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LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE

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No. 1

In Memoriam

It is with profound regret that we record the deaths on active service of the following Old Boys:—

Lieutenant J. C. Briggs (1935-40).

Gunner W. E. Heslop (1932-39).

Lieutenant R. S. Preston (1933-38).

Editorial

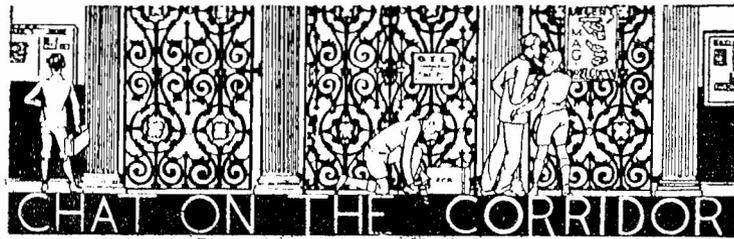
It is the lot of every editor of this venerable Magazine to try to produce an Editorial which is fresh and original—a fitting ornament to the pages which follow it. In attempting this, we have been overcome with a feeling of singular incompetence, and searchings for inspiration from our predecessors have only served to impress us with their superior ability.

Oppressed thus with a proper humility, our wounded feelings sought relief in reflection on the very generous response with which members of the School have met this time our appeals for Magazine material. But here again we were disquieted. For to the mind there arose the vengeful, phantasmal shades of balked and baffled contributors, whose efforts had apparently met with nothing but editorial disdain.

And truly the task of selecting or rejecting material for inclusion is an odious one. We ask those contributors who were unsuccessful to believe that we do not set aside so much hard work as lightly as it may appear. We are as deeply grateful to them as to those whose contributions we have selected, and can but plead with them not to be disheartened, but to try our sympathy again for the next issue.

Having thus wallowed in self-pity to our heart's content (but, we fear, to nobody else's), we turned to more encouraging thoughts on recent School activities. For they are indeed heartening. The gradual return to peace-time activities, observed in our last number, has been continued and accelerated with the production of School Plays, and, this term, with our first public appearance for five years in a concert version of "The Gondoliers." These are noted elsewhere in the issue, but we mention them because they are symptomatic of the School's return to normality. It is hoped also to revive the Speech Day ceremony in the near future.

So we close on a note of pride and hope—of pride in the resilience of a School which has effected such a remarkable recovery from the setbacks of evacuation and of the war, and of hope for its future well-being in a world which we trust will very soon similarly recuperate. For the rest, we can but commend you to the following pages.



ON the second day of the Spring Term, we were honoured by the presence of the Bishop of Liverpool at our morning service. After the service he gave us a talk in which he emphasised the necessity of living a "straight" life, however great the difficulties might appear to be. His remarks were endorsed in a short speech by Mr. Lawrence Holt, after which the happy occasion was brought to a close with a few words of gratitude from the Headmaster.

A distinguished visitor to the School in the Autumn Term was Mr. Joseph Greene, the well-known pianist, who gave us a very enjoyable piano recital, an account of which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

At the end of last term we said good-bye to several members of the staff and we accord a hearty welcome to those who have come in their places. Mr. Frearson was perhaps the best known of those who left, through his interest in Hockey and Chess, and in both these capacities the School has been richer for his presence. Though they have not been long with us, Mrs. Palmer, Dr. H. Blackler, and Miss Phythian, of the office staff, have nevertheless been liked and respected by all, and to them, as to Mr. Frearson, we wish every success in their new posts. In their places we welcome Mr. G. E. S. Nolan, M.A., of Magdalen College, Oxford, Mr. A. R. Telfer, B.Sc., of Liverpool University, Miss H. B. Cooke, of the Royal Holloway College, London, and, as School Secretary, Miss F. M. K. Murphy.

We would congratulate both Mr. Bowen and Mr. Watson on the birth of sons.

We are glad to have Mr. Hillman back with us, after being so long in hospital, and also are pleased to record that Mr. Thorpe, after being laid up for several weeks in the Autumn Term with fibrositis, made a full recovery and took his place amongst us once again before Christmas. As we write, Mr. S. V. Brown is in hospital for treatment, and we hope that this, too, will prove completely successful.

With the return of boys and staff from Bangor, and the partial lifting of the black-out, the School has returned to some of its pre-war customs. The Literary and Debating Society has begun to meet at 7 p.m. again, but more important, the Choral Society has been re-formed under the leadership of Mr. Young. Both he and the whole Society deserve to be congratulated on the excellent performance of "The Gondoliers" on March 12th, 13th and 14th. The collection from these three performances amounted to £73 13s. od., and was sent to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool's War Fund. All the members of the Society were given a well-deserved half-holiday.

Although the war in Europe may be nearing its conclusion, much hard fighting remains in the Far East. This fact does not seem to be obvious to those who once were so regular in their contributions to the School National Savings Group. The weekly amount saved has been decreasing steadily, and Mr. BOWEN would be glad to see a large increase in the number of regular savers.

As we go to press, news comes of the election of M. P. Preston to a Scholarship at Clare College, Cambridge, and of G. E. Gadd, H. L. Lachs and W. E. Richards to Scholarships at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Senior Football Shield seems to be eluding the School's grasp. To be defeated in the Final three years in succession is disheartening, to say the least, and we can only congratulate Quarry Bank on their victory, while hoping that next year the Shield will be ours.

Old Boys will be glad to know that the weekly collections for the Fund have been well supported, £70 12s. 8d. being collected in the Autumn Term and £58 14s. 6d. in the Spring Term.

House Notes

ALFRED HOLT.

IT is with great regret that I review the results of those House contests which have taken place since the publication of the last School Magazine. The House has not even one concrete achievement which could possibly be used to cover up its many failures. This sad state of affairs must be remedied, and the past supremacy of the House must be restored. Organisation and efficiency must once more be the watchwords of all the boys of the House. And so, hoping that a revived spirit of the House will show itself in the results of the coming school sports, I must end these notes with a final appeal to the House to do its best in the future.

G. H. PHILLIPPS.

OWEN.

LAST year Owen reigned supreme in every field of school activity. Only by hard and concerted effort can that supremacy be maintained. The Seniors started well in the Autumn Term by winning the House Football Competition, and their efforts were fittingly crowned by their success in the Horsfall Cup.

This term there will be the Cricket Competition and the Sports. In both these activities success will only result from continued practice. It is the duty of the House to prove itself worthy of its past, and I call upon all members to make their full contribution.

When N. S. Howlett left at the end of last term, the House experienced the loss of a truly valued member. We wish him the best of luck in his R.A.F. career.

M. P. PRESTON.

PHILIP HOLT.

CONSIDERABLE success has attended the Juniors who have won their Horsfall Cup. The Seniors have not done so well, not through any lack of keenness, but the proximity of the Shield Final barred any 1st XI players from taking part, and this penalised us far more than the other Houses. The team tried hard but was beaten by a superior side.

This term a great effort will be required to win the Cricket, and the School Sports; but if the members of the House pull together there is no reason why we should not be successful.

Finally, as I am leaving the School this term, I should like to thank all masters concerned and the senior members, especially G. H. and K. B. Low, for their invaluable services. To my successor I wish the best of luck.

C. M. MOORE.

TATE.

SO far this year there have been few opportunities for Tate House to demonstrate its prowess in the various branches of school activity. In the House Football Competition the Senior team put up an excellent show against superior odds, but zeal, however ardent, was not sufficient to carry the day. The Junior team combined with equal enthusiasm more ability and skill; it won the first round and failed only in the final by a very small margin.

But the past will take care of itself; we must now turn our eyes to the future. Next term there is Cricket and, above all, the School Sports. Here Tate has an excellent opportunity of showing a felicitous combination of House spirit and individual liberty. But no distinction will be gained without long and energetic practice. Then, Tate, to the fray, and let us celebrate a term which will surely see us victory in Europe with worthy records of House achievement and success! *Finis coronat opus.*

H. L. LACHS.

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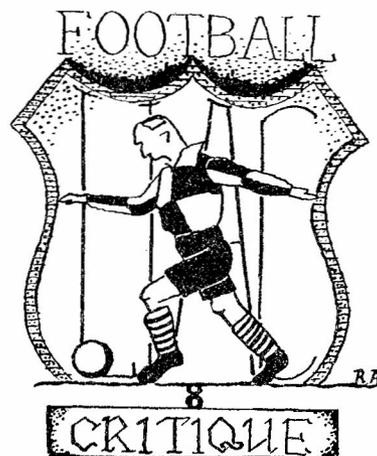
Valete!

HOWLETT, N. S.

Entered September, 1938. Form 3B, Owen. School Prefect, 1943. Vice-Captain of School, 1944. Rugby, 3rd XV, 1938-39-40. 2nd XV, 1940-41. Cricket, 1st XI, 1943-44. Half Colours, 1943. Full Colours, 1944. School Fives Captain, 1944. J.T.C., joined 1941. Certificate "A," Part I, June, 1942. Transferred to A.T.C., September, 1942. Corporal, 1943. Proficiency Certificate, December, 1943. Sergeant, December, 1943. Flt.-Sgt., September, 1944. Annual Camps, 1943, 1944. N.C.O. Course, Cosford Camp, August, 1944. School Certificate, 1942. Higher School Certificate Examination in Pure Mathematics and Physics, 1944. R.A.F. University Short Course to Cambridge, April, 1945.

MOORE, C. M.

Entered, September, 1938. Form 3C, Philip Holt. School Prefect, 1943. House Captain, 1944. Rugby, 3rd XV, 1938-39-40. 2nd XV, 1940-1. Football, 2nd XI, 1942-3. Captain, 2nd XI, 1943-4. Half Colours, 1944. 1st XI, 1944-45. Shield team, 1945. Full Colours, 1945. A.T.C., joined September, 1942. Proficiency Certificate, June, 1943. Corporal, 1943. Sergeant, October, 1943. Flt.-Sgt., December, 1943. Annual Camps, 1943 and 1944. School Certificate, 1942 (Dist.: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geography). Higher School Certificate, 1944. Royal Navy University Short Course, Edinburgh University, April, 1945.



Association Football

AFTER several seasons of continuous victories, this season's First XI must have aroused some disappointment in the School by the way it started the season. However, with only three of last season's team still at school, experiments had to be made for several weeks before eleven regular players could be chosen. Even this did not solve the problem of a team, for illness and injuries incapacitated several members for a period of the season. The Shield Competition showed that the team was well balanced and could combine effectively; facts which greatly helped it to reach the Senior Shield Final for the third successive year. In the Final itself the team was unlucky to lose a very even and close game. The Quarry Bank goalkeeper stood between us and victory, and he proved more than capable of dealing with the many shots that our forward line had.

The Second XI started the season very badly and suffered a run of defeats; but after Christmas they played better and won all their matches. As usual, this team has not been able to settle down properly, because of calls upon its players by the First XI. The Third XI have had a fair season, as the results show. In the Junior Shield Replay the team was unlucky to lose; and many of the Junior players show great promise for the future. Once again the Under 13 XI have played few matches, but these they have played enthusiastically, and have not suffered defeat.

I would like to thank those members of the staff who have helped to run and referee the School teams, notably Mr. Peters and Mr. Moy with the 1st XI; Mr. Bartlett with the Second XI; and Mr.

Morgan and Mr. Booth with the Junior teams. Without the advice and coaching of these masters the School teams could not have hoped to achieve success throughout the season. Thanks are also due to George Wass for keeping Greenbank and the football tackle in good condition; to Alfred Holt & Co. for the very generous loan of their ground at Riversdale, and to their groundsman for the excellent condition in which he has kept the football pitch. Also I would like to thank K. B. Low for performing the duties of Secretary efficiently and effectively.

Throughout the season the First XI has been chosen regularly from the following—Oulton, Morris, Horton, G. Low, K. Low, Duke, Rumjahn, Moore, Marsh, Lloyd, Perkins, Alderson, Rawlinson, Forster.

These boys have also played:—C. F. Parry, C. A. Parry, Howlett, Davies, R. Owen.

G. H. Low.

CRITIQUE.

Low, G. (Captain and Left-back). The team has been much indebted to his steadiness and experience. He tackles and kicks strongly, and is good in recovery. His well-developed positional sense enables him to avoid being caught in the wrong place, except on rare occasions. When unable to get the ball immediately, he is often able to position himself so as to slow up the attack and gain valuable time for his colleagues to recover—a refinement of the game not sufficiently appreciated in our teams.

Low, K. B. (Vice-captain and Right-half). He has improved out of all knowledge this season. A keen and resolute tackler, though he is sometimes rather too easily beaten. He is learning to bring the ball through and distribute it usefully. His best work, however, has been done with his head. He makes the best use of his height, and has the useful faculty of being able to head the ball and charge down opposition at the same time. He has shown signs of having the makings of a good centre-half.

HORTON, E. J. (Right-back). He has played steadily throughout the season, and has always been calm even in the most dangerous situations. A full-back who keeps his position well and tackles strongly. His left-foot kicking is weak and he should use his head more often.

