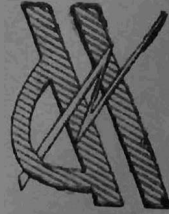


# THE SPUR

Vol. IX

No. 3



# THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL.

"To each his need, from each his power"

Vol. IX., No. 3.

Winter, 1950.

## SCHOOL OFFICERS, WINTER TERM, 1950

*Head of the School* : A. G. Simpson.

*Prefects* : C. P. Tutt, F. J. Atkins, J. M. Hoare, A. Melmoth, J. P. Hood Phillips, C. M. White, D. Mackelworth, D. S. W. Jonas, P. J. Casselton, B. R. Walters, I. B. Bullock.

*Captain of Rugby* : C. P. Tutt.

*Secretary of Rugby* : P. J. Casselton.

*Secretary of Games Committee* : A. G. Simpson.

*Librarian* : J. P. Hood Phillips.

## Acknowledgments :

The Editors acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of the following magazines, and apologise for any inadvertent omissions :—Aldenhamian, Ashteadian, Bryanston Saga, Bristol Grammar School Chronicle, Caterham School Magazine, Dolphin, Kingstonian, Radleian, Strodian, Wellingtonian, Old Spur.

*Editors* : William Walsh, Esq., J. M. Hoare, J. D. Shepherd.

## HOUSE NOTES

### Cobb's

*Captain* : A. G. Simpson.

*Vice-Captain* : A. Melmoth.

*School Prefects* : J. M. Hoare, D. S. Jonas, A. Melmoth, A. G. Simpson.

At the end of last year we were fortunate in losing only five members of the House. This means that we still have nearly all the experience of last year on which to build this year's teams. Our colts have inevitably lost some valuable talent, but this has been replenished by good stock in the third form. We welcome to the House twelve new boys who appear to be useful and enthusiastic.

This term we bid farewell to Dr. Bamford who has for the last three years been giving invaluable help to the juniors in the House. We thank him sincerely for all he has done, and wish him all happiness and success in the future. We also have to say good-bye to John Hoare, who has produced a play for us, and taken an active part in many other fields. The congratulations of the House are due to Alan Melmoth, Don Jonas and John Hoare on their promotion to the prefectural body.

### Cricket

We can at last congratulate ourselves on winning a cup, and as these notes go to press, we are about to celebrate the matter by a House Supper. The last match, that against Gibb's, was probably the most exciting of the season, in being a real race against Father Time as well. The teams played consistently well throughout the season, and W. H. Shepherd is now to be congratulated on being appointed School Cricket captain.

### Athletics

After starting sports day in fourth position we eventually overtook Newsom's to finish third. Two notable performances were given by Wise and Rodgers in the senior and colt 880 yds. Other good performances were given by Shepherd, Eales, Booke, Atkins and the Colt relay team.

### Swimming

Lying second on qualifying points, the team was beaten into third position by the superior finalists of Halliwell's. Good efforts were made by A. Melmoth, Croft, Talbot, Shepherd, Rust and all three relay teams gained places.

### Dramatics

In spite of the fact that once again we had to contend with the magnificent production of John Powell, the House is justified in considering this as a triumph. This was no mean success for our producer John Hoare, who transformed a play which the adjudicator expected

to find boring, into an original and inspired production. The House co-operated well on the whole, and the larger cast, though difficult to find, was fully justified.

#### *Rugby*

In this department we are well in the running for the Cup. Our Seniors have beaten Gibb's and Milton's, but have been beaten by Halliwell's. The strength of the team lies in the backs, and they have been well served by a light and somewhat inexperienced pack. The Colts have won their three matches in their usual style, and the Juniors with a better team than last year are making good progress.

A.G.S.

### Gibb's

*House Captain* : L. W. J. Bunch.

*Vice-Captain* : M. J. Birkett.

*Prefects* : F. J. Atkins, I. B. Bullock.

At the end of last term we lost several of our leading Seniors, including M. D. Holgate, I. B. S. Law and N. J. Macdonald. To all we wish the best of luck and success in their future careers.

This term, however, we extend a hearty welcome to all new members of the House. We were glad to have our captain, Brian Jones, back with us at the beginning of the term, but unfortunately it was to be for a few weeks only, at the end of which the army claimed him. At the same time, we had to say good-bye to Ian Holden whom we must congratulate on obtaining a place at London School of Economics. Brian's departure was a sad loss not only for Gibb's House, but also for the whole School. The House can best show its gratitude to him by following his fiery and enthusiastic example in all activities.

Last year, the House gained moderate successes, finishing third in the Cock House competition. We must not, however, rest content with this position, but strive to reach greater heights this year, and we hope to have the whole-hearted co-operation of every individual member of the House.

#### *Cricket*

The Seniors lost only to Cobb's, who were unbeaten, and if the Colts had won a match we should have been runners-up for the Cup. Newsom's were beaten by 21 runs, Halliwell's by 6 wickets, and Milton's by 44 runs, but in the last match of the season, Cobb's beat us by 3 wickets. The Juniors met with little success, but there are several cricketers amongst them who should strengthen the Colts next season.

#### *Dramatics*

"Caesar's Friend" produced by Brian Jones gained third place in the Competition. There seemed to be a disturbing indifference to attend rehearsals. This we hope will not be evident in future productions.

#### *Athletics*

In the Competition this year we did much better than in many previous years, finishing second to Halliwell's. This success was undoubtedly due to a greater effort on the part of the House to obtain qualifying points, the most important part of the Competition. Among the individuals, we must congratulate our captain, N. J. Macdonald on gaining three first places and one second place. We hope that the House will make another such splendid effort next year.

#### *Swimming*

The year ended on a wave of success with our victory in the Swimming Competition. The excellent work of the entire House in building up a good lead in qualifying points was ably carried on by the team who swam away with the Cup by a considerable margin. The Cup was duly celebrated at the beginning of this term by a House

Supper, very much enjoyed by all. The spirit and enthusiasm displayed by all members of the House during the Competition is that which we hope to see evident in the future.

#### *Rugby*

The Senior team has been unsuccessful so far this season, as it has been unable to replace the members of the team who left last term. After a very good game, we lost to Cobb's 6-16. In our second match Newsom's beat us by 30-0. Although upset by injuries, the team played extremely well against Halliwell's, and were unfortunate to lose by as many as 14-0. Had this form been produced earlier in the season we should not now be in the unhappy position of having lost three matches. The Colts, too have been very disappointing. They have quite a strong team on paper, but so far they have been beset by injuries, and they have lost both their games, also against Cobb's and Newsom's.

Examinations are not the only unfortunate affairs which the end of term brings with it. At Christmas we are to lose Michael Birkett, Colin Brown and David True. We wish them every success and happiness and hope that they will not forget us, but return and visit us whenever they can.

Next term we look forward with an anticipation of success to the Hockey, Cross Country, Boxing and Debating Competitions.

### Halliwell's

*House Captain* : C. M. White.

*Prefects* : P. J. Casselton, C. M. White.

Halliwell's has always been fortunate in its Housemasters and their enthusiasm makes parting the more difficult. Within the space of a term we have lost two, Mr. Hallam at Easter, and Mr. Lyle at the end of the year. We feel the loss keenly for they were both in the best tradition of Housemasters, helpful, friendly and keen. We cannot even record the diversity of their interests, and they were wide, only thank them, tell them that they will always be honoured friends of the House, and wish them the success and esteem they have won among us at their new schools. When Mr. Hallam and Mr. Lyle left, Mr. Smith promised that he would not ask another master to take their place without being sure that he was up to their high standard. Now we have a new Housemaster, and we are assured Mr. Smith kept his promise. Mr. Timpson our junior Housemaster has already shown his worth, and we are very glad to welcome him, and we earnestly hope he will be as happy as his predecessors.

We have lost J. R. Wells, D. A. W. Marles and J. C. Powell, losses we regret most keenly. But they left in a blaze of glory, and in the knowledge of having helped to capture the Cock House Cup for the sixth year in succession and we challenge them to repeat their successes, on a bigger scale, outside the School. They have, however, left us who remain with a difficult honour. During the summer term we won the Athletics, Dramatics and Tennis Cups, besides the Cock House Cup, and we are now bent on holding them and the others we picked up through the year. For the past three or four years, to say nothing of the present one, we have not had any great and obvious superiority, we have never been able to relax, rest on our laurels or enjoy a little crow. Our life has been hard, but we have won. This year it will be harder, but if the House is half the House it was, it will give any upstart a run for its money, and if the House is one-and-a-half the House it was it will win.

So far we have started well. The Senior Rugby Team has won all its matches, it would be invidious to mention scores, the lowest was 14-0, and our line was crossed only twice. The Colt team has not been so fortunate, it beat Milton's and was in its turn badly beaten by Cobb's 21-0, a total which is not explained even by five reserves playing.

However, Casselton is to be congratulated and thanked for the Senior success, and Childs to be encouraged in his leadership of the Colts, we wish him the good fortune he deserves. But the Rugby is only a beginning, and next term will call upon not thirty people, but the whole House to turn out for the Cross-Country, Athletics, Swimming and Dramatics. In these fields the meanest Junior can gain as many points and as much advantage as the most Senior in the House. Juniors are too apt to rest on other peoples' laurels. Now is the time for them to win new ones.

The term is ending and time is about to substitute hockey for rugby and drag runners and swimmers from their rest. The term will be full, we hope it will be successful.

