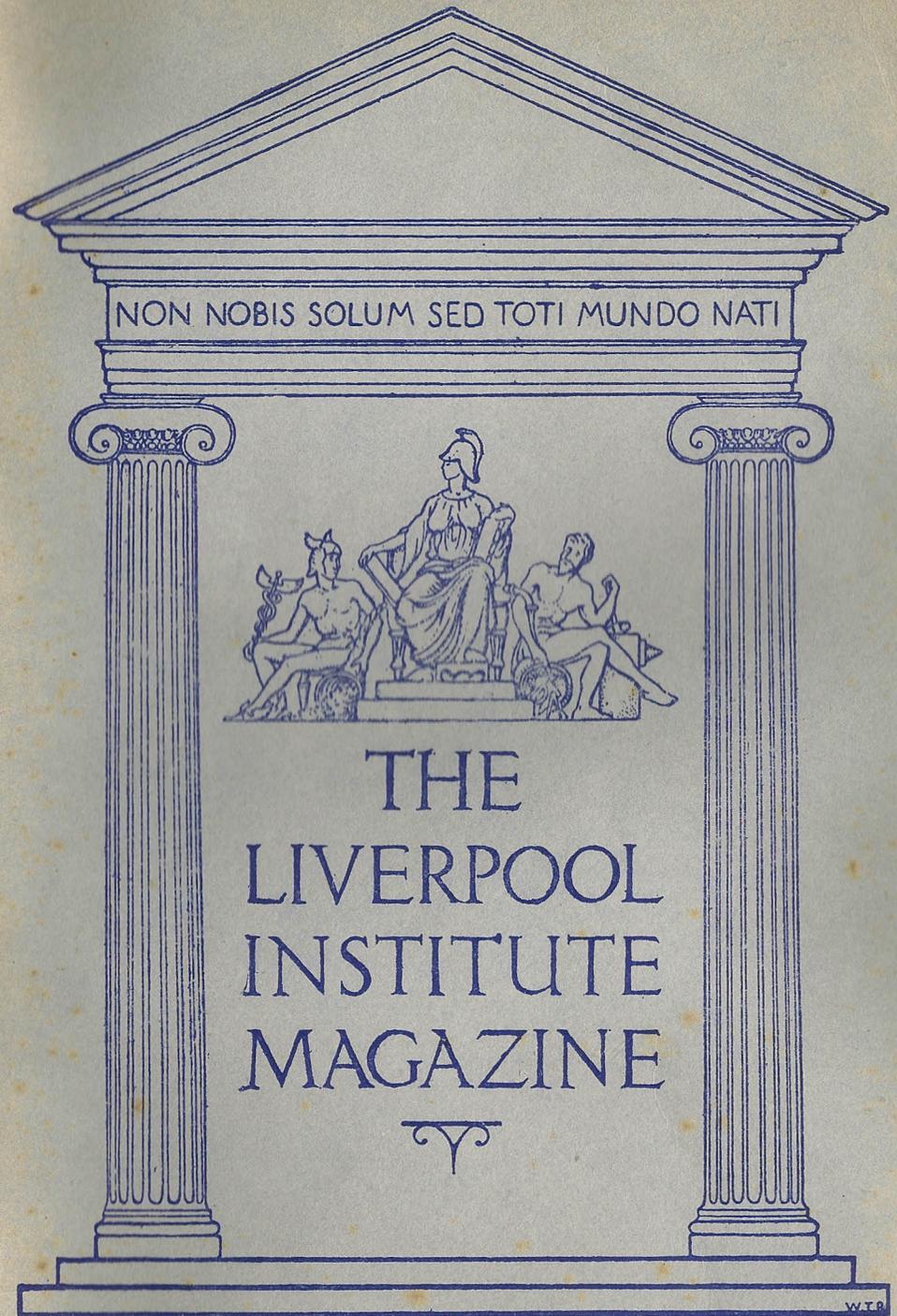


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Number 2

JULY, 1955

Editor	-	-	P. L. TAYLOR
Sub-Editors	-	-	{ S. G. NORRIS
			{ V. N. COWAN

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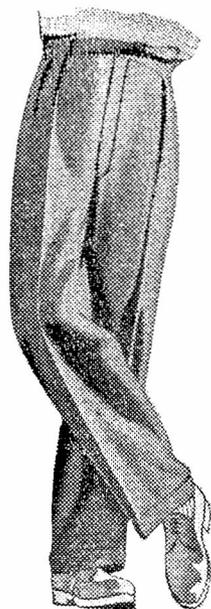
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EDITORIAL

Today we spend much time arguing about the nature of truth. Reuter and Tass disagree in principle, and it seems that truth is not absolute, but relative. The facts themselves appear to be less important than the interpretation put upon them, for in many parts of the world the study of objective truth is declining.

Politicians have been quick to realise that education is not necessarily an end in itself; it may also be a most versatile and effective means to a more subtle, and often more sinister, end. And so this School Magazine, which reaches Liobians and educational establishments in many parts of the world may be regarded with a certain amount of suspicion. Is it the harmless product of innocent schoolboys, or will Senator McCarthy see in it a manifestation of 'un-American activity'? Or, when a different interpretation is placed upon its contents, will it be filed as 'capitalist propaganda' in the vaults of the Kremlin Library?

The Editorial provides an opportunity to explain the content and purpose of this Magazine. First it aims to inform objectively. It is a precise record of the School's activities over the last six months, recording special events and regular meetings, the comings and goings of boys and Old Boys, the ebb and flow of school life. For the most part the record is dispassionate, but from time to time a second element mingles with its cool reality. The alert and critical reader may detect a little subtle propaganda interspersed between the lines. The reports on sporting and academic achievements show no false sense of modesty, for the School is justly proud of its fine record. Thus, a deliberate, if somewhat mild, form of propaganda has infiltrated into the records, pointing with sober but conscious pride to the outstanding qualities of the School.

Finally there is a third element in this Magazine—a strain of innocent entertainment. The verse, the letters, the holiday reports conceal no ulterior motive. They are designed purely for the reader's pleasure, and are quite free from any taint of propaganda.

Looking through these pages the reader is, of course, at liberty to pick and choose according to his whim and fancy, but it is the Editor's wish that he should be informed, indoctrinated and entertained by the Magazine as a whole.

CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR

We regret to announce the death of Mr. J. A. Owen at the advanced age of 102. Mr. Owen, who taught mathematics to many generations of Institute boys, was connected with the School for over half a century. He became a member of the Staff in 1871 and was Vice-Principal from 1903 until his retirement in 1917. An appreciation of Mr. Owen appeared in the Magazine on the occasion of his hundredth birthday (November, 1952).

We have to record also the death of Mr. R. G. Baxter, O.B.E., M.A., M.I.Mun.E., M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer for Southend-on-Sea. Mr. Baxter was a pupil at the School from 1911 to 1919, during which period he played a prominent part in School activities. He was a member of the O.T.C., Secretary of the Literary and Debating Society, Editor of the Magazine and eventually Head Boy of the School. In 1918 he won a Liverpool University Scholarship and in the following year a Minor Scholarship in Mathematics

and Science at Downing College, Cambridge, where, after a brilliant University career, he graduated with Honours in Mechanical Science. During the war he gave some very valuable service in Home Defence, for which he was awarded the O.B.E.

We congratulate the following on their academic achievements:

W. Ferdinand, an Open Scholarship in Chemistry at Jesus College, Oxford.

P. Dumbill, an Open Scholarship in Classics at University College, Oxford.

P. J. Armstrong, an Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Wadham College, Oxford.

These successes bring the number of awards at Oxford and Cambridge this year to eight, an achievement which has only once been surpassed in the history of the School.

Our congratulations are offered to J. R. Parry on winning First Prize in the Intermediate Group of the Hispanic Council Prize Examination for Schools, and to P. L. Taylor on being awarded a four weeks holiday in Europe, as the English prizewinner of an international essay competition, organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship for the European Coal and Steel Community.

Last term, RBC and RD (Art Section) paid visits to the Walker Art Gallery in order to view a special exhibition of "Pictures for Schools". There was also time to spare for a rapid introduction to some of the more notable recent acquisitions to the Permanent Collection: in particular two portraits by Rembrandt and Van Dyck and a "Madonna", by Murillo.

Both Football XI's reached the Finals of their respective Shield competitions. The Juniors lost to the Collegiate School, but the Seniors defeated Prescott Grammar School.

A report of the School Hobby Show, which was held on March 24th, 25th and 26th, is included elsewhere in this issue.

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

Mr. L. N. Williams and Mr. R. A. Clark left us at the end of last term. In their place we welcome Mr. G. H. Hadaway and Mr. J. H. H. Davies, B.Mus. (London).

We extend our best wishes to three Prefects who left School recently, A. E. Hemesley, who is now serving in the King's Regiment, H. E. Matthews, who is doing his National Service in the Royal Army Service Corps, and D. L. Bywater, who has just entered the R.A.F. College at Cranwell.

The School Sports were held at Mersey Road on Saturday, 4th June. Despite a sharp thunderstorm in the middle of the afternoon, the programme was satisfactorily completed.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES

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

The Alsopian, The Crosbeian, Esmeduna, Essemmay, Holly Lodge High School Magazine, The Holt School Magazine, The Quarry, The Squirrel, The Visor, The Warrior, Los Angeles, California.

EXHIBITION OF WORK AND HOBBIES

On Friday and Saturday, 25th and 26th March, the Hobby Show was held in the School and attracted a large number of parents and friends.

For weeks beforehand, ordinarily slothful members of the School had been engaged in feverish activity, making models, drawing maps, taking photographs, arranging stamps and coins; society secretaries had been

holding meetings, writing letters, drawing plans; House Captains had been urging members of their Houses to "submit as many contributions as possible for the Hobby Show".

Finally, on Thursday, 24th March, everything was (at least to an outside observer) reduced to order. That evening, Old Boys were given a special preview of the exhibition and of two plays, "Birds of a Feather", presented by Philip Holt House, and "Two Gentlemen of Soho", presented by Lawrence Holt House. Further entertainment was provided by the Senior and Junior choirs, and by J. R. Parry on the piano and M. E. Plunkett on the organ.

On the two succeeding evenings, visitors were mystified by intriguing scientific demonstrations, which could have been the inspiration for many a science-fiction story, performed by god-like, white-coated beings before audiences transfixed with wonder; visitors' knowledge was tested in various competitions, and their aesthetic sense delighted by the boys' skill in handicrafts, modelmaking, photography and art, and by the excellent arrangements of stamps and coins. School Societies, the School Scout Troop, and the C.C.F. also had their own exhibits, some of which would have done credit to professionals, while in the gymnasium there were displays of physical training and basketball games, full of interest and excitement.

All this for sixpence, and, for a shilling more, a seat in the Hall to watch the plays. The House One-Act Play Competition was won by Tate House with their presentation of "The Man who wouldn't go to Heaven", by F. Sladen-Smith, and second place went to Owen House for their production of "Shivering Shocks", by Clemence Dane. The House Championship for the whole Hobby Show was won by Lawrence Holt House. All the actors and producers of plays are to be congratulated on a very high standard, as also are Mr. Webster with his team of stage-hands, and Mr. Brierley with his skilful group of lighting engineers. Congratulations are also due to all those who were concerned with organising and supervising the various exhibitions and, above all, to Mr. Preece who, with seemingly inexhaustible vitality, organised the whole Exhibition.

Finally, on Saturday evening, the visitors left, the building darkened, and another Hobby Show was over.

H. E. MATTHEWS.

HOUSE NOTES

ALFRED HOLT

It is a pity that the keen interest displayed at the beginning of the year has not brought more success in competition. Our only substantial gain, at the time of writing, has been in the Fives Competition, which the Juniors won without great difficulty. A greater response and more concrete support, particularly from the Middle School, would undoubtedly lead to much greater success in other fields. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that the only road to success is in the combined efforts of all members of the House. To leave the task to someone else is to leave the task undone.

We must express our thanks to Mr. Durband and Mr. Watson, both of whom have been tireless in their efforts on behalf of the House.

P. DUMBILL.

COCHRAN

The House has attained a fair standard this term in the various competitions for which it has entered. The junior basketball team won its section, the chess team were losing finalists, and the senior football team reached the semi-final.

