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EDITORIAL

It has been suggested that the history of poetry seems to be the poet's search after new images for the moon, and the frequency of their occurrence is undeniable. We believe, however, that the moon has always been a sphere, more than a hundred times smaller than the earth, reflecting the light of the sun. Before Galileo and Copernicus, mankind firmly held a totally different belief. It can be argued that their faith was finer, since they had never been taught to doubt, and because they adopted a metaphysical view of the soul's part in the Universe. Fundamental changes in conception produced great mental turbulence, but eventually men lived on comparatively undisturbed.

History repeats itself. We tend to regard the problems facing our own age as unique in their magnitude, and we foresee the end of Western civilisation and its ideals as a possible result of the contemporary situation. Compared with the significance of that upheaval of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, our modern apprehensions appear to be unwarranted. It is certain, however, that as long as the world goes on, man will regard his problems as insurmountable, until he passes them by and they fade into history. One day men will read about what happened in our age and how the solution evolved.

MR. J. A. OWEN

On November 7th, 1952, Mr. John Arthur Owen of Sandlea Park, West Kirby, celebrated his 100th birthday. He spent the whole of his active life in the School, first as pupil, then as master. In 1903 he was appointed Vice-Principal, and held this office until his retirement in 1917. Referred to as Johnnie by all who knew him, he was a power of good in the School—a brilliant teacher (many of his pupils won remarkable successes in mathematics at the Universities), and a friend of every boy.

Today, although there are certain minor physical disabilities only to be expected in one of his great age, Mr. Owen is as clear-minded as ever. He does the cross-word in the *Liverpool Daily Post* every day and is especially successful with the general knowledge one that appears each week. In the winter months he is necessarily confined to his house, but in summer enjoys short walks around the garden.

On his birthday he received a message of congratulation from Her Majesty the Queen, and letters and telegrams had been arriving all the previous week from old pupils and friends in all parts of the country.

An official party conveyed to him the good wishes of the School; it comprised Mr. Lawrence Holt, Chairman of the Board of Governors; Mr. Brian Heathcote, a Governor and Old Boy of the School; Mr. J. R. Edwards, Headmaster; and E. R. Oxburgh, Head Boy. After the party had been introduced to him and he had been presented with a bouquet from the School, Mr. Owen exchanged reminiscences with Mr. Holt. He told Mr. Heathcote that he remembered teaching him Physics in the School many years ago.

On behalf of countless Old Boys and the School of today, we wish him well and send him our affectionate greetings.

ECHOES IN THE CORRIDOR

Like Charles Lamb, perhaps, I have the soul of an antiquarian, which seeks to interpret the present in terms of the past. What seems so important today becomes a recorded achievement, or a praiseworthy aspiration tomorrow, so ephemeral is the contemporary. The things which interested, animated or amused our forbears lose their significance for us, unless we are frequently reminded that we are the heirs of their tradition. When our memories are stirred, the pioneers, benefactors and outstanding personalities are invested with grandeur and reverence, while the tremendous trifles, which play so important a part in social life, are apprehended with an indulgent irony.

Old magazines have a charm and poignancy of their own, and I was in reflective mood when I browsed through some back numbers of our Magazine, feeling very much like a literary archaeologist intent on reconstructing a by-gone civilisation. At the beginning of this century an editor writes in *Chat on the Corridor*:—

"Just as we are going to press, the glorious news reaches us of the relief of Ladysmith. There has not been such excitement or enthusiasm witnessed in the School for some years, nor will there be seen such for some time to come. 'God Save the Queen' was sung in the Commercial School yard, and as the School flag was hoisted, it was greeted by loud cheers and waving of caps on the High School side. The Directors of the School vindicated their patriotism by giving us a whole day holiday."

In 1901, I find that "every Institute boy, and all Old Boys, will learn with pleasure that Sergeant Richardson, of Strathcona's Horse, has gained the V.C. for conspicuous bravery." Significantly enough in the same year; "all those interested in the prosperity of the School will cordially welcome the formation of a Cadet Corps. Sixty-four boys have already been enrolled, and we hope that their example will be followed by many others."

Two football notices will be appreciated by many readers of the current issue:—

"Liverpool Institute v. Liverpool College. Played at Goodison Park, 19th March, 1902. Once again we have to report the loss of the Shield, which the College have captured for the third year in succession," and,

"Wednesday, 23rd March, 1904, was a great day for Institute sport, Institute spirits and Institute life. For at last fortune turned, and our champions romped through the College defence to the tune of six goals to one."

In 1903, appears a very important announcement:—

"At the Annual Prize Distribution the Chairman said that the Directors of the Institute, after the most careful consideration, came to the conclusion that the enormous advantages to be derived from the Education Act would be increased if the control of that institution were placed in the hands of the Education Authority. The Directors had accordingly offered the institution, together with the School of Art and Blackburne House and other properties, as a free gift to the city." The results of another Education Act—that of 1944—are now beginning to make themselves felt.

The Literary and Debating Society, which claims to be the School's senior society, appears in 1904:—

"The Debating Society has been definitely founded, supplied with officers and a code of rules, and set on its first legs, so to speak. A certain amount of bashfulness was of course in evidence, but this seemed in most cases gradually to wear off as the speaker warmed to the subject."

Close on its heels comes the Orchestra and Choral Society—in 1905:—

"We see that a project has been set on foot for the establishment of a School orchestra and choral society, which all are invited to join, if inclined that way. Who knows but there is some warbler in our midst who is hiding his lamp of song under the bushel of bashfulness—if such a metaphor is possible!"

The year 1906 must have been a joyful one for the Staff:—

"CRICKET RESULT.—Liverpool Institute 26, The Masters 138!"

One of the great names in the history of the School is that of the late Sir Donald Macalister, to whom this tribute was paid in 1907:—

"The School congratulates Dr. Donald Macalister on his appointment to the high position of Principal of the University of Glasgow. Dr. Macalister is a splendid example of what talent united with industry can accomplish. Promoted from the Commercial School to the High School, he carried off all the chief honours of School life, showing remarkable versatility of accomplishments: for though ultimately he obtained his highest academical distinction as Senior Wrangler and Smith's Prizeman, yet he was even when at School a facile linguist. Appointed Fellow and tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge in 1877, he devoted himself to medicine."

The first official Hobby Show was held on December 21st, 1909, with "A Dramatic performance of an Irish comedy by Lady Gregory produced in Hall," but as early as 1907 I read:—

"Long lines of tables stood groaning under the weight of objects, of which some were manufactured and all collected by the boys of the School. The prevailing hobby seems to have been that of photography. Very fine collections of stamps, coins, crests and pictorial postcards were in evidence, as also were gorgeous butterflies and moths, which seemed to show that in some part of the world, if not in England, there is a sun and summer weather."

The Centenary Year, 1925, is a great one in the history of the School, and the Editor of that time writes:—

"We have lofty traditions. Our hundred years is a record of help continually renewed by living benefactors, of an attempt to realise a high-minded and generous idea, of the continual adaptation of effort to changing conditions and of a noble persistence in pioneer-work in the face of difficulties and discouragements."

Speech Day was not always held in the Philharmonic Hall, for as late as 1929:—

"It was a dark and stormy night, and the wind rushed into the Hall through the many holes and crevices left by the passing generations. But within all was still, as Sir Richard Burn, C.S.I., an Old Boy, recalled many of the scenes and actions of his boyhood spent at the School."

Three years later saw "the installation of electric bells, in place of the gong, and of oil-burning furnaces in place of the old coal burners," and about the same time:—

"Nineteen young trees were planted along the Pilgrim Street side of the Junior yard, in an attempt to shut out the sight of cobble-stones, sooty brick and slate which previously were all one could see on that side. The trees are going to have a hard struggle for existence against Liverpool's polluted atmosphere above and her poor soil beneath, and it is up to the School, and especially the Junior School, to give them every assistance."

Indeed, with the nineteen-thirties we approach modern times:—

"School Christmas cards were an excellent idea, well executed, but badly received by the School. It may be true that the majority of the School did not care to break with the conventional Christmas tree and snow-topped chalet, depicted on the ordinary Christmas card, but every boy should have bought at least one," and,

"Wednesday, October 17th, was a memorable day at School. Then numerous boys in the Tuckshop and Dining Hall could be seen sucking milk through straws from small bottles. Those few seniors who had the temerity to order the milk imbibed it with a superior air; the rest enjoyed it." Time is a great leveller.

My reflections must end with two personal references:—

"As some of you probably saw in the Press (1934), Mr. Reece read a paper on 'Intelligence Tests at the Liverpool Institute' to the British Association at Aberdeen during the holidays. This was just another little

surprise for us. We never really realised that anyone, let alone our Mr. Reece, took intelligence tests as seriously as all that," and,

"It may be interesting to record that Arthur Askey, known as the resident comedian of the B.B.C. (1938), is an Old Boy of the School, and was actually started on his career in a pierrot entertainment given some years ago as part of a Hobby Show."

In my meandering along the interminable corridor I have listened to a few of its echoes, which are, as a whole, illimitable. The Golden Jubilee Number of 1939 makes this justifiable claim:—

"We claim for *Chat on the Corridor* the distinction of being the most accurate record Old Boys have for capturing the spirit as well as the history of School life. The feature was introduced in November, 1887, and though its title underwent a temporary change to *En Passant* in 1888, it has remained in the Magazine ever since."

CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR

Last summer we bade farewell to Mr. Engler, who had done much for the School's music activities during his short stay with us. We wish him all success for the future. In his place we welcome Mr. L. N. Williams, L.R.A.M.

The School Orchestra gave a concert at the end of the Summer Term. Works by Bach, Brahms, Purcell and Schubert were performed.

On the 7th of November a party from the School visited Mr. John Arthur Owen, a former mathematics master and Vice-Principal, to congratulate him on his hundredth birthday.

A section of the Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Louis Cohen, visited the School last term, and played music by Elgar, Rossini and Tchaikovsky.

Speech day was held in the Philharmonic Hall on Friday, December 12th.

Contrary to the established practice, the School Examinations were held at the end of the Autumn Term to the accompaniment of snow, frost, rain and exceptionally high winds.

An examination of a different nature took place earlier in the term. A Mass Radiography Unit visited the School and remained for the whole of one hectic Tuesday.

Rather belatedly we congratulate Miss Abbott on her marriage. Our good wishes for the happiness of Mr. and Mrs. Garbutt are none the less sincere.

On December 18th, the Sixth Forms went to the Philharmonic Hall to see the film, "Seven Days to Noon."

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Buckley on the birth of a son.

Older members of the School will be interested to learn that Mr. A. E. Bradshaw, a former woodwork master of the School, is now Adviser in Handicraft to the Borough of Stoke-on-Trent.

Finally, we must record the retirement of Dr. J. E. Wallace, an Old Boy of the School and music master here for many years. Appropriately enough we said good-bye to Dr. Wallace with Community Hymn-singing in Hall. Representatives of Blackburne House and Queen Mary High School for Girls were present on this memorable occasion.

We congratulate the following on their achievements:—

- A. F. Cook, an Open Scholarship in History at The Queen's College, Oxford.
- C. K. MacKinnon, an Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford.
- P. J. Bird, an Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge.
- G. F. Bilson, an Exhibition in Classics at Downing College, Cambridge.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES

The Editors acknowledge, with apologies for any omissions, the receipt of the following magazines:—

Blackburne House Magazine, The Alsopian, The Crosbeian, The Wallaseyan, The Holly Lodge High School Magazine, The Quarry, The Holt High School Magazine, The Warrior, Los Angeles, California, and The Oldershaw Grammar School Magazine.

