier froid de son fusil dans sa main serrée; la peau est tendue et blanche sur les os de ses doigts. Dans son esprit fatigué, ses pensées distraites et momentanées passent l'une après l'autre. Il est tendu et alerte malgré sa fatigue qui l'envahit de plus en plus. Une idée seule lui revient souvent. "Vais-je peut-être mourir?" Pourquoi lui? Qui l'avait envoyé au front? Il n'avait jamais voulu être un héros. La sensation de son fusil dans sa main froide et moite lui était devenue détestable. Et sa famille? Que lui arriverait-il si... Non, ça serait trop injuste. Il se met à penser à sa femme, à ses deux enfants. "De beaux enfants, ceux-là. Demain elle aura six ans, la petite... demain... où serai-je demain?" Et il y avait sa mère qui s'inquiétait sans cesse. Oui, elle avait raison cette fois, la vieille. Elle aussi aurait bientôt son anniversaire; il devrait lui acheter un cadeau quand il retournerait chez lui en permission. Il attendait ardemment cette permission... Soudain, à sa droite, un mouvement interromp sa méditation. Il voit se détacher sur le jaune pâle de l'horizon des ombres noires mouvantes. On se porte en avant! On a donné le signal! Il reste un moment cloué sur place, puis, se dominant, il s'avance avec les autres. Les jambes tremblantes, il traverse le champ en trébuchant dans la boue, qui semble se coller à ses lourdes chaussures. Suivant l'exemple des autres sans savoir vraiment pourquoi, il se met à courir, haletant, le corps plié en deux, vers un bâtiment à quelque distance de lui. "Jusqu'ici tout se passe comme pendant un entraînement," se pense-t-il; il fait tout comme on lui a enseigné... puis tout à coup une lumière aveuglante perce l'obscurité, et l'éblouit. Il hésite un moment, ahuri, puis plonge face à terre; mais c'est trop tard. Pendant cet instant

perdu un coup de feu éclate, et en tombant le guerrier sent une douleur aiguë dans sa poitrine. Il l'empoigne, haletant, et le sueur froide coule de son front quand il voit ses mains couvertes de sang rouge et chaud. Il se tortille sur la terre en toussant, puis, tranquille un moment comme la douleur s'atténue, il se rend compte de la vérité horrible. De grands sanglots secouent son corps et des larmes jaillissent de ses yeux et coulent sur ses joues ; puis ses mouvements se ralentissent et il exhale avec peine son dernier souffle. Enfin son corps sans vie gît, immobile et mouillé, dans la boue, et devient froid. Le sang caille dans les fibres de sa chemise.

Non, cette fois ce n'était pas un entraînement. Il y avait une différence. La différence était que, là, un homme mort gisait sur la terre ; qu ce soir-là avec la fin d'un jour s'acheva la vie d'un homme. Mais qu'importe cela ? On le raye tout simplement sur les listes, C'est la guerre. On doit accepter les pertes pour jouir des bénéfices. Quels bénéfices ? Je le rédis ; quels bénéfices valent la vie d'un seul être humain ? En quoi consiste un être humain ? C'est un corps, un membre de la société, un instrument pour faire marcher la machine humaine, oui, mais aussi c'est une vie avec toute son individualité, ses goûts, ses intérêts, ses soucis, ses plaisirs, ses buts et ses espérances. Ce n'est pas seulement un rouage dans la machine, ou un nom sur une liste ; c'est une âme et un esprit. Et qui envoie cet instrument dans les lignes de bataille, qui a le droit de le faire ? Cependant, malgré tout cela, il ne serait pas juste de dire que la guerre est toujours fausse. Il y a un objet qui vaut cette perte irréparable ; c'est la réponse à une menace, pas à l'état, mais à chaque individu qui y habite, comme par exemple quand l'agresseur est quelqu'un insensé d'un désir d'écraser un autre pays. Mais la guerre n'est pas une solution à une querelle légère. Personne n'a le droit d'ordonner à quelqu'un de risquer sa vie pour un idéal, à moins qu'il ne le touche personnellement et profondément. La guerre est une chose terrible, et les pertes, que les chefs semblent considérer quelquefois si nonchalamment, sont en effet trop sévères pour la traiter légèrement. Car chaque homme qui lutte dans une guerre a sa propre vie qui est aussi pleine d'événements et d'émotions que celle d'un autre ; et pour chaque homme qui meurt, une famille doit se mettre en deuil. Notre vie sur cette terre est transitoire ; on n'a pas besoin de la rendre plus transitoire encore.

John M. Crocker, VI Arts 3.

## THE DA VINCI SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Autumn Term was devoted to a review by Dr. Morgan of the trip to Greece by members of the VIth and some of the staff. This enterprising journey (by road) was very well covered by a series of excellent colour photographs taken by P. F. White and J. M. Crocker and used by Dr. Morgan to illustrate his account of the trials and perils of this venture.

An event of great importance took place this year—the consecration of the new Cathedral at Coventry. The Society marked this event by showing a colour film which had just been issued on the story of the birth and

development of this important new building. This meeting was very well attended and owing to the interest shown we hope to arrange a visit to Coventry next term.

Mr. Venning gave a series of three talks on the Expressionists in which he traced the development of this movement fully. We were introduced to many excellent pictures during this talk, many not usually reproduced. Those who attended this series of talks were given plenty of information and food for thought.

To mark Hallowe'en Mr. Gibson gave a reading of "Tam o' Shanter" in broad Scots. All agreed that it was a most lively rendering of the poem even if much of it was in a "foreign" language.

Gothic Architecture was the subject of a talk by Mr. Riley in two parts, the second to be held next term. In his talk Mr. Riley traced the development of this style of architecture and laid emphasis on the daring spirit of the builders and architects of that period.

The final meeting of the term was devoted to the Da Vinci Art Competition, the subject being "Abstract." The standard of work submitted for this competition throughout the School was very high and the judges, Mr. Venning, Mr. Gibson, and Mr. Riley, had great difficulty in coming to their final decisions. G. R. Capper, VIth Science, was awarded the Senior Prize, R. C. Anderson, IVth, the Middle School, and D. J. Ventham, the Junior School. This competition had the effect of making people realise that there was more to this art form than just throwing a pot of paint on the canvas!

The Society now has started on the second decade of its life. Looking back, we are proud of the tradition we have established and hope that the next ten years will be as fruitful. Once again thanks are offered to all our speakers this term for the work and time they have made available for our Society.

A.C.R.

## MUSIC NOTES

Following a shortened Evensong on Sunday, December 16th, *The Raynes Park Grammar School Singers* combined with the church choir in Wimbledon Parish Church to give a performance of the Christmas section of Handel's "Messiah." About 130 singers took part and the occasion was a happy and successful one with a large congregation in attendance. The soloists were Mr. David Gibson (tenor), Christopher Shute (bass), Richard Oakes (alto), Christopher Stevens and Stephen Casey (trebles). The trumpeters were John Wilbraham and John Nuthall. Afterwards a reception was held in St. Mary's Hall for the performers, and all members of the choir will have been grateful to Mrs. A. L. Thompson, in particular, who was so largely responsible for the excellent refreshments.

Earlier, on December 4th, a section of trebles and altos from the choir distinguished themselves by singing the 'complete' "Messiah" alongside the cathedral choristers in St. Paul's under the direction of Dr. Dykes

Bower, cathedral organist. This was with full orchestral accompaniment. The gentlemen involved were Bateman, S. V. Hall, Hoare, Pengilley, Phillimore, Stevens (2nd formers), Cullinan, Graham, Hawley, Masters, R. Smith, Nuthall (3rd formers) who all sang treble; and Hien Leng Tan and P. Standish (3rd formers) who sang alto. Despite the very dense fog, all arrived on time, and a fine performance was given to an audience which must have run into thousands.

