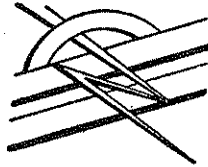


RAYNES PARK COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

THE

SPUR

SUMMER TERM 1959



VOLUME 14

NUMBER 3

THE SPUR

RAYNES PARK COUNTY SCHOOL

"To each his need, from each his power"

Vol. XIV

Summer Term, 1959

No. 3

CONTENTS

	page
School Officers, Summer Term, 1959	3
Headmaster's Notes	3
House Plays	4
School Concert	8
Garden Party	9
House Notes :	
Cobbs	9
Gibbs	11
Halliwells	12
Miltons	13
Newsoms	14
Astronomical Society	15
Christian Union and Scripture Union	17
Classical Society	17
Geographical Society	18
Gramophone Society	19
Recorder Club	20
Spur Model Railway Club	20
19th Wimbledon Scout Group	21
No. 565 Squadron Air Training Corps	22
Literary Society	22
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	23
<i>Roots</i>	24
<i>The Frogs</i>	25
<i>Helmos</i>	26
<i>The Standing Corn</i>	27
<i>Trumpeter</i>	28
<i>Poem</i>	29
<i>Summer's End</i>	29
<i>Last Day</i>	29
<i>Cricket</i>	30
<i>Tennis</i>	35
<i>Swimming</i>	37
<i>Athletics</i>	40
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	44
<i>Editors</i>	44

SCHOOL OFFICERS, Summer Term, 1959

Head Boy : J. A. Colmer.

Second Boy : J. Davie.

Prefects :

T. G. Ayres, V. E. Bownern, R. L. W. Brookes, M. Chiddick, J. A. Colmer, N. G. Cottee, J. Davie, R. J. Holmes, R. Impey, M. McLean, B. G. W. Morley, S. F. Partridge, P. C. Redshaw, D. A. Rolt, P. J. Venison, D. Wearn, M. A. Yeldham.

Captain of Cricket : B. G. W. Morley.

Secretary of Cricket : M. A. Yeldham.

Captain of Tennis : R. J. Holmes.

Captain of Athletics : R. Impey.

Captain of Swimming : P. G. Trapp.

Secretary of Games Committee : M. A. Yeldham.

Prefect of Hall : V. E. Bownern.

Prefect of Library : M. McLean.

HEADMASTER'S NOTES

We shall all miss Mr. Trinder, after eight years of his company. Whether assisting seniors to dissect dogfish, juniors to explore the heavens, or anyone in the mixed pleasures of behind-the-scenes at the Zoo, he has been an urbane and stimulating guide. We owe him a debt too, besides his teaching, for help with music and help with games, but it is his personal cheerfulness and goodwill which will be most remembered and everyone hopes that he may often be seen here again.

Three newcomers will have given strength to the Staff before this issue appears, and this welcome is an echo of that they will have already been given. Mr. Norman Poulter is an Old Boy of the School, the first to become a regular member of its Staff, and appropriately so placed. He served in the forces before reading Modern Languages for his degree at Queen's College, Oxford, and comes to us from Alleyn's School, Dulwich. In cricket, in dramatics and otherwise, as well as in the classroom, he will have a large contribution to make. Mr. M. C. Gleed was at Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith, before going up to Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he took his degree (in Natural Sciences, especially Zoology) and thence for a year to Merton College, Oxford, for a Diploma in Education. His interests include Athletics and stage produc-

tion. Mr. Adrian Smith went from Emanuel School after National Service, to Downing College, Cambridge, and has honours in both the French and the German Tripos and an Education Diploma. He is a rugby player, an oarsman and interested in films and film production. We are cordially glad to have them with us, hope they will long be here, and confidently expect them to brighten and vary our work and other activities.

GENERAL SCHOOL FUND ACCOUNTS for 1958-9 have now been audited. Our income totalled £616, the bulk coming from terminal subscriptions, £306, and the lion's share, £300, of the 1958 Garden Party (£75 went to the Scouts). Our expenditure was £530 — it will not seem less if you reckon it as being at the rate of over £13 per school week. On this magazine and the diaries went £138, on games expenses, including fares and hospitality, £205, on Library periodicals etc. £15, on subscriptions £22, on the lithographic press £24, on the cine club (whose film produced thereby should now be available) £28, and on subsidies to Printers, Bookbinders, A.T.C., the Model Railway and similar causes £49. Expenses on various visits and expeditions was £27, and minor items totalled another £22. This gives us a balance on the year on £86, — less than in 1957-8, but a useful addition to reserves for the time when we have a new building and quadrangle to spend money on. But the auditor pointed out that the position would have been less happy but for the facts that we covered expenses of £53 on prizegiving and £63 on music by drawing on Tuck Shop profits, and that all but £5 10s. 0d. of the cost of the roller and chassis for Oberon was covered by a generous response of parents to a special appeal.

HENRY PORTER.

HOUSE PLAYS 1959

Gibbs began the 1959 House Plays with "The Apple Cart." An "A" Level set book, the play was, from a schoolmaster's point of view, an admirable choice; and it had the further, and more important, merit (not shared by some of the other plays) of giving a large number of people the chance to act. The adaptation of the original to make a one-hour play was well done, the theme selected proving neatly self-contained.

The set lacked unity: a large modern painting, two heraldic shields and a conference table that suggested a banquet scene from a period play failed to add up to anything, even to an impression of the mixture of styles that

may afflict the 1990's. The costumes were too informal for a cabinet meeting, whatever the date, and they failed to distinguish the King from his ministers or Boanerges from his colleagues. Altogether, there was, perhaps, too informal an atmosphere about this production: some show of ceremony would have been more convincing, and would also have brought out more clearly, by contrast, the essentially unceremonious nature of the battle of wits that the play deals with.

There were good individual performances. Venison plainly understood what he was saying, and he conveyed the intelligence and likeableness of the King, though I should have preferred him to display more aristocratic charm and to suggest a greater reserve of power. Ayres was a fine blustering Boanerges, a clever yet gullible self-made man. Frank-Keyes brought surprising weight and maturity to the part of Proteus, even if the effect was American-senatorial rather than English-ministerial. Amanda and Lysistrata, played by Wood and York, did not, on first appearance, seem overwhelming enough, but they gained in forcefulness and humour as the play went on. Riley was good in the other female part — that of the cosy domestic Queen — though he was not fully audible at his first entry. The members of the cabinet not already mentioned contrived to suggest individuality despite the uniformity of their costumes, and, save for occasional lapses into mass unresponsiveness, did well with slender parts.

This performance seemed to me to have three main faults: it lacked pace; it failed to bring out to the full Shaw's humour — the audience should have laughed far more; and it did not allow his dialogue to make the impact that it can. Shaw is a self-conscious stylist, and polished speaking rather than naturalistic acting brings his conversation pieces to life. (That they will survive an almost static presentation was proved by the Newsoms production of the same play several years ago). Despite these faults, however, this was an intelligent and well prepared production and reflected great credit on all the many Gibbs people involved in it.

Cobbs followed with "On Monday Next." This was a corny play written at the expense of other corny plays; but, though no masterpiece, it was a good choice for using the House's comic talent and for giving employment to a fair number of actors. The cutting (mainly of the play within the play) was sensibly done — and little of importance was lost!

The scene represented an untidy stage, so the designer had not been faced with any great problems. Similarly, the costumes — the everyday clothes of the members of a repertory company — were not difficult to find, though care had been taken to pick the right "ordinary" clothes: the Producer's outfit struck the necessary note of pretentious casualness, and the girls were more convincingly and attractively dressed and made up than is usual in a boys' school performance.

Holt carried the play with his performance as the Producer — a tiresomely humorous, bumptious, world-weary young man. His one fault was to throw away more lines than was necessary to establish the casual manner he was aiming at. Bovern, whom I was still thinking of as the Bargewoman in "Toad," startled me with his portrait of the agonisingly timid playwright

who was yet possessive about his creation. Pasty-faced and stooping, he peered, wriggled and registered maidenly outrage, and entertained well in the tradition of comics who wear soft hats with the brims turned up in front. Furminger had developed considerable presence since I had last seen him, and Shute was dumbly eloquent as the long-suffering stage carpenter. Ventham and Capper were convincingly witless actresses, Capper in particular giving a good impression of the supposed temperament of blondes, though he was not always audible.

This was an easy play to do — the easiest of the five — but it was well done and proved very acceptable entertainment. One point: if you are lucky enough to get laughs — and Cobbs got plenty — wait for them to die down.

Milton's play, "The Prisoner," was certainly not easy. In that it presented the co-producers and their company with a worthwhile challenge, it was a good choice. It had one great disadvantage, though. The motives of the Cardinal and the Interrogator, whose protracted conflict is the substance of the play, and the development of the paradoxical relationship between them, are highly complex, and they are left something less than clear at the end of the full version. Milton's cut version left them obscure in the extreme, and I think that any substantially cut version would have done so. As it was, the production overran the one-hour limit, and, as a previous warning had been given at the dress rehearsal, I had to penalise Miltons heavily for this breach of the rules of the competition.

The set was harsh and bare, and helped to convey the impression that here was a world where night and day were indistinguishable. I thought it was perhaps too open: the imprisonment, the persistent questioning and the Cardinal's desperate efforts to hold on to his sanity and his secrets might have been made yet more telling by using scenery and lighting to create a greater sense of close confinement. The costumes, particularly the Cardinal's, were simple and effective.

Davie gave a most sensitive and intelligent performance in the main part. Although I have said that the cut version was difficult for the audience to understand, Davie himself had very plainly come to grips with his material and had arrived at his own interpretation of the play he was producing and the part he was acting. Proud, stubborn, courageous in his present predicament but unable to accept his past, this Cardinal has stuck in my memory; and so have his moments of dejection and weariness, and his sudden stabs of terror. The limitations of Davie's performance were ones over which he had no control: light and mercurial, he was not a "natural" for the part, and I was sometimes inappropriately reminded of his performance as Satan in "Simeon Stylites" a few years ago. Oakley, as the Interrogator, also showed great understanding of his part. He gave us a man both tough and humane, revolted by what he was doing yet convinced of its necessity; and he put over very cleverly the blend of detached professional interest and desire to be friendly that the Interrogator's victim inspired in him; and, above all, he was most convincingly weary. Morley's Cell Warder was tough and insensitive, but not without a certain grudging kindness. This was a good performance, though marred at the end by a

too-insistent playing for laughs as the play reached its tragic climax. All the supporting cast played well, and I especially liked the Barber (Holmes), so spruce, correct and full of hairdresser's etiquette even in a prison cell.

Milton's effort was courageous and intelligent, and an initially noisy, restless, end-of-the-evening audience paid it the very great compliment of becoming more and more attentive as time went on.

Halliwells began the second evening's programme with a much simpler play, "The Duke in Darkness." This play was not only simpler than Miltons' choice, but much thinner and less worthwhile, and it was irritatingly artificial in style. However, it had some advantages as a choice for the competition: it was possible to adapt it neatly, it used a fair number of actors, and it gave scope to scene and costume designers.