*Note:* We were unable to publish the cast of "He Who Gets Slapped," the winning House play, last term. It was produced by J. C. Powell, Stage Manager, M. C. Cumberlandge, Production lit by M. Trimwell, Music, I. E. Palmer, Prince, J. R. Wells, Gentleman, M. Davis, Zinaida, M. W. Dick, Consuela, G. Mitchell, Papa Briquet, C. M. White, Mancini, A. Manifold, Baron, T. Wolkensberg, Bezano, J. F. Mason, J. W. R. Sanders, D. H. Bennet, P. J. Vogardo, J. Taylor, M. Phillips, R. D. MacTeare, A. F. Sirman.

### Milton's

Writing Milton's House Notes has all too seldom been an inspiring task. During the last two terms we have, in spite of the valiant efforts of a few stalwarts, suffered a series of stunning defeats.

Our hopes of winning the Cricket were dashed by successive defeats at the hands of Cobb's and Gibb's. In the Swimming and in the Athletics we were handicapped by a lack of qualifying points. The moral is obvious. Until the rest of the House realises that success in activities like Swimming and Athletics depends not on the energetic outbursts of the best, but in the hopeful attempts of the mediocre, we will never climb out of our present rut.

The term was enlivened, however, by the House Play Competition. Although we came fourth in the competition, the play was worth while for its own sake, and caused endless amusement in the House. The consort of "Thank-yous" and the pranks of bored propertymen, the paper snow, and unseen threshold, enlivened "Lady Precious Stream," and made it enjoyable if somewhat amateurish.

In July, we said goodbye to our House Captain, Geoffrey Pegrum, whose indomitable energy will never be forgotten by those who knew him. In almost every activity he rose to the top, and by his own vigour made a success of it. By the time this is read, our present House Captain, Colin Tuttle, will have left. He has quietly and efficiently entered into almost every House activity. We will always remember his Rugby, his Hockey, his Cricket, and his stage work. We wish both Pegrum as a doctor, and Tuttle as a soldier every success. In July, we also lost Christmas, Wade, Lavender and Mirant. We have already seen the effects of our loss in the Rugby. We must, however, carry on alone and hope that they will thrive as well in the "brave wide world" as they did at school.

### Newson's

Captain: D. Mackelworth.  
Vice-Captain: B. R. Walters.

J. P. H.

The Summer term always holds the greatest number of activities, and this at a time when most are burdened by School and Higher School Certificate. This year, the House Play competition, usually held in the Spring term, had to be crammed somehow into the already groaning

Summer term because of the unusually early Higher Schools examination. So, having unburdened ourselves of this academic nuisance, we settled down with some gusto to produce "Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber," under the leadership of Jackson. On the actual afternoon our rip-snorting melodrama provided amusement for the Junior School (and not a few of the Seniors?) and I think came top in popularity. However, we must presume that our adjudicator was of more adult outlook, for he awarded our efforts with fifth place. Jackson, to whom we owe thanks for his production, also deserves our congratulation for he is now, we hope, relaxing at Cambridge after winning an exhibition to Selwyn College.

We met with our usual fate in Athletics. A high position in qualifying points (and deteriorated severely on Sports Day through lack of individual brilliance. In Swimming we did not even have the advantage of a strong qualifying position, and with no individuals were placed low. In Cricket our strong Colts team drew for first place with Cobb's, and this, together with the poorer efforts of the Seniors, conspired to give us second place for the Cricket Cup. Our Juniors provided main cause for satisfaction. They lost only to Milton's, and thus gained second place in Cricket, which, combined with the previous year's Rugby result of just equal, gave the Junior Shield to Newson's. Well done!

### Winter Term

Rugby, the main event this term, has been attended with a fair measure of success. The Seniors have beaten Gibb's (30-0), and Milton's (48-0), but have lost to Halliwell's (24-0). The Colts in their two matches so far have beaten Gibb's (50-0), and also Milton's (17-0). The Juniors have played no matches as yet but we hope for encouraging results when they do. We welcome the new Juniors to the House and sincerely hope that the enthusiasm they have displayed in the Kugger practice will be extended to other activities. Our main rivals for the Rugby Cup are Cobb's and Halliwell's, but with luck and some determination we should manage to win it.

B. K. W.

### VERSEMANSHIP

Aspirants should submit themselves first to a simple test in verse. Read this passage carefully:-

"We were not much more than a quarter of an hour out of our ship till we saw her sink, and then I understood, for the first time what was meant by a ship foundering in the sea. She ran, black and silent, forcing a rusty wake through the smooth, strong waters. The winds were such as if the bowels of the earth had set all at liberty, or as if the clouds under heaven had been called together to lay their force upon the one place. The wild craft shook and battered herself against the ragged hail and plunged on into the sharp death of the rocks."

How do you like this as a specimen of prose? Rather highly coloured in spots? A trifle uninteresting in style? Not surprisingly; it is in fact a "collage" from three different hands. You will have done well, dear pupil, if you guessed so much. But you didn't spot (unless you have your crib open under the desk) that two sentences of the four are in fact—poetry. You have betrayed your need of this lesson. Can you now say which two? You have a 50-50 chance on sheer guess-work. They are in fact the second and fourth. But you are not yet out of the wood; two sentences, but how many lines? Let us take the first of them. Two lines?

"She ran black and silent, forcing  
A rusty wake through the smooth strong water."

Three ?—

"She ran black and silent  
Forcing a rusty wake  
Through the smooth strong water."

Four ?—

"She ran  
Black and silent, forcing a  
Rusty wake through the smooth  
Strong water."

You must work out the further permutations; the Editor, I fear, will deny me the room. If you have the authentic flair you at once picked the last as *real* poetry. Did you? Did you, hypocrite lecteur, mon semblable, mon frère? Then how wrong you were. (You may now take out your crib; this part of the test is over).

You have now learned, anyhow, what Jeremy Bentham meant when he said that it is prose when the words go on to the edge of the page and poetry when they stop short—or something to that effect. (Maybe he had his tongue in his cheek, an attitude I commend to you, dear beginner, and to all who have to do with modern verse.) Perhaps you agree that, provided they do stop short, it doesn't seem to matter much where, when or how.

When you have rung the changes on this scissors-work you are ready for an exercise in variations of a different kind, ranging, e.g., from E. E. Cummings

she

ran

Black and silent forcing a

rusty wake, etc., etc.

just leaving our capitals and commas, and mucking about with positions, to the "Horizon" technique<sup>2</sup>

"She, ran, black, and, silent,"

i.e., pushing commas in wherever they will go or, to be more original yet (and that's the real secret), in the middle of words

"—black, and, sil, ent."

A few miscellaneous hints and you will be all set for the Fourth Folio of Verse.

1. Be gloomy; if you can't be gloomy, be frivolous.
2. A nice taste in incongruous adjectives helps to set up in the reader that inferiority complex so serviceable to the modern poet. E.g., *damp* fury, *fraudulent* flowers, *rusty* wake. Cultivate the *mot injuste*.
3. Don't be afraid to write lines like "Scissors cut like allegories"<sup>3</sup> just because they don't make sense to you. This is even more effective in inducing T.C. if a really hardened Philistine should challenge you there is a variety of lines of evasive action, e.g.,
  - (a) "Can you explain a Bach fugue"?
  - (b) "After all, this *is* POETRY!"
  - (c) "A slight curl of the lip; this is the safest (you never know, he may be able to explain a Bach fugue) and easily acquired by a few minutes daily before the mirror.
4. Eschew rhyme; unless, that is, you have run to a dead end. For example, you begin:—

"I cease to question myself,  
And turn with the world  
That there I may learn to trace  
The delicate heart of love,  
Or the frenzied mind of lust.

—so far, you remark, commendably independent of rhyme.<sup>4</sup> But there you stick. Don't give up: "Lust-bust-cussed-fussed-gust-just—" something will set you off again and you triumphantly end—

"The lover, the mad man and the poet—"

A word here: rule (5) There is not private property in Art—pinch at will; the Pope of Parnassus himself is an adept and this we may take as a general Indulgence. To continue—

"Who sit and sing in a whirl of dust."

Would you too like to sit and sing in a whirl of dust? Of course you would. All you need is confidence. Impudence is the thing. Don't then, burn your poems; send them to *The Spur*.

<sup>1</sup> Defoe, B.S.J., Hakluyt. All the verse quotations are from the R.P. Third Folio of Verse, May 1950. I have presented B.S.J. with a comma or two and substituted "she" for the landlubberly "it".

<sup>2</sup> Anyone supposing, not unnaturally, that his leg is being pulled should see *Horizon* in the School Library.

<sup>3</sup> Followed by "What could be stranger"; what indeed, except perhaps "Allegories cut like scissors".

<sup>4</sup> Not otherwise, however, recommended as a model: sense too clear.

## ADVICE TO A MISGUIDED CRITIC

We must thank H. E. R. for this effervescent, and we feel, timely article. We are indeed flattered that such an obviously eminent critic should display such a marked interest in our work. For, like Mr. Heep, we are very 'umble persons.

We were perturbed, however, to observe that this diatribe seemed to have been prepared in a spirit of unsympathetic provocation rather than benevolent interest, as a result of which it reveals a certain lack of balance and perspective, and consequently degenerates into a mere harangue.

Let us now consider the text itself. While admitting the success of his frivolous approach as such, we find ourselves unable to pay his essay the compliment of rational opposition, but will content ourselves with selecting at random some of the more glaring errors in his argument.

We were pained to discover that H. E. R. required the forced regularity of the piston engine in the rhythm of contemporary verse, while the tempo of present day life is anything but regular; today, such a metre could only be related to a meaning trite and commonplace. The conclusion derived from the device of rewriting modern verse in prose form loses its point when we do the same thing to a passage from that eminently respectable and respected poet, William Wordsworth; surely such exemplars as Wordsworth and Shelly should not be sneered at as models for the tyro, even by such mature critics as H.E.R. We quote the following, selected at random: "The garden lay upon a slope, surmounted by a plain of a small bowling green; beneath us stood a grove, with gleams of water through the trees and over the treetops . . ." and so on (Prelude, Bk. II). He seems to regard the length of each line as superlatively important, and his interminable cavilling on the subject becomes after a time merely tedious. He regards all unusual and imaginative adjectives (*mots injustes*) as inappropriate and symptomatic of the general mental chaos and of a desire to be original at the expense of meaning. Perhaps he would prefer us to write in the Romantic clichés of the Nineteenth Century.