RUMJAHN, R. M. (Centre-half). An excellent attacking centre-half, who is hampered by a poor right-foot kick. With his speed he has often changed the game from one of defence on our part to one of attack. He has always distributed the ball to full

advantage amongst the forwards, and often he has had a good shot at goal himself. His heading is very good, he has mastered most centre-forwards in the air, and his trapping has improved.

MOORE, C. M. (Left-half). He has improved greatly throughout the season, and has shown that he can be relied upon to kick and head clear from dangerous positions. A hard worker with a good turn of speed, who never admits defeat.

LLOYD, A. (Outside-right). His main fault was that he kept the ball to himself instead of centering it, but of late he has dropped out of this habit and has combined more effectively than earlier in the season. By placing himself in an unmarked position he has snapped up many chances of scoring from a centre from the left wing. His heading is weak; but he has not often been shouldered off the ball.

DUKE, D. (Inside-right and Right-half). Earlier in the season he proved himself a capable substitute in the latter position, where he countered his slowness by a strong tackle; but in the inside-right position he tended to remain too far back when our forwards were attacking, and his passes often went to the opposing defence. His heading and left-foot kicking are weak, but he has a strong right-foot shot.

ALDERSON, G. W. (Centre-forward). A speedy and very effective centre-forward with a strong shot with both feet. If given the ball to run for he can cut through opposing defences and place his shot well. He distributes the ball amongst the other forwards if he is closely marked, and his readiness to interchange positions has led to many goals. In front of goal he can use his head very well, and he keeps trying all through the game.

RAWLINSON, L. (Inside-left). He has improved throughout the season, and has shown that last season's experience was not wasted. His ball control is excellent and he worries everybody who comes against him. He has combined well with his wing man, and his shooting has always been on the mark with either foot. He tackles back on every possible occasion, and his positioning is always very good. His only fault is that he is a trifle slow.

FORSTER, F. (Outside-left). A very fast winger who combines well with his inside man. His centres are very good and he has a strong shot with both feet. Heading is a strong point of his and he can often beat a man by this means. His ball control is good, and he does not keep the ball to himself longer than necessary.

OULTON, H. A. (Goalkeeper). Although he has played only a few games he has shown that he can be relied upon to save shots that would be unstoppable but for his height and sense of

anticipation. He can get down to low balls and he always keeps his body behind the ball. He never fumbles a ball, but his weakness lies in evading attacking forwards.

MORRIS, A. B. (Goalkeeper). Although small for this position, he showed at one time during the season that he could be relied upon to gather most shots within his reach, or at least keep them out of the goal-mouth. Latterly he was too easily beaten, because he fumbled the ball too often, and most high shots beat him.

PERKINS, B. S. (Inside-right). He has good ball control, but he is far too easily robbed of the ball through being charged over. His passes are well-intended, although a trifle weak. His heading is rather weak, and he does not seem to know when to shoot. With more weight and force he would be good.

COLOURS.

Full Colours have been re-awarded to:—

R. M. Rumjahn.

Full Colours have been awarded to:—

K. Low, L. Rawlinson, C. M. Moore, F. Forster, G. W. Alderson, G. Low.

Half Colours have been awarded to:—

E. J. Horton, A. Lloyd, D. Duke, B. S. Perkins, R. Owen, C. A. L. Marsh.

SENIOR SHIELD FINAL.

The Final of the Senior Shield Competition took place at Goodison Park on Monday, March 26th, between the Institute and Quarry Bank High School. The School team lined up as follows:— Oulton; Horton, Low, G.; Low, K., Rumjahn, Moore; Lloyd, Duke, Alderson, Rawlinson, Forster.

Having reached the final of the Competition for the last three years great hopes were centred on the School eleven. They were unfortunate to lose by the only goal of the game as the play was very even throughout and a draw would have been a fitting result. Nevertheless, Quarry Bank, having once gained the lead, fought hard to maintain it and deserved their well-earned success.

Low lost the toss and the School defended the chapel end. The first half found the Institute decidedly superior. Rawlinson, the

School's best forward, went very close with many good hard drives. The School attacks were more concerted than the opposition and if it were not for the numerous superlative saves of the Quarry 'keeper a very different story might be told. Oulton was not troubled very much but when he was needed he acted confidently and competently. Half-time came with no score.

Immediately after the restart the School pressed hard and maintained an almost continuous siege of the other goal, which escaped downfall in miraculous fashion on several occasions. Quarry Bank, however, improved on their first-half play. Their half-backs fed the forwards with accurate short passes and it was one of these that was to produce the deciding goal. The centre-forward received the ball on the right wing and sent up a high shot. Oulton mis-judged the flight of the ball, came out too far, and the ball sailed over him into the goal. The School was not disheartened by this setback and continued fighting staunchly until the final whistle.

The School defence played good keen football with G. Low and Rumjahn outstanding.

A. P. PARRY.

RESULTS.

First XI.

v. Alsop	Away	Sept. 23	Lost	2—0
v. Waterloo G.S.	Away	Sept. 30	Lost	4—1
v. Warrington G.S.	Home	Oct. 7	Won	4—2
v. S.F.X.	Home	Oct. 21	Lost	2—1
v. Prescott G.S.	Home	Oct. 28	Won	5—2
v. Collegiate	Home	Nov. 4	Won	4—3
v. Quarry Bank	Away	Nov. 11	Drew	2—2
v. Holt	Away	Nov. 18	Lost	4—2
v. Bootle S.S.	Home	Nov. 25	Won	3—0
v. Alsop	Home	Dec. 2	Drew	3—3
v. S.F.X.	Away	Feb. 3	Lost	3—0
v. Bootle S.S.	Home	Feb. 10	Won	7—3

1st Round Senior Shield.

v. Bootle S.S.	Away	Feb. 24	Drew	2—2
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1st Round Senior Shield, Replay.

v. Bootle S.S.	Home	Mar. 3	Won	3—1
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Senior Shield, Semi-Final.

v. Prescott G.S.	Away	Mar. 10	Won	4—2
v. S.F.X.	Away	Mar. 17	Won	5—4

Shield Final.

v. Quarry Bank	Mar. 26	Lost	1—0
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Second XI.

v. Warrington G.S.	Away	Oct. 7	Lost	3—1
v. S.F.X.	Away	Oct. 21	Lost	9—1
v. Methodist Boys' Club	Home	Oct. 28	Lost	3—1
v. Collegiate	Away	Nov. 4	Lost	4—3
v. Quarry Bank	Home	Nov. 11	Lost	2—0
v. Art School	Home	Nov. 18	Won	10—0
v. Alsop	Away	Dec. 2	Drew	5—5
v. Florence Institute	Home	Feb. 3	Won	2—1
v. Deeside Rovers	Home	Feb. 10	Won	8—3
v. Deane Rd. Boys' Club	Away	Feb. 24	Won	7—0
v. St. Simon's Boys' Club	Home	Mar. 3	Won	7—2
v. Collegiate	Home	Mar. 10	Won	10—2
v. S.F.X.	Home	Mar. 17	Drew	2—2
v. Deane Rd. Boys' Club	Home	Mar. 24	Won	7—2

Third XI.

v. Waterloo G.S.	Home	Sept. 30	Lost	5—1
v. Warrington	Away	Oct. 7	Won	5—3
v. S.F.X.	Home	Oct. 21	Lost	3—1
v. Prescott	Away	Oct. 28	Won	7—0
v. Collegiate	Home	Nov. 4	Drew	2—2
v. Quarry Bank	Away	Nov. 11	Won	3—0
v. Holt	Home	Nov. 18	Won	3—2
v. Alsop	Home	Dec. 2	Lost	2—1
v. S.F.X.	Home	Feb. 3	Won	5—0

First Round Junior Shield.

v. Bootle	Away	Feb. 17	Drew	1—1
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First Round, Replay.

v. Bootle	Home	Feb. 24	Lost	3—2
v. Collegiate	Away	Mar. 10	Lost	3—1
v. S.F.X.	Away	Mar. 17	Drew	4—4
v. Holt	Away	Mar. 24	Lost	4—2

Under 13 XI.

v. Waterloo G.S.	Away	Sept. 20	Won	2—0
v. Quarry Bank	Home	Nov. 11	Won	2—0
v. Holt	Away	Nov. 18	Won	6—0
v. Holt	Home	Mar. 24	Won	3—0

Hockey Notes

UNDoubtedly this has been one of the most successful hockey seasons for many years. Both seniors and juniors have shown an eagerness which has made my task so much easier.

The senior practices at the beginning of the season were well attended and it was no mean task to choose an eleven from such a galaxy of promising players. Once a team was decided on it played enthusiastically, doubling good hockey with an indomitable team-spirit, an all-important factor in any game. The defence has played staunchly on all occasions and perhaps the only criticism to make is, that having once obtained the ball, the backs tend to clear the ball rashly without first ascertaining the position of the other players. The forwards had a tendency to hang on to the ball too long and thereby throwing away many valuable opportunities.

Such was the interest shown by the middle and lower forms that it was found possible to form a 2nd XI and an Under 15 XI. These younger players will form the nucleus of next year's team, and if they maintain their interest and keenness, all will be well.

It is with deep regret that we bid farewell to Mr. Frearson. He has been in charge of hockey for some time and the game has flourished under his supervision. His untiring energy in umpiring the matches and the valuable time he has given to coach the teams is greatly appreciated by all. We wish him every success at his new post.

Once again it is our pleasant duty to thank Mrs. Preston warmly for so kindly preparing the tea for the home games.

To Alfred Holt & Co. we wish to tender our thanks for the use of Riversdale Road, and to their groundsman for maintaining the excellent condition of the ground.

CRITIQUE: THE FIRST ELEVEN.

JOHNSON, E. (Goalkeeper). A good goalkeeper, who has developed a very strong kick. He must keep calm under pressure, avoid leaving an open goal, and use his stick as well as his feet.

BARTER, S. R. (Right Full-back). A tower of strength in the defence throughout the season. He tackles well and his clearances are strong and well-placed.

HEATLEY, D. L. (Left Full-back). A good tackler, his clearances are strong, but he tends to hit at random and to stand too square. He will improve with experience.

PRESTON, M. P. (Right Half-back). A much-improved player. His tackling is now more effective and his hitting stronger. He has

almost overcome his greatest weakness—clearing the ball across the centre of the field.

OULTON, H. A. (Centre Half-back). Has filled this most difficult position capably. Though stronger in defence, he has combined well with his forwards. Also a very good goalkeeper.

MARTIN, G. E. (Left Half-back). A most energetic and enthusiastic player. He defends with dogged tenacity and puts all he has into every game.

BOARDMAN, A. J. (Outside-right). Did not strike form till late in the season. Centres accurately but tends to keep the ball too long.

BOSWELL, K. H. (Inside-right). Possesses a very powerful shot and is not reluctant to use it. His passing is well-timed and produces many goals. He must remember to use both hands.

PARRY, A. P. (Centre-forward). A gifted centre-forward. Capable of real brilliance in mid-field play, and possessing a powerful shot. Has made an excellent captain of Hockey.

LEAK, E. H. (Inside-left). A young player who has done very well against bigger opponents. His stick-work is particularly good, but he must learn to seize every opportunity of shooting in the circle.

McKENZIE, A. D. (Outside-left). Rather disappointing. His dribbling is clever, but too often gets in the way of his inner forward, and parts with the ball, or shoots, too late.

RESULTS.

1st XI. Played 19. Won 10. Lost 9.
Goals: For, 102. Against, 54.

2nd XI. Played 7. Won 3. Drawn 2. Lost 2.
Goals: For, 26. Against, 18.

Under 15 XI. Played 2. Lost 2.
Goals: For, 2. Against, 12.

COLOURS.

Full Colours for the season have been re-awarded to A. P. Parry, and awarded to S. R. Barter, K. H. Boswell, G. E. Martin and H. A. Oulton.

Half Colours have been re-awarded to A. J. Boardman and A. D. McKenzie, and awarded to M. P. Preston.

A. P. PARRY.

Fives Notes

Fives has almost died out this term owing to an acute shortage of balls. However, a few balls which had hitherto remained hidden have, during the past few weeks, made an appearance, and a few games have been played. Two fixtures have been arranged next term with Wallasey Grammar School, as it is hoped to have some balls by then. Finally, I would like to appeal to all players to return all gloves and balls promptly if, and when, the new quota arrives.

N. S. HOWLETT.

* * *

Cricket Fixtures, 1945

Sat., May 5, v. Birkenhead Institute.
1st XI.....H. 2nd XI.....A.

Wed., „ 9, v. Wallasey Grammar School.
1st XI...H. 2nd XI...A. 3rd XI...A.

Wed., „ 16, v. Birkenhead School.
1st XI...H. 2nd XI...A. 3rd XI...A.

Sat., „ 19, v. Collegiate School.
1st XI...A. 2nd XI...H. 3rd XI...A.

Sat., „ 26, v. Liobians.
1st XI...A.

Sat., June 2, v. Holt High School.
1st XI...A. 3rd XI...H. Under 13 XI.. A.

Sat., „ 16, v. Collegiate School.
1st XI...H. 2nd XI...A. 3rd XI...A.