Unfortunately the House gained no benefits from the large number of volunteers for the inter-House cross-country races, as these were cancelled. The same response has been made for Sports Day, and the House is certain to field a strong team on June 4th.

A newly introduced system of House cricket representatives in every form should produce three sound teams for the cricket competition at the end of term.

We are again indebted to Mr. Brierley for his assistance in House affairs, and congratulate him on the success of the House play, which he produced for the Hobby Show.

V. N. COWAN.

DANSON

Though great success has not attended our efforts in all the House competitions, Danson House has no cause to be ashamed of results. Our football teams were unfortunate to lose, especially the Middle team, which reached the final; the basketball team also reached the final of their competition, only to be beaten by Tate. Our overall Hobby Show result was not spectacular, but the actors in "Thread o' Scarlet" must be congratulated on a sound performance. We must also thank members who made an effort to exhibit something, or helped to contribute to the success of the Exhibition. The Sports, however, should give us a chance to demonstrate our athletic abilities, while there is always the Work Competition, in which we have so far done satisfactorily, to exercise our talent in the academic field.

We must thank our House masters, especially Mr. Booth who worked hard to make the Hobby Show play a success.

R. A. HAYES.

HUGHES

In general the House may be complimented on its work throughout the year. A notable and sustained effort has produced our consistently high results in the Work Competition. We congratulate the Senior Choir, which succeeded in tying for second place in the Hobby Show competition. Further success has eluded the House, but the football teams played well, the senior team narrowly losing in the final.

We have had several failures, however, the most notable being in the Hobby Show. The number of entries was not satisfactory, despite the efforts of the younger boys. The seniors are relying too much on the efforts of a few keen ones, but we hope that this weakness will be remedied in the coming Athletic Sports.

Finally our gratitude is due to our Housemasters, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Edge, who have willingly given help and advice in all House activities.

G. MCCULLOCH.

LAWRENCE HOLT

For members of Lawrence Holt House the outstanding event of the School Year was the Hobby Show; in the Inter-House Competition we were placed first by a considerable margin. This success was the result of the efforts and enthusiasm of all the members of the House, but we must especially congratulate the Junior Choir, which was placed first in the Choir Competition.

In other activities the House has met with less success, though the Juniors won a convincing victory last December in the Inter-House. Under 15, Cross-Country Race. The approaching Athletic Sports, however, will provide a further opportunity for the House to distinguish itself.

During the course of the year Lawrence lost the relatively high placing it originally held in the Work Competition, but with the co-operation of every member of the House, we could easily return to that, or to a higher position.

The record of Lawrence during its first year of existence has been by no means poor, and for this we are largely indebted to the guidance and leadership of Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Parker.

S. G. NORRIS.

OWEN

The House has achieved an encouraging measure of success during the past term. Our Middle team won a resounding victory in the Football Competition, while keen groups of Seniors won the Choir Competition and came second with their play at the Hobby Show. Our fourth place in the Hobby Show as a whole was satisfactory, but it revealed a weakness that must be remedied. The House is not always giving adequate support to the nucleus of enthusiastic workers it is so fortunate to possess. Once this defect is overcome I am confident that the House will go from strength to strength.

Finally we must thank Mr. Morgan and Mr. Dewhurst for their willing help and encouragement in all House activities.

P. L. TAYLOR.

PHILIP HOLT

Since the publication of the last Magazine, the new House system has got under way, and the House has proved quite successful under the new order. The Junior Fives team did well to reach the final of the Fives competition and were unlucky to lose to Alfred. In the Football Competition, all three teams, Senior, Under 15 and Under 13, won their first-round matches to reach the semi-final, and the Under 13 team went on to win the final. The best performance, however, was undoubtedly that of the Senior Team, who, with only one 1st XI player, managed to reach the final.

In the Hobby Show the House surpassed all expectations in finishing second, and, since the play was not placed, this laudable position can only be explained by the enthusiasm of the House as a whole. In the Chess Competition, too, we emerged victorious, and we may claim to have acquitted ourselves well in all spheres of activity, whether ultimately successful or not. Finally our grateful thanks are due to Mr. Bentliff, the Housemaster, and to Mr. Warwick, for their assistance, especially in the production of the House Play.

K. THOMSON.

TATE

During the past two terms Tate House has met with considerable success. The Senior Football team won the Horsfall Cup, and the Senior Basketball team was also victorious.

The Hobby Show provided the House with a great chance to prove itself, but the magnificent success of the House play was not sufficiently supported in the other sections, and eventually we were placed third.

We now have a comfortable lead in the Work Competition and it only needs a sustained effort this term for us to win the competition.

The House has attained all its successes by a combination of teamwork and individualism, and we hope that this combination will be continued in all forthcoming competitions.

Finally, our thanks are due to Mr. Day, our Housemaster, for his keen interest and active participation in all House affairs, and to Mr. Lloyd for his generous support.

D. S. WHITING.

ZITO HELLAS!

An April dawn saw six weary travellers wakening from a restless sleep in an overheated and under-upholstered 3rd class coach of the Salonika-Athens express, as it laboured slowly southward across the plain of Thessaly. We had left London over 100 hours before, and after three days and three nights of travel, relieved by a twenty-four hour break of journey at Salzburg and another at Belgrade, we were at last nearing our destination.

As the plain gave way to the mountains that circle the gulf of Lamia—site of the battle of Thermopylae—the pace became even slower, and we had plenty of time to enjoy the wild beauty of the scenery. The mountains were generally bare, except for scattered scrub, with here and there a few slender cypresses on the lower slopes. Wherever cultivated land appeared in the valleys, the soil was red and stony, supporting crops of sprouting vines or groves of orange or olive trees. Sometimes a donkey would lift its head and stare passively at the train, or a family would look up from their work in the fields to give us a friendly wave. The country folk seemed mostly to be poorly dressed and barefooted, except for the men, who wore boots. The women usually had the lower part of their faces covered. This, and an occasional glimpse of a minaret or a Byzantine church, gave an Eastern flavour to the Greek landscape.

From the station at Athens a taxi bore us through the narrow streets and milling crowds (for in Athens the pedestrians seem to have it all their own way) to the —Ξενοδοχείον Εμπορικόν—Commercial Hotel—cheap and modest, but clean and adequate.

Facing us was a small market square, and, to the right of the square, a church through whose open doors at service times came the voices of the priest and his congregation, amplified by loudspeaker, to mingle with the cries of the shoeshine boys, the taxi drivers, and the street vendors noisily hawking goods that ranged from peanuts and oranges to sponges and toy pistols. This combination of religious devotion with the exuberance of the fairground or market place—an uninhibited mixture of the sacred and profane—seemed to be characteristic of Athens, particularly at Easter, kept a week later by the Orthodox Church than by us in the West.

During the week preceding Good Friday, and up to the evening of Good Friday itself, the shopping streets became more and more congested and noisy. On Good Friday evening these same people, still talking and laughing and firing *feux de joie* from their toy pistols, line the approaches to Constitution Square, to fall suddenly quiet as the torchlight processions of priests, soldiers, sailors and airmen pass on their way to the city's churches. Shortly before midnight on Easter Saturday, King Paul of the Hellenes drives to church in Metropolis Square, escorted by a squadron of cavalry; and the crowds, hushed once again to reverent silence, wait for the chimes of midnight to herald in another Easter day. Then, with lighted candles they walk quietly home to bed.

In contrast to the crowded and sometimes ill-paved side streets are Athens' main squares, gardens and *leofori* (or boulevards). One may lounge in the sun outside a café in Constitution Square, resisting or yielding to the salesmanship of the sponge-sellers and the importunities of the shoeshine boys. The latter are ubiquitous and do a good business on account of the fine white dust which covers the streets. Or one may sit in the National Park under a palm or an orange tree, its boughs heavy with ripe fruit, while round the corner is the Royal Palace, its entrance guarded by the *Evzones*—giants of men, whose frilly skirts and white tights are almost as world famous as the bearskins and the scarlet of the sentries at St. James' Palace.

However, the primary purpose of our two thousand mile journey across Europe was not "to sample the delights of Balkan capitals" (as the leader phrased it), but to see something of the remains of Ancient Greece. Of these the Acropolis of Athens must take first place. Like the Castle Rock at Edinburgh, it rises abruptly from amidst the surrounding city, and it gives wide views over the rooftops of modern Athens and across the plain of Attica to the encircling mountains, or to the busy port of Piræus with Salamis and the island-studded *Aegæan* beyond.

The Parthenon, the most famous of the Acropolis temples, has been sadly damaged by time and Turkish gunpowder. Ruin of a building though it may be, it still stands to its full height on most of its four sides. Enough is still left for us to appreciate the restrained splendour and perfectly balanced proportions of this noble relic of Imperial Athens. On a smaller scale, but perhaps better preserved, are the *Erechtheum* (or temple of Poseidon) with its Porch of the Caryatids, whose supporting columns are

carved in the form of maidens, and the temple of Athene Nike—a miniature gem in the Ionic style flanking the entrance to the Acropolis.

Apart from the perfection of their design, the charm of these buildings lies in the beauty of the material in which they are worked, the marble of Mount Pentelikon. This stone, still clean and fresh after 2,500 years in the smogless air of Attica, reflects high noon in a dazzling glory of creamy white which mellows to an orange glow as the sun goes down, and takes on a pale and ghostly luminosity when the moon is full.

Despite the splendours of the Acropolis, Athens has not the monopoly of Greek antiquities; and in a four-day tour by road, we were able to visit ancient Corinth, Mycenæ, Epidaurus, Olympia and Delphi. The journey, made in a big American car owned and driven by Mr. Antoniadis, who spoke only Greek, was a series of dramatic contrasts in weather and scenery. Hot sun alternated with mist and chilling torrential rain, the scrub and rock of Mycenæ's lonely wind-swept hillside with the gentle and almost English greenness of Olympia's meadows. But there was nothing gentle about the road to Olympia as it wound over the 3,000 feet passes of the central Peloponnese. It was here that our petrol tank was pierced by a stone. However, a stuffing of Turkish Delight and soap, faced with Elastoplast (an improvisation worthy of the ever-resourceful Greek) kept us going until we reached Olympia and a garage.

Except for a few pillars of the temple of Hera, scarcely anything still stands of the buildings, sacred and administrative, that once adorned Olympia and made it a fitting centre for one of the most important religious festivals of Ancient Greece. But one can still admire the gigantic drums of the pillars—now overthrown—of the temple of Zeus, or look at the grooved starting blocks at the end of the stadium (a small length of which has been excavated). The building material used at Olympia—a tight-packed, rough-surfaced conglomerate of tiny fossilised shells—unlike the vivid marble of the Acropolis, is grey in colour, toning softly with green meadows and tall trees. Even the crowds of camera-laden tourists stumbling over the fallen stones could not rob this spot of its atmosphere of ancient peace.

The next day's drive took us along the flat coast of the North West Peloponnese, with distant views inland of snow-capped mountains framed in storm clouds, to the dull and ugly port of Patras for lunch, and on to Rhion on the Southern shore of the Corinthian Gulf. After a long wait on the exposed and windy beach, it was our turn to be accepted on the car ferry that plies across the gulf to Antirrhion. From Antirrhion it was only a few miles to Naupactus, and then we turned North East and inland for the long haul over the mountains to Delphi, reached at dusk under a sky heavy with storm clouds.

What a change of scene from the morning! Olympia lies low in a broad and placid river valley. Delphi is perched on the steep flanks of Mt. Parnassus, its one street running along a terrace on the mountain side. Southwards one looks down on to the valley at the head of the gulf of Itea, a valley whose floor is so flat that the olive groves with which it is thickly planted look from above like a green lake, Northwards are the bare limestone crags of Parnassus.

Its wild mountain setting makes Delphi perhaps the most impressive of the ancient sites on the Greek mainland, with the possible exception of the Acropolis at Athens. From the road just east of the modern village, near the point where Castalia (the spring of the Muses) is piped into a roadside drinking trough, one may climb up the paved and winding Sacred Way to the level terrace on which stood the Temple of Apollo. Little is left but the stone floor and a few columns, and one can only guess where exactly the priestess sat to pronounce the oracles of the god. Another short climb leads to the theatre, small, but well preserved; and higher still, on a third terrace is the stadium flanked by tiers of stone seats.