Next, we contemplate sadly the vision of H. E. R. clinging to the pathetic myth that cunning imposters, disguised as poets, are exerting themselves to browbeat an innocent and ignorant public. If the general public and critics like H. E. R. gave more than a superficial glance at the works they condemn, they would find a sincerity, if not, perhaps, a coherence, which is entirely incompatible with the attributed desire to impress the ignorant, which notion is, we feel, merely a product of their own tortured imagination.

Having exposed in these few brief remarks some one or two of the many errors which detract from this otherwise scintillating essay, we conclude by suggesting the manner in which H.E.R. has been hoist with his own petard. He is plainly unaware of the incongruity between his condemnation of "pinching at will," and his own strongly derivative style<sup>1</sup> (perhaps, however, this similarity of style derives merely from unconscious reminiscence? Of course, anyone acquainted even with the rudiments of literary criticism, is aware that deliberate quotation is a recognised, valuable, and traditional literary device, whereas to be an unconscious reflector of somebody else's style reveals a poverty of invention and pliability of nature, odd in someone of such determined views).

Again, we offer our thanks for this article, and gently regret our inevitable rejection of its viewpoint. We would be intrigued, however, to see a specimen of H.E.R.'s own verse, which would, we feel sure be embellished with the mechanical precision he so enthusiastically advocates, in conformity with his curiously antiquated requirements.

<sup>1</sup> c.f. Stephen Potter, and the authors of "1066 And-All That."

## CAMBRIDGE WEEK-END

My visit this term was greeted with very warm enthusiasm and kindness in contrast to the chilly and intense fog. A visibility of only five yards emphasised the hospitality which Old Boys are anxious to give to our staff. Courtenay Liddle met me on arrival, and within a matter of minutes we were drinking hot coffee; he had already booked my rooms and was making it clear that I should not have an idle moment. I didn't.

Liddle is still at Christ's. He has completed his three years taking Mathematics, and is now on the Diploma of Education Course. He plays Lacrosse, in defence, and always with abounding energy. By sheer misfortune he just missed his Half Blue this term. Over lunch it became quite clear that he lives on considerable fun, cold water and doubts the value of intelligence tests.

D. P. White and Ramsey Birch came in to tea on Saturday afternoon. Both are at Downing, the one reading Classics and the other History. Birch is a much changed fellow and talks fluently if he can make toast at the same time. D. P. still plays tennis and has a passing interest in Lacrosse. We prepared to watch a match that day, but only saw fog. He was pressed into writing an article for the Old Boys' Magazine and produced an account of Jackson's activities on 5th November.

In the evening I went to Chapel at Ridley Hall and was invited to dinner there by Ronald Forward. He has finished his three years English at Selwyn and is taking a two year Theological Course at Ridley. He is a charming host, talks of many things with both amusement and dignity, plays some Hockey and is most interested in life back here at School. At Selwyn is David Reid, taking third year part II Geography. He lives in the attic, is elusive and does a bit of rowing. He has been joined recently in College by Brian Jackson.

I called at Queens', and on Martin Shrecker. There was no sound of life in his room, I knocked, opened, entered and just stood. Fully half a minute passed while he struggled with silent astonishment or was it slow recognition? Then, and so well he can, he overflowed with excited hospitality and news, and never before have I enjoyed so much the smell of methylated spirits and coffee. He has a First in Prelim. II Modern Languages and I hear from another source that he will most likely be offered a travelling scholarship at the Sorbonne. He would love this even more than his extremely happy life at present. He takes no small part in dramatics, was recently in a production of

Romeo and Juliet. Overnight he had been rehearsing "Death in Everyman." He spoke excitedly about his Service period and a spell of translating engineering documents so technical that he had to begin a new dictionary. He admires high intellect in women, makes excellent coffee, refused to let me see his bedroom and is in love... with life at Queens'

Robert Chapman was at King's reading Architecture and obtaining Firsts in all he does. Somewhat of a recluse I gather, but he did call upon Shrecker once, found him out, drank all the gin and was leaving as Shrecker returned.

On Sunday, Courtenay joined me in attending Surgeon Euhais' in King's Chapel. Surprisingly enough, it was in Chapel that we discovered H. A. Smith. He was up for the weekend with his hockey team from University College, London, where he is reading Economics. Ronald Parker joined us for lunch on Sunday. He has returned to St. John's to take a Diploma in Education. Before his National Service he took Natural Science and decided he didn't like industrial research. He is active in the Film Society (De Putier revived this as Secretary some five years ago), in photography and plays some hockey. With him at St. John's is Hugh Wiggin doing third year part II in Microbiology. We climbed to the top of his terrific staircase, reminiscent of Strangeways, found him out and a note on the table says, "Have taken your loaf, P." We added suitable comment above this note and adjured the "P." In the same College was Clifford Slater. His rooms were locked in the morning and we found that he was entertaining fair friends in the afternoon and not at home to us.

Courtenay Liddle, who had put me wise to the whereabouts of others, is himself at Christ's. With him last year was Gordon Starck doing Medicine, but he has now gone to finish the course at a London Hospital. Sam Priestman has followed him by entering Christ's after a false start in Agriculture. We called on Sam, his rooms are in the new block and are palatial. I like his taste in pictures and the price he paid for them. We burst in upon him while he was struggling with page 595 of Lovatt Evans' Human Physiology (hearty laughter). With First M.B. out of the way, he is now enjoying his second year in Medicine. Once, to fill a gap caused by his absence, he borrowed the written notes of a lecturer. In two places in these notes he found the words "pause for laughter," and Sam is still wondering why. Feeling that my notes on the weekend might be a little dull, I asked him for any naughty stories of this term's events and promptly replied, "O, I couldn't Sir, they'd all be confessions." Sam can just about make ends meet, he plays forward at Lacrosse and burns both sides of the toast instead of one.

It was a grand weekend, and I am grateful for all that was done to keep me busy and allay my thirst. It was invigorating to feel that the pulse of Raynes Park beats strongly here at Cambridge, and to feel that the Staff can be laughed at with great affection. I could only just see Liddle's face as we said Goodbye and then from out of the fog came his cheery voice, "If you don't go to Oxford next term Sir, come here!"

E. G. R.

## SHORT STORY A MAN AT THE DOOR

He had a non-committal face, elderly, but without a suggestion of interest, and she found it difficult to decide. It seemed fairly certain that he would be trustworthy, for he seemed to have no inclination to be anything but servile. His hands were a disadvantage, but when she expressed her doubts, he replied in a flat voice: "I have been trained to use these and can perform any normal task."

He sounded as if he had made the same statement many times before, and she finally decided he would be reliable. It did not occur

to her to wonder why he should be begging for work on her doorstep. She assumed him to be a tramp, and decided that five shillings would be quite adequate. She opened the front door wider and turned towards the kitchen, but she had to tell him to come in before he stepped into the hall.

"There is really very little for you to do" she said. He was removing his gloves; they seemed incongruously new and well-kept besides his shabby clothes, which hung on him like leaves on an autumn tree. She felt slightly uneasy as the sun shone on the polished steel of his hands. He also felt uneasy. Each door, each cupboard and drawer, each cup and plate in the kitchen was an unrevealed problem to him, a source of potential humiliation.

"Could you wash up?" she asked. He nodded. "And scrub the floor afterwards?" He nodded again. She locked the back door. "There's plenty of hot water in the tap." She crossed and went into the hall, closing the door behind her. Her hand still on the handle as she stood in the hall. The click of the lock lingered. She turned quickly and opened the door again. The man smiled slightly and turned towards the sink.

She stood by the window in the living-room and looked at the garden. It would have been more correct to say that there was plenty of hot water in the tank. The water in the lily-pond glistened in the sun and startled her. She had left the key in the lock of the back door; but there was nothing in the kitchen worth stealing. There was a mark on the window pane where a fly had been killed. She turned away from the window and the curtain was crumpled where she had held it. The piano was open, and as she sat and looked at her fingers resting on the keys, his hands troubled her.

She played Chopin, she played Ravel, she chose a piece for an encore should the audience require it.

Her practice finished, she sat still at the piano. His bent shoulders and thin hair were unremarkable. There should be nothing about him that would make her remember him after he was gone.

The house was very quiet. A car passed on the road outside and a little shower of soot pattered into the hearth behind her. In every room a clock ticked and took possession of the silence, breaking it with tiny, insistent hammer-blows.

\*

The fragments were scattered on the floor; each piece a bright white wheel of light as they lay in the path of the sun. The vase had slithered from the piano with the impetuosity of her movement as she stood up; and the flowers lay together on the carpet amongst the sharp-edged glass.

She stood in the door-way of the kitchen and he knelt beside the table in the centre of the room, a scrubbing brush gripped in the steel claw of his right hand. Half the floor was scrubbed and was already dry. There were tears on his face.

"I was a concert pianist too, once" he said.

D. T. B.

## VERSE

### Parisian Riff

Night. Wildbirds call from  
Heated café purple Lighted purple café,  
Lightbirds nightbirds light purple on the boulevard.  
The avenue the boulevard is long, long they say.

Spiced colours, odours bright in bright interior  
Hard, hard and white, blind sight  
Of men who stare in cafés.  
Can't stop to drink, drink tonight, of lig

10

Or the empty waters of Lethe.  
Summer café night is moist  
Heat is purple moist, light is purple moist,  
And hot.

