

RAYNES PARK COUNTY GRAMMAR

SCHOOL

The

SPUR

SPRING TERM

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THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL.

"To each his need, from each his power"

Vol. X., No. 1.

Spring, 1952.

EDITORIAL NOTES

THE SCHOOL has welcomed this term Mr. W. P. Foister and Mr. R. G. Archer. They have proved themselves already congenial members of the Common Room, and besides being the accessions to our strength in Science and in Craft for which we hoped, have given generously of their time and spirit, to swimming and cross-country running in Mr. Foister's case, and in Mr. Archer's to the Printers, Stagecraft Guild and Potters, and all the activities centering round the workshop. We hope they will long and happily remain with us.

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By now the School will have welcomed, too, the "Spur's" new little brother, "Oberon." There had long been little more than a nominal association between the Library and its "Review," and "Oberon," with a fresh start and a free scope, should find a ready market. We congratulate both printers and contributors on the new enterprise.

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In a more moderate way, the "Spur" itself has gone in for change, and readers will admire, we hope, the spring overcoat, neat but not gaudy, in which it now makes its bow for the first time.

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The "Critic" and "Admirable Bashville" of March 27th-29th are past to the reader, future to the writer, of these notes. A double bill by seniors and juniors, and the departure for once from Shakespeare, make the production something of a novelty. Reviews of the plays shall appear in the next number of this magazine; but both are good plays as well as funny ones, and there are high hopes that large audiences will relish the performances as much as Mr. Smith, Mr. Money, Mr. Rudgley, Mr. Riley, Mr. Timpson and Mr. Archer, as well as the large number of boys who assisted them, behind and before the scenes, have enjoyed preparations this term.

SCHOOL OFFICERS, SPRING TERM, 1951

Head of the School : D. M. Spiers.

Second Boy : P. J. Casselton

Prefects : I. D. Barnett, P. J. Bennellick, J. R. Hobbs, A. S. Jeapes, F. M. Langton, I. B. Lawrence, B. P. Price, A. P. Redman, R. J. Wells, T. G. Wolkenberg, A. F. Wright.

Captain of Hockey : A. C. Manifold.

Secretary of Hockey : P. J. Bennellick.

Captain of Cross-country : P. M. Childs.

Secretary of Cross-country : D. L. Hall.

Secretary of the Games Committee : P. J. Casselton.

HOUSE NOTES

Cobb's

Hockey.—So far this term the hockey results have been most encouraging. The Seniors had their hardest game against Newsom's, being 4—2 down with only five minutes to go, yet finishing all square at 4—4. Against Halliwell's we won 3—2 and it might have been more had not some of the forwards been so careless. We beat Gibb's 6—1, a result which speaks for itself. It is not really fair to single out individuals for praise in a game which depends so much on a good all-round team, but Baker, Jackson, Cook and Brooke have been outstanding in defence, whilst Eales and Burrage have been our liveliest forwards. David Brooke is to be congratulated on most deservedly gaining his School hockey colours—he has been invaluable in our team. The Colts have drawn their only game to date and I think we can rely on Braine to lead the team to further success. As things are at this stage of the term we stand a good chance of getting the Hockey Cup.

Debating.—We won our second cup to date when we beat Gibb's in the final of the Debating Competition. Jackson, Wilson and Havard all spoke well and our special praise is due to Hayter and C. C. Wright, whose consistently good speaking from the floor probably swayed the verdict our way.

Cross-country.—Powell-Evans has put a lot of untiring work into this most thankless of sports. I am glad to say that he has been well supported throughout the House and that, although we finished fourth in the race, it was not due to any lack of effort.

Swimming.—It may seem somewhat early for swimming, but this, of all sports, requires preparation. We have had some evening practices and the turnout, though not large, has been keen. In this we have been extremely lucky in gaining the services of Mr. Foister, who has sacrificed so much of his valuable time to help us in our swimming. Anyone who has seen him swim will, I am sure, agree that we couldn't wish for an abler teacher. Many Juniors have turned up to make the best of his excellent tuition, but it is rather disappointing to see so few Seniors taking advantage of it.

Juniors.—The Juniors are playing their House rugby matches this term and the results so far are hopeful. Halliwell's, Newsom's and Milton's already having been beaten. There is always a keen turn-out to practices and A. D. Hill, an able captain, is well supported. Their keenness augurs well for the future of the House.

Throughout the House when it comes to actual effort most people are willing to give of their best—which is all we expect. As usual throughout the term Mr. Atkin, Mr. Pratt and Mr. Foister have given us their time, support and encouragement. I do not think everybody realises how lucky we are in having such House Masters.

We did not start the term with any spectacular expectations, but, due to a steady effort by everybody in the House, we are being successful. Cups are not won by one boy alone, however brilliant he may be: they are won by everybody just doing his best—and we are winning cups. I hope it stays that way.

Tanner has modestly omitted to mention his own part in the success of the House. In Debating and Hockey particularly, his leadership and enthusiasm have been invaluable.

G.J.A.

Gibb's

Captain: D. M. Spiers.

Prefects: J. R. Hobbs, A. S. Jeapes, A. P. Redman, D. M. Spiers, A. F. Wright.

After last term's notes were written, our Colt rigger team, unfortunately, narrowly lost its remaining two matches and we finished third

in the competition. Our Junior team this term has played splendidly, beating Halliwell's 8—3, Milton 6—0, and Newsom's 53—0; we hope they will beat Cobb's and thus put themselves well in the running for the Junior Shield. It should be noted that this grand performance is mainly due to numerous practices organised by Mr. Trinder.

This term the major sport is hockey and in the competition we have met with mixed success. The Senior team has lost all its matches so far by scores which are best not recorded; the Colt team, however, have drawn with Milton's 2—2 and beaten Halliwell's 3—2.

In the cross-country competition we finished third, which was a good effort considering our lack of brilliant individual performers. Our congratulations go to the whole team and especially the Captain, J. R. Hobbs.

This term the Debating Competition was decided and after beating Newsom's and Milton's to reach the final, we lost to Cobb's narrowly on a split decision by the judges.

This term also saw the innovation of a P.T. Competition, which will not count in the Cock House Cup until next year. This is perhaps a pity because after the conclusion of the first two tests we are winning. Let us hope we shall be the first House to get our name on the new cup.

Next term is a full one with cricket, athletics, tennis, swimming and dramatics, and if we are to win the Cock House Cup we must exert our efforts to the full.

D.M.S.

Halliwell's

Captain: P. J. Casselton.

Prefects: P. J. Casselton, T. G. Wolkenberg.

The House has fared relatively well in the Inter-House Competitions which have been decided so far this year. In the rugby last term the House finished second, winning three Senior and three Colt matches, both teams unfortunately losing to the same house. The Colts in particular are to be congratulated on their performance against a strong Newsom's side which had an advantage in two Surrey school players.