The *School Orchestra* made its substantial contribution when it joined forces with choir and readers in the Carol Concert held in the school hall on the final night of term. A report of this appears elsewhere. The orchestra has been fortunate in adding to its ranks Mr. Hollom and his bassoon.

Individual musicians who have merited congratulation are Hien Leng Tan (3rd form) for his Junior Exhibition in violin at the Royal College of Music and A. V. Knapp (6th form) for the State Scholarship awarded to him on his music.

We regret to record, for the first time a 'falling-off' in the work of the Recorder Club, a gentleman of the requisite personality not so far having emerged to continue the excellent work of Rodney True. This we shall surely remedy. Meantime, there has been a splendid batch of beginners in the new violin classes. There is a vacancy for a trombone beginner and also for a 'cellist.

A most welcome feature of the term has been the reappearance of the Gramophone Society under the enthusiastic direction of D. E. Lemon and with valued assistance from Mr. Hollom. Music from Bach to Bartok has been heard and a most interesting and colourful series of articles and pictures—the work of Lemon himself—has been posted on the Music notice board throughout the term as a supplement to this weekly lunch-time music. These lunch-time recitals are warmly commended to your attention, and all musically interested people are invited to consult the relevant section of the notice-board.

House Music Competitions will be looming fairly large by the time these notes appear. Throughout the term House music directors have had the school hall reserved for rehearsing their choirs and some Houses have already shown promising results. All involved are advised to have as much as possible of the competition work in good preparation by the end of the Spring Term.

Solo musicians are also reminded of the approaching School Concert in the summer. They should have pieces for possible inclusion well prepared by the beginning of the Summer Term.

D.A.

## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The term started well. Three early debates were not notable for skill or knowledge, but made up for this in enthusiasm. The motion "This House has little use for the Commonwealth" showed that certain speakers were ignorant of current events, and little beyond this, "This House believes

that the building of Coventry Cathedral was a waste of money" provoked the best debate of the term, with some varied and even interesting arguments on both sides, but an intellectual argument that "the teenager has a poor case" met with all the customary trite statements both in support and opposition.

At this time Messrs. Smith and Poulter recognised the importance of the Society's activities—they stole all our carefully nurtured performers for the *Shrew*. After the play we held a final debate: "This House agrees with Mr. Dean Acheson." Once again it was clear that most speakers had not prepared their material thoroughly, and the result was stalemate.

This is a failing which, however, should be remedied in the House debates. We have been greatly encouraged by the presence of certain juniors this term, and I am glad to say that the Junior Society still flourishes.

P.F.W.

*November 12th, 1937.*

"This House welcomes the opportunity given to the Government of ridding the British people of the burden of Empire." The Motion was lost by 9 votes to 13.

## CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The President's cosy back room has seen two meetings of the Classical Society this term. The first reached punch-up pitch, and even our lady visitors were forced to take part! Compare the following:

*Translation A:* "You see, citizens, you see the good fortune which this man owes to his prudence, to his profound wisdom. You see how, since he has concluded peace, he buys what is useful in the household and good to eat hot."

*Translation B:*

"Dost thou see, thronging city? His cunning so quaint is,  
The truce he has made crowns him king of the mart.  
All household utensils, all roastable dainties,  
Yea blessings in showers have gladdened his heart!"

It was such violent variance of translation which frustrated our reading of English versions of Aristophanes' *Acharnians*. Much of the comic effect of the original was either diverted or simply hidden, and the whole was brought to a glorious climax by Mr. Gibson's broad Scottish rendering of a Megarian attempting to sell his daughters, disguised as piglets, in a sack. The Society refreshed itself in the President's usual wine-and-olive way, well into the night.

To its second meeting of the term, the Society welcomed Professor W. A. Laidlaw of Queen Mary College, London, to deliver a talk on the subject of Roman Comedy. In outlining what we can know of the origin and nature of this branch of Roman literature, the Professor spoke in a

clear and scholarly way about Greek New Comedy ; Etruscan singing and dancing ; Roman stage conventions, such as the outdoor street scene and, probably, masks ; types and situations (the ranting master, the quaking slave, the parasite, the practical joker, the hilariously contrived complications of plot) ; and the differences between the dramatic art of the two main writers of Roman Comedy, Plautus and Terence. In conclusion, he read extracts in English from several plays, with such obvious personal delight that he succeeded, by swift delivery and witty expression, in encouraging many smiles, some laughs, and one guffaw, from an audience on the whole comparatively unversed in Plautine puns and jokes. The evening ended animatedly with chickpeas (origin, growth, derivation, world distribution, accessibility—the President knew all the answers), and wine.

A.S.G.

### CALLING ALL CHRISTIANS !

The Christian Union commenced a very profitable term of meetings with a talk by Mr. W. Galyer, of the Caravan Mission, who urged us to be built up in our faith by the Holy Spirit, and thus be more fully equipped to reach out to others. With this in mind, we started to hold our weekly Prayer Meetings once again. We rejoice that our average Friday attendances have almost doubled, while at the main meeting of the term, over 80 boys attended the Fact and Faith Film, "Facts of Faith." We continue to pray that all those who call themselves Christians will realise their responsibility to witness during the week, as well as on Sunday, by attending our meetings regularly.

We have had some useful discussions on subjects ranging from 'money' to 'mercy-killing,' but Bible Studies, temporarily laid aside, are to be resumed again next term with more practical and interesting methods of approach. We also hope to continue our main series of talks on 'Prophecy Fulfilled'—which so far has included "A voice in the wilderness" and "King of Kings"—as we learn more of Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah.

The Junior Christian Union suffers from a drastic shortage of numbers, although this in no way impedes our fellowship, but we would encourage juniors to come along to *their* meetings. For the Spring Term we are planning a varied programme, including a filmstrip, and talks by special speakers. We trust that all these meetings will be informative and lively times of fellowship for all who attend.

R.J.C.

### CHESS CLUB

*Captain* : A. V. Knapp.

*Hon. Secretary* : T. J. Turner.

*Hon. Junior Secretary* : M. J. Auger.

The chess season opened briskly with the Inter-House Tournament, held during the first half of this term. The results were as follows :



- 1st, Cobbs, 28 points, 7 Cock House points.
- 2nd, Gibbs, 26 points, 4 Cock House points.
- 3rd, Miltons, 22 points, 2 Cock House points.
- 4th, Halliwells, 17 points,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Cock House point.
- 5th, Newsoms, 7 points, 0 Cock House points.

We owe Cobbs House our congratulations on winning the Chess Cup again this year.

In inter-school fixtures, the Senior team has had a highly erratic season so far. The first match was the preliminary round of the Sunday Times Knock-out Competition, in which we were drawn against Tiffin's. The result we all prefer to forget...! The next match was a "friendly" against Surbiton C.G.S. Having been sufficiently demoralized by the result of the first match, we were now nonchalantly informed by a certain member of Surbiton's team, that three of their number played for Surrey, and that their Captain came third in the All-England Under-Eighteen Championship! The result, surprisingly enough, was a draw, and the three games which were adjudicated as draws (including the Captains' match) were all to our advantage—though not conclusively so—either in position or material. We now had regained some of our self-confidence and beat Wimbledon County Boys' School 6-0. Tiffin's 2nd team, although not as good as the 1st team, was a little too good for us, and they won by the narrow margin of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ . The last match of the term was against Mitcham C.G.S. when we won  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ .

There was to have been a match against the Gentlemen of the Staff, but this has been postponed until the beginning of next term.