Of the sets and costumes I had so far seen, these were undoubtedly the best, and the care that had been taken with them was matched by the care that had been taken with everything else from the general production to the make-up. Although the play had its weaknesses and individual performances their faults, there was a certain polish about this production that set it apart from those that had gone before: movements about the stage, gestures and inflexions were all designed and purposeful.

Colmer's performance was quite the most accomplished, though I felt that the age and blindness that he had to assume at certain times carried over into those scenes in which we should have glimpsed the Duke's powers of action and leadership. His voice, too, could have been more lively: a rather strained and monotonous delivery underlined the stilted quality of the dialogue. McLean made an excellent Lamorre, tough, contemptuous, and yet intelligent, and very reminiscent of Henry VIII. His performance was especially worthy of praise because he acted the whole time that he was on the stage. All the other actors supported well, though I think that Impey, as Voulain, the engineer of the Duke's escape, might have given more passionate expression to his loyalty, and that Biddiscombe, as Gribaud, the Duke's fellow-prisoner, might have shown more frenzy in his madness.

Halliwell performed a comparatively easy play at a high level of competence.

The second evening ended with Newsoms' most entertaining performance of "Waiting for Godot." I had read, but not seen, the play, and being well aware of its difficulties I uncharitably thought that the producer, Partridge (well known to me of old), was just "sticking his neck out" again. I was quite wrong; for although what we saw was only part of Becket's play, which was written as a tragi-comedy but presented by Newsoms as a comedy, we certainly saw something that in its own way was very brilliantly done. It was no piece of clever improvisation: everything showed forethought—the typed programme (without capitals) that was handed to me, the musique concrète that introduced the play, and the really excellent set, with the tree that some parent (or park keeper) must yet be lamenting. And costumes and lighting were up to the general high standard.

What I should have regarded as a thoroughly unwise choice proved justified, therefore, though it had the one inescapable disadvantage of

allowing only five people to act. This small cast, however, was a delight. Yeldham and Cottee, as Estragon and Vladimir, nattily bowlered, uncomfortably shod and with nowhere to go, were first-rate clowns. Their gestures, facial expressions and timing, and their ability to introduce the necessary variety into the planned monotony of the play were of almost professional standard. I shall remember their carrot-eating—the final efforts to swallow that almost lifted their bowler hats. Partridge was a wonderfully bland Pozzo, with his pot belly and fruity voice. He is a very talented showman, and from his first entry, when he drove the unfortunate Lucky in at the end of a rope, he had the whole audience on a lead. Both for this performance and for his work as producer he deserved the highest praise. Redshaw, as Lucky, the Caliban of the play, had almost nothing to say, but Lucky's dejection and unwilling subservience were skilfully portrayed, and they did something to add the note of pathos that was otherwise missing. The Boy, Manger, was a good, audible messenger, suitably perplexed and frightened by Estragon and Vladimir.

Newsoms' production was not only a great success but an obvious winner, and so I was in the happy position of being able to award the Cup without painful doubts about the justice of my choice. It was more difficult to place the remaining houses, but Halliwells had given a very competent performance and had abided by the rules of the competition and so seemed to me to deserve second place. The other three houses had all done well in their different ways and I felt they should be grouped together in third place, for this was a competition with no weak entries.

I very much enjoyed both returning to the School and seeing the plays, and I should like to thank all those responsible for providing such good entertainment, and the Headmaster and Mr. Smith for inviting me to come to judge it.

PAUL TOWNSEND.

SCHOOL CONCERT

Despite a surprising degree of pessimism on the part of those concerned, this term's School Concert was generally acclaimed as a success; for while it would doubtless have received rough treatment at the hands of so exacting a connoisseur as the Music Critic of *The Times*, it gave considerable enjoyment to those present in the School Hall on Thursday, 7th May.

The School orchestra gave eloquent and tuneful testimony to the progress which it had made since its last public performance. This was particularly noticeable with the strings in their rendering of the *Petite Suite Francaise*.

All the piano soloists gave competent and intelligent renderings of their various pieces. Of particular excellence was Hopper's performance of the *Nocturne in E flat* by Chopin, a piece which he interpreted with considerable feeling, while firmly resisting any temptation towards excessive sentimentality.

Solo performances were also delivered with considerable verve, though varying skill, on trumpet, oboe, flute, and violin; and the School choir gave a not unmusical account of themselves.

It is sufficient merely to record that the *Chanson Triste* was played by a brass trio. This curiosity is surely more fit for inclusion in a musician's nightmare than in a serious concert.

The *tour de force* of the whole evening was undoubtedly the *Sonate en Concert* for flute, piano and 'cello by Damase. While this piece is primarily an excuse for a display of virtuosity on the part of the flautist, Lee is to be congratulated on the way in which he showed himself equal to the occasion.

Once again we have to thank Mr. Ayton, not only for his labours in connection with the orchestra, but also for his delightful arrangements of Greek folk tunes; Messrs. Piper, Tucker and Hall for their tuition throughout the year and personal appearance on the night; and Mr. Aldersea for his direction of the concert in general and of the School choir in particular. Nor must we forget the performers from Rutlish School who kindly came along to add a little additional volume in certain sections of the orchestra.

J. A. COLMER.

THE GARDEN PARTY

The destruction of the orchard, and various other encroachments occasioned by extensive building operations, may have cast some doubt upon the appropriateness of the words "Garden Party" to describe the gathering that took place on Saturday, May 30th. On the question of its success, however, no doubts at all need be entertained.

Everything conjoined to make for a profitable and enjoyable afternoon. The weather was fine, the stalls many and varied, the stall-holders enthusiastic and enticing, the visitors liberal with their money, and no bus strike to rob us of custom.

The final figures reveal the gross takings at £566 6s. 5d., and a net gain for the General School Fund of £477 8s. 3d. So our many societies may continue to flourish throughout the ensuing year, and the School continue to enjoy those amenities which are not provided for by state legislation and national taxation.

For these highly satisfactory results our thanks are due in no small measure to those stalwart parents and friends who annually give their unstinted services on this occasion.

J. A. COLMER.

HOUSE NOTES

COBBS

Captain: V. E. Bowerm.

Prefect: D. A. Rolt.

This term has seen the completion of the 1958-59 Cock House competition. The House has not been well placed in spite of earlier expectations. This does not necessarily mean that there was a succession of failures, although there were occasions which are best forgotten, but that competition was keener than was expected.

The House has, however, distinguished itself in the general field of

athletics. The senior and the newly-instituted junior cross-country championships were both won by Cobbs; the House also gained second place in the Athletics and gymnastics competitions. In other competitions such promise has not been forthcoming. However, prospects generally seem brighter than of late.

This term the Senior competitions had to suffer the effects of absenteeism due to examinations, end-of-term projects, etc. The Senior cricket team, although winning only one and losing three matches, put up a very creditable performance, the lowest score being 64 for 6 wickets. Against Newsoms the team collected 64 runs for 6 wickets, Newsoms replied with 65 again for 6 wickets. In this match Furminger scored 38 not out. The House scored 77 against Gibbs who in return scored 80 for 4. Foulsham was undefeated in scoring 50 in Cobbs innings of 83 for 6 against Miltons who replied with 73. In the last match against Halliwells the House scored 81 and Halliwells 82 for 5. Praise is due to the whole team and in particular to Foulsham for his alert and able captaincy, his batting and wicket-keeping, and to Furminger for his bowling and batting.

The Colt competition was for Cobbs a tragedy.

The Junior cricket team, capably led by Ventham, has played 3 matches. They have lost two matches and won one against Newsoms. Highest scorers were Tickner, 26 against Gibbs and Ventham, 20 against Halliwells. Tickner was the most successful bowler.

The Athletics competition came fully up to expectations, if not to our hopes. Due to a concerted effort, particularly by the Minors and Seniors, who led their sections, the House was second to Gibbs on qualifying points, some 66 points behind. After the Field Events competition Cobbs dropped to fourth place. On Sports Day Cobbs gained most points and finished second to Gibbs by 71 points—a close reflection of the results of the Qualifying Competition, a fact to be borne in mind in future years. Individual winners were Russell in the Minor 100 yards, and 220 yards; Page in the Senior 880 yards; Strutt in the Senior Pole Vault, and Bower in the Senior 100 yards, 220 yards and High Jump. The Minor relay team of Trust, Howard, Cottrell and Russell, and the Senior relay team of Page, Baker, Foulsham and Bower both won their events.

The Tennis competition was unfortunate.

The Swimming Sports meant a lot of hard work for Seymour, the team captain, and other keen swimmers in the House. Non-entries and absenteeism, not confined to Cobbs, combined to leave the House in fifth place.

On behalf of the House I would like to congratulate Foulsham and Page on the award of Athletics colours and Foulsham in his election to the post of School Rugby captain for the coming season.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking, on behalf of the House, Mr. Atkin, Mr. Horler and Mr. Kilburn and those captains, vice-captains and other representatives who have done so much for the House this year. I cannot help feeling that there are still some who fail to avail themselves of the many sporting possibilities provided by the House system

and which are put at the disposal of the whole House by the masters and elected leaders of sports and other activities.

The House sends its best wishes to those Seniors who left us to go to places of further education or to take up new jobs.

VIVIAN BOWERN.

GIBBS

Captain : T. G. Ayres.

Prefects : P. J. Venison, D. Wearn.

We are Cock House. For the second consecutive year we have won the coveted Cock House Cup. This has been due considerably to the wonderful effort made throughout the House in this Summer Term, so that we have won three Cups—those for Athletics, Cricket and Swimming. Earlier in the year we won the Rugby Cup and gained second place in the Hockey Cup; we also won the Chess Cup, and came second and third in the Debating and House Play competitions respectively: and so we were placed favourably for our grand finale.

In the Athletics, although boasting only three or four *recognised* athletes, we gained a lead in the qualifying which we never lost. The lead we gained in the qualifying, however, was larger than that by which we won the sports: that is to say that without the effort put in by everybody, we should not have won the Cup. Particular congratulation must go to Eastwood who, although in winning the High Jump, failed to break his own record, nevertheless broke the 220 yds. record, and contributed towards the breaking of the major Relay. Cox, also a member of the Relay team, in winning the major 100 yds. equalled the record. The other winners, Wilton and Clark, are to be congratulated, as are Venison and Deed, who although not winning, surprised many people by their spirited running.

In the competition for the Cricket Cup, the Seniors won three matches, whereas the Colts won all four. The Colts had a very strong team captained by the inevitable Nicholls. He batted and bowled splendidly himself, and gained support from Early and Dalton. In all the matches except one—that against Halliwells—a resounding victory was gained: well done, the Colts! The Seniors won three matches, but lost to Newsoms, when without their captain, Wearn: he insists there is a conclusion to be drawn from this . . . Wearn himself, Bond and Frank-Keyes have done a majority of the work in the Seniors, although the whole side has always been extremely keen to win. The Juniors, under Cox's captaincy, lost only one of their matches. Although this Competition is unrelated to the Cock House Competition, it is a pointer to the future, and players such as Cox, Jackman and Castling show the ability and keenness of future stars.