This term the cross-country team put up a magnificent showing in having all eight scoring runners in the first twenty-three finishers. This gained us the Cup by a margin of forty points. An account of the race appears elsewhere but I would like to thank our Captain, P. M. Childs, who besides finishing third in the race, carried out the hard task of training the team with such success.

In the hockey our fortunes have varied. The Seniors lost their first match to Cobb's by a single goal but then beat both Milton's and Newsom's. The Colts, unfortunately, have not had so much success but have continued to try in their matches.

The Junior rugby fifteen, chiefly due to the lazy way in which they play, have lost two matches. They can, however, make amends in the cricket, which counts equally with the Rugby in the Junior Shield. In the debating we were eliminated by Cobb's, who finally won the competition in a very close debate in which we carried the House vote.

Next term there are two competitions, namely, swimming and athletics, in which we have in the past always acquitted ourselves well. If everybody in the House tries hard and qualifies in every event in which he can, I feel sure we can retain the Athletics Cup.

Milton's

Captain: A. G. Law.

Prefects: F. M. Langton, I. D. Barnett.

The House made a promising start to the term by winning its first two Senior hockey matches. We had an expected victory of 5—1 over Gibb's and proved ourselves "giant killers" by beating Newsom's 4—3

in a somewhat scrappy game in which our Captain, F. M. Langton, shone above all others with a magnificent display of marking, tackling and sure hitting. It can be said that Milton's in these last few years has never enjoyed any run of success and this proved to be true when we went down 3—1 to Halliwell's, mainly due to our poor shooting in the circle. Our Colts have only played one game so far, which they lost 3—0 to Newsom's. The Juniors, who still continue with rugby, have won one game and lost two—lost, we can say, not by large margins.

In the cross-country we repeated last year's success by occupying second position again behind Halliwell's. Ten boys qualified to run in the race, which in a competition where eight runners score only leaves a surplus of two—hardly enough! Nevertheless, Hall 4th, Gates 8th, Young 11th, Lee 12th, Langton 19th, Law 28th, I. D. Barnett 33rd and Yardy 34th must be congratulated on being the scoring team.

From sports to oratory. The debating team succeeded in dividing the judges but unfortunately lost the final round to Gibb's, who were generally expected to get a walk-over victory. This was mainly due to the masterly speaking of our leader, Hall.

There were two other activities this term, gymnastics qualifying and life saving. Again, when it comes to qualifying, we find ourselves trailing behind, but in this case only by one point after the completion of two tests. This deficiency could have been turned into a commanding lead if the sixth formers had bothered to make the effort to qualify. We have already piled up twenty-eight points for swimming due to four members gaining their bronze medallions for life saving, and we hope to have another twenty-eight by the end of the term. The bronze medallion is a very personal distinction to hold besides aiding the House with qualifying points.

Next term will be a busy one, for as well as examinations we have four sports and the House plays to contend with. We should do well in the cricket and everybody must pull his weight in the swimming and athletics if we are to elevate ourselves from the position of "also-rans." Although the House play competition does not register in the Cock House Cup it must be fought for and gained, if possible, in true Milton's tradition.

A.G.L.

Newsom's

Captain : R. J. Wells.

Prefects : R. J. Wells, P. J. Bennellick, B. P. Price, I. B. Lawrence.

It is my duty first to announce that Newsom's House is under new management. Mr. Hanson has left for a lectureship at Borough Road College; our former House Captain, J. W. Crichton, has left, too, and with him D. Mackelworth, who played a prominent part in the activities of the House. To them all we send sincere wishes for happiness in their future careers. Mr. P. O'Driscoll has become our new House Master, and we welcome him, confident that he will lead us to the best of his great ability.

The Senior and Colt rugger teams fully justified that strength which was apparent on paper, both teams playing all matches without defeat. The only Senior house match not recorded in last term's "Spur" was against Cobb's, and this we won by 39 points to 5. The Colts, too, confidently rode over all opposition, beating Cobb's 57—0, Gibb's 20—3, Milton's 23—0, and Halliwell's 14—0. The Rugger Cup consequently stayed with Newsom's, and may it long remain with us.

Junior rugger has, however, been less successful. Bray's team was too small to counterbalance the larger teams of the other Houses, but this deficiency might have been partially remedied by hard work and enthusiasm, neither of which was, however, present. The only advice to the Juniors is to keep on trying; you won't always be the underdogs,

so practise with that thought in mind and defeat will seem a spur, not a discouragement.

The Senior hockey team did not live up to expectations, partly because we relied too much on our established 1st XI players, without giving them sufficient support. But we must congratulate Bennellick, Lewis and Mervyn Smith on their fine play and acceptance of the weight of responsibility in the team. We drew our first match (against Cobb's) which five minutes from the end we expected to win comfortably. We were unexpectedly beaten by Milton's (3—4) and by our bogey team, Halliwell's (3—7), but we received some consolation in beating Gibb's (6—1). Our Colt team has been more successful, defeating Halliwell's (9—2) and Milton's (3—0), and should win the Colts' section.

Michael Welby was a member of this House; but the Debating Cup, named after him, has not yet had our name inscribed upon it, for in the preliminary round of this year's competition, we were knocked out by Gibb's. Opposing the motion "That the scientist has no moral obligation for the result of his research," our team lacked the unity of attack which Gibb's displayed; but in fact we beat ourselves, for our main speakers had given too little thought to the subject and subsequently were vague and halting.

In the House cross-country race, we had Golding home 2nd and Smith 6th (to whom we offer congratulations), but between them and our next man home there was such a gap that we lost all hope of gaining a high place and eventually came last, close behind Cobb's. Again, the support for our brighter athletes was lacking and so we were unable to justify their high achievement.

But we are still well in the running for the Cock House Cup, and we must make this Cup our ultimate object, and must begin to practise those sports which may seem far off, and especially swimming and athletics.

R.J.W.

THE MICHAEL WELBY CUP

On the rugby, cricket or hockey field no one would expect a House team to approach the standards of performance of a School team. Individuals may, and often do, play the game of their lives, doing the work of two men to compensate for the lack of skill of the "weaker brethren," cajoled or bullied for the sake of the House into the position of eleventh or fifteenth man. In a debating team the individual has a different responsibility. It is therefore disappointing for anyone who has heard the skill of some of our debaters when faced with external opposition to note the less ambitious standards which the same speakers are prepared to set themselves when the opposition is drawn from within the School. These low standards were reflected in a lack of adequate preparation, especially by principal speakers in each of the debates of the competition this year, and while it is probably true that the series of debates was brighter this year than last, the feeling that they could have been much better is persistent.

The opening debate between Gibb's and Newsom's on the motion, "That this House believes that the scientist has no moral obligation for the result of his research," found the opposing speakers, D. M. Spiers and R. J. Wells, at variance about the inclusion of the technologist among the scientists, J. R. Hobbs propounding that it is the scientist's duty to follow his work to a conclusion, and, from the floor, I. B. Lawrence begging the proposers to leave the world of medieval philosophy and return to the twentieth century, a practical viewpoint echoed by Wells in his summary when he suggested that no scientist's motive was purely the search for truth. The judges concurred with the decision of the House (pro : 17, con : 7) and Gibb's proceeded to the next round.

