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**LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
MAGAZINE**

VOLUME LVIII

Number 1

FEBRUARY, 1950

RAVENSCROFT & WILLIS,

Church, Law, Civic and Academic

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By Official Appointment to the University.

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Editors

G. JONES

G. B. MORRIS

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EDITORIAL.

Editors in the past have often complained about the slackness of most of the School in contributing to the Magazine, and in the face of such a widespread evil it is not possible for us to do otherwise. Apathy has grown to such proportions as to be almost the only possible subject for an Editorial.

It is hardly a matter for complacency when, out of the 924 boys in the School, so few—so very few!—care to submit contributions: it is, on the contrary, a matter for apprehension, since by it the Magazine is being slowly suffocated. A mere collection of Society Notes, integral part of the Magazine though it be, is not, by itself, sufficient; a Magazine worthy of the name needs something more. Upon examining past Magazines in the light of these convictions, we were regretfully but irresistibly forced to the conclusion that the Magazine is on the road to extinction. The Editors have done all that they could short of actual violence (one cannot, after all, extort contributions with a rubber truncheon, much as we should like to), and the result has been as you see.

There are two possible explanations for this lack of response. The one a lack of self confidence, giving rise to a feeling that to contribute would be useless, as chances of acceptance would be practically non-existent. This is, of course, totally erroneous, and, all other considerations apart, we are not so swamped with contributions that our task is one of rejection, but rather one of getting contributions at all. The other is a complete indifference as to the fate of the Magazine which appalls us, and than which we would rather have chosen any positive feeling, even of dislike. For this at least can be conquered, while indifference cannot.

Finally, we want your contributions, articles, poems, serious, humorous—all is grist to our mill. With your help, and only with your help, can the Magazine be improved.

THE EDITORS.

CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR.

We take this opportunity of welcoming the arrival of Mr. J. Webster, B.A., Cambridge, Mr. T. J. Davies, M.A., Cambridge, Mr. R. K. Cain, Mr. W. F. Edge, B.A., Cambridge, Mr. R. G. Walker, M.Sc., Wales, and Mr. J. W. McDonald.

During the course of the year we said good-bye to Mr. Graham, Mr. Telfer, and Mr. Bradshaw. We wish them the greatest success in their future careers.

We extend our congratulations to the following boys on winning Scholarships to Oxford and Cambridge, and elsewhere:—R. W. M. Davies, who won a Scholarship in Classics to Pembroke College, Oxford; H. S. Dodd, who won an Exhibition in Classics to Magdalen College, Oxford; F. R. Hodson, who won an Exhibition in Classics to Queen's College, Cambridge; R. F. Evans,

who won a Scholarship in Modern Languages to Pembroke College, Cambridge; J. H. Sweeney, who won a Scholarship in Modern Languages to Trinity Hall, Cambridge; J. W. Bell, who won an Exhibition in English to Pembroke College, Cambridge; and T. C. Waddington, who won a Scholarship in Natural Science to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. T. S. Connish and E. J. M. Hopkins won State Scholarships; B. Benson, A. Cashdan, G. W. Gallimore, and J. S. Thomas won Senior City Scholarships. N. W. Bawcutt won a County of Lancashire Major Scholarship; D. E. Bowman, E. G. Brown, and G. H. Cross won Margaret Bryce Smith Scholarships to Liverpool University.

We congratulate Mr. Parker on the birth of a son, and Mr. Bowker on his marriage.

During the year portions of the Upper School saw the films "The Overlanders", "Hue and Cry", and "Next of Kin" at the Philharmonic Hall, and "Hamlet" at the "Futurist" Cinema, Lime Street. The Lower School, on the other hand, were compensated by a visit to the School of the Philharmonic Orchestra. During the year also a party of girls from Blackburne House came to the School to sing carols.

On Speech Day, December 11th, Alderman Shennan distributed the prizes, and delivered a stirring speech on "Courage".

We wish to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere grief at the bereavements suffered by the Headmaster and by Mr. A. J. Smith.

ALFRED HOUSE NOTES.

On two occasions during the past year Alfred has succeeded in startling the remainder of the School. It first showed its latent ability when it triumphantly gained the Whitehouse Cup for Senior Cricket. This is made the more remarkable by the fact that the team contained only two members from the School teams.

Besides being superior in cricket, they displayed an ability for cross-country running, which secured for them the championship.

In swimming, they have only just failed to retain their previous position by being placed second in the Senior Championship. This is a remarkable achievement, as they no longer command the allegiance of the Rawlinson brothers, the School champions. We must offer special congratulations to Easton upon his breaking the back-stroke record.

It would be kinder if the account of the year's activity could end here, but unfortunately it is our duty to recount the remainder of Alfred's "achievements". In the House Football they won their first match, but failed to reach the final. The Hockey Cup likewise slipped from their grasp. It is peculiar to note that, though Alfred is pre-eminent in cross-country running, the torch of athletic fame is forcibly extinguished when we come to the Sports. It was a sad day for Alfred.

The result of the Hobby Show offers no consolation. Again Alfred was conspicuous by its absence among the higher positions. The House play was quite pleasing, but most of the other House plays managed to make a better impression.

Is it possible that our few glorious successes can inspire the House to greater effort? We must not allow the work of the valiant minority to pass unrecognised; it is our duty to assist by even the meanest effort as long as it is the best we can offer. We call more for allegiance than for ability; indifference to the welfare of the House cannot be tolerated. This year will witness a change in Alfred's fortunes.

P. J. SMITH.

DANSON HOUSE NOTES.

The results for the past School year have been disappointing. No honours have been gained, either in the sports or on the playing fields. We can derive but slight consolation from the fact that the Hockey and Senior Football teams reached the finals of the Boswell and Horsfall Cups respectively. In cricket we went no further than the semi-final. In sports, gym., and swimming we were unsuccessful; indeed, there was a lamentable lack of support in all these activities.

In the Hobby Show the House gained its only success; our play was placed second, being only narrowly beaten by the outstanding production by Philip of "The Thread of Scarlet". But in the rest of the Hobby Show activities there were very few entries.

I must remind the House that in united action lies our only hope of success. The sports are not merely an opportunity of standing and watching our hardier brethren. In every sphere of activity there has been a lack of support. The few who did help were very keen. In the future let there be a real effort.

I should like to extend a welcome to the new members of the House; I hope they will give of their best. Let all remember that even if we cannot support Danson House through a feeling of fellowship, we should do so through a sense of duty.

Finally, I should like to express the thanks of all to Mr. Bentliff for his help and unflinching interest in the House.

A. V. WILLIAMS.

HUGHES HOUSE NOTES.

The last twelve months have brought little success to Hughes, and we are still struggling to make up for the paucity of Sixth Form members by some definite achievements, but our efforts still go unrewarded. We have held the unenviable sixth position in both the House Play Competitions and the Swimming Sports, and in the Senior Football and Hockey contests we have suffered defeat at the first time of asking. On the credit side, however, we can be satisfied at our showing in the Gym. Competition, when we came second (R. Foster was third in the individual placings); we reached the finals of both Senior and Junior Cricket and the Junior Football, while in both the Hobby Show and the School Sports the efforts of individuals were creditable.

But individual efforts alone cannot bring to the House the honours which have eluded us for so long. There is still an urgent need for more enthusiasm in the House among both juniors and seniors, and no boy should be satisfied with being just a nominal member of Hughes; each must take an active part in some branch of the House activities.

Last summer saw the departure of Mr. Bradshaw, our Housemaster, and J. W. F. Dowling, House Captain. We wish both of them every success in their new spheres of life. To Mr. Bradshaw particularly we extend our thanks for all that he has done for the House through the years, and we welcome Mr. Bowker as his successor. We offer congratulations to W. J. Fraser on obtaining full colours for Athletics.

If each member will recognise that there is no cause for complacency or for pessimism, this can be Hughes' year of recovery.

N. A. WILKIE.

OWEN HOUSE NOTES.

During the last year the House has met with varied success. The Boswell Cup, the Chess Trophy, and the Fives Trophy were won quite convincingly, and the Junior Football team won their section of the Horsfall Cup Competition. In Cross-Country running the House was not as successful as in the previous year, and this, I am sure, was due to the small number of entries.

The response from the House in the Hobby Show was very good, especially in the models' section, but owing to the system of scoring, they did not profit by this as much as they deserved. The House Play, "The Man in the Bowler Hat", was placed third, and our actors should be congratulated on their performance.

We tied for first place with Philip Holt House in the School Sports, but with more enthusiasm next summer I think that we can show our supremacy in this field to be undeniable.

Our conclusion is that, as in other years, the House must show even more enthusiasm so as to maintain their high standard. Thus I ask everybody in the House to take an active interest in the House Competitions, particularly the School Sports, for which there are no specified numbers or teams.

Finally, I should like to thank Mr. Smith for his production of the House Play, and Mr. Morgan for his encouragement and advice at all times.

A. J. PEMBERTON.

PHILIP HOLT HOUSE.

Since the publication of the last Magazine the House has taken several opportunities of distinguishing itself, notably by its successes in the School Sports and in the Hobby Show. It is disappointing to see, however, that both these achievements were to a great extent due to the efforts of our junior members, especially in the Sports.

The seniors nevertheless worked hard in some departments, winning both the Horsfall Cup Football Competition and the House Play Competition. Other successes include sound victories in the House Swimming and Gym Competitions. Although the House is now in a very comfortable position, with many keen junior members in its ranks, there is still room for improvement notably in the Cricket and Chess Competitions.

With a little united effort we should be able to ensure the maintenance of the high traditions of the House. Finally, our grateful thanks are due to the Housemaster, Mr. Booth, for his assistance, especially in the production of the House Play.

G. JONES.

TATE HOUSE.

During the past year there has been a marked difference between the respective achievements of the senior and junior sections of the House. The seniors have been unsuccessful in all the House competitions. The juniors, however, won both the Swimming and the Cricket Competitions, and provided the Middle Champion in the School Sports. Second place was gained in the Hobby Show and, had more support been received from the seniors, the first place would probably have been ours.

The achievement of the Junior House shows promise for Tate's future, but the fact remains that, as the House is so small in numbers, success can only be gained if everybody, especially the seniors, pulls his weight in all the activities in which the House is engaged.