Sat., „ 23, v. Quarry Bank.
1st XI...H. 2nd XI...A. 3rd XI...A. Under 13 XI...A.

Wed., „ 27, v. Wallasey Grammar School.
1st XI...A. 2nd XI...H. 3rd XI...A.

Sat., „ 30, v. Liobians.
1st XI...H.

Wed., July 4, v. Birkenhead School.
1st XI...A. 2nd XI...H. 3rd XI...A.

Sat., „ 14, v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby.
1st XI...H. 2nd XI...A.

F. FORSTER, *Hon. Sec.*

A. T. C. Notes

SINCE the last issue of the Magazine we have to record several changes in personnel. At the beginning of the school year F/O. R. T. Jones resigned from our unit owing to his appointment to a school in Chester, and his place has been very ably filled by F/O. J. E. Watson, who transferred from 1524 Squadron. Our senior F/Sgt., A. T. Jones, who started a R.A.F. Short Course at Edinburgh University last October, was succeeded by F/Sgt. Moore, and Sgt. Howlett was promoted to F/Sgt.

The annual Summer Camp was held at an Operational Training Unit in the North of England. A number of Cadets were airborne and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Several of the N.C.O.s also attended N.C.O. Courses in Navigation, Law and Administration, and Combatant Training during the summer holidays. We have not been able to make proper use of the Squadron's headquarters in Falkner Street as yet because, although the order was submitted soon after our moving in, no heating apparatus has been installed, and throughout the winter months the house has been far too cold to use.

On field days we have been to Greenbank Park, where Cadets spent their time in shooting, football and official P.T. tests, and to a R.A.F. Station where a large number of Cadets were airborne.

Parades this term have been in the main restricted to one hour per week. This is not due to lack of keenness (for our numbers have increased and Proficiency and First-class Cadet results were well up to standard), but rather to the lack of accommodation during the winter months.

Recently a small party of N.C.O.s and Cadets went with 1547 Squadron to a Naval Air Station, where an enjoyable programme, including flying, was carried out.

The N.C.O.s and Cadets who took part in the recent parade at the Collegiate School when Liverpool School A.T.C. units were inspected by Air Marshal Sir Leslie Gossage, are to be congratulated on their excellent turnout, which redounded greatly to the credit of the Squadron.

Proficiency Certificates have been obtained by Cpl. Oulton and Cadets Austin, Black, Eedle, Parry, C. F., and Kennedy.

A number of N.C.O.s will be attending courses this Easter in Navigation, Law and Administration, and Combatant Training. Cpl. Cresswell is at present attending a R.A.F. Gliding Course. He and Cdt. Owen have been accepted for R.A.F. air-crew duties.

C. M. MOORE, *Flt./Sgt.*

I am confident that all ranks in the Squadron would wish me to add a short tribute to the two Flight-Sergeants who are leaving, having been awarded well-merited University Short Courses.

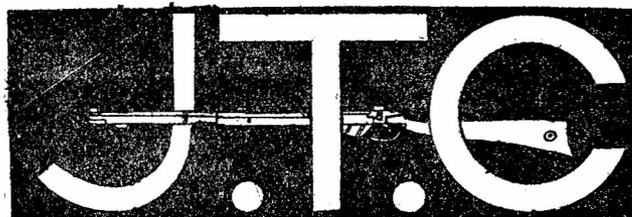
Right from its formation in 1941 the Squadron has been fortunate in having the loyal and devoted services of Flight-Sergeants of quite unusual merit, and Ft./Sgts. Moore and Howlett have worthily upheld this high tradition.

Each of them has excelled in that form of quiet, unassuming, but meticulously efficient, and reliable service which is the most valuable attribute of any officer.

Both of them possess personalities that have won them great popularity and they leave us with the good wishes of all for their happiness and success in the future.

A. THORPE, F/Lt.,
O.C., Sqn. 995.

* * *



IN the Autumn Term, two field days were held at Formby. On each, the opportunity was taken to acquaint the Recruits and Part I candidates with that masterpiece of War Office ingenuity known as Battle Drill. On the first occasion, the company witnessed two demonstrations—one on sentries, organised by Mr. Halton (which, incidentally, revealed a not inconsiderable amount of latent theatrical ability), and the other, in which Mr. Bowen showed us how a section should go into the attack, using the principles of Battle Drill. During the second field day, Part II candidates had the chance to show their tactical skill in a scheme in which they acted as section commanders.

The first field day last term was held in school, owing to the vagaries of January weather, and took the form of the usual training as on Wednesday afternoon parades. In the morning of the second field day, most of the company had the benefit of instruction in the use of cover and firing behind cover, from several Army N.C.O.s from the I.T.C. In the afternoon, the Corps watched a

semi-trained soldier passing his tests in the use of cover. Several members of the contingent were also lucky enough to fire a few rounds with a Bren gun.

During Wednesday afternoon parades, we have been fortunate to obtain the services of an Army sergeant to instruct the Part II Certificate "A" candidates in Weapon Training and Drill.

We would like to point out that the present tendency of certain Cadets to eschew the donning of uniform is indicative of slackness which is far from satisfactory. We appeal to every Cadet to do his best to improve the general discipline and turnout of the unit.

M. P. PRESTON, C.S.M.

J.T.C. Camp, July, 1944

FOR by far the majority of both N.C.O.s and Cadets, the Army Cadet Force Camp at Heswall, to which the contingent sent a party of over forty, proved to be something new. Unfortunately, no annual training camps for contingents of the Junior Training Corps had been held since the outbreak of war, and naturally Captain Hart was anxious that as many as possible should attend.

That such camps are valuable is undeniable. They enable Cadets to put into *practice* all the training they have done in *theory* during the previous year.

Seeing that so few of the party had any experience in the gentle art of camping, it is remarkable that everybody settled down so quickly to the discipline of life in a military camp: many were no doubt encouraged by the homely preparations of the inmates of the Sergeants' tent, who spent several hours after their arrival trying in vain to knock a thin sheet of zinc into the iron-hard ground with a mallet. The rest of their behaviour whilst installing their wireless-set had to be seen to be believed!

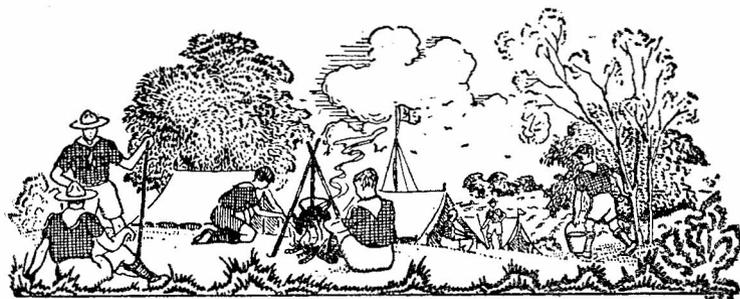
Our activities during the week were as interesting as they were varied. Every branch of training for Certificate "A" was included, special emphasis being laid on "Individual Movement" and "Use of Cover." Our mistakes were checked and corrected by Permanent Staff Instructors of the Regular Army, and great benefit was obtained from their experience and guidance.

The high spot and culminating point of the week was the "all-day scheme," held on the Friday, in which the Corps, in company with several A.C.F. units, attacked and stormed Thurstaston Hill. The operation was very successful, and the Corps was praised for its discipline during the long hours of careful approach to the objective under a blazing sun.

Only one thing now remains to be done: that of urging *every* member of the contingent to attend any camp of a similar nature that may be held this summer, for he will undoubtedly spend one of the happiest and most beneficial weeks of his life as a member of the J.T.C.

S.R.B.

* * *



Scout Notes

SINCE our last Scout Notes, we have held our Summer Camp. We spent a glorious week at Brynbach, the large Scout camping ground among the Denbigh Moors. At one of the camp-fires we discovered hidden talent in our midst in the form of a young poet, whose "Ode to Brynbach" caused much amusement. For many it was the first taste of camp, but all felt sorrow upon leaving. Indeed, two of our members returned the following day, but this time it was to help a large troop from London, who were camping with only one Scoutmaster.

At the beginning of the Autumn Term we received a large influx of new recruits, many of whom, we are glad to report, are now well on their way towards the Second-class Badge. Parades were held regularly throughout the term in the School Gymnasium, alternately on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. The first field day was held on October 25th, when the troop took the electric train to Bidston. After following a trail to Arrowe Park, where we held some signalling practice, we returned to Bidston Hill, where the windmill was stoutly defended against an attack by paratroops. The second field day was held on 24th November at Hale Cliff, which was reached by different sections of the troop by devious routes. Here work was done in fire-lighting, cooking, tracking and signalling. The grand finale of the term was the Christmas Party

held in the School Dining Hall. After devouring large amounts of food, brought by themselves, the troop retired to the gymnasium to play games, leaving the Patrol Leaders and Seconds to wash up; this done, the Patrols entertained each other.

During the Spring Term we held parades alternately on Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings; the parades on Saturday mornings, in the latter half of the term, were held at Childwall Woods. Owing to the bad weather at the beginning of the term, we held only one field-day. This was on March 2nd, at Thurston. Each patrol reached the Common by a different route. After a little practice in signalling and estimation, a few wide games were played.

The Leaders are to make a Youth Hostels hiking tour in North Wales during the Easter Holidays.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those members of the staff who help us such a great deal in the testing of badges. Indeed, we are very fortunate to have such a large number of qualified examiners so close at hand.

We congratulate Martin upon gaining his Red and White All-round Cords, and Morris and Thomas upon gaining their Green and Yellow All-round Cords, and Ripon upon gaining his First Class, and also all those other boys who have gained badges during the last two terms.

In closing, we should like to say how grateful we are to Mr. Haig, our S.M., and Mr. Holmes, our A.S.M., for all the ungrudging work they do for the troop.

D. E. MARSDEN, P.L.

* * *

A Visit to a Coal-mine

MY friend and I once visited a coalmine in South Wales. We asked the manager if he would allow us to tour the place. He said that if we did not interfere with the miners we were at liberty to inspect the mine.

At half-past six in the morning the miners arrived to start work. As they entered the enclosure around the mine they received safety-lamps, pick-axes and shovels from the man who sat at a small window in a hut. Then they filed into a cage which travelled down a shaft until it reached the bottom, where the miners disembarked and split up into parties. The head of each party carried dynamite and a pneumatic drill.

Each party then went to their allotted tunnels where they began to work. The party with whom we went, travelled in an electric truck down the main tunnel and branched off down a subsidiary tunnel. This tunnel had recently been blasted, because we noticed the new props which reinforced it. The miners got out of the truck and began to pick the coal. The leader fixed a small charge of dynamite in the coal belt and blew out a large section of the tunnel at the far end. When the dust had cleared, the miners returned and smelt some unusual odour in the mine. Accordingly the miners evacuated the tunnel and several went down the shaft carrying canaries. We asked the miners why they did this and they answered that a canary dies at the slightest trace of poisonous gas. A half-hour passed and the miners did not arrive. A boy who was patiently waiting next to me became agitated, because his father was one of the four miners who were testing for poisonous gas. Soon his fears were set at rest because a little later his father and his three comrades came up, bearing dead canaries.

The father told us that the mine was full of a poisonous gas which was escaping from the new tunnel. This danger forced the mine authorities to close the mine for the rest of the day, but they installed electric fans in the tunnel.

Next day the miners returned to find the mine free from gas, and the work began as usual. The muscular miners began to reinforce the tunnel by carrying huge props and placing them where the tunnel had been blasted. Then they began to pick the coal from the sides of the tunnel and load up the trucks. The men finished work at six o'clock and returned home.

When we arrived next day the miners had already begun work and were quickly broadening the tunnel. Then the miners were confronted with a new danger. The leader who had dynamited the tunnel found water trickling from a small gap which had been torn in the wall. He reported this to the authorities who at once investigated. They found out that the tunnel was leading into a small artesian well, which is a small lake of water between two rock stratas. Then they brought mining experts on to the job, who bored down into the well. The water gushed out and in a short time all the water had been removed. This lifted the danger which threatened to ruin the mine. The miners, greatly relieved, started work as usual.

When the excitement had died down we visited the rest of the mine and ended our exciting visit by thanking the manager for the kindness he had extended to us.

D. C. PRICE, R.Sc.

* * *

"Pastorale"

The setting sun sinks slowly in the West;
Through slender woven webs of brittle branches,
Covering in peace and harmony all thoughts of strife,
I see great banks of noble and caressing clouds
All tinged with purple, gold and emerald green . . .
A melancholy rook caws homeward in the dusk,
As breezes, soft to touch and feel,
Glide dreamily amongst the trees. . . .

The setting sun sinks slowly in the West,
And all the shadowy earth is bathed in peace,
As slowly, my heart filled with strange music,
All vibrant to the pluckings of the breeze,
I walk, alone and ghostly in the dusk,
Down to the light of the valley below.

— "PULMONATA."