Halliwell's, destined to appear in this debate only, proposed, "That this House believes that patriotism is an unnatural sentiment," with Cobb's in opposition. A. C. Manifold believed that patriotism was a barrier to the natural gregarious instinct of man, but the opposition, led by P. A. Tanner, believed it to be the product of the same instinct, and quoted Shakespeare, when the speaker could read his notes, Milton, Dr. Johnson and Thomas Love Peacock. The seconder for the proposition, A. J. Tillinghast, found the origin of patriotism in Europe in medieval times, a date which was pushed further back by several of the speakers from the floor. But it was left to the last of these, C. C. Wright, to ask the proposers what sentiments a child was born with, and to consider for the first time in this debate what was implied in the wording of the motion. The proposition earned 9 votes to the opposition's 6, with a number of abstentions.

In the third debate—it was probably the most entertaining—Gibb's met Milton's on the motion, "That this House views Television with alarm." J. R. Hobbs, opening for Gibb's, returned to the gregarious instincts of the previous debate, and believed that television would lead to their frustration. D. L. Hall, however, believed that these instincts might be satisfied because television would restore family life, and attempted to spike his enemy's guns with a display of "moral courage." From the floor the debate was notable for two witty speeches on sartorial themes by R. Betts, who refused to be intimidated by blue braid, and A. F. Wright, pluming himself in a yellow pullover. This last speaker profoundly stated that "when in love, it is difficult to do one's business," but the compiler of these notes regrets he is unable to remember how the remark was relevant, though he does not doubt that it was. More quotations, by Milton's this time, from the "Radio Times" and Jeremy Bentham, won them the debate in the eyes of the audience (7 votes were cast for, and 14 against the motion) but failed to impress the judges.

In the final debate Gibb's maintained their belief in the commercial sponsoring of radio against Cobb's, suggesting that we should become immune to what the opposition called the "Horlicks element." The debate ranged from Radio Luxembourg, through the Press and "Macbeth," to suggestions about sponsored marriage and minorities being exchanged for majorities, but in the end not even the proposer was found to agree with the motion, and Cobb's were declared the winners of the debate and the Cup.

At none of the debates, as the voting shows, was the audience larger than a handful. The debates this year were neither long nor dull, and it would not be unreasonable to urge the audience to present speakers with the challenge of more ears (however critical) to charm with their eloquence and speakers to present the audience with more convincing reasons for their presence.

A.C.

CAROL SERVICE

A notable feature of the Annual Carol Service, held on the last evening of the Autumn Term, was the pleasant rendering of two groups of carols by a small four-part choir which had been carefully rehearsed by Mr. Vyse. These included the traditional "All Bells in Paradise," set by Martin Shaw, Coleridge's "The Virgin's Cradle Hymn," set by Edmund Rubbra, a Dutch melody adapted by Vaughan-Williams to Dora Greenwell's "If ye would hear the angels sing," "Herrick's Carol," "The Coventry Carol," and Bach's setting of "In Dulci Jubilo." We had, of course, the usual well-known carols sung by the congregation and, besides the customary passages from Isaiah and the Gospels, part of Milton's "Ode on the Morning of Christ's Nativity" was successfully read by R. J. Wells and B. H. Finch. Eliot's "Journey of the Magi" was

impressively declaimed by A. C. Manifold, A. F. Wright, J. R. Hobbs and P. A. Tanner, and we were given a delicious glimpse of a "Dickens" Christmas by Mr. Smith, who entertained us with a selection from "A Christmas Carol."

We were sorry that the congregation was rather fewer in numbers than usual because it was, indeed, a very happy evening for all those who were present.

R.L.

SCHOOL DANCE

On the last evening of term, as is customary, we held a Grand Rigger Dance. There have been several dances before, but I think it can be said in all modesty that this was the best ever. If success is to be judged by profit this dance was a record breaker, as we were able to present £5 to the General School Fund and £2 10s. to the Sixth Form Society.

A measure of the social success can be obtained from the fact that most people arrived on time and that when the first dance was announced nearly everyone leapt to their feet to show their dancing ability. We were pleased to see many of our Old Boys supporting the function but contemporary members of the School present were surprisingly few in number.

Inspired by this success we are holding an April Fools' Dance at the end of this term and it is to be hoped that we shall have an even bigger success and make an enormous profit; but on the other hand we hope the title won't be taken too seriously; we don't want people turning up with straws in their hair; after all, someone has got to clear up the next morning!

D.M.S.

SIXTH FORM SOCIETY

For several years a Society of Sixth Formers has flourished in the School and held meetings throughout each successive term. Many people have felt that membership of the Society played a very important part in the life of a Sixth Former and we have in the past enjoyed the support of members of the staff who have attended our meetings.

Many Old Boys who read this "Spur" will turn naturally to these notes because they remember that during their Sixth Form life, they spent many enjoyable evenings under the auspices of the Society. It is, then, with some shame that I have to record that the committee of the Society have been forced to disband the Society due to lack of support. One meeting was held this term which was attended by fifteen people, of which thirteen were members of the second and third year Sixth! Apparently the twenty-five or so members of the first year Sixth who represent over fifty per cent. of the Sixth Form are not interested in a Society. The Senior members of the Sixth believe that this is a great pity and without advocating that first year Sixth Formers should not work, think that the usual excuse of having too much work is a trifle thin in most cases.

However, the fact remains that the Sixth Form Society is no longer functioning and that these are the last notes to appear under the above heading for the present. It is to be hoped that a future generation of more far-sighted Sixth Formers will see their way to reforming a Society in which members of the Sixth Form can meet away from the form room or laboratory and where the Science Sixth can prove that they are not totally uncultured, as is believed by the writer of the Poetry Society notes.

P.J.C.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

President : Mr. A. Cholmondeley.

Vice-President : The Headmaster.

Secretary : D. A. Jackson.

The first meeting of the new year was held last term on December 13th. It falls to me to extend a welcome to our new members from the first year of the Sixth Form, and to Mr. Gray, who has taken the place of Mr. Syers, who has left us for Durham. We hope he will be very happy, both in his position as classics master at the School and as a member of the Society, and that he will manage to endure with us longer than his two immediate predecessors.

Unfortunately, we chose the worst night of the year for the meeting, and consequently the attendance was rather low. After a late start, however, those who had braved the fog were rewarded with a lucidly presented paper on the Homeric House from the President, Mr. Cholmondeley. He first discussed a typical nineteenth-century view of the house, divided into three main sections: the forecourt, the megaron, and the mychoi, all on one storey. Although agreeing with this in the main, he censured their stubbornness in retaining their belief in only one storey. To corroborate this view, he ended by reading some notes by Professor Wace, who suggested that there were store-rooms and private bed-chambers in a storey above the megaron and in a basement.