Unfortunately the weather prevented us from leisurely enjoyment of this magnificent spot. After one night's stay, and a quick inspection of the site in heavy chilling rain, we allowed Mr. Antoniadis to take us on the last lap of our tour—back to Athens. We had not yet finished with mountains,

but the road surface was excellent and Mr. Antoniadis' spirits rose as he gleefully exclaimed, not once but many times, "Καλή ὁδός!"—"beautiful road!"

The last three days of our stay in Greece were spent in Athens. During that time we saw the Easter celebrations, some of us revisited the Acropolis, some of us walked up Mt. Hymettus nearly to the top, one of us had the patience to walk right to the top, some of us visited the island of Aegina, and we all enjoyed the return of sunny weather. We left for home on the evening of Easter Monday (Greek style) more than a fortnight after our departure from England. The rigours of a night journey spent mostly in the corridor of a crowded Yugoslav train—the difficulties of using a classical education to decipher a menu in modern Greek—difficulties which were sometimes solved by sign language, and sometimes by a visit to the restaurant kitchen to inspect the pots—the danger of being blown up if one turned off the geyser tap in the hotel bathroom—these and other inconveniences only served as a foil for what had been a memorable journey. The receding view of the Acropolis, seen from a window of the Orient Express, with the Parthenon floodlit in the setting sun, had been worth travelling over 2,000 miles to see.

ΟΔΙΤΗΣ ΑΝΩΝΥΜΟΣ.

LIQBIAN SECTION

Now that the Association has proved that it is here to stay—we celebrate our 50th Anniversary this year—the Editor has again put at our disposal some of his very limited space, so that once more the School Magazine includes not only news of current activities, but reports by and about Old Boys, too.

Letters continue to reach the School from all parts of the globe. D. E. Hobbs (1920-25), writing from Washington, U.S.A., says he remembers the Centenary celebrations, and adds that he managed to get on the group photograph which was specially taken for the occasion. "I assume the School is not still in Mount Street", he concludes; *sancta simplicitas!* E. V. Barker, who left in 1922, tells us he cherishes a wish to attend an Annual Dinner, but as he is now resident in Calcutta, he fears he will be a very Old Boy before this will be possible. J. H. Eedle, in Kano, Nigeria, corresponds frequently, revealing, amongst other things, that he has found time to write a book during his recent tour of duty. Some day he may meet J. W. Saunders, who was Head Boy in 1938; he is expecting to visit Nigeria shortly in connection with Extra-Mural studies there. Mr. Saunders' list of publications is formidable, which is what we might expect from the Senior Extension Lecturer at Leeds University.

Such Old Boys as these could hardly have accepted the invitation, extended to all Life Members, to be present at an Evening Party at the School on March 24th, 1955. Yet many of the 350 guests who were present on this memorable occasion had travelled far, quite undeterred by distance. The Headmaster and Mrs. Edwards received the guests in the Gymnasium, where there was no shortage of sherry, good company, or conversation. When the School was thrown open for inspection later, visitors were able to see a preview of the 1955 Hobby Show, and, later still, performances of two House plays in the hall. Conversation flourished everywhere; in the corridors, in classrooms, over refreshments in the Dining Hall—in fact, in every nook and cranny in the building. J. L. Hutchison (1909-1914) who travelled from London for the occasion, recorded his feelings thus, in a report full of charming reminiscence which would be printed here in full were space not limited:

"'God gave us memories that we might have roses in December,' " he writes. "As I passed through the corridors and rooms which I frequented so often, I saw them peopled with those who were boys when I was a boy—the tragedy is that so many of them have their names inscribed on the

brass tablets in the Entrance Hall. Amongst them all I saw moving the spectre forms of the Staff in those days: Bickerstaff, 'Banty' Bain, 'Piggy' Elliot, 'Joe' Ryan, 'Pop' Wheeler, T. Whiting, 'Pat' Rice, 'Dan' Eaves, 'Rusty' Smith, Tomas, Hicks, Schooling, Tiffen, Hickenbotham, and last but by no means least, the cheery face and tubby form of Johnny Owen. Johnny was then still with us, but now since the 24th March, at the great age of 102, he is gathered with his colleagues in the Elysian Fields—a goodly company".

Also present at this most happy reunion was Mr. H. Zalin, now a distinguished specialist, but at one time the author of "a scurrilous letter in the School Magazine denouncing the then Headmaster's policy of compulsory games". We asked him to reminisce; he replied by contributing this amusing article which he entitled:

THE ALCHEMIST

Many will remember S. V. Brown with affection. Aquilinely perched in that eyrie which is the Chemistry Laboratory he dispensed with benign impartiality such things as humour, philosophy and sound advice in equal proportions and at frequent intervals. Uninterested in discipline and personal dignity, he compelled respect and attention by his frank declamations of unorthodox views on various matters of current interest and controversy.

I can see him now, tall, thin, dark, bespectacled, walking up and down in front of a class with his work bench behind him and wearing an old tweed jacket in the capacious pockets of which reposed a myriad of objects—pipes, tobacco, string, test-tubes. Those pockets—and hence this tale!

I had been at School six years and was in a science class about to matriculate. My scholastic achievements were unremarkable, but I had attained a certain notoriety as a mild flouter of law and order. Witticisms, carefully calculated impudence and practical jokes were my stock in trade. Much time and thought were given to these, but I felt myself amply recompensed by the laughter which acclaimed my more successful sallies.

It was a summer afternoon with a Chemistry lesson in progress. S. V. was pacing up and down and I sat on a chair at the fringe of his perambulations. We were overcrowded and I had been ordered to sit outside the enclosed benches. At intervals a large tweed pocket brushed against me as its owner turned. Suddenly a heavy paper weight was thrust at me by a confederate and the next time the pocket was in range I tipped the weight into it. Alas! the sudden jerk revealed all.

I found myself snatched aloft and dragged across to the sink where my head was held confined under the tap. To turn the latter and complete the punishment required a third hand, as I was an unwilling and vigorously struggling victim. However, the rôle of assistant executioner was avidly assumed by my erstwhile associate.

As, amid delighted howls, the water splashed about my ears, there passed in retrospect my whole school life before me. The laughter I had conjured up in the past was more at than with me. Here was a crisis in my affairs. Resolved to mend my errant ways, henceforth I played the jester's part no more.

H. ZALIN.

LIQBIANS A.F.C.

The dominant impression of the 1954-55 season is of the appalling weather conditions which prevailed; the number of games which were postponed, both home and away, was reflected in the congestion of fixtures in the last fortnight of the season.

All our teams had a successful season, and it is interesting to note that the average age of the 1st XI was lower than in any other season since the War. The 1st and 2nd XIs were potential league winners until quite literally the last two or three games of the season, and the 3rd XI reached the Final of the Old Boys' League Junior Trophy in which they were defeated by Old Bootleians, who, in addition, won the championships of the 1st, 2nd

and 3rd Divisions of the Old Boys' League—a most meritorious achievement. In their leagues, our teams ended the season 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 4th respectively from the top of the table.

The Easter Tour, which had been arranged to cover the Kendal area, was cancelled because our opponents felt that they must take full advantage of the Easter weekend to play off outstanding league fixtures, which had been postponed earlier in the season.

It was pleasant to hear of the successful season enjoyed by the School teams. Their records over recent years suggest that if Liobians A.F.C. was given the full support of all Old Boys, it could expect to occupy a higher place in amateur soccer in a very few years. It might be well to emphasise at this point that the Club's membership is confined to Old Boys of the School, and is not universal as is the case with most amateur clubs. In this way a certain *esprit de corps* is fostered, which is more evident in Old Boys' clubs than in any other type and which contributes to a more complete enjoyment of the game. Under these circumstances we feel that we are justified in expecting the wholehearted support of every Old Boy who is interested in soccer, and that it is the responsibility of such Old Boys to ensure that the Club goes from strength to strength.

Looking ahead to the coming season, temporary losses to the Services will be replaced by the return of players who have completed their National Service, and it is to be expected that the social life of the Club will continue as formerly, according to the demand for various functions. We hope to continue to operate from Mersey Road by the good graces of the Headmaster, who has always been most helpful and co-operative in any situation involving the welfare of the Club, and to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for the facilities he has granted us over so many seasons. We also pay tribute to those members of the staff who have given us their support in the past and, we trust, will continue to do so in the future.

W. FAIRCLOUGH (*Hon. Secretary*).

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

As usual, the weather showed consistent form again this season and it proved to be the main opponent of the School teams. The season, however, was a successful one, and both the School Shield teams reached their respective finals.

Several indifferent games marked the commencement of the season for the 1st XI, but an overwhelming defeat on a heavy pitch by Bolton School resulted in a rearrangement of the team, and in the consequent development of a remarkable team spirit and understanding. Tenacity, combined with an ability to give of its best at the right moments, enabled the team to gain the Senior Shield for the second time in three years, by defeating St. Francis Xaviers, Quarry Bank and Prescott Grammar School.

G. H. Fynn and J. C. Morris must be congratulated on representing a Liverpool Grammar Schools' XI against the Cologne Grammar Schools.

The success of the season was in a large part due to the confidence and advice of Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Dewhurst's encouragement was greatly appreciated by the team.

On the whole the season was an enjoyable one for the 2nd XI, as the number of victories was equalled by the number of lost games, with one game drawn. The 1st XI was indebted to the 2nd XI for the potential players it provided, and Mr. Edge is to be thanked for his loyalty to his team, despite numerous depletions from the ranks.

The 3rd XI was perhaps the most unfortunate victim of the bad weather this season, and its fixtures were constantly cancelled. Mr. Warwick's support and interest in the team were never failing.

The Under 15 XI cannot be criticised, as it combined football skill with clean sportsmanship, which brought honour to the School. The most prominent trait of the team was its whole-hearted manner of playing, which

was stimulated by the inspiring leadership of A. A. Quayle, and by keenness in training, which kept the whole side in fine fettle. The keenness of the team was rewarded by its appearance in the final of the Junior Shield Competition, and although defeated by the Collegiate School, its members showed themselves sportsmen, even in defeat.

The Under 14 XI had a lean season, both in games and successes, but Mr. Watson's enthusiasm will perhaps bear fruit next season.

The Under 13 XI obviously believed in the maxim that attack is the best means of winning a game, for it averaged four goals per match, and made up for its lack of finesse with the spirited desire to make sure the ball was put in the back of the net. Mr. Lloyd obviously filled his team with his own keen interest in the game.

Finally, all the teams are grateful to R. S. Whiting for his efficiency as a secretary.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	GOALS.	
					F.	A.
1st XI	15	9	3	3	40	33
2nd XI	13	6	1	6	40	31
3rd XI	5	1	1	3	13	27
U.15 XI	15	11	1	3	66	28
U.14 XI	6	2	—	4	15	39
U.13 XI	11	7	—	4	52	27

Full Colours were re-awarded to R. A. Hayes, and were awarded to R. S. Whiting, B. S. Roberts, R. J. Isbister, N. Owens, J. C. Morris, P. Hallam, G. H. Fynn, N. M. Birch, A. G. Lawrenson.

Half Colours were awarded to D. S. Whiting and J. Kellett.

R. A. HAYES.

SENIOR SHIELD FINAL.

INSTITUTE 3, PRESCOT G.S. 2.

The Shield Final, though lacking the atmosphere of Goodison Park, its intended venue, nevertheless lost nothing in excitement. The game was keenly contested throughout, play switched rapidly from end to end, but the Institute always seemed to have a little extra in reserve and merited their win. The turning point in the first half was a missed penalty by Prescott, which enabled the Institute to turn round with the advantage of a goal scored by Kellett. Immediately after the resumption, this lead was further increased by Fynn, soon destined, alas! to be wiped out by two shots which were despatched rather in hope than expectation, but which nevertheless found their way into the back of the Institute net.

A redoubling of activity on both sides ensued, but the greater determination of the Institute, rewarded by a further goal from Kellett, won the day.

It would be invidious to single out any individual player in a team which in this game, as in many others, relied for success rather upon enthusiastic teamwork than upon individual brilliance; but special mention must be made of R. A. Hayes whose determined play as captain was always an encouragement to his fellows.

JUNIOR SHIELD FINAL.