H. H. MAGNAY, H. S. DODD.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

The First XI played good football and had a very successful season under the fine captaincy of A. R. Childs. Many of the games, especially at the beginning of the season, were won by large margins, but perhaps the most enjoyable matches were the hard and evenly fought clashes with Manchester Grammar School. Unfortunately we did not retain the Senior Shield, being beaten in the semi-final by a very fine Bootle Grammar School side. The football skill was always allied to extreme keenness and zest, which all helped to make this a notable season in which we suffered only two defeats. The team's success and general appearance were due in no small degree to the excellent coaching of Mr. Davies, and to his training routine, which kept the whole side very fit.

The Second XI were again unfortunate in having to answer the calls of the First XI, but the season was fairly successful, for after a poor start, the team settled down and gained some notable victories. Here Mr. Bowker's supervision was a great help to the team.

The Under 15 XI, as usual under the able guidance of Mr. Morgan, had a splendid season, reaching the final of the Junior Shield Competition. The team, however, failed to retain the trophy, being soundly defeated by Prescott Grammar School.

The Under 13 XI won as many matches as it lost, showing promise for the future, both in keenness and skill. Mr. Rowell supervised the team with his usual efficiency.

The First XI was usually selected from:—G. Cooper, B. Cundall, J. P. Barber, D. E. Bowman, A. R. Childs, R. Clark, A. J. Pemberton, P. D. Quayle, D. W. McKay, B. Goodall, N. J. Parry, R. Kay, P. Rawlinson, R. Cooper.

RESULTS.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	GOALS	
					F.	A.
First XI	22	18	2	2	74	26
Second XI	16	9	5	2	55	37
Under 15 XI	21	12	6	3	59	43
Under 13 XI	15	6	6	3	34	33

J. P. BARBER.

CRICKET.

If a team's success is to be judged by results, then the First XI had a fairly successful season, but there were many disappointments. Only on one or two occasions did the batting show the strength which was expected from experienced players. The attack was usually good, having more variation of pace than usual, but even this appeared ineffective on occasions. The greatest criticism, however, can be levelled at the fielding, and continually throughout the season costly fielding mistakes made the bowlers' task more difficult. This lack of success may have been due to many of the team having examinations and therefore being unable to devote as much time to "nets" as they would have wished. The outlook was not completely gloomy, for on some occasions the team played very well, and such games as that against Liverpool C.C. provided a feast of good cricket. Another notable point was that this was the first cricket season at Mersey Road, and although "the square" did not play as well as it might, the move from Greenbank was made worth-while by the fact that the field had been railed off, and the pavilion renovated.

The Second XI showed many of the same faults as the First XI, but the team always tried hard, and there was no lack of keenness. The results were fairly even, the side winning as many matches as it lost.

The Under 15 XI had a very fine season and proved to be the best junior side that the School has had for some years. The team augurs well for the future, being strong in all departments.

This season the Under 13 XI was re-formed, and its cricket proved that it will be a great help for the future and ensured that it will never again lapse into obscurity.

We should like to thank Mr. Davies, Mr. Bowker, Mr. Rowell and Mr. Webster for giving so much of their valuable time in supervising the teams. They were largely responsible for the School's maintaining its high standard of appearance on the cricket field. Our thanks must also go to Mr. Edwin Wass for working so hard on the square and pavilion and for his invaluable coaching.

Full Colours were re-awarded to: A. R. Childs, J. P. Barber, D. W. McKay. Full Colours were awarded to: G. Cooper, J. S. Thomas. Half Colours were awarded to: W. Bartlett, R. Clark, E. H. Fowler, E. G. Jones, H. Ashby, F. T. Swallow.

RESULTS.

	P.	W.	L.	D.
First XI	12	7	3	2
Second XI	11	5	5	1
Under 15 XI	14	12	2	0
Under 13 XI	7	4	2	1

FIRST XI AVERAGES.

BATTING.

	Innings.	not out.	Times Highest		Total.	Average.
			Score.			
A. R. Childs	10	1	25*	128	13.2	
E. G. Jones	11	1	25	103	10.2	
K. R. Jones	12	0	34	118	9.8	
G. Cooper	11	2	32*	81	9.0	
R. Clark	11	2	21*	72	8.0	
J. P. Barber	12	0	35	93	7.7	
D. W. McKay	7	0	27	55	7.7	
W. Bartlett	11	2	17	64	7.1	
A. J. Pemberton	9	1	17	37	4.6	
E. H. Fowler	8	4	7	16	4.0	
J. S. Thomas	7	3	7	11	2.8	
G. Kirby	3	0	3	3	1.0	

Also batted Ashby 2.

*Signifies not out

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
D. W. McKay	142	44	294	45	6.5
J. S. Thomas	131	33	310	40	7.7
E. H. Fowler	91	26	217	28	7.7
J. H. Ashby	14	2	39	4	9.8
K. R. Jones	21	2	88	1	88.0

Also bowled R. Clark and E. G. Jones.

J. P. BARBER.

HOCKEY.

Although 1948-49 was only the third full season of hockey since the war the School did very well. Many of the teams played were obviously much more experienced than the School XI and proved it by their scores, but in most cases the School played at such a standard as not to be disgraced, though defeated. Most will remember the year because of the exciting and close match with Caldy Grange Grammar School, which resulted in a Caldy win by the odd goal in three. This is the first time for many years that Caldy have not managed to score five goals or more.

The main point of interest in the season was the progress which the School has made in the hockey world and which hockey has made in the School. The former is illustrated by the fact that the School is now working very closely with Sefton Hockey Club. The arrangement is for a certain number of the School XI to be made members of Sefton and to play for the Club when not required by the School. This idea benefits both sides and should be a great help to boys wishing to have experience of good class hockey while still at School.

The team during the year 1948-49 was usually:—F. Swallow, F. R. Hodson, J. M. Jones, P. Pallister, G. C. Finch, K. R. Jones, P. R. Jones, G. Craine, W. B. Lello (Captain), A. V. Williams, J. C. Mitchell.

Also played: Warbrick, Naisby, Black, Booth and Heatley.

The results were quite creditable considering the balance of very strong and very weak sides the School played.

RESULTS.

1st XI.

Played 20, Won 8, Lost 7, Drawn 5, Goals for 74, Goals against 41.

Colours awarded to: W. B. Lello, G. C. Finch, F. R. Hodson, K. R. Jones. Half Colours: F. T. Swallow, P. W. Pallister, J. M. Jones, A. V. Williams and P. R. Jones.

1949-50.

Following the advances made in 1948-49, more help is to be given to hockey in the School. All members of the XI's are to be urged to join the Merseyside Hockey Circle, which has recently been formed. Schemes for coaching and lectures are being carried out, and it is hoped to obtain some famous players to give talks and lectures.

There is a fine chance for boys in the Middle and Lower School who take up the game now to reach the top class of hockey while still at School, to become really expert, and to achieve the real goal—true enjoyment of one of the best team games that can be played.

We wish to express our thanks to Mr. Willott, Mr. Booth, and Mr. Wass for their kindness and advice.

W. B. LELLO (Captain).

ATHLETICS.

This year the School Sports were held at Mersey Road on June 11th. Although some fast times were recorded in the senior events, results were generally disappointing. This was due not, as had been suggested by certain competitors, to the condition of the track, but to lack of enthusiasm, especially among juniors. A spirit of apathy appears to have descended upon the Lower and Middle School, and unless an immediate remedy is forthcoming School athletics will reach a very low standard in the next two or three years.

The only notable performances in the School Sports were P. B. Watson's victory in the 220 yards, and W. J. Fraser's victory in the 440. The winners' times in both these events represented new School records.

P. B. Watson was awarded the "Victor Ludorum" trophy, R. H. Leach and Burnett were the Middle and Junior Champions respectively. Owen and Philip Holt tied for the House Championship, Owen won the Senior Section, and Philip the Middle. 3B won the Cochran Competition.

In the Inter-School Sports held at the Holt School on June 14th and 16th, the School were placed third in the Senior Section and unplaced in the Junior. R. N. Dailey set up new records for the half-mile and mile of 2 minutes 5 seconds and 4 minutes 38 seconds respectively. W. J. Fraser won the 440 yards in the record time of 53 seconds. P. B. Watson gained second place in the 220 yards and third place in the Long Jump. The above performances gained 19 points.

Amongst the Juniors only R. H. Leach (second in the Long Jump) and M. A. Pearson (second in the Half-Mile) appeared to be in the same class as their opponents.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all the members of the Staff who helped to make the Sports Day so successful.

R. N. DAILEY.

CROSS-COUNTRY.

In the second year of its formation, the Cross-Country Section enjoyed a fair measure of success. The team was runner-up in the Sangster Cup Competition, and won all but one of its matches. The season finished with the Northern Schools' Competition, which was held at Wythenshawe Park, Manchester, and in which the School was placed sixth.

The School run was held on December 6th and 7th from Mersey Road. The Junior Race for the "Orlons Cup" was won by M. Pearson, and the House Championship by Owen House. The Senior Race for the "H. W. Peck Cup" was won by T. W. Shaw, with R. I. Hamilton in second place. Alfred Holt won the House Championship.

It is a pity that, out of 200 entrants for the School run, only eight are sufficiently interested in the sport to turn up at the Saturday morning runs. This is unfortunate, as most of last season's team have left, and at the time of writing, there appears to be nobody to replace them.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Mr. Reece and Mr. Graham, without whose support and encouragement cross-country running would never have flourished, and to welcome Mr. Day, who is taking charge this year.

Full Colours for 1948-49 were re-awarded to R. N. Dailey, and awarded to R. I. Hamilton, M. T. Kneale and T. W. Shaw. Half Colours were awarded to G. H. Cross and D. W. Finney.

R. N. DAILEY.

FIVES NOTES.

The increase in the number of balls available to the School has made possible full-time fives again. The result has been a most gratifying increase in the number of boys playing the game. I must especially praise the enthusiasm displayed by so many juniors. If this zeal would only affect the senior members of the School, fives would undoubtedly regain the proud position it held some years ago.