After the completion of the paper, we attended to the official business which had been postponed from the beginning of the meeting on account of the uncertain arrival of members. Mr. Cholmondeley was unanimously re-elected President, while D. A. Jackson was elected secretary on the resignation of A. J. Hopkins.

This term we hope to have a paper presented by Mr. Gray, entitled "A Portrait of Socrates."

D.A.J.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Since the House Debating Competition has been held this term, the Society has held only one meeting, when we debated at the West Wimbledon Society on January 26th. A. C. Manifold and J. R. Hobbs proposed the motion, "That military action was never justified," which was opposed by Wimbledon County Girls' School. Our speakers dwelt on the example of Christ, the supreme pacifist and the ethical side of the matter. When the debate was thrown open to the house, political considerations were admitted and notably the problem of Russia. One speaker took the less popular side in the ensuing argument and the motion was ultimately rejected by a heavy majority. It was a very interesting and instructive evening's debating and our thanks are due to our gracious hosts, the West Wimbledon Society, and to our charming opponents in debate.

On Wednesday, March 19th, a team from the School is to debate against Rutlish School at the Merton Public Hall. The subject for this debate has not yet been finally decided.

R.J.W.

POETRY SOCIETY

The continued lack of original verse has forced a new pattern upon the meetings of the Poetry Society. At ordinary Thursday meetings every member brings some poetry to read, whether it be from the shelves of the library or the resources of his mind. This has ensured at least some regularity in the term's meetings. It is proposed, moreover, that a small number of evening meetings should take place at which an audience of

members and non-members (including parents and friends of the School) should meet to listen to lectures by both members of the Society and by more eminent literary scholars.

But still the purpose of the Society is to stimulate the appreciation of poetry by the encouragement of original contributions to the art. The Society may show outward forms of prosperity; but the lack of original verse is a sign of serious decay.

The Fourth Folio of Verse was published during December, but its distribution was received coldly by certain parts of the School, especially in the science section of the Upper School, into which mysterious depths we had vainly supposed a little light had penetrated in recent years.

In response to many questions about authorship, I conclude these notes with a list of the contributors: D. C. Betts, D. Powell-Evans, I. B. Lawrence, J. D. Shepherd, R. A. Nuttall, D. W. Tanner, P. Pringle, J. M. Hoare, J. P. Hood-Phillips and P. A. Tanner.

I.B.L.

GRAMOPHONE CLUB

Last term's series of programmes of Beethoven's music was completed successfully, and we are glad to note that the improvements which this series made in our membership has been supplemented this term by the admission of Third Formers into senior lunch. Our numbers now rarely fall below twenty-five, whereas a year ago we considered ourselves fortunate to address twelve.

This term it was decided to embark upon a series which would include music from Beethoven's death until 1900. The greatest composer of the period, Brahms, has been represented in our programmes up to half term. His music is an example of individualism in Nineteenth Century German Romanticism.

We have heard both the Violin Concerto in D major and the Double Concerto for Violin and Cello in A minor. The Piano Concertos (both of which are unkindly referred to as Symphonies with Piano Obligati) have, for lack of time, been omitted. Of his four symphonies only the Third in F major has been played. A welcome relief from the Symphonic Form was found in the delicate Clarinet Quartet in B minor, and the Four Serious Songs—both of these works having been composed in his last years. Among the smaller works played have been the St. Antoni Chorale and the well-known Academic Festival Overture.

For the remainder of this term we hope to arrange programmes of music by other composers of the nineteenth century. Mendelssohn will be represented by the A major Symphony and G minor Piano Concerto. Dvorák will probably be represented by his Fourth Symphony in G major and the Third Symphony in F (enough is heard of the E minor without our playing it here!).

Now that our membership is increasing we hope to have greater variety in our programmes, especially in the way of personal choice meetings, but unless more members do offer their records, the number of such meetings are bound to remain small.

B.P.P. and I.B.L.

CHRISTIAN UNION

This term we have relied mainly on meetings organised within the C.U., and although attendance numbers have not shown an increase, interest in the C.U., taken by several new members, has led to a greater amount being learnt from the discussions and Bible studies. Our renewed attempt to partake of more study of the Bible has had some success, but there is still a need for closer examination of fundamental Christian beliefs. One

Monday, we made a showing of the film "Voice of the Deep," in which, by way of probing into the conversation of marine inhabitants, it was shown that by the making of a Test, and the assessment of a Fact, the right conclusion was not necessarily reached.

We are attempting to widen our interests by embracing outside Christian activities. Among these, we are supporting the Albert Hall Rallies, organised by Tom Rees for young people especially, which are being held on seven Saturdays during March, April and May. A Surrey Schools' Christian Rally, which is run termly by local schools' Christian Union leaders, was this term held here. With leaders performing platform duties, the Rally speaker was Lieut.-General Sir William Dobbie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O., who gave us a challenging review of his life with Jesus Christ, how he had come to know the Saviour, as a schoolboy, and how He had been a source of help, strength and fellowship to one of our greatest soldiers.

The Christian Life is like a motor car. It is no use turning the wheel if the engine is not in motion. Christ is the starter of our Christian life. Without Him we can live in vain, although many erroneously believe that Heaven can be achieved by good works. It is after Christ has entered in, after he has pressed the starter, that we begin to live and our daily actions receive merit. Therefore, it is useless to compare earthly lives unless Christ is alive in them.

While you are celebrating Easter during the holidays, remember its origin. Jesus Christ died, ransoming us from Hell, and rose again, a proved fact, that those, who believe and trust Him, will follow Him to Heaven.

F.M.L.

CHESS CLUB

The first team has played only one match so far this term: First VIII 2, Surbiton First VIII 6. I can offer no excuse for our repeated defeats at the hands of this team, for while the basis of our team has remained stable during recent years, the Surbiton team has seen many changes. The reader may conclude that it is because we have made few changes that we have lost this match. But I must assure him that firstly, this same team has been more successful against all the other school teams, and secondly, new players of good quality are almost non-existent in the School, although the Chess Club strength stands about thirty members.

Among the juniors, Weightman, C. R., continues to play well, and has played for the first team on a number of occasions, while many others show some promise. But there is a regrettable tendency among juniors towards playing too much chess. The problems of playing in form rooms were partially solved by including two lunch-time meetings during the week, besides the normal Friday evening meeting. But this for some was not enough, for I have found people playing chess at any odd moment during the day in any odd corner. I welcome their enthusiasm but it must yield not only to School discipline, but also to the discipline of good chess playing. If the standard of chess in the School is to improve, players must learn from previous errors or miscalculations, and the only way to do this is to employ the discipline of thinking before you move, and that means both thinking before you make your move and thinking of what your opponent is planning. **And the atmosphere of the "odd moment" is not conducive to this sort of planning.**

Complete details of the year's chess matches will appear in next term's "Spur."

I.B.L.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

This Society, re-formed last term after two years' hibernation, is now going from strength to strength. Since this journal went to the press last term we have held three meetings, two film evenings and one afternoon meeting.