All members of the team have played well this term, but R. A. Burgess deserves special mention for his very fine record of four wins in five matches. T. J. Turner has been a most efficient Secretary this term, and we wish him all the best for next term, when he will assume the post of Captain.

Finally, on behalf of the Chess Club and team, I should like to thank Mr. J. Wyatt for sponsoring us this term, and hope that he will continue to do so in the future.

A.V.K.

A. V. Knapp has not reported his own record. Against strong opposition he lost only one match on the highest board. He is leaving this term, and the Chess Club will miss his ability both as a player and as a Captain.

T.J.T.

## Junior Chess Club

Unfortunately there has been a drop in membership this term, with the result that the Second and Third Forms Knock-out Tournament has been combined. There are many new members from the First Forms, and there have been regular meetings on Monday evenings.

The Juniors did well in School matches :

v. Wimbledon County, won 3-1.

v. Tiffin's, lost 0-4.

v. Mitcham C.G.S., won 3-1.

Fischer and Feline played in all the matches, and the other participants were Brookes, Hendry, Peet, Podgorney, and Whitaker.

M.J.A.

## PRINTERS' GUILD

This term many of the improvements hoped for a year ago have been successfully accomplished. The new chaises and quoins have proved invaluable and the standard of work is now high. The result has been a gratifying increase in the orders for work and we are now fast approaching our saturation point as far as production is concerned.

Now that printing is being done during practical periods by forms one to five inclusive, the quantity of work produced this term has brought in a very satisfactory amount of money, and if this continues, as there is every reason to hope it will, the Guild will soon become independent of the General School Fund.

This term also saw the start of a new system of tests for members of the Guild. These tests are graded and members who attain top grade are eligible for foremanship; we hope this will inspire members to become adept in all fields of the printer's craft.

Work this term has included Prize-giving Programmes, Raffle Tickets, Sports Fixture Cards, School Play Tickets, School Play Programmes and Christmas cards.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Hendry, who produced most of our blocks for us, for without them much of our work, in particular the Christmas cards and Play Programmes, would not have been possible.

B.G.B.

## STAGE CRAFT GUILD

Building with adult-size Meccano might not be an inapt summary of the Guild's achievements during the Christmas Term. With half the term already behind us, we met in the workshop, to find that the construction of the set for the forthcoming school play, was to be based on a technique new to the Guild. Using 'Dexion,' which as I have said, may be likened to a giant Meccano outfit, we were to build a set which would be a compromise on an Elizabethan stage, in the limited space available, and which could be dismantled, and perhaps re-arranged for future Shakespearean productions. Although I visualise discontent amongst the members at an absence of large-scale construction work before each Shakespearean play, the edifice has shown itself to be a 'stable,' practical construction, which has a large number of advantages over the usual type of construction.

Not least among these advantages was its speed of erection, and still greater speed of dismantlement, so that without it I doubt if the same project could have been completed in the short period of time using the conventional method—thank heavens for the Greeks.

After the preliminary erection of the basic structure, it was taken down in numbered sections to be left until it could be re-erected three weeks before the play. Apart from the loss of the master plan, everything was re-erected in time to receive its 'cladding,' doors—I am certain the set was designed for a company of midgets—and steps.

The play itself went on after the usual previous week's rush, and apart from the actual limited scope of lighting, and on-stage work during the performance, I think the play went well so far as the Guild was concerned; flying gells, flickering working lights—?

With the House Plays in the Spring Term, I do not imagine that any large project will be tackled by the Guild as a whole, but it looks forward to the hinted large scope of the Junior School Play in the Summer Term, by which time I hope that it will have been reinforced by new members, especially 2nd and 3rd years boys who will be very welcome, particularly when examinations take a heavy toll of the time of seniors.

N.D.C.

## ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

When in November the Society was re-established after a year's lapse, a host of difficulties confronted the members: the telescope, after a year's exposure to the elements, was in a sorry state, all its ancillary attachments having mysteriously disappeared, and owing to past misuse several parts were either bent or broken.

Since then, two eyepieces and a flat have been bought, and in a surprisingly short time the telescope has been put in tolerable working order. Most members have seen Jupiter's moons, Saturn's rings, the seas and craters of the moon, and sunspots. However, much remains to be done. The telescope's fine adjustments are unsatisfactory—although the bearings are excellent; Jupiter looks like a sausage, and the maximum magnification is only 67.

By next term many of our initial difficulties should be overcome. Mr. Gordon-Cumming has kindly lent the Society two of his telescopes, for which we are at present making mountings, and when these are finished we will have three really good instruments. We are also collimating the School's reflector (the alignment of mirror flat and draw-tube) which should make an immense difference to its performance.

As for the future we hope to study sunspots next summer, and are eagerly awaiting a chance to observe Mars; we would like to take photographs through the telescopes, and desperately need a shed or large cupboard in which to keep all our paraphernalia.

J.D.M.

## THE SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

The Spur Model Railway got off to a good start in September when a number of keen newcomers to the School joined the Club.

Despite further small engineering works every Club evening has seen trains running, and everyone has had a chance to operate the layout. No purely working nights have been necessary.

Most labour has been devoted to the improvement of stations and scenic effects, and the embankments leading to the high level line have been built up in plaster of paris or papier maché. These in due course will be painted to represent grass or stone.

One locomotive has been sent to the manufacturers for a complete electrical and mechanical overhaul and when returned it is likely that others will follow if our finances will stand up to the strain.

L.P.N.

## STAMP CLUB

Although the Club has been fairly active this term for the exchange of stamps, membership has fluctuated from week to week, from a dozen to three or four.

The prime purpose of the Club at present is the exchange of stamps to improve the collections of members, and we would welcome more collectors next term to join with us in this pursuit. We meet in Room E at 12.30 p.m. every Thursday.

M.J.S.

## JAZZ LISTENING GROUP

The term started with full attendances when we announced that all school-members above the third form might attend meetings. We had, however, to limit membership again to the sixth form when more junior members became noisy and used the Group as a rest place. In spite of too much noise some good jazz was played—ranging from the modern approach of Ornette Coleman's music to the well-known, well-loved pieces of King Oliver and Sidney Bechet. The range, however, has not been wide; the 'modernists' bring their records and the 'traditionalists' theirs. A split has been caused, and much 'jazz fringe' music and some of the worthwhile players who graduated from the more traditional music to modern jazz—Lester Young, Charlie Parker—have not been heard. This has resulted in the same few records being replayed week after week, much to the annoyance of those who appreciate a particular brand of jazz. This term, then, in our now one and a half-hour long sessions, we hope to hear new records from new members, plus the occasional oddity we allow in the Group—Shelly Berman's humour, for example—but we are not surprised that people do not risk their records on the school gramophone. We are indebted to Nick Johns, Derek Chamberlain, R. A. Charlton, M. Dudley, and others for bringing their records.

M.P.D.

## 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

### SENIOR SCOUT SECTION

During the summer holidays the seniors decorated their meeting place, which has been in constant use throughout the term. Seniors have attended District training courses in large numbers, and the level of proficiency is satisfactory.

The Senior Troop entered two teams for the Wimbledon and Merton Senior Scout Adventure Competition, which, as in other years, took the form of a night hike with several pre-arranged difficulties to be resolved en route. One team was placed ninth, but the other came first and was entered as the Wimbledon team for the Surrey Venture Competition. Success did not ensue a second time: the 19th's team came 13th in a field of 32.

The last major event of the term was a 20-mile night hike, which was successfully although uncomfortably completed one wet and misty November morning.

The Senior Troop is strong, and looks forward to the beginning of the camping season.

N.C.B.