The fives' team had a fairly successful year, winning its away matches against Hulme Hall and Wigan Grammar School. The return fixtures were unfortunately cancelled, the weather interfering on both occasions. Our annual games with Wallasey Grammar School were cancelled last term. For the coming year several fixtures have been arranged, and it is to be hoped that they can all be played. The School team will be without Quayle this year, and his place will be filled by K. Weekes who will join the older members, B. Benson, J. P. Barber and E. Davies. We wish him success.

Finally, it is my pleasant duty to thank Mr. Bentliff for his supervision and kindness. These notes would not be complete without a word of thanks to K. Weekes and R. Jones, whose coaching has enabled so many juniors to learn the game.

B. BENSON (Captain).

SWIMMING NOTES.

Last term Mr. Killingley resigned from the position of master-in-charge of swimming after many years of valuable service. The position was filled by Mr. Forbes.

During the season swimming meetings were held at Cornwallis Street Baths, where Mr. Forbes and Mr. Rowell conducted life-saving and diving classes. It has been proposed to continue the meetings throughout the winter.

This year the School Swimming Sports were held at Picton Road Baths on October 7th. They proved quite a success, and although there was only a moderate entry of seniors, the juniors supported the event well.

The main interest of the Gala centred round the struggle between Alfred Holt House and Philip Holt House for the House Championship, the latter being victorious. J. Easton broke the back stroke record, set up by P. Rawlinson the previous year, returning a time of 77.2 secs. The individual championship was won by R. A. Jones with J. Easton a very close second.

The final House positions were:—

Senior: 1st, Philip Holt; 2nd, Alfred Holt; 3rd, Owen. Junior: 1st, Tate; 2nd, Owen; 3rd, Alfred Holt.

Form 3B won the Cochran Championship.

Finally, I should like to thank Mr. Forbes and all other members of the Staff who assisted in making the Gala a success.

R. A. JONES.

THE BOXING CLUB.

The Boxing Club has again resumed its activities this term, and training takes place every Wednesday evening in the Gymnasium from 4 p.m. till 5 p.m. Mr. Schofield has persuaded Sergt. Highton to come along to the Boxing Class, and we now have a fully fledged P.T. instructor, who gives us a thorough training routine and personally demonstrates the finer points of the science.

With the addition of Sergt. Highton the scope of the club is much widened, and any boy who is really interested in learning to box is cordially invited to attend, for there are vacancies in the School team for a number of enthusiasts.

Many inter-school contests have been arranged for next term, and the season promises to be the most successful of the post-war era.

P. L. PEARSON (Captain).

C.C.F.—ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Captain J. M. McDonald into the Contingent; his long and varied service with the Royal Artillery, in which he was a Battery Commander, will prove invaluable to the Corps. A welcome is also extended to our new P.S.I., Sergt. Highton, who has joined us after very successful army service.

The Annual Camp this year was at Gandale, near Catterick, a bleak and bracing, but pleasant situation on the Yorkshire moors. We had the good fortune to make the journey by coach, passing through extremely interesting country, including the Pennines, via Skipton. In close proximity to the Camp was Richmond, a town steeped in historic and architectural interest.

The Camp itself was not as successful as those of the three previous years, this being mainly due to the fact that contingents arrived and departed at varying times, and this made organised training extremely difficult. However, a few good demonstrations were seen, especially that organised by the Royal Signals, who delighted the audience with a display of rough riding by eight dispatch riders.

The Unit excelled itself in the social activities of the Camp. The Under 15 football team succeeded in winning the inter-unit Six-a-side Soccer Competition, defeating in turn King Edward's, Birmingham, Derby, Leeds and St. Peter's, York. A boxing exhibition given by L/Cpl. Gadd was also much appreciated.

The Annual Inspection was conducted last term by Brigadier H. G. Thompson, who submitted a good report.

Through the influence of Captain Hotchkiss of the 573 H.A.A. Regt., to whom we are much indebted, Lt.-Col. Bacon has granted us permission to use the miniature range at the Regimental Barracks in Mather Avenue. Facilities are such that every Cadet will shoot at least every six weeks.

The fact that the Contingent is now up to establishment enables us to return to the correct military procedure of working as a Company. The 180 Cadets comprising the Army and Basic Sections have been divided into five platoons, each of three Sections. The platoons are commanded by Senior N.C.O.'s, with Certificate "A" Part II candidates as Section Commanders. To further the efficiency of the Contingent it is now a strict rule that no Cadet will be admitted to the parade ground if he is defective in any part of his uniform; that is if he is without boots, belt, or gaiters. Only in exceptional cases will this rule be waived. In addition, attendance at lectures is compulsory, and Cadets who have failed to attend a minimum of 80% of the lectures will not sit the examination. Owing to considerable slackness on the part of their owners some rifles have considerably deteriorated. If such a person is not inclined to perform the more menial tasks connected with the Corps he is obviously unfit to share in its many advantages.

Another facility of which we are able to avail ourselves is the provision of week-end camps at Harrington Barracks, Formby. Parties of Cadets, thirty strong, will receive forty-eight hours of intensive training under an officer and the P.S.I. As everything connected with these camps is free, attendance will be confined to those Cadets who show themselves worthy by their enthusiasm and efficiency.

For the next Annual Camp it is proposed to take the Contingent to Germany. Attendance at this camp is limited to those Cadets over 15 years of age who have attained Part I standard. It is hoped that a large number of those eligible will attend, thus reducing the overhead charges per Cadet. It is at present estimated that the charge per head will be approximately £15 for twelve days, rail and boat fares included.

The Boxing Club in connection with the C.C.F. continues to flourish under the guidance of Lt. Schofield, who is ably assisted by Sergt. Highton, a boxer of considerable ability.

This term we make a special appeal to the older members to join the Unit. A special platoon has been formed consisting solely of members of the Sixth Forms. At present it is under strength but gradually growing. It receives specialised attention and is only instructed by members of the Upper Sixth and the officers. If the older members of the School realised the great advantages the Corps affords when they come to do their military service, they would not be so hesitant in coming forward.

There is promise that this coming year will be one of the most successful in the Corps' history. We offer our sincere thanks to the officers and N.C.O.'s who are giving up so much of their time in seeing that this promise materialises.

P. F. SMITH (Under-Officer).

C.C.F.—AIR SECTION.

SUMMER CAMP, 1949.

A party of forty-one Cadets under F/Lt. Watson, assembled at Lime Street Station at 23-15 hours on Friday, 22nd July. Owing to bad organisation on the part of "British Railways" at Lime Street, the journey to Pembroke Dock was not very comfortable: some relaxed in comfort, many stood in the corridors, and others studied railway organisation with the guard, until Cardiff was reached. Our journey along the South Wales coast was much more pleasant, and although rather tired after our twelve-hour journey, we rejoiced to see R.A.F. trucks awaiting us at Pembroke Dock.

After a speedy run through the town, we were pleasantly impressed by the shady lawns within the solid battlements of the R.A.F. station, where so much of our time was to be spent. A number of flying boats were moored in the haven, and a regatta was in progress off shore.

Our camp was beautifully situated on a hill overlooking the town and Pembroke Castle. The weather was extremely hot, and the Cadets lost no time in availing themselves of the showers and baths at the camp. Sleeping accommodation was in two huts, but all meals were taken at the main camp, about one mile away. Supper, however, was prepared by Cadet N.C.O.'s prior to the evening talk and prayers conducted by the C.O.

On the Sunday morning a church parade was held at the local church, where we received a very warm welcome from the minister, who was the R.A.F. padre. In the afternoon about a dozen of the more energetic Cadets walked five miles to a bay called Freshwater East for a refreshing "dip".

Training began on Monday, and it was most enjoyable. Flying was arranged whenever possible, and all the Cadets were airborne in Sunderlands, except one unlucky one who was seasick before he started. Several Cadets had the experience of piloting these huge four-engined planes. Other time was spent on the range, in the control room, and in the link trainer, where F/Sergt. Naisby excelled himself in stalling and crashing several times. The launches also provided a source of continual pleasure, especially to Sergt. McGregor and Cadet Wensley, who spent much of their time in them. Most Cadets also went on a two-hour trip down Milford Haven in a large R.A.F. launch.

We were free every evening and on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. A favourite evening resort was Pembroke with its interesting castle. On two occasions the quaint and dignified town of Pembroke was roused, as of yore, by resounding cries from the Keep. On further investigation these proved to be the School's battle cry.

On the Wednesday afternoon an R.A.F. lorry took us round much of the beautiful Pembrokeshire coastline. During the tour the C.O. displayed his versatility by teaching us "rounds", which were often interrupted by the violent oscillations of the truck. The truck itself stopped at nothing, not even bridges too narrow for it. Several bays were visited, and Guinness inspired us all with great enthusiasm for collecting odd bits of seaweed and other marine phenomena. That night, even the hut began to smell of seaweed. On the Friday afternoon many Cadets took advantage of "cheap trips" to Tenby, a few miles away.

Saturday morning was spent in clearing up and packing, and the afternoon in saying farewell to various "acquaintances" in Pembroke Dock. We left after tea, and were seen off at the station by our friend the Padre, and F/Lt. Braithwaite, the P.E.T.L.O. at the R.A.F. Station. We arrived at Liverpool at 07-00 hours on Sunday after a comfortable journey, which for some of us had included a nocturnal tour of Cardiff. So ended the Summer Camp of 1949. All the Cadets enjoyed it, and many hope to have the chance of revisiting the R.A.F. Air-Sea Rescue Station at Pembroke Dock.

Sergt. HARRISON.

SUMMER CAMP, 1949, LLANFAIRFECHAN.

The Troop assembled at Lime Street Station on 3rd August, at 10-0 a.m. After an uneventful journey we arrived at Llanfairfechan, found the camp site and pitched the tents. On the first day gadgets were constructed, and after dinner the Troop descended on Llanfairfechan, where a few hardy spirits decided to bathe.

The following day the Seniors and the rest of the Troop divided into two parties to walk over the nearby hills to Aber Lake. The younger members of the Troop were deterred by the semi-gale and driving rain when they were almost within sight of the lake, but the Seniors achieved their objective. The Troop was unoccupied on Saturday afternoon, and on Sunday most of the members attended morning service at Llanfairfechan Parish Church. Several Scouts attended an Organ Recital at the Parish Church in the evening.