SPEECH DAY

Speech Day was held on Friday, December 12th, 1952, in the Philharmonic Hall, when the prizes were distributed by Mr. K. W. M. Pickthorn, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education. After the address of welcome, delivered in Latin by E. R. Oxburgh, the Head Boy of the School, the Headmaster arose to present his annual report.

He was pleased that the age-restriction clause whereby no boy was eligible to sit for any part of the General Certificate of Education until he had reached the age of sixteen, was to be applied less rigidly in future. The lowering of this artificial and arbitrary barrier would be beneficial, but he had no intention of entering boys below the age limit in the wholesale fashion of the old School Certificate. He was often asked what the boys who came to the School at the present time were like and whether they were any different from those who attended in the past. His answer was that they were just the same as ever they had been—some were good; others were less good. What was more important was what they would be like when they left. The function of the School was to develop a boy's personality physically, mentally and morally—to provide him with the right background for the understanding of the world in which he lived. There must be an insistence on moral values, on a common life with a spiritual basis.

In conclusion, the Headmaster paid tributes to the Staff, the Vice-Principal, the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. Lawrence Holt, and Mr. J. A. Owen, an Old Boy and a former member of the Staff, who recently celebrated his hundredth birthday.

After the rendering by the Senior Choir of Stephen Foster's "Uncle Ned" and "Gendarmes' Duet" from Offenbach, the Chairman of the Governors, urged the boys to put service before self and to keep the School in the forefront of human brotherhood. If they could rise above atom bombs and carry an example wherever they went, they would be able to say, as Nelson said, "I have done my Duty." The Headmaster and the Staff were doing their best to help the rising generation to meet the challenge of the morrow.

The School then sang two songs—"Non Nobis Domine." (Words by Kipling, and printed by the kind permission of Mrs. George Bambridge) and "When Britain Really Ruled the Waves," from *Iolanthe*, by Gilbert and Sullivan. Immediately afterwards the prizes were distributed by Mr. Kenneth Pickthorn.

In his address, Mr. Pickthorn said that at one time there was no variety of teaching, with the result that teaching had only a limited effect. If they hoped to see a country governed by all the people, then those people must have more education. He was inclined to think it well to have certain prejudices, as long as these were intelligible and as long as they took into account both sides of the argument. Government by discussion, democracy and traditional freedoms could only be maintained by a higher level of intellectual honesty and understanding. Those who were going to exercise the complicated techniques of life in the next generation should learn them in a school of high academic standards. Great responsibilities rested on schools of the type of the Liverpool Institute.

The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Mr. Brian Heathcote, a Governor and an Old Boy of the School. It was seconded by Alderman D. J. Lewis, J.P., Chairman of the Secondary Education Sub-Committee, after which the Junior Choir rendered "To Music," by Schubert, "Song of the Music Makers," by Martin Shaw, and Hugh Robertson's arrangement of "The Dashing White Sergeant."

Another Speech day ended with the singing of "Lo! the Sound of Youthful Voices" to the tune of *Cwm Rhondda*.

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

The Editors welcome news of Old Boys and are always pleased to record events which concern them. Old Boys themselves can help by supplying details of successes, distinctions and activities that may come to their notice.

Mr. J. H. C. Brooking, M.I.E.E., was born in 1871 and played cricket for the School at the age of thirteen. After completing his education at Finsbury Technical College, he went to sea and travelled round the world under sail. His name is connected with the electrical industry and the manufacture of cables; he himself was responsible for the invention and successful production of C.T.I. Cables.

Mr. Brooking has always been interested in history, and the Editors have received a pamphlet he compiled in 1929, dealing with the origins of Magna Carta. He is an enthusiastic student of Kipling and some years ago founded a Kipling Society.

Mr. H. R. Dodd, M.A., B.Litt., of New College, Oxford, is one of seventy-two British students who have been awarded scholarships by the education authorities of seventeen foreign countries. His award, which is for language and literature, is tenable for the present winter semester at Bonn University.

Mr. J. H. Eedle has been selected for a course of training leading to an appointment as an Education Officer in the Northern Provinces of Nigeria.

Mr. F. T. Swallow has been working until recently on a sheep-farm in Australia. He is now taking a course in Agriculture at Adelaide University.

(NOTE.—The School Librarian, Mr. Folland, will be grateful to have back numbers of the School Magazine for the years 1907 to 1916. These are urgently required to replace missing volumes and those in need of repair.)

HOUSE NOTES

ALFRED HOLT

These notes must once again take the form of an exhortation to all members of Alfred House to greater efforts in all spheres of House activity.

Although we failed to win a competition last term, the efforts of the House did meet with some success. In the Swimming Sports we were placed third, but our team captain, Paulucci, won the Senior Individual Championship, and also set up two new records. Both the Senior and Junior cricket teams reached the semi-finals of the House Championship, by beating Hughes and Owen respectively, only to be defeated in turn by Philip and Danson.

There is only one way for the House to emerge from its long period of eclipse to the outstanding position which it once held, and that is by an effort in all House competitions on the part of every boy. This term more boys

should take advantage of the facilities for learning to play hockey, limited though these are, so that we may enter a strong team for the Boswell Cup Competition. Everyone should submit some work for the Hobby Show, which is to be held during the Spring Term. However small such contributions may be, every point gained will help to bring success, and the greater the number of entries from each boy, the more pronounced will be our success.

Finally, I must express our appreciation to our Housemaster, Mr. Schofield, for the enthusiasm and interest with which he guides the affairs of the House.

E. RICHARDS.

DANSON

The House has been successful in one of the two competitions which have taken place since the last issue of the Magazine. At the end of the Summer Term, the Junior cricket team won the Whitehouse Cup by defeating the strong Philip Holt side, but the Seniors were soundly beaten in the first round by Tate. In the Swimming Sports, neither team secured a place worthy of record.

This term the Hobby Show offers every member of the House an opportunity to show his ability. With all available support from the Seniors and continuing enthusiasm from the Juniors, we can do well in most of the competitions, especially at Hockey and in the School Sports. A potentially fruitful year lies before us.

P. RITCHIE.

HUGHES

For a number of years now the sporting record of the House has been very poor; this has been due mainly to the lack of support. Last year, however, there was some improvement, and consequently we met with some success, winning the Horsfall Cup, the Boswell Cup, and the Senior Sports Shield.

While these successes are gratifying, we must look ahead to the coming year for more honours in the fields open to us, especially the Hobby Show. Only when every one does his utmost can success be achieved.

We should like to thank Mr. Bowker for his attention and unfailing help in the supervision of all House activities.

N. PINE.

OWEN

Since the last issue of the Magazine, the House has met with moderate success. The Senior cricket team was defeated by Philip Holt House, the eventual winners, in the first round of the Whitehouse Cup, after a replay. In the Junior cricket competition, the House suffered a similar fate, losing to Danson. Thanks mainly to the great success of the Senior members of the House, we were placed first in the Swimming Sports.

The Hobby Show will be held during the Spring Term, and now is the time to start preparing exhibits. This is an event in which success depends on the individual. I hope that every member of the House will make an effort.

R. E. LEMING.

PHILIP HOLT

During the Summer Term, the House rounded off a successful year by winning the Senior Cricket Cup and the Fives Shield. At the Swimming Sports the Juniors were successful and the Seniors gained third place, giving the House second place on aggregate. We should like to congratulate D. L. Bywater, the Junior Champion.

Several members of the House who contributed towards our successes have now left School, but we must strive to maintain the high standard they have set us.

In the forthcoming Hobby Show, every member of the House will have an opportunity to show his ability. In the House play, which is to be produced by Mr. Booth, we must aim to equal our achievement of four years ago; but if we are to win the Hobby Show, we must do well in all sections.

A combined effort by all members of the House is necessary for this to be another year of success.

C. K. MACKINNON.

TATE

Looking back over the School year, 1951-52, we may fairly say that we have enjoyed considerable success. We won three School trophies—for basketball, chess and Junior cross-country running, and reached the finals of three other competitions; the hockey was lost by the odd goal in nine, and we suffered similarly close defeats in the senior and junior cricket finals.

In all fields of School activity the House has acquitted itself at least creditably in everything, except the Swimming Sports. Dearth of Senior swimmers has put the House under a great handicap for a number of years, but the success of the numerous Junior entries last July augurs well for the future.

We look forward to the Hobby Show, when we shall try to retain the H. J. Tiffen Cup, which has been held by no other House since its reintroduction after the war.

E. R. OXBURGH.

SCHOOL 1st XI CRICKET TEAM, 1952

In the Spring of 1952, our ground at Mersey Road once more rang to the sweet crack of bat on ball. The muttered imprecations from the bowler concerning the luck of the batsman, and the earnest, well-nigh pleading exhortations of our coach, Mr. Wass, to "Pitch 'em up" or to "Play right forward" were only to be heard, however, by those who were intimately concerned with these first "nets" of the season.

It was here, at the Spring rites on our own personal altar to the deity of cricket, that first impressions were formed of the team for the ensuing months. It appeared at first glance, quite correctly, that the bowling would be adequate, or even quite good, that the fielding would be for the most part satisfactory, and that the batting would remain a doubtful quantity—depending to a dangerous extent on how the inexperienced newcomers rendered support to the "old hands." The "old hands," however, did not show a determination to "collar" the bowling—a mysterious reluctance not caused by inability, for their individual prowess was proved last season. In consequence, the middle men suffered from an inferiority complex; their observation of the timidity of veterans too often caused them to go out to bat trembling as lambs to the slaughter. The batsman should always positively dominate the scene, reducing the bowler to a powerless midget, who can hope only to restrain him, or at best, to lure him into over-confidence.

One should bear in mind, however, when, and if, one decides to pass any judgment on the 1952 season, that the side did indeed contain the young and inexperienced. It would be unfair to the members of the team to pretend that Dame Fortune favoured us frequently with her more agreeable glance. It would be unfair too, to friend and foe alike, to pretend that we did anything but enjoy our cricket in 1952. We witnessed and enjoyed many a sparkling performance, by players, not only from our own ranks, but also from those of our opponents. The most splendid and magnificent was, without a doubt, that of Morris, the captain of the Birkenhead Institute team. He scored 89 and then went on to wreak havoc with our batting by capturing 7 of our wickets for 37 runs. But now I reminisce. . . .

I must sum up. What have we that remains? A scorebook—that recalls none of the excitements and struggles of a season that, admittedly, cannot be called memorable. What else?—Studless boots, soiled flannels, disappointments? Possibly. Regrets? Certainly not.

Our gratitude to Messrs. Webster, Bowker, Edge, Rowell and Parker for their efficient running of the School's four teams is hereby respectfully recorded; we once more offer our thanks to our coach and groundsman, Mr. E. Wass, under whose supervision the new square is now coming to rival in smoothness the proverbial billiard table.

RESULTS 1952.