INSTITUTE 1, COLLEGIATE 6.

A fine day marked the climax of the season for the Junior Shield team. Undaunted by the goal-scoring reputation of their opponents from the Collegiate School, the team settled down quickly and tackled more keenly than the larger Collegiate players. Their play was rewarded in the twentieth minute, when Quayle scored the first goal with a high lob. The Collegiate team,

however, had learnt its lesson, and, exploiting the high lob, equalised several minutes later. Unfortunately Hale injured his knee, but he struggled on gamely until just before half time, when Collegiate scored their third goal.

After half time, Cotton went in goal, and acquitted himself with distinction. It was evident that ten men could not retrieve their command of the game, but they fought on courageously. Their sportsmanship throughout the game was exemplary.

R. A. HAYES.

HOCKEY

This season the School hockey XI's have not reached the standard set by the teams of a few years ago. The 1st XI failed to win any match, and the 2nd XI was successful only once.

We began the season handicapped by the lack of experienced players and by the fact that we were playing on a strange ground, kindly lent to us by Childwall Valley High School, since our own pitch at Mersey Road had been ploughed over preparatory to levelling. Very few boys offered to take up the game, and this added to our difficulties.

Although the 1st XI contained several very inexperienced players, it did well to draw with Liverpool University 2nd XI, and was unlucky not to beat a West Derby H.C. side. The team played well against H.M.S. Conway, only to lose by four goals to three, and might easily have beaten Dunlop H.C. twice.

Next season we shall be back at Mersey Road. Though we shall have lost most of our 1st XI, with the continued assistance of Messrs. Willott, Wray, Rogers and Parker, we hope, if some older and larger members of the School show interest in the game, to return to something like our old form.

We should like to express again our gratitude to Childwall Valley H.S. for their kindness and forbearance in allowing us the use of their ground.

D. A. THOMAS.

PARIS, 1955

On May 7th this year, the London express steamed out of Lime Street Station, bearing a party of boys from the Liverpool Institute. Over these venturers in their reserved compartments hung an atmosphere of expectancy, as they anticipated the city that lay twenty-four hours ahead. They had heard the warnings of their elders, and had bragged of their own extravagant plans, so much so that disillusionment seemed inevitable. How then would this party of potential gay dogs find 'la belle Paris'? Would she be the tall and majestic lady, the lady of the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, and Eiffel Tower, or the dark and sultry lady of French night life, or the gay and vivacious lady, who is the image of the French national character, with all its charm, brilliance and animation? The obvious and only answer is a combination of the three.

Every tourist must see Paris, the monumental. He must watch the names he has heard in history or geography lessons and the pictures he has seen in books adjust themselves to reality. It has been said that Paris consists of several noteworthy sights, linked by commonplace houses, streets and shops. However true or untrue this is, it is certainly the great sights that make Paris memorable. Perhaps the most impressive monument of all is the Arc de Triomphe, which is much more massive than one ever imagines. The tomb of the unknown soldier must surely draw the contemplative to reflection. The flame, and the war hero on guard seem to stand as a symbol of the constant and immortal part of French life and spirit.

No one can visit Paris without having seen something of French night life. An outstanding evening was spent by a few members of the party at the 'Opera Comique'. This was enjoyable mostly because of its novelty, for the seats were at the very top of the house on the fifth balcony, where

the temperature equalled that of a tropical hot-house. The evening was concluded with a meal at 'L'Alsace des Halles', where a huge omelette (about 3 feet long) was consumed. Home was reached at a late hour when the Halles market was waking up, and as a parting gesture, true to the spirit of chivalry, a member of the party was presented with a carrot by a group of Frenchmen standing amongst the vegetables. One of the most enjoyable days of the holiday was spent on a coach trip to Fontainebleau, stopping at Orly airport, and lunching in the Forest. The coach then proceeded to Fontainebleau itself, where some of the party were shown around the Palace by a very voluble French guide. A similar visit was made to Versailles, where, however, the Palace proved a disappointment, as only a few rooms were open. As a result of this, the Palace Gardens and the ice cream sold therein proved a greater attraction.

On returning from a visit to a foreign country one's memory is thronged with reminiscences: the amusing, the frightening, the trivial, and the momentous: recollections which present a panorama colourful only to oneself—the Promethean feats of one of the scientific members of the party, the circus-like antics of the French traffic, the strange variety of sweets at the dinner table, and the awesome spectacle of the Eiffel Tower stretching its steely sinews into the sky.

To some it would seem that the undoubtedly phenomenal success of the holiday was due to the benevolent smile of fortune: the more knowing, however, will attribute this success to the excellent organisation and discreet management by the leaders of the party, Mr. J. G. Rogers and Mr. W. F. Edge.

J. E. SHARP.

THE SCHOOL SPORTS

Weather conditions for School Athletics meetings since the war make interesting, if occasionally depressing, reading. We learn that "several boys slipped while attempting the high jump"; we read of "warm sunshine and cloudless skies", of a "saturated track", of "brilliant sunshine and gay floral dresses"; that "Mr. Booth produced an uneasy truce, until the last half hour", and we ourselves remember the "incessant rain" of 1954.

Heavy rain during the morning of June 4th, 1955, boded ill for the School Sports meeting, which was due to take place that afternoon, but, since cricket had been possible at Old Trafford before lunch, hope remained. And so it proved. Although there were ominous signs of a thunderstorm on the other side of the Mersey, events were run off without interruption until about 4 o'clock, when rain, hail and thunder drove spectators and competitors into the shelter of the pavilion.

Before the storm, the hard track had not been unduly affected, except, perhaps, for the High Jumps, and in view of this handicap, A. G. Gilbert did well to break the Junior record with a jump of 4ft. 5½ins. In the 880 Yards (Open), V. N. Cowan broke by one second the record set up by R. N. Dailey in 1948. Cowan's time was 2 mins. 5 secs. The third record of the afternoon was established by K. Thomson, in the Open Mile. He recorded a time of 4 mins. 40 secs., which beat that set up by F. A. Thornley in 1937. This was a magnificent performance, particularly since the event was run after the torrential downpour had flooded the track, and since Thomson so out-distanced the field, that he lacked the stimulus of close competition. D. J. Price, G. H. Fynn and D. G. McCulloch ran strongly for 2nd, 3rd and 4th places—a long way behind.

The placings in the Under 16 Mile were: 1. R. D. Townsend, 2. M. Sant, 3. M. S. Cumming.

Great dexterity was required in Putting the Shot (won by P. G. Knight), for footholds were by then precarious, and the wet "ball" demanded liberal use of "towels and sawdust".

The social scene was quite colourful, despite the menacing clouds. If mackintoshes did have too much of their own way, there were a pleasing variety of track-suits and a good sprinkling of attractive blazers and badges.

Mr. Durband managed to sell all his ice-cream before it was washed away, and, after the deluge, he remained at his post, like an itinerant apothecary, dispensing his coloured bottles. Who will easily forget his heroic struggle to the pavilion with his precious minerals? Or, Mr. Day's crack shots, their trajectories calculated to a nicety? Or, the cluster of time-keepers, led by Mr. Warwick, with appropriate head-gear, all hoping to record another 4-minute mile, and cameramen, Holiday and Cromer of RA, intent on securing photo-finishes? Or, the bevy of masters (did somebody whisper "beauties") who watched the mysterious preliminaries to the last event—the Javelin, which was won by D. H. Harmer? Mr. Booth, as usual, was ubiquitous, and Mr. Brierley, quiet and hidden, worked at his figures to the end. The weather could have been much kinder, but the courage and co-operation of competitors, officials and spectators helped to make the occasion an enjoyable one.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

SENIOR: P. Hallam. INTERMEDIATE: G. I. Davies. JUNIOR: J. F. Chapman.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

SENIOR: Tate. INTERMEDIATE: Lawrence Holt. JUNIOR: Philip Holt.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

Looking back over the last six months, the School teams may justifiably feel proud of their record. A weakened Senior team lost by a narrow margin in a triangular fixture with St. Mary's College and a Liverpool University team. The team won its remaining six inter-school fixtures, and finished third in the Sangster and Cumella Championships, and also in the Invitation Grammar Schools' Road Relay, sponsored annually by the School; in the Northern Schools' Race it was placed seventh out of 55 finishing teams.

The Under 16 team was by far the most successful in inter-school fixtures, being defeated only by the Southport Technical College team. Unfortunately it failed to produce its best form in the important championships, and finished third in the Memorial Race and fifth in the Booth Cup Race.

After two seasons virtually without success, the Under 14 team, though not without defeat, has run much better than before. Whereas in previous years, team selection has been without choice, this season there have been several candidates, most of them training in mid-week, to ensure a place in the team; the result has been a considerable improvement, especially marked towards the end of the season.

The presence of the Headmaster at the School Road Relay was most welcome; not only did it add to the importance of the occasion, but it was also an added incentive to the School team. The School finished third behind St. Edward's College, who had led from start to finish, and St. Mary's College, for whom K. Gilligan returned the record-breaking time of 9 minutes 43 seconds; the outstanding performance for our School was the 9 minutes 58 seconds returned by V. N. Cowan, for the two mile course. Although the School "B" team finished last, the race provided valuable experience for the younger and newer members.

The interest during the race, which lasts over an hour, was maintained by remarkably accurate semaphore signalling by the School Scout Troop, who signalled the half-way positions to the spectators in Mersey Road. We greatly appreciate the large part they played in making this race a success. In the following week, at Manchester, six runners from the School ran in the Northern Schools' Cross-Country Championship, among about 330 others. In a short time the team had literally fallen into trouble. Thirty yards from the start K. Thomson tripped and fell, and D. G. McCulloch fell over him. V. N. Cowan escaped the trouble and finished fourth, thus

establishing himself as a firm favourite for next year. Price also ran exceptionally well and finished 46th. Thomson ran a fighting race, trying to recover the ground he had lost and finished 31st. McCulloch, with the same difficulty to overcome, succeeded in finishing 115th, the fourth man for the School.

Our last run was a "friendly" with the Liobians. The late nights caused by the Hobby Show had obvious effects, and the Old Boys won.

A month earlier, a Hare and Hounds race was run in the snow. D. G. McCulloch and M. Sant, acting as Hares, managed to lose the Hounds completely somewhere in the Aigburth district. Two handicap races were also held.

Finally we must thank G. McCulloch, who has been an efficient secretary and Mr. Kowell, who has devoted to us so much of his time, and worked with such contagious enthusiasm.

Awards were as follows:—

Full Colours re-awarded to K. Thomson and V. N. Cowan, and awarded for the first time to J. Price and D. G. McCulloch. Half Colours were awarded for the first time to Booth, Sambrook, Sant and Townsend.

D. G. McCULLOCH.

C.C.F. (Army and Basic Sections)

A successful short camp was held at 80 W.E.T.C., Altcar, during the Easter holidays. We were fortunate in having two excellent Sergeant-Instructors from the 1st Battalion King's Regiment to help with the training. The aim of the camp was to work through the syllabus for Certificate "A", Parts 1 and 2, practically as well as theoretically. After three days of intensive training, an examination for both parts of Certificate "A" was held. The Part 1 results were commendable, 21 candidates out of 31 being successful. The Part 2 examination was much more difficult than all others which had taken place; a very high standard was expected and three out of nine candidates were successful.

On the recreational side, shooting took place every evening, and we held an inter-unit match with a team of cadets from the Isle of Man. Our team did exceptionally well, winning by 661 points to 333.

The higher standard now expected in Certificate "A" emphasises more than ever the necessity for cadets to attend all the lectures arranged. One cannot possibly obtain the full benefit of all the advantages the Corps has to offer, unless one passes the Certificate "A".

The provision of a miniature range in the school-yard has already raised considerably the standard of shooting. At the time of writing, only 40 cadets have not qualified for their Second Class badge. It must be impressed upon all cadets that it is necessary for them to attend shooting practice in the range on the day and time for which they are detailed. If this is done, every cadet in the contingent would snoot the "Empire Test" an average of four times each term.

Training of the team to shoot at Bisley in the "Ashburton Shield" is proceeding, and competition for a place in the "Eight" is keen. Our thanks are offered to Captain Burns of the 5th King's, Townsend Avenue, for his great help.