At last term's Film Evening, four films on the U.S.A. were shown, including "The River" (see Vol. IX, No. 6, p. 18). Of the other three the most interesting was "Hurricane Circuit," a reasoned account of hurricane detection in the Caribbean, and the measures taken to protect Florida from such menaces. The other two films were "Meet North Carolina" and "Copper and its Alloys."

The first meeting this term consisted of a lecture, with a film strip, by a member of the International Wool Secretariat, entitled, "Wool, its Supply and Marketing." Despite the fact that this was an afternoon meeting it was poorly attended.

The second meeting was a film evening. Any fears that evening meetings would not be well attended were dispelled by this one. The audience numbered over 60, and since refreshments had only been prepared for 40, some patrons went home hungry! The main attraction was the film about "The Monto Carlo Rally, 1951." (This film created a diversion from the usual documentary nature of our film evenings.) The supporting films were again on the United States. Two of these were strictly geographical, "The Valley of Tennessee" and "Lumberstates," while the last, "Trailer 201," gave a cross-section of the road transport system in the States.

It is a pity that the majority of our regular members are Sixth Formers. However, it was encouraging to see so many members of other forms at the film evening, and we shall be pleased to see them at all meetings, for it is the afternoon meetings which are really geographical. It is to be hoped that next term's examination commitments will not hinder our progress, and that it will be worth while to organise expeditions and excursions as well as the usual meetings at School.

B.P.P.

SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

The Club regrets to announce that our chairman, Mr. Baskett, has had to resign through the pressure of business which now takes him away from home on many occasions. He has been missed and will continue to be when advice on certain subjects, which he has always been ready to give, is required. We all hope that when time permits he will be able to pay us a call.

We have now successfully installed our new switchboard and completed the rewiring of the sections. Our next operation is to convert from stud contact to centre third rail, because members have expressed the desire to run their own engines on the club track, but are unable to do so while we have stud contact. The conversion will be undertaken a section at a time so as not to put the whole track out of action at once. This we hope to complete before the Garden Party, when we hope once again to put the layout on exhibition to help the School funds.

We would like to enlist a few new members who are model makers to help us build the houses and shops, etc., and the making of fields and farms. At the moment our layout is just track and wide open spaces. This we wish to improve, and so make our trackside come to life. Any boy or parent interested would be welcomed on Monday evenings at 7.30 p.m.

S. J. Y.

A.T.C. NOTES

Parades have taken place as usual this term, and we have been very pleased to welcome some more recruits, making our total numbers twice that of this time last year. On the first Friday of term the R.A.F. visited the School to give a film show about the work of the Royal Air Force, and other topics of interest, and the A.T.C. were pleased to welcome over a hundred parents and boys of the School to this event.

The squadron has to congratulate Cpl. Harris and Cadet Loveday on their skill in Aircraft Recognition, which gained them first and second place in the District Competition and second and third place in the Wing Competition respectively. Although they did not win prizes at Group Competition, they both gained Certificates of Merit signed by the Air Officer Commanding No. 61 Group. We also have to congratulate P/O Allen on being commissioned in the R.A.F., having left the squadron only five months before.

J.D.T.

NATIONAL SAVINGS NOTES

Last term, this weekly activity was deprived of its customary corner in the School journal. The accompanying table is, therefore, for the first six months of the present School year.

FORM	TOTAL		
	£	s.	d.
4L	31	8	0
2A	25	14	6
3A	17	19	0
3B	16	4	6
5 Arts	15	10	6
5Mod	10	12	0
4S	6	1	0
1C	5	18	6
1B	5	1	0
1A	3	14	0
2B	1	19	6
6Sc		5	0
	£140	7	6

For the reader who casts an eye over the table, one or two things will stand out clearly; the most notable perhaps being the fact that from the First Form totals increase up to the Fourth Form. After this, they fall off sharply, with a virtually non-existent tail (our spendthrift Sixth Form!). From a statistical standpoint, however, weekly fluctuations are incomprehensible. What causes a form to save £2 2s. 6d. one week and nothing for the next fortnight? This is just one example of the inconsistency of our savers.

However, it is not everyone who has an analytical mind, and a grand total of £140 for 20 weeks is not too bad. Admittedly, it could be better, but £7 a week saved is better than £10 saved on Monday of which £5 is withdrawn on Tuesday, and statistics prove the national saving is, at present, higher than national withdrawals.

B.P.P.

CRAFT NOTES

This is the first opportunity I have had of greeting the School as a whole and having spent one term among you I have found everybody most helpful and willing to offer assistance and support at every turn. I would like to express my gratitude to both staff and boys for giving me such a welcome. It is very encouraging to find such interest in craft throughout the School. In class, some pleasing work has been produced, both in woodwork and pottery and the firings have given some interesting, though at times unusual results. So far there has been little opportunity for experimenting with the outdoor kiln, but I hope that we shall remedy this next term. Many of you take advantage of the facilities offered to practise craftwork out of the normal School hours and it is unfortunate that

all those wishing to work after four o'clock cannot be accommodated in the craftroom.

The Printers' Guild got away to a very slow start this term; indeed, on some days it was difficult to visualise the work to be accomplished as there was so little in hand. When the work did come, it came as an avalanche and the printers have worked valiantly to make up lost ground. Among our number we have welcomed three newcomers and look forward to seeing more of you as the vacancies arise, fired with some enthusiasm. This, of course, is the term of feverish activity among the drama enthusiasts, which means that another body of keen workers was required and found in the Stagecraft Guild. Scenery construction always proves interesting, as the problems involved differ each time and considerable ingenuity is required to solve them. The "Stage Wallahs" have done very well and worked with considerable enthusiasm.

A small group of cricketers has begun a new project, that of making a slip-catching cradle—a gadget brought to this country some years ago by the Australians. The use of this became popular for catching practice. The School cricketers have decided that, like all others of note, they too need a slip cradle. Hence, a small body of volunteers has come forward and shortly we are hoping they will provide the School with this very valuable piece of equipment.

We wish them luck in this venture as it is one more instance of craft serving the School community and providing an opportunity for a group to work together to a common end. I hope you will all think of craft in its widest sense, and not merely as a classroom subject, for if carried into our everyday lives, it can prove a source of great interest and enjoyment. By keen observation and use of our knowledge of craft we can appreciate good and bad design in a great variety of things around us. In this connection I would draw your attention to "Design News Letter" and "Design Calendar," which appear on the craft notice-board and which are changed regularly. These give a little idea of the wide field of our everyday lives in which craft serves us, and I hope in the future to be able to widen the scope of our activities.

R.A.