### BOY SCOUT SECTION

The Boy Scout Troop's summer camp held at Steps Bridge, Dartmoor, was somewhat hampered by bad weather, but there was plenty to do, and all feel that it was a camp to be remembered.

The Autumn Term has produced its supply of new recruits; and vacancies left by P.L.s have been filled as follows: R. M. Smith takes over Hawk Patrol, D. Veness, Kestrel Patrol, and D. Hutchins, Starling Patrol. P.L. J. Stone has become Chairman of the Court of Honour.

There has been an increase in badge proficiency, and several courses are scheduled for next term.

Plans for next year's summer camp, to be held in East Anglia, are well under way; and we look forward to a camping season as enjoyable as the last.

D.C.V.

## No. 565 SQUADRON, AIR TRAINING CORPS

This term saw two additions to the Squadron's officer strength in the persons of Pilot Officer R. J. Gates who was commissioned in June after having served as a civilian instructor, and also Mr. R. S. Cole who was appointed as an A.T.C. Warrant Officer, having previously served in the Squadron as a Cadet up to the rank of Cadet Warrant Officer.

Among the N.C.O.s, Sgt. Morley was promoted to Flight Sergeant, and Senior Cadet Winhall and Leading Cadets Mercer and Manger to Corporal. The two latter N.C.O.s are to be congratulated on successfully negotiating the Senior Cadet training examination of the recently introduced syllabus, as did Leading Cadets Goulding, Bambridge, Borland, and Burgoyne, who

are therefore now promoted to the rank of Senior Cadet. In the examination for promotion to the rank of Leading Cadet, all who entered, namely Cadets Belcham, Hyman, McManus, Haw, and Henderson, passed. In both examinations, with, incidentally, only one failure, there were two passes, six credits, and three distinctions, a most gratifying result. In the Basic examinations, which are set at squadron level, passes went to Cadets Miller, Young, Anderson, and also Cadet Knight who has since left us and hopes to transfer to the Torquay squadron.

During the summer holidays, the Squadron entered a team for the annual Wing '303' shoot at Pirbright, which is on the 200 and 500 yard ranges. Although not distinguishing themselves, all members of the team enjoyed a good, if tiring, day's shooting, which was fortunately blessed with good weather. However, we have had some success in '.22' shooting: A. T. C. Marksmanship Badges were awarded to Cpl. Manger, and Leading Cadet Haw, while Cpl. Mercer re-qualified. Much of any success that we may have on the miniature range is due to the efforts of the Territorial Army range officer at Farrington House, where we do our '.22' shooting. Under his guidance, the range has been completely re-decorated; strip-lighting for illuminating the targets and a new firing point installed, and the target holders modified. We are extremely grateful for these facilities which add much to the enjoyment of Saturday morning shooting.

Battle of Britain Day this year saw the Squadron, as usual, along with some members of the Junior Air Guild, at Biggin Hill for the annual air display. With the representative aircraft in current service with all R.A.F. flying Commands, there were also many vintage aircraft, both on static display and flying. The R.A.F.'s aerobatic teams of 92 and 74 Squadrons, flying Hunters and Lightnings respectively, gave displays, as did a visiting team of French Magister aircraft.

Two cadets from the Squadron, Cpl. Winhall and Sen. Cdt. Goulding, have successfully completed proficiency gliding courses this term, both at No. 1 Gliding School at R.A.F. Swanton Morley. The A.T.C. Proficiency Certificate is the same as the British Gliding Association's 'A' and 'B' Certificates, and the Squadron now has five members who hold this certificate.

The finalé to the term's activities was the annual dinner held on December 7th. After the parade—which was inspected by Flight Lieutenant J. D. Timpson, whom many will remember as the Squadron's Commanding Officer during his time as Deputy Headmaster at the school—there was dinner, followed by a showing of the film "Reach for the Sky," the life story of Group Captain Douglas Bader. In his speech after dinner, Flt. Lt. Timpson made many amusing (if somewhat warped!) references to the Squadron's previous 'activities' as published in past editions of *The Spur*.

Next term, we look forward to the long-awaited revision of squadron badges on the battledress blouse, and the change of the N.C.O. badges of rank in favour of the miniature-size chevrons. Also in the near future, we hope to take advantage of the recently-introduced scheme evolved for the

benefit of Surrey Wing squadrons, that of experience in flying, from the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough.

J.F.

## THE PERSIANS by Aeschylus

On the tenth of October, Dr. Morgan took a party of twenty boys to see "The Persians," at the Vanbrugh Theatre, London. This play is generally described as the first historical play in European literature; it was first produced in 472 B.C. at the theatre of Dionysus in Athens.

The scene is set in the Persian Court; the year is 480 B.C., and Xerxes, the king, is invading Greece. Everyone waits for news with impatience, greatly fearing disaster.

The play opened with a chorus of Persian Elders and Women, who were moving to the mournful rhythm of their own chanting. Queen Atossa, the mother of Xerxes, then appeared on the palace steps, and spoke to the elders concerning the campaign. During this, a survivor from the battle arrived, and collapsed exhausted before Queen Atossa. When he had recovered, he related to them how Xerxes and his men had been defeated when they attempted to attack the dreaded city of Athens; and he told them how the Persian Fleet had also been defeated by the Greeks. However, he said that Xerxes was still alive.

By this time the chorus and Queen Atossa were in despair, and they called the ghost of Darius for help. He appeared on the top of his tomb and told them what he could, and how they must never again attack Athens. He then returned to Hades. The play ended by Xerxes himself appearing and giving his version of the battle to the Court.

The play was well performed and although there was a lot of chanting, with little movement, it was a very enjoyable evening.

I. D. Masters and D. G. Rose, 3A.

## FORM 4F GO ON A FIELD JOURNEY

The 4F expedition to explore that enthralling feature of British landscape—the North Downs—was to take place on Thursday, October 4th, 1962. This was postponed the day before owing to the "imminence of rain," Mr. Shaw's summary of the situation being, "It's all the fault of the Met. people." However, Thursday was, of course, a beautiful, blue-skied, delightfully sunny day—there must be a moral there somewhere.

The great line: "Next Thursday will be perfect," was consolingly repeated, but this still did not quell the rage of an individual who shall be nameless, but whose initials are R.W.

Thursday, October 11th, by no means a perfect day, found a huddle of 'Chelsea' booted, bejeaned, and 'donkey' jacketed youths beside a

comparatively respectable figure in grey 'worsted' with 20 inch bottoms—turn-ups of course—and a sickly khaki-coloured anorak. This all happened in an obscure suburb of Epsom—namely Ashted.

We synchronised our watches, and were off. Admiring the graceful structure of the level-crossing, the intrepid expedition daringly traversed the River Rye.

I shall not bore you with the monotonous routine work of the expedition which, of course, is to be expected before anything really awe-inspiring, such as the railway line from Epsom to Leatherhead, is unveiled. The expedition's journey was uninterrupted to Headley—uninterrupted that is except for the explosions signalling the approach of the same nameless person whose initials are R.W., and also excepting an escapade in a chalk pit, where The Man Himself ceased to have control over his hunger-ravaged expedition. Some people, I believe, even went to the extreme of pocketing small pieces of chalk, no doubt in the dismal hope that it might satisfy their stomachs.

It was under the pressure of pitiful scenes such as this, that T.M.H. slowed down the searing pace to the ultimate stop for dinner at Headley Church.

The next stage was to Betchworth Clump, and this too was uneventful, only broken by the knowledgeable voice of T.M.H. I am told, however, a rather interesting talk about the scenic Phosgene Beach occurred. Without much ado, then, we reached Betchworth Clump which happens to be about 600-700 feet high—someone realised this just in time, saved, of course by the expert knowledge of T.M.H.