The Tennis Cup again eludes us: due to end-of-term activities we have never fielded a full-strength team. The team, which included three Colts—another good sign for the future—won two and lost two matches.

The Swimming Cup remains with us. Once again the qualifying points put us ahead at the beginning of the gala: we had a lead of 145 points. I must thank everybody who qualified, particularly those who came Saturday

mornings. We increased our lead, virtually event by event, until we finally had a margin of 280 points over Newsoms. Individual performers to be congratulated are Frank-Keyes, our efficient captain, Trapp and Benée, our record breakers, and Sole, Evans, Lane and Castling, our other winners.

Next year new faces will arrive, but we have first to say goodbyes. Mr. Trinder, who has been a most keen and active House-master, has taught people to swim, and shouted louder than anyone else in House meetings, is moving to a school in Cambridge. We send with him our very best wishes for the future, and hope that he will have an equally successful teaching appointment as he has had here. It is probable that only one or two Fifth-formers are leaving; Thomas, our Cross-country captain, and Durrant are leaving. Our greatest loss, obviously, is David Wearn. Recently gaining his place in the Surrey County Schoolboys' XI, he has now represented Surrey in both Rugby and Cricket. He has represented both the House and the School in all sports: we shall miss him. To him and to all leavers, all good fortune in the future.

So ends another very full year: full, for us of Gibbs, of both activities and Cups; six Cups all won by the fight and spirit of Gibbs House. But complacency must not be allowed to set in, and we in Gibbs must never forget the spirit which signifies our House, and we must, as one senior member of the School phrased it, remain for ever "nauseatingly keen."

TERRY AYRES.

HALLIWELLS

Captain: J. A. Colmer.

Prefects: M. Chiddick, R. Impey, M. McLean.

Since earlier reports this year have, unfortunately, afforded little scope for self-congratulation on the part of the House, it is considerably gratifying to be able to end the year on a slightly more encouraging and laudatory note.

First, there are two items which missed the press last term. In the House Play competition we gained a very creditable second place, while carrying off the trophy in Gymnastics. It is a pity that these two competitions will not count towards Cock House until next year.

Among the many activities of the Summer Term, pride of place must be given to Cricket. It is indeed many years since the House distinguished itself in this field, and to secure second place in this major activity was no mean achievement. We may justly be proud of our Senior team which, with only one regular 1st XI player, gained three resounding victories against Newsoms, Cobbs and Miltons, and was only beaten by Gibbs, the eventual champions. The Colts gave their usual reliable backing in the form of victories against Cobbs and Newsoms.

By comparison, the eventual outcome of the Athletic Sports was perhaps a little disappointing. The fault probably lay with the rank and file; for even last year, when we finally came fourth, we succeeded in securing an initial lead on qualifying points. Still, our performers on the day ably

maintained the position of second which the qualifying points had given us, and only lost it right at the end through an unfortunate mishap in one of the relays.

With the loss of Kingham and Housego, we had to reconcile ourselves to a tough struggle if we were to retain the Tennis Cup. Our team responded admirably to the challenge, won their matches against Gibbs, Cobbs and Newsoms, and were within an inch of victory against the powerful Miltons team, when a sudden rallying by their opponents in the decisive set of the final match robbed them of the prize which they would have richly deserved.

Even in our most fortunate years, Swimming has generally proved the Achilles' heel of the House; and on this occasion qualifying points left us in a rather bad fourth position. However, our small but enthusiastic team made a valiant effort at the Swimming Gala — Carson, in particular, distinguishing himself — and secured us a creditable third place.

Largely as a result of this term's events, our final position in the Cöck House Competition was second. In view of the fact that we are likely to lose this summer somewhat fewer of our more talented members than other Houses, it would not, I think, be too sanguine to assert that next year the Cöck House Cup should be well within our grasp.

The year ended as usual with the traditional House Supper, an event in which the unity and co-operative spirit of the House is quietly epitomised. Since the procedure on this occasion does not admit of a tedious address by the House Captain, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the House for its support throughout the past year and wishing it every success in years to come.

J. A. COLMER.

MILTONS

Captain : J. Davie.

Prefects : R. J. Holmes, B. G. W. Morley.

"We've won the Tennis Cup." With that and other appropriate and inappropriate remarks, Bob Holmes greeted me one Friday evening. Apparently we had just won a remarkable match against our nearest rivals, "poor old Halliwells," Standish and Rushing beating Crowe and Wood 6-4 in the deciding match after being 1-4 down. The Cup was yet another pat on the back to Bob's efficient captaincy. And let me say here and now the fact that he is captain of School Tennis has nothing at all to do with our winning the Tennis Cup. The other members of the all-conquering team were Standish, Philips, Morley and Rushing. They all deserve our heartiest congratulations.

Despite the fact that the Senior Cricket team was potentially as good as any, except Gibbs, we lost all four matches. Determination and a sense of urgency seemed lost after our first defeat against Newsoms. The fielding was always too slow and ragged and the batting lacked the Bank Holiday spirit necessary to win House matches. Slater, Cumes and Morley all had their moments and at times could bowl very tightly. Frankly, the team just

didn't get going. The Colts, captained by Courtenay, showed up their superiors. They won three matches, losing to Gibbs. Jennings, Sinfield, Rusling and Edwards were the backbone of the team and in future years they ought to form a powerful Senior team.

We were last in the Athletic Sports, a position achieved by the lowest number of qualifying points and a very barren Junior and Senior team. With these millstones round their necks the Colt team gave a superb performance, winning every track event and being desperately unlucky to be disqualified in the Relay, after breaking the record. Brown, Courtenay and Nisbet were fine winners. Pickard won the Major Shot and "Tub" Morley came second in the Senior Shot and Discus.

Miltons were last also in the Swimming Sports. Again, a meagre quantity of points in qualifying contributed to our downfall. As a matter of fact, we swam surprisingly well on Monday evening and I must congratulate Goddard on picking such a reasonable team. Lonsdale, Jennings, Goddard and Ekins were among our successes.

A House supper rounded off the Term very satisfactorily and, despite defects in the sound-track, everybody enjoyed Sir Alec Guinness's romp among the corpses in *Kind Hearts and Coronets*.

Our low position in the Cock House Competition is due to our failure to go all out for victory when we have a good but not the best team. Just one more tip Grannie Davie is passing on to young hopefuls.

This Term, Bob Holmes, "Tub" Morley, Alan Oakley, Mike Ekins and Victor Slater are all leaving, some to enter University, others professions. All will be badly missed, the first two especially, for both "Tub" and Bob have put their hearts into practically every sphere of House and School activity, and brightened them up no end in the process. I am sure we would all like to wish them fun and success at University . . . and I regret to say his final words are being painfully inscribed by yours truly,
JAMES DAVIE.

NEWSOMS

Captain : M. A. Yeldham.

Prefects : R. L. W. Brookes, N. G. Cottee, S. F. Partridge,
P. C. Redshaw.

I suppose that it is inevitable that any House Notes written at the end of a Summer Term must record the departure of many senior boys. It is not my intention, however, to list here the names of all those who are leaving, I will merely thank them all for what they have done for the House, and wish them good luck for the future, on behalf of Newsom's.

The main House activity this Term has been the Cricket Competition. The Seniors can be satisfied with the results of their endeavours. Of the four matches played, they won three, and lost one match to a Halliwell's team whose fielding was far superior to our own efforts.

The mainstay of the team was R. A. Gould, whose batting and bowling helped in no small way to gain our successes. Others whose efforts should not go unmentioned are P. C. Redshaw, G. Clark, N. G. Cottee, D. R.

Thompson and S. F. Partridge, whose early season habit of scoring the winning run proved, naturally enough, invaluable.

The Colt team has, at the time of writing, won only one match. They are unfortunate to possess only a small nucleus of talent; and when this fails to produce good results, defeat becomes almost inevitable.

The Junior team has likewise won only one of its three matches played. There is, however, a great deal of talent at present lying dormant within team members. If only they would play with more confidence, more concentration, and less talk, they would produce far better results. Of the team members, Manger and Jackson have proved that they could, in time, become good fast bowlers; Craze has kept wicket excellently, and Sime proved, on one occasion at least, that his batting is worthy of further encouragement. Crowe, Pett and Knights deserve mention also as promising all-rounders.

Once again, Gibbs have won the Swimming Cup. Once again, we gained second place — a long way behind. The moral is obvious. If more people would make an attempt to gain qualifying points, our chances of winning would be high indeed. I am going to use S. F. Partridge — I hope he does not mind — as an example of what I think is that elusive abstraction, "House spirit." He managed to do his qualifying on Saturday mornings, although he lives at Battersea. I can think of many others, living at far more reasonable distances, who did not bother to try.

I should like to thank R. A. Gould, as captain of the team, for the work he has done, and N. G. Cottee, R. C. Cottee, J. Spanos and B. K. Wheeler for their performances at the Gala.

I must also thank Mr. King for the interest he took both in potential qualifiers and in members of the team.

The Athletics team finished fourth in the House competition. At the risk of becoming boring, I must repeat the fact that we could have done far better if only more effort had been put into qualifying. It is a sobering thought that in none of the qualifying events did we gain more points than the other Houses.

I must extend my thanks to P. C. Redshaw, who as captain, put in a great deal of work, and to all members of the team. May they have more success next year.

Conclusion is always difficult. I have, I hope, thanked all those to whom thanks are due. It only remains, therefore, for me to say that as long as we retain our present House Masters, life will be pleasant and profitable in Newsoms House.

MICHAEL YELDHAM.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY VISIT TO THE LONDON PLANETARIUM

There was an unaccountable air of silence and awesomeness as we entered the auditorium of the London Planetarium. Even the Junior members of the party, who had raised Cain continuously throughout the journey to London, were silent. We arranged ourselves around the enormous structure

which dominated the centre of the room, and sat back to wait for the beginning of the performance.

When the lights finally dimmed, the curved rotunda above our heads began to spawn stars at a prodigious rate, to a restful background of *Peer Gynt* arising from somewhere in the centre. In order to obtain a full view of the 'sky' above us, it was necessary to crane our necks to a rather awkward angle; this was most annoying since I have it on good report that in Continental Planetaria the seats are designed to tilt backwards, so that the audience can obtain a clear view without having to contort their vertebræ. I was also very annoyed to find that since I had sat down in one of the back seats against the wall my head very often came into uncomfortable contact with the contemporary ornamentation which ran down the walls.

However, apart from these unfortunate distractions the presentation was certainly one of the most convincing and awe-inspiring spectacles I have ever seen. This was no cinema show, no cheap entertainment, but a wonderful panorama of the heavens and the movements of the stars. By means of the famous Zeiss projector we were enabled to see into the past and the future, to fly beyond the Solar system and see our own Earth, magnified many times but still insignificant, revolving around the sun, to see the planets speeded up many thousands of times so that we could watch their path through the sky in a few seconds — the path which actually takes two or three years.

As the presentation continued we were drawn progressively deeper into the panorama of stars and planets until, as the lights were turned completely out we began to feel like disembodied souls floating in the void — a strange and not unpleasant sensation.