Pass from the shadows on the pavement  
Shadowed staring tables on the pavement  
Pass the purple wild birds calling  
From a wilderness of purple palms.

Pass the music and the light  
From the men, from the light  
Pass their staring, as light grips the boulevard.  
Pass. Light purple bright.  
Night.  
Avenue or boulevard, road through the trees  
Is very long, long, they tell me.

J. M. H.

## Land and Seascape

High dawdling clouds expose the silent grasslands  
And the glowing dew;  
Diminishing clay vales mould  
The high hills into giants, and magnify the grated granite;  
Ahead gulls fly with winged precision  
Winding and wheeling, and the grey foothills  
Perpetuate the coming rainclouds,  
Beyond parallel corn nooks glistens  
The lapse of pathetic rain,  
And ancient hags plod with the covered corn cart  
Under the listless swallows and joyful cornerakes.  
Pangs of night, high and flowing  
Capture the darkening sky,  
And unsuspecting winds accelerate the rush of night.

D. C. B.

## Elegy

Lady, who smiles through the smoke of a thousand prayers,  
Weep,  
Weep for the young man  
Whose body is floating, far  
Far away over the grey seas,  
Where he cannot distinguish the wisps of prayers,  
Dissolving swiftly away.

The sour winds snatch at his flesh  
And the long white haired waves  
Break his cold body against the rocks,  
While the lonely sea birds  
Are wailing a mournful benediction,  
And disfigured cliffs throw back the echo,  
Unheard.

J. D. S.

## The Door

What was behind that purple door?  
An irate Cardinal,  
Or a chambermaid washing the floor?  
I rang the bell and ran away,  
Came back creeping in bright red shadows.

What was behind that purple door  
A safe, some book,  
Or just an empty floor.

11

The brick Cathedral pinked the skies  
 My Lord the Archbishop,  
 Would he rant and rave?  
 I saw myself bent, his pardon to crave.  
 I had rung the bell and had not heard  
 I had pulled the Cord but had not heard  
 What was behind that purple door?  
 The Bell was bust, the Cord was broke,  
 I was a fool to be afraid,

J. P. H. P.

### In Richmond Park

The sunset streams in the lonesun west,  
 The wind in the hill wakes memory.  
 The steeples on the plain, the trees fading;  
 A walled garden reminds of an engraving  
 Lifeless in an old book,  
 Distant, remaining.

The plain is wide, the wind is westwild,  
 The voice in a book of a child  
 Crying  
 Memory, remember, O,  
 Remember me.

J. M. H.

### THE AGAMEMNON OF AESCHYLUS

It has rightly been said that Clytemnestra is Aeschylus's masterpiece. She is presented as a woman, if not to be admired, then at least to be wondered at; a woman of impervious, haughty nature, bold, resolute, and untouched by the softer emotions of pity and tenderness that it has been left to others to portray. She is a woman whose scorn of the chorus' opinion makes her a fit instrument to be driven on by the fate of the accursed House of Athens to the foul crime of murder. Aeschylus is concerned at first to win some sympathy from his audience. To atone for the foulness of the crime to come, we are reminded early of the sacrifice of her daughter, Iphigeneia by Agamemnon, on whom she must wreak vengeance, and we are affronted with the presence of his mistress, Cassandra, even in the moment of his return in triumph. Slight is the mention of her own relations with Aegistheus. In this, the first play of the trilogy, she must win our favour, heartless and inhuman though she must seem. Clytemnestra has been compared to Lady Macbeth, and, if it is true that in character they are widely different, for Lady Macbeth is haunted by remorse at the end, while Clytemnestra is defiant to her death, at least it is not unfair to Shakespeare to suggest that in skilful delineation, Aeschylus is here his equal.

For a man of the Balliol Players, to play this exacting role was a test of dramatic skill that we should not expect to find in an undergraduate. It was not that our attention was distracted by bulging biceps, or that this actor threw away lines—his diction was almost impeccable and his timing good—or even that he failed to realise the powerful conception of the character, but that this Clytemnestra was not a noble and dignified sovereign. Some of her jerky movements were those of an Esther McCracken maidservant, rather than of Aeschylus Queen of Tragedy. This Clytemnestra could too easily have felt remorse or been "infirm of purpose." We missed, not her villainy, but the grace and dignity of a queen. That the Greek choreutes gave this part to his protagonist is sufficient evidence of its importance, and if it must be admitted that an element of failure dogged the Balliol Players' production, it cannot be separated from the failure to realize a Clytemnestra of Aeschylean stature.

The ill-defined sketch if Cassandra affords a contrast in craftsmanship. Here Aeschylus gives us little characterization, but the thrill of Cassandra's prophecy of doom was perhaps the most moving moment of the play. Here the sense of pursuing destiny, if the curse Agamemnon and his kin, the sense of inevitable doom which shrouds the play in darkness reached its climax. **There is no failure here.**

If other deficiencies must be found, they surely must be those inherent in a performance of this kind; a performance planned for out-of-doors, and transferred with little preparation to a stage. The movements of the chorus may well have suggested the ballet-like patterns woven in the orchestra by the chorus at Athens when seen clearly out-of-doors, but when presented as a silhouette in front of the lighting of the stage they served only to distract from the lyrical power of the choral speaking, of which but little was lost in translation. The intimacy of Aegistheus speeches too may have been emphasized by the indoor theatre; he suggested rather the former Minister of Food taking a meeting of housewives into his confidence than the "curse personified" of Aeschylus' play.

The loftier its theme the less can tragedy afford deficiencies. If these deficiencies are to be attributed to the circumstances of these strolling players, whose laudable aim to bring Greek dance to a wide audience is so happily realized in this summer tour then perhaps the heights are not for them. The quips and farce of Aristophanes can bolster incongruity and gloss over weaknesses which tragedy can ill afford. If the Balliol Players visit us next year, and we hope they will, may we hope that it will be with the traditional comedy which is so obviously their métier.

A. C.

### 19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

#### The Summer Camp at Clovelly

To begin at the end (as Stoa said when unravelling the life line), when a senior returns home to say that it was the best camp he has had, there cannot have been very much wrong. As a new hand at the game, Tizer did not agree that it was the best, but added modestly that the 19th *could* set a jolly good example to some camps he has visited. Yes, by and large, it was successful and happy—the latter is just as important as the former in camping—and this was due, I feel, to a greater use of the patrol system and to KoKo's insistence that more responsibility should be the lot of the patrol leader. The Group has now a sound camping tradition behind it. It is when the senior scouts camp with us to pass on the best of the past and the younger fry come along with fertile imaginations and funds of enthusiasm, the blend must surely be good.

The site was excellent and our thanks go to our host, Mr. Hilton of East Dyke Farm, for this and the many signs of sympathetic interest. The camp was on almost the highest field around Clovelly and gave an uninterrupted view of the sea from Lundy Isle on the left to Croyde Bay and Westward Ho on the right. It was half a mile down to the sea, which isn't the same thing as half a mile *up* from the sea as one young bather put it. Bathing, just east of Clovelly's small harbour, was a little troublesome to the non-swimmers with the rocks giving little place for sand. This year, however, most of even the juniors were swimmers of some sort, ducks in fact as the waitress on Waterloo Station called us all.

I am amazed to find that several, and not always the younger, will travel some two hundred miles away from home and then make for the nearest shops and snack bar. Last year in North Wales, each time we announced patrol walks, a certain leader made straight for Barmouth and the nearest tuck shop (as if one really wanted drinks in that



weather!). This year again, it seemed such a pity to spend so much time keeping upright in Clovelly High Street when such lovely country was within easy reach all round. It wasn't until the second week that we really broke away from camp and its neighbourhood to make more distant walks, then to regret that so little time remained for further exploration. Although little has been said, patrols did cover the immediate six miles around eventually. Stag, twice led parties along the cliff path going westward and there was some cave work. Tizer led a more strenuous cross-country hike to Hartland Point and the light-house, and then followed the coast southwards. The Senior Scouts went on a three day hike through Bideford into the Woolacombe and Ilfracombe country. They slept one night on bracken in a clifftop shack and cooked by driftwood on the beach. The second night they entered the camp of some Middlesex scouts and were entertained like royal beggars. Stringer and Terdre made their first class test hike in the worst weather of the camp. They went south cross country and followed compass direction so closely that wading through streams and bogs was carried out with common sense and success. The logs of these two test journeys were first rate pieces of scouting and recording—much better than the general run of first class logs submitted from the Wimbledon District.

**Practical work in camp was good on the whole.** The Curlews successfully improvised for the missing tentpole throughout the stay. Their shoe-rack too was sensible. The Kingfishers built a camp table and dressers, and used it. Their washing up runway was a sound idea but too near the tent. Perhaps that was why they had to sleep in the barn on the last night? Casselton looked after the first aid and Simpson kept an eye on the equipment and an edge on the axes. Stringer was a punctual postman (he brought the good news) and the only parcel he lost was for Tizer. Which reminds me that one patrol built an excellent oven. Hopkins and Farrant were Quartermasters (odd?) in charge of all food supplies, and well they did their job. Never in camp did so many look forward so much to the purchases of those two.

In the staff tent was cheerfulness as much as we could bear—in the form of Bruin, late of the Seagulls, circa, 1937. He hasn't lost any of his taste for hard work and wide games. He liked helping the juniors too. His phrase, "I should do it this way if I were you, let me show you," might be remembered by all seniors whose inclination to bluntness merely gave rise to the negative, "don't do it that way, you . . .". Of the same tent was Stag, up with the lark and often with the moon too. He added much to the tone of our camp fire and almost fell into it when the girls were praying to Allah. I wish we could remember all the new songs and stunts our fair friends contribute year by year. To the Vicar we were grateful for the use of the Church; with KoKo at the Organ, Stag as choirmaster, the troop as choir and Tiger as lay reader, we were very glad to have a few local inhabitants as our congregation.