* * *

The Literary and Debating Society

THE Society found itself at the beginning of the school year void of prospects, witnessing a steady decline in attendance which had been the discouraging harvest of the previous year. That it has regained its accustomed strength and has, in addition, broadened its field of activity, is proof of its hardy nature and perennial attraction. The simple expedient of reverting to the original commencement hour of seven, instead of beginning meetings immediately after school, though regarded with scepticism when first proposed, produced an increase in numbers. It is noticeable that the quality of speeches has likewise improved, as has the interest displayed in the nature of debating itself. The Committee was successful in enticing several members of the staff into its hallowed precincts. Might we here draw the attention of the staff to provision two of the constitution, which reads: "That its members include all boys of the Liverpool Institute of the standing of the Removes and Sixths, and any members of the Staff," and assure any master or mistress who is prepared to listen to our puerile mouthings, of a warm welcome, with the added inducement of an entertaining evening.

An attempt was made to hold a joint debate with the senior pupils of Blackburne House, but owing to the black-out the Society was denied the grace and undoubtedly eloquent zeal of its members. A ready acceptance awaited an invitation from Quarry Bank High School for a combined debate, and the event, if it did not fill the

School Hall, at least made enough of its varnished interior invisible to persuade us that the evening was a success. It is hoped next term to return the visit.

In accordance with custom, below appear the complete minutes of two of the nine debates held this year, prefixed by a list of all the motions, together with the names of the principal speakers and the voting on each debate. In conclusion, the secretaries wish to express their warmest gratitude and appreciation to the Society's chairman, Mr. C. H. Moore, to whose abilities a year of successful meetings bears eloquent testimony. It is by such enthusiastic guidance tempered by experience that school societies have been enabled to recapture some of the splendour of their pre-war blossoms.

THE SEASON'S DEBATES.

1944.

Oct. 10th.—“We are all too conservative.”

Proposer: K. H. Boswell. Opposer: V. G. Lunt. Motion carried.

Oct. 24th.—“The time has come for the abolition of the small trader.”

Proposer: A. Durband. Opposer: J. R. Little. Motion defeated.

Nov. 7th.—“In the interests of peace the continuance of compulsory military service is desirable.”

Proposer: S. R. Barter. Opposer: R. Shaw-Smith. Motion carried.

Nov. 27th.—“A woman's place is in the home.”

Proposer: W. E. Richards. Opposer: G. H. Low. Motion carried.

Dec. 12th.—Impromptu debates.

1945.

Jan. 24th.—“(a) Alcohol, (b) Hollywood, (c) The ‘Daily Express’, is the greatest menace to society.”

Proposers (a) G. H. Phillipps, (b) S. R. Barter, (c) G. E. Gadd. Hollywood was elected the greatest menace to society.

Feb. 6th.—“Britain is a decadent nation.”

Proposer: V. G. Lunt. Opposer: R. O. Morris. Motion carried.

Feb. 27th.—“Capitalism and a free Press are incompatible.” (In conjunction with Quarry Bank Debating Society.)

Proposer: S. R. Barter (Institute). Opposer: W. T. Rodgers (Quarry Bank). Motion defeated.

March 27th.—This last debate of the year took a novel form. Four eminent figures of the modern world—a composer, a crooner,

a politician, and a scientific writer—are made unwilling passengers in a runaway balloon. There is only one parachute. It was the task of G. E. Gadd, N. Prosser, E. Griffith and T. J. Snow to prove to the Society respectively that Jean Sibelius, Bing Crosby, Mahatma Gandhi and H. G. Wells should take possession of the sole means of salvation.

The voting was as follows:—

For Sibelius ... 15	For Gandhi ... 7
For Crosby ... 12	For Wells ... 7
Abstentions ... 7	

Jean Sibelius was consequently awarded the parachute.

Minutes of a meeting held Tuesday, 10th October, at 7 p.m. in the Masters' Common Room, with Mr. C. H. MOORE in the chair.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by retracing the varied fortunes of the Society, and he expressed a profound hope that this new season would be one marked with success. He had gladly accepted the Chairmanship of the Society, and assured members of his earnest desire to restore it to its former position of prestige. For newcomers he read significant articles from the printed constitution, and explained the courtesies of procedure to the House. He then called upon the Secretary to read the gloomy minutes of a meeting held on February 8th.

Opposition to the signing of these minutes came from L. A. BARDSLEY, but the persuasive arguments of the Chairman and Secretary, supported from the floor by J. R. LITTLE, swayed the society and they were endorsed by the necessary signature.

The House then proceeded to elect a Committee Member for the Remove Forms, and E. G. KENNETT, though proposed, bashfully declined the dignity. After a marked reticence on behalf of Remove members to suggest one of their number for the office, N. T. PROSSER's name was forwarded and the Society approved unanimously of the choice. After Private Business had been extended for a period of five minutes, K. H. BOSWELL, eager for the Society to hear his voice, rose and suggested that the ancient and coveted post of Lord High Poker in Chief should be restored; whereupon every member endeavoured by subtle practices to have his name proposed. But the sobering tones of the Chairman, faintly to be heard above the tumult, restored order and eventually S. R. BARTER, valuing, no doubt, an occupation which would prove useful in the after world, accepted the title and diligently applied himself to his duty. This ended Private Business.

The Chairman then called upon K. H. BOSWELL to propose that “*We are all too conservative.*” He began by defining terms, declaring he interpreted “we” to mean “the British people,” and “too conservative” to mean “conservative to a harmful degree.” Realizing that this alone would be insufficient to sway the Society in his favour, he averred his intention of furnishing a few examples. He endeavoured to prove that a mysterious coin known to himself as a “wotnot” was contributing to trade decline, saying that to the foreigner our complicated system of coinage, and weights and measures, was incomprehensible. Showing how

versatile he could be, he turned to art, which he said was too limited, and music, which was too hackneyed. Deploring "popular" programmes, he pointed out that the Grieg Piano Concerto was too frequently employed to attract an audience. In the important matter of Social Security, he suggested that conservatism would lead to oligarchy, and, possibly by studying the expression of his audience, he added that the average person does not care about what goes on around him. There was conservatism, too, in town planning, and he deplored the rejection by Birkenhead Town Council of an independent architect's plans. In a scholarly sentence he declared we would be "hamstrung all over the place" if councils worried unduly over rates. Bringing his speech to a conclusion, the proposer proudly quoted from Disraeli, and resumed his seat.

V. G. LUNT was called upon to oppose the motion. He generously admitted the fairness of the proposer's definition of terms, and said that he stood, not for the Upper Classes or against Communists, but for the Preservation of Britain's Traditions. Quoting a mysterious but eminently reliable source, he announced that the people of Murmansk were starving; from which he gathered that Communism would be unacceptable to the Englishman. Turning, as a contrast, to the capitalist's paradise, the United States, he again showed a profound knowledge of economics and revealed that the luxurious flats of Hollywood were a façade for presumably devilish holes in Brooklyn. Sublimely ignorant of his own country's condition, he blandly stated that Britain was not in want. We had always championed the freedom of individuals and, mixing his metaphors, he pointed out that to uproot conservatism would be to uproot nature. The opposer admitted we had been lax in entering the war, but we "could leap when it came to the push." This subtle truth philosophically expressed, launched the speaker upon a sentimental though eloquent passage. Tears were visible in members' eyes as he said touchingly that the "love of the Colonies to Britain was like a daughter to a mother." His seconder looked bashful as his competency to confound the Proposer's musical arguments was averred. Saying that Britain's love of peace was not conservatism, his material exhausted, the opposer sat down.

J. H. EEDLE seconded the proposer. A diminutive figure, he frankly admitted his confusion. Accusing the opposer of straying from the point, he seized upon Brooklyn's back streets as an example of that individual's short-comings. He would not admit that we were peace loving; and cryptically remarked that we loved peace until our trade was affected. Somehow he involved Lancashire, cotton mills and South America in his defence of the motion, but the Society failed to appreciate the subtlety of his points. Britain was not, he thought, a first-class nation, or even a second-class one; and after due deliberation he boldly and impetuously added she was not even a third. Actually mentioning conservatism, a thought struck the speaker that we were too conservative, and he resumed his seat to consider the matter.

R. D. STRAPPS, who seconded the opposer, conducted his speech in a rhapsodic manner. Opening his symphony, he threw the Society into confusion by revealing it was neither Chinese, Spanish, nor Italian; it was no less than completely English. It was fortunate that a member, recently elevated above his station, was not present. Quoting from the bookcase behind him, which at this point in the debate constituted his only support,

he listed literary Boducila, and involved Florence Nightingale, the Huguenots, Spain, Italy, Garibaldi, Cavour, and Napoleon in this, his scherzo. Saying that England had sent many a monarch and sceptre rolling in the dust, the speaker, in a high falsetto, explained the derivation of the Union Jack. Asking numerous questions but volunteering no replies, he blandly suggested that the Society should consider England in the wider sense of the term. His last movement was towards his chair.

After the debate had been thrown open, a blaze of red clicked its fingers at the chairman and K. B. Low* began to speak. He lashed at the sentiments of the opposer's seconder, condemning it as "Patriotic mush." He scornfully rejected the contention that England was on the side of Justice, and reminded the Society of our deplorable neglect of Abyssinia, our tyrannical government of India, and our impertinent interference in Russia during the Revolution. The cold sense of the speaker impressed the Society, but he had not finished his pitiless tirade. Would the Russians have made such tremendous progress had they adhered to their ancient traditions? With the vehemently and contemptuously expressed opinion that Shakespeare had nothing to do with conservatism the red blur disappeared among a crowd of members.

J. R. LITTLE traversed the floor and "dished out" truths. He complimented the maiden effort of the previous speaker, and modestly admitted it was better than his own, delivered in the dim past. He preferred, however to call the opposer's speech "Pious Sentiment," rather than "Patriotic Mush," and proved to his own satisfaction that the opposer argued for the proposer's cause. He shrewdly remarked that the men referred to by the seconder of the opposition had been progressives in their day, and had Drake been conservative, he would have preferred to stay at home with his wife. In the absence of Sir Francis, and the character of Lady Drake being unknown, the Society accepted this as true. He now told a story of a Communist window cleaner, who was really conservative at heart, but his ramblings were brought to a close by the Chairman, and he ended by saying he would like to vote for the proposer.

S. R. BARTER, on whose shoulders rest so many responsibilities, was worried. With undue presumption he described himself as a human being, and as such saw the difficulty of the motion. He delicately described the Prime Minister's speeches as "Flowery Tripe," and attacked the unfortunate seconder of the opposition. Saying he was floundered, he resumed his poking, and expressed in thrusts of the poker what he was unable to do verbally.

R. O. MORRIS* thought that the seconder of the opposition had performed a valiant job in defending music, but did not agree with his opinions.

A living proof of the mathematician's theory that a straight line has length but not breadth, G. E. GADD, was observed by some who caught his outline against the light to take the floor. He questioned the statement that Progress was to be desired, saying that the true criterion was whether civilisation contributed to the general happiness of the individual. He did not believe that the modern citizen was any happier than the

* Indicates maiden speech.

"chappie sitting around in a loin cloth." He confessed he favoured the opposition, although he was not impressed by its speeches.

N. T. PROSSER,* announced to the Society that Toryism was not conservatism.

D. E. TYNAN,* told the Society he was impressed by the seconder of the opposition's eloquence, but not convinced by his arguments. He recommended various books dealing with Soviet Russia, but confessed he had no point to propound, saying he believed none existed. With a passionate appeal to the Society to disregard flowery speeches and reminding it that facts speak louder than words, he sat down.

At this point the Chairman interjected that he disliked the use of the word "tripe" as applied to members' speeches, and explained the correct formula for addressing the chair.

R. G. M. MIRLEES supported the opposition, not for the facts they forwarded, but because of their use of oratory. Making corrections which deviated from the truth, he disturbed the peaceful Proposer who frowned his disapproval.

A. P. PARRY,* said that the tenements had fallen into a certain state known as "slumdum." Showing class superiority, he revealed that he knew the purpose of baths, which the Society had hitherto doubted, and accused the poorer classes of maltreating them. Feeling highly elated at the titter which his joke aroused, the speaker attacked in turn the Labour Government, the Civil Service, and bureaucracy.

E. G. KENNETT* agreed with the previous speaker, and avowed his intention of supporting the opposition.

H. C. JOHNSTONE* declared that the development of Egypt had been deliberately hampered by British conservatism. The eloquence of the opposer's seconder was once more praised, but the speaker believed the world had been ruined by conservatism.

Quoting Tory attempts to stifle trade in the last century, D. P. BLACKSTOCK, a tame historian, recommended that the speaker who advocated loin cloths should purchase one and wear it. With that sally he sat down.

E. GRIFFITH made the original remark that this war was the greatest catastrophe in history, and asked that men should in future consider themselves as members of a world community, and not as citizens of a particular country. Deploing the fact that "we were bleeding the cream of our youth," he concluded his speech.

L. A. BARDSLEY, undaunted by his early defeat in Private Business, came into the attack. Saying he did not believe the Government to be representative of the people, he observed that our efforts before the war to establish a permanent peace by disarming were unprecedented, and gathered therefore that we could not be too conservative and progressive in ideas at the same time.

The Lord High Poker in Chief left the dying embers of the fire on the pretext of personal explanation. Apparently the Chairman's objection to the word "tripe" had just penetrated his skull, for he apologised

* Indicates maiden speech.

for its use and looked exquisitely happy when the House laughed at his substitution of the words "pure unadulterated panegyric."