After an early breakfast on Monday the Troop took the train from Llanfairfechan to Llandudno Junction and then walked back to Conway Castle. Small groups made their own way back to camp, and a party of Seniors, who hiked there and back, arrived about 11-0 p.m. Tuesday afternoon and evening were spent in tidying up the camp site and packing most of the kit.

We were all up by 6-0 a.m. on Wednesday, 10th, and had everything packed by 9-0 a.m. When a lorry had collected the tents and heavy equipment, the Troop walked into Llanfairfechan and caught the 11-0 a.m. train, arriving in Liverpool at 2-45 p.m. after a very successful camp, at which, led for the third year in succession by Patrol Leader A. E. Phillips, the Peewits gained the most points—91%.

PETER B. QUINE, P.L.

SCOUT NOTES.

The activities of the School Scout Troop during the past School year have been many and varied. At the Association camp-fire the Troop lost the "Camp-Fire Baton" of which it had been the first holder. A highlight of the winter term was the occasion when six Senior Scouts were selected to form a guard of honour for the Editor of the "Scout" as he took the salute at a City

Association march past. The Troop, also in the winter term, held a field day in the Wirral and hiked from Hadlow Road to Burton Woods, where a most exciting wide game took place.

Early in the New Year the Troop received a letter from the Town Clerk, thanking it for a Christmas entertainment at a nearby remand home. Regular indoor meetings in the gymnasium were held during the spring term, one of which was attended by a German local government official, Herr Wilhelm Ditzgen.

At the Hobby Show the Troop gave an exhibition of Scoutercraft, which included two types of bridge, a demonstration of cycle maintenance, a collection of foreign Scout literature and badges, and several model camp sites. In March the Troop went on a field day to Helsby and Delamere.

April saw the commencement of outdoor meetings in Childwall Woods, and on the Monday before Easter the Troop met in the mist on the top of Moel Arthur.

During the summer term preparations went forward for camp in North Wales, and a novel system of Saturday morning patrol competitions was inaugurated.

In July the Troop, together with a German Scout from Schleswig-Holstein, followed a trail from Childwall to Hale, and despite the threats of an irate farmer, the hike was thoroughly enjoyed.

The Red Rose Jamboree, the chief event of the Liverpool scouting year, was attended by a representative patrol from the Troop and several other Scouts who worked in the Service Camp. The representative patrol acted as headquarters' patrol for their own sub-camp, and several of them were members of the team which won the bridge-building competition for City Association.

Since the Troop returned from its summer camp at Llys y Gwynt near Llanfairfechan, drastic changes have taken place in its formation. A. E. Phillips is now acting Assistant Scoutmaster, R. W. Rochester is Troop Leader, and H. H. Magnay is Senior Patrol Leader. Four new Patrol Leaders have been appointed: A. D. Osborne, P. Quine, E. R. Oxburgh, and S. Orlans, while the Seagulls still remain under the competent leadership of C. Legg. The Troop has now forty active members, and the first few meetings of the term have been very well attended.

Thanks are due to the School chef, to Mr. Forbes, our former Treasurer, and to his successor, Mr. Smith, to Mr. Haig especially for his devotion to the Troop, and to all members of the School Staff who have given us help in various ways.

R. W. ROCHESTER, T.L.

MUSIC CLUB.

The Music Club may look back upon last year's record with satisfaction. Last December we had an audience of over a hundred for a Mozart concert. This was due partly to the Headmaster's appeal in his report on Speech Day, and partly to the fact that it was the last official appearance of Mr. Baxter. We take this opportunity to express in print our gratitude to Mr. Baxter for the hours of work he has spent on the club since he first formed it some thirty years ago.

Mr. Baxter's position as Treasurer of the club has been taken over by Mr. Rowell.

The gramophone, which arrived last January, has been put to good use. A regular series of gramophone recitals has been instituted, and the success of

this arrangement has encouraged us to continue this term. These meetings are held every other Tuesday in the Music Room.

Mr. Noel Rawsthorne, deputy organist at Liverpool Cathedral, gave an excellent recital of organ works last February. It was generally the practice last year to hold dinner-time recitals in Hall. These started very well, when G. H. Cross and B. A. Leeson played to an audience of sixty. As the summer months approached, however, cricket formed a greater attraction, and our numbers grew steadily less.

Unfortunately, dinner-time concerts have had to be abandoned, owing to the present dinner arrangements. It is hoped that the evening recitals will be well attended.

Officers of the Club elected last September are:—President, The Headmaster; Chairman, Mr. Naylor; Treasurer, Mr. Rowell; Secretary, A. R. Pugh; Committee, C. Legg, B. A. Leeson, D. F. Ellis.
A. R. PUGH.

THE ORCHESTRA.

When Mr. Hillman started with the Orchestra last September, hopes were not high. Most of the reliable players had left, and many of the younger players had enthusiasm but no experience. Rehearsals could rarely be held more than once a week. Despite these limitations, Mr. Hillman managed to reach a standard that compared favourably with that of the previous year.

The Orchestra gave two public performances during the year. It tided over many an awkward moment in the Hobby Show, and gave a concert to the Lower and Middle School.

In the Hobby Show the Orchestra included a Suite especially written for them by D. F. Ellis. Ellis has done much to help the Orchestra along this year—tirelessly copying out parts, and keeping things together with considerable skill at the pianoforte. His suite was attractive and remarkably original. The same may be said of his sonatina for piano, which he played at a Music Club concert this term.

The concert was a great success. The programme included a 'cello solo by G. Naisby, and Mr. Hillman's arrangement of a "Samoan Lullaby" for trumpet and strings, in which the soloist was Martin. We also heard a movement of Mozart, a Handel March, and a piece called "Fairy Fingers" which had to be repeated.

The Headmaster appealed for support from the School. Since violin and 'cello classes were being held at reasonable prices, it was hoped that more boys would take advantage of this to make the Orchestra bigger and even better. As the Headmaster said, this concert could only be an encouragement.

A. R. PUGH.

CHESS NOTES.

Owing to a 6-1 defeat in the first game of last season, the School chess team did not achieve more than third place in the Wright Challenge Shield Competition. This year the outlook is more hopeful, since the opening game has been won.

The House Chess Knock-out Competition will start again soon, and it is hoped that it will be as successful as last year.

We are grateful to Mr. Willott for organising the meeting of the Club's younger members, and to Mr. Booth for the help and encouragement given to the chess team.
W. NORRIE (Captain).

PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Society has been re-organised this term under the chairmanship of Mr. R. T. Jones. Meetings are held every Wednesday, after School, in Room 1. These take the form of lectures on various aspects of Philately by members of the Society, stamp competitions, and auctions. Membership is open to all boys in the School.

Keen interest in the Society is being particularly taken by boys in the third forms, and it is with a feeling of regret that we see all too clearly the lack of senior support. We therefore urge all boys of the School, and especially those in the upper forms who are interested in either stamp or coin collecting, to join the Society in order to pursue their hobby to the best advantage.

G. E. SILVERMAN and G. F. BILSON (Joint Secretaries).

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY NOTES.

The Society was inaugurated in November, 1948, and during the first year of its existence attendances at most meetings, particularly film shows, were highly gratifying. Eventually the membership figure passed the 100 mark.

The activities of the Society are many and varied, although film shows and talks, by members and by outside speakers, form the major part of the meetings. Our visitors last year included Mr. F. J. Monkhouse (from the School of Geography, Liverpool University), Miss I. B. Harkness (from Aigburth Vale High School), and Miss M. Lee of the International Wool Secretariat. The travel talks given by the Society's own members did not meet with such a good response; attendances were conspicuously smaller, despite the varied interest of the subjects. Film shows have proved most popular, particularly among members from the Middle School, and now films are shown which have the assets of colour and sound. The films have been of varying content and interest, from "Rubber in Malaya" to "America's High Spots", "Our Herring Industry" to "Cocoa in the Gold Coast".

Meetings have hitherto been held fortnightly on Tuesdays, but it is probable that they may be more frequent this session, should the support be sufficient.

Apart from meetings held in School, several excursions have been made, including visits to Cronton Colliery, Gladstone Dock, and Summers' Steel Works at Shotton, near Queensferry, all of which were very impressive.

Members are reminded that the Society's library, in Room 37, is open during the lunch period on several days of the week, where various Geographical Magazines, guide books, maps, Y.H.A. publications, and pamphlets may be studied. Finally, we offer our thanks to all who have helped the Society in its organisation and activities in the past, particularly to Mr. Willan, our Chairman, to whom we owe a debt of gratitude both for having founded the Society and for his own unflinching enthusiasm and good humour.
N. A. W., C. L.

"OH, TO BE IN EUROPE, WHENEVER APRIL'S HERE."

I am heartily glad I was in Europe when last April was here (or at least, when the majority of last April was here). For in the three weeks of the Easter holidays I spent the most enjoyable, interesting, and lengthy vacation of my whole life. I travelled through five foreign countries, not to mention

parts of my own that I had never previously visited; I stayed in five world-famous cities; and I had experience of three foreign languages.

On the evening of the day on which School "broke up" for the Easter holidays (it was April 8th, the first week of the month of showers having been spent, rather aimlessly, in School) our party of six—four other boys, Mr. Forbes, and I—met at the coach station in plenty of time to catch the London coach.

I found it impossible to sleep during the ten-hour journey, partly because I had no room to stretch my legs, partly because I was in fear for my life, as the driver took us at breath-taking speeds along the right-hand side of the road.

So we reached London, and after washing, brushing up, depositing our bags at the hostel, and last, but by no means least, breakfasting, we ought to have felt like new men (or new boys, at least). But did we? The rest of the day was spent in wandering round the Metropolis half-asleep, and one of my friends afterwards remarked that when our car (tram—not private) was passing what he most wanted to see, he was unwittingly catching up on those ten hours in the coach.

Forty-eight hours later we had reached Lille, by way of the East Kent 'bus service, the cross-Channel steamer, and the S.N.C.F. (French Railways). We stayed one night at a cheap hotel in Lille, having previously rejected the Youth Hostel as unsuitable, and on the next day made our way gradually to Brussels. We stayed in the Youth Hostel here for three nights, enjoying really hot weather, and when we went out, we had no need to spoil our pleasure by carrying our rucksacks.