All too soon the presentation proper was over, and the lecturer began to explain the workings of the Zeiss projector. This fiendishly complicated mechanism defied a detailed exposition in the short time available, but we were given some small idea of the basic operations which it could perform. For the benefit of those who have not been to the Planetarium, the projector resembles a large dumb-bell, a long framework of latticed metal surmounted at either end by a black ball studded with small, circular 'windows.' Each of these 'windows' has a 'transparency' of a section of the heavens fixed behind it. A magnified picture of this transparency is projected on to the dome by means of a light inside the ball. The transparencies are carefully matched so that the total effect of the projection of the separate sections of the sky is one of a complete and unbroken array of stars. Each of the two balls carries a picture of one of the two hemispheres of the sky, so that lectures could be delivered upon either hemisphere. There are also a large number of secondary effects which can be brought into play, such as images of the moon and planets, as well as diagrams and charts.

At the end of the presentation we left the auditorium to the strains of *Peer Gynt* which were still rising from somewhere in the centre. The general consensus of opinion, judging by the conversation afterwards, was that the whole evening had been well worth it and certainly recommendable to others.

This term we say goodbye to our President, Mr. Trinder. Ever since the Society's inception he has never failed to provide an enthusiastic lead to all our activities, to give interesting talks and to remain cheerful and tolerant of some of the darn-fool things that have been perpetrated upon him at various times. Our good wishes go with him to his new school, and I am sure that they will be as delighted with his continual good humour and enthusiasm as we have been. The well-known cliché, "Our loss is their gain," is especially applicable here.

CHRISTOPHER SHUTE.

CHRISTIAN UNION AND SCRIPTURE UNION

Examinations and projects have severely curtailed the activities of the Senior and Middle School C.U.'s. There were, however, two outside events of great importance. Father Trevor Huddleston paid a visit to King's College C.U., who kindly invited Christians from neighbouring schools to attend this meeting. About nine went from Raynes Park. Father Huddleston gave a lucid and unbiased account of racial relations in South Africa. Answering many questions after his talk, he put forward his own vigorous but sensible views for social integration among races of different colour. All of us came away from King's College with saner and more urgent thoughts. An occasion of no less importance was the S.S.C.R. conference held in Christ Church Hall, New Malden, on Friday, 17th July. An excellent speaker in Mr. Raymond Manwaring and lively discussion groups made the meeting a success. Times when Christians can get together to talk of what Christianity means to them are of undoubted value. I only hope the S.S.C.R. will be encouraged to hold more conferences.

The Junior Scripture Union has not met with quite such regularity and popularity as before, but is still going strong. Plays have been vigorously acted and Bible Studies have always produced lively discussions. Most encouraging of all was the success of a prayer-meeting held towards the end of the term. One held regularly would, I am sure, add solidity and a sense of purpose to the group, for prayer-meetings are the times when you really feel you are a "body in Christ." Many second-formers will be going up to the Middle-School C.U. next term; I, personally, would like to wish them God-speed and pray that they may find their faith strengthened.

JAMES DAVIE.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

Only one meeting was held this term, but it contained enough wit and learning to compensate for the absence of the other. P. J. Parsons, B.A., looking none the worse for his five years "inside," emerged from the realms of myth to inform the dozen or so uninitiated about *The Greeks in Egypt*. P.J.P. has been studying papyrus rolls found in Egypt during the period of Greek settlement (300 B.C. - 700 A.D.) and is by now more than an expert. The lecture was delivered with a remarkable combination of erudition and humour. I always felt that P. J. Parsons knew much more about what he was talking than he actually said and yet was not so absorbed in his subject as to forget that he was speaking to an audience that would not inevitably

prefer papyrology to a "night with the boys." Generally, the papyri were written by ordinary people to ordinary people about ordinary things. And P. J. Parsons with his usual keen eye for the absurd certainly made the people alive :—

"Boarding-school brat complains that daddy won't fork out any more pocket-money."

"Young lad-about-town regrets that he has smashed up daddy's new chariot. Terribly sorry and all that . . ."

"Wife seeks divorce on the grounds of mental cruelty: 'He locked up all my maids.'"

"Colonel Bogey: 'Trotted up and down the old desert, chaps, reached the source of the Nile and all that, you know.'"

("He's a liar," P.J.P.).

And so on in the most tickling fashion. The best thanks P. J. Parsons had for his lecture was the warm-hearted applause of his audience, and that wasn't because he'd finished either.

Business: Dr. Morgan admitted the start of the meeting was beyond his control. J. Davie retired Hon. Sec.; C. R. Shute elected Hon. Sec.—after faction had raised its ugly head. Attendance disgustingly meagre, many pupils and Old Boys ashamed (I hope). Food pleasantly bountiful, avidly consumed. Conversation witty, amusing, spontaneous, completely absorbing.

JAMES DAVIE.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Owing to the demand upon time of examinations there has been no meeting of the Society this Term. It is hoped that next Term several Geographical Society meetings will be held, one of which will be a Film Evening. However, two Field Journeys through the Mole Gap were undertaken by groups of sixth-formers. The outings are reported below.

VIVIAN BOWERN.

THE MOLE GAP

During the Easter holidays a small party of sixth-formers, under the guidance of Mr. O'Driscoll, walked from Leatherhead to Box Hill, through the gap cut in the chalk by the River Mole. Owing to various post-glacial changes in sea level and also to differential erosion, the Mole has flowed over channels of various widths, with the result that there are several terraces. These were the main source of interest, and could be clearly observed at various levels along the route, the main ones being the low level at six feet, the Mickleham terrace at twenty-five feet, and the West Humble terrace at two hundred feet. The Mole is also interesting in that it offers examples of meanders in all stages of formation, including some dry mort lakes, artificially cut off to prevent flooding. The weather was a little unsettled, but the trip was pleasing and instructive.

Later this term a party of the first year Sixth covered much the same route, but also ended by climbing Box Hill, from which a clear view of the Weald was obtained.

C. MOTTERSHEAD.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

It is usually the custom to begin the Gramophone Society notes for the Society Summer Term with either an excuse or a complaint that the Society has had only a few meetings, the blame for this unfortunate predicament being loaded upon G.C.E. examinations. This year, however, the rôle of disc-jockey was taken over by one of our members who had only school exams to contend with — his notes are appended below.

This Term, owing to few responses to my appeal for records, we have had to rely mainly on library copies. Unfortunately, the playing surfaces of these are not always in good condition, owing to the carelessness of previous borrowers; however we are all thankful that these records are available at no cost (indeed, where should we be without them?)

During the first half of this Term, that great master, Beethoven, has been represented by two symphonies: the *Seventh* with its vigorous rhythms (described by Wagner as "the apotheosis of the dance"), and the *Fourth*, delightful in a different, but unmistakably Beethovenish, way. These great works were both presented in the best light by the Berlin Philharmonic under Van Kempen, and the N.B.C. Symphony Orchestra under Toscanini, respectively. As a contrast, two of Haydn's Symphonies were played one week. Although not of the same calibre as Beethoven, some of Haydn's works are very pleasant to listen to, even if he does have a tendency to "keep to the rules" a lot — a fact which makes Haydn's symphonies "boring" to one of our more vocal members. The two symphonies we heard were the *46th* and the *96th* (the latter being nicknamed the *Miracle*).

The concerto form was represented by Brahms' *First Piano Concerto*. Right from the beginning, with its mighty theme shouted forth by the full orchestra, through the ponderous elegy to Schumann in the slow movement, to the lively dance-tunes at the end, power was always present, though the old recording (one of the earliest long-playing records issued in this country) did not quite do justice to the magnificent performance by Clifford Curzon with the Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, conducted by the late Eduard van Beinum.

ALAN OAKLEY.

On June 17th we heard a recording of the *Symphony in D minor* by César Franck. It was given a good performance by the Boston Symphony Orchestra conducted by Charles Münch.

There was no meeting the following week because of the School exams, but at the next meeting a record of Tchaikovsky's *B flat minor Piano Concerto* was played. The good performance by Solomon with the Philharmonic Orchestra was spoilt by a bad recording.

R. STICKLAND.

Finally, may we both, on behalf of the Gramophone Society, extend our thanks to Mr. Riley for allowing us to use the Art Room for our Thursday lunch-hour meetings; and may we urge others to make use of this opportunity of getting to know and like good music.

RECORDER CLUB

Despite a long period of apparent inactivity, the Recorder Club has in fact been meeting more or less regularly on Mondays during the dinner hour; anybody passing by the Waiting Room at this time may hear strains of descant recorders — melodious or otherwise — issuing from within; I say descant, for, since the players of the lower recorders, the treble and tenor, have long since left us for various occupations, or have merely lost interest, I have been left with a complement of three descants, a combination which does not offer much scope for ensemble-playing, but nevertheless, proved that it had possibilities when, at this Term's Da Vinci Concert we played three short trios by Handel and his contemporaries — St. Martini, and Rameau — all born within ten years of each other.

At present I have but two members, D. W. Crick, of 2⁵ and A. S. Gorman of 3⁷, but two keen members can accomplish far more than a dozen uninterested ones.

When Mr. Vyse left us, several years ago, the future of the Recorder Club seemed very insecure. As founder of the club, Mr. Vyse through his enthusiasm and patience brought the standard of playing to a high level, and shortly afterwards he was followed by D. P. Brooks, a very valuable member with great playing ability, but then the club just disintegrated. After a brief interval I started a new club from scratch, training new members afresh, some of whom left, thus leaving not necessarily the most talented, but the most enthusiastic, and it is the latter quality which is the more desirable and will achieve the most. Crick shows great promise, and has all the necessary enthusiasm to make him into a good instrumentalist. He also has a treble recorder and will prove a very useful member if he pursues the study of this instrument. Gorman, who, when he first came to me was more or less a beginner, has made considerable progress on his instrument and possesses some very musical qualities.

Alas, the future of the Recorder Club is once again in jeopardy, since, as the last surviving member of the original Recorder Club, I am departing this Term, thus leaving the recorders without a recorder-playing leader, but if my future time-table permits, I shall return once a week or fortnight in order to carry on a tradition of recorder playing in this School.

RICHARD W. LEE.

SPUR MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Now we are at the end of the School year — or is it the beginning of the new Term — or shall we leave it to the Printers' Union to decide for us as to when they will allow the next issue of the *Spur* to be printed.

Whatever the outcome, the Spur Model Railway still holds an attraction for the younger members of the School, so let us here heartily welcome all the new boys who care to join us on Club nights, which are held every Monday from 7.15 p.m. until 9 p.m. We have been very fortunate this year in enrolling one or two very keen and enthusiastic young members who have really gone to town in interesting themselves in the improvement of the general layout and this has been very much appreciated by all of us. We

can only hope that others, both new and old members, will make similar contributions during the School year.

The work in hand at the time of writing is that of installing four electric starting signals. These will be positioned at Newsom Vale and Oberon stations and will add spice for those boys who are controlling the 'Bobo' goods train between these two stations. Depending upon the success of this installation, further signals may be added at other points of the layout and these should be very effective during the winter months which lie ahead, since, when no repair work is necessary, the layout can be effectively seen by signal light alone.