SPRING THOUGHTS IN THE GARDEN

Whether it be called *salsaburia*, or *ginkgo bilobia*, or just maiden-hair tree, does not really matter: there is a delicate charm and shyness as she grows, but slowly, in the shadow of birch and flowering cherry. Nearby, while naked rigger posts wait for the last try of the season, the almond buds are breaking and bright red tips herald another spring. In the orchard, snowdrops now, and soon the daffodils, a thousand strong, break into colour from the deepening green. And on the lawn the gold and purple crocii pay tribute at the feet of *cedrus deodora*. On the one side *polownia* stands still dormant, more patient than the chorus of excited cherries, *prunus cerasus*, waiting to thrust pink clusters into the warming air. Here too, are *rhododendrons*, deep mauve in the border and crimson by the pond. Soon the *chionodoxa*, *muscaria*, *scilla*, and *primula denticulata*, will blossom as jewels mid the golden cushions of *allysum saxatile*, and above them, pendant, the pure white of peach blossom. Here too, the *jasminum nudiflorum* has bravely cheered alone the winter morns with golden sprays, now fades, and *forsythia suspensa* takes up the theme. In colourful company at the gates are *pyrus malus* and *ribes*, lilac and *crataegus*. Clothing the rocky slopes below are *arabis white*, the *lithospermum* and royal *aubretias*, the *primula pulverulenta*, the *saxifrage* and *iberis*, and *iris dwarf* and beautiful. Down in the Heath Garden, the double peach has already burst into a thousand stars cerise, showering petals, as butterflies, on a dozen kinds of heath below. The Japanese

maple waves her delicate green to the sparkling eyes of genista hispanica. Beyond, the chestnuts break their glistening buds and leave still heavily dormant, the sycamore and ash, the walnut, elm and oak. Within the Quadrangle the ceanothus has died, alas, but birds are nesting and as the fledglings leave their nests, wistaria multijura will unfold her shimmering loveliness, as if to tempt the silent dignity of her regal guardian, magnolia magnifica.

And all around four hundred school boys chatter, their eyes unseeing

E.G.R.

CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

The recent tragic death of King George VI has provoked anew the old questions: "What is the point of having a King?" and "What does he do?" This article is an attempt to provide the answers to these questions. It is necessary to realise that the King's position is still much more influential than is generally appreciated; his duties are very wide. His position is, of course, not as strong as it used to be, even compared with that of Victoria: she could (and did) take sides in the field of party politics, while the modern Monarch is expected to stand aloof in an unbiased position.

The main duty of the Crown is to appoint a Prime Minister. This is not always an easy task, for, although usually the party returned at a General Election has a leader, there are certain exceptions. There is also the question of whom to appoint if no party has a clear majority. And again, what should the monarch do if the Prime Minister resigns his post? Each of these problems has occurred and the responsibility for solving the situation falls on the Crown.

Several instances may be cited to show what has happened in such cases. In 1931, Ramsay MacDonald resigned his position as Prime Minister; he had the most support: so there was no chance of any other leader being chosen. George V decided to ask MacDonald to form a Coalition. The suggestion for this may have been made by Baldwin or by the Prime Minister himself, or even by the King, who was much criticised for this move, but there is no evidence that his action was unconstitutional.

In 1937 the Conservative Party was elected without an official leader. Chamberlain was chosen and immediately voted party leader by the Conservatives, who wished to show their confidence in the King's choice. In such cases the King chooses a man who has experience and, above all, will have support. It is essential to have an unbiased person who will appoint the Prime Minister, in order that such difficulties as those mentioned may be solved. Above all, the King is the symbol of unity and continuity of purpose in government.

A King "can do immense good simply by injecting a little common-sense." His position and experience enable him to give useful advice to the Cabinet and Prime Minister in particular. In 1910 he was able to help Asquith in breaking the deadlock of a Liberal House of Commons and a Conservative House of Lords. The King threatened to fill the latter with Liberal Peers. Bills were then passed, including the Parliament Act. Every monarch is kept well informed of government proceedings: each is present at meetings of the Privy Council, and can there obtain explanations.

He also appoints ministers, ambassadors, judges, officers of the forces, senior civil servants, and so on. He summons and dissolves Parliament. He creates Peers and confers honours. He assents to legislation. All these powers are really exercised by the Government of the day, but the King is allowed a measure of freedom. If an entirely unscrupulous government passed bills against the will of the people he could exercise his power of veto.

The King is a suitable focus for patriotism. One can damn the Government and cheer the King. The display of vivid colour and pageantry associated with the crown helps to brighten the dullness of the ordinary machinery of government.

The Crown links the Commonwealth—as the statute of Westminster says, it is a "symbol of the free association of the members of the British Commonwealth of Nations." Subordination to the British Government would be incompatible with Dominion status. The King symbolises continuity in governance. The carrying out of these duties are the main tasks of a King. There can be no doubt that the British people are singularly fortunate in having had such worthy sovereigns. **I.D.B.**

EASTER CALCULATIONS

The Gauss formula for calculating the date of Easter Sunday for the year Nineteen Hundred and "x," A.D., is as follows:—

- (i) Divide x by 4 and suppose the remainder is a
- (ii) Divide x by 7 and suppose the remainder is b
- (iii) Divide x by 19 and suppose the remainder is c
- (iv) Divide $19c + 24$ by 30 and suppose the remainder is M
- (v) Divide $2a + 4b + 6M + 3$ by 7 and suppose the remainder is d

Then Easter Sunday is M+d days after March 22nd. Using this rule for the year 1952, x=52 and we find a=0, b=3 and c=14. Hence, M is the remainder when 290 is divided by 30, therefore M=20. Also d is the remainder when 135 is divided by 7, therefore d=2, and Easter Sunday is 22 days after March 22nd, i.e., April 13th.

In this formula, M determines the Paschal full moon (i.e., the first full moon after March 21st), while d determines the following Sunday. Easter Sunday is defined as the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon. It is interesting to note that, although M+d gives the correct date of Easter Sunday this year, M predicts that the Paschal full moon will fall on April 11th, while our diaries tell us it actually falls on April 10th. The infallibility of this number M is, therefore, questionable.

If we now turn to the Prayer Book and follow its directions for finding the Paschal full moon for this year we get the correct value, 19, for the number of days after March 22nd. This may lead us to think that the Prayer Book formula is more reliable than that of Gauss. For the year 1951, however, we find Gauss' value M correct and the Prayer Book is incorrect. In practice Easter Sunday is always determined by the Prayer Book. The following table compares the Prayer Book and Gauss' full moons with the actual full moon.

Year	Number of days full moon is after 22nd March			Day of Week
	by Gauss	by Prayer Book	Actual	
1951	1	0	1	Sat.
1952	20	19	19	Thur.
1953	9	8	8	Mon.
1954	28	26	27	Sun.
1955	17	16	16	Thur.
1956	6	5	6	Wed.
1981	29	27	0	Sun.

It will be observed that 1954 is an exceptional year because the full moon actually falls on Sunday, April 18th, and therefore Easter Sunday should be April 25th. This date is the same as that given by the Gauss formula. The Prayer Book, however, gives the full moon on Saturday, April 17th, and so Easter Sunday will be April 18th, i.e., a week early. The year 1981 is a most exceptional year, because both Gauss and the Prayer Book give the WRONG FULL MOON. However, taking the following full moon, the Prayer Book is still a week early, as in 1954, because it gives the full moon on a Saturday when it is actually on a Monday.