	P.	W.	L.	D.
First XI	20	5	12	3
Second XI	14	7	6	1
Colts	15	12	2	1
Under 13 XI	9	8	1	0

CRITIQUE

J. H. ASHBY (*Captain*).—A seam bowler of great pace; he took 57 wickets and deserved every one of them. His ability to work up this pace and sustain it accurately over long periods, as he did, deserves much commendation. He has the ability—alarming for the batsman—to bowl a very fast leg-break, which, pitching just outside the leg stump, would too often graze past the off-bail—much to the chagrin of its perpetrator. His batting failed him chiefly because of an inability to defend against a good-length off-break. A good fielder himself, his field placing was excellent.

J. C. MITCHELL (*Vice-Captain*).—An all-rounder, who, although leading in no one set of averages, took the second largest total of wickets, scored the second largest total of runs and held the second greatest number of catches. He usually opened the bowling with Ashby, bowling medium-paced "seamers" steadily, and generally moving the ball a little from leg. His batting was aggressive—perhaps overmuch, and it suffered in consequence. His knock of 71, the highest of the season, showed a commendable self-restraint in its early stages—undoubtedly that is why this innings prospered.

E. G. JONES.—The most steady and successful batsman in the side, Jones easily topped the batting averages for the second year in succession. Indeed, he was only dismissed four times when the runs to his credit numbered less than 12. He did reveal, however, a weakness that was not apparent last year—an inability to refrain from "tickling" the ball on, or just outside the leg stump—he thus too often gave an easy catch to wicket-keepers, who soon spotted this peculiarity. A truly brilliant fielder, he further distinguished himself at the end of the season by wheeling down a few fantastically subtle "left-arm slows."

K. RUFFELL.—His batting and wicket-keeping have earned him his full-colours in his first season in the First XI. His quality as a wicket-keeper enabled him to stand up to the wicket to all bowlers except Ashby. He thus deceived several opening batsmen into believing J. C. Mitchell a slow bowler, an error for which rapid judgment was made. His undefeated 50 against Wirral Grammar School was as fine a display of gay yet scientific hitting as one could wish to see.

L. E. W. LEWIS.—A dour left-handed batsman, he showed early signs of carrying on his good work of the previous year. But, after a spell of ill-luck, he eventually seemed to lose all confidence in his ability—which he undoubtedly had possessed—to dictate terms to the bowlers; and though, on several occasions he fought grimly to restore hope to his side in a tight corner, runs no longer flowed from his bat. His speed in the outfield was a feature.

WELTON.—A newcomer to the School, he quickly established himself as the School's primary off-spinner. He appears to make the ball "hustle" from the pitch, but, with this ability, he unfortunately has an inclination to pitch the ball too short—an inclination with which he could deal to his team's advantage. His gay but often unscientific hitting at No. 11 showed praiseworthy spirit—and also the fact that the bowling at all times CAN be hit, and hit HARD.

E. RICHARDS.—A fast-medium bowler; he bowls the outswinger, but his length and direction lack steadiness. His batting was at times promising, but it suffered from one or two faults in his backward defensive play, and by the fact that he relied too much on but one scoring shot. I refer, of course, to his celebrated hook: indeed, the first ball he received in First XI cricket was duly hooked hard and high clean out of the ground. He should be an asset to the First XI next year.

ALLEN.—A stockily built and powerful right-hand bat; he habitually seemed to be a little out of luck. His concentration was perhaps suspect, but, although no great stylist, he showed much fighting spirit. His innings of 68 against Liverpool University illustrated perfectly what such a batsman can do. Very powerful on the leg, but somewhat reluctant to play forward correctly, he left us always in doubt about what to expect when he walked jauntily to the wicket. A safe boundary fielder with a very fine throw.

TOLLET.—The "baby" of the side, Tollet came through his baptism of fire and showed considerable promise. A graceful and easy-looking stylist, he possesses some of the qualities which belong to outstanding batsmen. But he must beware of not being in the line of flight when playing back defensively, and of flicking at rising balls outside the off stump.

O'CONNELL.—A wristy, left-handed, stroke player. It is difficult to understand why he did not score many more runs. It must be said that he possessed a somewhat unfortunate tendency to determine upon his stroke before the ball was bowled. A fine fielder.

BOWLING AVERAGES, 1952.

Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Aver.
J. H. Ashby	230.4	73	431	56	7.70
Welton	61	18	162	19	8.53
J. C. Mitchell	172.5	45	416	36	11.55
E. Richards	64.4	14	156	13	12.00

CATCHES.

J. C. Mitchell 8, E. Richards 7, J. H. Ashby 6, E. G. Jones 4, Tollet 3, Allen 2, G. G. Parry 2, L. E. W. Lewis 2, Welton 2, Calloy 2, R. T. Owen 1, R. C. Wilson 1, K. J. Warbrick 1.
Wicket-keeper, K. Ruffell: Caught 18, stumped 5—total 23.

BATTING AVERAGES, 1952.

Name	Innings	Not Out		Runs	Highest Score	Aver.
		Out	Runs			
E. G. Jones	19	3	292	39	18.3	
K. Ruffell	19	1	189	50*	10.5	
J. C. Mitchell	19	0	194	71	10.23	
Allen	19	1	183	68	10.17	
Tollet	11	0	95	38	8.6	
L. E. W. Lewis	16	0	120	26	7.5	
K. J. Warbrick	7	1	42	29*	7.0	
E. Richards	16	2	96	28*	6.9	
J. H. Ashby	19	2	85	15	4.5	
O'Connell	10	1	40	11	4.4	
Welton	16	7	35	12*	3.9	

* Not Out

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

The Club has achieved no small measure of success this year and has firmly established itself in local athletic circles. Although there is a lamentable lack of enthusiastic seniors in the School, we have a strong core of keen Juniors, which augurs well for the future.

The most notable success of the season to date has been the winning of the Junior "Dan Cumella Cup" from a field of twelve. The Senior team has not fared so well in the Merseyside competitions, finishing fifth in both the "Dan Cumella" and "Sangster" trophy events. A combination of the Senior and Junior teams could produce a winning team for the Northern Schools' Championships to be held this term.

In a full fixture list, the School teams have lost to Preston, H.M.S. Conway and St. Edwards College, and have gained victories over Southport Technical College, Quarry Bank and Chester Training College. We are eagerly anticipating avenging our defeats and, in addition, have fixtures with St. Mary's College and the Collegiate. D. Burton has proved a very efficient captain, and we must congratulate K. Thomson on his performances in Merseyside competitions.

All members of the Club are urged to take advantage of the training facilities in the Gymnasium every Tuesday dinner-hour.

In conclusion, we should like to tender our thanks to Mr. Green for all his assistance and encouragement, especially towards our younger athletes.

K. G. S. BURNETT (Secretary).

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

So far this season the School 1st XI is undefeated. The team has settled down very quickly and is playing good football in a truly sportsmanlike manner. The combination between attack and defence has been excellent, and many goal-scoring movements have started in the School's own penalty area. If the present form is maintained, our hopes of regaining the Senior Shield must be favourable. The team's success is due in no small degree to the enthusiastic encouragement received from Mr. Morgan, and to Mr. White for his weekly physical training sessions, which are keeping the side very fit.

The 2nd XI, despite calls upon it from the 1st, has also made a successful start to the season. An excellent team spirit is developing, and there are high prospects of a bright season. Here the supervision of Mr. Bowker is a great asset.

Because some schools are unable to field a 3rd XI, the School 3rd XI has had few fixtures. This is unfortunate, because in the games played its performances have been excellent.

The Under 15 XI has not made as good a start as was anticipated. Now that it has become more settled, however, and with the advice and encouragement given by Mr. Rowell, it should do well in the future.

Under the able guidance of Mr. Lloyd, the Under 14 XI is playing with its usual skill and enthusiasm. The same can be said of the Under 13 XI, which, after a rather mediocre opening, has developed into a balanced and successful side.

The 1st XI is usually chosen from: R. E. Leeming; R. Corcoran, J. B. Evans; P. Best, N. Pine, W. R. Sefton; K. Ruffell, R. A. Hayes, R. H. Leech, C. Hedges, D. Evans and H. Malabar.

RECORD UP TO AND INCLUDING NOVEMBER 22ND, 1952.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	GOALS	
					F.	A.
1st XI	10	9	1	0	40	14
2nd XI	8	3	4	1	24	16
3rd XI	4	4	0	0	22	6
Under 15 XI	8	4	1	3	28	25
Under 14 XI	4	3	0	1	19	10
Under 13 XI	8	4	3	1	21	15
Under 12 XI	1	0	0	1	1	4

R. E. LEEMING.

LIOLIANS A.F.C.

Season 1952/53 opened on a promising note for the Club; the training nights and trial games were very well attended and the younger element showed distinct promise, with a sound win over Bootle Grammar School Old Boys in the first round of the Liverpool Grammar Schools' Old Boys' Junior Shield.

The 1st XI is not meeting with quite the success we had hoped for in some respects. The number of League games it has lost this season has exceeded last season's total, and it was beaten in the I Zingari Cup by Sefton and District in the first round. However, in the far wider Liverpool Amateur Cup it overcame a strong Crosby side by 2-1, after an exciting game and eventually lost to the holders, Collegiate Old Boys, by 4-1 after holding an early lead. In these two games alone Liolians A.F.C. enhanced its reputation very considerably in amateur soccer circles, and the 1st XI should experience little difficulty in achieving a fair number of successes for the remainder of the season.

The remaining XI's have not yet competed in any Cup games. The 2nd XI will play Old Hols in the Old Boys' League Senior Trophy early in December, and the Junior Trophy will be played in January. In League games each team is holding its own with the leaders—it might be unwise to comment further! An Extra XI which played against the School early in the season served to demonstrate the superiority of the School 1st XI on that occasion, and we hope that a return fixture may be arranged later in the season. These games are deservedly the most popular with Old Boys—the result counts for little, but the spirit in which the games are played makes an enjoyable afternoon's sport.

We have noticed with interest the honours gained by the School Soccer Captain, R. E. Leeming, in representative games and offer him our cordial congratulations upon his fine performances in goal, and trust that this year he will have the satisfaction of seeing both the Junior and Senior Shields regained for the School. Our best wishes also for the continuance of the success which is attending the School XI's in what are possibly the more important weekly inter-school games.

W. FAIRCLOUGH, Hon. Secretary.

HOCKEY NOTES

The first half of this season, as always, brought the habitually large quota of team changes and cancelled fixtures. Now, however, we have a side which, at last, is no longer subject to the constant changes of players and positions, which are so detrimental to any team.

This season the 1st XI has carried on the good work of not being beaten at home by a school team for two years; indeed, during that period we have only once lost to a university or school side. This season so far has seen convincing wins over the Collegiate (7-0), H.M.S. Conway (8-2), and Prescott Grammar School (5-1)—the latter feat being accomplished by ten men; the team did well to beat the University II XI by the odd goal in nine. We lost, however, to West Derby II XI by one goal to three, and to Shell Mex Hockey Club by two goals to three.

It would appear that we have, to date, had a successful season—but, it could have been better. Reluctance to part quickly with the ball by the defenders to look where they are hitting, have limited to a certain degree the opportunities the wingmen and centre-forward should have. As a result these three positions have on occasions been prone to make too sure, instead of snapping the ball in hard and promptly. The last three matches fortunately have seen the steady and purposeful elimination of these defects—we now have a hard and accurate hitting defence, a tireless and at last a coherent and ever-dangerous attack.

I should finally like to express the thanks of the team to Messrs. Willott, Parker and Rogers.