We will conclude this short article by saying that we shall be looking forward to seeing many new faces during the first Term of the next School year.

R. L. FORSDYKE and S. G. CARLOW.

19th WIMBLEDON SCOUT GROUP

The Summer Term has been a very lively one for the Troop. We began the camping season with a course for the Camper and Cook Badges at Broadstone Warren over the Easter holiday. While the P/Ls and Seconds were busy writing notes and experimenting with camp gadgets, the Seniors helped the Bailiff at Walton Firs for six days as part of their Camp Warden Badge.

At Whitsun eight Scouts went on their First Class journey and spent the next week writing up their reports for the District Commissioner. The Garden Party camp at School enabled Scouts to set up their stalls and help generally. The camp served its purpose well and new recruits had a good deal of camping experience.

The Patrol Camps at half-term were very successful. The Hawk and Starling patrols went to Walton Firs, while the Eagles and Curlews went to Broadstone Warren. "Skipper" visited us, suggested a few improvements and said that on the whole the standard of camping was good, but we were to do even better in future.

At the time of writing, preparations are going ahead for the Summer Camp at Batsford Park. The Seniors will spend part of their time at the Boy Scout Camp and the rest of it hiking in the Cotswolds.

At home the "Scout Den" and Reservation have been improved. Every patrol has furnished itself with curtained patrol corners and a fully equipped camp kitchen. The Reservation has been cleared up and we hope to complete fencing this in the coming months. The storeroom, under a new Q.M. and his assistant, has taken on a new look, and the Seniors have decorated their room in contemporary style.

As a result of the journeys made earlier in the Term, seven First Class Badges have been gained. Proficiency Badges have been gained by many and include Camper, Cook, Angler, Observer, Athlete, Handyman and Electrician, while a number of fairly recent recruits have reached Second Class standard. The Group magazine, *The Drum*, has appeared for the

second time, and a large number of new recruits joined the Troop. The Troop is now almost full, but we shall try to find a few places for new boys by Christmas.

NICK JOHNS.

No. 565 SQUADRON AIR TRAINING CORPS

This Easter the Squadron attended Annual Training at R.A.F. St. Athan, near Barry, South Wales. During the duration of the week on training, the Squadron had a very full programme, including a day on the Brecon Beacons with an R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Team, which proved very interesting for all concerned. One morning was spent at the rifle range shooting, during which one R.A.F. and seven A.T.C. Marksmanship Badges were gained. As the Station is the R.A.F. Physical Training Centre, there were many facilities for swimming and gymnastics. The Squadron gained eight R.A.F. Swimming Certificates. The camp was a success for all concerned.

The Advanced and Proficiency Examinations were held on Monday, 4th May, 1959, and the results were very satisfactory. Out of thirty-two entered for the various examinations, twenty-eight passed, eight with credit, and one with distinction. With these results we hope to keep for another year the Moss Trophy, which is awarded annually to the Squadron in Surrey Wing obtaining the highest number of examination passes in that year.

On Sunday, 1st June, 1959, the Squadron attended the annual Wing Inspection at R.A.F. Kenley, and the Surrey Wing Pennant was marched past at the head of the parade. This Pennant is awarded every year to the Squadron in Surrey Wing with the best all-round record in all fields of activity, and we have now held it for two years in succession.

The Squadron has had seven new recruits in the course of the year, most of whom graduated from the Junior Air Guild. Any boy over the age of 13½ years is welcome to join the Squadron any Friday evening between 19.00 to 20.30 hours.

On Friday, 10th July, 1959, the Squadron paid a visit to London Airport, during which it was taken on a conducted tour of the Airfield. The trip lasted from 16.30 hours until 20.30 hours, and was enjoyed by the thirty Cadets who attended. Many interesting modern civilian aircraft were seen, including a number of Comet 4's and the Russian Tu-104.

One Cadet is undergoing training for a Flying Scholarship, and we wish him every success.

The Squadron has had a generally satisfactory year, although our strength has fallen off by three. Our hopes of the Wing Pennant are not as high this year, but we might retain the Moss Trophy.

K. L. FORSDYKE.

LITERARY SOCIETY

On the evening of the last day of Term a meeting was held to read Dylan Thomas' *Under Milk Wood*, a play long requested by our foremost

actor. The evening proved one of mixed emotions, for many of us would no longer be schoolboys, but men. The undertones of tragedy in this Welsh rip-roaring comedy therefore made the choice peculiarly suitable.

A large gathering was present, including two new faces from the High School, and a visitor from overseas. The reading went well, although with not quite the same spontaneity that seems to arise from a smaller group. The accents, as usual, were not very good, with the usual exceptions of S. F. Partridge and M. McLean, who played the Narrator, and Dr. Morgan and P. Williams, who after all have no excuse for getting it wrong!

The play is too well known to admit of a summary of the plot, but it should be noted that Thomas called it a Play for Voices, and it seems rather a pity that we were not able to live up to the author's standards. He provides a kaleidoscope of characters, and it is up to the players to provide a kaleidoscope of voices.

Nevertheless it was an enjoyable evening, made not less so by the unflagging and good-spirited work of J. Davie, the Secretary of the Society. We have a lot to thank him for, not only in casting the plays brilliantly, but also in providing much of the refreshment.

GRAHAM V. FRANK-KEYES.

"A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"

Shakespeare wrote this play as an entertainment. It has the ingredients — romance, humour, and a touch of the mysterious — that go to make up many entertainments. It is a measure of the success of the Wimbledon Art School's production that it did, in fact, entertain.

We did not know quite what to expect when we went to this production, at the Marlborough Hall, Wimbledon, on Monday, 8th June, since we had been promised a new approach to the play in the programme. This, in some respects, was what we got. The production exploited the 'modern' technique of having virtually no scenery, which enables the transition from scene to scene to be swift, as it must have been in Shakespeare's day. Imaginative use was made of an apron stage and side ramp, which jutted out into the auditorium and from which front stage entrances and exits were made, and also of a higher level at the rear of the stage.

Among the real innovations were the music and the costumes. Part of the music was recorded 'modern' jazz, part was 'home-made.' The effect of both types was, on the whole, pleasing, even if the 'eastern' music used for the fairies did sometimes seem a little out of tune to our western ears. The only music which seemed a bad choice was the military band towards the end of the production.

The costuming was different in that it presented the leading Athenian men in Ruritanian soldiers' uniforms, the women in modern dress, the rustics in smocks, aprons, straw hats, and knickerbockers, and the fairies in oriental attire. This costuming was, from the production point of view, fairly successful, in that it associated the three different groups in the play with different costumes. Some of the costumes took some accepting, however, especially the mixture in those of the Athenians, with Egeus and

Philostrate in a sort of Jacobean costume, and Hippolyta in a Victorian hunting costume. The costuming of the 'rude mechanicals' was very good, and Bottom in knickerbockers was a fine idea on someone's part. The fairies were certainly made imposing by their orientalisation, which also gave the Art School a chance to display some beautiful fabrics, though some of these costumes were too elaborate in that they were cumbersome and hampered stage movement. Oberon's costume was, perhaps, the worst example of this. Puck, too, had a rather outlandish costume.

The acting, on the whole, was very creditable. After a rather slow start we saw the entry of the Athenians. Theseus spoke his lines clearly throughout, but Lysander and Demetrius had rather light voices and tended to hurry, though they both gave competent performances. The two actresses playing Hermia and Helena also tended to hurry, but they brought a charm and attack to their parts which was readily appreciated by our members of the audience, and their renderings of love-sick maidens somewhat angered, were most convincing.

The 'rude mechanicals' were exceptionally good. Peter Quince was not quite imposing enough, but this was a casting, rather than an acting, fault. His only other weakness was the way in which he hurried the prologue speech to 'Pyramus and Thisbe,' losing a lot of its humour. Bottom was incomparable; his gigantic physique helping his performance, which was, I think, the best of a very good cast. The remaining 'mechanicals' played their parts very well and were the most polished of the three groups in the play.

Oberon and Titania were both very capably and commandingly played, but Puck, I thought, tried to be a fairy clown rather than a sly sprite, though he produced some good laughs.

The cast was aided by lighting which was competent, if a little slow at times, and which was excellent in the fade-outs, especially the one before the interval.

Despite what, to my mind, were a few incongruities in the costuming, the production, which was word perfect, was one of which any amateur company could feel proud.

C. MOTTERSHEAD.

ROOTS

The usual end-of-term theatrical entertainment this Term was a visit to the Royal Court Theatre to see Arnold Wesker's second play, which goes under the rather intriguing title of *Roots*. This is an attempt to portray what the author feels to be the true state of mind of the farm-labourer, the man of the soil. The play is a failure in that these peasants, portrayed by Wesker as almost completely devoid of any really deep feelings towards their families, do in fact have those feelings which Wesker denies them. One critic called this play 'a masterly portrayal of inarticulate apathy.' That is a very fair comment, but, in fact, the people represented in the play, the down-to-earth, 'solid,' country people, although inarticulate by city standards, in real life are certainly not apathetic towards their own.

The plot is fairly simple. A young woman returns from London after three years to her parents' farm-labourer's cottage in Norfolk to announce that she is engaged to an intellectual Londoner and that he is coming to visit them in the country. The fortnight before he comes is spent by Beatie, the daughter, in trying to convince her parents how much Ronnie has taught her of the 'better things in life.' She tries to introduce the family to the joys of classical music, abstract art and bath salts; she tries to get them to talk about things more enlightened than pig-swill and spinach; she tries very hard to get them to use, really use, words as 'bridges' to a fuller, more meaningful life. Of course, she fails.

The climax of the play is the evening when Ronnie is supposed to arrive. The whole family assembles, self-conscious in its ill-fitting, out-of-fashion clothes. Instead of Ronnie, however, a letter comes breaking off the engagement, saying that 'things would not work out after all.' Beatie breaks down at this news, but Wesker does not allow the family to show any real concern at their daughter's distress. This is the most unreal part of the play, for surely no parents would be as unsympathetic towards their daughter at such a time, however much she had exasperated them with her theories.

The play ends with her confession, however, that, just as they had failed to understand her, so she herself had never been really able to understand Ronnie. This seems to be a rather unsatisfactory and ironic comment upon which to finish a play.

Although *Roots* has this basic fault of being unsoundly based on reality, the author is nevertheless an extremely good craftsman of the stage: he has a happy knack of racy dialogue and his scenes are well thought out with climaxes, periods of low tension, and changes of pace.

The main attraction, however, is the performance of Joan Plowright as Beatie: she is an extremely good young actress and her performance was a vigorous and at the same time a sympathetic one. The rest of the cast had less opportunity to shine, but they all did very well in sustaining boorish parts with tricky accents. The several sets were excellent in design and colour, and maintained admirably the earthy atmosphere.

But, in spite of all the good things, the basic fault, for me at least, rather spoils this play.

GRAHAM V. FRANK-KEYES.