The annual camp this year is to be held at Kimmel Park, Rhyl, from July 26th to August 3rd. While attendance at the camp is voluntary, it is most desirable that as many cadets as possible attend. There, the theoretical work learned during the preceding year can be put into practice.

Our thanks are due to Major Bowen, the Officer-Commanding, and to his officers for their help and advice throughout the year.

G. G. FLACK, R.S.M.

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

EASTER CAMP, 1955.

The R.A.F. section has for the past two years visited R.A.F. stations in remote places. This year the location for the annual camp was Swinderby in Lincolnshire.

At 1230 hours on April 13th, a party of 21 cadets, accompanied by Flt./Lt. Watson, F/O Preece, U/O Ferdinand and three N.C.O.s. met in Central Station and boarded the Harwich boat-train. At Lincoln the party was met by R.A.F. transport and conveyed to R.A.F. Swinderby, a training station situated some eight miles south-west of Lincoln.

The cadets immediately made themselves at home in a block of billets which they were to share with Dulwich College C.C.F., and next morning, Thursday, camp routine commenced. After an inspection of billets, cadets were informed about their training programme, which included visits to all the essential sections of the station, such as Dinghy and Safety Equipment sections, Air Traffic Control and Meteorological Office. In addition, link training, and both miniature and .303 shooting facilities were provided. Flying, perhaps the most important part of any camp activity, was liberally provided, most cadets flying up to four hours in Vickers Varsity navigational training aircraft. Some of the flying was at night, a new experience for many cadets. Sgts. Pierce and Wilson were fortunate enough to be given half-hour flights in Chipmunk aircraft—flights which proved to consist mainly of spectacular, thrilling, but rather unsettling aerobic manoeuvres.

On Saturday, Flt./Sgt. Bywater, who had received news that he had been accepted at the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, left the camp for a medical examination at R.A.F. Hornchurch and, in order to supplement the depleted N.C.O.s, L./Cdt. Taggart and S./Cdt. Feather were promoted to the rank of Cpl. In the afternoon many cadets were taken by R.A.F. transport to Lincoln, where they spent several hours exploring the picturesque city. Among the places visited was the Cathedral, impressive both because of its dominating position and for the beauty of its architecture. A number of cadets, after an exhausting ascent of the three hundred and forty steps of a spiral staircase, were rewarded by a magnificent view from the roof of the tower.

On Monday morning training was resumed, and in the afternoon part of the contingent was taken to R.A.F. Cranwell, where they were shown the College and given full use of the swimming baths. Of those who remained in camp, some went flying, while others were given a flying display by a Canberra bomber from R.A.F. Scampton; later they were able to inspect it on the ground.

On Tuesday afternoon the contingent paraded and was inspected by the Station Commander, who congratulated the cadets on their smart appearance. The inspection over, a shooting competition and a football match were organised with Dulwich College C.C.F. The contingent won the shooting by a handsome margin, but were unable to beat the Dulwich football team.

The return journey was made on the Wednesday, and, after being conveyed into Lincoln by R.A.F. transport, the contingent boarded the train for Liverpool.

E. J. N. WILSON, Sgt.

SCOUT NOTES

By way of a footnote to the Scout Notes in the last Magazine, mention may well be made of the success of our annual Christmas visit to the Remand Home, and also of the various enjoyable hikes undertaken by certain hardy troop members during the holidays.

Without doubt the most successful of our combined enterprises this term has been the contribution made to the Hobby Show, both inside Room 21 and elsewhere. Various compliments were paid, not only to the work put into the exhibition in the Scout Room, but also to those Scouts who

helped to run the two cloakrooms so efficiently. Thanks are due to all those who helped to ensure such a high degree of general satisfaction.

In the Easter holidays there were two Youth Hostel hikes in the Lake District. The Senior party had a grand time, and enjoyed almost perfect weather; they climbed many peaks and a party stayed behind later to camp on some of the mountains themselves. The Junior hike, also favoured by the weather, cannot be called anything but a success—even though paddling in hillside becks provided a greater attraction than hiking.

Now our thoughts turn naturally to the camping season and preparations for Summer Camp, which will take place in Anglesey, and will, all being well, be graced by the presence of Messrs. Gee and Darling, who have kindly offered their services. A reasonably full attendance may be expected at camp, if one may judge by the keenness shown hitherto in Troop activities by the greater part of our number.

These evidences of sustained and ever-increasing interest in the 19th City of Liverpool Scout Troop are due, in no small measure, to the unflagging efforts of Messrs. Mann and Evans on our behalf, and to Mr. Smith, our most patient and persuasive treasurer. Here let us offer them our thanks—brief, but none the less sincere—for all they have done and are doing to further the interests of the Troop.

R. J. WALKER.

MIDDAY INTERLUDE

A lethargic spiral of smoke rose unwillingly from a tired wood fire, which polluted the immediate locality with its acrid fumes. Around its embers, like so much flotsam cast on a barren shore, were strewn the recumbent bodies of small boys in Scout attire. The haggard expressions of the forlorn Scoutmasters spoke volumes of their recent experiences in Lakeland. And then the intruder!

Attracted, perhaps by fellow-feeling, perhaps by the prospect of lunch—con came limping an emaciated and maimed hound. The appearance of this pathetic creature spurred the group into hitherto unsuspected activity. Tempting victuals were proffered, to be consumed with alarming, distressing haste. Only the vigilance of the harassed Scoutmasters prevented the sacrifice of the day's entire fare to the canine maw. The gaping wound was sponged, anointed and dressed by the solicitous youths, heedless of the remonstrances of the Scoutmasters, in the vessel normally devoted to culinary uses. Replete and soothed, the animal limped gratefully off to a destination known only to itself, whilst the group limped on to Windermere and civilisation.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

A lack of films, which form the principal basis of our meetings, limited the number of meetings in the Spring Term.

The first meeting was for senior members of the Society, and took the form of an interesting and extensive lecture on "Desert Land Forms" by K. Thomson. It was illustrated with a film strip.

One of the largest audiences of the year assembled to watch "Holidays in Europe", a colour film shown by Mr. Bradshaw, on behalf of the K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines. Typical scenes from many of the countries of Europe made up a highly entertaining film.

There was no lack of exhibits for the Geographical Section of the Hobby Show, and they came from all sections of the School. The standard of mapping was very high indeed; first prize in the Senior Section was awarded to K. Thomson. The intermediate prize went to B. T. Staples, and the junior to D. L. Fellows for a relief model of Lancashire.

Mr. H. B. Jones, an Old Boy of the School and ex-secretary of the Society, was awarded the prize for the best set of answers to the Geographical Quiz.

The Society is planning an excursion to the Lake District on July 15th. The trip will provide many boys with an opportunity to make their first visit to the Lakes, and it is hoped that this year's trip will be as successful as those of past years.

G. BRISON, W. G. DAVIES.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Since Christmas, the Society's activities have been confined to two meetings. At the first of these, A. E. Hemesley spoke on a subject dear to his military heart—"The Kaiser Wilhelm II". At the second, Mr. F. J. Boote read an interesting and authoritative paper entitled "Army, Parliament and King", a study of that most complex period 1646-9.

Both meetings were comparatively well attended, but a greater display of interest in the Society's work from the Senior School will be welcomed.

Finally we would once again like to express our thanks to the Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. F. Edge and Mr. J. G. Rogers, for continued and active support.

J. A. STANTON, J. E. SHARP.

MACALISTER SOCIETY

Since the last issue of the Magazine there have been seven meetings of the Society, and the programme has been as varied as it has been scholarly.

P. Smith's account of "The Romantic Movement in European Literature" traced the development of Romanticism, and was well illustrated with examples from German and Spanish authors. The speaker showed how excessive egotism had brought about its ultimate decadence.

P. L. Taylor read a paper entitled "The Revolution of the Wheel" in which he outlined the evolution of, and the revolution brought about by the wheel, which had alone made possible the complex system of transportation upon which depends the economic basis of modern civilisation.

W. Ferdinand's address on "Some Theories of Matter" showed how scientists had arrived at the atomic theory of matter. The Greeks had hinted at it, but their ideas had been suppressed by the Medieval notion of the four elements. The speaker then explained, with great lucidity, the principles of modern atomic theory.

K. Thomson spoke about "The History of Cartography", tracing the development of map-making from its beginnings in ancient Alexandria well over two thousand years ago up to modern times, when many different projections are used to show accurate results for various specific purposes.

D. Hesketh, lecturing on "The Orchestra", gave a detailed account of its growth and perfection. Haydn had witnessed the change from an illogical collection of instruments to an ordered and successful combination, but the speaker hinted that the modern symphony orchestra might still continue to develop.

A paper on "German Education" was delivered by Herr Sievers, who emphasised the differences between the German and the English systems, explaining the broad German syllabus compared with the English emphasis on specialisation. It was a most interesting and informative meeting.

M. T. Williams gave the final talk of the season. His paper on "Jazz" described the origin and development of this popular form of music, and was well illustrated with gramophone records of recent as well as classical jazz; so, to the unconventional accompaniment of the trumpet and saxophone, the Society concluded one of its most successful seasons.

P. L. TAYLOR.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society has again enjoyed a consistently successful season, but there have been two or three debates which have been quite outstanding. Members have excelled themselves in both serious and light-hearted debating, though the highlight of the season was the sustained excellence of the fiercely contested debate on the relative power of France and Germany. We reproduced below a shortened version of the minutes of this meeting.

The following are the details of the Society's meetings last term:—

December 14th: Christmas Impromptu Debate.

January 18th: "That this House deplores the power of the press". Pro.: J. N. Sissons and H. E. Matthews. Con.: W. Ferdinand and P. L. Taylor. Motion Carried: For, 15; Against, 5; Abstentions, 3.

February 1st: "That this House prefers Gilbert to Sullivan". Pro.: P. Smith and J. N. Sissons. Con.: J. R. Parry and J. E. Sharp. Motion Carried: For, 16; Against, 9; Abstentions, 12.

February 15th: "That this House regards Germany as a greater European power than France". Pro.: J. B. Taylor and W. Ferdinand. Con.: H. E. Matthews and G. E. Craigen. Motion Defeated: For, 13; Against, 14; Abstentions, 1.

March 1st: "That the dead languages should be buried". Pro.: P. Dumbill and J. N. Sissons. Con.: P. L. Taylor and J. E. Sharp. Motion Carried: For, 20; Against, 10; Abstentions, 4.

March 15th: "That this House favours a return to the state of nature". Pro.: K. Thomson and D. A. Thomas. Con.: D. Hesketh and M. Gould. Motion Defeated: For, 8; Against, 13; Abstentions, 2.

March 29th: Balloon Debate.

This record cannot be concluded without a sincere word of thanks to our Chairman, Mr. C. H. Moore, for his ever-ready assistance and encouragement, which have contributed enormously to the success of the Society. We are also grateful to our Vice-Presidents for their regular support at the Society's meetings.

Minutes of a meeting of the Liverpool Institute Literary and Debating Society held in the Board Room at 7-0 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15th, with Mr. C. H. Moore in the Chair.

The Chairman opened public business by calling upon J. B. Taylor to propose the motion "That this House regards Germany as a greater European power than France".

The speaker began by considering the relative positions of the two nations following the Second World War. Germany had been vanquished and occupied, and allied politicians had ensured that her recovery would not be rapid. France, too, had been overrun, but had been fortunate in finding herself upon the side of the victors. Though Germany had been ruined, and burdened with post-war liabilities, her determination and industry had altered her situation, the reconstruction of the Ruhr industries had inaugurated her economic recovery, and she could boast a steady rise in exports and the reduction of unemployment. Her return to a position as a power in Europe was undeniable. Any signs of French prosperity were derived largely from American aid and the profits of the Saar, but her rapid succession of governments betrayed a damning political instability. On the spiritual plane, the speaker pointed out a fundamental selfishness characteristic of the French, which was confirmed by the numerous strikes and her system of taxation. Germany, he concluded, was, at present and potentially, the greater power in Europe.

H. E. Matthews, opposing the motion, argued that Germany was a divided nation with a frustrated desire for unification; furthermore, her forces could be deployed only at the will of other nations. France, however, was an independent power and her government had full authority over her. Her economic prosperity was assured by the newly discovered oilfields and vast hydro-electric schemes. The speaker rejected the accusation of political instability by reminding the House of France's contributions towards solving major European political problems. In conclusion, he stated that the United States and Russia were the only two powers of world status and that Germany was, unhappily, situated on Russia's doorstep.