RESULTS.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	GOALS	
					F.	A.
1st XI	10	7	1	2	49	17
2nd XI	4	1	1	2	5	15

J. C. MITCHELL.

RUGBY FIVES

At the end of the School Year, 1951-2, the School team lost its captain and most experienced player, E. Davies. His zeal and energy did much to keep Fives in its supreme position as the most consistently successful of all School activities.

The School team still has, however, three members of last year's team and, because of the increased interest in Fives, there will be some difficulty in deciding on the fourth member. The advantages of Fives for a School, situated in the centre of a city at a considerable distance from its playing fields, are obvious. The School is very fortunate in possessing two courts in the School yards. Balls and gloves are provided by the Sports and Arts Club and may be obtained from the Captain. Older boys who, owing to impending examinations, cannot afford the time for other athletic pursuits, and yet would like to maintain a certain standard of physical fitness, have in Fives the answer to their problem.

It is a game which makes great demands on skill, strength and stamina. Athletes with wide experience of other sports will concede its inferiority to none of them; cricketers could find no finer game for strengthening their arms and shoulders.

Because of the shortage of Rugby Fives fixtures in the North of England, the School team has begun to take an interest in Eton Fives, a similar game, played in a different court. In addition to the usual Eton Fives fixtures against Merchant Taylors' School, the School has played Old Crosbeians, and Birkenhead School. Rugby Fives matches have been held with Wallasey Grammar School and Wigan Grammar School.

The Senior House Competition was won by Philip Holt House, and the Singles Championship by R. R. Arno.

Full colours were re-awarded to E. Davies and P. Best, and awarded for the first time to R. R. Arno and W. R. Sefton.

The Captain and his team wish to record their appreciation of the interest shown by Mr. D. G. Bentliff, and of the liberal assistance of the Sports and Arts Club.

P. BEST.

SWIMMING

This year the School Swimming Sports were held earlier than usual. They took place in the Summer Term, on July 18th, at Picton Road Baths. Again we regret to have to report that entries were few, compared with the number of boys in the School.

For the third year in succession, Owen House won the House Championship, with Philip Holt in second place.

The results were:—

SENIOR: 1st, Owen; 2nd, Philip; 3rd, Alfred.

JUNIOR: 1st, Philip; 2nd, Tate; 3rd, Owen.

AGGREGATE: 1st, Owen; 2nd, Philip.

COCHRANE: Form 3c.

The individual Senior Championship was again won by Paulucci, J. W., of Alfred Holt House, and the individual Junior Championship was won by Bywater, D. L., of Philip Holt House.

During the Autumn Term a Quadrilateral Swimming match was arranged between the Liverpool Institute, Liverpool Collegiate, Quarry Bank and Alsop High Schools, at Lodge Lane Baths, on September 25th. The School was first in the Senior section, but the final placings were:—

1st, Alsop; 2nd, Liverpool Institute and Quarry Bank; 3rd, Liverpool Collegiate.

We also entered a team of six swimmers in a special Grammar Schools' Squadron Race at the Liverpool City Police Annual Swimming Gala. This was held at the Harold Davies Baths, Dovecot, on October 17th. The School was placed 1st out of the four schools competing. Our appreciation goes to the Secretary of Swimming, Liverpool City Police, for his kind invitation.

The Inter-Schools' Gala was held this year at the William Roberts Baths, Norris Green, on October 24th. We were unfortunate at this Gala, since most of our best swimmers, who had been eligible as Juniors for the School Sports, were compelled to compete as Seniors in these Sports. We were, however, placed fourth in the Senior, but the Juniors being unplaced, brought us down to sixth in the aggregate.

Individually, J. Owens was second in the 100 yards Backstroke Senior, and J. H. McGregor won the Neat Dive, Senior. The School was third in the Medley Squadron Race.

Finally, we should like to thank all members of the staff and especially Mr. Forbes, for helping to make the School Swimming Sports a success.

B. GILLBANKS.

SWIMMING CLUB

The Swimming Club is flourishing under the guidance of Mr. Forbes, who has been training one of the life-saving classes, of Mr. Rowell, under whose tuition potential divers have benefited, and of Mr. Tait, who has successfully superintended life-saving in the School.

Since the last issue of the School Magazine, the Royal Life Saving Society has held two examinations, one at Lodge Lane and the other at Garston. The following awards have been made: one junior instructor's certificate, six bronze crosses, eight bronze medallions, two bronze medallion bars, and four intermediate certificates. Before Christmas another examination was held by the Royal Life Saving Society.

As the better bath at Cornwallis Street has been closed for the winter, and the small bath is not suitable for examinations, the tests for school proficiency certificates have been held at Norris Green and Lodge Lane Baths. Our thanks are due to the Liverpool Education Committee, who have made it possible for the Club to visit the baths free of charge on one day of each week.

J. M. LEARMONT.
S. A. MUNRO.

BOXING CLUB

This season the Boxing Club has attracted an encouraging number of younger boys, who are most enthusiastic and reveal signs of future promise. We regret that our trainer has left the district, but we have high hopes of obtaining the services of someone else in the near future. In the meantime we shall carry on, and, although at present we have no inter-school results to report, a potential team is training steadily; with the assistance of some older boys we have continued to stimulate and attract newcomers.

The Club could do with extra support from boys between eight and ten stone, to enable all boys to have actual boxing practice with opponents of their own weight.

W. A. TEMPLE.

CHESS CLUB

Mr. Turner has now taken over the Chess Club from Mr. Booth, to whom we are indebted for his help to the members of the Club and for the time he has given up to the School team during the past seven years. I am sure that Mr. Turner's help will prove most valuable and that chess in the School will prosper under his leadership.

The Club meets after School each Tuesday afternoon in Room 11. The Junior Chess Club, for members of the Third Forms, meets each Monday in Room 18. All boys who are interested are welcome at these meetings. During the Spring Term the House Competition for the Paul Limerick Trophy will be held, and there will be a Third Form competition in the Junior Chess Club. I hope these competitions will be well supported.

This season's School team has been C. K. Mackinnon, Barnes, Wolfson, Jones R., Morley, Canter, Groll; Armstrong and Siddall have also played. We have made a successful start to the season by winning our first five matches in the competition for the Wright Challenge Shield. This year the School is being represented in the Lancashire County Junior Correspondence Chess Team by R. Jones.

May I thank Mr. Turner for his supervision of the Club, and Mr. Willott for his help to the Third Forms.

C. K. MACKINNON.

C.C.F. (ARMY AND BASIC SECTIONS)

The School Year 1951-52 was a noteworthy one for the Army and Basic Sections of the C.C.F. Outstanding was the revival of the Band under Drum-Major Kennedy. The members of the Band were keen and hardworking, and reached such a high standard that they were commended by the Inspecting Officer. Their marching and counter-marching gave great pleasure to visitors at the School Sports. Unfortunately the majority of the members of last year's Band has left the School. Cadet T. Hope has been appointed Drum-Major, and he would like volunteers to learn to play the bugle and the drum in order to maintain last year's standard.

The second and most important event was the Annual Inspection by Air-Commodore Merton, A.O.C., 63 Group, Hawarden. He was impressed by the enthusiasm and smartness of the cadets, and by the efficiency of the Cadet Instructors.

The Annual Camp was held at Castlemartin, Pembrokeshire. A party of sixty-six cadets left Liverpool by special train, and travelled all day. Everyone soon settled down and serious work started the next day. The instructors were Officer Cadets of 64 O.C.T.U., Eaton Hall, Chester. The work throughout was very interesting and everyone found himself with plenty to do. The highlight of the Camp was the night exercise, in which an attacking party managed to capture the enemy's "stronghold," and return to base before the counter-attack had begun. During any free time we had opportunities of visiting Pembroke and other surrounding towns, of bathing at the wonderful Broadhaven Bay, and of seeing the famous Stack Rocks, which were about two miles from the Camp.

But to the present. We start this year with slightly lower numbers than usual. While this is to be deplored, we are pleased to see that this deficiency is compensated by the keenness of those who have joined. We are hoping to organise a shooting team again this year. With this object in view, fortnightly visits are being made to the Alcar Ranges, where cadets undergo their Classification Tests, and practice under Ashburton conditions.

During half-term, a very successful short Camp was held at 80 W.E.T.C., Alcar, and was attended by thirty-six cadets. Excellent training, including a night exercise, was provided, and all senior cadets fired on the Open Range, with some very creditable performances. Another camp was held in the Christmas holidays for fifty-eight cadets.

There are still two matters to which the attention of all cadets must be drawn. It is most important that uniform be worn at every parade, particularly on Wednesdays. The C.C.F. boasts an efficient H.Q. which includes a well-equipped and well-run Stores under Captain Macdonald and Lieutenant Boote. It is essential that this efficiency should be reflected in the turn-out of cadets. The second point is of equal importance, and concerns attendance at the midday lectures. These lectures are designed to bring the cadet up to the required standard for Certificate A, Parts I and II, which will be of great value to him when called up for National Service. It is, therefore, in the interests of all concerned to attend regularly.

It only remains now to urge all cadets to do their utmost to reach the standard of efficiency which has always been characteristic of the C.C.F.

W. R. SEFTON, C.S.M.

C.C.F. (R.A.F. SECTION)

An encouraging feature of the new training programme is the entry of six cadets for the Advanced Proficiency Examination held in December. This is the first time in recent years that the unit has entered any cadets for this examination, and it is hoped that the success achieved in this more academic sphere will equal the practical success gained by the award of Flying Scholarships, and subsequently of Private "A" Licences, to Sgt. Bird and Cpl. McGregor. At the end of last term 26 cadets had gained their proficiency certificates and ten more have taken the examination this December. During the summer holidays, the R.A.F. Section engaged in a large number of activities. The most important was the camp held at R.A.F. Cottesmore, in Rutland; it was attended by about thirty cadets, who travelled there by motor-coach and returned by train. All had opportunities to fly in normal R.A.F. aircraft, and some in Washington bombers.

In addition, a number of cadets attended courses at R.A.F. Halton, and three were fortunate in gaining places on a radio course at R.A.F. Compton Bassett. Sgt. Ferdinand and Sgt. Sykes obtained their "A" and "B" gliding certificates at R.A.F. Lichfield. Further evidence of the air-mindedness of the unit is shown in its use of the Monthly Flying Scheme. About 12 cadets fly in Anson aircraft from Speke once a month.

Shooting has taken place as usual every Saturday at Mather Avenue Barracks. Unfortunately, Field Day last term was marred by bad weather, and no flying was possible, but some cadets had an opportunity to handle a Slingsby Primary Glider. The unit hopes to obtain the use of one of these machines in the near future.

Finally, we should like to thank the officers of the unit for their unfailing interest: our C.O., Flt.-Lt. Watson, in the general administration; Flg.-Off. Buckley, in navigation, and Plt.-Off. Preece, in the management of the unit stores. We also thank Mr. Hughes for his work as Morse instructor.

P.J.B., A.F.C.

C.C.F. AIR SECTION—SUMMER CAMP, 1952

As soon as the Summer Term ended, a party of thirty-one cadets, with three officers, boarded the luxury coach which was to take them to R.A.F. Cottesmore, in the County of Rutland. The coach went through Macclesfield, over the Cat and Fiddle Pass, and then down through Buxton and the lovely dales of the Peak District to Nottingham and to the famous town of fox-hunting, Melton Mowbray. Shortly after entering the hunting country we arrived at our destination, which itself is the headquarters of a famous hunt, the Cottesmore. Although it was almost dark, the coach-driver announced his intention of leaving immediately for Liverpool, one hundred miles distant.