"THE FROGS"

On the penultimate day of Term, the quadrangle witnessed a modernised version of Aristophanes' *The Frogs*, produced by Sixth Form Productions Inc., assisted by members of Wimbledon High School. Before a somewhat dubious audience, the scene moved through a variety of altitudes and tempos, the dialogue somewhat adulterated by allusions to rock-and-roll and TV commercials, and the cast enjoying themselves enormously.

The actual technicalities of the production were simple, the only scenery being two hardboard columns and a boat (if a requisitioned pram can be so called), which served to ferry Xanthias and Dionysus rather

erratically across the bird bath surrounds. The startling effect of people leaping into view from various quarters of the School roof, a corpse bargaining like a representative of British Road Services, and a policeman with a remarkably delicate helmet, gave the play as a whole a farcical air, not as Greek as one would have expected. The members of the School welcomed the bawdiness of various parts of the play as a relief from the usually well-censored productions, although parents necessarily had to look at least a little shocked to maintain their dignity in the eyes of their offsprings.

Some erratic cutting caused the play to end on an off-beat and personally I expected more when it had, in fact, ended, giving the whole, on afterthought, the appearance of an excuse for passing two weeks in the sun. Despite this fault and some unavoidable lack of audibility the cast romped through an enjoyable but hectic fifty minutes of the layman's guide to Greek theatricals.

M. T. BIDDISCOMBE.

HELMOS

(Being a recently discovered late 17th century satire)

Many there are who much disturb the land,
And first among such rogues doth HELMOS stand.
A man whom scandal and low craft delights,
Incapable of intellectual heights,
Reckless in action, puerile in thought ;
Each transient evil is by HELMOS brought.
Class-conscious, boastful, full of self-conceit,
Yet though seditious and enfeoffed to wrong,
For good opinion he doth always long,
And nothing is so prone to make him dour
As fear of light esteem by those in power ;
So by all means existing he would stand
In honour with the Regent of the land.
Thus after a most arrant, base career
He now has gained the high degree of Peer,
While still engaging in low plots and strife
Against the Regent's government and life ;
Inciting and abetting even now
Those he should help to curb and overthrow,
Never suspecting his own baited hook
May be the means of bringing him to book.

ANON.

(Any connection with R. J. Holmes is, of course, purely accidental).

Next the funeral feast
With machine-sliced sardine sandwiches curling at the edges
The organist had a kindly face
'The ashes'll be all right,' Aunt Milly said,
'As long as he doesn't realise.'

The kippers looked at me with long-dead eyes
Yellow amber reproach, but with my kindly mouth I ate them.

'My darling, you are as beautiful as a summer rose

Your lips are pink coral

Your yellow amber eyes are pools of honey-dew

Your Max Factor cheeks are wonderful

Will you marry me?'

The Registrar had a kindly face.

'My darling, of every three million cod's eggs only three
survive.'

On the beach at Southend is a black straw hat with a rose atop,
Stagnating in the shade of the pier.

Golden haloed amber ashes, patterns on a Sunday sofa

'No sonny, the hour-glass isn't for sale'

The owner had a kindly face

And he stands in the doorway every day.

MALCOLM McLEAN.

TRUMPETER

He holds his head

Back as if to take the stress of his music, power in the flex

And reflex of his fingers

Squeezes out honey from the metal ; up and back

His head strains after the pure beauty

That brings salt to the eyes. He is an artist

And sees the power in himself, as he is fused

And blent with the striving swell of sound

Rides it bentlegged with a tension in his thighs

Up and breaks it through,

Sheer valour in its surge and sheer power

In the sinews of his heart.

(Heart with power enough to pour out honey

On the tongues of others, mould their minds).

JOHN BULL.

POEM

Early birds sounding in the 4 o'clock dawn,
Late risers stirring in the 4 o'clock light
Oozing round the leaves of the trees in the street
And through faint blue curtains,
Falling onto the walls of the rooms of the late risers,
Awake enough to see the ridiculous time,
Awake enough to fall asleep again.

The yellow-white sun in the too-clear
Blue-white summer sky,
Gives claustrophobic heat,
Tar melts and runs on distant roads,
We perspire, as outside dogs and cats lie prostrated,
And survey peroxide grass.
All concentration wavers, and is finally lost,
Boiled away.

The sun has set some time ago,
But still shines up through the western sky,
A murky red against the yellow wash horizon,
High above, a jet is flying underneath
The deepening purple-blue roof of sky,
Its faint white trail left amongst the stars,
Which now come out.

K. D. G. JONES.

SUMMER'S END

There is a fearful poignancy in the naked boughs
When summer overswollen like its own fruit
Rots and falls ; strangely
We can grieve at the recurrent death of an immortality
As we weep at the end of all, all
That, bulged and burgeoned with the sweet red flow of youth,
Cannot hold the stress, is split and spilt.
Yet we are accustomed to strain for what is gone
Disdain what comes
And weep for even bitter cherries in September.

JOHN BULL.

LAST DAY

. . . the school is deserted now grey dust of forgetfulness
falls from the ceiling gathering on the carved acanthus wreaths

that used to bind the victor's brow on sunny days when masters were ten feet tall and seniors were staid and dignified grew up to change the symbolism of man and boy discovering smashed chairs in the cloakroom and mud patches on Big Side arrived at this finding humanity and frailty among the gods discovering the ordinary stone and ordinary grass of quadrangle invaded all and discovered last secrets of awful place which boomed Go Home on first day discovered all and simplified the dark rooms and hidden corridors corridors now leaving like corridors on a train flashing by yesterfields and golden corn crops moving onwards into a new distance . . .

MALCOLM McLEAN.

CRICKET 1st XI

Master-in-Charge : W. H. Herdman, Esq.

Captain : B. G. W. Morley.

Secretary : M. A. Yeldham.

"If it's a good ball, play it; if it's a bad ball, hit it," is a sound, well-tryed maxim which, unfortunately, was too often ignored during the disappointing season just ended. On many occasions long hops, half-volleys and full tosses were treated with exaggerated caution, whilst wild swings were made at good length balls on the wicket, with disastrous results. The meagre return of two wins and two draws was due almost entirely to really bad batting from a side by no means lacking in ability, but certainly in one or two cases lacking in the concentration which is so necessary in batsmanship.

In a season prolific in runs, the hundred was exceeded on one occasion only, against Wandsworth, when the match was drawn, and the failure of opening batsmen was so marked that first wicket partnerships made less than ten runs on every occasion except two, the highest being twenty-four against Beckenham. What foundations on which to build an innings! Only Holmes and Crowe showed any semblance of consistency. Driving either to the off or the on, and hitting to leg were so seldom employed that run-getting was a painfully slow and laboured process. Running between the wickets was frequently too rash or too casual.

The bowling and fielding presented a much more cheerful picture, particularly the latter, where Ayres and Crowe excelled in quick ground fielding and accurate throwing. Few catches were put down, and several of these were due to excess of zeal, or lack of understanding. More care, however, should have been taken in the placing and adjusting of the field to suit circumstances. There is no merit in bowling four or five consecutive balls on the leg side to a packed off side field.

Yeldham was quick and alert behind the wicket, although he was handicapped by his inability to stand up close to any type of bowling to prevent the batsman from taking liberties in playing forward or running. It must be remembered that the wicket-keeper is at a serious disadvantage

when standing back all the time ; his efficiency is halved as he has no opportunity for stumping and must move forward very quickly indeed to take returns from fieldsmen.

Wearn and Bond bore the brunt of the bowling with a fair measure of success, but the change bowling of Cumes and Frank-Keyes was too often too inaccurate to keep batsmen at full stretch. On several occasions more judicious handling of the bowling would have brought better results.

As there are some very promising members of the Colt team this season, we can look forward to next year with a reasonable confidence, provided that practice-time is used wisely to strengthen weaknesses in batting and improve accuracy in bowling. Much can be learned of these arts by watching Test match broadcasts on television, whose close-up views can be most instructive if watched carefully and intelligently.

W. H. HERDMAN.

This year has been more successful than last, but our standard has by no means reached a satisfactory level. This can be attributed to several factors. Firstly, the lack of practice and in particular, constructive coaching. Practice nets were not in use until the season was a quarter of its way through and as a result we had to rely on actual matches for real practice — not the best of arrangements. But perhaps the most important factor is that all too often good bowling has not been supported by batting of equal calibre. The batting has not really been weak, but we always find it difficult to push the score along at a fast enough rate. Moreover, when we have tried to go for quick runs, wickets fall cheaply, being almost thrown away.

In the average school match it is essential that an hour and a-half's batting should produce some hundred runs or more to allow the bowlers some basis to gamble on. We have scored less than 100 eight times this season in losing matches : had we scored but 100 on three of these occasions it would have meant three more matches won. However, this season there has been a marked increase in the amount of "negative" bowling that we have received from other schools. Such bowling has become the blight of modern first-class cricket and now it seems to have infiltrated into school cricket also. It is characterised by persistent bowling outside the off stump in such a way that runs cannot be scored. I am glad to say that so far, despite such unsportsmanlike approaches from various schools, Raynes Park has never practised such bowling, they have always accepted the challenge and bowled at the stumps.

I have mentioned the batting already and there remains little to be added except that two members of the team, Holmes and Morley, have scored over 100 runs this season, and that the highest averages are held by members of the team, notably Cumes, who bat low down in the order. We have tended to plod a bit too much this year unnecessarily, often earning our runs when there has been no real need to do so. We must never be content to let things take their course ; the bowling must be attacked, it is often the best means of defence.

The bowling this year has been much better than last year. It has been tight and accurate, an attack has always been sustained and a Raynes Park

bowler never gives in. Wearn and Bond have, as usual, formed the main basis of attack, but this year with more than able assistance from Frank-Keyes, Cumes and Gould. These five have formed the spearhead of the attack and I am sure that had the batting been equally determined, we would have won more often. Wearn must be congratulated for his selection as a member of the Surrey team and Bond as twelfth man.

Fielding this season has been very keen and lively, in almost every match some twenty or so runs have been saved by good fielding and excellent throwing. Catching has been varied, Crowe has really been miraculous, he fields closest to the bat and has taken some magnificent catches, notably against Tiffin's—he has not missed a chance all season. At the other end of the scale Morley and Frank-Keyes seem to be magnificent fumblers of "dollies": when they cannot drop one by themselves, they combine their attempts and make an even worse mess of it. In general it appears that the more difficult a chance is, the more likely it is to be caught. In any case we can always put up a better display of fielding than any team we play—at least we are tops in one respect.

B. G. W. MORLEY.

1st XI Averages, 1959

Batting	Inn.	N.O.	Runs	H.S.	Av.
Cumes	8	6	37	19*	18.50
Holmes	10	2	116	33	14.50
Morley	10	1	100	26	11.11
Bond	8	2	65	17*	10.83

* Not out.

Bowling	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
Gould	19.4	6	63	9	7.00
Wearn	106	33	242	29	8.35
Cumes	41	11	95	9	10.55
Frank-Keyes ...	39.5	6	115	10	11.50
Bond	66.2	18	172	13	13.23
Morley	29.2	7	107	7	15.28

Catches: Crowe 9, Yeldham (wkt.k.) 7, Frank-Keyes 5.