Then came the rush down Box Hill which was quite hair-raising, with even the dare-devil man himself condescending to run.

At Box Hill Station the expedition took ten minutes to form up, and the poor old yokel in the ticket office seemed to be worried about his stocks of 'Box Hill to Wimbledon' tickets, and also about the tall appearance of some of the under-fourteen-year-olds. So the expedition travelled home in the luxury of Southern Region Railways in the conventional sitting-position or in the off-beat, luggage-rack position.

## FORM 2C VISITS THE BRITISH MUSEUM

It was on October 31st, 1962, that, in a state of excitement our party of twenty-two, conducted by Mr. Kilburn, set off in an endeavour to increase our knowledge of Roman life and literature by visiting the British Museum.

On arrival we were greeted by a guide who besides giving an accurate and informative talk, managed to interest and entertain the party. We were led into a long hall where a large slab of stonework stood in a corner. This slab, the lecturer explained to us, had been replaced in parts, as was clearly visible by the different colours of the stone. We were also told that the various Latin inscriptions had been incorrectly carved by the stone-



mason; apparently he got so far, realised his mistake, and decided it would be too expensive and too laborious to start again.

On view too were several priceless antiques and busts of those legendary characters to whom we are accustomed to meet only in text-books.

The Museum has acquired an exciting and extensive collection of armaments and armour, in various states of preservation, not least of which was a fairly complete Roman shield, which perhaps had been used in Caesar's Gallic campaign or in his conquest of Britain. Domestic articles, which included pots and dishes of complex design, plus various types of cutlery, convinced many that Roman civilisation maintained an appreciably high standard.

The lecture having ended at approximately 11.30 a.m., we were released to look round the museum for twenty minutes by ourselves. As far as we could gather, the Rosetta Stone seemed to be under close scrutiny for most of the time.

On the Rosetta Stone there are fourteen lines of hieroglyphic writing, thirty-two lines of demotic writing and fifty-four lines of Greek. The stone itself is very hard black basalt rock and was found in July, 1799, a few miles from Rosetta (quite near Alexandria). Its writing was deciphered by the famous French scholar, Jean Francois Champollion (1790-1832).

At 12.15 p.m. our party gathered together again outside the museum and moved off homewards, returning with a great admiration for Roman civilisation and satisfied that the morning had been well spent.

We are deeply indebted to both the guide and Mr. Kilburn for providing an unforgettable morning and one which will perhaps re-vitalize the Latin students and further our general education.

R. Pengilly and D. J. Ventham.

## THE DEVILS

"The Devils," to which a party went on October 31st, is John Whiting's stage adaptation of Aldous Huxley's investigation of diabolism "The Devils of Loudun." It is the story of Urbain Grandier, priest and libertine, and Sister Jeanne, a hunchback prioress who becomes obsessed with him. Through this obsession, Grandier, an opponent through his ambition and independence of Richelieu's centralising policy, is able to be charged with diabolism, tortured, and executed.

The play masquerades as tragedy, but only the orthodox could really accept it thus. Grandier dies because he is sensualistic as well as ambitious, but to me he seemed just a good man of his time whose only weakness is his inability to dispense completely with the idea of sin. This inability prevents him from dying spiritually happy.

If it is not a tragedy—the story of one man's predicament—then is it merely a documentary—or does it have a symbolic message for the present

## A Career in the Bank

*Never before have opportunities for young people been as promising as they are today in Barclays Bank. Here is a brief outline of the career that awaits you there.*

The Bank wants young men of character and integrity, with a good standard of general education. Given these qualifications and an aptitude for the job, there is no reason why you should not find yourself a Branch Manager in your thirties, with a salary upwards of £1,675, and the chance of doubling your pay by the time you are 50. Looking ahead you could be one of those Managers whose salary exceeds £5,000 a year—a man with a big job, full of interest and responsibility. A goal worth striving for; and those who reach it will have a pension at 65 (without any contributions on their part) of £3,000 a year or more. Moreover, the biggest jobs in the Bank are open to all. For the early years there's a minimum salary scale for satisfactory work: £300 at 16 to £925 at 31 with a year's seniority for a good Advanced Level certificate and three years for a degree. From 22 onwards merit can take the salary well above these figures; if the early promise is maintained, the salary at 28 can be £1,000, instead of the scale figure of £815.



Write for further particulars  
to the Staff Managers,  
54 Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.



**BARCLAYS BANK**

day? I felt a tendency, in the face of the historical setting, to forget the difficulty of Whiting's first work—"Saint's Day." Was there, for instance, any satirical intent in the dangerous silence of Louis as opposed to his minister's efficiency?

In the face of this ambiguity of plot, the play's best quality was its appeal to the senses. This was absent from the language, which seemed deliberately to avoid poetry, but present in the set (the curtain was not down prior to the start of the action so that the atmosphere of the set could pervade the audience beforehand). Grandier, a connoisseur of the senses for whom, in his mystical vision, blood becomes spirit, is then seen with his head shaved, the tortured victim of militant ascetism. The sensually dead church is symbolised by the Bishop of Poitiers, virtually a living corpse.

As for comic relief—there was enough in the townsmen's behaviour to evoke a clearly intentional Shakespearean atmosphere. Other interesting features were Whiting's cinematic use of each side of the stage alternately for a swift succession of scenes, the use of projection through a backcloth, and the curtain call, which seemed embarrassing after the harrowing moments before it (should the actors reappear wreathed in smiles?), but which in fact brought the mind gently back to reality. (On the first point—some people during these short scenes may have felt the need for longer, meatier passages. In a tragedy, I agree, such a method might mean scrappiness, but I found it provided here the welcome liberation Whiting has claimed for it.)

The acting I do not feel qualified to discuss, except to say that Dorothy Tutin did not for me suggest positively enough the sex starvation which produced the diabolical fixation.

A play to evoke thought, then.

C. J. S. Waugh, VI Arts 111.

## THE WITCH OF EDMONTON

On November 29th a party of sixth-formers and members of the staff went to the Mermaid Theatre to see Bernard Miles's production of "The Witch of Edmonton."

This play was written in 1621 by William Rowley, Thomas Dekker, and John Ford and was based on an actual occurrence—the supposed communion between a witch and the Devil, and the subsequent investigation. The present writer feels that joint authorship made for an unstable presentation of the subject, for Rowley was a celebrated humorist and of Ford it was said "He does not display one particle of comic ability": the wit was at one moment fantastic and at the next moment rather dull, inducing a continual ebb and flow of one's attitude towards the witch.

But whatever the literary merits of the play, the production was a good one and the play gained appropriate flavour in the dim, disused warehouse atmosphere of the Mermaid.

N.C.B.

## PHAEDRA

On December 12th a party of sixth-formers visited the Vanbrugh Theatre to see a production in English of Racine's "Phèdre." The English translation by Robert Lowell lacked much of the drive of Racine's verse and frequently brought an unfortunate smile from the audience.

The production, however, was excellent and this fact, coupled with the high quality of acting, compensated for the flaccidity of the verse. The casting was good with perhaps the exception of Oenone who, as Phaedra's nurse from childhood, should have been at least twenty years older, but was in fact about five years younger. However, the make-up department had obviously done their best. The character of Phaedra was portrayed with great skill and retained much of its dramatic value.

Despite the apparent failure of Lowell to retain the drama of Racine's "Phèdre," this production was interesting and even exciting, and the evening was well enjoyed.