The accommodation was to be in tents, which comfortably held six cadets, and after leaving our luggage in them, we went to collect the bedding and beds, the latter consisting of canvas parcels containing rods and large sheets of canvas. Various suggestions were offered as to their purpose, but we had to await the arrival of the Sergeant, who explained carefully what had to be done. He then demonstrated the official R.A.F. way of making a tidy bed, which was adopted by everybody on the first night, and nobody on the second night, because the clothes had a disconcerting habit of falling off the bed during the night.

On the following day we were introduced to the comprehensive training programme which consisted of lectures on Navigation, Airmanship, and Meteorology, the Link Trainer, Films, practice with .303 rifles, Swimming, Flying, and a Tactical Exercise.

The cadets flew in Ansons and Prentices, and the R.A.F. arranged that two Washington bombers should take cadets up for short flights. Places as far apart as Skegness and Stratford-on-Avon were passed over on the Anson flights. On one occasion the pilot was hampered by cloud and had to return by radio to base. It was fortunate that he did so, for, although he thought he was over Stamford, he was, as one cadet observed, over Peterborough.

Opportunities of viewing jet aircraft were given by the landing of one of the latest jet bombers, a Canberra, of the type which recently crossed the Atlantic in six hours, and a coach trip through the green Rutland countryside, through the ancient town of Oakham, to North Luffeham airfield, where the Canadians provided a flying display with Sabre jet fighters. Another bus journey involved fourteen miles travelling along the Great North Road to Grantham, where we crowded out the pleasant open air baths at Dysant Park. One day we had an enjoyable time attempting to capture a deserted airfield from two of the other C.C.F. units. The enemy had Prentice aircraft to help them to locate us, but one of our allied schools succeeded in capturing the objective. Our achievements included the taking of two prisoners of war, R.A.F. officers who were aiding the enemy.

Because of Flight-Lieutenant Watson's ingenuity in perusing the railway time-table to find suitable connections, on the last day we were able to continue the usual camp life until lunch-time, yet were home by 21.00 hrs. after a pleasant rail journey through Leicester, Derby and Manchester.

For this very enjoyable and instructive camp our thanks are due to the R.A.F. officers, who made the training so interesting, and especially to our own officers Flt.-Lt. Watson, F/O. Buckley, and P/O. Preece, who so ably supervised the arrangements and helped us on our visits outside the camp.

J. M. LEARMONT, I./Cdt.

SCOUT NOTES

Two Field Days have been held since the last issue of the Magazine. During last Summer Term we went to Thurstaston and had a Wide-game centred on Thor's Stone. Last Term we spent an enjoyable day at Bidston, engaged in various Scouting activities, including tracking.

The 1952 Summer Camp was held at Glasynfryn, near Bangor; the weather on the whole was very good. Once again we had the company of two ex-members of the Troop, P. Quine and A. Osbourne; N. J. Page, a former School Vice-Captain, was also there. The Patrol competition was very close, and the Swifts and Woodpeckers eventually tied for first place. We made two full-day excursions—an ascent of Snowdon and a coach tour of Anglesey. Several shorter walks were undertaken along "Charlie's Line"—the local Slate Quarry Railway.

The new Term has seen many alterations in the leadership of the Troop: E. R. Oxburgh is now Assistant Scoutmaster; D. Gee, Troop Leader; and E. A. Morrell, Senior Patrol Leader; D. R. Edwards is still Librarian. The following new Patrol Leaders have been appointed: Wilson (Woodpeckers), Carter (Swifts), Harling (Peewits), and Grant (Curlwies). A. Cross, formerly Patrol Leader of the Curlwies, has had to leave us owing to C.C.F. duties, but we hope to see him at meetings occasionally. We have had to turn away many would-be recruits this Term owing to lack of room, but all those who have joined are now on the way to Second Class.

In this year's Behn Colours Competition the Troop team once more gained second place on an extremely wet week-end.

On Friday, November 7th, the Troop took part in the Liverpool County Scout "Flamorce"; the following week Brigadier Crampton, O.B.E., M.C., M.A., and I.H.Q. Commissioner, attended a troop meeting and carried out an inspection.

Our sincere thanks are again due to Mr. Haig, our Scoutmaster, and Mr. Smith, our Treasurer, for their unfailing interest in all our affairs.

D. GEE.

QUOT HOMINES, TOT SENTENTIAE—AUSTRIA, 1952

In the midst of our wondering why a classics master needed so much baggage, and a science master could manage with so little, the train drew out of Lime Street Station, and a small party from School had begun a journey to Austria. London and Paris—the next stages—were in part explored without incident, though in the Louvre a pure Gallic apology received a curt Anglican reply. After Paris, we took the night train to Basle, whence we finally reached Vandans in Western Austria. The completion of the journey was something of a relief, as not even the most brilliant suggestions had ensured much sleep during the night.

In a delightful small hotel, the party stretched their legs, tasted and were delighted with Austrian food, and generally prepared for nine days walking in the mountains. This walking was done between Austrian Alpine Club Huts. What are they?—well, the enquirer in Room 44 will be told that they are *not* Youth Hostels. The Douglass Hut was set beside the Lünser See, into which one of the party was almost pushed "across-country" by a vicious mule. The crowding of the magnificent peaks by the Lindauer Hut was rivalled only by the crowding of the party of eight in occupying sleeping places for five. In the Madlener Hut, which has been spoilt by being surrounded by one of the many hydro-electric schemes, one member of the staff spent a sleepless night ensuring that another did not fall off the end of the bed to the discomfiture of

the sleepers below. During four days at the Jamtal Hut, many things happened—the leader was more adventurous than is his wont, and four of the party spent considerable energy climbing the wrong part of a mountain; by then, all the party spoke fluent English with a German accent.

"Bitte ein Ice-axe!"

The Austrian iron-monger had been pleasantly polite when a certain Englishman, complete with trilby, had enquired the price of his "cheapest tea-spoon." Now that the gentleman seemed to be leading a school party, members of which were recklessly purchasing his ice-axes, he beamed with delight.

"Ja, ja! With my ice-axes you will soon climb this mountain, and that one also. The Dreiländerspitz? Of course, of course."

Two days later, a couple of Alpinists paused for breath on the col above the Jamtalgletscher. Their gaze travelled to the glacier below. Two English legs waved feebly in the air out of a small crevasse. An English voice was heard below ground.

"I can see my glasses on a ledge. Slacken off a bit . . . right . . . I've got them. Pull me out please."

The negligent one was extracted, dusted down, and told to be more careful. Our little party toiled on.

So this was a real glacier, moving imperceptibly down the valley. It didn't look a bit like a "river of ice." But if the lower end had been disappointing, words could hardly describe the sheer beauty of its higher reaches. We stood on an immense white blanket, torn across by gaping crevasses, down which we cautiously glimpsed pillars and flutings of delicate blue-green, disappearing into blackness.

We listened. Far below us the sub-glacial streams roared. We remembered tales of people who had disappeared, their grandchildren collecting them, "fresh as a daisy," down the valley fifty years later. We said nothing.

The rocky arm which the Dreiländerspitz throws out to the North-east looks like a straightforward route to the summit. We wondered why other climbers usually crossed a second glacier to a lower ridge. We soon discovered the reason, and felt thankful that we were joined, not only in spirit, but by thirty metres of full-weight hemp. Carefully removing much loose masonry as we went, and gently laying it aside, we eventually banished our problems by reaching a point from which we should never have dared to turn back. Those behind cried "Forward," and those in front glanced back, and promptly obeyed.

After some difficult climbing, we gained the summit ridge, and its dizzy trail led us to an uncomfortably sharp summit. We were not alone. An Alpine guide was striving to disentangle a rope upon which he had tied twelve people. Since the summit was so small, he had distributed his charges to various rocky ledges, and was about to collect them for the descent.

One kindly gentleman smiled at us, and murmured condescendingly, "You climb well for Englishmen."

We felt flattered, until we saw the poor guide almost carrying that gentleman down bodily.

The descent, by a different route, necessitated some step-cutting, followed by an enjoyable trudge down the glacier. The sun had been at work on the snow covering, and we picked our way carefully among fragile snow-bridges.

So we climbed our mountain, and in the Jamtalhütte that night were four weary, happy people, who needed no rocking.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

We can look back on the past term with pride; we have seen several new members prove their capabilities, and several who once were hesitant become eloquent; we feel we have justified our position as the School's senior society.

It is not without foundation, this pride of ours in the "Lit. and Deb." For seventy years the older and more mature members of the School have served it devotedly, have endowed it with the dignity and honour with which we regard it today. We know that it has something to offer to everybody in the School. Our scientific colleagues, we gather, are always thoroughly examined at the universities in their powers of self-expression, and where could this better be developed than in our Society?

We offer to all of you a Society which combines the sobriety of age with the urgency of tomorrow, dignified, but relaxed, learned but not pedantic. New members will always be gladly received. One year they may be raw beginners, the next we "cannot get along without them." No dues, taxes or heriots are demanded: only the real pleasure of their company at our meetings. The Society can offer its members only as much as it receives from them. It needs and will repay the support of the "Sixth, Removes and Upper Fifth Forms."

Meetings held so far this term have been:—

Sept. 23rd.—"That youth must have its fling."

Pro.: P. Smith and D. G. Scragg. Con.: G. F. Bilson and J. N. Sissons. Motion carried: For 23, Against 6, Abstentions 0.

Oct. 7th.—"That this House views with alarm the resurgence of Japan."

Pro.: J. C. Mitchell and P. Smith. Con.: E. Richards and K. G. S. Burnett. Motion defeated: For 11, Against 14, Abstentions 4.

Oct. 21st.—"Clothes make the man."

Pro.: P. Ritchie and A. F. Cook. Con.: E. R. Oxburgh and J. N. Sissons. Motion defeated: For 13, Against 18, Abstentions 2.

Nov. 11th.—"That this House would welcome a European Union."

Pro.: G. E. Silverman and P. Smith. Con.: J. N. Sissons and P. Dumbill. Motion carried: For 13, Against 6, Abstentions 3.

Nov. 25th.—"That this House abhors gambling."

Pro.: J. H. Edwards and D. G. Scragg. Con.: E. M. Darling and H. B. Jones. Motion defeated: For 6, Against 15, Abstentions 1.

The final debate of the term took the form of a session of impromptu speeches, after which refreshments were provided. This term's fixtures can be found in the Green Book.

We extend our heartiest thanks to all those who attend faithfully and speak freely; to our energetic committee; to our affable Prometheus, the Lord High Poker in Chief, C. K. Mackinnon; to Mr. E. J. Green, who continues to show interest in our Society; to our new Vice-President, Mr. R. T. Jones, who joined us this year and has already established himself; to our other Vice-President, Mr. D. G. Bentliff, who has taken the chair on one occasion.

Finally, we should like to thank our Chairman for his loyal support and helpful guidance to us all.

G.F.B., P.R.