In conclusion, it may be stated that although the Prayer Book and Gauss formula are often slightly incorrect in their prediction of the date of the Paschal full moon, they do give the correct date of Easter Sunday except in 1954 and 1981.

R.L.

SHORT STORY

We publish below this term's winning entry to the Spur Short Story Competition.

A Matter of Form

The first news we heard of it was in the morning papers. It had evidently passed through a certain northern town on the previous day, heading for the south; probably its destination was London. Normal traffic had been suspended while the convoy passed through each town. It was headed by twelve policemen on motor-cycles, followed by six police cars (each with its full complement of four rather burly constables), and then came the fateful black van.

It was small and dark-coloured, completely closed in except, of course, for the windscreen and driver's window. The rear doors were barred heavily and locked with huge padlocks. A rather suspicious feature was that there was no registration number plate. The van was evidently armour-plated as well, for it looked extremely cumbersome, but its immensely powerful engine allowed it to move at a fantastic pace. At its rear were another six police cars and twelve more motor-cyclists. The whole procession disappeared rapidly into the distance.

Its journey to the capital caused a great deal of annoyance and curiosity (chiefly the latter); annoyance at the chaos caused by the hold-up, and curiosity as to the contents of the small vehicle. Questions were asked in the House; many letters were written to the papers, and a leader was published in "The Times." Local constituency meetings were held, and Members of Parliament questioned. Even the B.B.C. became interested.

Thus, by the time it reached London, the city was absolutely crammed with sightseers, curious to behold the vehicle which was the cause of so much bother. Trips especially for the occasion had been organised; the trains and buses had been jammed with people "oop for to see this 'ere car," and altogether the city seemed to be as full of people as it had been at the Victory celebrations. The general topic of discussion seemed to be the question of what was inside the van; some were serious guesses—one that it contained Government valuables being transferred to London; some far fetched—such as the suggestion that it contained an important spy who had just been captured; some were distinctly improbable—as, for instance, the assertion that Senator Taft had come to duel with Harry Pollitt. **Nobody seemed to have any official knowledge.**

After having seen the van and its fellow travellers, the sightseers returned home somewhat disappointed at having seen so little. Its sight, however, seemed only to make thicker the mystery surrounding the contents. Letters, having already begun to trickle into the papers, were

followed by a huge flood, each demanding fiercely an official statement to satisfy that one important query. People who had in some way or another been affected by the hold-up caused by its journey, demanded an apology or at least an explanation.

Matters rose to such a head that large demonstrations were arranged, and questions asked repeatedly and firmly in the House. Eventually a Member was returned to the Commons from a by-election with a fantastic majority through having pledged himself to get to the bottom of the mystery. **The Prime Minister at last felt himself obliged to explain the situation.** The House—tense and attentive—would remember its approval of the Education (School Meals: Condiments, Methods of Accounting, Miscellaneous Regulations) Bill. They would appreciate the importance of the provisions (Clause 273, Sub-Section B (iii), Para. 7c) for daily returns. It was, the House would agree, essential that statistics be recorded by the appropriate authorities. It was unfortunately due to a highly irregular and deplorable ministerial oversight that this journey was rendered necessary. In an electric atmosphere, he asked for the support of the House in his action of securing priority travel for what were, after all, highly important articles for the entering of these statistics: they were in fact a consignment of forms to be filled in in quintuplicate.

I.D.B.

OLD BOYS

I wonder how many boys who were active sportsmen on leaving school give up their customary exercises. The majority of them, no doubt, have no intention of doing so at first, but, unless they go to a university or into a branch of the Forces where facilities for games are plentiful, find themselves ceasing through lack of time, or of money, or merely through lack of desire to join an alien group in which they have to find new friends and to become established. The first two reasons are unfortunately universal and inevitable complaints but it is one object of an Old Boys' Society to overcome the third. There is a common basis of acquaintance and friendship which makes it easier for the initiate to find his feet and to enjoy its activities from the start. And lest it be thought that enmities and dislikes might conversely combine to destroy this advantage, let it be said that a great levelling influence manifests itself in such a Society; even the awesome prefect of one's early days at School, one finds, is human. I myself must confess to having been surprised once to discover at tea one day that my neighbour, whom I have always regarded as a stalwart comrade on the field and off, did not arrive at Raynes Park until two years after my own departure.

Of course, the Old Boys' Society is not concerned solely with the playing of games, but my own particular concern is with the activities of its Rugby Football Club; others can speak for their own interests. This is now in its third full season of activity. Before September, 1949, there had only been two representative games played beyond the traditional fixtures against the School, but on the 24th of that month, 14 Old Boys and G. D. Pegrum, then still at School, took the field against the Metropolitan Police 3rd XV: the day was hot, the pitch hard and the policemen large and heavy. The beginning could hardly have been less auspicious, for at the first bodily contact, the shirt of a forward, bought brand-new that morning, was torn from his back; and from the first scrum our hooker retired with a broken rib. Other disasters occurred and we were defeated by 19—0, but the Club was launched and under way.

In that season, as the result of a great feat of sustained persuasion by the Captain and Fixture Secretary, P. E. Pritchard, every game was played on opponents' grounds and, although team-raising was always difficult and often nigh impossible, all engagements were fulfilled. The second season

(1950-51) saw a few home matches added to the list, played through the courtesy of the Headmaster and the Governors on the School pitch, while in this season the Club has had the good fortune to hire a pitch at the University Vandals' ground at Walton-on-Thames, which though distant is yet a true home.

A great increase in membership has allowed a 2nd XV to be formed; though at first it was limited to the University vacations, the keenness of its members allowed fixtures to be arranged from week to week and the XV remained as a unit until after Christmas when, because of insufficient members, the Committee had to discontinue its activities. However, the tail-end of the season will see its resurrection and for next season a full list has been arranged for two XV's. Therefore, this article will end, as of course it has always proceeded, on a recruiting note—we need the help of all those who enjoy rugby football and its attendant comradeship. While at School you may follow our results on the Society's notice-board; we hope you will help to make those results when you leave.

A. THOMPSON.

RUGBY

The standard of play in the 1st XV was quite high, although we failed to win a match. It was unfortunate that we always played better against the good teams and had really bad days when playing teams whom I think we could have beaten by playing as well as we did against the Old Boys, for example. However, since the majority of the 1st and 2nd XV players were from the Fifth and first year Sixth Forms it may be hoped that the experience they have gained will provide, this year, a 1st XV worthy of the traditions of the School. Colours were awarded to Jeapes, A. S., Phillips, M. A., and Shepherd, D. C.

Despite our moderate success last season we have had more players in the Surrey teams than ever before. In the Colt section, Míchez and Spencer, B., represented the County. In the senior section we had three trialists: Jeapes, A. S., Wolkenberg, T. G., and Casselton, P. J. As a result of the trial, Casselton P. J. played for Surrey against Kent and Essex and we confidently look to Jeapes, A. S., to follow next year, having gained experience in the trial of this year.