R. Cossins, 6 Arts II.

## RUGBY

The revival in spirit which was noticed last year has continued, and all teams have done their best to justify the reputation earned last year. The 3rd XV have developed well, and have become the most successful team in the school. If the record of the 1st and 2nd XVs does not equal that of last year's, it should be noted that, besides being younger and less experienced than last year, the team has played a harder set of fixtures. We submit, therefore, that a record of ten victories, a draw and seven defeats gives just cause for satisfaction.

Despite the thick fog, the club supper claimed a satisfactory attendance, and arrangements are now being made for the club dance. The thanks of all teams go not only to Mr. Pannell and the rugby masters, but also to the loyal group of supporters whose patience we so often tried.

### 1st XV

*Master-in-Charge* : A. R. Pannell, Esq.

*Captain* : G. A. Featherstone.

*Secretary* : P. L. Cox.

### RESULTS

v. Bec ... ..	Lost	3-14
v. St. Nicholas ... ..	Drew	12-12
v. Beckenham ... ..	Won	26- 0
v. Mitcham ... ..	Won	9- 3
v. Surbiton ... ..	Won	11- 6
v. Wallington ... ..	Won	14- 6
v. Eliot's ... ..	Won	31- 6
v. Purley ... ..	Lost	11-14

v. Thames Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9- 8
v. William Ellis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	0-13
v. Reigate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3-14
v. Wimbledon College	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	6-20
v. Chiswick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9- 8
v. Guildford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9- 3
v. Tiffins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	12- 8
v. Wimbledon County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	11- 6
v. Hampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3-29
v. Old Boys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	8- 9

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts. for	Pts. ag.
18	10	1	7	187	179

In contrast to that of last year, this year's 1st XV contained no outstanding players, but what we lacked in talent we made up in fitness, close teamwork, and above all, spirit. We developed a style of traditional rugby, using the forwards mainly for attack, and the backs for defence and tactical kicking. This pattern was largely dictated by the fact that, while injuries among the backs prevented them from settling down and working together, the forwards sustained no serious injuries, and so learned to play together as an effective unit.

After the initial defeat by Bec, we managed to draw with a strong St. Nicholas side, and then enjoyed a run of five victories, reaching a peak of keenness and fire at the Surbiton match, which we won for the first time in several years. Our style of play was developing, and in this match ground was gained and points were scored by the numerous foot-rushes and passing movements among the forwards, with the backs excelling themselves in tactical kicking and sound defence. There followed a close defeat by Purley, after which we defeated Thames Valley XV with a convincing and almost unbeaten record. This was perhaps the best performance of the season, with the pack gaining the initiative in the loose, and the backs combining and attacking in a way sadly missed in other matches. After several hard-fought defeats, notably William Ellis and Reigate, in the Tiffins match the whole team once again showed that fire which had so characterised the Surbiton and Thames Valley matches. The pack was continually pressing the Tiffin line and giving Woodhall ample opportunity to show his place-kicking form. The chance of a 12-0 victory was, however, missed through a ten-minute period of relaxation which enabled Tiffins to score twice. The season ended on a more sober note after a deserved defeat by a better Hampton XV, whose style of swift open play after the manner of the French, proved completely successful against our more orthodox rugby.

#### PEN PORTRAITS

*Featherstonc (Colours '62, Captain).* Faultless tackling, good kicking and effective running have distinguished him as a first-class centre. A pity injuries prevented him from welding the backs into a more potent attacking force.

*Lancaster (Colours '62)*. His impeccable handling and strong kicking have further developed to make him a comfortably safe full-back. Congratulations on election as Secretary '63-'64.

*Cox (Secretary, Colours '62)*. His speed and tactical sense have made him extremely valuable in attack, and his improved tackling has often proved vital.

*Banks*. Has developed into a very useful centre, safe in defence, and linking well with Cox and Featherstone in attack.

*Crittenden*. His keenness on and off the field has helped him to become a very useful wing-threequarter, and one of the fittest members of the team.

*Woodhall*. To the excellence of his place-kicking, which has so often won matches, all other considerations take second place. He scored all 12 points against Tiffins.

*Lane*. When injured in mid-season, his swift and accurate service from the scrum was badly missed. The experience gained as a new member should make him an excellent scrum-half next season.

*King (Colours '61)*. Playing for the first time as hooker to replace Higham, he has done well to hold his own in every match. His hard work and sound covering have further increased his value.

*Jackman*: A sound and reliable front-row man who has worked hard as part of a close-knit pack.

*Sinfield*. Another member whose unspectacular hard work and spirit have made possible the success of the team. At strategic moments, he has voiced his opinion of the game of hockey to the enjoyment of the whole team.

*Parks (Colours '62)*. His considerable development from last year has made him a fiery and tireless second-row forward. Has combined well with Jackman to provide the only consistently successful line-out combination.

*Nisbet (Colours '62)*. Fast and skilful, he has proved a vital member of a good back row. Congratulations on belated award of colours.

*Quilliam*. When on form, his speed in tackling the opposing fly-half has been very useful. Has on occasion linked well with the backs.

*Castling*. His tackling and intelligent use of the ball promise well for the future. Unlucky in the Surrey trials.

*Robinson (Vice-Captain, Colours '62)*. He has worked extremely hard in leading the scrum and has set a fine example in fitness. Unlucky not to get a Surrey place.

*Also played*: Taylor, Pett, Hedley, Spanos, Maidment, Lewis, Heaton, Wright, Barber, Ventham, Uden, Rance, King.

*Colours awarded to*: G. A. Featherstone, A. D. Robinson, P. L. Cox, R. A. Lancaster, J. Nisbet, G. Parks.

*Half-Colours to*: M. Woodhall, D. Castling, I. P. Castling, J. Banks, J. Sinfield, I. Taylor, J. Ventham, P. Quilliam.

G.A.F. and A.D.R.

## 2nd XV

*Master-in-Charge* : A. Pannell.

*Captain* : J. Ventham,

v. Bec G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9- 6
v. St. Nicholas G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	6-25
v. Beckenham G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3-31
v. Mitcham G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	11- 5
v. Surbiton G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Drawn	5- 5
v. Wallington G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	11- 6
v. Purley G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	0-18
v. Thames Valley G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Drawn	6- 6
v. William Ellis G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Drawn	3- 3
v. City Freemans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	21-11
v. Wimbledon College	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	0- 5
v. Chiswick G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	10-14
v. Guildford R.G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3-23
v. Tiffins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	0-22
v. Hampton G.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3- 9
v. Old Boys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	6-22
	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts. for	Pts. ag.			
	16	4	3	9	97	211			

This season the 2nd XV took the field to attempt to emulate a fine reputation from the previous season. Owing to various reasons, a fair percentage of which were not the team's fault, the attempt proved largely unsuccessful. Injuries to three of our regular players, which put them out for the rest of the season, plus the demands of the firsts, who frequently called upon reserve strength meant that we rarely took the field with an unchanged team. After a rather unimpressive start, a comfortable win over Mitcham gave us inspiration and confidence for the match in which we came nearer to beating a Surbiton side. A much discussed try in the last few minutes robbed us of victory, so that we returned to the changing-rooms with only an honourable draw to our credit. Having beaten Wallington, we encountered a set-back against a strong Purley side, but regained our form to draw with both William Ellis and Thames Valley, and score our best win of the season against City Freemans. Thereafter followed an unfortunate succession of defeats which in the interests of all members of the team it is best to forget, although at times glimpses of the old fire, especially in the first half against Tiffins, could be seen.

The 2nds were, for the most part, a team and not a collection of individuals. It is true to say that the pack was slightly stronger than the backs, perhaps because they were less disrupted by injuries. Taylor, when not in the firsts, took over the role of scrum-half extremely successfully, and at times managed to get the line moving, with Spanos proving the strongest runner. In the scrum Chandler and Lewis's experience was invaluable, the latter developing a strong affinity to tries and 'friendly scuffles' with our opponents. They were ably supported by the workman-

like scrum, especially by the new arrival and 'big boy' of the side, Barber. King, as our place-kicker, obtained a large percentage of our points, besides becoming extremely experienced at the 'up-and-under.'