MACALISTER SOCIETY

The first talk this season was given by Mr. L. A. Naylor, on "The Evolution of Music." After referring to aboriginal music, and early Greek music, he traced the development of the musical scale and score. Briefly noting the differences between European and Oriental music, he demonstrated, with a sonometer and piano, intervals typical of European music. After the æsthetic and technical excellence attained in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Brahms's Third Symphony, many people, Mr. Naylor observed, believed that little scope remained for future composers. Debussy, Stravinsky, and Schönberg, breaking from the classical tradition, showed that the musical medium had still not been fully exploited.

A. Molyneux, in the next paper, considered the effect of chivalry on the social status of women, and discussed female subjection in the Greek world, Roman Empire, and Middle Ages.

E. R. Oxburgh's paper on "Utilitarianism" described the philosophies of the early Greek utilitarians, and explained how, through the ages, these views had been modified and developed, more recently by Mill, and Hume. He noted some of their fallacies, as indicated by Bertrand Russell, and others. The ensuing lively discussion would have been longer, had time permitted.

G. Makin's paper on "Mohammed" has unfortunately had to be postponed. The Society looks forward with pleasure to hearing it in the New Year.

J. d'A. J.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For various reasons, it is proving difficult to arrange many meetings this term, but the Society combined with the Geographical Society on October 21st, to hear a talk on Nyasaland given by Mr. Hall, an Administrative Officer in that area of Africa. His interesting account of the life and government of the colony helped to illustrate the background to present-day Imperial development. It is hoped that the Society will be able to resume its regular fortnightly meetings in the near future.

We are indebted to Mr. J. H. C. Brooking of the Croydon Cable Works, Surrey, for a valuable addition to the Society's "archives." Mr. Brooking, a former student of this School, has retained so lively an interest in history that he had published some time ago from an original in the British Museum, a translation of Magna Carta. He has very kindly sent a copy to the Society and we, in return, take this opportunity (for he is a regular reader of this magazine) of expressing to him our very sincere thanks and our appreciation of this thoughtful gesture. The copy may be seen by Society members, and any others who are interested, on application to Mr. Rogers.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

At the end of the Summer Term, the Society held its annual outing, and on this occasion the members chose to explore the limestone country of the Ingleborough district.

The senior members of the party, who were supposed to benefit most from the study of the geomorphology of the region, were obviously feeling the effects of their efforts in the recent examinations, and took advantage of the exceptionally fine weather, basking in the sun's burning rays (no doubt hoping to acquire that dark tan, which so many creams and lotions claim to be able to give us) and enjoying the cooling spray from a nearby waterfall. They generously allowed the smaller, less lethargic, members of the party to reap the entire benefit of the geological knowledge of Messrs. Edwards and Parker, whose interest and energy were responsible for the outstanding success of the trip.

During this term, two meetings of the Society have been held. The first was addressed by Mr. Hall, a colonial administration officer, who spoke on Nyasaland. Two films were shown at the second meeting. "Spun, Woven and Finished," concerned with the production of cotton textiles in Lancashire, was notable for its artistic and technical excellence, as well as for its educational value.

The Society's library contains numerous books, magazines, pamphlets and maps, which are available for the use of all members, who are advised to take greater advantage of this valuable source of geographical knowledge.

Finally, on behalf of the Society, the secretaries would like to take this opportunity of thanking our Chairman, Mr. Edwards, for his continued advice and support.

E. RICHARDS and J. C. MITCHELL.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

With Mr. N. Lloyd in the chair, vacated last year by Mr. R. T. Jones, considerable interest has been taken in the activities of the Society by members of the Third and Fourth Forms, but there is a remarkable lack of support among boys in the other sections of the School. We feel that there are many more philatelists in the upper forms than have attended the meetings this term, and we should therefore like to see present any senior boys interested in stamp-collecting.

Meetings are held regularly on alternate Wednesdays in Room 1, and the committee has tried to supply a programme as varied and as interesting as possible. Meetings held last term included a stamp quiz, delivered by G. E. Gilroy, the prize winners being L. Biron (L5A), J. E. Sharp (L5A), and R. Corlett (3B); a talk by J. E. Sharp entitled, "San Marino and Its Stamps"; and a debate, the motion being "That This House Desires a Change in the Design of British Stamps"—defeated 7—8, with 2 abstentions.

There is also a library open every Wednesday dinner-hour in Room 2, containing books, magazines and catalogues, for the use of all members.

We should like to thank Mr. Lloyd for his unfailing help and interest which have contributed largely to the success of the Society.

G. E. GILROY.

SIXTH FORM SCIENCE SOCIETY

The past year has been a most successful one for the Society. Under the leadership of our former Secretary, G. G. Parry, to whom our thanks are due, visits were made to the Prescott works of British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd., Lever Brothers of Port Sunlight, Brothertons of Bromborough, and the Oil Refinery of Shell Mex at Stanlow.

Throughout the year lectures were given by external lecturers, as well as by members. Most of the meetings were well attended.

The Annual General Meeting was held on July 22nd. The Headmaster was re-elected as President, Messrs. Naylor and Walker as Vice-Presidents, and Mr. W. H. Jones as Chairman. I. H. McGregor was elected Secretary and M. H. Lader, Treasurer.

At a meeting held on September 19th, P. J. Bird, M6A; W. Ferdinand, 6Asc.; S. Siddall, 6Bsc.; P. J. Armstrong, M6B; and P. L. Taylor, 6AMI, were elected to the committee.

The Tin Smelting Works of Williams, Harvey and Co. Ltd., and Cronton Colliery have already been visited, and a visit to the works of J. Bibby and Son Ltd., has been arranged for the Spring Term.

We were honoured on October 2nd, in having Professor Rosenhead to lecture to us on "Mathematics and Science." This meeting was exceptionally well attended.

In addition, P. J. Bird has lectured on "Jet Propulsion," and W. Ferdinand on "The Development of Nuclear Physics."

We hope particularly to interest members of the non-scientific sixth forms, who should note that the Society tries to present a general, rather than a specialized picture of science.

I. H. MCGREGOR.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Society greatly enjoyed the annual excursion on July 4th. From Waterhouses we followed the Hamps Valley to its junction with the Manifold Valley, lunching near the confluence. We then climbed to the uplands, near Thor's Cave, and walked via Welton, Hope Dale, and Mill Dale, to Dovedale. The clear waters of the Dove contrasted sharply with the parched beds of

the Hamps and Manifold. By then the sun had appeared, and the walk along the wooded banks of the Dove was particularly pleasant. The more energetic members climbed Thorpe Cloud by the Izaak Walton Hotel, before we joined the road to Ilam, where the motor-coach awaited us.

The Society is indebted to Mr. R. G. Walker, who planned the twelve miles route, and led the party.

During this term, Mr. S. Reed has talked to us on "Composition"; Mr. R. M. Fanstone, A.R.P.S., of Dufay, Ltd., has addressed us; and Mr. G. H. Hesketh, A.R.P.S., has delighted us with some of his colour-slides.

Mr. O. Valentine, of the *Liverpool Post* and *Echo*, greatly entertained us with a description—both vivid and candid—of his experiences as a Press photographer.

Mr. W. H. Jones is conducting a series of classes for beginners. Demonstrations of negative development, and of contact-printing, have been given by J. Jeffery.

For next term's Hobbies Show, members are urged to prepare their entries early. Last-minute efforts are apt not to do justice to the entrant.

J. d'A. J.

THE ORCHESTRA

Mr. Engler left last July, and his services to the orchestra will be greatly missed. Although he had been with the School only a year, he had done a great deal for its musical activities. In his place, we welcome Mr. Williams.

The orchestra continues to practise every Monday, and new members are expected shortly from the violin and violoncello classes, which take place every week.

A variety of works is being studied, including the dances from Elgar's "Bavarian Highlands," some of Brahms' Hungarian Dances, and a well-known Mozart symphony. It is hoped to purchase more music with funds collected last year.

J. R. PARRY.

MUSIC CLUB

Last term, there was a varied programme at the fortnightly gramophone recitals, which were fairly well attended. Such works as Holst's "Planet Suite" and Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto were played, and we heard operatic music by Mozart, Verdi, and other composers; chamber music was represented by Schubert's "Trout" Quintet.

In addition, there was a piano recital by Mr. Rowell, who played music by Bach and Schumann and Mr. W. H. Jones gave a song recital. D. Rowan gave an illustrated talk on jazz.

Thanks are due to our Chairman, Mr. Naylor, and our Treasurer, Mr. Rowell, for their invaluable guidance.

J. R. PARRY.

CHRISTIAN UNION

During the Autumn Term, meetings have been held every Wednesday at 1-15 p.m. in room 14, but we have not been joined by the girls from Blackburne House, owing to a change in the dinner-hour there. This, added to the fact that several of our most faithful members left in July, has resulted in a fall in attendance. Nevertheless, as the term has progressed,

our numbers have increased, and we do extend a very cordial invitation to all members of the Sixth, Removes and Upper Fifth Forms who wish to further their knowledge of the Christian Faith, and to discuss their beliefs with other boys.

Most of the meetings have taken the form of a series on the parables of Jesus. Papers have been read by members of the School, and interesting and profitable discussions have followed them. We have also been honoured by visits from Bishop Gresford Jones, Mr. Brause Burbridge of the Inter-School Christian Union, and the Rev. E. W. Pugh of West Derby. All the talks were of the highest standard. One of the popular "Fact and Faith" films was also shown.

Next term it is hoped that a few talks on the difficulties presented to the youth of today may be given, and the Christian answers to these problems discussed.

At the end of the Summer Term a conference organised by the Student Christian Movement in Schools, was held at Manchester Grammar School. It was attended by over a thousand sixth formers from the North of England. Bishop Wilson's address was brilliant, and the discussion groups were voted most worthwhile. It was a pity that so few from the Institute were able to go. This term a party of about twelve attended another S.C.M. Conference at Holly Lodge School, where Mr. Penry Jones was the speaker. Interesting discussion followed his address.

Finally, we must thank Mr. Watson for his able chairmanship. His leadership and guidance are most valuable and are always greatly appreciated.
J. B. T.

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT SOCIETY

Meetings have been held as usual after School on Mondays, when talks on widely differing subjects have been given, chiefly by the senior members of the Society. Competitions and films have helped to vary the programme. So far this term no excursions have been organised, but day trips, visits to works, and Youth Hostel tours are being planned.

The Society's library in Room 15, supervised by G. P. Quayle, E. J. Falding, and D. Hesketh, is open twice a week, and has received good support, particularly from the Junior members. It is stocked with several reference books, but mainly with periodicals, which are bought regularly.

We wish to remind all boys in the Fourth Forms and above that they are welcome to participate in all the Society's activities. There is no subscription, the only condition of membership being that members should either give a talk or take part in a full day's outing.

Finally, we should like to thank Mr. Hosker for his active support and advice in the organisation of all the Society's activities.

P. L. TAYLOR, J. M. LEARMONT.

MODELS SOCIETY

Since the last issue of the Magazine, membership of the Society has greatly increased. A practical model-making class meets during certain dinner-hours under Mr. Hughes, to restore some war-damaged model ships given to us by the P.S.N.C.

Regular meetings, which have been very well attended, have included lectures on aircraft, boats, model railways, and tramways. Many younger members appreciated a talk given by Mr. Lloyd, introducing them to the use

of wood in model building. The term's activities concluded with a Christmas Social, which included impromptu entertainment and a film, followed by refreshments in the Dining Room.