2nd XI

Opponents:	Results:
Wallington	Lost by 114 runs
Badingham Callege	Won by 70 runs
Hampton	Lost by 6 runs
Tiffin	Lost by 7 wkts.
Wandsworth	Lost by 11 runs
Salesian College	Won by 7 wkts.
Bec	Match drawn
Battersea	Lost by 5 wkts.
Beckenham	Won by 8 runs

As can be seen from the results, we have had a reasonably successful season, with three wins to our credit, and two other matches which we were

unlucky not to win. Lack of further successes is due, I think, to the shortage of specialists in the team, and in fact only two members of the regular team were played for their batting or bowling alone. The almost inevitable phrase "someone will get the runs" has been painfully evident throughout the season when once again we have been unable to turn out a full strength team mainly due to the demands of the First XI.

The batting has managed to produce consistently scores of between 60 and 80 (which are not match winning totals), only once topping the 100 mark. The bowling has been hostile and accurate, with none of the negative bowling we have met from one or two schools we have played. Despite a seemingly endless stream of batsmen who have managed to score an undeservedly high number of runs off the edge, the standard of fielding has been high, with twenty catches held, while only six have been dropped. There has been good spirit amongst the team, and win or lose, all matches have been enjoyed.

The team usually included :

Thompson : In his first season as Captain of a school team he has led the side adequately and although he has met with a large quota of ill-luck with his batting he has proved a useful and fairly successful change bowler.

Gould : Before he left us for the First XI he scored 67 runs in the 4 innings he played, making 36 out of 64 against Tiffin. He is a natural stroke player with a good eye, who fully deserved his promotion.

Clarke : A sound opener who in the latter half of the season has overcome his natural tendency to defence, and but for his uncertainty in running between the wickets he would have made some high scores.

Furminger : As we have had only two good opening stands this season, his opportunities with the bat have been limited, but his bowling has been hostile and has resulted in taking several valuable wickets.

Foulsham : Despite the fact that when batting he conveys the impression of wearing lead-lined plimsolls, he has managed to score over 40 runs. An alert slip-fielder, he has managed to begin his training for the rugby season between overs.

Hart : He has succeeded with both bat and ball this season, as can be seen from the averages, and took five wickets for one run against Hampton. He excels in a deceptive fast delivery bowled about six feet outside the leg stump which invariably has the batsman groping.

Slater : His figures speak for themselves, but I must mention his unique three-bounce delivery which has taken him at least ten wickets.

Davie : The other member of our duo of acrobatic slip-fielders whose combination of a scintillating 'coup de vache' and tuneful rendering of excerpts from Gilbert and Sullivan has added greatly to the enjoyment of the games.

Griffin : He has a good eye and a broad bat which in four innings have scored him 48 runs, twice not out.

Weaver and Attwood : Both have some good strokes, but by moving away from the ball instead of towards it have got themselves out unnecessarily.

Against Bec, however, the latter overcame this fault in scoring 25 not out.

PETER REDSHAW.

Redshaw: An attacking batsman who rarely outstays his welcome, he has been the most consistent batsman this season, only once failing to score. Behind the stumps he has performed efficiently, and despite the efforts of an excess of left-handers and Hart's faster ball, has kept the extras down to a minimum and has taken five out of the seven catches offered to him.

ROGER THOMPSON.

Averages

Batting (Qualification: Five completed innings):

	Inn.	N.O.	H.S.	Runs	Av.
Hart	7	1	17	62	10.4
Slater	8	2	22*	53	8.83
Redshaw	9	—	22	66	7.33
Furminger	5	—	16	35	7.00

* Not out.

Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
Hart	39	14	92	17	5.41
Slater	90.3	23	228	28	7.88
Thompson	16	2	46	5	9.20
Furminger	39	10	74	7	10.6

Colt XI

The outstanding feature of this year's Colt XI has been its team spirit. Nicholls has been an energetic captain, and results have been, as a whole, satisfactory.

The batting, though good at times, was patchy. The greatest lack was a sound opening pair. Woodhall has played some excellent innings and shows much promise. Nicholls and Wheeler have shown that they can be usefully aggressive. Courtenay, trying to change his style, has had an unlucky season, but Dalton, White, R., and Edwards have all shown good strokes, though they lack at present the confidence to make the best use of them. Others have at times played useful innings in emergency.

The bowling has improved noticeably since the beginning of the season. Nicholls, once he is "on target" can bowl with real fire, and Jennings is rapidly learning how to make the best use of varied pace and length. Others who have bowled, with varying success, are Early, Morley, Dalton and Wheeler.

The fielding has been erratic, at times very good, at others slovenly, but a consistently good feature was the throwing-in to the wicket. There is still too much uncertainty in running between the wickets and not all players are as quick off the mark as they should be. On the whole, however, this Colt XI compares very well with those of recent years.

G. J. ATKIN.

TENNIS

Master-in-Charge : T. Horler, Esq.
Captain and Secretary : R. J. Holmes.

1st VI Results

Purley C.G.S.	Lost	4-5
Wimbledon County	Won	8-1
Wandsworth School	Won	7-2
Rutlish	Won	7-2
Wandsworth School	Won	5½-3½
Purley C.G.S.	Won	6-3

As can be seen from the results, the School 1st VI has enjoyed a very successful season. The team opened their account with a trip to Purley, and were unlucky to be beaten in a tight struggle after having held match point in the deciding contest. We proved altogether too strong in a light-hearted game for Wimbledon County, the matches following each other in quick succession in our favour, as did the witty remarks from Mottershead, whose tennis unfortunately is not as sound as his advice. We were obliged to turn out very much weakened teams against Wandsworth School owing to the pressure of cricket House matches. Despite this we won the first match by a comfortable margin, and, in the second encounter, Crowe and Phillips, by winning all three matches helped us to win a match which was notable only for its poor standard of play. The whole team responded magnificently against Rutlish, shattering them by seven matches to two, Cottee and Holmes winning all their three matches. The season ended on a distinctly healthy note with a victory in the return fixture against Purley. Determined that success should not escape us again by the same narrow margin the whole team played inspired tennis and we defeated them soundly by six matches to three, Crowe and Standish winning all their three games, thereby breaking the old Purley supremacy.

The team included :

Crowe : He is a nimble and solid all court performer, who is always poised for the kill with a sleek text-book shot. With more power in his game — especially on service — he could easily become a player of the highest class. He and Standish have constituted the main strength of the team.

Standish : He plays with cool unconcern and although there is a touch of lethargy about his play he is equipped with many solid, firm strokes of sweeping trajectory and a penetrating service which mark him as a player of some distinction.

Phillips : The strength of his game is his powerful drive, with which he can flash balls past the volleyer, or outpace the baseliner. Unfortunately he is weak at volleying and serving, and merely manipulates rather than hits his backhand.

Ayres : He possesses a powerful top spin drive and a fast swinging service. He is not a strong volleyer and has the typical left hander's weakness on the backhand — a loose wrist and a tendency to drop the racket head, giving a very insecure shot.

Cottee : Although at times he is erratic, he compensates with a powerful drive, and at times shows touches of real class.

Wearn and Yeldham : When in the team they have been notable for their consistency, but sparkle and a sense of urgency has so far eluded these players.

Davie, Mottershead and Venison also represented the 1st VI.

Holmes (Captain-Secretary) : More interest has been shown in tennis this season, largely due to the active service of Bob, who has proved a very successful and popular captain. Despite a weakness in ground strokes, his steady game, supported by commanding volleys, led him to a place in both finals of the tournament. Playing in the second pair, he has captained the team to some very convincing wins.

P. STANDISH.

2nd VI

Results

Purley C.G.S.	...	...	...	Won	7-2
Wimbledon County	...	...	...	Won	9-0
Purley C.G.S.	...	...	...	Lost	4-5

The 2nd VI has suffered through a lack of availability of fixtures and, at times, players. The strengths of the team have been, when not on 1st VI duty, Cottee, Wearn and Yeldham. The 2nd VI succeeded in thrashing both Purley and Wimbledon County, but a weakened team was still rather surprisingly beaten in the return fixture against Purley School.

The team has been chosen from: Burgess, Carson, Cottee, Cumes, Early, Foulsham, Gould, Mottershead, Slater, Wearn, Williams, P., Venison and Yeldham.

Under 16 VI

There is an embarrassing amount of talent in the Under 16 team, and while R. Wood and Elsdon did not succeed in securing team places their undoubted talent should not go unnoticed. It is a great shame that with such an enthusiastic and highly-promising team there should be a dearth of available fixtures.

The Under 16 team began the season by losing to a much older and experienced Kingston Grammar 1st VI. But in more equal combat they played brilliant tennis when twice defeating the experienced Purley Colts, Early and Nicholls being particularly outstanding in the second encounter.

The team usually included :

Early : He is one of the outstanding members of the team, and could easily develop into a player of some class. He possesses an orthodox fluent style with a great amount of punch behind his service and volley. He attacks well with an early taken ball on the forehand, which he often follows to the net for the volley.

Wood, M. K. : He gains a considerable amount of pace off his drives and service, but he is not a penetrating forecourt player and his backhand

is erratic in touch. His over-enthusiasm tends to lead to some erratic mistakes, but if he can curb this fault, he could easily become a player of some class.

Rusling: He is a very consistent performer, with a good service. He is a brilliant retriever and sound volleyer, and has proved his class and temperament by winning the School Junior Tournament. He could perhaps add sharpness and pace to his game, but these qualities will develop as his game matures.

McGaw: He is a steady all-court performer who is always adequate and possesses a promising forehand drive. McGaw also could be sharper and more forthright, and at times he allows symptoms of weariness to creep into his game.

Nicholls: He is a strong attacking player with a decisive volley who hacks his way through the opposition, but he has a cramped style and as a result his strokes are not all well-formed, especially his double-handed backhand.

Wheeler: He is a casual performer who exploits spin and alteration of pace, but his fluency is restricted and his service is weak. When concentrating he shows great improvement, as in the first match against Purley, when he and Nicholls won a vital match.

Morley, D.: He is equipped with a powerful forehand and a service of considerable depth and penetration, though he lacks weight both on the backhand and at the net.

Results

Kingston Grammar 1st VI	...	Lost	0-9
Purley C.G.S.	...	Won	5-4
Purley C.G.S.	...	Won	6-3

In conclusion it can safely be said that the School tennis teams have been the most successful of any School teams this year. Although progress is cramped by the lack of courts, the School is rich in tennis talent and the future looks distinctly cheerful for Raynes Park tennis.

BOB HOLMES.

Results of School Tennis Tournament

Senior Singles. Winner: P. Standish. Runner-up: R. J. Holmes.

Senior Doubles. Shared between P. Standish and F. Crowe and R. J. Holmes and B. G. W. Morley.

Junior Singles. Winner: K. Rusling. Runner-up: D. Early.

Junior Doubles. Winners: D. Early and M. K. Wood.
Runners-up: B. Elsdon and R. R. Wood.