The combined coach tour and walk was planned as a finale to a full programme. The party motored down to the Cornish boundary and we had glimpses of the Cornish coastline. By way of Tavistock we travelled across Dartmoor, leaving the coach to walk across the moors to a rendezvous on the other side of Princetown. Near Widecombe we again left the coach for individual walks before returning by way of Moretonhampstead, Okehampton and Bideford.

### The Autumn Term

All of last year's patrol leaders have either passed into the sixth form or have left School. In both cases they remain with us in Senior Scouting as a new *Mallory Patrol* and combine with the existing *Scott Patrol*. There have been combined operations in troop evening

meetings, visits to West Hoathly and a special visit for a few to the War Cabinet Rooms somewhere under London.

There have been meetings for Parents (not too well attended by the newer members) and for the 19th Branch of the B.P. Guild of Old Scouts which is soon to take a vital part in Local Association affairs. An annual *Peruga* for the whole group is being planned for first Saturday of next term.

### The Scout Troop

The work of the term began logically enough with a revision of tenderfoot tests, and has been concerned progressively with Second class work, the concern of the S.M.'s. and the Court of Honour at the slow progress in this work being reflected in most of the Tuesday programmes. Tiger has lent us his wisdom in a series of talks and demonstrations in First Aid, with Burns as a model skeleton, and patient of most accidents except himself, and Sambo has helped us with our splicing.

**But it has not been all work.** A wide game on the common left Tiger undiscovered until Koko sat on a strange log, and a strange metallic fruit undiscovered in a holly tree while the troop in blood-thirsty mood went in search of "lives." The ultimate discovery of the trophy enabled the winners to get to the "root" of the trouble—"Oh, very crisp!"

Before the leaves fell, an exploration around the Oberon playing field, and the neighbouring streets revealed our ignorance of conifers, and our familiarity with the "chestnut"—Koko's jokes are of ancient vintage—and we combined with the Seniors for a wide game involving **disguise and tennis balls, themselves disguised as hand grenades.** This seemed enjoyable enough, although some of each side failed to make contact with the enemy. Perhaps this was because some young Scouts disguised themselves as passengers on buses. Lloyd was disguised by a tie so brilliant that the beholder did not dare look twice, Badger as a cross between a butcher and a housewife, and looking like nothing more than Badger, and Stoat, with some originality, so that "owd avis" a Scout wearing a Scout hat. But someone should have told Chris when the game finished. The Oberon had to be deserted at nine o'clock in the evening. **Stringer conducted the only piece of research of the evening.** He discovered that into this Ark the animals, or at least the Stoats went in two by two.

The Court of Honour decided early in the term to revise the scale of points awarded for patrol competition in order to place more emphasis on Second and First Class badge work, and less on Proficiency Badges.

We welcomed early this term Mickey from the Third Form, and later Loveday from the First and Spencer and Judge, R. from the Second.

Proficiency Badges activity has been a little reduced, but the following badges have been awarded:—

<i>Seniors</i>			
Camp Warden	...	...	Hopkins, A. G.
Venturer	...	...	Langton, M. L.
<i>Scouts</i>			
Despatch Rider	...	...	Smith, G. H. (Seagulls)
			Stringer, J. (Seagulls)
			Stringer, J. (Seagulls)
Musician	...	...	Task, R. K. (Kingfishers)
Designers	...	...	Bevan, P. T. (Curlews)
Cook	...	...	Davis, J. (Curlews)

### THR PRIZE-GIVING

Prize Givings and Speech Days have an element of the music hall joke in them. They are, one gathers traditionally evenings of boredom

only just compensated for by an afternoon free from School and no homework. Their announcement is met with tolerant smiles and firm statements of a fixed intention to sleep, read, play cards or dice according to the divers temperaments of the speakers. I mention this because our guest, Air Chief Marshal Sir Roderic Hill (Rector of Imperial College) informed us, though not in exactly the same words that his daughter had reminded him of this. How shocking then to say that first the tradition is false and second that upon this occasion it was utterly so. It was, as such misrepresented functions so frequently are, interesting, informing and diverting in turn.

Mr. J. H. Hood-Philips, the Chairman of the Governing Body, began after the playing of the School Song. After complaining of his treatment by the press on the previous occasion when he was misunderstood on the vital matter of school uniforms, he continued by speaking of a question, not the less vital for being the less immediate, that of the constitution and functions of the Board of Governors. He demonstrated the serious nature of the problem and impressed us with the necessity of reform. It is to be hoped that the County authorities will give Mr. Hood Philips suggestions the consideration they merit. But the Chairman was not the only speaker who touched upon problems where there is a divergence of opinion between authority and a part of the School. The Headmaster in his report brought forward the vexed question of salaries for the teaching profession. It is a subject upon which a schoolboy must be, of necessity, diffident. We can note, however, that the Headmaster, both made his point, and carried his audience. It was, however, the body of his report that most stirred the School. Year by year the Headmaster contrives to present statistics, successes and failures with wit and to reduce the sprawling history of the School to order. It is always rather satisfying to have one's own efforts shown in perspective, though we imagine a trifle humiliating for the middle-school.

The Headmaster's speech with its references to subject specialisation provided an appropriate background to that of Sir Roderic who spoke of the evils attending upon any exaggeration of this tendency. But first Sir Roderic performed the onerous task of handing out the prizes, a distribution of loot which provided the excuse for the more important part of the evening, the speeches. This central part of the evening done with, our guest was introduced by the Chairman who spoke of Sir Roderic's distinction in fields of action and scholarship, a combination so representative of our national genius. And indeed the speech which followed reinforced our admiration of this side of Sir Roderic's character, for we were given a talk which wandered pleasantly between poles of scholarship and reminiscence which neither bored us with pedantry nor pandered to our schoolboy intelligences. It is difficult to arouse interest and stimulate attention from an audience so varying in ages as ours, but Sir Roderic succeeded and our thanks were well deserved.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Councillor Billingham and seconded by A. G. Simpson, the School Captain. These two speakers expressed our own feelings admirably and to them and all who took part, our thanks are due.

C. M. W.

## PRIZE LIST, 1949 - 1950

### Form Prizes

I A	...	...	A. J. Fowles, B. G. Hope
I B	...	...	D. J. Dryc, M. J. Lavous
II A	...	...	P. A. Tatlow, M. R. Andress
II B	...	...	C. E. Brittain, M. K. Jones
III A	...	...	P. J. Parsons, G. M. L. Terdre
III B	...	...	M. Gordon, J. M. Davis

IV A ... .. D. A. Jackson, D. V. Patrick  
IV B ... .. D. N. Salter, D. A. Burgess

### Fifth Form and School Certificate Prizes :

A. P. Redman, D. Powell-Evans, A. F. Cox, P. J. Benellick,  
C. I. Brown, K. J. Kimber, J. R. Weightman, D. A. Wise, C. Grant

**Prizes for the most promising work in First Year Sixth :**  
*Science* : L. E. Palmer. *Arts* : D. L. Gillard. *Economics* : D. J. True

### Prizes for best work in Higher Certificate :

Whitman Prize (*Medical Studies*) : G. D. Pegrum  
Norman Prize (*Best Science and Mathematics, H.S.C.*) : F. J. Atkins  
*Chemistry and Physics* ... .. A. Melmoth  
*Mathematics* ... .. I. B. S. Law  
*Zoology and Chemistry* ... .. J. R. Wells  
*Physics* ... .. A. F. Murant  
*Statistics* ... .. B. R. Walters  
*English* ... .. D. Powell  
*History* ... .. J. P. Hood Phillips  
*Geography* ... .. C. M. White  
*Biology* ... .. G. C. Cook  
*Geography* ... .. D. H. Bennett

### General Prizes

*VI Form, English* :—B. S. Jackson  
*General Knowledge* :—D. Powell D. V. Patrick C. C. Wright  
*Art* :—A. S. Jeapes D. S. Madgett D. H. Dann  
*Craft* :—M. W. Hamilton D. L. Hall (Pottery) J. M. Stringer (Printing)  
*Stage* :—J. C. Powell  
*Verse Speaking* :—VI FORMS : J. C. Powell V FORMS : R. S. Betts  
MIDDLE SCHOOL : C. C. Wright LOWER SCHOOL : J. Roberts  
**"Personal Effort" Prizes for good work outside School routine :**  
J. P. Hood Phillips I. B. Bullock A. J. Hopkins  
*Headmaster's Prize for Photography* :—A. G. Simpson, T. G. Wolkenberg  
*Mr. Hanson's Hobbies Prize* :—M. W. Dick R. A. Giles J. D. Phillips  
*John Robbin's Essay Prize* :—J. M. Hoare C. M. White J. C. Powell  
*Headmaster's Essay Prize* :—J. P. Hood-Phillips  
*Leaving Prize to Head of the School, 1949-50 :*  
B. M. Jones

### Higher Certificates

<i>VI Arts</i>	<i>VI Science</i>
J. M. Hoare	<sup>3 4</sup> F. J. Atkins
M. D. Holgate	G. C. Cook
J. P. Hood-Phillips	R. J. Gough
<sup>1</sup> D. Powell	B. M. Jones
J. C. Powell	I. B. S. Law
J. D. Shepherd	N. J. MacDonald
C. M. White	K. J. V. Mackenzie
	<sup>3</sup> A. Melmoth
<i>VI Economics</i>	A. F. Murant
D. H. Bennett	G. D. Pegrum
J. B. Florentine	A. G. Simpson
I. R. Holden	R. J. Threlfall
J. W. R. Sanders	M. L. Trimmer
<sup>2</sup> B. R. Walters	J. R. Wells
<sup>1</sup> Distinction in English	<sup>2</sup> Distinctions in Statistics
<sup>3</sup> Distinction in Physics	<sup>4</sup> Distinctions in Pure Maths