G. H. PHILLIPPS, a refugee from kindergarten, told the Society that Florence Nightingale was famed in History because of the conservatism she encountered. It was therefore unfair to use her name in support of conservatism.

G. H. Low, the workingman's delegate, appearing without a tie, abused the Royal Family. The King and his petty duties disgusted him, but he was rather abashed to find that the plans of Birkenhead's new estate which he had seen and approved were not the city architect's but the freelance's. On this occasion he had neither of his fiddles with him.

E. R. ADLARD* publicly announced his intention of supporting the opposition, and complimented the efforts of our scientists.

C. ATHERTON described the neighbourliness of hamlet life. He favoured the more conservative plan for Birkenhead, because it tended to a return to that amicable system, but it had been unfortunately rejected without his opinion being consulted.

The Chairman at this point apologised for drawing the debate to a close, and called upon V. G. LUNT to sum up for the opposition. He frankly admitted his oratory had failed, but gave his promise to do his best to clear up his miscellaneous questions. Cleverly working in a quotation from Wordsworth, which the Society would have heard whatever its relevance, he said an underground source had informed him that excellent work was being done in India; but when pressure was applied he confessed the source of his knowledge of conditions in Murmansk was a seafaring gentleman, whose news had pursued a devious course until it reached his susceptible ears. Quoting from Shakespeare, he stubbornly recited the complete passage amid disorder, and on that stirring note resumed his seat.

K. H. BOSWELL sprang from his corner and his raucous voice awoke the Society from its fanciful reverie. Admitting that his more eloquent passages had been "pinched," he endeavoured to be rhetorical, and was almost coherent for a time until he mentioned Soldiers' Ballot Papers. His vitality and dynamic personality won him success; perhaps the Society was charmed by his dimples. His appeal for votes was successful, and on the motion being put to the vote, it was carried by 28 votes to 13; there were no abstentions.

There was one committee member absent, HUDSON.

Minutes of a meeting of the Society held in the Masters' Common room on Tuesday, November 21st, at 7 p.m., with Mr. C. H. MOORE in the chair.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by calling upon the secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting. The first to criticize these minutes was L. A. BARDSLEY who registered a complaint regarding the seating accommodation, which he considered to be far from luxurious. But

* Indicates maiden speech.

the Society would not stand for this, preferring the comfort of the numerous attractive chairs which adorned the room. Following the defeat of this motion, V. G. LUNT, his soft caressing eyes concealing the ardour of his masculine indignation, rose to suggest that the Society could not tolerate references to himself as a character in search of three bears. This grim description, however, was not offensive to the Society and it withheld its support. Viewing the failure of these motions with concern R. O. MORRIS doubted the success of his motion, which was that all reference to his intellect being feeble should be deleted. After due consideration, the Society accepted the speaker's word and removed the phrase in question. The Lord High Poker-in-Chief, possibly affrighted by the glowing mass of coals before him, took the opportunity of asserting that he was not going to Hell. Further, he declared himself to be "against subtleties in the minutes." His bitterness was somewhat mollified by the soothing words of the secretary, who paid a compliment to his historic abilities. There being no further discussion, the minutes were signed, following which an election of a fresh committee member took place. R. O. MORRIS was elected to the position left vacant by the resignation of A. HUDSON. The Society now proceeded to public business and the Chairman called upon W. E. RICHARDS to propose that "*A Woman's Place is in the Home.*"

The proposer first welcomed the ladies who were present, and then apologized in advance for what he was about to say to them. Posing a rhetorical question which he might well have begged, he asked whether the Society had ever looked closely at the creation known as woman. He himself obviously knew a friend who had, for he afforded the Society a shrewd analysis of the female character. She had stray desires and wayward passions, being often gilded with a too enervating spirit of pride and spite, and in all, she was an irrational being who was unaware of the greatness of her qualities and the extent of her capabilities. Involving Eve, enthusiastic Communists, and female suffrage, the speaker turned to Woman in the Home, which situation he summed up by declaring motherhood was the greatest occurrence in a woman's life. The proposer disliked the sight of the garments which adorned a woman's body, and abhorred even more the taste of the grease which covered her face. Man, he declared, had no time either to beautify or to desecrate his appearance, for he had his allotted task to perform. Woman, too, had her vocation but sometimes preferred to relinquish it in favour of a career, with the consequence that in the absence of maternal control, there was both an increase in juvenile delinquency and an accompanying lessening in morality. The rearing of children was a full-time job, and one which should take precedence over a career. Amid a rapturous silence, the proposer spoke of single women and advocated that they should "laugh, love, and live." A mysterious quotation from De Vigny followed, which, when translated, appeared even more incomprehensible. Evidently regarding the opinions of Shakespeare and Milton as conclusive, the speaker quoted several lines from each author, and with a final exhortation to the Society to support the motion, he resumed his seat.

The scorn of the opposer, G. H. Low was terrible to behold. Casting baleful glances at the proposer, he seized upon the salient points in his argument and attacked them vigorously. The object of social reforms, he declared, was to build up an organized society. How could this be done if half the population remained at home? If women had a career,

they would not need to sacrifice this for children and husband. The logic of this statement being irrefutable, the speaker passed rapidly to women in the factories. Their capacity for work and the quality of their workmanship were equal to man's. Women were, in fact, preferred to men in many cases. In the cause of freedom it was wrong that women should be forced into marriage against their wills. Under the existing economic conditions she had no choice in the matter, but was doomed to a life of endless monotony. The fascinating subject of queues was re-introduced by the speaker, who spoke pityingly of the boredom of a fish queue, obviously not having listened as attentively as a previous speaker on the same subject. Pinning the proposer to his chair with one eye, the speaker roved his spare one over the Society while demanding how women were supposed to travel and see the world without the necessary in pound-notes. The Society was dumbfounded. The speaker, delighted by the effect of his question, asked another. How were women to inculcate into their children a sense of moral values when they had not sufficient knowledge of the world to enable them to formulate a code of ethics for themselves? Woman he concluded must not be confined to the home: she must be allowed the opportunity of reaping the benefits of a career, and of living the fullest possible life.

H. L. LACHS, seconding the proposer, very considerably explained the motion. It meant that a woman's duty to her family lay within the orbit of her home. She had equality with man, but whereas man's function was to bring home as much money as he could conveniently carry, hers was to transform these symbols into something edible. There was, the speaker continued, a solid foundation for this difference in vocation: nature had willed it. Woman had a limited amount of vital energy. If she was to continue to bear children she could not look for great achievements in scientific or artistic spheres. The parental influence over children was essential: the woman exerted a greater influence than the man. It was therefore clearly her duty to devote herself to her main purpose in living: the creation and rearing of children. Possibly envisaging a future career in Westminster, the speaker concluded by an eloquent appeal to mothers of England. "Why this far and no further?" he exhorted the Society, and pleaded passionately with British womanhood to keep humanity on the heights from which the arguments of the opposition would dislodge it.

The urbane and gently-smiling figure of I. BERMAN, who seconded the opposer, brought the Society from the company of Mussorgsky to the gentler companionship of Chopin and a warm fire. It was a common fallacy to believe that women were the weaker sex. The opposite was in reality the case. He approved of the organisation of a bee-hive, where the producers did not take care of their products. Women were equally as efficient as men, he declared, and quoted the successes of women scientists as an example of what women had done in the face of male opposition. What could they do if this opposition were removed? Having pleaded his case with conviction, the speaker then plunged the Society into a morass of dismal psychological revelations, from which it was only extricated by the MacDougalism of a later speaker. He pictured a mass of frustrated womanhood, who constituted potential Lady Macbeths. There existed in their bosoms a lust for power. This situation could only be rectified by allowing women to take up a career in life outside the home.

R. O. MORRIS was the first speaker in open debate. He complimented the proposer, but confessed that his arguments fell to the ground, when he considered how fitted woman was for the outside world. Disclosing how he spent the majority of his periods, the speaker declared that he had watched Military Policewomen drilling in the yard. He considered them far smarter than the school J.T.C., but took rather a dim view of women drivers. He began to speak of the "many charming women of the road" whom he had met, but time cut short his interesting reminiscences.

The next speaker was K. B. Low, the man with a Secret Joke. As usual, his inward fount of inexhaustible cheerfulness lent to his words the forcefulness of a Shaw. A woman's duty was in the home, he declared. It was immaterial whether or not she was efficient outside it. "A man," he dogmatically stated, "needs a woman's caresses from birth." The whole social life of the country depended upon family life; and the head of the family was the mother.

L. A. BARDSLEY'S tortuous tones demanded why women constituted the superior sex, and offered as an answer the fact that men desired peace and quiet. Again, where was the career they clamoured for to come from? With the demobilisation of the forces, women, now filling places previously held by men, would be forced to relinquish their jobs, and return to the home where, he emphatically declared they belonged.

G. E. GADD, wearing upon his face the expression of a man who has just split his sides with Aristophanes, regarded the separate functions of man and woman as a suitable division of labour. Somebody had to bring up children, he continued, with dark implications. Somebody had to look after the home. An analogy from nature illustrated his point: the male provided the food, the female reared the young. The male brain was several ounces heavier than the female brain, and was therefore capable of more logical thinking. As conclusive evidence of his contentions, the speaker added the fact that Newton was unmarried and regarded his argument as proved.

S. BOOTLE distrusted generalizations, and thought that one could not be dogmatic about the motion. Some women were suited for home life; others were not.

A. DURBAND, capitalist incognito, brought his analytic brain to bear on the question. With piercing frankness he asked where women were the least nuisance. His complaint concerning women in the home was broadly based on the fact that they nagged, brushed beneath one's feet, and talked. Women, he continued, ruined Anthony and Napoleon. He was all in favour of women travelling. He was not in favour of their coming back. With fine irony, he proposed that man's place was really in the home, and longingly eyed the door.

S. R. BARTER, straddling the fireplace, considered that the question depended upon what kind of women the Society envisaged. Drawing upon his vast knowledge of the *genus femineum*, from the herbal variety to the pure Italian, he could state with confidence that some women were designed for bringing up children; others were not. At this point the speaker broke off to suggest how much more appropriate it would be if the Society were to hear the voices of the ladies present rather than his own, and to assure the ladies that the Society waited with considerable eagerness for their opinions.

According, Miss WILLIAMSON took the plunge. She deplored the use of cosmetics by the modern woman but ascribed it to a deficiency in the make-up of man. He had lost the hunting sense. Women were forced in consequence to adopt artificial means to attract his attention. It was man, not woman, who was at fault.

Miss MORRIS, not trusting herself to go further, confined her attention to two points. First, she corrected the proposer's notion of why Eve fell, explaining it as the outcome of a desire to dominate over Adam. Secondly, although one might believe that a woman's place is in the home, facts would show that there were not enough homes to go round. What then were the surplus women to do? The only solution was for them to take up a career.

E. A. GRIFFITHS talked engagingly of Elizabeth and Victoria, and pointed out that they had both been dominated by the superior force of a masculine personality. As an after-thought, he added that in his opinion the motion itself was at fault.

E. A. SHARROCK invited the Society to go back a thousand years. Having arrived, he explained that a woman's natural instincts lay outside the home until she had children, and then lay inside the home.

N. Y. NEELEY brought the Society back to the twentieth century by demanding that women be satisfied with their lot. They could take the place of men, but it was impossible that men would ever accustom themselves to the duties of a woman.

T. C. WADDINGTON gazed upon the economic aspect of woman out of the home with some trepidation. The fact that women were not paid as munificently as men would lead in the long run to their supplanting them in all trades of industry. He was consequently in favour of their remaining at home.

N. T. PROSSER was in agreement with the adjectives applied by the proposer to those whom, with becoming courtesy, he styled the "ladies." He desired to add to this list the words "fussy" and "exciting." Admittedly, women were doing magnificent work in this war: but this was an emergency. Women must first consider their moral obligations: they must increase the birth-rate. This realization so staggered the speaker that he resumed his seat to regain his composure.

K. H. BOSWELL considered that one could not dogmatize about a question of this nature. He was in no doubt himself as to which of the two alternatives "a home" or "the home" provided a suitable retreat for women: but others might be. He could (therefore) see no other course than to abstain from voting.

T. H. BROWN was prepared to dispute the opposer's statement that a woman's life in the home was more boring than a man's in the outer world. Grinning hopefully at the Chairman, he added that men were definitely the stronger sex.

D. P. BLACKSTOCK was a serious man. He viewed the question impassionately. Women had been described by several speakers as vain. But surely men were vainer for supposing that woman's only purpose in life was to pander to their needs and bow the knee before their glorious achievements.

J. E. LYCETT, looking more like an Apache than ever, declared through twisted lips that he was a keen student of British womanhood, and as such had recognised their infinite superiority over men. They were, however, unable to create an original opinion. With a final sardonic twist to the upper lip, the speaker slumped back into his chair.

The Chairman now called upon G. H. Low to sum up for the opposition. The speaker rose, announced his intention of voting against the motion, and reseated himself.