SWIMMING

The Wimbledon and District Schools' Swimming Gala was held this year on Tuesday, the 7th July, and the School entered teams in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior events, totalling 22 boys. Although we did not manage to win any of the three sections we did not disgrace ourselves. Our

biggest success was in winning the Wimbledon and District Schools' Association Shield, awarded to the champion Senior free-style relay team. The team for this race consisted of Carson, Sole, Bond and Trapp, swimming in the order mentioned. Carson gained quite a considerable lead which was then increased by each of the other three. Several other events were won by individuals.

The School Swimming Sports were held as usual in the evening of the last Monday of the Summer Term. Qualifying had been carried on throughout most of the School year, thus allowing all boys who were able, to score points for their Houses. It is encouraging to note that a much larger number of qualifying points has been scored this year than last, with exactly the same system, even taking into account the fact that there is an extra Junior Form this year. As in previous years, boys were able to qualify on a few Saturday mornings at Wimbledon baths. The total attendance for the four Saturdays of this year was approximately 120 boys. Many more boys would have been welcome. It is also interesting to note that 28 boys have learned to swim at the School during the past School year, each scoring five points for his House by swimming the Beginner's Width.

The positions of the Houses, according to the number of qualifying points obtained before the Gala, were as follows :—

Gibbs	...	...	...	...	...	362
Newsoms	...	...	...	...	...	217
Cobbs	...	...	...	...	...	216
Halliwells	...	...	...	...	...	152
Miltons	...	...	...	...	...	135

The points awarded at the Sports were :—

			1st	2nd	3rd
Relays	...	...	30	20	10
Other Events	...	...	15	10	5

Results of the Swimming Sports

Senior Events

Free-Style, 3 L.			76.9 secs.
1st—Sole (G)	2nd—Goddard (M)	3rd—Thornton (H)	
Breast-Stroke, 3 L.			94.2 secs.
1st—Sole (G)	2nd—Cottee (N)	3rd—Ekins (M)	
Back-Stroke, 3 L.			*71.3 secs.
1st—Trapp (G)	2nd—Naggs (N)	3rd—Williams (H)	
Butterfly, 2 L.			52.2 secs.
1st—Trapp (G)	2nd—Cottee (N)		
Medley Relay, 3 L.			71.0 secs.
1st—Gibbs	2nd—Newsoms	3rd—Halliwells	
Free-Style Relay, 4 L.			82.4 secs.
1st—Gibbs	2nd—Newsoms	3rd—Cobbs	

Colt Events

Free-Style, 2 L.			*42.9 secs.
1st—Carson (H)	2nd—Wheeler (N)	3rd—Wood (G)	

Breast-Stroke, 2 L.		58.3 secs.
1st—Jones (C)	2nd—Cottee (N)	3rd—Corbett (H)
Back-Stroke, 2 L.		63.9 secs.
1st—Jennings (M)	2nd—King (N)	3rd—White (C)
Butterfly, 1 L.		23.1 secs.
1st—Wheeler (N)	2nd—Carson (H)	3rd—Westall (G)
Medley Relay, 1 L.		76.4 secs.
1st—Newsoms	2nd—Gibbs	3rd—Halliwells
Free-Style Relay, 4 L.		93.5 secs.
1st—Newsoms	2nd—Gibbs	3rd—Halliwells

Junior Events

Free-Style, 1 L.		21.4 secs.
1st—Bennee (G)	2nd—Spanos (N)	3rd—Watts (C)
Breast-Stroke, 1 L.		31.0 secs.
1st—Lonsdale (M)	2nd—Bennee (G)	3rd—Crick (H)
		Wilcox (C)
Back-Stroke, 1 L.		27.4 secs.
1st—Evans (G)	2nd—Spanos (N)	3rd—Lonsdale (M)
Medley Relay, 3 L.		79.1 secs.
1st—Gibbs	2nd—Halliwells	3rd—Cobbs
Free-Style Relay, 4 L.		*104.8 secs.
1st—Gibbs	2nd—Cobbs	3rd—Halliwells

Minor Events

Free-Style, 1 L.		25.1 secs.
1st—Castling (G)	2nd—Stone (M)	Bradley (H)
Breast-Stroke, 1 L.		27.3 secs.
1st—Castling (G)	2nd—Bradley (H)	3rd—Blunden (C)
Back-Stroke, 1 L.		27.4 secs.
1st—Lane (G)	2nd—Francis (C)	3rd—Cornelius (N)

Diving Events — Open

Plunge.		40ft. 6ins.
1st—Hanak (H)	2nd—Wood (G)	3rd—Yeldham (N)
Plain Dive.		
1st—Carson (H)	2nd—Bennee (G)	3rd—Gould (N)
Springboard Dive.		
1st—Goddard (M)	2nd—Bennee (G)	3rd—Carson (H)

* Denotes new record.

The points scored in the Sports by the Houses were:—

Gibbs	...	...	...	...	...	345
Newsoms	...	...	...	...	...	210
Halliwells	...	...	...	...	...	155
Cobbs	...	...	...	...	...	82½
Miltons	...	...	...	...	...	72½

And the final positions of the Houses after the qualifying points had been added to the points scored in the Sports were as follows:—

Gibbs	...	...	...	...	...	707
Newsoms	...	...	...	...	...	427
Halliwells	...	...	...	...	...	307
Cobbs	...	...	...	...	...	298½
Miltons	...	...	...	...	...	207½

We owe the smooth running of the Sports to the hard work put in by Mr. King on and before the evening, and also to all the other Masters who assisted during the evening. Our grateful thanks are due to them.

During the Easter Term we lost M. Chambers, the School's best swimmer and diver. He won or helped to win several Cups and Shields both for swimming and diving, and in 1957 he was awarded School Colours for his performance in the Wimbledon and District Gala. We wish him every success in his future life.

P. TRAPP.

ATHLETICS

Captain and Secretary: R. Impey.

The first School Athletics fixture on May 4th was against Sutton. Although we lost the match the margin was not great. Individual winners were Bowerm, open high jump; Yeldham, open discus; Redshaw, intermediate 100 yds.; Hopper, intermediate 220 yds. Eastwood won the junior 100 yds. and broke the major high jump record.

Ten days later the team distinguished itself at the Wimbledon District Sports Meeting by winning both the Intermediate and Junior competitions. Foulsham won the intermediate hop, step and jump, and the relay team equalled our own previous meeting record. In the Juniors Eastwood raised his own School record to 4 ft. 11½ in. for the high jump, while Nicholls won the 880 yds. and Courtenay the mile. The junior relay team also set up a record and we had many second and third placings in both age groups.

We lost a direct match against Glyn School, Epsom, on June 1st, but again by only a small margin. In the open competition, Page won the mile; Colmer the 880 yds.; Impey the 440 yds.; and Hopper the discus.

Competition in the Surrey Grammar School Sports at Half Term was much keener and only Bowerm (3rd, open, high jump) and Page (5th, open 880 yds.) were placed. Page, however, set up a new School record in a time of 2 min. 7 sec.

As a result of the Wimbledon District Sports, and a trial match against Wimbledon Athletics Club the following members of the School team were chosen to represent the district in the County Championships: Bowerm, Colmer, Page, Impey, Venison, Foulsham, Redshaw, Nicholls, Nisbet, Eastwood, Courtenay and Burgess.

As a result of their performances at the Championship Meeting, certificates were awarded to Bowerm, Courtenay, Nicholls and Foulsham. In his

880 yds. Nicholls set up a new Colt School record in a time of 2 min. 10.4 sec.

In the School Sports, Gibbs began with a lead in qualifying points which they never lost, Eastwood set up a new record for the major 220 yds., while Gibbs major relay team set up a new record time of 54.0 sec.

It is hoped that next year we may be able to hold inter-school matches on the Oberon ground.

Congratulations to B. Page, C. M. Hopper and R. Foulsham on being awarded School Colours for their fine performances this season.

R. IMPEY.

Athletic Sports Results

Event	First	Second	Third	Time
100 yds.	Minor	Onslow (G)	Cornelius (N)	13.5 sec.
	Major	Robinson (H)	Wright (M)	11.6 sec.
	Colt	Nicholls (G)	Stevenson (H)	11.3 sec.
220 yds.	Open	Venison (G)	Powers (C)	10.4 sec.
	Minor	Onslow (G)	Redshaw (N)	30.8 sec.
	Major	Featherstone (H)	Rendell (H)	26.8 sec. (Record)
	Colt	Hall (H)	Wright (M)	26.4 sec.
	Open	Hopper (N)	White (G)	24.5 sec.
	Minor	Howard (C)	Venison (G)	73.5 sec.
440 yds.	Major	Jackson (N)	King (M)	66.8 sec.
	Colt	Burgess (G)	Chapman (C)	60.8 sec.
	Open	Foulsham (C)	Steer (C)	54.5 sec.
	Colt	Nicholls (G)	Cumes (M)	2 min. 16.4 sec.
	Open	Colmer (H)	Budden (N)	2 min. 7.2 sec.
	Open	Eatogh (M)	Deed (G)	5 min. 3 sec.
	Minor	Newsoms	Deed (G)	61.3 sec.
	Major	Cobbs	Halliwells	54.0 sec. (Record)
	Colt	Gibbs	Miltons	—
	Open	Cobbs	Newsoms	48.1 sec.

Athletic Sports Results

Event	First	Second	Third	Distance
Long Jump	Minor	Hall (N)	Catton (H)	12 ft. 6 in.
	Major	Cox (G)	Crowe (N)	15 ft. 1 in.
	Colt	Hall (H)	Spanos (N)	15 ft. 2½ in.
	Open	Impey (H)	Heaver (M)	18 ft. 0 in.
High Jump	Minor	Lee (H)	Woodhall (G)	3 ft. 7 in.
	Major	Eastwood (G)	Raison (C)	4 ft. 11 in.
	Colt	Wheeler (N)	Lawrenson (H)	4 ft. 11 in.
	Open	Bowern (C)	Goddard (M)	5 ft. 1 in.
Shot	Major	Pickard (M)	Chandler (H)	24 ft. 10 in.
	Colt	Wheeler (N)	Powers (C)	34 ft. 6½ in.
	Open	Yeldham (N)	Frank-Keyes (G)	35 ft. 11½ in.
	Colt	Wilton (G)	Shaw (H)	103 ft. 10 in.
Discus	Open	Hopper (N)	King (H)	100 ft. 11 in.
	Colt	Clark (G)	Spencer (N)	99 ft. 10 in.
	Open	Higham (H)	Yeldham (N)	—
	Colt	Strutt (C)	Yeldham (N)	6 ft. 11 in.
Pole Vault	1—Gibbs ...		Qualifying Points: Gibbs ...	492
	2—Cobbs ...		Cobbs ...	426
	3—Halliwells ...		Halliwells	415
	4—Newsoms ...		Miltons ...	378
	5—Miltons ...		Newsoms	361

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following magazines have been received : The Aldenhamian, Aquila, The Ashtedian, The Bristol Grammar School Chronicle, Caterham School Magazine, The Fettesian, The Kingstonian, The Radleian.

The Editors wish to apologise for any inadvertent omissions.

EDITORS

Norman Stephenson ; T. G. Ayres ; J. A. Colmer ; N. G. Cottee ;
J. Davie ; P. J. Venison.