### Trophies

The Parents' Rugby Cup ... .. *Halliwel's*  
The Governors' Cricket Cup ... .. *Cobb's*  
The Spur Social Society's Hockey Cup ... .. *Milton's*  
The Cray Swimming Cup ... .. *Gibb's*

The John Garrett Athletics Cup	...	Halliwell's
The S. H. Marshall Cross Country Cup	...	Halliwell's
The T. W. Powys Cobb Tennis Cup	...	Halliwell's
The S. B. Phillips Boxing Cup	...	Gibb's
The P. W. Garrett Dramatics Cup	...	Halliwell's
The Michael Welby Debating Cup	...	Halliwell's
The Eric Parker Cup	<i>D.A.W. Marles &amp; J.B. Florentine</i>	
The Junior Shield	...	Newsom's
The B. T. King Cock House Shield	...	Halliwell's

### VISIT TO THE CABINET WAR ROOMS

It was with some misgiving that three of us with Mr. Raynham, Mr. Walsh and Mr. Rudgley assembled at the corner of Birdcage Walk and Great George Street waiting for Mr. X. We had few ideas about what we were going to see. We expected to see merely a Cabinet meeting room, and that it was below ground—but that was all. It was all we had expected, but it was not all we saw. We descended forty feet from the Ministry of Defence, and entered a new world. We were met by a fat, cheery man who had a good stock of stories and told them well.

The first part of the building (or basement) which we saw, the most surprising and possibly the most interesting were the Map rooms. Here were no ordinary maps. The great naval map of the world which marked the position of every ship and convoy in the world also marked Austria-Hungary, while Turkey sprawled across the top of Greece, and the German Camerouns were unmistakable. There were military maps, naval maps, air maps; French maps, Russian maps and Pacific maps. They were looked after by five men with silent telephones, they had lamps for bells. These were provided with "scramblers" which changed the frequency and muzzed the call so that the line could not be tapped.

Next to the Map room was the State room. Here one could spend hours compiling facts and figures about everything and anything, irrelevant and relevant. There were the inevitable pictures of bombing (put there to amuse the inmates). It was here that we learnt that the first V.2 fell not in Chiswick but in Epping Forest and that the consumption of potatoes rose during the war.

The purpose of the Map and Statistics rooms was to provide information for the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, they were not an end in themselves. Walking down the corridors was reminiscent of being on a battle ship. Your head hit unexpected sheet and wooden beams, while your feet tripped over things like bulkheads. We arrived at Mr. Churchill's room. This was large but beam ridden, extremely interesting but an ascetic horror. There were maps on the walls, but apart from that the room was decorated with beams. Near his room was one, which both, Sir Stafford Cripps and Lord Beaverbrook had had, (not at the same time). Mr. Atlee's room was like a monastic cell, or perhaps the "Cupboard under the stairs." Our rulers did not live in comfort during the war, nor did they work in comfort. The Cabinet room seemed much too small for a really brisk argument.

The whole place still seemed to be dominated by Mr. Churchill. The cramped friendliness which won the war for us was contrasted by an American visitor with the useless magnificence of the massive monumental shelter of Hilter in Berlin. One left the building feeling one had been in the footsteps of the great, and that the great were, after all, very human.

J. P. H. P

### FILMS

The following films have been shown in the School during the last two terms.

The Tadpole

Amoeba

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The Nature of Plastics  
Salt  
What is Electricity?  
The Discovery of Oxygen  
Electricity and Heat  
The Electrical Circuit of the House  
Life Cycle of the Plant  
How Plants Feed  
Electrochemistry  
The Life of the Rabbit  
The Thistle  
Electricity and Movement  
The Dandelion  
The Electric Refrigerator  
Terra Incognita  
Self Defence by Plants  
Atomic Physics  
The Blowfly  
A.C. and D.C.

The Story of Dr. Tenner  
The World's Wool  
Medieval Castles  
Water Power  
Seed Dispersal  
The Steam Engine  
The Steam Turbine  
The Petrol Engine  
Transfer of Power  
Moving Earth  
Pattern for Progress  
Uses of Limestone  
Ammonia  
Sulphuric Acid  
Essais de Locomotives  
The Beginning of History  
Progress  
There and Back  
The Water Cycle

### CRAFT NOTES

Every Christmas time we find ourselves increasingly busy with our many craft activities. The Spur Press, operated by the Printers' Guild, has been almost (but not quite) overwhelmed with printing orders. Apart from the *Library Review* which is itself a tremendous task, the Printers have produced tickets and programmes for the play, fifteen hundred coloured Christmas Cards and several minor items. Once again the Printers deserve our praise for their constant endeavours, every day of the term.

The Puppet Club has been busy with preparations for the New Year Show. There is practically a farm yard in the making with cow, pig and goose all taking part. Two visits were paid to the London exhibition of the Model Theatre and Puppet Guild. Here many fascinating exhibits were gathered together from all over the world and the "live" shows were of a high standard and drew most attention.

We have also visited the Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society's show at the Victoria and Albert Museum. This is an appropriate setting for such a fine display of many crafts. We took special note of the pottery section and several new ideas in glazing and slip decorations are due to be experimented on. Our kiln continues to work very hard—two firings each week—and although there is no room for complacency we are certainly continuing the long process of raising our standards. Tentative plans have been drawn up for the building of a new kiln, and provided the money is available we hope to commence the foundations next spring.

Now that the timber situation has eased (as far as hardwoods are concerned) we have been able to start on several larger projects, and items as diverse as bed-side cabinets and beehives are in the making, and should provide extra points of interest at our next Open Night.

The stage set for *Cymbeline* has been built in the set builders' spare time and reflects credit on all concerned. Here again is a tangible example of the effects of willing co-operation.

Much more could be said about our progress, but perhaps it is better to end on the sober note that much more remains to be done. Sudden bursts of enthusiasm must not give way to apathy. We need an even larger body of steady capable craftsmen who can admire a job well done—and have the ability to do as well, themselves.

D. R. S.

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## SIXTH FORM SOCIETY

*Secretary*: C. M. White.

It would be pleasant to be able to offer a simple and contented report of the society, its members and its activities over the past term. Unfortunately this is impossible. At present the position of the society is eminently unsatisfactory. Members have little interest in their Society and this lack reflects a greater lack of corporate life in the sixth-form as a whole. Gulfs exist between subject groups and years, and the sixth-form, far from being one form, has degenerated into a number of separate coteries while the Sixth Form Society, an obvious remedy, is allowed to grow moribund and dull. Indeed dullness and gaucherie are fast becoming hallmarks of our infrequent meetings. If this rot is to be halted, I feel that radical changes must be introduced. It is imperative that this potential civilising vehicle (and certainly all first years need civilising) should be saved, be the experiments never so extreme or so radical.

At present it is the custom for the society to content itself with play-readings, personal choice evenings, and film shows to which neighbouring girls, schools are invited. Attendances are sparse, particularly from the economics and the first year in general, and one suspects that until meetings become more informal and more frequent no more can be hoped for. I believe that individual rather than group invitations should be sent out occasionally and that the introduction of guest evenings might encourage diffident members, anything to escape the classroom atmosphere! Sixth form members have shown themselves to be not at all jealous of their privileges which have been slowly whittled away, but it is to be hoped that they will show themselves more diligent in defending their own society from the sloth of lesser brethren and the encroachments of uncaring authority. Sixth form society meetings must be more frequent and more informal though, one hopes not without "that certain decorum which is expected." This object cannot be achieved without considerable effort by all sixth-formers and sympathy from the staff. Once achieved however, I believe the whole School and the sixth form in particular will benefit from it.

C. M. W.

## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

*President*: The Headmaster

*Chairman*: J. P. Hood Phillips

*Secretary*: A. J. Hopkins

Upon the initiative of Mr. Cholmondeley, J. M. Hoare and C. M. White, a general meeting of all interested in the formation of a Debating Society was held at the beginning of this term. Officers and a committee were elected. The Committee later agreed that the motion for the first debate should be, "This House deploras that the Cock House Cup is awarded solely for athletic prowess." As this was the first meeting it tended to be somewhat on the serious side with speakers relying on reasoning rather than wit. The proposition, led by J. Hood-Phillips, seemed to think that if we went on with our present system we should all become sports fanatics and pleaded for the inclusion of other team activities, while the opposition, led by White, sought to strike fear into us by suggesting that school work should be counted in House points.

On the occasion of our second meeting a more ambitious subject was tackled—that of Nationalism: White deplored it in no uncertain terms, pointing out that it was fanatical and sentimental, and as a final shot reminded us that nationalists do anything but live in the country they support. Nuttall, supporting nationalism based his argument mainly on economics and seemed to think his opponent more fanatical

than any nationalist. Among those who spoke from the floor were Crichton, who made a brave attempt at defining nationalism, and Palmer, who referred to the Lysenko controversy.

Soon after half-term, we decided to pit our wits against those of the staff, with Mr. Rudgley and Mr. Walsh proposing the motion that, "Too much fuss is made of modern youth." Mr. Rudgley, in his customary sonorous and scintillating style, pointed out numerous ways in which youth is pampered, from cod liver oil to visual aids and said that he felt too much stress was laid on the "problems" of youth. Mr. Walsh, seconding, deplored two things: Firstly that the modern mental climate was typified in certain sections of the Press which unduly emphasized the idea of "youth at the helm" and secondly the present lack of humility. Nuttall and Hoare, opposers of the motion, harked back to the restricted Victorian freedom and sought to prove that modern fuss is national and not domestic. White, on this occasion speaking from the floor, was typically impassioned and amusing, while Mr. Timpson suggested that if a school "Fuss Day" was instituted we would no longer desire to be fussed!