Seconding the proposition, W. Ferdinand re-emphasised Germany's recovery, despite the loss of so much valuable manpower in the war. France, with the moral impetus of victory, had made but a slight recovery, and the Western Powers now preferred to heed the voice of Germany. Considering the two nations intellectually equal, the speaker pointed out the determination and vigour of the German people, two virtues which, he felt, combined to make Germany the greater European power.

G. E. Craigen, as seconder to the opposition, resolved to shatter the idealised conception of Germany. The division of East from West promised to last indefinitely, the Federal Republic was finding Berlin and its refugees a growing economic burden. In spite of the fact that it adjoins the Russian 'bloc', Germany was without an army. The German people, he continued, lacked political interest, and in her short history as a modern power Germany had had little political education and experience.

The first speaker from the floor was the temporary Lord High Poker in Chief, L. Ritchie, who stressed the fact that both nations in their recovery had received financial aid from abroad. He pointed out that Germany had found a greater stimulant in the pressure of necessity, and he therefore supported the claim of France.

D. A. Thomas felt that a divided Germany did not constitute a real power, and that she could assert little influence upon international affairs. Unlike France, she had not been troubled by industrial strikes, a fact accounted for by the grave unemployment problem there.

Secretary P. L. Taylor looked beyond the narrow confines of politics and economics in considering the extent to which industrial prosperity reflected power. It could, he declared, be the key to a higher standard of living and thereby lead to a more educated and alert nation. True greatness lay in the respect of other nations and Germany had to be respected for its magnificent recovery.

Vice-President Mr. D. G. Bentliff argued the case in favour of France and her political maturity, reminding the House that until the middle of the last century Germany did not exist as a complete political entity. In speaking of her post-war recovery, Mr. Bentliff stressed the considerable subsidies received by Germany and her freedom from colonial and defence liabilities. In voting for the opposition he wished to assert that neither nation was greater than the other.

S. G. Norris supported the case for Germany, since her government was stable in comparison with that of France. Germany would be the greater power in the future by reason of the people's will to work, which, he believed, sprang from a deep spirit of nationalism.

P. Dumbill examined the spiritual cores of the two nations and traced through the French character an element of decay, which had been growing ever since the fall of Napoleon.

Mr. D. Warwick, in his maiden speech, sought a definition of the word 'power', and regretted that in modern times it had come to mean economic strength and superiority. A nation's real power, he said, lay in the civilising and stabilising influence which it exerted upon the nations of the world. He therefore thought France the greater power, for at the heart of her whole social structure lay the simple yet stable basis of the peasant commune.

J. R. Parry gave a brief survey of German history to support the view that the German nation was politically immature. He expressed the belief that the German people conformed to a dull and stolid national pattern.

J. C. Cuthbertson thought that many of the speakers were still under the influence of wartime propaganda, and that their conception of Germany was distorted. There was, however, no denying the German ability to work, which, he felt, established Germany as the greater power.

The final speaker from the floor was Secretary P. Smith, who said that France might be considered to possess the political theory, whereas Germany was more capable of putting the theory into practice. The state of modern Europe led him to hope for the peaceful co-operation of the two neighbours in a European Union.

The opposer, summing up, said that Germany as a whole did not exist, and the fact that she had no air-force must lead to the admission that she did not exist as a power.

The proposer, in his summing up, showed how France's military power had been exaggerated, since the war in Indo-China had imposed severe strain upon the French economy. Furthermore France was threatened with the loss of Algeria, her only source of power for the future. The two

nations, he concluded, were potentially great, but Germany, at the moment, was greater.

The motion was then put to the vote, and the result was—For, 13; Against, 14; Abstentions, 1. P. SMITH, P. L. TAYLOR.

GYMNASTIC CLUB

The Gymnastic Club suffered a great loss with the departure of Mr. Clark at the end of the Easter Term. We owe him much, for not only did he re-organise the Club, but he greatly increased the standard of gymnastics in the School. We wish him success in his new appointment.

The Club continued to meet on Tuesday evenings throughout last term, and the winter's work culminated with the displays at the Hobby Show. Much hard work was done in preparation for the occasion and the results were extremely pleasing. Each of the fine demonstrations was given with style and confidence. The introduction of the trampette greatly increased the scope of work and was a notable success.

Full colours were awarded to Whiting, D.S., Whiting, R. S., Todd, L. W., and half colours to Mills, Holiday, Norris and Ashton.

R. S. WHITING.

MUSIC CLUB

At the beginning of the term, Mr. Davies, the new music master, was welcomed to the Committee.

No special meetings have been held during the period of the examinations, but otherwise the regular activities have taken place, including gramophone recitals of two excellent works, Beethoven's Seventh Symphony and Schubert's Piano Quintet, "The Trout". Great use has been made of the records included in a recent private donation to the Club. This term has been marked by the first employment of the Music Club's long-playing equipment. Last term, Mr. Legg, an Old Boy, gave an organ recital, Mr. Hosker sang some ballads, and J. R. Parry gave a piano recital. A members' concert, is expected very shortly and it is hoped to give a Chamber Concert next March, similar to that given in March, 1954.

A jazz section of the Music Club has now been formed. It holds meetings once every three weeks and great enthusiasm has been shown in this direction.

Once more, the thanks of the Music Club are due to Mr. Naylor and Mr. Evans. J. R. PARRY.

THE ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra is now larger than it has been for some years, and, although some of the members are at the moment relatively inexperienced, there is a justifiable hope that, within a year or so, its quality will be higher than it has been for a long time.

Among the works being studied are several short pieces by Purcell and Arbeau, all admirably suitable. J. McCabe has also orchestrated some folk tunes from Hubert Parry, which, although more exacting, are none the less valuable.

The situation, then, is very gratifying. The size, quality and enthusiasm of the Orchestra all promise a long period of prosperity. J. R. PARRY.

CHRISTIAN UNION

At the end of the Autumn Term, the annual Christmas Social was held in the School Gymnasium, and we must thank the girls of Blackburne House Christian Union for helping to make it such a successful evening, and for preparing such excellent refreshments.

Meetings have been held regularly in the lunch hour, and the guest speakers have been from several denominations of the Christian Church. The first meeting was addressed by Dr. W. J. Martin, Lecturer in Semitic Languages at Liverpool University, and, as usual, his talk was both interesting and helpful. When the Rector of Liverpool, Canon Nelson, addressed our meeting, we were encouraged by the large number of boys present. Canon L. W. R. Jacob, the vicar of St. Luke's Church, gave us a most interesting talk about Liverpool Cathedral, and we hope that it will be possible to organise a conducted tour of that great building sometime this term. Other speakers have included the Rev. F. B. Harvey, the Rev. E. A. Waddington, and P. L. Taylor, the final meeting of the term being addressed by our good friend, Bishop Gresford-Jones.

We have been pleased to welcome to our meetings a number of the younger boys, many of whom have joined the Scripture Union, and we should like to commend to all boys the value of regular Bible reading under a scheme of this kind.

Finally, our warmest thanks are due to Mr. Watson for his able and ever helpful chairmanship.
P. A. KENNERLEY.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

In spite of a decrease in attendance during the Easter Term, the Society has enjoyed a successful year. The library has been open regularly every Friday dinner-hour in Room 26, when the Stamp Pool has been a centre of interest.

Since the last issue of the Magazine, five meetings have been held, the first of which was a quiz prepared by L. Bivon. This was followed by a debate: "That portraits make uninteresting stamps", at which the main speakers were A. Brignell and I. C. Taylor for the Proposition, and B. W. Taylor and K. A. M. Sykes for the Opposition. The term ended with a talk by Mr. D. Warwick entitled, "Around the world for 2½d."

The Hobby Show has occupied much of the Society's time recently, and at the meeting immediately preceding the Exhibition, Mr. Lloyd delivered a talk on "Arranging your Stamp Album". The Society's efforts in this direction resulted in a substantial entry, and prizes were won by the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Finally we should like to offer our most sincere thanks to our Chairman, Mr. Lloyd for his invaluable help and guidance and to Mr. D. Warwick whose active participation at meetings has been greatly appreciated.

J. E. SHARP.

ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT SOCIETY

Despite the rather disappointing support at some of the Society meetings, the last year has been one of considerable success.

Mr. E. R. Jones has joined the Society as a Vice-President and we wish him well for the future.

The Society Library has received good support throughout the year, especially from the junior boys.

The regular Monday meetings have been of a more advanced nature and have appealed more to the senior members of the Society. Subjects have ranged over British, Continental and American railways, Liverpool tramways, and the modern motor car. A film show has also been held.

Trips have been arranged to Cammell Laird's shipyards, to the Blackpool transport system and to Liverpool Corporation's Edge Lane tram works. These have been well supported and enjoyed by all.

One of the Society's outstanding activities was its display at the Hobby Show, where photographs, posters, models, and a variety of transport equipment formed a most attractive and instructive exhibition.

In conclusion, the Society's warmest thanks go to Mr. A. Hosker and to Mr. E. R. Jones for their willing help and guidance throughout the past year.
P. L. TAYLOR, G. P. QUAYLE.

SIXTH FORM SCIENCE SOCIETY

Since the publication of the last Magazine the Society has been most active. Lectures have been very well attended, but the proportion of non-scientists in the Society is still disappointingly low.

On January 20th the Society was addressed by Dr. W. B. Bonnor on "Relativity: the Present Position". Though naturally he could not impart to members the mathematical foundation of the Special and General Theories of Relativity, the speaker did describe with great lucidity the effects, many of which have been verified experimentally, which the Theories predict.

The next two lectures, the best attended of the year, were given on widely differing subjects by masters of the School. Mr. Naylor gave an illustrated lecture on "Explosives". Everyone enjoyed the lecture when he, or she, was not hiding behind a bench; indeed the meeting went with a bang. Mr. Durband's lecture was entitled "Comparative Religion", a subject quite new to the Society. He described many details of Eastern religion and stated that though their customs seemed strange to us, so did our customs appear to an Arab or Oriental. It was a fascinating lecture.

On March 4th, Mr. I. Goodman of I.C.I. Ltd., came from Manchester to talk to members about "Synthetic Textile Fibres". He explained the properties and production of new materials such as Terylene, and brought with him many examples of articles made from this fibre. The last meeting of the Spring Term was held on March 18th, when Mr. M. J. Moore spoke on "The Cyclotron". Mr. Moore, who is in charge of the Liverpool University cyclotron, gave many details of the production and cost of this apparatus.

Because of the G.C.E. examinations there has been only one meeting in the Summer Term. At this, Professor T. S. Simey, Professor of Social Science at the University of Liverpool, gave a talk on "Race Relations and Hawaii". Professor Simey's colour slides, many taken by himself, and his lively manner combined to make his lecture most entertaining.

A visit to the Thornton Research Centre of the Shell Petroleum Company has been arranged to take place after the examinations.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Walker, Brierley and Naylor, who have taken the Chair at meetings, and especially to Mr. W. H. Jones who, in spite of illness, has worked untiringly for the Society.

J. V. ROSENHEAD.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

During the winter months the amateur photographer makes greater use of his camera indoors, and his attention naturally turns to Portraiture. This was the topic at the first meeting of the Spring Term, when Mr. Donald Allen, F.R.P.S., F.R.S.A., an expert on the subject, gave a demonstration of "Lighting for Portraiture".

At the next meeting Mr. W. H. Jones spoke on "Finishing Prints for Exhibition"—a subject of especial interest to those who were then preparing prints for the Hobby Show competition. A fortnight later Mr. D. W. M. Boulton, an Old Boy of the School, gave a lecture on "Cameras, and how best to use them", illustrating his talk by displaying a varied selection of cameras. The term ended with an illustrated lecture by Mr. J. D. Goldsworthy, on "Landscape Photography".

At this year's Hobby Show, the entries in the Advanced section of the Photographic Competition were generally of quite a high standard. In the Beginners' section, however, many of the prints were inferior to those entered in this section at previous Hobby Shows, though the prizewinners, M. E. Plunkett and R. J. Patterson, are to be congratulated on their work. In the Advanced section First Prize was awarded to E. J. N. Wilson, and Second Prize to D. A. Thomas.