W. E. RICHARDS in summing up for the proposition, selected a few points at random, and answered them by quoting a passage from Milton which idealized the virtues of woman. Any variation in the treatment of woman, any innovation which allowed them the opportunity of changing that ideal, should be condemned. Politics was unclean. Women who wanted to soil their hands with it must be prevented by wiser counsels. Woman must be idealized in the home.

When put to the vote the motion was carried by 22 votes to 5, there being 19 abstentions.

J. R. LITTLE was the only committee member absent.

A. DURBAND,	} Hon.
W. E. RICHARDS,	

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Music Notes

WITH the return of the whole school to Liverpool in September, Mr. Baxter resigned the chair in favour of Mr. Young, and was elected Treasurer; R. D. Strapps was re-elected Secretary, with S. R. Barter as Assistant-Secretary, and as support seemed to warrant the election of a full Committee, Mr. Naylor, G. E. Gadd and W. E. Richards were appointed to assist the above officers. Let us take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Baxter for the way in which he re-started and carried on the club from 1942 until 1944.

The Committee lost no time in setting to work, and the first meeting of the year was held on September 28th when Mr. Baxter gave an organ recital which included Bach's Prelude and Fugue in F minor and the Sonata Op. 165 by Rheinberger. On October 5th, R. D. Strapps gave an illustrated talk on "British Orchestras and their Conductors," and later in the same month H. R. Dodd revisited the club to play the Piano Concerto in D minor by Mozart, accompanied by Mr. Baxter on the organ. The next was a talk for younger members, given by Mr. Young, entitled "Listening to an Orchestra." After Half-term, on November 9th, Mr. Halton (violin) and Mr. Baxter (piano) gave a sparkling performance of the famous "Kreutzer" Sonata by Beethoven. "Variations on a theme of Paganini" by Brahms was the main work in a piano-

forte recital by Mr. Naylor on November 16th, and ten days later Mr. Hosker (baritone) sang solos from the Gilbert and Sullivan Operas. The last meeting of the term was also a pianoforte recital, this time by R. D. Strapps, who played the Piano Sonata Op. 7 by Grieg, and several short pieces by Poulenc, Ibert, Haydn and Schumann.

A decline in the number of those who attended the meetings had been noted during the Autumn Term and the Committee decided, though not without some heated discussion, to hold only three meetings during the Spring Term. The first was on January 25th, when gramophone records of Sibelius' 1st Symphony were played. At the next meeting, one month later, Mr. Doughty gave a talk on "Some of the Physics of Music," and the third meeting, to which several members contributed, was on March 22nd; this took the form of a recital of works for trumpet, 'cello and piano, by Alec Rowley, Norman O'Neill, Wagner, Tchaikowsky, Gounod, Bach, and Purcell, and in all, six members took part in this very enjoyable performance.

Mr. Young has also re-formed the School Choir, and it made its first appearance since 1940 on March 12th, 13th and 14th with performances of "The Gondoliers" by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Although the Society has suffered from lack of support, the excellent performances of previous years have been kept up, and those that do attend, attend very regularly. Let us thank all those who have helped us, through the Music Club, to appreciate music more.

R. D. STRAPPS.

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Musical Activities

PIANO RECITAL BY JOSEPH GREENE.

AT least one critic has accused the composers of the Romantic Period of stealing some of the artistic "effects" of poetry, an action which he would state to be outrageous. Whether this be so or not we may not argue here, but we may say that if such purists had had their way, the world would have been deprived of some of the most delightful pieces in musical literature, as was shown by Mr. Greene in his recital.

With his accustomed sparkle and vigour Mr. Greene played a programme of works by Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Chopin and Liszt. He commenced with Schubert's A flat Impromptu from

Op. 90, and followed with three of the Phantasie-Stücke by Schumann—Why? Soaring, and Night Vision. These last were superbly executed; but when does Mr. Greene not play Schumann superbly? Liszt's arrangement of Mendelssohn's "On Wings of Song" came next, and then the same composer's "Bees Wedding."

After a short interval, we were given a refreshing change—a group of pieces by Chopin commencing with the beautiful, but little-known Nocturne No. 3—may we commend Mr. Greene on his choice as well as on his execution? Then followed the Studies in F, A flat and C minor (Revolutionary)—surely a little too boisterously read?—and, alas, the hackneyed D flat Waltz.

Mr. Greene rounded-off his recital with a piece which illustrated to the full all the qualities he had shown during the performance, "La Campanella" by Liszt. This was truly brilliantly done and the pleasure which the School derived from the recital was well illustrated by the enthusiastic reception of a delightful encore.

R.D.S.

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School Plays, 1944

DURING the Winter Term two one-act plays, "The Old Bull" and "The Thread of Scarlet," were produced by Miss Morris and Mr. Smith, respectively. The actors were members of the Sixth Forms, who acquitted themselves commendably, and we congratulate all concerned.

These plays provide a most welcome sign of the School's return to its normal pre-war life. Readers will appreciate that considerable disruption has been occasioned by evacuation, and accordingly this first step in the right direction will be recognized as being all the more important.

* * *

"The Gondoliers"

THE School Choral Society gave three performances in the School Hall of the concert version of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera "The Gondoliers," on the 12th, 13th, 14th March. To understand the concert version of this opera is no mean feat, as the speaking parts, containing most of the information about the plot, and incidentally some of the best humour, are missed out. But

the School version was made even more difficult to understand by the doubling of parts by two members of the cast. The Headmaster's synopsis was, therefore, welcomed both for its informative value, leading to an appreciation which would otherwise have been lost, and for its own humour, well in keeping with the spirit of the opera.

Special praise must be given to the three members of the School, B. A. Leeson, A. W. Topping and G. Wild, who sang the parts of Tessa, Giannetta and Casilda, respectively. B. A. Leeson made up for his lack of volume by the clarity of his enunciation. His "When a Merry Maiden Marries" threatened at times to be overwhelmed by the choir, yet he triumphed in the end. Giannetta was excellently sung by A. W. Topping, who was everything that could have been desired especially on the Tuesday night. Unfortunately, on the Wednesday he seemed to be troubled by a cough. G. Wild, as Casilda, the daughter of the Duke of Plaza Toro, had a remarkably clear tone. His duet with Luiz was one of the most polished pieces in the whole work.

Mrs. Cooke, a charming Duchess of Plaza Toro, seemed fully capable of keeping her husband in order when she sang of her married life and the remunerative practices she and her husband indulged in to earn their living. Mrs. Grimes made a brief appearance as Inez, the foster-mother of Luiz. Acting as a "deus ex machina" her news was well delivered.

Of Mr. Hosker, who sang the parts of the Duke of Plaza Toro and Giuseppe, we can say nothing but that we would like to see him in costume in the complete work. He appeared to enjoy every moment of it and his enthusiasm was infectious. Mr. Jones, as Luiz and Marco, combined a fine voice with a good presence. Both in duets and in solo parts these two were outstanding, and the latter fully deserved his encores for "Take a Pair of Sparking Eyes." Mr. Hart made a beneficent Grand Inquisitor, and when "he shed his Grand Inquisitor's tear" the effect was most pathetic.

The Choir was at its best when strength and solidity were called for rather than finesse. They seemed to find certain top notes difficult to reach and showed a certain amount of hesitation at times. "Dance a Cachucha" was very well done, although the hesitation was present here also.

The accompaniment, both at the piano and the organ, was extremely good, but special mention must be made of Mrs. Hosker at the piano. Her rendering of the overture and playing generally was of a very high standard and, as the Headmaster said, though the pianist had no encores, *she* deserved many. Mr. Baxter fulfilled the function of the organist well, blending and combining with the choir and pianist.

We owe a great debt of thanks to Mr. Young for his success in producing "The Gondoliers." His courageous attempt to revive the Choral Society deserved all possible praise, and the success he achieved redounds greatly to his own and the choir's credit. We thank him and all those who joined together to make "The Gondoliers" such a success. It is a happy augury for the future.

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Junior Library

SINCE we last made our report the Junior Library has changed its quarters, and although Room 15 consumes much more electricity, we find it warmer and more comfortable in many respects than our previous home. We have more room for display, and we are grateful to Mr. Watson for decorating the walls with many interesting pictures.

The Library has been well patronised, and its facilities have been fully utilised. A wide variety of tastes has been catered for, and we are continually adding to our stock of literature. The Headmaster has given several books, and a number of boys have contributed books and magazines. The magazine section has been considerably extended and we are always glad to receive gifts of up-to-date magazines.

Several new librarians have been helping us, and we are grateful for their assistance.

A. F. HERBERT and J. CARSON,
Librarians.

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Philatelic Society

THE Spring Term is usually one of lethargy as far as philately is concerned, but the average attendance of members at the Society's meetings has been usually over twenty—remarkably satisfactory when one considers the season.

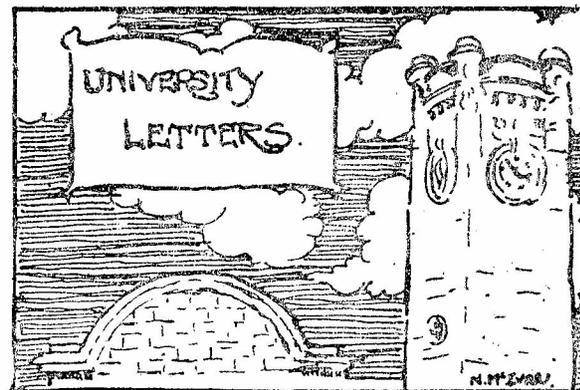
Apart from the "swopping" of stamps (still by far the most important side of a Philatelic Society's activities) two extremely interesting meetings were held. The first, just before half-term, was a competition, which aroused a great deal of enthusiasm, particularly amongst the younger members. The standard of the answers submitted was very high, and some difficulty was encountered by the adjudicator, R. G. M. Mirrlees, in awarding the prizes of stamps,

The second was a talk given by Mr. Bowen, on the 15th March, mainly for the benefit of the younger and less experienced members. In it he dealt clearly and simply with the difficulties encountered by the beginner, and warned the Society particularly against buying stamps in packets from unknown dealers. The information he gave should prove invaluable in helping to improve the standard of our collections.

Finally, our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Morgan, whose continued help and encouragement have been the mainstay of the Society's existence, and who has been so instrumental in assisting many stamp-collectors in the School to become something far greater—philatelists.

S. R. BARTER, *Hon. Sec.*

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Cambridge Letter

4TH COURT,
CAMBRIDGE.

Dear Sir,

We are an unsociable flock these days. We were fleeced so often in Mr. Smith's gambling den last term that distrust seems to have arisen between us, and our ways are hid from each other. Yet certain facts can be ascertained. Two new faces now haunt Market Hill on Saturdays, when there is a chance of picking up something cheap. Inprimis, the mighty atom, Mr. T.—I beg his pardon—Mr. A. France, who is the proud owner of a sumptuous, immaculate and almost-all-embracing toga (he would call it an

overcoat) which makes him the most well-dressed man in Selwyn. But HE has to pass Newnham on his daily round, and he still has ambition. Mr. "Willie" Fox is a truculent Marine, who wears a 100-watt electric-blue scarf, a shocking affair at first, until time and his neck lowered the power to 50-watts. He resides somewhere in the environs. His wistful smile is that of a man with a problem to his mind—or perhaps two problems, because he is very ambitious. Such are the newcomers. Mr. Smith is a Runyon character, who will bet on anything from the price of oil paintings to whether Mr. Hodgkinson sleeps with his nose outside or inside the blankets, and has developed a Socratic outlook on life, due no doubt to the shortage of razor-blades. Mr. Hodgkinson is another Bohemian, and he completes our society. So you see, Mr. Editor, we are few in number; we would be more if an undiscovering government had not robbed us of Mr. Warbrick and sent him to another place. Your readers may welcome information about one or two others, whom war has temporarily removed from Cambridge. After his year in the R.A.F. Mr. Baird is almost sane and is a rising star in the literary firmament. Messrs. Barkley and Evans still pay occasional visits. The former is a corporal and a gentleman, the latter is still addicted to the poetry of various Spanish desperadoes with six-dollar names and gaudy bindings. And there are many more, whose fates, alas, are obscure to us, to whom we wish good fortune wherever they may be.

It is our duty, however, to record what we do know. We do know that Mr. Smith's occupations consist of walking into the river in his quest for the Camgold presumably, and teaching his richer acquaintances new methods of losing wealth on games with matches. Mr. Hodgkinson, too, seems to be occupied these days, but with what or whom he will not divulge. We notice that his boycott of the Cambridge barbers is proceeding resolutely. Mr. France is a troglodyte who baffles investigation, and Mr. Fox has got into a hole with the proctors, too.

We hope your demands are now satisfied, Mr. Editor; and if there is not a "laugh in every line" we really think you should follow the example of a distinguished old boy, and offer the writer not merely notoriety but twenty-five pounds for his pains—if the Sports and Arts could stand it,

Yours unitarianly,

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Oxford Letter

The Aviary,
Clouduckoo Town,
Hilary Term.