P.J.C.

The results of matches played after the publication of last term's "Spur" are as follows:—

	1st XV					
v. City Freemans	Drew	0-0
v. Tiffin	Lost	0-29
v. Wandsworth	Lost	5-12
v. Wallington	Lost	0-12
v. Old Boys	Lost	0-15
	JUNIOR XV					
v. Bushey	Won	9-3

HOCKEY

The season started well this term. Although the number of goals scored against the B.B.C. 2nd XI was largely due to the weakness of our opponents, it did seem that the basic elements of a team—and not just eleven men—were present. Unfortunately, when we encountered teams of a better standard—such as Beckenham and Caterham—we found ourselves in the same difficulties as last year. The defence, although not perfect on distribution and clearing, is usually safe; the forwards, however, while good as individuals, lack cohesion in attack. Most of this

year's goals have resulted from opportunism—and it is true that the forwards must take individual chances—but the main source of goals should be constructive movements among all the forwards. Of course, this does not mean to say that there has been no constructive attacking, but there have not been sufficient goals from the interplay of the inside forwards and from aggressive thrusts on the wings.

No one has yet been found to fill effectively the outside-left position and this is bound to be a handicap to the other forwards; nevertheless, many good crosses from the right wing during matches were not exploited. Both the forwards and defenders must learn that defence can be rapidly switched to attack if the ball is cleared by the defence to the wings, who can then push it inside, run up the wing where, with an accurate return from the insides, they are in a position to split the opposing defence wide open if they cross the ball into the back of the circle for the rest of the forwards to score from a first-time shot.

The 2nd XI suffers from the same lack of constructive movements, naturally, as it consists of those who have the spirit and enterprise for good hockey but not necessarily the polish. Nevertheless, despite the paucity of their fixtures, their results have been comparatively good, and their spirited performance against Beckenham 2nds, whom they held to a draw, is particularly notable.

It is difficult to single out individuals of either team, but the three colours so far this term—halves P. J. Bennelick and Brooke and top goal scorer Smith—have certainly earned them, and the untiring efforts of Lewis in the half-backs, Jackson at full-back and D. M. Spiers' speed on the right wing must be cited. The captain of the 2nd XI, Tanner, deserves mention for his hard work and keenness and with him Tillinghast, Cook, F. M. Langton and Baker, who put up such a good performance against Russell School 1st XI.

Two important steps have been taken this term to remedy the inexperience and lack of training which a single term's hockey makes inevitable.

On Friday, March 7th, we were very pleased to welcome three representatives of the County Association, who gave a lecture on the more important aspects of the game. The speakers dealt with the rules and their interpretation, tactics and stickwork in hockey, from their own extensive knowledge and individual experience. It is to be regretted that more people did not come along, but those who did attend will certainly agree that it was a most valuable and entertaining evening.

In the second place, excellent individual coaching in basic stickwork and practice has recently become a regular Saturday morning event. C. Thompson, the Old Boys' secretary and Spencer player, has undertaken expert coaching in the fundamentals of the game which is so badly needed. It is hoped to encourage as many as possible along to these practices during the course of the term in order to increase the reserve of proficient players from which School teams and future Old Boys' teams can be drawn.

Lastly, our thanks must also go to the band of staff who turn out regularly for all the matches, both within and outside the School, to carry on the difficult task of umpiring which they manage so well.

A.C.M.

	Results			
	1st XI			
v. B.B.C. 2nd XI	Won 11-0
v. Beckenham C.G.S.	Drew 2-2
v. Drayton Manor G.S.	Won 8-0
v. Caterham S.	Lost 1-3
v. Surbiton H. C. 2nd XI	Lost 1-8

	2nd XI		
v. Beckenham C.G.S.	Drew	3-3
v. Cheam H.C. 5th XI	Won	4-3
v. Russell School 1st XI	Lost	0-5

CROSS-COUNTRY

A number of inter-school cross-country matches have been held this term with satisfactory results and a brief account of them is given below.

The main event of the term was the Inter-House Cross-Country Race, held on Wednesday, February 20th. A field of sixty lined up in Barham Road and at 3 p.m. Mr. Loveday started the race. The field got away slowly, no one being willing to force the pace, but coming off the Common down to Beverly Brook the field began to spread out along the muddy banks and the stamina of the School runners began to bring them to the fore. In sight of the finish, P. J. Casselton, Childs and Golding were clear of the field and in the finishing sprint P. J. Casselton drew away to win. The first ten to finish were as follows :—

1st P. J. Casselton ...	19.22	6th Smith, M. L. ...	19.55
2nd Golding ...	19.26	7th Hooper ...	19.57
3rd Childs ...	19.33	8th Gates ...	20.24
4th Hall ...	19.37	9th Davis ...	20.38
5th Whittaker ...	19.42	10th Eales ...	20.45

The House Race resulted in an easy win for Halliwell's, who packed their scoring eight in the first 21 positions. House points and places were :—

1st Halliwell's ...	92 pts.	4th Cobb's ...	213 pts.
2nd Milton's ...	138 pts.	5th Newsom's ...	233 pts.
3rd Gibb's ...	198 pts.		

At the end of last term the School Junior team won a cup offered by Kingston G.S. for a cross-country relay and Golding, Braine, Marriott and Swinscoe are to be congratulated on helping the School to win its first cup for cross-country. We also entered a "B" team, which finished eleventh out of 16 teams. This term matches have been held regularly. Against Beckenham G.S. in our annual fixture at Hayes, we were successful in the Junior event by 15 points to 40 and in the Senior by 16 points to 20. Braine came home first in the Junior race.

Our next fixture was a return race with R.A.F., Chessington, on our course, which we won by 72 points to 110. The winner of the race was Sgt. Macoy, an English International, who was followed home by P. J. Casselton and a solid packing of School runners.

Against Ottershaw School on the following Saturday on a course of four miles at Addlestone, we had the first five men home and won easily by 38 points to 92.

In the annual Judge Cup race, a somewhat weakened Junior team finished third. Golding and Braine are to be congratulated on finishing fourth equal. In the Senior race we finished fifth, with P. J. Casselton in ninth place. On the overall totals the School finished fourth to Tiffins.

Against Caterham School a weakened Senior team won by 34 points to 44: Childs and P. J. Casselton finishing first equal. In the Junior race the School won by 33 points to 45, Golding and Braine coming first equal in the record time for the Junior course of 15 minutes 19 seconds.

On behalf of the School team I would like to thank Mr. Loveday and Mr. Foister for all the support and time they have given the School teams and also all boys who have acted as markers.

The following have represented the School regularly: Childs*, Hall*, P. J. Casselton*, Golding*, Braine*, Hooper, Whittaker, Young, Gates, Marriott and Swinscoe. (*Colours.)

P.M.C.

EDITORS

The Headmaster. J. M. Money, Esq. D. M. Spiers R. J. Wells.

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