During the Winter months our outdoor activities have been somewhat reduced. At the beginning of October a party paid a visit to Messrs. Cammell Laird's shipyard, where the members saw some of the models we see in the shipping offices actually under construction. Outside, we were allowed to inspect the ships themselves on the stocks and in the fitting-out basin. Another very successful visit was paid to the Meccano Factory in Binns Road. The party was shown the die-cast models being polished and painted. We were most impressed by the way the Hornby locomotives were assembled.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Thorpe, Tait and Hughes for giving so much of their time to the Society, and to Mr. Lloyd for his most instructive talk.

H. W. MOORE.

THE FUND

The Fund is doing very well this term. The first eight weeks' contributions totalled £38 6s. 0d., averaging £4 15s. 9d. a week. This is comfortably ahead of the arbitrary quota of 1½d. per boy per week, which would work out at £36 in eight weeks, or £4 10s. 0d. a week, for a School Roll of 960. (Actually, of course, the roll is rather less than 960).

This gratifying state of affairs is due in no small measure to the consistent generosity of one or two forms who regularly subscribe a sum far in excess of their quota. It is a safe assumption that this benevolence is fostered by the excellent work of the collectors belonging to these particular classes. Well done, boys!

By the way, collectors, it would help considerably if you could manage to bring fewer coppers to be counted. There are usually boys in most forms who would be glad to relieve you of some of those pennies and halfpence in exchange for silver. From the treasurer's point of view a half-crown is infinitely preferable to one sixpence, one threepenny-piece, seventeen pennies, seven halfpence and two farthings!

A. H.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Cambridge.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—Once more it is time to brave the South fogs and enter the dripping December shadows of our courts, and as the gaslight flickers on vaulted arch and cobbled walk, I shall unfold a grisly tale. Along the Backs the splash of the punt-pole is stilled, the pollarded willows stoop toward the dull green canal round behind the gas-house, and strange Gothic spectres loom out of the mists on King's Parade, rattling the half-remembered bones of a bygone age. The gaunt figure of Mr. Waddington wanders from the bright lights of one saloon to another, with gusts of unearthly laughter, and the not-so-gaunt Mr. Durband also clings on to preside over our affairs from his literary pedestal. These are the venerable ones, who have crossed the bar of Tripos and yet shun the harshness of the outside world, where, in the bright glare of the Orient Mr. Evans has swum out of range of our vituperation. Mr. Leak is the last inhabitant of the Olympian cyrie and whatever his secrets, he veils them behind a mask of tutorial respectability.

Against those whose disillusionment has been mellowed by time, we may set the numerous company of newcomers to the Fens. Some are as yet innocent and to them, Messrs. Kirby, Morris and Perry, we can impute no evil, save that the last-named is a very old Old Boy, and doubtless versed in the wickedness of Another Place. Mr. Barber arrived at Pembroke dribbling a ball and is already soaring with the Falcons, while the hitherto intellectual Mr. Smith has exchanged the seat of learning for the sliding seat of Charon. The Bridge of Sighs has been encased in scaffolding since Messrs. Magnay and Dailey entered St. Johns, and we can only conjecture that it must have breathed its deepest for years. Mr. Magnay's tutor is said to have cried out with a loud voice at his first display of Classical erudition, at which point Mr. Dailey took to his heels. Of Mr. Wilkie we can say but little; his early impersonation of Mr. Dylan Thomas, in funeral "corde du roi," was detected, when that gentleman visited Cambridge in person. Nevertheless the Hall of Valence Mary is ennobled by his presence.

So the pen of calumny moves inexorably on to the more hardened members of our society. The dying fall of Mr. King's voice coaxed many a shilling from the unfortunate public for Caius Poppy Day appeal, in whose cause he annually manipulates an infernal machine of the same genus as Morton's Fork. Prongs and high walls, however, form no cage for the irrepressible Mr. Evans, who is not only notorious for his kidnapping forays into Newnham, but brings the feminine mountain to Mahomet in Pembroke, under cover of an uncouth Celtic society. Mr. Pugh disapproves this misuse of his college and disconcerts his fellows by alternating moods of jocularity and blackest melancholy. He flourishes among the musicians and is thus in constant danger from their irate neighbours. One of these is Mr. Bell, now self-consecrated to heartiness, smooth waistcoats and suede shoes, which he constantly endangers by his activities on the towpath. There he is frequently seen on an ancient bicycle goading less-experienced rowing brethren to the point of exhaustion, through a megaphone almost larger than himself. His enthusiasm for boating is not shared by his staunch ally Mr. Hodson, of Queens', except in as much as the latter chuckles sadiistically when punts overturn beneath his window. This gentleman's innocent features belie an ingenuity, which stretches from dubious passport photography to the baser motives underlying choir tea-parties, and even "thyngs of which I telle no tale."

Far from the mire of this riverside underworld geographically dwell Messrs. Hechle and Jacob, in the suburban comfort of Selwyn Hostel. For many months the play has been the thing for Mr. Hechle, and amid a welter of other productions he held firmly to his claim that "These are the only men." The contact man for all the best people in the English Faculty, he is now rumoured to be opening an agency with Mr. Jacob as his legal advisor. Mr. Jacob knows a great deal too; in fact, a visiting Rhodes scholar said in an exclusive interview, "Gee, dat guy surely knows all de angles. I'm goin' back to Brooklyn (or was it Oxford?)—dere ain't no room to move in." But far be it from me to breathe a word of scandal against one whose wardrobe and teas are alike excellent. Even further removed from our orbit lives Mr. Bootle, who occasionally severs his domestic bonds to disseminate "pink" pamphlets. We agree that he is the only Socialist among us who looks like a bomb thrower: his powers of salesmanship are wasted outside private enterprise.

Cut off by more monastic ties are Messrs. Henry, Marsden and Little. At Wesley House Mr. Henry expatiates on Marx and Methodism with equal facility and his histrionic powers are undimmed. Our Centaur on pedals, Mr. Marsden, threads the City's congested traffic at speed with unparalleled dexterity. He aims to take back to Westminster the trophy for bursting the sonic barrier on land, and when interviewed said, "Of course there's no actual barrier, but zebra-crossings—that's where the buffeting begins." As to Mr. Little we can say even less; he remains an enigma, but let him beware, for none shall 'scape censure. In concluding this tour of the attics and dens not far from Trumpington, we must not overlook our representatives "ex statu pupillari." A weary campaign is theirs, yet Mr. Craig maintains

his devotion to Terpsichore, unswayed by Mongoloid influences, while Mr. Sweeny has, we are reliably informed, entered a hermitage. This branch of the service was not in existence in our day, except possibly as a euphemism for another kind of cell.

These, then, are the players in our drama. Poetry has been written at Grantchester and D. H. Lawrence once apostrophised King's Chapel as "an upturned sow," but never has Cambridge suffered such a grievous invasion since the Roundheads turned the Fellows from their beds and filled the colleges with roistering soldiery, fiddling and revelry. Historical reminiscence and vitriolic anecdote are alike dried up: I will endeavour to wipe the tables of my memory clean.

Whilst still remaining, Your humble servant,

JEDEDIAH CLEISHBOTHAM.

OXFORD LETTER

Oxford.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—Once more we are compelled to quiet our apprehension over your continued interest in our sordid eccentricities (or is it perhaps merely your thirst for scandal?). We mourn this term the departure of a large proportion of our number, but are happy in the knowledge that our dons, Messrs. McKie and Kneale, remain to lend to our diminishing society that indispensable touch of "dignified maturity."

Of our two newcomers, Mr. Owen of Jesus, and Mr. B. L. Jones of University, the former has been seen only once in public. On that occasion he was sporting an emerald green shirt with white sleeves and long stockings of the same colours. (It should be mentioned that he was playing football at the time.)

Mr. B. L. Jones, too, is difficult to find, but he may occasionally be seen accompanying an odorous cigarette around the streets of this fair city. He also appears at society dances (society, Sir, with a *small "s"*).

At Jesus, Mr. Topp has a place in one of the galleys, but devotes most of his time nowadays to the cultivation and weeding of a truly enormous moustache.

Despite recent notoriety acquired on Guy Fawkes night, Mr. Roberts manages to maintain a drunken appearance. He is willing to drink beer at anyone's expense!

It is reported that Mr. Cashdan, of Corpus, still sits in the sharp end of a boat and shouts loudly at the sweating myrmidons upon whom he relies for motivation. Sometimes he reads Greats.

Mr. Dodd lives sometimes at Magdalen but more often in his latest acquisition, a battered motor-car; or should we call it a horseless carriage? Surely he is the only really hard worker of our whole company.

Mr. Thomas, of Queens, lives in a maroon roll-necked sweater and gives us the impression that he is a very hard worker. We know better than to be deceived by such appearances. He is often seen taking tea in B.N.C. with his fellow-linguist Mr. G. Jones, who also appears to work hard, but who spends an inordinate amount of time on the decoration of his room with lurid pictures. They also meet occasionally on the football field, at the cinema or in cafés—but never, strangely enough, at lectures.

Mr. Wray is always ready to extol the beauties of Keeble College and to defend it against all criticism to the bitter end—and we assure you, Sir, that all ends of Keeble are bitter; very bitter! Mr. Wray also dances, and the word "hop" is perhaps not foreign to his vocabulary.

Mr. Kennett, of Oriol, lives a good, clean healthy life in the shadow of Pembroke College. Despite the benign smile which accompanies him everywhere, he assures us repeatedly that he is now "sweating on the top line"—an expression which we, Sir, fail to comprehend. He occupies a high position in the Boys' Brigade, but it is suspected that this is merely a sinecure and a "blind" for more nefarious activities.

Of our other members little is known. Mr. Strapps is sometimes seen out walking with a young lady, and when alone is always "busy." This, Sir, is Oxford's most useful and ambiguous word. Mr. Wilcox has retired to a rustic life on Boar's Hill, but still retains some nominal ties with Merton.

The most mysterious member of our company is Mr. R. L. Jones, who is reputed to read Law at Wadham. He is never seen and never heard of, Sir, and therefore we refrain from attributing to him any scandalous activity (although the temptation is indeed great).

Before we damage any more reputations and call down upon our head the abuse and violence of the entire company of Oxford, we must reluctantly lay down the pen and vitriol. We hope, Sir, that we have done our duty and no more—

With this, I sadly close my verbal wanderings on the current affairs in Oxford of this few, this happy band, and hope to remain,

Your obedient servant,

LINNAEUS.

THE PREFECT'S LETTER

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—Whilst I was conducting a medical inspection of your alumni recently, I was intrigued by the vision of several shrouded beings gliding swiftly and silently along the School corridors, ejecting small boys from their form rooms. My curiosity aroused, I took the opportunity of following one of these silent characters up the stairs to the topmost floor of the building, where he led me to a little den known to the inmates as "Oxy's Underworld."

Their Head Man, Mr. E. R. Oxburgh, is a "classic" climber, though he discourages junior boys from practising this sport on the School railings and drainpipes. His climbing kit is never out of use, even during term time, and the nail marks on the walls of the Prefects' Room bear witness to his constant practice, especially on the very severe West face overlooking the Library.

The conscientious Mr. Mylchreest is a man of many parts—soprano, alto, tenor, bass and double-Bass: obviously a musical man, and this is emphasised by the fact that he plays the organ; indeed, the School organ is now considered his own property, and is referred to colloquially as Haydn's Harmonium.