Dear Mr. Editor,
Sir,

Two years have now passed since we had the honour of addressing you; two years during which much water has flowed under the bridge. Which bridge? The bridge of sighs, we are afraid: the world is too much with us. And now indeed, to write the Oxford Letter is a hard task. One must be ruthless to denounce and truthless to defame. One must castigate without calumny, censure without contumely, and cavil without consequence. Still, for a gossip, to match licence with opportunity and opportunity with encouragement is pleasure indeed. "The tale-bearers are as bad as the tale-makers." But, Mrs. Candour, they don't have half so much fun.

And now to personalities—for why else should you ask this letter, and why else, indeed should we write it? Alas, there are but three Liobians here this term, little enough material for a malicious pen, especially when one of the three is the blameless Mr. Warbrick, more blameless even than Mr. Christian (*carum et venerabile nomen*) once used to be. Mr. Warbrick, like many others, is a cadet, and, amid the evil communications of army and university alike, has remained both conscientious and innocent: a thing of duty and a boy for ever. He has now perforce dropped classics and is engaged in scientific research, whence he has discovered, among other things, that rowing teams are called eights because there are nine men in the boat, and that the best meal before an examination is (pencils and paper ready?) iced asparagus, quails in aspic, a bottle of champagne, and two quarts of coffee. He is saving up. On Thursday evenings he can be seen at the Union debate, where he sits on the front bench, by the stoves, and cheers loudly the various puns, split infinitives, and mixed metaphors in which the rhetorical young gentlemen of Oxford so often indulge. Imagine his delight, sir, on being earnestly advised last week to take the bull by the horns and go the whole hog. He frequently plays hockey in order to avoid P.T. with the army, but most of his spare time is occupied in making toast for Mr. Craig—the layman's tribute to genius. As a reward for his kindness, he is sometimes, when very good, allowed to emerge from his own biscuit-box and spend an evening in the warmth and luxury of Mr. Craig's olde worlde suite.

Mr. Craig has returned from the wars with a greatly increased vocabulary, and amuses his companions with much talk of

"gippo" and "burgoo." During a strange and sordid army career he has discovered in his soul (whose existence Mr. Warbrick will not admit) a strong militarist vein, which now finds expression in desperate bayonet charges and faultless drill displays across the college lawns before dinner and the horrified dons. Not for him the thunder of Zeus or the long ranks of mythology: Blanco and Brasso are his Dioscuri. Yet behind this belligerent crust lies a soulful melancholy, which seeks to dispel itself by a gay and riotous indolence. He disturbs Mr. Warbrick by his attempts to croon and disgusts him by his attempts to dance. He goes to the cinema twice and often three times a week, and always to see films of undeniable vulgarity. And Mr. Christian, winsome and demure as ever, on a brief visit to the dreaming spires, found him carousing with six young ladies amid the glamorous oak-beamed mystery of his softly-cushioned room. As for Mr. Craig's indolence, sir, the reputation he holds at Queen's as a slumberman of the first water is sufficient testimony. His is the record of missing not only breakfast but lunch too. When asked why he was reading Arabic, he is said to have replied:

'The beds are soft i' the east. . . . !'

Still, his walls are hung with clusters of human bones which remind his guests with a macabre reality of the world's essential sadness, and that military severity, which he so highly esteems, is recommended to our good opinion by the shortness, and stiffness, of his hair. To Mr. Warbrick, who, alas, is not enamoured of discipline, we would say: go thou and do likewise.

Mr. Hayward is still, unbelievably, in Oxford, and still, unbelievably, speaks some English. Indeed he claims, now that Mr. Craig has returned, that the number of his English acquaintances has been doubled. Seriously, Mr. Editor, he has so many foreign friends that when he remarked that he, unlike Shakespeare, knew a little Greek, Mr. Craig asked to be introduced. His learning and his reputation grow apace, and vast numbers of our gallant American allies with their lady friends make the pilgrimage to Magdalen on Sunday afternoons.

And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew
That one small head could carry all he knew.

His rooms were taken over for the Christmas vacation by a member of the peerage, in whose honour a picture of Marshal Stalin smiles benignly down from above the mantelpiece. Unfortunately, the Marshal's benignness is not shared by his owner, for Mr. Hayward's favourite sport is going to the pictures when he has asked us to tea. He comes round the next day at tea-time to apologise and again on the day after, once more at tea-time, because he didn't think we realised how sorry he was. This is a

wonderful game if the rules are strictly followed, and has earned for Mr. Hayward many a hard-won cream cake and innumerable swiss rolls.

Of Mr. Arto-Morris, who was at the school in the distant past, we can say little. He has spent most of this term perfecting a cross-talk act with Mr. Craig. Such is Oxford, the home of scholarship.

Had we been more learned, sir, we had endeavoured to follow Mr. Dodd's tradition of five lines of quotation for each line of text. You will forgive us: for we have not his reference books. Now, regretfully, we must depose our pen and pass in volant tergiversation into the nebulous realms of Nephelococcugia where the hoopoe's drone drifts dreamily down the darkened glades and the solitary shriek of the ibis spreads in tenebrous grottoes the universal gloom.

Surely Mr. Dodd is satisfied now.

Yours sincerely,

J. I. KNOXUCLAVE.

* * *

Liverpool Letter

The Union,
Liverpool,
Better late than never.

Dear Sir,

Instead of a demand note subtly flattering, delicately encouraging and ineffably polite, such as would make it a joy to write for so considerate an Editor, the latter sees fit to rear his ugly head and spit out threats in his own insidious manner. 'If the manuscript is not delivered within . . . I have a large knife all ready sharpened up for you'! Such is the wistful appeal of a too too tactful Editor. He speaks of bloodshed at a time when the young lambs are yodelling in the fields, when every vein is drunk with swich licour, and when a young man's fancy may lead him into almost anything. The joys of Spring do not soften the heart of an Editor.

It is a matter for much regret, especially to Mr. Adams, that in the midst of the mating season Mr. Adams is the odd man out. Despite his exalted position as a second-year Medical, despite his half-colours tie for cricket, despite even his handsome manly features, he is not irresistible. Instead of smoking a pipe, he is going to wear a little bell to warn people of his presence. He might as well assume the accoutrements of leprosy.

But even the Personality Boy, Mr. Pyne, who simply oozes with charm, finds the going very difficult. Perhaps it is because he is still convalescing after an unfortunate accident sustained at the hands of Beauty, who was but a Beast after all. Being a member of various committees, he is kept busy every day of the week. Five days out of the seven are devoted to the manufacturing of excuses to explain his non-attendance at meetings on the other two. Neither is it possible for Mr. Melrose to be of any assistance to his two friends. Travelling further afield in search of new adventure he fell into the same old rut, and lies there incapacitated, to the disgust and annoyance of his associates. The blank look on his face, however, is due, not to surfeit of love, but to ignorance of physics. Mr. Pyne bears a distinct facial resemblance to him in that respect. Mr. Nieman's face, unfortunately, has been obscured by the unrestricted growth of his mane. The sleek black waves, which ripple in as far as his cheekbones, put at least four inches on to his height, and the general effect is reminiscent of an Apache from a Paris sewer. The impression is further heightened by an occasional cigarette which drips from the corner of his mouth, and an occasional female who droops in his clutches as he slouches through a tango.

Mr. Horswill sees fit to wear an overcoat which provides him with an additional pair of shoulders, and a red and green tie which provides food for thought for others. Spring is not a significant factor in his life, apart from the fact that he rises earlier in the mornings and is sometimes no more than twenty minutes late for lectures. Mr. E. G. Jones has burrowed his way into the Faculty of Arts and emerges spasmodically to escort a wilting weed, a pathetic apology for femininity. He would be much happier if he remained underground all the time. The lives of the remaining Freshers, Messrs. Willimott, Cashen and Abrahams are shrouded in mystery. They all vanished into scientific spheres some six months ago, and nothing has been heard of them since. They may or may not be still alive.

Of the members of longer standing Mr. Brierley reigns supreme. He has many irons in many fires and he still finds time to be human. The suave Mr. Campbell glides through life with glistening locks and a winning smile. Some find him chantingly divine. Messrs. Hesselberg and Annison appear at odd intervals, but others lead such sheltered lives that they are never seen at all. We have neither the time nor the inclination to seek them out. Any omissions are not apologised for: hard words will fall but lightly on our ears, for we are content. The letter is at an end.

Your malicious servant,

LIARSTINKS.

Foyer Français

THE inaugural meeting of the Society took place in the Royal Institution (Colquitt Street) on January 16th, and was addressed by Mr. C. F. Mott, the Director of Education, and Professor Egli, of Liverpool University. Three short French films of topical interest were shown. Mr. McGowan, of the Collegiate School, the founder of the Society, stated that it was primarily for young people, its aims being to create a better understanding between the youth of this country and that of France, and to foster the love of French culture.

The headquarters of the Society has been moved to the Allied Centre in Basnett Street, and it is here that subsequent meetings have been held.

On January 30th, Mlle. Woog, of the French Resistance, gave a most vivid lecture on "The Resistance Movement in France." Mme. Desvignes, famous for her part in the publication of the clandestine "Editions de Minuit," was unable to speak; it is hoped she will be able to address the Foyer Français in the near future.

On February 13th, Mrs. Dorothy Pickles, of the B.B.C., spoke on the social scene in France. She is an eminent authority on France, and her lecture gave a fine picture of present day conditions.

The Society is, as yet, in its infancy, but already good progress has been made. Large numbers of French newspapers have been distributed, and it is hoped to start written correspondence with French secondary schools in the near future.

T. J. SNOW (School Rep.).

* * *

Play Criticism

The Royal Court Production of "The Merchant of Venice"

DONALD WOLFIT'S production of "The Merchant of Venice" was very satisfying; the majority of the cast gave most commendable performances. Reginald Jarman as Antonio portrayed to a nicety the ideas of the conduct of a good sixteenth century Christian. Godfrey Kenton's Bassanio was too subdued; his voice was never powerful enough. His movements, however, were well-timed and natural.

The most natural of the secondary characters perhaps was the Gratiano of John Croft. His lady, Nerissa, played by Renee Bourne Webb was an able support to her noble mistress, Portia; Lorenzo and Jessica were somewhat artificial and were never really convincing. Of the minor characters, the most appreciated was Launcelot Gobbo played by Richard Curtis; his old father also won a good reception from the audience.

Rosalind Iden played the part of Portia to perfection; her speech was clear, her movement graceful and natural. She gave an estimable performance.

The only character who could approach her Portia was Donald Wolfit's Shylock. Such was his acting that he and not Antonio gained the sympathy of the audience, particularly in the Trial Scene. His acting was outstanding, although, as a rule, he is more at ease in the portrayal of a lighter character, such as Benedick in "Much Ado About Nothing."

Neither his acting, nor his general production left a great deal to be desired, although the elaborate ceremony of the "Casket Pages" did seem superfluous.

J.E.

* * *

"The River"

The river wends its weary way
Through field where happy lambkins play,
Through villages with cobbled streets,
Through public parks with painted seats,
And so it wanders on and on
Gurgling in its ancient song.

It flows through forests dark and deep
Where under stones young salmon sleep,
And passes on with mocking cry
To the skylarks in the sky,
And wanders on with cries of glee
Until it flows into the sea.

T. SHEPHERD (5x).

* * *

Agricultural Camp, Prees, 1944

ON Thursday afternoon, the 10th of August, the peaceful serenity of the small Shropshire village of Prees was disturbed by the arrival of 34 boys, members of the Liverpool Institute, whose primary intent was the gathering of Britain's harvest. Prees, however, had been prepared for this invasion by Mr. W. H. Jones, Mr. Watterson and several of the senior boys, who had arrived on the previous day, in the terms of the vernacular, "to get things organised." This job they had done well, for in addition to making the camp-site habitable, they had, or rather Mr. Watterson had, cooked an excellent meal which the hungry travellers, after becoming fully acquainted with their temporary home, devoured with gusto. The camp itself consisted of one large hut, in which there were a dining room, a dormitory and a washing place, and a tent in which seven stalwarts lived despite the attempts at sabotage of certain other members of the camp. The inclusion of wardrobes, chests of drawers, and other such articles of furniture amongst the amenities of the camp seemed more in keeping with a West End hotel than an agricultural camp in the wilds of Shropshire; these luxuries, however, helped to maintain the great comfort enjoyed at Prees in comparison with former camps.

It was not long before everybody was at work on one of the many farms in the neighbourhood of Prees, and soon technicalities of farm life were being discussed with as much interest as if the members of the camp had been sons of the earth all their lives, instead of city-bred schoolboys. At the week-ends and during the evenings there were very few attractions outside camp and, except for the eternal Don Juans who used to creep furtively in and out of the hut with amorous smiles wreathing their faces, most people were content with a visit to the swimming baths a few miles away or to stroll or cycle the tranquil countryside until an internal craving for cocoa reminded them of supper. Perhaps most pleasure was derived from the three football matches that the camp team played against local sides, or from the sports evening which was organized by the villagers in a neighbouring field. In these spheres the crafty dribbling of Mr. Booth and Mr. Morgan's brilliant goal will long be remembered by those present at the last football game, which the school won, as will the attempts of certain dignified sixth formers to battle with each other at such an undignified sport as fighting on the greasy pole. Thus, thanks to the friendliness of the local inhabitants, to the efficiency of the War Agricultural Committee, to the excellent cooking of Mr. Watterson (his pastry is worthy of a gold medal), and to the smooth way in which the members of the staff ran affairs, the Prees camp proved to be the happiest and most successful of all the Institute's war-time camps.