Brussels is the loveliest city I have ever seen. The impression I have is of an immensely long street, avenue, boulevard—call it what you like. It is equal in width to any two Liverpool roads, and runs right across the city. At one end is a basilica, made the more interesting by the fact that it is totally different from anything I had seen before. From the basilica the road descends to a large square, where the Central Station and the largest hotels are situated. Then it rises again, passes the beautiful Botanic Gardens, and disappears into the distance. I could use pages in writing about Brussels alone, but as there are not pages to use, let us continue our journey.

From Brussels we went across the border into Holland, breaking our journey in Antwerp for a few hours. We crossed the frontier at an obscure little village, where the Dutch customs officials made us fill in a complicated currency form, and caused us to miss our 'bus. We arrived at the hostel at Bergen-op-Zoom at 9:30 p.m.

On the Saturday we reached Rotterdam too late for supper, so we went out and had a roll with hard-boiled egg. The afternoon had included a very pleasant two-hour ferry trip, but by the time we reached the hostel, that trip was just a confused memory of Russian salmon, veal-loaf, and fruit cake; of a rucksack seemingly full of liquid margarine; of my own rucksack equally well-supplied with jam; of perplexed or laughing Dutchmen; and of a photograph to record the fun and games.

The following day we expressed surprise at the open spaces in the heart of the city. We learned that the centre of Rotterdam had been systematically bombed flat by the Germans, but the work of reconstruction was progressing rapidly.

On the second evening in Rotterdam, Easter Sunday, we were told that two boys would like to show us round the town. We agreed, but when we went outside there were at least a dozen boys and girls waiting for us. We set off, and must have walked five miles in the course of the evening, visiting, among other places, the Maas tunnel. Twice the whole party boarded public

vehicles—during the first of these journeys, it occurred to me that an English tram or 'bus conductor would be amazed at the number of people standing on Continental vehicles. The seated passengers received us with open arms, every time the 'bus jerked. That night we got to bed at 11-10 p.m.

The next two nights were spent at Amsterdam, and two of the boys who had been at Rotterdam called at the hostel and showed us round their home town the first evening we were there.

During our stay here the two smallest members of the party made one or two discoveries that were very interesting to an impartial spectator. The first was that a small English boy, who is unused to clogs, cannot go for a long walk in them without large blisters forming on his feet. The second was that even small Dutch canals are too wide to be jumped across, and the third, in direct consequence to the second, was that the mud in the bottom of these canals has a remarkably foul and clinging stench.

Our last three days in Holland were spent at Utrecht, where we visited a private house and heard stories of the hardships the Dutch people suffered during the German occupation: at Arnhem (we saw the famous cemetery in the twilight: it looked very impressive); and at Beegden, which is about ten miles from the German frontier.

From Beegden we re-crossed the Belgian border on our way to Liege. There was almost as much "milk and honey" here as there had been at Brussels, although it is only an industrial town, and not nearly as large as the capital.

The next day was Sunday, and four of us went for a walk through very pleasant country. When we reached a small village, however, the peace was rudely shattered by the blare of music coming from loud speakers fastened to tall posts.

That night we reached our fourth new country—Luxembourg—and slept in the best hostel we had been to on the whole trip. It had been built as a hostel, and was really ideal. The long spell of fine weather, however, was really too good to last, and during the night there was a heavy thunderstorm. It was dry the next morning, while we walked in the beautiful country near the hostel, but it began to rain during the train journey from Cervaux to Luxembourg city. The Luxembourg hostel was good, but I preferred Cervaux; the warden at Luxembourg would not even let us sit on the beds.

The city of Luxembourg is extremely beautiful, and I was sorry we could not stay longer, but the next morning we had to go on to Thionville and then out to Saarbrücken, where we stayed for two days. This visit gave us an opportunity of airing our German, but although the Germans could usually understand us, understanding them was a very different matter, for it appears that we only learn German as it ought to be spoken.

The thing we noticed more than anything else in Saarbrücken was the devastation. The town could not have been more badly knocked about than Rotterdam, but by the look of the place, the damage had not been touched. I suppose there was some reconstruction going on, but it certainly hadn't made much impression on the ruins.

After two rather uneventful days we returned to Thionville, and then had a seven-hour train ride to Lille. The journey (3rd Class) was very comfortable, and the fares compare very favourably with British rates—less than one pound for a two hundred-mile journey.

We slept our last sleep on foreign soil in the same Lille hotel as we had used at the beginning of our trip.

By this time we were looking forward to being home, though not particularly itching to go straight back to School. The customs officials at Dover were very friendly, luckily, and we were soon walking across the town to the hostel, where we stayed the night.

In the morning the party split up, by common agreement, and while Mr. Forbes and three boys travelled on the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch miniature railway, another boy and I went on to London, and spent the afternoon eating in Lyons' tea-shops and walking along famous London streets.

We travelled back to Liverpool on the overnight coach, and again I did not sleep, but this time I could make up for it at home.

It was certainly a holiday to remember. But for all that I had enjoyed myself out of England when April was here, it was good to be back home when May had begun.

B. L. JONES, 6A.

SIXTH FORM SCIENCE SOCIETY.

The past year has been a highly successful one for the Society. Under the leadership of our former Secretary, E. J. Hopkins, to whom great credit is due, visits were made to Evans' Medical Supplies Ltd., at Speke and at Runcorn, the Stork Margarine Works, Messrs. Bryant and May's match factory at Speke, Messrs. J. Bibby and Sons, and the University Department of Metallurgy.

The Society was honoured by a talk on "Forensic Medicine" by Dr. W. H. Grace, the Home Office Pathologist, talks by Mr. Scholes of Messrs. J. Bibby and Sons, Mr. W. S. Owen of the University Department of Metallurgy, and Inspector Walsh of the C.I.D., who provided, with that given by Dr. Grace, the remainder of the information needed by several members for the success of their subsequent lives of crime.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the last day of the summer term. The Headmaster was re-elected as President, Messrs. Jones and Naylor as Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Doughty as Chairman. R. Porter was elected Secretary, K. J. Warbrick Treasurer, whilst R. Clark and K. H. Turner formed a provisional Committee, being subsequently joined by D. F. Osbourn and G. Kirby of the Lower Sixth.

This term there has been a visit to Bidston Observatory, where the Tidal Calculating Machines were seen at work. Visits have been arranged to the Lancashire Steel Corporation Works at Irlam, and Messrs. Dunlop's Speke factory. K. H. Turner gave a most interesting and instructive demonstration of Photo-Micrography, and R. Porter a lecture on the "Development of Gramophone Recording".

The subscription is now one shilling per annum, and the Society would welcome new members from the Modern and Classical Sixths, who should note that they have equal opportunity with the Scientists to take part in any visit.

R. PORTER (Secretary).

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT SOCIETY.

Last School year the Society was run by a committee of eight of the senior members, each one being responsible for some activity of the Society. Meetings have been held weekly on Mondays, and on the whole the attendances have been good, although there was a slackening off during the summer months. Talks have been given by members of the Society on various topics, and for the last meeting of the Christmas term a film show was organised with the kind co-operation of Mr. Thorpe, when representatives of British Railways showed three films of railway interest. This meeting was open to all the School, and there was an attendance of some sixty boys. For this School year it has been provisionally decided to hold meetings fortnightly on Mondays.

The outdoor activities, which are considered perhaps the most important, have not been neglected. During the October half-term holiday one of the Committee members organised a Youth Hostel trip of four days to North Wales. The trip included a walk along the track of the old Festiniog Railway which passes through a tunnel over half a mile long.

Some of the more energetic members of the party climbed Snowdon, visiting Llanberis and the Snowdon Mountain Railway; while others walked to Caernarvon and visited the castle. On the journey home the party travelled on the Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Electric Railway, which is one of the few remaining privately-owned tramways in the British Isles.

During the summer holidays a small party went to the Midlands and South Wales on a Youth Hostel trip which included a visit to Birmingham and Leicester, where their respective transport systems were inspected. The Lickey Incline, near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, was also visited.

Among Saturday morning excursions arranged by Committee members were visits to the Liverpool factory of Meccano Ltd., and to the Liverpool Corporation Passenger Transport Works at Edge Lane.

Whole-day trips included a visit to the Crosville Motor Services Ltd. main works at Crane Wharf, Chester, and an unofficial excursion, during which the Arderton Boat Lift, near Northwich, was inspected.

Visits have been planned to various places of transport and engineering interest for the near future, including a trip to Speke Airport.

We should like to express our thanks to Mr. Forbes, who has done so much and given up such an amount of his time for the Society.

P. M. HOWLETT and G. H. JONES (Joint Secretaries).

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

The Photographic Society which, before the war, existed as a sub-division of the now defunct Camera and Field Club, was revived as a separate Society with its own constitution in December, 1948. It is open to boys from the 5ths upwards, and has an annual subscription of 10/-. Membership is limited to forty boys. The Headmaster has consented to become our President, while Messrs. Reed, Doughty and Parker are Vice-Presidents.

The opening lecture, by Mr. Reed, was on "Composition"; this was followed by one on "Photography applied to Heraldry" given by the Chairman of the Society, Mr. Ledger. Other meetings have taken the form of tutorial classes for beginners, held by Mr. W. H. Jones.

The dark room has now been fully equipped with new apparatus, including a Johnson V.18 enlarger, and may be used by competent workers.

On July 22nd members of the Society went on a coach tour to Ironbridge, Buildwas, Much Wenlock and Church Stretton. The trip was of great value to us all, and proved that it is not necessarily the most expensive camera which produces the best picture.

A full programme of lectures and demonstrations has been arranged for 1949-50. These will take place on Wednesdays at 4-10 p.m.

The revival of the Society has entailed a tremendous amount of hard work, and we owe thanks especially to Mr. W. H. Jones and the members of the Committee for the enthusiasm with which they have tackled the difficulties caused by re-organisation. We count on the continued loyalty of our members to ensure the maintenance of the high standard which we have set ourselves, and hope to enlist keen, new members to replace those who have left.