We have been pleased to notice that members of both the Junior and Middle School have recognised our existence and in one or two instances given us the benefit of their wisdom. The atmosphere at our meetings could hardly be called formal, but nevertheless those present do not easily rise to their feet to speak. We hope that, in time, their loquacity will improve, so providing us with more potential main speakers.

A. J. H.

## THE CHRISTIAN UNION

At the end of last term, with the departure of the nucleus of sixth formers, including David Powell, who had been leader for the previous two years, an outsider would have pronounced the Christian Union dead. That, however, was not His purpose, for, the two remaining members, John Hobbs and Malcolm Langton, received divine encouragement which brought about its rebirth. Preparations for a C.U. campaign went ahead during the summer holidays, so that, with the beginning of term, we were ready with advertisements and invitations, to go through with it successfully.

The first meeting took place five days after the return to School, and took the form of a council. The attendance of nine, which was more than we had ever accumulated last term, and to which number we have not sunk since, was encouraging. We decided upon Wednesday for our meetings, mainly as it was the only day free on the School calendar, and we would therefore be unlikely to interfere with any other activity. Letters were then hastily sent off to prospective speakers and helpful replies received. A week after the first meeting we started properly with thirteen in attendance and a visiting speaker. We have had six other meetings so far this term and have increased our membership to twenty-two. Unfortunately, outside activities have, nevertheless, seized our members and the record attendance stands at sixteen. We now have several regular fellows distributed in all years, and our list of prospective members is long. A number of the staff are being very co-operative, especially in allowing us the use of the library, and in announcing the meetings.

At the time of writing we have had six speaker-meetings and one discussion meeting, which, for the first of its kind, was very encouraging. We have planned four more speaker-meetings, another discussion, and a Christmas Squash for this term. For those who are, at the moment, sceptical or undecided, I hasten to make clear that this C.U. is a place where enjoyment is second only to the purpose of bringing Christ into the School. Our meetings are simple, interesting, and call for no personal contribution except attention. They consist of a prayer,

perhaps a bible reading, the notices, and the speaker's talk, with alterations made to include a varied programme. We plan to widen our field of activity, by organising outings and film shows, among other things, when we can be sure of a larger audience. Will you help increase our numbers by coming along?

Our success this term is due entirely to the One whom we serve, who, although we were faced with many difficulties and disappointments, has been in our midst at all times. His presence has been felt among us during the meetings and has led us to personal happiness and enjoyment. May we continue in His strength through the days that lie ahead.

F. M. L.

### GRAMOPHONE CLUB

Secretary : J. D. Shepherd

At the end of last term, the last of the founder members left us ; but although the character of the club has changed considerably since those early days, I feel that it has in no way deteriorated, for it has retained its informal nature, and its taste continues to be Catholic.

This term, we have pursued a series on Modern English Composers, who have in the past been somewhat neglected ; this series has been interrupted once for a Bach personal choice programme. The early part of the term was devoted to Vaughan Williams when we heard the music for " Job," the Fifth and Sixth Symphonies, and a number of minor works, including a song cycle and some film music. This was preceded by a Delius programme ; an unduly neglected composer from whom we hope to hear more later this term. After the Vaughan Williams we played two programmes of Gustav Holst, and have just commenced a series of programmes on William Walton with *Belshazzar's Feast*.

So far this term, there has been a meeting every Friday, but the members, both at the Gramophone Club and Lunch time Concerts, have revealed a very regrettable and pervasive apathy in the School towards the pleasures of music.

J. D. S.

### THE LIGHTER MUSIC SOCIETY

Secretary : R. A. Nuttall

Committee : R. A. Nuttall, D. M. Spiers, P. A. Tanner

This term the society has been sailing through heavy waters. As they always have done, members have gathered together in argument over the identity of the Sousaphone player on Blind Jake's record of 'Bass Horn Blues' issued under a different title in Lower Afghanistan ; and each Wednesday an increasing contingent has wended its way to North Cheam, after the trials and tribulations of house rigger and braving the dancers' flying feet, has heard the music of Messrs. Mulligan, Barber, and others.

Nevertheless, this term there has been but one organised record meeting. This is apparently due to a certain reluctance on the part of the staff, who, to a man, have regretfully refused to come regularly to our meetings; and, without a master present, we are unable to make use of the School's radiogram.

This, then is the position as it stands now. The banner of jazz continues to fly, but unless we can find some way of holding our weekly meetings again, the School will, perforce, lose one of its most valuable societies—a contingency which must not arise.

R. A. N.

### POETRY SOCIETY

This term, the Society has been considerably augmented from the ranks of the new first year sixth. Meetings have been held regularly once a week and much original verse has been read and discussed.

Certain frank heretical criticisms offered by the more brutal members led to intense and occasionally ferocious dispute ; while the range and the variety of discussion generally tended to attract even the quieter members into it. On the whole, the standard of the verse offered has neither improved nor deteriorated, although it seems to me that the subject matter of the majority of the poems has become more concrete and related to life than the bulk of the highly intellectual and abstract verse of, say, two years ago, which aroused such contemptuous attack in *The Spur*.

That there is still considerable outside opposition to the poetry published in *The Spur* and *Library Review* is obvious from the powerful attitude appearing elsewhere in these pages, and expressing, one feels, its jocose style, the general attitude of the School. A defence, or, rather, an assertion of our point of view, follows this attack, and need not be discussed here. It is felt, however, that such critics, published or unpublished, should voice their criticisms, in a constructive rather than destructive manner, in an environment where they will meet like some spontaneous opposition. This is the purpose of the Poetry Society, and all critics or supporters in the School will always find someone to agree with them or violently contradict them, with some considerable show of evidence, in the Poetry Society.

J. M. H.

### CHESS CLUB

President : Mr. Syers

Secretary : H. B. Lawrence

Treasurer : M. Dick

Captain : J. R. Weightman

Chess has improved in the Club this term, despite adverse conditions at the beginning of the term. Until Mr. Timpson offered " to look after " the Club on Friday evenings we were unable to hold proper meetings, resulting in little or no practice before our first fixture. This match was disappointing, for we were confident that we would beat a much weakened Surbiton team.

In the match against Wandsworth, the need for much longer time for play was shown to be necessary. In two hours, six games were drawn. Kingston Grammar presented us with little opposition, and we won six games outright. Against Pelham we managed to redeem our honour after last season's miserable defeat. We were outplayed by Tiffins, a team of considerable experience.

In spite of lack of support from the middle school, the second team have played reasonable chess. The game at Surbiton is reported to have been played under undesirable conditions, and as the team was considerably weakened by absentees, the result was regrettable, but scarcely a permanent blemish.

Results of games played in the Autumn term :—

1st VIII v. Surbiton	1st VIII	3 --5	Lost
" v. Wandsworth		4 --4	Drawn
" v. Kingston	"	6½ --1½	Won
" v. Pelham	"	4½ --3½	Won
" v. Tiffins	"	2½ --5½	Lost
2nd VIII v. Surbiton	2nd VIII	2 --6	Lost
2nd VI v. Wimbledon Tec.	1st VI	2½ --3½	Lost
2nd V v. Wimbledon Tec.	1st V	3 --2	Won

### JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY CLUB

As this is really a Club for the Junior School, members of the present Fourth (with two exceptions) have left and the gaps more than filled by newcomers. It would hardly be possible to cope with a greater number at the present.

With this increase in numbers has come a widening of interest. One of us now studies fossils and rocks. Three others have taken to dissection and are well advanced into the internals of the newt. While inspecting the stomach and intestine of a dogfish, two of our number discovered the remains of crabs and fishes, some of them almost intact, together with over four hundred worm-like parasites. They were startled to discover that similar parasites are widespread and not all unknown in human beings. Others are busy with slide making and section cutting, while the two senior members are concerned with a study of insect life on trees. Meanwhile all our other groups press from birds to mammals (not forgetting gazelles) while our smallest member carries an encyclopedic knowledge of technical terms.

J. W. B.

**No. 565 SQUADRON, A.T.C.**

The Squadron's activities have proceeded smoothly through the term, occupying two-and-a-half hours every Friday evening. Early on, the Squadron was honoured by a visit from the Air Officer Commanding, 61 Group R.A.F., Kenley—Group Captain MacBroy, who came to present a medal to Miss Taylor, our Secretary and O.C. Refreshment-for-Cadets, in recognition of her services to the unit. Group Captain MacBroy also inspected the unit on parade and visited classes, and expressed his satisfaction with what he saw.

The formal inspection of the Squadron, which is an annual event carried out by a representative of the A.O.C. took place on November 24th, supported by an exemplary turn-out of Cadets, 21 out of 22 being on parade. The Inspecting Officer took note of every aspect of the Squadron's activities from "Strength Returns" to Navigation classes and in a speech to the Cadets at the end of the evening, commended them for their enthusiasm, smartness and efficiency. It was the first A.T.C. Squadron he had been called upon to inspect, and he said he was most impressed with its standard of work.

Apart from these two occasions parades have continued normally with courses leading to the various proficiency badges in subjects such as Aircraft Recognition, Meteorology, Signalling, Armaments, Ground-Combat and, of course, foot-drill.