At the beginning of the Summer Term Mr. Karl Pollak, F.R.P.S., F.I.B.P., visited us once more: it will be some time before we forget his fine pictures and his interesting lecture. The programme of meetings ended

with a talk by Mr. W. H. Jones on colour photography by the Johnson "Colour Screen" process. A series of Tutorial Classes for beginners and less proficient members has been held during the session, and regular use is made of the Society's Library. Our thanks are due to Mr. Jones for all he has done for the Society throughout the year.

The annual Summer Excursion takes place on July 15th. This year we are visiting Dovedale, and the valleys of the Hamps and the Manifold, on the Derbyshire-Staffordshire border. Let us hope that the weather will prove favourable.

S. G. NORRIS.

OXFORD LETTER

Oxford.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—Trinity Term at Oxford! Summer is with us, the season when we exchange text-books for cricket score-cards, the Mitre for the Trout, and when the punt-poles become a necessary prop to our existence.

Our two Dons, Mr. McKie and Mr. Kneale, have the pleasure of rediscovering the joys of a Trinity Term every year, and they appear to thrive on it. Mr. McDowall too can afford to put aside his shekels, or whatever coinage they used in Nero's time and gladly let Rome burn for a Summer afternoon. Mr. Bell, our other graduate, took his degree in the fever-ridden swamps of East Anglia's Black Country. The fever, though not catching here, still persists, and Mr. Bell at least has not succumbed entirely to Oxford's charms.

Unfortunately, three of our number will be otherwise occupied this term taking Schools. Mr. H. S. Dodd of Magdalen is reading Medicine and has recently married; Mr. Roberts has taken to wearing his right arm inside his shirt this term, and assures me he has broken a bone. Apparently while idly philosophising on the essential transitoriness of human happiness he allowed his mind to wander in the clouds and his feet at the top of a flight of stairs. Also at Jesus is Mr. Owen, a third Finalist and a leading light of O.I.C.U.—he is right in the 'Ebb and flow' of Oxford life, so to speak. He has announced his intention of not going down for the third time and of returning to take a Diploma of Education next year. The proctors are prepared for his intellectual smash-and-grab tactics. In contrast, Mr. Jeffery, as an Englishman in a Welsh college, is very much in the social sink-or-swim. It is rumoured that he is even practising to speak with a Welsh accent.

Mr. Cook is back with us after a forty-four week vacation in the country, and assures me he will be more careful when looking up train timetables for next term. At least, that is what I assumed from his remark, 'my connections let me down'. Mr. Shaw still finds it easier to run everywhere, which makes casual conversation with him just a little difficult. As he was seen on a bicycle the other week, he may well have broken training. At Corpus, one suspects the mathematical Mr. Kenworthy of trying to break into a new dimension, despite the ingratiating beam of his countenance. He has certainly succeeded in helping Mr. Mackinnon, our retiring secretary, to keep out of the 'red' during his two terms of office. Not that Mr. Mackinnon would need much help, for I am convinced that behind his hesitant and diffident exterior there ticks the mind of one of the potential financial wizards of our time. Mr. G. H. Jones of B.N.C. has now acquired the secretary's post—he is still reading it. Meanwhile he has announced as impending the second part of his autobiography, provisionally titled "The Weigh of all Flesh".

At University, Mr. Oxburgh has lost all his discs and has taken to rowing as his Summer recreation. He is also the only geologist in Oxford who is able to go rock-tapping without a hammer. Recently he bought one-sixth of an automobile—which vehicle should ride more smoothly when he has saved sufficient to buy the rest of it. After listening to Louis Armstrong, the musical Mr. Page has graduated from megaphone to trumpet this term, but with both instruments he still hits his top notes with an

awe-inspiring, carefree, uncertainty. He is going to bill himself very edibly, as 'the chocolate-coloured cocoon' and hire Mr. B. L. Jones as his publicity agent. Mr. Jones is talented too, and plays the gramophone and the fool very well indeed. As his party piece, he is learning to play the ingénu, but is handicapped by his lack of inexperience. Mr. C. G. Dodd, Mr. Glover and Mr. Barnes have all successfully sat and satisfied in Honour Mods. Mr. Barnes is now lost again in the labyrinthine passages of Christchurch, the Anglican Taj Mahal, belittlingly and inappropriately called 'The House'. Mr. Dodd has been seen abroad from Merton this term, but not by your observer, who either does not arise sufficiently early, or does not retire sufficiently late. Mr. Glover of Oriol shares with Mr. Morris of Lincoln the honour of achieving a First. For purposes of differentiation, Mr. Morris studied Russian in the Army, and is the one who in his first year at Oxford thought the Mayday revels were engineered by the local Communist party. It is Mr. Morris too, who has introduced Mr. Case, our leading dabbler in the Natural Sciences, to the delights of popular culture. Unfortunately Mr. Case still allows a praiseworthy erudition to mislead him on occasions—for example he thinks the film 'The last time I saw Paris', is a biography of Helen of Troy.

Finally, let us congratulate those of our number who have recently satisfied the examiners, and extend our hopes and sympathy to those whose satisfaction is yet to come. How sad that the impending academic justification of three years at Oxford should be allowed to sully the pleasures of a Trinity Term! Yet, as I look out of my garret window at the days-old drizzling rain, still another congestion of traffic hooting in the High, and the new Woolworth's soaring sumptuously skywards . . . well I rather think it must be quite pleasant to have something *concrete* to work for this term.

Let me sign myself, to quote a recent play,

I.M.A. CAMERA.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER

Cantabrigge.

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—Upon your bidding, most noble Sir, we did go on a day into East Anglia, for spying. And at our fyrst coming into ys fyne towne, we were confronted at ye very Rayleway Station by i of our old familiars, Master BOOTLE, who, tho' he doth indede continue to lodge by night here with Mistress Bootle, and ye children in a condemned house: yet he goeth eche morning to ye Metropolis, London, there to doo his werke. And tho' he be one of yt sect which we call Marxist-men, he doth indede, to appear more decent and law-abiding to his fellow-travellers, rede on yt same trayne i pettie bourgeois and superstitious news-sheet intituled ye "Daily Express".

'Tis but a short journey, not above ii or iii miles to the Universitas, and we did board bus, yt for iid, we myght come at it. Here we begann our investigations into ysc, who having fled ye Institute now continue, or more likely neglect, their studies at ys town. But we found great consternation in the cite himselfe, with many men coming and going about and shouting, "Woe to us", and "Yet seven days and we shall be all utterly destroyed", and sentiments of a like nature. At the which we did greatly marvel, and accosting i of the townsmen did enquire what ys bruit myght be. From him we lerned yt a grate plague was come upon ye place, which they call TRIPOS: yr. is a grate derth in yse days, and the hostelries and other publick places are nere deserted, which doth gratefully distress ye burghesses-in-trade of ye towne: tho' when it pass, there cometh May Weke, which falleth about the ye x day of June, and all are very merry. So we could not easily fynd ye Liobians, as for fear of ys plague they guard their rooms and venture not abroad.

Yet it doth appear yt ye very old are not likely to contract ys plague, for ysc who rest here many yeres are fortified by their assuete to ye

place and his climate which belcheth forth much foule Fogge. As which are Masters HODSON, PUGH and WADDINGTON: he a mystery, he a man of letters, but ye last an alchemist who cometh and goeth about on a bicycle, which only witchcraft might contrive to kepe together, and he doth dark things in his laboratorium. Master SWEENEY is of vi yeres standing here and hath by consequence overmuch leisure: he doth but sit in ye Union club and rede ye journals.

Keys is a fayre colledge (tho' much marred by some foule new building which we wold gladly burn) and here we found a scientist of grate renown, Master KING, who being of grate acumen, hath ye supervision of some gentlemen "in statu pupillari" and is often seen about ye towne in low coffee houses: but not so Mr. KIRBY, who worketh hard, and when we came to his room we found his oake sported and so went away, lest we disturb his werke and robb him of his triumph. From Keys we walked past ye Rose Crescent (where our spies reported was once seen Mr. MORRIS, so we know he yet lives and is an electrical engineer. But, stay! he came also to ye Olde Boys Dinner, where by his good trencher-werke he proved yt. electricitie createth appetite): thus we got into the Colledge of St. John Evangelist. Here we found Mr. MAGNAY reading ye "Eagle"—nor yet yt. babies picture paper wherein are described the troggish Treens, but ye lerned and dignified magazine of his colledge: his room-mate, Mr. DAILEY, runneth as fleet as Achilles himself and hath won grate glorie and i half-blue.

Sweet fame also is Mr. WILKIE'S, who is an actor: nor yet i of your tragick sort, but a most witty comedian—as he played and produced Master Sheridan's "Critick" last term, which our spies saw and we were very merry, for therein he used not only his own genius and yt of his actors, but also many machines and devices, save only the new Cinema Scope, which he could not come by. On ye way to see him we were all but utterly destroyed by a swift motor-car driven by Mr. SMITH, whom for love of our mutual School we redily forgave: but we herde he continueth an artist and hath drawn an advisement for a May Ball. Lest however yse such diverse personalities should be drawn away from eche other and be utterly lost to eche others' sight, Mr. BARBER doth list and regiment them and provender a dinner for them to eat together.

Only two Liobians have but two yeres of service behind them. Mr. JACOBS, yt excellent and elegant wit, is at Selwyn, which decent Anglican foundation was recently purged by the expulsion of v Papists, iii Wesleyans and i Buddhist from amongst the number of its members "in Statu Pupillari". And by Selwyn we met Mr. BILSON wearing but a mackintosh and a payre of shoes and all very wette: who greeted us as warmly as his naked condition would allow, and demonstrated he had recently fallen into ye river while a-punting: we accompanied him to a friend's lodgings, where in preparing himself a bath he did nearly contrive to destroy self, bathroom and friend by exploding i fearsome, foule and diabolical machine inscribed "YE PATENT AND FOOLPROOF PERFECTO GEYSER". Him later we observed accosted by a Proctor's constable, when he had no gown to his back, for which folly he will be mulcted of shillings vi, viiid. All this on the one same Sabbath, by which we may learn that ye best way to impress a wench may be by taking her instead to King's Chapel to here i good choir singing goodly anthem-musick.

As babes amongst yse are Messrs. HOWLETT and CROSS: ye fyrst cooketh meals fit for Gargantua in his own room and thus frustrateth a rapacious kitchen-manager: Mr. CROSS is of quieter mien, but his toga was but lately looted by Mr. Bilson from the "Lion" in Petit Cury, which proveth yt at least ii Liobians live well and eat in good hostelries.

And now we have made out ys. faithful and trew report, in which we lie not. But lest for envie others malign us: or malicious agents seke to impede our noble werke of exposing ye base nature of Cantabriggian Liobians, we do but crave thy indulgence with the priviledge to remayne "sine nomine", and initial ourselves

f. d.

THE PREFECTS' LETTER

The Editor, The Liverpool Institute Magazine.

Sir,—The Mother of Parliaments, after a vigorous wagging of the flag of democracy, has returned to her state of contented dormancy, plainly unaware of the flourishing, indeed blatant defiance of her authority. I refer to that notorious microcosm, the Liverpool Institute, where nine-hundred innocent proles are subject to the tyranny of a malevolently exclusive præfectorium.

Leader of the party is Big Bill Ferdinand, whose presence has a remarkable effect. Many an attempt on the treacherous face of an Upper Yard shelter has been foiled by the dreaded formula, "Big Bill is watching you!" No one questions his existence: he is not one of those dictators who appear once a year on Speech Day to acknowledge the plaudits of the populace. Discarding his coldly scientific intellect, he can submit to the urgent demands of the hot Iberian blood coursing through his veins, and he often 'sits in' with the School Orchestra, being a virtuoso on the bunsen burner.

Joint-Commissioners of the State Police are the Taylors J. B. and P. L., the sound of whose voices sends shudders down the most elastic of spines. Siberia is a holiday camp compared with the horrors of Room 25 after 4 p.m. The screams which emerge from that room echo round the School and might be mistaken for shouts of laughter. Survivors of the 'treatment' spend the rest of their days slumped against the School wall, reading comic papers and drinking synthetic orange juice.