J. M. JONES (Honorary Secretary).

MARINE BIOLOGICAL EXPEDITION, 1949.

During the last week of the Easter holidays a party drawn from the biology sections of ASc and BSc spent a week, under the leadership of Mr. Telfer, at Port Erin studying marine biology.

Although weather was very variable, we enjoyed many collecting expeditions around the coast, and two members were fortunate enough to dredge in deep water from the motor-boat "Rona".

Many fine specimens of seaweed, sponges, shell-fish, crayfish, worms, sea urchins, and many other animals were examined at length in the biological station's laboratory.

Swimming was limited owing to the low temperature of the water; football, walking and a certain amount of table-tennis were the chief recreations until the day of departure.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Telfer for his work in organising and managing a most instructive trip.

B. W. M.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN GROUP.

The Group continues to meet in Room 14 every alternate Wednesday at 1-10 p.m. under the able Chairmanship of Mr. Watson, to whom we extend our warmest thanks.

Since our last report we have had a number of interesting and instructive talks from various speakers, including Dr. W. J. Martin of Liverpool University, Dr. R. W. Brookfield of Rodney Street, Mr. J. Belford and Rev. W. H. Scott. Our best attended meeting was when the Chief Constable (Mr. C. C. Martin) delivered a challenging address to a gathering of about sixty.

This term Canon Lindsay has given a talk on "China", and the Rev. W. T. Earis a thought-provoking address on "Christianity and Communism". Later we expect to have visits from Rev. P. D. Humphreys of Garston Congregational Church, Rev. W. H. Scott of Christ Church, Linnet Lane, and Dr. Martin.

Numbers have grown, and the Upper Sixth is now well represented. All members of the Remove and Sixth Forms are invited to attend.

An inter-school "Brains Trust", held at Quarry Bank High School, and a short conference on "The Bible in the Modern World", held at Blackburn House, have been attended.

P. B. QUINE, ASc, and A. R. PUGH, Am, 1 (Secretaries).

SPAIN.

A party of Sixth Formers under Mr. Moore's care spent the Easter holidays in Northern Spain

Our aim was to extend and deepen our knowledge of the people, their country and their language. We saw much, we learnt much, and in these few hundred words only the barest outline of a memorable experience can be given.

Despite our weariness after a twelve-hour railway journey from Paris, our excitement grew as we passed through the French Basque country and approached the towering Pyrenees and Irún, the western gateway to Spain. Customs formalities completed we took the electric train to San Sebastián. Despite its unprepossessing exterior our hotel proved to be excellent, and the food was almost frightening in its copiousness. There we made our first acquaintance with "paella" (an exciting concoction of rice stewed with shell-fish and scraps of meat and pimento), and "tortilla" (a large omelette with a filling of ham and potato). Anchovies were almost literally shovelled on to our plates and bananas and oranges were plentiful and good.

The next morning, in brilliant sunshine, we strolled down to the "Concha", that lovely shell-shaped bay which would tax the vocabulary of an American travelogue's commentator. Most of us found the diminutive harbour and the fishermen's quarter at the foot of the "Monte Urgull" of absorbing interest. There we saw anchovies unloaded by the million.

On Thursday, April 14th, we set off for Burgos, once the capital of old Castile. It was not only the cross-section of the Spanish people we met on the trains that made rail travel an education in itself. We elected to travel in daylight, and as many trains had been cancelled owing to an acute electricity shortage we could not book seats. We had to learn the technique of boarding and finding seats in compartments apparently already crowded to capacity.

In Burgos we were invited to the Town Hall and cordially welcomed by the Mayor himself, and we witnessed the Holy Week procession. The effigies and tableaux representing the events leading up to the Crucifixion, the bare-footed penitents, the dignitaries of the Church, and the chanting choir boys made an unforgettable spectacle as they passed in the glare of the torches. The presence of steel-helmeted troops in the cortege struck what seemed an incongruous note, although we knew that Burgos is an important garrison city.

In addition to visits to the magnificent cathedral and other historic buildings in Burgos, we made excursions on foot to two places of great interest in the neighbouring countryside. One was to the monastery of Las Huelgas, formerly a palace of the kings of Castile, and the other to the Cartuja de Miraflores, a Carthusian monastery with many art treasures. The brother of our hotel proprietor conducted us on this latter excursion. He had been in the "Blue Division" in Russia, was a staunch supporter of Franco, and proudly showed us round the fine new army barracks and the ultra-modern Sports Stadium.

It was with genuine regret that we left Burgos and set off for Avila, the birthplace of Santa Teresa, a city in desolate landscape at over 3,000 feet above sea level, completely surrounded by its ancient walls, poor, proud, and living on past glories. We had no sooner set foot out of the station than we were importuned by a horde of beggars, the most loathsome we encountered in our travels. However, we found a great deal to interest us in Avila, and we were enabled to get our notions of life in Spain into proper perspective. Our hotel faced the main doorway of the cathedral, which is set like a massive fortress in the very walls of the city.

Our hotel in Madrid was situated in the Avenida de José Antonio, one of the capital's most modern thoroughfares. A short walk took us to the busy Puerta del Sol or to the famous park El Retiro, with its still more famous art gallery, El Prado, close by. There we marvelled at the masterpieces of Velázquez, El Greco and Goya, and a host of other painters of world-wide renown. We visited the modern suburbs of the capital and the poor quarters round the ancient Toledo bridge. Travelling by tram or underground is a hair-raising experience in Madrid. We were astounded at the vast numbers of passengers who managed to get into or on to a vehicle where we were already packed like sardines.

A pleasant evening was spent at the splendid Lope de Vega theatre, where the singing and dancing of graceful Andalusian artists to the accompaniment of guitars and castanets made up a colourful and melodious revue. On another occasion a party went to see a bull-fight. Although football appears to be ousting this traditional Spanish sport, the Plaza de Toros still has thousands of devotees. Manolete, who was killed several years ago, is still revered, and the fact that no matador of his calibre exists today is constantly deplored. We found the spectacle and the ceremonial of the bull-ring interesting, and we were surprised to note the vociferous expressions of disgust or disapproval which greeted any inexperience on the part of a matador or any lack of fighting quality in the bull.

Two excursions of major importance were undertaken from Madrid. The first was to Toledo with its wealth of historical association and its unique situation on a lofty hill, almost completely surrounded by the river Tagus. We wandered up and down the narrow and indescribably tortuous streets to visit the majestic XIIIth century cathedral and other religious edifices, and we crossed the ancient bridge and clambered up to the castle. There, to our amazement, we found whole families living in the ruins. Some of the grimest scenes in the tragedy of the late Civil War were enacted in Toledo, and shattered buildings still bear silent witness.

The other excursion, one of the "high lights" of the tour, was to El Escorial, the palace, temple, burial place, and now museum, built by Philip II to celebrate the Spanish victory at St. Quentin in 1557. To this vast mass the adjective "colossal" can safely be applied without exaggeration. A whole volume would not suffice to tell of all we saw there. The majority of us found most interest in the tapestries and furniture of the palace and in Philip II's own apartments, which have been preserved as they were in his lifetime.

The well-stocked Madrid shops, especially the bookshops, fascinated all of us. If one of our party was missing, he was invariably discovered buying books—classics of Spanish literature!

Finally, one sad day, we climbed the eight flights of steps (lift not working: electricity cuts again!) to our hotel for the last time, after a final shopping expedition and a last look round. We left after dinner by the night train for the frontier. We rested in San Sebastián for one day, and then continued our journey to the International Bridge by electric tramcar (called "et topo", the mole, because of the many tunnels on its route). We boarded the Paris express at Hendaye.

We mustered sufficient energy to make a "lightning" tour of the French capital in the few hours at our disposal. We visited Notre Dame and the Luxembourg Gardens, had lunch in the Boulevard St. Michel, ascended Eiffel Tower, and returned past the Arc de Triomphe down the Champs Elysées.

The party owes its thanks to Mr. Moore for his management of the tour, and to the Headmaster and his family for their company. The party was made up of the following boys: J. H. Sweeney, R. F. Evans, G. H. Cross, J. S. Thomas, R. F. Graham, D. W. Muir, R. T. Owen and H. G. O'Connell.

THE MANCHESTER "AIR-LIFT".

On about twelve occasions during the summer parties of twenty-odd boys, accompanied by a master, spent a day in Manchester, flying there and back by "Dakotas" of the British European Airways. On the 14th October a party of 19 boys drawn from all parts of the School had the thrill of undertaking the trip for the especial benefit of the B.B.C. Television Newsreel Service. A cameraman accompanied the party, and the film which he made was later transmitted over television. It is hoped to obtain a copy of the film for eventual showing in School. An account of the trip, largely contributed by G. H. Jones (6 A.M.) is printed below:—

At approximately 10 a.m. on a dull and misty morning the big, two-engined Dakota revved-up its engines and took off from the runway at Speke Airport with the School party aboard. Despite an early rising—we had assembled by Lime Street Station at 7.45 a.m.—spirits were high, and no one seemed to be embarrassed by the presence of a television cameraman from the B.B.C., and a press photographer. The plane was over the Mersey almost immediately, and below we could see a maze of channels and mud-flats. Now the cloud entirely enveloped us, swirling past the windows, and the plane bumped disconcertingly in the many air-pockets until we emerged from the cloud at a height of about 2,000 feet.

The sun now shone brilliantly, and above there were only a few wisps of cloud to decorate the perfectly blue sky. Below us the cloud stretched out like a great layer of cotton-wool, with tufts darting out suddenly at intervals. Over its surface, and behind us, raced the shadow of the aircraft, its smooth course being interrupted only by a small gap in the cloud, which revealed for an instant the countryside lying like a model below. Away in the distance to the east we could see the dark outline of the Pennines.

Shortly before Irlam the cloud faded mysteriously away, and below us was the neat pattern of the fields with its intersections of roads, railways and watercourses. We passed over the giant Irlam steel works, looking strangely small from the air, with locks on the Ship Canal nearby, and a vessel seeming more like a toy than a big cargo-boat. Soon we were over the far-flung outskirts of the city of Manchester, with new building estates spread out like a confused set of geometric patterns. Then the Dakota banked as it circled Ringway Airport, the land tilted, straightened, came up to meet us, and we taxied smoothly down the runway and towards the hangars.