The season has not been as successful as last year, but we have not been disgraced or without our moments. In future every effort must be made to work collectively, and to gain support which has been sadly lacking throughout most of the season. We are, however, greatly indebted to those who did support us, especially Mr. Taylor. J.F.V.

The captain was not in a position to speak of perhaps the greatest influence in the team—that of himself. He has efficiently captained the side throughout the season, and has set the rest of the team an inspiring example by his undaunted play in the forwards. I.T.

### 3rd XV

*Master-in-Charge* : A. R. Pannell, Esq.

*Captain* : R. W. Jones.

v. St. Nicholas (3rds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	3-23
v. Beverley (1sts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Drawn	14-14
v. Lycée Français	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	11-6
v. Beverley (1sts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9-3
v. Hinchley Wood (2nds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	13-5
v. Reigate (3rds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	9-6
v. Chiswick (3rd)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lost	0-3
v. Richmond Road (1sts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	16-3
v. Hinchley Wood (2nds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Won	12-0

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts. for	Pts. ag.
9	6	1	2	87	63

Last season, the 3rd XV was regarded as something of a joke, so that it is pleasant to be able to report that this year, the team has the best record in the school. The scrum has consistently played well, and their performances against the much heavier Beverley and Reigate packs were outstanding. Croft deserves special mention as a tireless worker, both in attack and defence. Owing to the demands of the 2nd XV, the backs never really settled down as an attacking force, though their tackling was surprisingly good and, by following up quickly with the wing forwards, they managed to score some tries.

The team was usually chosen from: Uden, Wildey, Major, Greenman, Alsbury, Tickner, Alexander, Heaton, Fulbrook, Russell, Wright, Ribolla, D. Williams, Croft, P. F. White, Sime, Rendell, Warren, Benée, Laing, Page, Williams P.G., Catton and Jones. R.W.J.

### Colt XV

Although the Colts team's results have not come up to expectations we have been unlucky to sustain such a mediocre record. This is, however,



no reflection on the hard work of Mr. Venning, and we are indebted to him for his efforts.

The outstanding player of the season was S. Morris and he must be congratulated on his selection for the county.

Lack of tackling power has been the great fault throughout the season and the three-quarters' lack of hard, straight running has also proved disastrous.

Anderson, the hooker, and McCubben and Jennings, the half-backs, have fed the ball well to the threequarters who have not used it to full advantage. The hard play of Jones in the scrum has brought him many enemies in opposing schools.

Although the record has not been an inspiring one, the team has played well on several occasions.

P. Marsh.

The team is also greatly indebted to its own captain, Marsh, on his outstanding efforts on and off the field.

K.G.J.

## Under 14 XV

During the season we have played a match every week. Our results have not been encouraging and the team as a whole has not played as well as it should.

The teams have been picked from a large number of players and there has been competition for many of the positions, especially in the scrum.

The regular centres have been Colombo and Malam. Colombo was the leading try-scorer. Bedford held one wing but the other has been open. De Buc has played very well at fly-half all the season and his kicking has got us out of trouble many times.

Callander has led the scrum and has set a very good example to the rest of the forwards; Freeman, Standish, Moffat, Whittamore, Early, and Lovering have made promising debuts this season. Vincent has played consistently well. The prop and wing-forward positions have been changed around, not giving the player a chance to settle down to a good game. The scrum has been strengthened by the second-row, Newman and Freeman. With a little more enthusiasm the team will register better results next season.

B. Perryman.

## CROSS-COUNTRY

*Master-in-Charge* : M. C. Glead, Esq.

*Captain and Secretary* : K. E. Jackson.

This season has been a most successful one for both teams. In matches the senior team has lost only once, against an unbeaten Purley team. In this race the school record, after passing to and fro with some regularity, came into the hands, or rather feet, of Jackson.

The senior team's greatest success was in the Selwyn Trophy organised by Epsom and Ewell Harriers. After the three runs the team finished first out of eighteen teams with a total score of sixty-seven points as against our nearest rival, Whitgift's, total of two hundred and nineteen. Throughout all three legs the scoring members of the team were Jackson, Onslow, Shrubbs, and Holland.

These same four also scored in our other major race, the Surrey Athletic Club's invitation race for schools. In this race, for which there was no age-limit, we did well to finish sixth only six points down on the third placed team.

The Junior team is made up for the most part of younger members, and their performances augur well for the future.

Enthusiasm has not been lacking in either team, and training sessions on a Monday evening have been well-attended. For the provision of this invaluable aid to performance we are indebted to Mr. Gleed, to whom we are also indebted for his constant exhortation on match days. Our thanks are also due to those parents and boys who have so kindly given up their Saturday mornings to come and mark the course for us, for without their support we could have no matches. Any help of this type is always greatly appreciated.

The following ran regularly for the senior team: Jackson, Holland, Shrubbs, Onslow, Keen, Goulding, and Chapman.

The following for the junior teams: Ainger, Barnett, Blunden, Borland, Brookes, Cottrell, Fischer, King, Lawrence, Parker, Parr, Richardson, Seager, Springate, Stimpson and Taylor.

K.E.J.

## RESULTS

- v. Kingston G.S. (H). Senior, Won 10-34, Onslow 1st; Junior, Lost 48-30, Cottrell 4th.
- v. Tiffin G.S. (H). Senior, Won 35-43, Shrubbs 1st; Junior, Won 32-47, Cottrell 1st.
- v. Rutlish G.S. (H). Senior, Won 28-58, Shrubbs 1st; Junior, Won 36-50, Borland 2nd.
- v. Epsom and Ewell Harriers, Selwyn Trophy (1st leg) (A). U.17 'A' 1st/18, Jackson 2nd/100, 21 pts.; U.17 'B,' 13th/18, 191 pts.; U.15, 14th/21, Borland 42nd/134, 246 pts.
- v. Surrey A.C. (Invitation) (A). 6th/18 teams, Jackson 9th/130, 91 pts. Selwyn Trophy (2nd leg) (A), U.17 'A', 1st/18, Jackson 2nd/110, 20 pts.; U.17 'B,' 11th/18, 212 pts.; U.15, 13th/20, Borland 43rd/130, 247 pts.; U.13, 11th, Lawrence 19th/90, 217 pts.
- v. Wimbledon A.C. (H). Won 25-42, Onslow/Jackson/Holland/Shrubbs equal 3rd.
- v. Purley G.S. (H). Senior, Lost 42-36, Jackson 2nd.

- v. Purley G.S. (H) Coombe House. Junior 2nd, Borland 4th, 31 pts.
- v. Surbiton G.S. (A). Senior, Won 15-45, Jackson/Holland/Shrubb/Onslow equal 1st; Junior Lost 44-35, Borland 3rd.
- v. John Fisher G.S. (H). Senior, Won 17-38, Goulding/Onslow/Shrubb/Holland equal 1st; Junior, Lost 57-21, Cottrell 7th.
- v. Selwyn Trophy (3rd leg) (A). U.17, 1st/18 26 pts., Jackson 4th/90; Aggregate, 1st 67 pts., Jackson 2nd, Onslow 4th; U.15, Parr 33rd/96; U.13, Brookes 15th/80.

N.B. 1st/18 21 pts. = 1st place out of 18 teams. Aggregate of individual placings is 21.

## BASKETBALL

*Master-in-Charge* : A. R. Pannell, Esq.