Surprise is often expressed by visiting officers of the R.A.F. at the small numbers of cadets in the Squadron for a school of this size. Perhaps few boys realize the advantages gained by Cadets when they are called up for National Service. But possibly an even better argument for joining the Squadron is that the A.T.C. is good fun, the subjects are interesting, and you are bound to get some flying during the year. If you are really keen there are gliding courses, flying scholarships, etc., to apply for. Any member of the A.T.C. will tell you if this is true, and any boy over 14½ will be welcome as a member of the Squadron, if he cares to report at 7.0 p.m. on a Friday evening.

**GAMES  
Rugby**

**1ST XV RESULTS**

Wimbleton College	...	(A)	Won, 0-3
Surbiton County	...	(A)	Lost, 20-0
Bec County	...	(A)	Lost, 11-9
Beckenham County	...	(H)	Won, 21-18
R.A.A.O.C. (Aldershot)	...	(H)	Lost, 12-6
St. George's College	...	(H)	Won, 25-3
Caterham School	...	(H)	Won, 12-6
Westminster College	...	(H)	Won, 14-5

King's College 2nd XV	...	(A)	Won, 28-0
Regate Grammar School	...	(A)	Lost, 8-6
City of London Freeman's School	...	(H)	Won, 6-0

Played 11; Won 7; Lost 4

To Play: Trifins, Wandsworth, Wallington, Old Boys

The team has settled down well this season and has on occasions played attractive rugby. Despite the fact that only six of last year's first remained at School, the team has won more matches than last year already. We started the season well by beating Wimbledon College, in a very even game thus reversing the result of last year. The game against Beckenham which we finally won. The game against the R.A.A.O.C. was a very hotly contested game in which we were unfortunate in having to field a weakened team. We won our next four matches in fine style. On these the team was almost perfect in attack but often shaky in defence. The game against Regate was played in almost impossible conditions of rain and mud and we were unlucky not to win in the final stages of the game. The team has several faults which have cut down our scoring. The forwards should learn to heel quicker and cleaner when checked. They should also jump in the line-outs and not wait for the ball to come to them. The three s should run harder in attack and tackle harder in defence. On the whole the present fifteen is playing well.

P. J. C.

**(RIGHTON (front row forward).** His forward play is good in all its aspects. He possesses a strong tackle, works hard in the line-out, and backs up well. His taking from the line-outs is good, but he is inclined to struggle after being tackled.

**JONAS, D. (Scrum half afterwards hooker).** His play is spoilt by his slowness and persistent unwillingness to fall on the ball in defence. He passes well as scrum half and hooks well but he must tackle and fall on the ball more often. As a forward he must not hang about at the back of loose scrums.

**ATKINS, F. J. (front row forward).** He is a hard working forward and possesses a good tackle. He must be quicker in and away from line-outs.

**HOPKINS (Second-row forward).** He backs up well and consequently has scored tries. He plays a hard game, tackles hard, and his weight has been invaluable.

**BURCH (Second row forward).** He possesses a useful place kick, which would improve if he would keep his eye on the ball all the time when kicking. He must follow up faster and get into loose scrum-messes sooner.

**MACKELEWORTH, D. (Wing forward).** He is a useful all-round forward, possessing a strong tackle, and an eagerness to fall on the ball, not shown by all. His following up causes him, on occasions, to leave the scrum too soon.

**HOWRE, J. M. (back forward).** Has been valuable in the line out but must learn to jump and not rely solely on his height. He must also make a genuine effort to improve his tackling as he is too easily put off by an opponent's change of direction.

**BIRKETT (wing forward).** He is a good all-round forward who has played very well. However he is too ready to use a smother tackle and must practice tackling low. He does not time his jumping in the line-outs correctly and must practice to improve.

JONES, B. M. (front-row forward). In his first few games at the beginning of the year, before he left school, played with a furious eagerness. His tackling is hard, and he backs up well.

SHEPHERD, J. D. (forward). He must tackle harder and push more readily in the loose scrummages. He works hard in the line-out and backs up well.

WHITE, C. M. (forward). Appears to be the most hard working—hard-worked—man on the field. This is true, but he is inclined to resort to kick and rush tactics.

WALTERS, B. R. (fly half). Is very fast and has a good natural swerve. He has made many of the openings from which scores have resulted. If he could think quicker when on the run, better use might be made of many of his openings. His handling is excellent.

SHEPHERD, W. H. (centre three quarter). He has been an example to the rest of the team with his hard crash tackling. He has speed off the mark and has provided many openings.

SPIERS (centre threequarter) Is fast and has an elusive run. His tackling is good but he must learn to mark his own man. He is too ready to kick ahead instead of feeding his wing and must overcome this tendency.

POOLEY (reserve centre three'). Gives a good pass and turns in, to straighten the attack as he does so. He has played some good games, but must be quicker off the mark and tackle harder.

SIMPSON, A. G. (wing threequarter). He has reverted to his old position with good effect. He shows more determination in his runs, and tackles harder, but his handling of the ball is not always too safe.

WOLKENBERG (reserve wing three'). He has improved astoundingly since the beginning of the season. His running is harder and more confident and at times his marking and tackling have been good. He must not allow himself to be drawn from his run by an opposing centre. With more experience he should become a very good wing threequarter.

PALMER (full back). He has proved an able defender with a safe pair of hands and a hard tackle in spite of his lack of weight. He needs to develop a longer kick, although his touch finding has been safe.

CASSELTON, P. J. (wing threequarter). He has proved his ability on many occasions to round off a three quarter movement with a long straight powerful run for the corner flag. His marking in defence and use of the kick ahead in attack are also good. He shows considerable promise.

C. P. T.

<sup>1</sup> TUTT, C. P. (Captain, wing forward and scrum half). C. P. Tutt has a good knowledge of the game and has proved an able Captain. His hard tackling, and well trained falling on the ball in defence have been constant examples of how it should be done to the rest of the team. As scrum half he has fed the backs well. He is a little inclined to break too often himself, but tries have resulted from a fair proportion of these moves.

R. W. F.F.

<sup>1</sup> Colours, 1948-50.

2ND XV RESULTS	
v. Wimbledon College ... ..	(H) Won, 9—3
v. Surbiton C. G. S. ... ..	(H) Lost, 27—8
v. Bec School ... ..	(H) Lost, 14—9
v. Beckenham C. G. S. ... ..	(A) Lost, 32—0
v. Badingham 1st XV ... ..	(A) Lost, 25—0
v. Caterham ... ..	(A) Lost, 34—3
v. Ottershaw 1st XV ... ..	(A) Lost, 14—9
v. Kings College School 3rd XV ... ..	(H) Won, 12—10
v. Reigate Grammar School ... ..	(H) Lost, 6—3

To play : Tiffins School, Wandsworth, C.G.S., Wallington C.G.S.

This has been an unhappy season for the 2nd XV. Their faults have been considerable, not least a lack of team work and a tendency towards playing soccer. There has been however, continual improvement particularly after sorting out and settling down. The three-quarters stabilised themselves early and have played sound and intelligent rugby; the forwards, a little slower, are now binding and packing better and in forward rushes are well above standard.

Jeapes has been a very sound fullback though a little slow in kicking on occasion. Of the threequarters, Wolkenberg has proved the greatest asset; his runs are brilliant and his defending sound, if sometimes unorthodox. Pooley and Spiers, when not playing for the 1st XV, at least played up to 1st XV standard, and it is a pity that they could not play together to make our backs invincible. Brooke, Langton and Ferebee were sometimes inconsistent, Brooke the soundest of the trio, the others more irregular but aggressive.

Smith, G. H. has played quite well and, until Pooley's advent, was the only crosskicker. He has, however, on occasion, forward-passed and fumbled. Nevertheless he showed initiative and aggression and was a fairly sound fly-half. Menzies, D. S. has played very well, reliably serving an occasionally erratic back line from an often disorganised scrum, showing himself to be one of the best players the 2nd XV has.

The forwards, good individually, have only just become a scrum and a scrum with a definite inability to heel quickly at that. Shepherd, J. D. and Menzies, A. F. were roving wing-forwards, tackling and dribbling well but showing too much individuality. Tillinghast offered bright but erratic rugby. Cook and Cox, L. K. D. made a sound second-row and Cox was very valuable in line-outs. Reeves was a sturdy but not brilliant hooker and his props Philips, M. A. and White, C. M. were effective and joined the back row forcibly in rushes.

C. M. W.

The Colts XV this season has been particularly unfortunate in respect of injuries—the full side has never turned out, the nearest to it being the team which beat Caterham 36—0. The backs are unusually strong, in defence as well as in attack, Smith, Eales and Shepherd constituting a very effective mid-field triangle. The forwards have by no means proved as satisfactory: Bunyan as leader has set a splendid example, but the support he has received has not been solid enough to give the backs the service they require, the chief faults being in the line-out and the loose scrums.

The Junior XV have also suffered from injuries and absences, but have lost only one match, and won some handsome victories. The strength of the team, has been in a heavy and fast pack, which has dominated the games played and neglected, I fear the scoring possibilities of the backs. Charles, Phillips Duke, Featherstone and Fash have proved amongst the most successful players, but all have played their parts and the prospects for the future are bright.

P. O. D.

COLTS XV RESULTS	
v. Wimbledon College ... ..	(H) Drawn, 6—6
v. Bec ... ..	(A) Lost, 5—23
v. Beckenham ... ..	(H) Won, 10—6
v. St. George's ... ..	(A) Lost, 0—18
v. Ottershaw ... ..	(H) Drawn, 9—9
v. Caterham ... ..	(H) Won, 36—0
v. Reigate ... ..	(A) Lost, 3—8
v. City Freemans ... ..	(A) Won, 20—0
JUNIOR XV RESULTS	
v. Beckenham ... ..	(A) Lost, 0—17
v. St. George's ... ..	(H) Won, 38—5
v. Reigate ... ..	(H) Won, 34—3

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