A stalwart supporter of the Party's régime, Mr. Hayes, has laboured long at perfecting the new language 'Newspeak', as a careful examination of his Prose book will show. He is immensely popular amongst the proles, and his absence from Lines is marked by the impassioned chant of 'Hayes!' 'Hayes!' 'Hayes!'

The Ministry of Truth, responsible for party propaganda, is controlled by Mr. Thomson, who has always been a red hot socialite. He has not, however, lost interest in the smaller things of life—witness his search for the elusive table-tennis ball.

Mr. Williams must be commended for his regular attendance at the Community Centre; in fact, this organisation could not exist without him, because he owns the table-tennis ball. As treasurer, he continues to issue assurances that the sinking fund is still 'above water'. His, it would appear, was the Muse who inspired 'Three Coins in the Fountain'.

The mysteries of high finance have claimed another victim in Mr. Norris, whose ambition it is to become a commercial traveller. He began his career selling horror comics in the Lower Yard and by hard work has risen to the position of business editor of the Magazine. In his leisure hours it is his habit to take photographs, unless carefully watched.

Mr. Smith, like his brother Winston, keeps a diary, and investigation of its contents reveals the hidden depths of his character, with such entries as . . . 'Monday, Confiscated two barley-sugar sticks, three toffees and two lollipops'. Following his dramatic and musical successes, Mr. Smith cannot understand why he has not been 'discovered' for, as he tells his friends, "I'm not just a pretty face".

The 'Goldstein' of the party is Mr. Fynn, whose continual re-assertion of his own prowess at table-tennis is drowned by hoots of laughter. His closest friends point out his modest, retiring nature, which prevents him from laughing at any jokes but his own.

The voice from the Telescreen is inescapably loud and clear, for Mr. Dumbill could not whisper if he tried. His endless store of acid humour and biting repartee will undoubtedly get him somewhere—if only in an action for slander.

In the pink of condition is Mr. Cowan, whose official position is that of leader of fashion. He really brings traffic to a standstill when he appears in his cream-coloured suit, capped with red and green, for he is so easily confused with a set of traffic signals.

Mr. Morley is old enough to remember the days before the party came into power and he quietly endeavours to maintain his individuality. He may be seen playing chess in boxing gloves or, like a medieval knight, sitting astride his cardboard cut-out motor bicycle, dangling in his hand a formidable grappling hook and scanning the traffic for a convenient tow.

Mr. Thomas has earned considerable distinction as leader of the junior spies, for he mixes easily amongst the lower ranks of the party. Affixed to his parental home is a large letter 'H' which he lends, in season, to a local rugby club, and which can be operated to enable his dear ones to view his activities on the Telescreen.

The party cannot be accused of neglecting the Arts, and Messrs. Hesketh and McCulloch may be seen poring over a musical score. Their aim is to compose a party anthem, but to the first line "Hail to thee, Big Bill", they can add only, "On us impose thy will!"

Physical education being prominent in party policy, Mr. Whiting's services are indispensable. He cuts an equally graceful figure as he executes a double backward somersault, and as he trips lightly through the intricacies of the tango. The similarity of these manoeuvres is only apparent when Mr. Whiting performs them.

In thus lifting the veil from the Inner party I could expose the activities of the Prole pre's, but I see that I am being observed by the Telescreen. Could it be that the Thought Police have at last detected me? As I sit here in the canteen eating my concentrated lunch tablets, I am reminded of the fate of those who have passed on, and I have a strange feeling in my stomach.

Yours forebodingly,
534967 WRIGHT, CHARLES.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF GERMANY

During the Easter holidays five of us accompanied Mr. Forbes on a cycling tour of Belgium and Germany. On the day on which we rode from Soltau to Brunswick we made a slight detour in order to call on an Old Boy of the School stationed at Hohne, and this led to our visiting Belsen, about two kilometres away from there.

The site of the former concentration camp covers a large area. It has been turned into a vast international place of remembrance, and its most striking feature is a huge memorial shaped like a narrow box. On it are inscriptions in many different languages. There is also a special memorial for the Jews. As we walked round we saw, here and there, small posts in the ground, on which were written, "Here lie 1,000 bodies" or "Here lie 5,000 bodies", and it was a sobering sight to see evidence of those unfortunate people who were butchered by the Nazis.

The following day we went up to the border of the Eastern Zone, at a point a few miles from Goslar. Along the whole border there are only some half a dozen roads by which the frontier may be crossed; this particular road was not one of these, and therefore, after leaving the last village on the Western side, it became little better than a track. In itself the border seemed quite a tame affair: simply a line of posts in the ground. There was no barbed wire and no frontier guards. We were quite disappointed!

D. M. STEPHENSON (6BM1).

AM RHEIN

That day proved to be the best of the whole tour. We had set off from Düsseldorf, riding for the first half hour through an early morning mist, but this had cleared in mid-morning leaving the sky cloudless for the rest of the day. By following the right bank of the Rhine we had reached Cologne soon after twelve o'clock, and had tried to fit as much as possible into our two hour stay there.

But now, in the late afternoon we were resting at Königswinter. Behind us towered the Drachenfels, while in front, the gleaming water of the Rhine,

the sun, and the white houses over the river all competed with each other to dazzle us with brilliance. We sat watching the river traffic: the long barges, the pleasure launches, the ferry steamers, the rowing boats.

At length, our musings troubled by the quickly passing minutes, we moved on. Arriving on the other bank by means of a ferry, we reluctantly took a final glance at the Rhine, and turning our backs on the river, we prepared to cycle the remaining twenty-five miles to the next hostel.

J. F. SAMBROOK (6BM1).

LATE!

A last farewell; a door is slammed;
A boy goes thundering by;
His face is flushed,
His shoes unbrushed,
A wild look in his eye.

His cap askew on ruffled hair,
He rushes on and on;
And people stare
Upon this rare
And strange phenomenon.

At last he dashes through the gates;
A bell is heard to ring,
And prefects rush
To pull and push
This poor protesting thing.

The victim then is dragged along
Till reaching Room 15,
Wherein he's thrown
And left alone
And never more is seen.

The moral of this little rhyme
Is "Always be in school on time".

J. HUXLEY (L5Sc.).

WINTER

When trees are bare, and hedges thin,
And fields are frozen stiff and hard;
When men go muffled to the chin,
Then surely winter stern has come.

When days are short and snow lies deep,
And birds have flown to other lands;
When bats and hedgehogs snug do sleep,
Then surely winter stern has come.

When north winds blow and toes grow cold,
And a good log fire's a welcome sight;
When sheep are brought down to the fold,
Then surely winter stern has come.

J. P. BEVAN (3B).

OUR EVEREST

For half a day, we had plodded in the teeth of a high wind, which lashed the stinging mountain rain against our smarting faces and through our anaraks. Now, as the cwms darkened with the onset of yet another stormy night, we dropped our packs in the heather in the lee of a crumbling dry-stone wall. Here we intended to camp.

The situation was not ideal; indeed, it could hardly have been bleaker or more stormswept, although it was not as high as many other British

hills. The wind made it difficult for us to prevent our tiny tent from being blown far down into the valley below; it took us the greater part of one exhausting hour to lash it securely to the mountain, which seemed to resent its very presence. At the end of this time we squeezed inside and began with difficulty the slow, tedious task of settling down for the night. This occupied practically the whole of the long October evening, throughout which the storm never ceased to rage.

Conversation languished, for it was necessary almost to shout to make oneself heard above the incessant roar of wind and rain. The wind howled shrilly about the stones of the wall, and the tent was forced in so much that it had to be held up from inside with a spare tent pole. The continuous cracking of the door flaps would have rivalled the noise of a machine gun for strength; sleeping was difficult, and we spent most of the night in pulling each other back up the uncomfortable slope, down which we were ever sliding.

The grey mountain dawn did not appear extremely inviting from the warm comfort of a sleeping bag, and much will-power was needed to resign oneself again to the damp and cold of this bleak moorland. Our tent presented a sorry sight indeed. Guys had snapped, and the wind had pulled the anchoring rocks out of position, making the whole appear more like a partially deflated balloon, rather than the human habitation it was intended to represent.

It was the work of a few moments to dismantle this little camp, that had served us so well. And we set off once more along the misty mountain tracks that led to even bleaker and higher mountains, with their lofty heads yet veiled in the wreaths of the storm that had passed so tumultuously.

R. J. WALKER.

CHILDWALL ABBEY CHURCH

As quietly I sat in the old polished pew,
Tracing the lines of the old from the new,
I thought of the worshippers from Norman days,
So far removed from our modern ways.
And yet, maybe, in our hopes and thought
The same remote goal was what we sought.
And as I left by the old lych gate,
A cuckoo was calling to his mate,
Bringing a promise to human ears,
The way he has, right down through the years.

R. W. MOORE (3E).

MY FIRST ATLANTIC CROSSING

On November 16th, 1954, I left Liverpool for Canada. The ship on which we were sailing was R.M.S. *Franconia*. One cannot imagine just how big an ocean liner is, until one has been aboard.

The following morning we were making good time as we sailed through the Irish Sea at an average speed of fifteen knots, and I knew that I would not see land again for about seven days. The next day we were in the North Atlantic. From all sides of the ship I could see the splashing foam, and porpoises jumping in and out of the water.

The modern liners give the passenger every luxury. The cabins are excellent, the food is delicious and has plenty of variety; there is a sports deck containing a swimming pool, a tennis court, and deck games; and on the upper deck is a cinema, showing all the latest films.

After about seven days I gazed on the American continent through the cabin window. The pine trees covered the steep hills, and as the ship sailed along the St. Lawrence, towns seemed to appear out of nowhere. At last the ship sailed into Quebec harbour, and my Atlantic voyage was over.

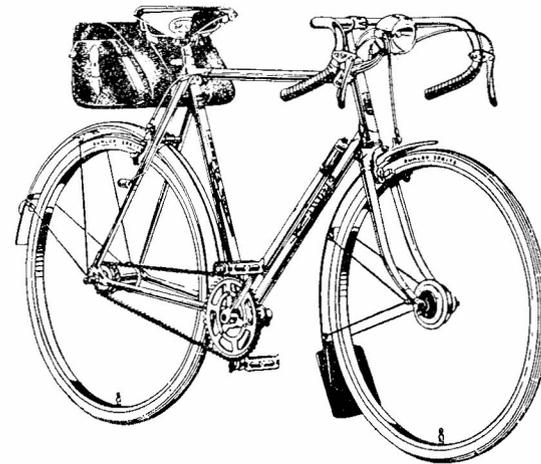
T. C. RAMSAY (15A).

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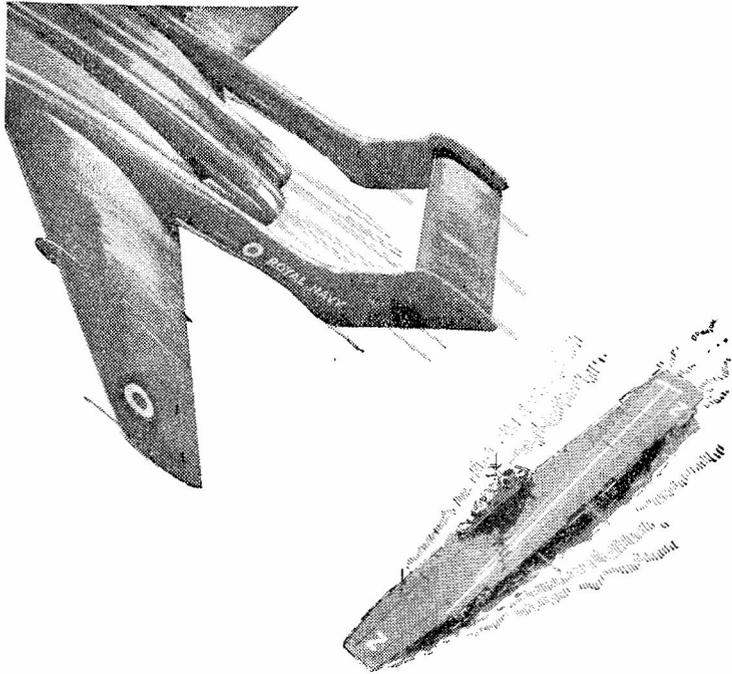
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