At Ringway, as at Speke, we were much filmed and photographed, and with various B.E.A. officials in attendance we were shown round the airport buildings. The control tower was a fascinating place, and some boys heard a plane from Paris being "talked-in" by radio telephone.

From the airport we were taken by bus to the Manchester Docks, where we boarded a launch of the Ship Canal Company for a sight-seeing trip. Ships large and small were loading and unloading, bales of cotton and drums of newsprint being prominent among the cargoes. Having filmed us in the air, on land and on the water, our patient and persevering cameramen now made their adieux, and (with some small sensation of relief!) the School party proceeded by bus to St. Peter's Square in the heart of the city.

We now entered the fine modern building that houses the Manchester Central Library, and were treated to a most fascinating tour of inspection. We saw the amazing labyrinth of shelves below the main reference library where thousands upon thousands of books are stored, including bound copies of the *Manchester Guardian* from 1833 onwards: and we saw later how these rare and valuable documents are being photographed so that they may be preserved for all time. For reading, the film is projected on to the glass panel of a special machine, and turning to the next page merely involves the twisting of a knob.

After a sandwich tea in Piccadilly Gardens, we again found ourselves in a bus, en route for Ringway and home. Our aircraft was delayed, and it was after eight o'clock when we roared upwards into the darkness. The twinkling lights of Altrincham, Warrington and Widnes slipped away beneath, and those of Allerton and Garston came up to greet us. We touched down quietly, and the entrance hall of Speke Airport was hushed and deserted as we made our way out after a full and exciting day.

QUO TENDITIS ULTRA?

Cæsar—a name to conjure with;
Rash, bold, intuitive, brilliant;
Lord of Rome, Lord of the Roman World,
But now—a corpse, a grave, a name—no more.

Alexander, Charlemagne, Napoleon,
Great, glorious: Yet how long did they live?
Each a corpse, a grave, a name—no more.

They wielded not their own power
Those children of circumstance,
They were not masters of themselves;
For they did not rule Fortune,
But she them.

And we—Churchill, Stalin, Marshall,
Statesmen, Politicians, Scientists,
We wield not our own power.
Atom Bombs, Bacteriological Warfare,
UNO, UNESCO, Atlantic Pact, Iron Curtain,
Children playing with words, playing with fire,
Holding civilisation in our infant hands;
Or merely in the grasp of fate?

Who can say, who can tell?
Our new Gods, Fortune, Chance, Possibility, Probability,
They hold sway, they rule.
We can only wait, watch, listen;
Wait, watch, listen!

A. C.

WILTSHIRE: THE CENTRE OF PREHISTORIC ENGLAND.

STONEHENGE AND WOODHENGE; THE GREAT CIRCLE AT AVEBURY; WHITE HORSES.

Nowadays Wiltshire is one of the most thinly-populated counties in England. It is largely agricultural, the land of fertile valleys, of chalk downlands and the great mis-named Salisbury Plain. One may travel miles and meet few people. Yet once Wiltshire was the most important part of Britain. It was regarded as the centre of the country, and here more than anywhere else prehistoric man erected his monuments, forts and fortifications, burial-mounds and temples.

Everyone knows of Stonehenge. The Romans saw the great circle, wondered at it and left it alone; and since that time thousands of visitors have stood in awe beneath the massive trilithons.

Not so many people have visited Woodhenge, a few miles away. In 1925 an airman flying over Salisbury Plain observed and photographed chalk marks in the shape of a circle in a field. Later, he noticed that wheat in the field had grown higher where these depressions had occurred. The land was excavated and 160 holes were discovered in which piles of timber had once been erected. The most significant feature was the striking resemblance in plan to that of Stonehenge. Perhaps Woodhenge was an earlier, experimental Stonehenge; certainly one of its purposes of construction was that of fixing the calendar. The discovery of this very ancient monument is the most important archaeological find yet to be made from the air.

Some miles to the north of Stonehenge is Silbury Hill, the largest artificial mound in Europe. It rises to a height of 130 feet and is grass covered. Shafts have been sunk in it and excavations made, but nothing of much importance has been revealed. It was erected over 1,000 years before the Romans came to Britain. Like the Great Pyramid it retains its secret.

From Silbury an avenue of huge grey stones led to the great circle at Avebury. There was a temple at Avebury while yet Stonehenge was unthought of, and today it remains the greatest of all prehistoric monuments in Europe. In circumference it is little less than a mile, and covers an area of 29 acres. It is surrounded by a deep ditch and massive earth-wall. So big is the circle that traces of two smaller and even older circles have been discovered within its precincts, and nowadays much of the village of Avebury with cottages, inn and a church lies within the ramparts.

More than 3,000 years ago prehistoric man constructed this vast monument, with deers' horns and the shoulder-blades of oxen used as spades. The monoliths vary in height from 5 feet to 20 feet, and in weight are computed to range from 5 tons to 60 tons. It is difficult to conceive how this ancient race planned and carried out the building of their great works, but no doubt they were erected for religious purposes and observances.

The temple has been badly treated and desecrated. About the time of Magna Carta farmers were burying the stones and ploughing over them. In Cromwellian times the stones were heated and cold water poured over them; they then cracked and could be broken up and used for rubbing-stones and boundary marks. In the next century gunpowder was employed to destroy them. Despite everything, some of the greatest of the stones survived.

In the twentieth century this unique fane has been saved and its restoration begun. The stones have been dug up, broken ones have been pieced together and mended with liquid cement, and re-erected. It is planned to demolish the old cottages within the circle and give back to prehistoric man's greatest temple something of its former majesty and grandeur.

Avebury is about four miles west of Marlborough, noted for its wide High Street and public school. Its schoolboys about the time of Waterloo cut out the great white horse—62 feet long and 47 feet high—on the hillside. This is one of the six great white horses cut in the chalk downs of Wiltshire. The oldest, 180 feet long, 107 feet high, and with an eye 25 feet in circumference, is to be found at Bratton. It is thought it was first cut out of the turf to celebrate Alfred's victory over the Danes.

A. J. S.

OXFORD LETTER.

November, 1949.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—We find ourselves truly sorry for an editor who, like yourself, has been left for so long without news of the glorious company of Institute scholars now cluttering up the college rooms and lodging-houses of Oxford. For we, Sir, though it is ourselves that say it, are a distinguished and umerous band. Numerous, any way. But to my muttons.

Muttons somehow reminds us of Magdalen, that cafeteria at the end of the High, where Mr. Little, now a graduate, queues up for his plate of meat on his plates of meat, and pursues Divinity. Further out that way Mr. MacDowall inhabits Ripon Hall, a health resort on Boar's Hill, where most intellects eventually vegetate. We understand he is still unsatisfied and plans to set up house in Stonehenge. Now that name leads our wandering minds to Anglo-Saxons and Mr. Hugill, an increasingly beefy man, concerned both with English Literature and his seat in the Worcester 1st Eight.

At New College we are represented by Messrs. Bob Dodd and Noonan. While the former grunts happily along Oxford boulevards, tieless in the cold wind, the latter, Secretary of New College Dramatic Society, is continually in women's colleges on the pretext of looking for talent. Keep away from Mr. Noonan, Sir, when he is sucking grapefruit under a hedge: it is a painful sight.

Other middle-aged persons are Mr. Bruce ("Spruce") Chalmers and Mr. Shaw-Smith. The former, far from being in his right niche at B.N.C., is by far the most charming man after Mr. James Laver that we know. Mr. Shaw-Smith used to revel in an annexe of Univ. marked "NOT the Angel Café" but is now feverishly scribbling two essays a week on the most abstruse topics. The presence of Mr. Peter Cass is denoted by rumbling reverberations and the demonic diapason of B.N.C. organ.

Coming to even older fogeys, we notice that Mr. Brown is still semi-attached to St. John's and teaching a one-year-old son the elements of logic. Mr. Parker has ceased the nasty door banging mentioned in our former letter, has retired from rigger, rows in a gentlemanly way once a week and avoids girls. The most popular host and sherry-dispenser of Jesus is Mr. Parry, who also plays hockey with zest and efficiency.

The following, we regret to say, are lost? stolen? or strayed?—Mr. Gardner, Mr. Cashdan, and Mr. Jacob. Mr. ("Our Albert") Carr, caught up in the flat rush, gives us all too little of his friendly company.

Although Mr. Craig has left us for Durham University, and Mr. Christian for Moscow, we are still, amazingly enough, more than we were before. This is on account of our six freshmen. At the last Old Boys' tea-party we spotted them, a chirpy crew, sparkling brilliantly through the gloom of the Northgate: Messrs. Strapps, Pierce, Davies, Willcox, Bardsley, and Gallimore. Are not their names enough, Sir, to assure you that for at least three years more the lustre of the School's name in this place shall not be dimmed? They *must* be enough, for space demands it, though already their quirks are becoming known to us semi-sophisticated oldsters. (Mr. Willcox, for instance, is good for a tea any day of the week.)

In our local Pantheon of Dons Mr. Jimmy ("Jovial") McKie hovers benignly over the Society's higher finances. The meticulous state of the said finances, we affirm Probably and Inductively, is due to the exact and enigmatic work of Mr. Bill Kneale. Mr. Hargreaves, on the other hand, being an economist, eschews exactitude, never being found where he is most expected. Mr. Hayward, we are glad to say, has reappeared from the folds of the Iron Curtain.

And now, Sir, we must ride away. Do not forget to come and see us, for be assured we remain ever

Your most humble and obedient
SOL IGNOTUS.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

The Diggings,
Cambridge.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Dear Sir,—Honoured though we are by your request for a Cambridge letter, your scribe really doesn't see why the task of writing it had to fall to him. We wonder what exactly you require; probably something midway between

the capers of the wild humorist and the acid touch of the newspaper columnist—in short, the application of a fine mind to common things! Your scribe hesitates no longer, obviously he is the man for the job.

Our doyen is Mr. Stewart, whose fame we hope still lingers in Mount Street. He is cheerfully sociable, and plays a good game of football. Mr. Evans has recently returned from an expedition to Finland. Mr. Warbrick plays hockey and decorates his room with exotic blossoms which, for some strange reason, bloom best during the vacation. Mr. Griffith of Christ's plays golf sedulously. Mr. Heal apparently only emerges from his lodgings after dark, but is always smartly groomed. Of Mr. Pugh, who is a married man, we know very little.