K. B. Low, A.M.

Railway Journey

WE arrived at the station just as the train came in. Giving our luggage to a porter we go and join the crowd of admirers round the engine, which is hissing and snorting like a wild animal. A small boy near the front informs everybody, in a shrill voice, that it is an engine of the "Princess Royal" class, and then proceeds to go into little details, such as boiler pressure and wheel diameters.

A few minutes before the train was due to depart, the crowd broke up and with much chasing up and down the platform, looking into compartments, getting in and getting out, grasping handles, releasing handles, opening and shutting doors, shouting and bustling about, the passengers took their places.

The train slowly drew out of the station and you try to find a comfortable position by the window so you can look out. Your fellow travellers make themselves comfortable. They bring out books, crossword puzzles or look round at you as if you are all species of the abnormal. The young girls bring out powder puffs and mirrors and proceed to daub powder all over their faces. After several hours travel it is time for dinner and you make your way to the dining car.

The first course is soup. If you manage to get half a spoonful of soup to your mouth without spilling any on your coat you are lucky. You look enviously at the waiters, who weave in and out of the tables, a tray on each hand without spilling anything.

You finish your meal and return to your seat and watch the landscape revolve, as it seems, on some unseen pivot far away in the distance.

Before long it is time to disembark, and as you pass the engine you thank it for a safe journey.

B. D. LEAROYD (Up. 4c).

* * *

Prefect's Letter

The Prefect's Room,
The Liverpool Institute.

Dear Sir,

Your commission to report the histories of the respective, if not respectable and respected, members of the P.R. was rendered somewhat difficult by a perpetual fear that some innocent sixth-former would inadvertently be grouped with the Prefects and his private life revealed. However, your correspondent has succeeded

in classifying the August Body and separating it from the throng of humble admirers which daily invades this Sanctum Sanctorum; and defying all the known laws of libel and decency, he herewith tears away its façade of gravity and discloses to the world its true nature.

Mr. Preston, our Head Boy, is a Mathematician, but not, as he would wish us to believe, pure and simple. He sings his commands: a tuneful, dissyllabic "Joo-tee" sends his flock hurtling down the staircase upon its glorious tasks; but despite his stern martial appearance he informs us that his ways are ways of gentleness. Mr. Howlett, who is Vice-Captain, having in his team the Prefects in toto, is a talented knife thrower, and his penknife has quivered in most articles of value in the P.R. When not delivering an aria in a suspicious falsetto he consumes and distributes his lunch, a mysterious meal which has apparently no defined time limit. He hopes to see the war out with his utility spine.

Pugnacious Mr. Gadd exchanges blows for ink-blots with the Head Boy and is always ready for a fight. Only the other week he had his eye blackened in a skirmish, one of the many assaults which are evidence of the perpetual state of warfare amongst the prefects. His knowledge is encyclopædic, and he has publicly claimed to be a member of the intelligentsia. One of his partisans, Mr. Phillipps, is the official *agent provocateur* of the movement, and he derives great satisfaction from manifestations of humour which are practically jokes. Loathsome smells corked in test tubes and weird chemicals which originate in the neighbouring laboratory are his weapons. A growth of beard stands in constant reproach to those who accuse him of puerility.

Mr. Moore is another Epicure, who brings his foodstuff in a sack, and liquid refreshment in a bottle swathed in paper to hide the nature of its contents. He disappears during the lunch hour and returns perspiring, having travelled upon a machine which has since been humanely destroyed. Mr. Boswell, who will warble his adam's apple at anybody's jokes, has a raucous voice which will percolate through vast thicknesses. He is surrounded in literature; familiarly known as "Boz" he trails the omniscient Mr. Johnson in an endeavour to record for posterity the great man's sayings. Mr. Johnson has histrionic powers only equalled by his singing abilities. Heavily disguised, at a local theatre he donned the accoutrements of war and under an assumed name saved England from inglorious defeat. He is constantly told that he resembles a recently-deceased film actor, but none of Mr. Johnson's glory is reflected.

Mr. K. B. Low is an accomplished impersonator whose repertoire extends from Frank Sinatra to goldfish. A nocturnal

excursion with something known as "The Pilx" was founded upon an acquaintanceship of many long months, during which even excels that of Mr. Durband, whose party politics incline him the weather was exhaustively discussed. His extravagance to a philanthropic zeal which has enriched multitudinous menials and incensed his colleagues to the unforgivable crime of ruffling his serenely glistening hair. This occasionally undermines his geniality, but never distorts his good taste, as is witnessed by the charming manner with which he decorates the P.R. with various articles of his clothing. He attributes his elegant figure to milk and doughnuts and to the Co-op. corsetières.

Mr. G. H. Low possesses a retinue of followers of the opposite sex, a crack in his crooning which has a charm all of its own, and a talent for crossword puzzles. His private life is prodigious, ranging from Spaniards to Shakespearean actresses, and we await his disillusionment.

A mysterious character called "The Nesto," proved to be Bohemian Mr. Richards. Occasionally he descends to vulgarisms, and, like Wordsworth, expresses his thoughts in the language of the common man. Of his laugh we need not speak, save assure those to whom he is unfamiliar that the frequent explosions which rock the school *do* emanate from this sober-minded prefect. He organises the British film industry, grows hair, wears something he euphemistically describes as a scarf, and has several times sallied forth on duty.

Mr. Forster patronises those dance halls where rice is served in the interval. Despite his oriental ancestry he has acquired a taste for the barbarisms of Western culture, reminiscences of which are reflected in the famous expression which contorts his face during music periods.

When Mr. McKenzie finally reaches school he does work, but we fear he exerts his energies largely on crossword puzzles. His Fascist leanings are notorious, but until lately he has been willing to assume arms in the defence of his native land. The disbandment of the Home Guard has been a sad blow to him.

Mr. Parry is liable at any time to emulate Shylock, but has been permanently baffled by Mr. Gadd. At the numerous parties to which he has been invited he has been the very life and soul of the proceedings. He runs a tobacconist's shop, and has been involved in numerous bloody crimes on which, very deliberately, no light was shed.

The overcoated and bespectacled figure which invades the Prefect's Room punctually late is Mr. Lachs. Although the ignorance of his colleagues sometimes appals him, he mixes wholeheartedly in their wars and is a valuable asset to any faction. His parables concerning the origin of watches interest Mr. Little, who,

though of the Classicist fraternity, is a cheerful and engaging character. Trained to light a fire with a single match, he declined to assist Mr. K. B. Low in his endeavours to fill the P.R. with smoke. Sunshine radiates from him; and in the future many will certainly follow his kindly light. It is to be hoped that not all of his disciples will be such shady characters as Mr. Blackstock, who, if still waters run deep, has much of his private life to be fathomed. However, it is known that he shares the dramatic pleasures of the theatre with a Friend and the Head Boy's ardour for *la vie militaire*. Shrouds of mystery surround Mr. Oulton, who has taken to sprawling lengthwise before goalmouths and baffling the gentlemen of the press. He is one of the few Prefects who do not sing, but he does encourage those who enter the lists of battle and enjoys the sight of a mangled body or so creeping from a pile of struggling manhood.

I fear, Mr. Editor, my pen has run short of poison, and that my identity is suspected. Thus I close, lest measures be taken to rub me out.

And so, in delicious satisfaction,

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

R. Q. DOGSBODY.

* * *

Reflections on the Meaning of Music

HAVE you ever sat on a mountain top and looked down on a great panorama of hills and trees and rivers and sky, of greens and browns and greys and blues; and thought how beautiful it was? Or been moved by an emotion, perhaps of exaltation or of sorrow? And if you have, did you ever wish to express what you felt? If you have done this then you could be a composer. For it is the aim of music to describe a man's feelings as a subject, perhaps abstract, perhaps concrete. Music, like the other Arts, tells what its composer is feeling about his subject. Strangely enough, though the hearer may enjoy the composer's work, he may never know, except by the title, what it is that the composer is describing. That is why music is such a great medium for the artist to work in. The skilful composer can, with his combinations of notes, convey all that the heart, the soul, the mind or whatever you choose to call it, does feel. One man, like Delius, may write his feelings on hearing the first cuckoo in Spring: another, like Tchaikovsky, in his Sixth Symphony, may incorporate in his music a whole philosophy of life. The majority write

with no aim at all so far as the listener can tell, except to satisfy themselves and their audiences. Music like this has no name, though for want of a better term, some call it "absolute music." To select examples of this is merely presumption, although few would deny that most of Beethoven is "absolute music."

The composer's work is not an art, or a science, or an occupation even; it is, like fishing, a state of mind. For to compose music one must think, feel, live the piece one is writing. Possibly that is why so many of the greatest composers of the ages have been paupers. It is one of the enigmas of life that the world's greatest musicians have not been appreciated until after their deaths. Perhaps the composer thinks in advance of his generation, for music as soul-satisfying as, say, Beethoven's or Brahms' demands a mystic imagination. The composer's is a high calling, for so much lies with him, the power to satisfy or to repel, to give peace in a world of chaos.

And yet music is merely an art, for it exists solely to satisfy one of the senses. To listen to music gives some people the same satisfaction that looking at a picture gives to others. There seems no way of describing why it exists except by singularly odious comparisons. That it does exist and is everlasting is proof of its worth. Tennyson showed some of its value when he wrote:

"Music that gentler on the spirit lies
Than tired eyelids upon tired eyes,
Music that brings sweet sleep
Down from the blissful skies."

D.R.C.

* * *

In the Wilds

THE woods were tinted by the grey light as "the dawn chorus" which was started by some thrush or blackbird, rose to its height. Everywhere music filled the air. Soon it quietened and at last it bubbled like a drowsy stream.

We crept forward. On our right from a hole in the wall the song of the blue titmouse, "Ch-Ch-si-si-si" reached our ears; then in the fork of a sycamore a mistle thrush sang his harsh "Churr" and sharp "Chick."

A red squirrel jumped with prodigious leaps from tree to tree till at last he mingled with the foliage. A few minutes later snarls reached our ears and through the trees we saw two weasels fighting. At last one lay still and the victor departed in search of mice.

We followed the path; starlings and blackbirds rose giving their warning cry. We crouched low; soon they quietened and we continued our journey.

Through the middle of the wood trickled a stream. There was a flash of blue as a kingfisher only too soon disappeared. On a rock in the middle of the stream perched a grey wagtail. Nearby a trail of tell-tale bubbles showed that an otter had gone on his way.

As we passed a fir tree the tinkling "si-si-si" of the goldcrest attracted our attention and searching we found a frail nest hanging beneath a branch. "Tic-tic-wee." We looked up. A robin perched on a bough sang gaily. Almost immediately a harsh chatter reached us and a magpie flashed by.

"Rat-a-tat-a-tat." A green woodpecker hammered away and as we looked at a hedgehog skin that betrayed a badger's midnight feast a wren flew past.

Crack! We trod on a broken branch. There was a flutter of wings and all was quiet.

We then made our way to the moor where here and there furrows hidden by grass showed that a colony of voles lived in that place.

Up in the sky a kestrel carrying a mouse made his way home. From a nearby copse came the easily detectable "cuckoo."

In the distance curlews probed the ground for insects and as we made our way homeward "Curlwee" floated over the moors.

B. HECKLE, 5c.

* * *

Clouds

I often watch the clouds above,
Go slowly drifting by.
Full rigged ships and galleons
Go sailing o'er the sky.

And as I gaze whole armies
Appear upon the scene;
I see the uplifted banners
In colours gold and green.

These in their turn will fade away,
And to my wondering eyes,
More fantasies will unfold again,
To fill me with surprise.

J. SWEENEY, 5x.

Old Boys' Section

THE non-coincidence of an issue of the Old Boys' leaflet, *Liobiter Dicta*, with this number of the Magazine has left no outlet for the sloth of an editor whose buck-passing propensities will doubtless have been remarked by readers of our last issue. As, however (to make a virtue out of a necessity), news of recently left Old Boys is but scanty, this is perhaps a fortunate occurrence.

We are very pleased to hear from a far from recently left Old Boy, Engineer Captain A. E. Ewart, who was at the School in the 1880's. He informed us that in his day there were 1,300 in the School—which comes as rather a shock when we remember that even in its present crowded state there are only a mere 850 or so at the School.

We have also heard from the Rev. E. J. Clark, who was until recently Vicar of St. Mark's-in-the-Groves, Hull. He was educated at the Institute and at Liverpool University, and now has a new appointment to the rectory of Tickencote, Stamford. We extend our congratulations.

It is our sad duty to record the death of a very distinguished Old Boy, Professor Charles Glover Barkla, of Edinburgh. He was Liverpool University's first D.Sc. As a lecturer at Liverpool University he began his researches into Röntgen rays, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize.

Finally, may we add that we are always glad to hear from Old Boys?

* * *

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