*Captain* : M. J. Benée.

*Secretary* : D. Castling.

Since basketball was introduced to the school by Mr. Pannell it has become very popular as a new and different sport. Beginners found it difficult to master the skills required to dribble a ball at speed with their hands and to shoot up at a target several feet above their heads.

Although basketball looks simple when played by professionals, the school team has found from experience that a great deal of practice is necessary as a team before any form of co-ordinated power is possible.

Early this term, the school was still without its own baskets, although the court had been marked in the gymnasium at the end of the previous term. The first fixture was against Hinchley Wood and lack of shooting practice soon showed itself when, although attacking well and defending soundly, the team were unable to score smoothly and only succeeded in getting twenty-three points as opposed to Hinchley's thirty-seven.

However the baskets arrived in the middle of October, and the team was able to participate in subsequent matches with many 'dinner hours' and Monday evenings of hard practice behind them. This practice proved rewarding for the team won all five of its remaining matches, including one against their previous conquerors Hinchley Wood and another against our own Gentlemen of the Staff.

### RESULTS

v. Hinchley Wood	... ..	(a)	Lost	23-37
v. De Burgh	... ..	(a)	Won	29-26
v. Mitcham	... ..	(h)	Won	39-15
v. Chiswick	... ..	(h)	Won	34-28
v. Hinchley Wood	... ..	(a)	Won	38-32
v. Gentlemen of the Staff	... ..		Won	34-12

Our thanks are due to Mr. Pannell for all the time and coaching he has bestowed on the team in order to bring it to its present competitive level.

M.J.B.

## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Churchill Hall,  
The University,  
Bristol.

17th November, 1962.

Dear Sirs,

It was with much regret and disappointment that we, on receiving our last copy of *The Spur*, discovered that Editors have taken it upon themselves to censure House Notes. Is the freedom of the individual to express his views now no more?

We refer, of course, to Milton's House Notes for last Summer Term. These notes, which were approved by Milton's House Master and House Prefects, were omitted in the last edition, and we now demand that they should be printed in the next edition of *The Spur* along with an apology from the Editors.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. Phillips, J. J. Brown.

[Three comments—first, the Editors must have the final word over all material; second, the House Notes referred to were not, in fact, approved; third, House Notes are expected to include an account of the term's activities, but these ignored the efforts of many, including the correspondents'. This seemed an unfortunate omission. Finally, may we expect some observations on life at Bristol? Ed.]

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Editors wish to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following magazines and trust that they have not omitted any that have been sent: The Aldenhamian, Aquila (Wimbledon County Girls), Ashteadian (City of London Freeman's School), Beaver (Beverley School), Beccehamian, Caterhamian, Elysian (William Ellis School), Fettesian, Kingstonian, Radleian, Squirrel (Bushey County School), Tiffinian.

## EDITORS

S. E. Lovatt, Esq., P. F. White, A. S. Gorman, D. L. Gent, N. C. Borcham,  
R. F. Gill, C. J. S. Waugh.

---

---

**R. C. FARLEY**

**& Co. Ltd.**

**618-620 KINGSTON ROAD  
RAYNES PARK, S.W.20**

LIB 3935-5466

•  
**COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS**  
•

Stockists of

**G-PLAN - AUSTINSUITE - NATHAN - PRIORY - STAG**  
and other leading makers

**BEDDING BY ALL THE WELL-KNOWN  
MANUFACTURERS**

Slumberland, Myers, Etc.

**CALL AND INSPECT OUR EXTENSIVE SELECTION  
OF CARPETINGS**

Over 200 designs to choose from

•  
**AGENTS FOR — HOOVER — HOTPOINT — FRIGIDAIRE**

---

---

---

# G. BENNETT

(WIMBLEDON) LTD.

6/7 THE PAVEMENT  
WORPLE ROAD  
WIMBLEDON, S.W.19

PICTURES

RESTORING

FRAMING

GILDING

PHOTOGRAPH AND MINIATURE FRAMES



LARGE STOCKS

of

ARTISTS' MATERIALS



Telephone : WIMbledon 2968

---

## A Career for young men that carries responsibility

Coal provides about 75% of the total energy requirements in Britain. Because the demand for coal will continue to be high for many years to come, great schemes of reconstruction are being undertaken by the coal mining industry, for which there must be an adequate supply of suitably qualified and well trained men.

**University Scholarships.**—The National Coal Board offer up to 100 University Scholarships a year for school leavers and Board employees; most are in Mining Engineering and some are available in Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineering and in Fuel Technology. They are worth £415 to £550 and there is no parental means test.

If you join the Board's service straight from school, you can also apply for University Scholarships in Scientific and non-technical subjects.

**Apprenticeship and Part-time Education Schemes.**—There are Student Apprenticeship Schemes in Mining, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering as well as Apprenticeship Schemes for Mining Surveyors, Engineering Draughtsmen and Engineering Craftsmen. These Schemes provide for day-release or sandwich courses (with pay) at technical colleges. Other employees are also considered for release with pay to attend technical colleges.

**Management Training.**—When you are qualified—either through the University or through technical college while working—you are eligible for a two- or three-year course under the Board's Management Training Scheme.

**Scientific Careers.**—If you are interested in a Scientific Career, there is absorbing and rewarding work at the Board's Research establishments, and in the coalfields on operational work.

**Clerical and Administrative Careers.**—There are interesting careers in administration, marketing, finance and personnel work, for young men and women of good educational standards.

**Prospects.**—After qualifying, there is every prospect of promotion to really responsible posts at an early age, and it is possible to earn a four-figure salary by the age of thirty.

---

Write for full particulars to the Director-General of Staff, National Coal Board, Hobart House, London, S.W.1.

---

---

# ALBERT'S

FIRST-CLASS  
GENTLEMEN'S HAIRDRESSERS



220 Burlington Road  
New Malden

(Nr. Shannon's Corner)

Surrey

TEL. MAL 3061



WE STOCK AND REPAIR ALL MAKES OF  
ELECTRIC SHAVERS

24 Hour Service

Minor Repairs Same Day

---

---



---

ALL MAKES STOCKED

MAL 3061



# **THE ELECTRIC SHAVER CO.**

**220 Burlington Road**

**New Malden**

(Nr. Shannon Corner)

WE HAVE SPARES AVAILABLE  
FOR EVERY KNOWN MAKE



24-HOUR SERVICE

MINOR REPAIRS SAME DAY

---

---

You Get MORE LIFE

out of

**LOTUS**

CHILDREN'S SHOES

Obtainable from :

**LILLIE'S SHOE STORE**

72 COOMBE LANE, RAYNES PARK

Established over 60 years

---

---

---

# **E. & W. FIELDER, LTD.**

BOOKS AND MAPS

Book Tokens Sold and Exchanged

STATIONERY

For Home and Office

PORTABLE TYPEWRITERS



54 HILL ROAD, WIMBLEDON, S.W.19

Telephone : WIMbledon 5044/5

---

## **THE HOBBY CENTRE**

For Model Aircraft, Boats, Railways and Car Racing  
we have in stock Model Equipment by all the leading  
manufacturers

Frog — Keilkraft — Veron — Mercury — Contest —  
Tri-ang — Hornby — Trix — Lone Star — Marklin  
Rivarossi — Scalextric — Motorways — Wrenn 152

We have in addition a full range of Tools for the  
Modeller as well as the Craftsman

STANLEY — Moore & Wright — Rabone — Eclipse  
BRIDGES — Black & Decker — Wolf

## **MODEL & TOOL SUPPLIES**

604 KINGSTON ROAD, RAYNES PARK

S.W.20

*Liberty 3062*

---

---