Despite his bulky appearance, Mr. Pine is a man of might; he might be anything, but what he actually is I cannot say. Under that cherubic smile there are hidden depths. These are additionally obscured by a voluminous red and white garment, worn beneath both blazer and gown; this he blandly informs us is a shirt. It is to be noted, however, that not dissimilar articles were on sale recently in a local store as lunch-wrappers.

The very antithesis of this gentleman might well be said to be Mr. Cook, who goes about the world wearing a look of amused bewilderment, airing his knowledge of the affairs of Charles II, and singing a song about policemen, which he insists he learnt in the choir. The choristers there were recently considerably startled at hearing this gentleman's mellow tones emanating from what was apparently empty space; they were relieved to find, however, that

he was not a ventriloquist, but was merely standing sideways. His studies of late have included elementary ballistics, in which he is capably assisted by Mr. Bird—this unfortunate usually holds his targets. Between the "iacula" which come his way, he manages to be a very nice person indeed. He is the prefectorial incendiary, and "rising early in the morning he proceeds to light the fire."

This action is akin to the Indian rope trick, in so far as nobody has ever seen it done.

His mathematical confederate, Mr. Mackinnon, is a chess man; his moves are strange, but his diagonal progressions across the Prefects' Room are not to be attributed to any affinity to the church, but to his essays in the noble art of ballroom dancing in preparation for the festive season.

Mr. Mackinnon is to Mr. Richards as Mr. Stalin is to Senator Taft. There is a major disagreement on fundamental principles between the two, for while Mr. Mackinnon contentedly sips coffee plain and simple, Mr. Richards can be seen dunking yesterday's cold toast in Oxo and hot milk. The peace of the Prefects' Room is at stake while these principles remain unresolved. Cynical mistrust is the philosophy of Mr. E. Richards, who travels to School in a red van bearing his initials.

His accomplice in hockey, cricket and doubtful holidays spent in the more remote parts of England and Wales is Mr. J. C. Mitchell, who is, perhaps, the most vociferous member of the Prefectorial body. This sporting gentleman adds weight to his entreaties for an extra bottle of milk with a pocket six-shooter, which he keeps ready for all emergencies; a short course at the Art School, he tells us, has made him quickest on the draw on Merseyside; Mr. Mitchell knows best. He is also the principal owner of the large and conspicuous pile of personal effects and cooking utensils which conceals one corner of the Prefects' Room.

Even Mr. Mitchell's whoops of delight, as he staggers round the Prefects' Room "acing," in imagination, tennis opponent after tennis opponent, cannot disturb the peaceful slumbers of that superlative being, Mr. Best. This celebrated connoisseur of antediluvian Egyptian narcotics even finds it an effort to scratch his head; but this is perhaps understandable, for it would be a prodigious task for any but an experienced gardener. Mr. Best may indeed be called the sleeping partner of the Prefectorial concern. A common interest shared with Mr. Arno is square dancing. This latter gentleman is known in square dance circles as Bluebeard; he is believed, on occasion, to have employed the growth on his chin to sweep out the Fives Courts, and his head is apparently the property of the Incorporated Society of Apprentice Barbers. Occasionally he can be seen happily sipping milk out of a fives glove. This, he assures us, is a sure way of getting a kick out of life. These sentiments evoke the raucous guffaw of the Prefectorial Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Ritchie, whose nose has not yet recovered from the indignity it suffered when mistaken for a fire alarm. This philosophical gentleman passes judgment on the manners, morals and dress of his colleagues with unflinching accuracy, and an air of studied deliberation. As R.Q.M.S. in the C.C.F. he is responsible for the dashing military uniform now worn on Wednesday afternoons by Mr. R. H. Leech, the Prefectorial platinum blond. This military gentleman recently felt the urge to take up work as a relaxation from football and other strenuous activities; by a prodigious feat of willpower he resisted the temptation. His sartorial perfection remains unimpaired, whatever his pursuit. The latest addition to his wardrobe is a super-brief pair of black and green tailored running shorts; he emphatically denies all reports of lace edgings.

Such finery is scorned by Mr. Leeming, the School goalkeeper; he has been keeping goals as far back as anyone can remember, and now it is said he has a goodly collection, which he manages to improve every match. His hair undulating from his lofty brow, he enters the Prefects' Room each

morning, with his breakfast in one hand, and the other controlling a capacious rucksack, in which he keeps his private table-tennis ball. Mr. Leeming wins most of his games.

The quiet and stocky scientist from over the border, Mr. Macgregor, is also a flier, and he wears his wings every Wednesday. His recent attempt to make the Chemistry Laboratory a Mount Street Monte Bello was unsuccessful, but he promises to try harder next time.

The vocal exploits of another airman, Mr. Christie, founder and sole member of the Prefects' Room Cocoa and Opera Club, were recently greeted by a shower of coppers outside the Empire Theatre. Since being bailed out, he has decided to do some body building, and would welcome any odds and ends for this purpose; he is, at the moment, living on a diet of powdered gramophone records. Mr. Parry is also a musical man; in fact, a jazz-band drummer. He sticks at nothing in his attempts to secure a bass-drum, and even runs a private financial club to this end. His skill at golf unfortunately detracts from his hockey ability. Indeed sticks are this gentleman's life.

The last man in the swim is Mr. J. B. Owens, the strong, silent man of the Prefects' Room. His taciturnity is the result of years of subjection to Mr. Macgregor, and his power of arm results from the exercise obtained by removing numerous milk tops daily for this gentleman. Mr. Owen's proficiency at the back-stroke has made him in great demand as cat-soother and baby-sitter.

That, Sir, is as far as I dare go in illuminating the foibles and idiosyncrasies of these strange characters. "Satis dixi, fortasse nimis"; now let the murky mists of obscurity envelop me for ever.

I remain, yours sincerely,

RAE D. O'GRAPIL

"WITH RUE MY HEART IS LADEN"

Pectus aerumna gravis et dolore
lugeo cursu iuvenes ovantes,
mi iuventatis decus, et puellas
labra rubentes.

nulla qua floret rosa nunc quiescunt
virgines rubrae labra; nunc amici
adiacent rivis fluvisque nulli
transiliendis.

(A. E. HOUSMAN, "A Shropshire Lad" Stanza LIV).

LE MONT ST. MICHEL

On we raced along the narrow, dusty French roads. Every now and then we would hear a continual loud hooting, and a French car—to English eyes very bizarre—would speed by on the wrong side of the road. After a short time, we stopped and ate our lunch, washing it down with 50 fr. bottles of cider. Off we went again and soon the topmost battlements of the famous monastery came into view, standing out against the azure of the cloudless sky.

It looked so serene and calm standing there with its foot upon the jagged rocks below, that it was impossible to imagine what countless scenes of cruelty and violence had been enacted there. To arrive at the massive portals of this imposing structure, we had to travel along an embankment which ran through the marshes.

We alighted from the coach and entered the gates of the one time abbey. A narrow road, flanked by open shops and cafés, led at a steep angle up to this. Near the top was a museum, where, to those of us who knew sufficient French, the history of the monastery was told in models. From the entrance to the museum we could see the boundary between Normandy and Brittany marked by a line of stones.

Then we entered the monastery itself and visited all the places of interest—the cloisters, the chancel, and the dungeons. At length, after further sight-seeing, we regretfully bade *adieu* to the walls of Le Mont St. Michel.

K. B. and G. F. (USA).

THE ORIGIN OF POTATOES.

Nowadays, potatoes form one of the main foodstuffs of our lives, but how were they brought to England? Who made possible the celebrated "fish and chips?"

The answer lies many centuries ago, when Sir Francis Drake roamed the world. Seeing an attractive Indian village on his voyages, he lowered the mainsail and went ashore. After saying a "How d'you do" to the inhabitants, he produced his camera and started taking photographs of the crew for their family albums, at five shillings each. But, striding across a small field, he caught his foot on a projecting potato and, abruptly measuring his length on the ground, found what the New World tasted like! Uttering numerous monosyllabic words, he rose with dignity to his feet. But when a miserable potato caught his eye, he exclaimed "Gadzooks, James, what be this?" and he took it home for the 1551 Great Exhibition.

"Here, Queenie, look at this," he said to Elizabeth, and endeavoured to pass it to her; unfortunately it slipped into a pot of boiling water between them, in which Good Queen Bess was doing the weekly washing, and she left the potato in it.

Later, Drake approached the pot, determined to taste the potato. Mindful of Ye Hotte Water, he took it out with a pair of tongs, but there his caution ceased, and he took a bite at it. Screaming with agony, he brandished it at Elizabeth; pointing to the pot, the potato and his mouth, he screamed—"POT . . . ATE . . . OH!!!!"

That is how the strange plant came to be called the POTATO!

P. RYLANCE (L5c.).

WHAT IS IT?

I am famous, for one will find me in all our famous historic homes; one will even find me in the smallest of the old hostleries. Throughout the Midlands and Southern England I seem to exist in great quantity, but personally I think I am the product of many people's imaginations.

Made for the most part of very dark hard material, richly ornamented with varying designs by expert craftsmen, I am tall and heavily built. Four strong sturdy supports and a top with delicate ornamentation give me a regal bearing, but, of course, I am regal.

I served a utilitarian purpose some 300 years ago, but I doubt if the people of this era would find me able to meet their requirements, or if my steps would suit their convenience. My exquisite draperies and curtains, while receiving admiration, would now be considered superfluous. The titian-haired beauty who is associated with my existence has gone, but her fame lives on with the many stories and legends about me.

M. LUNT (L5c.).

A CHALLENGE

In his book, "The Decline of the Twilight Lands," Professor Spengler postulates that the world has gone through successive stages of civilisation.

Thus, in the early Greek civilisation, culture developed and its influences spread through the then known world. When, however, that civilisation died out, a new civilisation grew up in its place, and so the process went on. Really what Professor Spengler is trying to make clear is that civilisations come and go, and the process of history goes round in circles. Where his arguments fall down is in the idea that with the extinction of a civilisation comes the extinction of its culture. This, of course, is not true, for, if we consider the Greek civilisation that existed over 2,000 years ago, we know that it produced certain types of people, art, and literature. If its culture died with its extinction, we should not know so much about it. But we do know, for we have books and relics of architecture and other representations of culture.

On the other hand, Professor Toynbee, who is giving the Reith Lectures this year, says that history goes round in circles, and that each civilisation is given a challenge, which it either responds to or ignores. If it ignores the challenge, then the civilisation will fail. Professor Toynbee goes on to say that every civilisation has been given an obstacle which it must overcome, and mentions the various civilisations which have failed to respond to its particular challenge and which have become extinct.

Our own civilisation, which, Toynbee says, began after the end of the Middle Ages, has been issued with a challenge. Since 1493, Europe, the cradle of our own particular civilisation, has been at war almost continuously, and it is war which we must overcome, or we shall become extinct.

Fairly recently an atomic bomb was exploded near Australia, and a few weeks later it was reported that a hydrogen bomb was set off on a South Pacific atoll. One report stated that a hydrogen bomb weighing fifty tons would completely destroy the world. Here then is our challenge; it is up to us to face the challenge, or like previous civilisations we shall become extinct, and it would appear that no other civilisations could be started, for there would be no earth in the planetary system.

P. F. FLEET (6 AM2).

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