From Downing comes Mr. Eedle, who has a cheery smile and is usually in a hurry, and Mr. Durband, who sits on the front row at lectures, and even on the floor! Mr. Leak combines sport and theology, which indicates a high level of intellectual probity. Mr. Boss of Magdalene enjoys himself on Saturday nights, we are told. St. Catharine's is in the throes of building operations, striving to stir the University, if not into admiration of their new block of rooms, at least into acquiescence. The strange scene is animated for us by Mr. Sharp, who comes and goes behind the barricades, and Mr. Nott, who has already realized the futility of lectures. We know for certain that Mr. Blackstock rows; he has actually been observed doing so.

Mr. Barter drinks coffee at the "Whim", which is *the* place for coffee, and dines at the "K.P.", which is *the* place for dinner. At Trinity Hall Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Craig share rooms. The former has strange political leanings; the latter wears a smart college blazer and is seen at all the best places. Mr. Parry, too, dresses and entertains with great elegance. He and Mr. Waddington travel into the depths of the fen-country for their entertainment, for they believe in avoiding their own doorstep. They have not forgotten the Old School's unofficial motto. Mr. Baird plays squash and goes to an occasional ball. Mr. Macphail would go too if a small loan could be arranged. Finally, from furthest Selwyn comes Mr. Jacob. He is frequently to be seen on the river, and has broken at least one oar to our knowledge.

There you have us, in a sort of panorama. Perhaps you picture us as magnificent failures splashed with the mud of the football field, or as aesthetes dyed in indelible sorrow, who exist in a decaying landscape. We combine all these characteristics, and a few more besides, for who can predict the vagaries of taste? In short, we all make believe like mad. We apologize if this letter is insufficiently tempered with subtlety; we have done our little best with a kind of quiet desperation.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

AUCTOR IGNOTUS.

PREFECTS' LETTER.

Prefects' Room,

Liverpool Institute.

Hidden aloft above the general maze of corridors and newly-painted form-rooms which compose the great building, there lies that cosy little haunt popularly termed the "P.R." Within those walls abides an eccentric tribe of black-robed beings, whose ritual of milk consumption may secretly be witnessed at all hours of the day (and possibly at night, too!). This is the territory where boys will be boys, and girls will be frowned upon. Carry your minds, if you will, to the vicinity of this terror-tainted camp and try to withstand the shocks which the unobserved eavesdropper invariably suffers.

The witch-doctor himself is our Head Boy, Mr. Magnay, who emits the fearful cry of "Duty!" at various intervals. When no deafening yells can be heard, this worthy is almost certainly fast asleep upon a pile of Latin dictionaries. Rejected by the Philharmonic orchestra, both as a bassoonist and as a programme-seller, there is yet a glimmer of a smile upon his honest face as he lovingly raises a bottle of milk to what many like to term his "grand canyon", and consumes the contents with satisfaction. He is also an actor of many parts—Liverpool, Leicester and Lower Bebington.

Beside this never-despondent gentleman stand his two deputies, Messrs. Dailey and Smith. The former is trying valiantly to adapt his cross-country style to the somewhat dissimilar art of modern ballroom dancing. He confides that he spends many evenings of the week immersed in mathematical books, but more than one of his friends have testified that he has been heard repeating the arithmetical formula of "forward-side-together" in Little Back Canning Street on several occasions. His partner-in-vice, Mr. Smith, is the proud possessor of a kiddie-car, and he kindly offers a ride on his mudguards to those of his fellows who are of reckless disposition: he assures them that he has drawn up his own personal recovery programme. This gentleman also enjoys an apple a day and invites visitors to come and inspect his "core".

The sporting activities of Mr. Barber are a legend: among those he enjoys most are fives, cricket, football, netball, moth ball, meat ball and "snap". He is now busily weaving a "Welcome" mat for his ranch out west, where he prefers huntin', shootin', and fishin' as pastimes. He also likes chocolate biscuits. The P.R. mascot, golden-quiffed Mr. Clark, is preparing the ceremony at the opening of Mr. Barber's ranch: his only other public appearances are in the front stalls of any local cinema which is showing his favourite film, the "Superman" serial: he never ceases to mourn his failure to see Part 3.

The Pemberton Dancing Academy is a by-word among all the friends of the principal instructor: he is inconsolable when tactless pupils complain that his minuet technique is out of fashion. The aquatic photographs which Mr. Pemberton delights in exhibiting have earned him the title of Miss Dovecot, 1892. For such frivolities Mr. Rochester has no time. When he is not modernising his knowledge on how to boil an egg in a kettle, he may be found in a shadowy corner of the room mending the holes in his notorious Scout uniform, or else figuring out under what conditions the Romans earned their pathfinder badges.

We fear that the crooning days of Mr. Benson are now over. He has learnt of the remarkable capacity of his musical successor, one Albert Hall. Some argue that Mr. Benson is still the better singer. Everything else about him is historical: even his bike he affectionately calls "Boadicea". Through the spruce forests which shadow the upper lip of Mr. Jones may be heard the wails and squeaks of his vocal menagerie. His favourite imitation is that of the horse: those who have heard his rendering of "The Donkey Serenade" and its sequel "O, my beloved fodder" will doubtless agree.

Mr. Dodd is easily recognised. When he leisurely lifts his eyes from the personal columns of the *Manchester Guardian* who can fail to admire his immaculate dress and sleek black mane? Even when it is whispered that he uses the prefectorial fund to pay a groom, his denial is a polite one. Mr. McKay's claim to abide in Mossley Hill is refuted by the broad grin which so often litters his countenance. At the mere mention of his idol, a certain Mr. Billy Steel, he swoons and collapses in a heap: only a sharp jab by the poker-brandishing Mr. Swallow restores him to consciousness. Mr. Swallow is believed to have been the accidental discoverer of the rebound. Eager faces light up when he recites his part of "Stonewall" Jackson in a local pageant: the faces fall again as he hurtles round the P.R. with chair in hand and situation out of hand.

Everyone gathers around when Mr. Thomas settles down to recount his experiences of señoritas and bull-fights. His attempts to introduce the latter sport into Liverpool have met with only moderate success: we suspect that he fares a little better with the señoritas. Mr. Wilkie and Mr. Williams contribute almost as much noise as Mr. Magnay. The former still awaits an intelligent reply to his poser, "How can I buy Killarney?" The nationality of this gentleman arouses much controversy—his name has a sniff of Harry Lauder's folk, his clothes positively shriek of America, whilst his vocal efforts recall the bleat of an Andean llama. His tenor partner, Mr. Williams, spends his vacations studying ye olde storyes of ye anciente Aberystwyth, and Cardiff City's chances of promotion. Mr. Williams inflicts himself on many of the School's Societies, but only at his private poker club can he really make himself understood.

The die is cast; the scandal is exposed, and I can only await the sentence of the fifteen judges upon whom I have intruded. Truth is my only defence; justice I can hardly expect. As I prepare for trial, rock buns and Horlick's are my only food, the "Chick's Own" my only literature, a one-legged fly my sole companion.

Yours, from behind bars,

J. L. BIRD.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

The publication of the list of members of the Old Boys' Association for the first time since the war brought a spate of correspondence. This list has evidently provided some interesting reading.

P. J. Rose (1898) has retired from the post of King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer, and has been appointed to another Government post in Edinburgh.

G. Kingan (1909) has recently been home on leave from U.S.A.

T. Lodge, C.B. (1901) recalls being taught by J. A. Owen (1870), and, like all other O.B.'s, is glad to learn that he is still with us.

G. McFarlane (1927) is now in Birmingham.

C. C. Lawes and his brother, A. L., write from Montreal asking after the School and the Association.

T. W. Ellis (1917) is now resident in Genoa, Italy, travelling for his firm in France, Switzerland and Italy. He recalls the names of many of the Staff of those days, and has vivid memories of early venture with the Old Boys' Gym. Club.

A. Grabman (1938) has also gone abroad—to the Transvaal.

R. H. E. Fraser (1923) is disgusted to find only three O.B. Scots in Scotland.

Lindley Fraser (1922) found himself in Liverpool on the day of the Annual Dinner and spent the evening with us.

R. E. Williams (1918) sent us numerous corrections—R. G. Baxter (1919), Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Southend; E. Capstick (1916), Professor of Dairying at Reading, and, during the war, O.C. Cheese at the Ministry of Food; R. B. Onians (1917), Professor of Classics at Bedford College, London; E. S. Roberts, a fellow H.M.I.

C. E. Adams (1929) is in the Information Department of a Lancashire textile research station.

Rev. J. E. Bebb (1928), Vicar of St. Mary's, Lower Ince, Wigan, reminds us that Rev. F. Bussby (1929) (now B.D., as well as getting an M.B.E. during the war) is a Vicar in Bournemouth, and has a daughter. Rev. M. H. Bates (1931), is a Vicar in Jesmond, near Newcastle, not too far from G. L. R. Brown, one-time Form Master of Rc, and now Headmaster in Gateshead.

A. S. Kerr (1927) is making a name as a brain specialist at Walton Hospital.

T. M. Knox (1919), Professor of Moral Philosophy at St. Andrew's, has recently seen G. King (1917), who is Professor of Midwifery, University of Hong Kong.

We have received visits in School from quite a number of more recent Old Boys, many doing their National Service. P. G. Jacob (1947) is on the way to the Far East with the R.A.F. E. J. Horton (1946) is on demobilisation leave, after a spell in Malaya, mostly on patrol work on plantations. W. H. Devine (1948) has been training at a whaling station, and is off to the Antarctic very shortly.

We offer our congratulations to Eric W. Hawkins (1932) on his being chosen as the Headmaster of Oldershaw Grammar School, Wallasey. He will take up his new duties at the beginning of the September term.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Editors wish to acknowledge the receipt of the following contemporaries, and to apologise for any unwitting omissions:—"Esmeduna", "Ruym", Wigan Grammar School Magazine, The Holt School Magazine, and the "Visor".

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